

VILLAGE RECORD.



By W. Blair.

A Family Newspaper: Neutral in Politics and Religion.

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NUMBER 5

PORTICO.



ALL EARTH IS BEAUTIFUL.

Oh, tell me not this earth is all
A scene of foul decay,
That o'er its joys a funeral pall
Is spread in dark array,
Oh, tell me not there is no love,
No beauty here below,
For God, from higher courts above,
Hath blessed all things below.

There's beauty in each tiny flower
That blooms along the way,
Or decks the cool and shady bower
In rich and bright array!
There's beauty in each forest tree
That shades the passer-by,
There's music in the tiny bee
That hums his busy lay.

There's beauty in the mountain rill
That flows along the glade,
There's beauty in the rugged hill
And in the forest shade;
There's beauty in the summer day,
There's beauty in the night
That comes to us with gentle lay
And happy visions bright.

There's beauty in the summer cloud
And in the April showers,
For these our All-Wise Father gives
To gladden leaf and flower!
Oh, yes, all earth is beautiful
With every varied scene,
For whoso'er the eye may gaze
The Hand of God is seen!

THE TRIUMPH OF FREEDOM.

Lead sound the conquering trump of Freedom,
Through every land, o'er every sea!
Take for mankind, ye rising nations,
World-wide, our country's Jubilee!
Now heaven's angelic choirs are singing
Celestial Peace renewed on earth,
Good will to man and joy upspringing,
In Freedom's universal birth.

Fling to the pit each hateful fetter,
From power the proud oppressor hurled,
Our States by freedom reunited,
In God may stand against the world.
Sound forth the conquering trump of Freedom
O'er every sea, through every land
God quickened, let the rising nations
Regenerate in Justice stand.

From age to age rehearse the story
Of earth's sublimest Jubilee!
And sound abroad Jehovah's glory,
Who speaks the enslaved millions free.

MISCELLANY.

THE LADY PREACHER.

All over the beautiful earth lies the rich
paraphernalia of summer. Her flower gems
lie scattered in profusion, her countless min-
strels are abroad, her winds laden with per-
fume, cool our fevered brows, and we cease
to dream of Paradise.

For a while, man forgets his cares and re-
veals like a child amid nature's bounties, the
temptations to sin are weakened, for the mind
is occupied with the simple pleasures of the
genial season; and sorrow sits less heavily
upon the mourner's heart, for hope flourish-
es anew the promise of earth.

How marvelously has God wrought the
great change since Winter sat throned upon
the hills, and ruled the valleys and the floods.
He called the south wind from the tropic
isles, laid His hand upon the tempestuous
sea, and bade it sleep beneath serene skies,
breathed into dormant seeds the breath of
life, and they came forth into the sunshine,
and his work stands before us, "very good,"
challenging every noble, loving and grateful
sentiment of our hearts.

There is a voice coming to us from all this
majesty and beauty, a voice pleading with us
to keep ourselves worthy the dwelling-place
so richly dowered. All evil passions are at
variance with the spirit of nature, which is
love, unflinching, all-pervading, pure without
spot or blemish. How are pride and selfish-
ness rebuked, by the lesson of the sunlight
and the rain! Where is there room for en-
vy, when all alike are the children of Him
who made this fair temple, and draped it
with ever-changing skies and clouds? Who
dare hate his brother, participant in that
love that hath no bound to its giving?

When we remember the untold centuries
that have rolled away since Spring time and
harvest, Summer and Winter first commen-
ced their round, when we think upon the
countless generations of men that have read
these mystic leaves in God's great volume,
when we realize how short the amplex of
life, we take to our hearts as their divinest
hopes and richest treasure, the great lesson
of immortality. All the wonder and beauty
around us, is only the repetition of years that
no man can number, witnessed by eyes, count-
less as the stars, that wake no more at the
coming of the Spring. Their too brief days
were ended, and then others filled their
places on earth, but where are the "gone be-
fore?"

And for ourselves, we feel that time glides
on with resistless progress, and bears us up
to the silent bourne, but we may not stop
there in our belief. Our faith in Christ is
unshaken by the terrors of the grave, and
that points us to a world where this incom-
plete mortality shall inherit immortality.—
The restless yearning that earth never satisfies
the sorrows that time never heals the

thirst for knowledge never quenched at earth-
ly fountains, all point to a fruition some-
where in God's universe, some time in the
future that is as certain as the present hour.
Therefore we take hold of eternal life with
unflinching trust.

And O, let the weary heart take up anew
its burden and bear it on, nerved by the
thought that it shall one day lay down fore-
ver. O, disappointed heart, the cloud shall
be lifted off thee when thou shalt reach the
other side of death's dark river. O, repent-
ant heart, thy sins shall be forgiven and for-
gotten when the veil parts to usher thee
where no temptation ever cometh.

Let us live, that God shall walk with us
on the earth, that His presence may be a re-
ality, that his voice may find echo from the
depths of our spirits; at last let us close our
eyes on all conviction that the soul can know
no death. God grant to each of us a por-
tion of faith as shall carry us triumphantly
through the portal of death; and then may
His mercy and love be our inheritance for-
ever and ever.

PROVERBS.

Heaven is not to be had by men's barely
wishing for it.

He who gets, doth much; but he who
keeps, doth more.

He who will not be counseled, cannot be
helped.

He who converses with nobody, knows noth-
ing.

He is the wise man, who is the honest
man.

He who lives in hopes dies a fool.

Home is home, be it ever so homely.

He is a rich man, who hath God for his
friend.

He is the best scholar, who hath learned to
live well.

Hear reason, or she will make herself be
heard.

He who hath no wisdom, hath no worth.

He who resolves to amend, hath God on
his side.

He who hath done ill once, will do it a-
gain.

Have many acquaintances, and but few
friends.

He who will avenge every affront means
not to live long.

He who hath no ill fortune, is tired out
with good.

Blessed.

1. Blessed is he who does not make
a cent, for he will have no income tax to
pay.

2. Blessed is the bald-headed man for his
wife cannot pull his hair.

3. Blessed is the homely man, for the girls
shall not molest him; yea, thrice blessed is
he, for when he shall ask a lady to dance, she
will answer him, saying, "I am engaged for
the next set."

4. Blessed is he who polisheth his boots
and not his morals, who maketh the outside
of his head to shine, but neglecteth the in-
side thereof, for all the girls shall rise up at
his coming and call him beautiful.

5. Blessed is the man who hath no brains,
but brass in abundance, for he shall be the
ladies' favorite. Selah.

6. Blessed is the man who giveth many
and costly presents to young ladies, for great
shall be his reward—in a horn.

7. Blessed is the man who is always flat
broke, for no man saith unto him, lead me
five dollars.

8. Blessed is the Digger Indian, for unto
him no man presenteth a subscription pa-
per.

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