

Saint Mary's Beacon

WHITE MAGIC.

Against the world I close my heart,
And half in pride and half in fear
I said to Love and Lust: Depart;
None enters here.

A gypsy witch has gilded in;
She takes her seat beside my fire;
Her eyes are innocent of sin,
Mine of desire.

She holds me with an unknown spell;
She folds me in her heart's embrace;
If this be love, I cannot tell;
I watch her face.

Her number eyes are happier
Than any joy that e'er had voice;
Since I am hapless to her,
I, too, rejoice.

And I have closed the door again;
Against the world I close my heart;
I hold her with my spell; in vain
Would she depart.

I hold her with a surer spell,
Beyond her magic, and above,
If hers be love, I cannot tell,
But mine is love.

—Arthur Symonds in London Nights.

Herbert Spencer and the Blackies.
One afternoon Mrs. Blackie and the writer, sitting on a garden seat, noted a weary wayfarer with dusty boots open the little gate and climb up the footpath. He wore a soft wide-awake and gray clothes, and displayed no badge of saintship or lantern of philosophy. "A dominie for pro," said Mrs. Blackie. The professor's voice was ringing out from the open window of his turret study, laden with soft Gaelic gutturals. It ceased, and the dominie stood under the porch. A few minutes passed, and Bella came flying to the garden seat. "Please, mum, it's Mr. Herbert Spencer in the drawing room, and the professor is not to be found." He had closed his book and gone by the back door to breathe on the 'sublime heights' before dinner.

Trembling with responsibility, we faced the illustrious visitor, who restored our composure by abusing the highlands, libeling the innkeepers and accusing our sex of bribing porters with threepenny bits, and so compassing every railway disaster ever recorded. With some indignation we flung our gauntlet in the face of the "father of modern philosophy," and it is to be feared that he fled from such unwonted treatment. "This has been a very stormy interview," he said, and took his leave. And just afterward, returning from his walk, the professor missed his visit.—"John Stuart Blackie," by A. M. Stoddard.

The Biggest American Diamond.
Diamonds have been found occasionally at different places in the United States, but never in sufficient quantities to render systematic mining profitable.

The largest authenticated diamond ever found in this country was picked up by a laborer engaged in grading the streets of Manchester, Va. Its original weight was about 24 carats, and, after cutting, a 12 carat stone resulted. On this stone, called by Captain Dewey, its owner, the Oninor, there was once loaned £1,200, but Mr. Kunz, the diamond expert, appraised its value at less than \$1,000, as it is poorly colored and imperfect.

In the matter of diamonds Yankee land at all events does not "lick creation."—New York Journal.

Specimen Puns from London Punch.
The new woman (in French)—Mme. de Maitenant.

"An Isle in the Water" is the title of a new book. Where else should "an isle" be? In a lamp?

Favorite song on the Stock Exchange—"Oh, what a difference in the morning!"

Appropriate decoration for a "biker's" buttonhole.—The cyclamen.

Dentist's motto.—Tooth will out.

They were discussing the merits of various Oxford colleges. "Well," said a certain patron emphatically, "I would never send any son of mine to such a place as Belial college, Oxford."

Beacon Hill's Glory Departed.
Who among the prophets could have foretold 20 years ago that real estate on far famed Beacon Hill would have depreciated in value more than in any other section of Boston? And yet there is the fat, and it illustrates how the whims of fashion dominate over all things terrestrial.—Boston Herald.

Each state is supposed to have a militia, composed of men from 18 to 45, capable of bearing arms, but in nearly all the states the militia organization is very incomplete. The number of militia actually organized is not far from 100,000.

In families well ordered there is always one firm, sweet temper, which controls without seeming to dictate. The Greeks represented Persuasion as crowned.—Bulwer.

If the present ratio of increase in manufacture is kept up for 25 years, the United States will be as important a manufacturing as it now is an agricultural country.

The Chinese pen from time immemorial has been a brush made of some soft hair and used to paint the curiously formed letters of the Chinese alphabet.

The word worship originally meant nothing more than to honor.

BACHELOR'S LOGIC.—"Why don't you get married?" said X. to a friend of his.

"Because, in the first place I detest women on principle: secondly and chiefly, because marriage would interfere with my literary work."

"What class of work?"

"I'm writing love stories."—Tit Bits.

GUNPOWDER'S FIRST USE.—

People outside of military life who have no connection with the making of gunpowder know it only as a coarse, thick powder like sand, which will flash off with a loud report if shut up in a case of any kind and set on fire.

It is a very queer mixture made up of three simple and well-known substances, no one of which will explode, although two will burn. No one knows when or how it was discovered, for as far back in the dark ages as tradition will carry we find that gunpowder, though not used for guns, was known. It was no doubt looked upon with awe and fear by the ancients on account of its flame, its noise and its rending force, but their limited mechanical skill could suggest very little use for it.

Possibly it was used in warfare long before the beginning of history, but the first man in historical times to form an idea of the terrible destruction which this awful, bursting, fiery substance might produce was an English monk named Roger Bacon. Monks in his day were the chemists, scholars and writers of the world, and this Roger Bacon traveled and studied much and made continual experiments in his laboratory to prove for himself and develop what he learned from others. He probably saw gunpowder among the Moors in Spain and tried for himself its explosive effect. Then, in the year 1267, he wrote of its composition, and in his writing suggested that it could be used in engines of war to deal death and destruction to armies of men.

Soon after Roger Bacon's time his suggestions were taken up and guns were constructed first by binding iron bars together with hoops to form a tube, then by casting a tube out of brass, with one end closed. Stones of suitable size were selected as shot, and the powder had to be carried around in chests or barrels and shoveled into the muzzles of the guns. In spite of these drawbacks very large guns were built, for there was one used by Mohammed II, against the Greeks at the siege of Constantinople in 1453 which threw a stone weighing 600 pounds a distance of one mile.

A MATHEMATICAL PROOF OF IMMORTALITY.—Dr. Ivan Slavovki, the eminent Russian mathematician, who died in St. Petersburg in December, 1887, left, among other curious and valuable papers one entitled: "The Atomic Theory—A Mathematical Proof of the Immortality of Man."

The learned Doctor starts out by taking the position that the whole universe is made up of atoms, and that these atoms are not 'innumerable,' but it can be shown that their number is limited. He further declares that the words 'infinite' and 'innumerable' are only used to cover ignorance—because it is impossible for our minds to form a proper conception of a vast number of units. After making the above and other broad statements, he sets himself to the task of proving that the atoms of the universe are constantly undergoing changes, and that the time will come when all possible changes, combinations and permutations will have been exhausted. Spencer, Helmholtz, Thompson and many other distinguished men, living and dead, believe and believed this queer doctrine. Thompson says that when these changes have been exhausted the universe will be at rest. When that day comes the sun will cease to shine, the planets will stop revolving on their axis, and all the vast systems of worlds will hang perfectly dead and lifeless. But no, Dr. Slavovki does not propose to have a grand finale "wind-up" at that stage of the game.

He declares that when these atomic permutations have been exhausted, nature will return upon its tracks; in other words, that when the pendulum has swung to its utmost limit it must return again. If all the positions of all the atoms of the universe must again repeat themselves, Slavovki argues that there must come a time when all nature will again be in the track now occupied. The earth will again undergo its geographical periods, and man will again appear, each individual being precisely the same individual he is now. He will be born of the same parents, be reared under the same circumstances that he now lives, and with those with whom he now lives, and will finally die, as he will die in a few years from now. After another untold age of cyclic changes, he will 'live again,' just as in his former lives. This is immortality.

Kindle Fire with Crutches.



For four years I have suffered with a very bad case of Rheumatism and have been compelled to walk on crutches; the doctors say that my case is chronic and incurable. I tried the Yager's Liniment and I must say that it is the best Liniment to relieve pain that I have ever used, and the action is prompt and effective.

JOHN ARBERMAN, Clermont Mills, Md.

I have been sick with Inflammatory Rheumatism since November 1893, and have used a half dozen different kinds of Liniments, but none of them helped me in the least, except the Yager's Cream Chloroform Liniment. I have used eight bottles of it and do not intend to be without it as the only thing that relieves me of pain. I can recommend it to anyone suffering with Rheumatism as the best pain reliever.

MRS. W. M. PARKER, Ashby, W. Va.

I have been afflicted with chronic Rheumatism in my back and hips for 6 years; have used various kinds of Liniments, and so-called Pain Killers, but nothing I could do would relieve me. I was advised by a friend of mine to try your Yager's Liniment, and the one bottle relieved me, and was so well pleased with the first bottle that I purchased another, and will never be without it.

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The name dollar was once slang, being applied to the ounce pieces coined by a certain German Count Joachim, who, in a thal, or valley, in his rather limited dominions had a silver mine. The pieces became well known throughout Germany, and, in allusion to the place where the silver was mined, they were called "thalers" or "valleyers." The name proved popular, was generally adopted and finally emigrated to England, where they became "dollars," and were in common use as early as the time of Shakespeare, in whose plays it is once or twice found. The English pound was originally what its name implies, a pound of silver, which was divided by weight into twenty portions, each of which was called a shilling, from an old Saxon or German word signifying to weigh. A slang name for the German traders in the Saxony and early English days was esterling, and as their money was the best in western Europe, esterling silver represented the purest kind, and by and by, shortened to sterling, was applied to English coin of the required standard of weight and quality. The franc was originally the coin of the Franks or French, a name that seems to have been bestowed upon it in some other country than France, and adopted there after it had become familiarized by use abroad.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The Compliment

of imitation has so frequently been paid by the contemporaries to the Philadelphia Record

in recent years that those of their readers who do not thoroughly Wide-Awakes would almost be excusable if they should occasionally lose sight of the fact that a born Leader of Newspapers, like any other originator or pioneer, is never contented except in

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Mabel: That's why you're hopeless. If you were only normally miserable I might consider, but I couldn't think of yoking myself with a freak.—Exchange.

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