

PESSIMISMS.

A vast charity is necessary for tolerance of the failings of the very good.

It might effect a salutary modification of the personal pride of the most holy, and offer some hope to the extremely bad, were both sufficiently impressed with the fact that their extremes are purely relative; and that in the unending years the differences between them may disappear altogether.

If anything can be more exhaustive of human patience than the wickedness of the very wicked, it is the goodness of the very good.

I, too, am good compared with my neighbor. How do I prove it? I do not need to prove it. I admit it.

When a man decides that his views accord with God's providences, he is, as a rule, of opinion that the Almighty is to be congratulated.

If some ladies conducted themselves more like gentlemen they would be nobler women.

The man who looks only on the bright side becomes color blind.

He whose head is ever in the clouds sees only space, and knows nothing of the joys and beauties of the earth.

The hardest and best notions—if there are any best—come from out the lands of clouds and snow. Abas sunshine!

R. W. S.

FOREVER AND A DAY.

I little know or care
 If the blackbird on the bough
 Is filling all the air
 With his soft crescendo now;
 For she is gone away,
 And when she went she took
 The springtime in her look,
 The peachblow on her cheek,
 The laughter from the brook,
 The blue from out the May—
 And what she calls a week
 Is forever and a day!

It's little that I mind
 How the blossoms, pink or white,
 At every touch of wind
 Fall a-trembling with delight;
 For in the leafy lane,
 Beneath the garden boughs,
 And through the silent house
 One thing alone I seek.
 Until she comes again
 And what she calls a week
 Is forever and a day!
 —Thomas Bailey Aldrich.

A shipyard at Ominato, Japan, still in operation, was established over 1900 years ago.

(Eugene Walter)
 (Continued from page 9)

her back; tells her of the hopelessness of fighting any longer. Laura sends for Brockton, and offers herself again. The man, true to his promise to Madison, makes her write, at his dictation, a letter brutally telling what has happened. When Brockton has gone Laura burns this letter, in spite of her agreement to marry it. She goes to live with Brockton in a sumptuous apartment, holding there the same position as the piano—something that has been bought and paid for. Brockton is beginning to tire of her, and she is at the point of hating him. She has never told him that she did not mail the letter. She receives a telegram and tells her lover that it is from a girl friend. Brockton discovers in the morning paper the news that John Madison has struck it rich in Nevada and is on his way to New York. He suspects that Laura has been lying to him; he forces her to show him the telegram—from Madison, of course. Brockton agrees to let her marry Madison, provided Madison wishes her, after she has confessed. She promises to tell him everything—a promise enacted by Brockton's threat to remain and tell the story himself. He doesn't wish Madison to think he broke his promise. Elsie calls opportunely and advises Laura to tell John nothing, but to marry him at once and go away. John comes, unsuspecting, and starts away at once for the marriage license. When he comes back and finds Laura with her trunks packed and waiting, he is grave. He has heard hints of her relations with Brockton. She tells him they are but echoes of the past, and he believes her. Then Brockton returns, unlocking the door with his pass key, striding through the room into Laura's room, and leaving his hat and coat there. John understands. He starts to shoot Brockton and hesitates. Brockton tells him how Laura has lied to both of them. He discards her. John, willing to forgive mistakes, will not forgive deceit. He puts the woman away from him and starts to leave. Laura gets out the revolver to shoot herself. John makes no attempt to stop her, but calls in the maid to witness that Laura's act is voluntary. The girl, too weak to suffer, is also too weak to die. John goes away without looking back. She throws herself down in a paroxysm of grief, seizes the pistol again and then throws it from her. "Annie!" she calls. "Get me my prettiest dress, I'm going to Rector's tonight to make a hit. And then to hell afterwards!"

In France a man under twenty-five years of age, whose parents are dead and whose grandmother or grandfather is alive, cannot marry without the written authority of both or either of them.

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