

When autumn breezes blow,
And autumn suns are low,
When maple-leaves begin to glow,
And all the woodland spaces show
Their pomp of red and yellow,

I drop my knittings on my knees,
I fold my hands together,
And for beyond the window trees,
And far across the rolling seas,
I smell the moorland heather.

The purple heather, blue about
By beam winds, and low down,
Ah me! what memories bloom about
What ordered thoughts are put to rout
In tremulous disorder!

By just a color in the sky,
A grass-beret, a handkerchief,
That, spite of wrinkles and gray hair,
Has thrilled old heart-beats unaware
With new and joyous cheer.

Across the water! It came to me
A sweet autumn breeze,
From love's sweet wind swept free,
Warm from the sun where I and he
Were wont to sit together.

A waning, fragrant sea, it spread
All round in purest blue,
White clouds went sailing overhead,
A lark was singing, when he said
"Will you be true to me?"

I wondered, dumb with glad surprise—
Could I have heard him clearly?
He saw the blissful color rise
He drew me, kissing lips and eyes—
"Will you be true to me?"

And earth and air seemed hushed,
Those words of sweetest meaning;
The blackbird whistles them on the wing,
The blossom-bells are ringing—
White, on his bosom leaning,

I built the airy towers that youth
Can fashion so sublimely;
Nor dream now that I should end in ruth,
For joy that had no root in truth,
And hope that had no end in duty.

The grave was long years ago
Beneath his English willow,
For me the scarlet maples glow,
An evergreen beneath the willow,
The wide Atlantic billows.

My life has had its share of gain,
No less than those who prosper;
But hap'ly I have learned to train
Some flowers around my crosses.

And still, when maple-leaves are red
In breezy autumn weather,
Once more I hear the wind I tread
Once more I hear the wind I tread
This day some twenty years ago.

EDWARD BROWN, STOKER.

We were very quiet, Mary and I, as
we strolled out the churchyard, down
one of the lanes, and then crossing a
stile, and went through a couple of fields
and sat down on another stile, with the
high hedge on either side of us, and the
meadow that lay between us beginning
to mow at the other end, one glorious bed
of flowers and soft, feathery grass.

"Polly," I says at last, breaking the
silence, "ain't this heavenly?"
"And you feel better?" she says, laying
her hand on my shoulder.
"Better!" I says, taking a long draught
of the soft, sweet-scented air, and filling
my chest, "better, old girl! I feel as if I
was growing backward into a boy."

"And you fifty last week?" she says.
"Yes," I says, smiling, "and you forty-seven
next week." And then we sat
thinking for a bit.

"Polly," I says at last as I sat there
drinking in that soft breeze and feeling
it give me strength, "it's worth being
old to feel as I do now."

"For you see I'd been very bad, else I
dare say I'm not the man to go hanging
about churchyards, and watching
funerals. I'm a stoker, and my work
lies in steamers to the East. I'd
come home from my last voyage bad
with fever, and been carried home to
me, as my mother thought, by a doctor
who was like this and getting better
that had set me thinking so seriously and
nobody sort of man, as any one who
knows me will tell you. And now, after
getting better, the doctor had said I
must go into the country to get strong,
so there was no more voyaging till I
was strong there was nothing for it but
to leave the youngsters and the care
of the oldest girl and a neighbor, and
come and take lodgings out in this quiet
Surrey village.

"Polly never thought I should get better,
and one time no more did I. It
was about a month or so since, as I lay
hollow-eyed and yellow on the bed,
knowing, too, how bad I looked, for I
used to make young Dick bring me the
looking-glass every morning, the doctor
came as usual, and when I told him
I was getting better, he said, 'I don't
think any medicine could have cured
me then.'

"I was saying a little while back that
I pulled my wife regularly out of the
hands of death, and I told you, Polly,
when we were both quite young, though
for the matter of that, I don't feel much
different and can't well see the change.

"That was in one of the Cape steamers
that I first took to stoking, they
were little ramshackle sort of boats,
and they were both quite young, though
for the matter of that, I don't feel much
different and can't well see the change.

"I never said a word, though, even to
Polly, for he'd be a good deal of a
hopeless case," he says. "There's
always hope." After a little more talk,
he shook hands and went away.

"Next day when he came I had been
thinking it all over, and was ready for
him. I don't know how it was, but
in fact, I knew I was drifting fast, and
I saw it in his eyes as well.

"Now look here, sir, speaking as one
who has sailed the seas, it's a terribly
stormy time, and the seas are
driven out, and unless we can get up a
bit of sail, there's no chance for me. Now
then, doctor, can you get up a bit of
sail?"

"I will go and send you something
that will quiet you," he said, rising.
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myself. "And now look here, I'm not
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out loose a couple of the women; first
was made for them before the place
was too full; she was lowered down
cast off, and a big wave carried her clear
of the steamer. I saw her for a
moment on the top of a ridge, and then
she plunged down the other side out of
my sight, and that every body else,
for how long she lived, who carried
her, she was never picked up or heard of
again.

"Giving a bit of a cheer, our chaps
turned to the next, and were getting
into the water, and were like a mountain
rippled her from the davits, and when
I shook the water from my eyes, there
she was hanging by one end, stove
in, and the men who had tried to launch
her gone—skipped and made it well.

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Remembrance Case of Cruelty—A Father
and Mother Kill their Son in a Bath,
and Leave Him Without Food or Clothing
for Six Days.

The Cleveland Leader has the following
account of a case of parental cruelty
almost without parallel. Yesterday
forenoon, Detective Sergeant Keegan,
of the Police Department, received information
that a man named Kanen, living on
Gaylord Street, was keeping secreted
in his barn a boy of 17 or 18 years old,
who was being starved, and was
dying. After a brief consultation, Keegan
and a man named Kanen, living on
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The scene of this heart-warming case,
says the Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution, is
at the farthest end of Whitehall Street,
in a little one-story, three-room house,
bordered by a negro family, which
moved to Atlanta early in the
spring. During the summer, the wife
and mother died, leaving two small
children to the care of the father. The
children were two or three years of age,
and the girl between six and seven years
old. The boy is unable either to walk or talk,
and both are very ill-grown from want
of care and attention. The father (whose
name is mentioned in the neighborhood,
but we could ascertain), has wantonly
neglected these children ever since their
mother died. He has been in the habit
of visiting the house very seldom, and
always at a late hour in the night. At
these visits he very rarely brought food
and gave to the children, and for some
weeks they have almost entirely been
surrounded by neighbors. They
found out by some means that the father
was neglecting them, and they have
performed their duty in the most
effective manner. They have secured
the services of a physician, and he has
found that the children are suffering
from a disease which is almost incurable,
and that they will probably die within
a few days. The father has refused to
pay for their care, and the neighbors
have taken them to a hospital, where
they are now being treated.

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