

The Young Bird of Passage.  
By WILLIAM HOWITT.  
Oh bird! Oh little bird,  
Blithe in thy native spot!  
This summer thy wings expand  
For, far or other lands,  
Not these thou knowest not.

Here hast thou woe to live;  
Here only, life thou knowest;  
Here's food, flowers, grass, green grass,  
And streams that glittering pass,  
Thy merry hours have flown.

And if it were to be given  
The mystery of thought;  
Here dost thou hope to dwell,  
With things beloved so well,  
That none beside are thought.

But soon I but soon shall dawn  
Within thee strange desires,  
Strange dreams of other skies,  
Strange lot of melodies,  
The sound of Indian choirs.

And thy first loves and joys,  
Hushed spell-bound in thy heart,  
From woodland, field and stream,  
Like pleasures of a dream,  
Shall they then thou depart!

Called—up, thou know'st not how,  
—Aged, thy soul shall spring,  
During the ocean flood,  
Drooping heaven's rain shall  
With incense wing.

Oh bird of little bird,  
Strange as thy lot may be,  
Yet in thy coming flight,  
We in thy coming light,  
Thou art a type of me.

For now, even now I feel,  
Here, where my life first shone,  
Thou art a type of me,  
Strong in my inmost soul,  
And bidding me begone.

Voices of power are calling,  
Sounds come from other spheres,  
Visions float through my breast,  
And thoughts that will not rest,  
But in the unweaned years.

Valley would earth detain me;  
For spring-time's spell is o'er;  
Thou art a type of me,  
But soon I pass, like thee,  
And I return no more.

A FAILURE.—Col. Moore, a veteran politician of the Old Dominion, enjoyed great personal popularity on account of his affability of manner, and of course could always carry a big vote whenever he was up for an office. He generally spoke to every body he met, and usually succeeded in convincing them that he knew them well. He met his match one morning, however, when on meeting a countryman he shook hands with him and commented:

"Why, how do you do, Thir? am very glad to see you; a fine day, Thir, I see you still ride your fine old gray, Thir."  
"No sir; this horse is one I borrowed this morning."  
"Oh! Ah! well, Thir, how are the old gentleman and lady?"  
"My parents have been dead about three years Sir."  
"But how is your wife, Thir, and the children?"  
"I am an unmarried man, Sir."  
"Too tough. Do you still live on the old farm?"  
"No sir; I've just arrived from Ohio, where I was born."  
"Well, Thir, I guess I don't know you after all. Good morning, Thir!"

At Detroit, the other day, as a man employed in the office of the American Express Co. was sweeping out, a keg of yeast intended for a Dutch brewer, went off with an explosion that startled sleepers in the Michigan Exchange, and nearly drove the sweeper out of his senses. The keg stood upon end near the front window, and when it burst the bottom head flew out, and away sped the keg up to the ceiling like a rocket. Striking against a beam, it tore off quite a strip of plaster, and then diverged in the direction of the terrified sweeper, who beat a hasty retreat. It ended its flight by bringing up against the opposite wall, and was then secured without doing further damage.

Colonel L.—was, and still is, for what I know to the contrary, one of the most distinguished practitioners in the Criminal Courts of the city of Philadelphia. On one occasion, when he was for the prosecution, his witnesses had been subjected to a terrible cross examination from Mr. Ingraham, who appeared for the defense. After the testimony for the state had closed, Col. L.—said to his opponent:

"Now, Mr. Ingraham, I intend to handle your witnesses without gloves. I want to see that you would like to do with yours," responded Mr. Ingraham.

A REPENTANT DRY GOODS MERCHANT.—Among the recent conversions was that of Mr. —, a large dry goods dealer.—After his conversion, he went to a neighboring minister and told him there were so many tricks in the trade, that he was convinced that no man could be honest and obtain a living by the sale of dry goods. "Then," said the minister, "I suppose you intend to give up your business and go into something else?"  
"Oh! no," replied the hopeful convert, "I shall attend only to the purchase of goods, to leave all the selling to my clerks!"

GIVEN FAIR.—Breathe not a sentiment, say not a word, give not an expression of the contents that will offend another, or send a thrill of pain to his bosom. We are surrounded by sensitive hearts, which a word, a look even, might flit to the brain with sorrow. If you are careless of the opinions of others, remember that they are differently constituted from yourself, and never, by word or act, cast a shadow on a happy heart, or throw aside the smiles of joy that linger on a pleasant countenance.

A SMALL DEFERENCE.—"In my fertile property," said a DeLancaster man, "you could turn a horse into a field new mown, and the next morning the grass would be grown above his hoofs." "That's nothing," cried a Yorkshire man. "You may turn a horse into a field at Yorkshire, and one of us could find him next morning."

DOWNED BY SHIPBOARD.—During the heavy wind Wednesday, the schooner "Kate Richmond" had three of her men washed overboard in Sag Harbor Bay, and one of them was drowned. His name was Thos. Morris, aged about 25, from Waterford, Ireland. The vessel lost her foremast. The mate and two of the crew of the "W. H. Craig," which was in company with the Richmond, were washed overboard in the same hour, and were rescued. The Craig had her jib blown away.

ANNUAL STATEMENT  
OF THE  
Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company,  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.  
Balance per statement Jan. 1, 1887, \$2,200,000.00  
Income from investments during year, 120,000.00  
Total receipts for year, 1,200,000.00  
Paid for death claims, 100,000.00  
Paid for expenses, 50,000.00  
Total disbursements, 1,500,000.00  
Balance on hand, \$2,900,000.00  
Assets, \$2,900,000.00  
Liabilities, \$2,900,000.00  
Total, \$5,800,000.00

Assets.  
Cash on hand, \$2,900,000.00  
New York City per cent bonds, 2,000,000.00  
New York City 5 per cent bonds, 2,000,000.00  
New York City 4 per cent bonds, 2,000,000.00  
New York City 3 per cent bonds, 2,000,000.00  
New York City 2 per cent bonds, 2,000,000.00  
New York City 1 per cent bonds, 2,000,000.00  
New York City 1/2 per cent bonds, 2,000,000.00  
New York City 1/4 per cent bonds, 2,000,000.00  
New York City 1/8 per cent bonds, 2,000,000.00  
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New York City 1/128 per cent bonds, 2,000,000.00  
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