POETRY.

[From Good Words, for January.]

TENNYSON'S NEW POEM—THE VICTIM.

A plague upon the people fell,
A famine after laid them low,
Then thorpe and byre arose in fire,
For on them brake the sudden foe;
So thick they died the people cried
"The gods are moved against the land.
The priest in horror about his altar
To Thor and Odin lifted a hand,
"Help us from famine
And plague and strife!
What would you have of us?
Human life?
Were it our nearest,
Were it our dearest,
(Answer, O answer,)
We give you his life."

But still the foemen spoil'd and burned,
And cattle died, and deer in wood,
And bird in air, and fishes turned
And whiten'd all the rolling flood;
And dead men lay all over the way,
Or down in a furrow scathed with flame,
And ever and aye the Priesthood moan'd
Till at 'ast it seemed that an answer came:
"The King is happy
In child and wife;
Take you his nearest,
Take you his dearest,
Give us life."

The Priest went out by heath and hill,
The King was hunting in the wild;
They found the mother sitting still;
She cast her arms about the child.
The child was only eight summers old,
His beauty still with his years increased,
His face was ruddy, his hair was gold,
He seemed a victim due to the Priest.
The Priest exulted,
And cried with joy,
"Here is his nearest,
Here is his dearest,
We take the boy."

The King returned from out the wild,
He bore but little game in hand;
The mother said, "They have taken the child
To spill his blood and heal the land;
The land is sick, the people diseased,
And blight and famine on all the lea;
The holy gods, they must be appeased,
So I pray you tell the truth to me.
They have taken our son.
They will have his life,
Is na your nearest?
Is na your dearest?
(Answer, O answer)
Or I, the wife?

The king bent low, with hand on brow,
He stay'd his arms upon his knee;
"O wife, what use to answer now?
For now the Priest has judged for me."
The king was shaken with holy fear;
"The gods," he said, "would have chosen well;
Yet both are near, and both are dear,
And which the dearest I cannot tell!"
But the Priest was happy,
His victim won.
"We have his nearest,
We have his dearest,
His only son!"

The rites prepared, the victim bared,
The knife uprising toward the blow,
To the altar-stones he sprang alone,
"Me, me, not him, my darling no!"
He caught her away with a sudden cry,
Suddenly from him brake the wife,
And shrieking "I am his dearest, I—
I am his dearest!" rush'd on the knife.
And the Priest was happy,
"Oh, Father Odin,
We give you a life,
Which was his nearest?
Which was his dearest?
The gods have answered,
We give them the wife?"

NEVADA LEGISLATURE.

The House convened on Tuesday, 28th at 7½ P. M., Hon. R. P. Baily in the chair. A bill was introduced by Hon. John Donagan, defining who should be considered competent voters in the Territory of Montana. Bill referred to Election Committee. The subject for discussion was then considered in order.

Hon. Mr. Wright said that he represented one of the richest counties in the Territory of Montana, which consideration would render him equal to the more able speakers of the House, to whom he submitted the question.

Hon. Mr. Sheel said he had spoken before on the subject of the memorial before the House; that he had never recognized slavery as just or right, but he considered it palpably wrong that so much blood of white citizens should be shed in order to elevate the negro race. The object of the reconstruction law was to secure a majority of votes in the election of executive officers, and if such conduct was persisted in, it would be very detrimental to the interests of the country.

Hon. Mr. Egleston said he was opposed to the memorial and that through means of the obstinacy of the South, Congress was compelled to place them under military rule, and it was considered necessary by Gen. Sherman for the protection of the lives and property of the loyal citizens in the South. He considered it perfectly constitutional that the government officials who had perjured themselves should be disfranchised, and that the rights of loyal citizens should not be denied to the negroes who fought side by side with the soldiers of the North to restore the Union.

Hon. Mr. Hargrave said he considered that the memorial claimed nothing unreasonable, and that it would be in accordance with the spirt of common humanity, that Congress should repeal the reconstruction law.

Hon. Mr. Williams eulogized the old flag which Washington and his contemporaries prized and adored. The North was justifiable in its protection and not one star should lose its brilliancy. Having accused Congress of being too severe and unnecessarily imposing military restriction on the South, he concluded his remarks by arguing that vindictive feelings should now be discontinued, and that he was therefore in favor of the memorial.

Hon. Mr. Vanbrocklin said he had previously expressed his sentiments on the subject in question, but he would do so again on this occasion. He argued that Congress had done nothing unconstitutionally, which he said his opponents could not deny, and Andrew Johnson previous to his being elected as Vice President of the United States, had affirmed that Congress had the prerogative of reconstruction. He argued that if the people of the South had a right to seek permission to come back into the Union, Congress had a right to investigate their claims and to ascertain if they maintained a republican form of government, and their government was found to be an oligarchy. He then proceeded to refute several of the arguments of the opposite party, and concluded his remarks by stating that no loyal man had ever objected to the proceedings of Congress.

Hon. Mr. Johnson argued ably in favor of the memorial and noted the invincible obstinacy of the opposite party, who he said were not willing to be convinced. He then called attention to some of the critical features of the memorial, and considered its passage as necessary to the peace and prosperity of the nation.

Hons. Mr. Richmond, Donegan and Sedman, each spoke on the long debated question and submitted the memorial for final passage. On motion it was put to a vote and carried; ayes 6, nays 5. Notice was then given by Hon. Mr. Wright of his intention to introduce a bill petitioning Congress to repeal an act regulating the franchises of the Territories; also a bill granting divorces on slight provocations.

W. A. B. Reporter.

The Virgin Islands.

In the present season of tornadoes and earthquakes in the West Indies, the subjoined information has an unusual interest:

Those islands were so named by Columbus in honor of the 11,000 virgins of the Roman ritual. They may now be said to be divided between England, Spain and the United States. The Spaniards lay claim to these islands near Porto Rico, and the United States have just agreed to the sum for the purchase of the Danish islands of St. Thomas and St. Juan, an additional sum to be paid for Santa Cruz, provided France will waive her claim to that island. Cotton grows luxuriantly in these islands, and its cultivation was increasing. The chief town, Tortola, was on the south side of the island of the same name, close to the water's edge. At the census of 1861, 6,051 persons were enumerated in these islands, so far as they were British, distributed over an area of 94 square miles. The population included 476 whites, 4,018 blacks and 1,557 mixed. The statistics of nationality show that only 26 of the inhabitants were natives of Great Britain and Ireland; 243 were natives of other West Indian colonies, and 5,644 were born in the colony. The British Islands are Tortola, Virgin Gorda or Pennistan, (sometimes corrupted into Spanishtown) Jos Van Dykes, Guana Isle, Beef and Thatch Islands, Anegada, Nichar, Prickly Pear, Camanas, Ginger, Cooper's Salt, St. Peter and several other smaller islands. Mr. Martin, in his statistics of the colonies of the British Empire, compiled from the official records of the Colonnial Office, states that the Virgin Islands were celebrated for a great variety of fish. The area of the several islands, in acres, is stated to be as follows: Anegada, 31,200; Tortola, 13,000; Spanishtown, 9,500; Jos Van Dykes, 3,200; St. Peter's, 1,890; Beef Island, 1,560; Guano Island, 1,120; and forty other islands, with an area varying from 900 down to five acres each.

Interesting Financial Statistics.

Director Delmar, of the Statistical Bureau, in reply to a communication from General Butler, has given some interesting financial statistics, going to prove that the civilization of the world depends in a great measure upon the character and quantity of its circulating medium. He traces the amount of coinage from the Augustan Age, A. D. 14, when it amounted to $358,000, to the present time, and shows that from the year named the amount of coin in circulation gradually diminished until A. D. 806, when it touched the lowest figures, $33,674,256. It then commenced rising, but did not recover itself until the beginning of the nineteenth century. Its marked increase was in the year 1,600, when the mines of Potosi were opened, which marked the closing of the Dark Ages. From the commencement of the ninth to the close of the fifteenth century the credit system became established in Europe. The lending of money on interest during most of this period was deemed odious, and the traffic fell entirely into the hands of the Jews, who, becoming greatly enriched by it, were frequently plundered. The taking of interest seems first to have been regulated in Venice, in the twelfth century, when the legal rate was four per cent, and controlled by a few Jews. The long monetary dearth during the centuries named led to the social degradation which marked the Dark Ages, and which culminated in the system of feudal laws from which even yet modern civilization has failed to entirely free itself. In 1157 the Bank of Venice was founded, that of Geneva in 1345, and of Barcelona in 1401. Between this time and that when the Bank of Amsterdam was founded, A. D. 1607, occurred the influx of the precious metals from America. The present amount of coin in Europe and America he estimates at $2,800,000,000, of which $2,500,000,000 are in gold.

ANOTHER "OLDEST MASON."—A newspaper paragraph about one Captain Lemuel Cox, of East Hartford, Connecticut, "the oldest Mason in the United States," has fallen under the eye of B. West, of Tennessee. This gentleman writes to the Nashville *Christian Advocate*: Gabriel Bumpass, M. D., a graduate of the Philadelphia Medical School, is now 96 years old. He entered the Masonic fraternity just as early in life as the rules of the order would admit him, and has been a regular member of the same for the term of 75 years. He professed religion in his 14th year, and is now a member in good and reputable standing in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He was an orphan when he professed religion. He made himself by his own perseverance and energetic industry one of the most successful physicians of his day. He was made a Mason in South Carolina. He says he cannot remember the name of the lodge in which he was initiated; it was, he thinks, in Laurens district. The number of the lodge, he thinks, was fourteen. It may be in some adjoining district, as he does not now remember the precise name. He is now feeble and afflicted. Although living in Lawrence county, Tennessee, Doctor Bumpass has never used any beverage but cold water.

Strange Facts.

The drunkard consumes as much grain, in the form of alcohol, in one day as would supply him with bread for three.

The Catholics in England now have 674 chapels, 380 priests, 13 monasteries, 44 convents, 11 colleges, and 250 schools.

An Irish mile is 2,240 yards; a Scotch mile is 1,984; a German is 1,809; a Turkish 1,826.

A legal stone is 14 pounds in England, and 16 pounds in Holland.

Botanists claim to have discovered 3,000 genera of plants, 50,000 species, and varieties of the species without number.

A hand, in horse measure, is 4 inches.

The human body consists of 240 bones, 9 kinds of articulation or jointings, 100 cartilages or ligaments, 100 muscles or tendons, and 100 nerves, besides blood, arteries, veins, &c.

The public domain of the United States consists of 1,438,000,000 acres of land.

A fathom, 6 feet, is derived from the height of a full grown man.

One fourth of the revenue in Great Britain is derived from taxes on drinks and drinking.

The whole vegetable kingdom is little more than a metamorphosis of charcoal and water, in countless masquerading forms.

Summons.

Montana Territory. } In the District Court of the
Beaverhead County. } 2d Judicial District of the Territory of Montana.

Administrator of the estate of George Carhartt, deceased, plaintiff, vs.
The Montana Mineral Land and Mining Co., Thomas D. Pitt, Heman Clarke, M. J. McDonald and William Cook, defendants.
To the Montana Mineral Land and Mining Company, Thomas D. Pitt, Heman Clark, M. J. McDonald and William Cook, defendants in this action.

YOU are hereby notified and required to appear and answer the complaint in the above entitled action, which is filed in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the 2d Judicial District of the Territory of Montana, at the May term of sa'd court, to be held at Bannack city, in said county and Territory on the first Monday of May, A. D. 1868, and if you fail to appear and answer, plead or demur to said complaint on or before the first day of said term, judgment will be taken against you for the possession of said property and damages as set forth in said complaint, and costs of suit.

This action is brought for the recovery of property, and for damages in the sum of five thousand dollars.

Given under my hand and the seal of said [SEAL] Court, this 11th day of Jan. A. D. 1868.
S. F. DUNLAP,
Clerk, District Court, 2d Judicial District, M. T.
DAVIS & THOROUGHMAN, Pltf's Atty. w178-181

Sheriff's Sale.

BY virtue of an execution issued out of and by the District Court in and for Madison county, Montana Territory, bearing date January 17th, A. D. 1868, I have levied upon and will sell to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the Sheriff's office, on Idaho street, Virginia City, Montana Territory, on the 11th day of February, A. D. 1868, between the hours of 10 a m and 4 p m of said day, the following described property lying and being in the county aforesaid, to-wit: One quartz mill, known as the Brooklyn Golden Ore Mining & Prospecting Company, commonly called Atkin's Mill; one engine; one boiler; twelve stamps, with all the buildings and appurtenances thereto belonging. Taken as the property of the Golden Ore Mining & Prospecting Company to satisfy an execution in favor of James F. Brown.
DAVID McCRANOR, Sheriff
Virginia City, Montana Territory, Jan 18, 1868.
179-182

Sheriff's Sale.

BY virtue of an execution issued out of and by the clerk of the District court, in and for Madison county, Montana Territory, bearing date, Jan. 17th, A. D. 1868, I levied upon and will sell to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the sheriff's office on Idaho street in Virginia City, Madison Co., M., T., on the 11th day of February, 1868, between the hours of 10 a m, and 4 p m of said day, the following described property, lying and being in the county aforesaid, to-wit: One quartz mill, known as the Brooklyn Golden Ore Mining & Prospecting Co. commonly called Atkins' Mill; one engine; one Berkes' twelve stamps, with all the buildings and appurtenances thereto belonging, taken as the property of the Golden Ore Mining & Prospecting Co., to satisfy an execution in favor of James F. Brown.
Virginia city, M. T., Jan. 18, 1868.
DAVID McCRANOR,
w179-182 Sheriff, Madison Co., M. T

Estray Notice.

TAKEN up in Nevada city, on or about Dec. 15, 1866, one pale red Steer; no brands. The owner can have said steer by proving property, paying charges and damages.
w-178-181 ALEX. METZEL.