

BEHIND THE HILL.

My boy was young; he could not know The way earth's wayward currents flow...

He climbed the hill at early morn Beneath whose shadow he was born...

The world is wide, and he has gone Into its vastness, on and on...

I know he bravely fights with fate, But, ah, the hour is growing late...

And now he waits for his last hour, And waits for his last hour...

ONE KIND OF CRANK.

How He Makes Lots of Trouble for Hotel Mon.

A New York Clerk Tells of a Curious Sort of Vanity Some People Are Afflicted With—Carrying an Unwary Companion.

"Is Mr. Henry Wilson in?" The man who put this question to the clerk at the Fifth Avenue hotel...

"The inquirer looked a little taken aback, and a frown passed quickly over his face."

"I don't remember his having been here," said the clerk, in a tone full of mystery.

"You are quite sure?" said the man, switching from the confident to the conciliatory.

"Positive," said the clerk, turning away. The man concealed the fact that he was disconcerted very cleverly.

across the lobby. The clerk looked at him occasionally in misapprehension and amusement.

"I wish somebody would invent a sure crank-killing machine," said the clerk after the man had disappeared.

"What do you mean?" asked the reporter. "I mean," he replied, "that fellow knew when he came here that no such man as he inquired for had ever stopped here."

He looked back at the man who had just left, and he saw a man who was not a man at all, but a collection of contradictions.

"Some of the cranks got up great cock-and-bull stories. One fellow called the other night to know if a Mr. Harris had left a pair of opera glasses for him."

"The clerk looked up at him with a blank smile, made no pretense of looking at the key, and the big features when he wants to learn whether a guest is in his room or not."

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A VISIT TO WHITTIER.

Some Eccentric Side-Lights Thrown on the Character of the Poet.

The memory of a visit to Amesbury, made once in September, vividly remains with me.

Amesbury had greatly altered of late years; "large enough to be a city," our friend declared.

As we approached the house we saw him from a distance characteristically grazing down the road for us, from his front yard, and then at the first glimpse he turned round and greeted us with a hearty greeting.

His niece, who bears the name of his beloved sister, was then the mistress of his home, and he was soon inside the house, where everything was plain and neat.

"The head just received a proof of his poem, 'Miriam,' with the introduction, and he could not be content until they had been read aloud to him."

"Whittier's ever growing fame was not taken by him as a matter of course."

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ANIMALS IN WET WEATHER.

Their Habits and Instincts in Regard to Sheltering Themselves.

The reluctance with which most human beings face voluntary exposure to such (wet) weather is a consequence of our very limited knowledge of the various devices by which our wild animal neighbors endeavor to avoid the worst discomforts which it brings.

The writer has sometimes seen hares, not lying in their form, but sitting up in such places, just as a laborer shelters behind a haystack.

Rabbits usually keep under ground in their burrows, only coming out to feed, unless their holes are flooded, as often happens after a long rain of wet.

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THE MILLIONAIRES' MALADY.

A Mental Disease Which is the Outgrowth of the Possession of Great Wealth.

There is reason to think that great wealth begets a mental disease akin to those forms of paralysis which affect a minute portion of the brain.

EATING DINNER MECHANICALLY.

The Waiter Does Everything But Swallow the Food and Drink.

On a recent evening a big man with a heavy walk entered a well known cafe on upper Broadway and sank wearily into a chair at a table.

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OWLS HAVE THEIR USES.

Mice, Insects, Gophers and the Swarming Sparrow Food for the Wise Bird.

The little brown owl, well known in most parts of the country, is indefatigable in its work of destroying mice and insects. It may often be seen at dusk hovering about barns and outhouses, watching for mice, or skimming over the fields or along hedgerows in search of the insects which it feeds on.

will take interest in the question, what ever it be. But somehow his mind can no longer grasp the obvious fact that he himself might settle it, once for all, by applying no great proportion of the money which lies idle at his bank.

It is clear, also, that this malady grows more common, and intensifies. When the rich were by no means so many or so wealthy as now, they founded all sorts of charitable institutions—schools, colleges, charities, hospitals.

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THE WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC & MANUFACTURING CO.

THE NEW SYSTEM OF ELECTRIC STREET LIGHTING WHICH IS TO BE INTRODUCED ON FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

The new system of electric street lighting which is to be introduced on Fifth Avenue, New York, is a most important improvement. It consists of two lamps instead of one, each lamp being a low voltage lamp.

The astronomers of Warner's observatory at Rochester, N. Y., have asked the local electric light companies to adopt shades for their electric lights, claiming that the gleams of light therefrom make accurate observations impossible.

The Compagnie Transatlantique has again brought forward the question of lighting the Atlantic route from Ireland to Newfoundland. It is proposed to have ten powerful floating lights two hundred miles apart, and connect them by electric cables.

A new system of train starting has been inaugurated in the Dearborn station in Chicago. A large clock in the train dispatcher's office, run by electricity, connecting wires extend to large gongs in the different waiting rooms and in the train sheds.

It is said that the Chilean government is considering the subject of lighting by electricity the dangerous straits of Magellan. As its greatest coal deposits are on the northern shores of the straits, this office can be cheaply effected. Such a system would, of course, be hailed with delight by the mariners who would use that passage between the two great oceans.

The state of Massachusetts, as viewed from a balloon, says the Electrical Review, will soon present the appearance of a huge gridiron, if all the trolley schemes now in contemplation are carried out.

Austria announces an electric locomotive which is to travel 125 miles an hour. The Independence Bell follows with the statement that the North Belgian Co. and the North France Co. are to operate a line of electric locomotives on the journey from Brussels to Paris, about 192 miles, will be accomplished in eighty minutes, a speed of nearly 150 miles an hour.

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