

POMES BY THE EDITOR

Continued from page 1.

For the law of hospitality toward those  
who are in need  
Is o'ershadowed by the cruel, grasping  
monster we call Greed,  
And the scanty profits won by those  
who tramp the country o'er  
Are exacted by the prosperous who  
have abundant store.

But to dwell upon my history and re-  
count the grave and gay  
That has happened in my lifetime since  
that 19th day of May.  
Or to institute comparisons, rehash  
and animadvert  
Could not serve a useful purpose, and  
might someone's feelings hurt.

So, I'll gently close the curtain, slowly,  
sadly, and meanwhile  
Hot the briny tears will gather and  
anon I'm forced to smile,  
As before my mental vision in kaleidos-  
copic view  
Pass the joys and tribulations of the  
years when life was new.

Farewell to Umslagoogas.

Lay by the armored overalls †  
And fling the shovel down ;—  
The time has come to bid farewell  
To Umslagoogas town  
Where for three months in Sewell's mill  
I grappled with the dust :—  
I leave it not of my free will  
But just because I must.

Because the logs have all been cut,  
The crew have gone away,  
And silence resigns in hall and hut  
And none are left to stay  
Except Fred Baston and his crew  
Who run the three machines  
That cut the shingles, and the few  
Who run the store and teams.

When spring again in brightest green  
Clothers meadow, vale and lea,  
And the unfettered river's seen  
To flow down to the sea  
And once again the forest kings  
Float down into the boom,  
Maybe, among the other things  
For me they may find room.

Meanwhile I tread a path untrod †  
For many weary years ;  
With faith in man and trust in God,  
Although with bitter tears,  
I enter once again upon  
My dreary pilgrimage  
With hopes and aspirations gone,  
And fast advancing age.

Many will reach the ready hand  
Of welcome unto me,  
Whether I travel far inland  
Or by the sounding sea ;  
But selfishness, commercial greed  
And aristocracy  
Each year choke out, as baneful weed  
Sweet Hospitality.

Nevertheless, the years go by,  
The seasons come and wane,  
And unto each their meed of joy  
Of suffering and pain  
Will be allotted while they tread  
This troubled earthly sphere—  
Let's hope more joy awaits us dead  
Than what we have got here.

† The leather padding used to protect  
the sensitive places that came in con-  
tact with the shovel handle.  
‡ Alluding to my purposed resump-  
tion of the peddling business.



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