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BACH - CORY - & - CO.

AN AUTUMN REVERIE.

Sing me a song of the autumn time,
Of the purple grape and the golden rod,
Of the people's flaming crimson leaves,
And the fields where the corn's brown tassels nod.

I am tired of the sunny summer days,
The fall of blossoms and the bird and song,
And I welcome the shadows, cool and still,
Of the autumn eve so chilly and long.

The earth has been furrowed with new-made
grooves,
Since the robins builded beneath the eaves,
And the paths that our feet in the May time tread
Are drifted over with faded leaves.

And the sweet old songs that we used to sing
In the days when love was fond and new,
Go echoing softly thro' the heart,
A beautiful dream of all things true.

Sing me a song of the sighing wind
A requiem over the buried past,
Summer is gone, but her blossoms sweet,
And my dream was too beautiful to last.

—By Mrs. D. M. Jordan.

BY A BLIND MAN.

He Invents a Typewriter for Those Who
See Not.

One cold day about two and twenty years ago a brown-eyed Chicago boy who had not yet risen to the dignity of knickerbockers went out in the streets to romp and play. That night, when the child's mother was tucking him snugly away in bed, he gave her a sudden alarm by going into a spasm that convulsed his little frame until his bones almost rattled. He had contracted a violent cold. The family doctor came, a gentle narcotic was administered, and he was put to bed and slept soundly.

"Mamma, I can't see," he said, when she came to wake him in the morning. And never a "wink" has this boy seen since that hour. His optic nerves were paralyzed. He was destined to go blind through life. This great misfortune, however, did not conquer his ambition to obtain a good education and accomplish some notable work that would benefit his fellow men and others suffering from a like defect.

The boy's name was Edward J. Nolan. He has now reached the age of twenty-five. His home is with his father's family at No. 135 Wells street. After years of patient study and experiment he has at last succeeded in inventing what may best be described as a typewriter for the blind. This machine, which the young man has patented, is in reality named a point writer, and instead of writing or printing ordinary Roman characters and numerals, punctures blank sheets of paper and leaves raised or embossed points on the opposite side.

These points are in groups, each group representing a letter, numeral sign or numeral, in accordance with the system invented by Braille, now almost universally in use among the blind in Europe. Mr. Nolan's pointwriter is doubtless destined to revolutionize the trade in literature and music for blind people. The writer is constructed on the general plan of the calligraph. The carriage is about the same as that of the calligraph, but the roller is grooved to allow the puncturing of the paper when the keys are struck.

As may easily be imagined, it is likewise necessary for the carriage to travel in the opposite direction from that traveled by the ordinary typewriter, because the sheet must be read from the under or embossed side when it is taken out. The carriage of the pointwriter travels, then, from left to right. The keyboard is supplied with sixty-five keys—two for spacing and sixty-three for the various characters.

alone, while the blind person copied it by hand with brad-awl and cellular slate. With this point writer a trained operator, having his or her sight, can sit down and rapidly reproduce music or literature in characters for the blind to read. It has always been very expensive for the blind to get books printed in raised types, and it is believed this machine will in a great measure obviate this drawback.

Mr. Nolan first presented his pointwriter and explained its merits in public at the convention of teachers and superintendents of institutions for the blind, held at Jacksonville, Ill., during July. It was favorably received. Superintendent Hunt, of Louisville, proposes to introduce the machine in his institution at the earliest practicable day. It was also heartily endorsed by Superintendents Waite, of New York; Battles, of Philadelphia, and Hall, of Jacksonville.

Besides being a thorough scholar, inventor Nolan is an accomplished musician. He studied with Heinze, and vocal music with DeCamp. He has appeared in concert in Chicago several times and has been heard in Springfield and Jacksonville. He also sang in the choir of the Cathedral of the Holy Name, having learned all the masses in use there by the Braille system of pointing.

His general education was obtained in the Illinois Institution for the Blind at Jacksonville, between the years of 1874 and 1882. The curriculum is about the same as that of the Chicago high schools. He was formerly president of the Benevolent Literary and Musical Society of the Blind of Chicago.

"Jack Frost." A character known for ages, and one whose habits, though somewhat depreciated at times, are as regular as that of our grandfather's clock. He is said to be already at his pranks again and causing much uneasiness that something may be "nipped" before the proper precautions are taken to keep him at bay. Such experiences remind us that soon preparations will want to be made for trips to warmer climes, where Jack and Old Sol have had their bout long since, and the latter left in full possession of the field.

The Minneapolis & St. Louis railway is the direct line to Hot Springs, Ark., Colorado points and all California and southern winter resorts. For full information call on any agent of that company, or address C. M. Pratt, G. T. & P. A., Minneapolis, Minn.

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