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1 Perfect

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### Poetry.

UNCLE ROBERT ON GUNS.

Composed and written on one of the remarkable tales of the chase as narrated by a Wickham Nimrod.

You talk of the breech loading gun, But my, oh my! look here! Why, I've an honest, old time one That downs it slick and clear. A better gun I too will bet Was never owned by man Than my far shooting ancient pet,

My darling old "Queen Ann."

You say at five score yards your gun Has often downed her bird; Now listen till my story's done-And think it not absurd—

And I will tell you what was done Some twenty years ago By my old gallant warrior gun That's oft faced Britain's foe.

Twas on the Holy Sabbath day, And all our children dear To Sabbath-School had gone away, For they the Lord did fear;

And as in quietude and peace, Content I did recline chanced to spy a flock of geese Down by my lower line.

'Mother," said I, unto my wife, "On wild goose soon we'll feed; Yes, on that you can bet your life— Unto our utmost greed.' 'Robert," said she, "for goodness sake Don't break the Sabbath day! Or you'll be reckoned as a rake;

Oh don't! Oh don't! I pray!"

'Oh mother, chide me not," I cried; "Shoot them I must and will!" Then high I charged my joy and pride,
A big lot bound to kill. I full one quarter of a pound

Of powder in did pour, With shot to match, stout was the round; Then hastened to the shore.

And sighted on my prey, Which now was feeding with a zest Four hundred yards away. Then firing, recollect no more For all grew black as tar. The echo rolled from shore to shore-I saw full many a star.

Then o'er the fence I took a rest

It thundered on our river side With vigorous boom and crash, Vibile on the Hampstead side they spied The vivid lightning flash. And, when unto myself I came,
My gun so blithe and gay
I spied, emitting smoke and flame,
Full fifty yards away.

'Well done old girl, your work you do!" Unto her then I said: For seven geese that shot she slew; She knocked them stiff and dead. Beside those killed, I too did wound Of them at least a score. And these, when I revived, I found Had sought the island shore.

The seven to the house I took; On them we soon did dine, For mother is a tip top cook; Oh my, but they went fine! But now my story I have told-Come beat it if you can. The gun is worth her weight in gold That downs my old "Queen Ann." WOODVILLE

### CJAX DREAMS A DREAM.

One day I laid me down A siesta to take; A friend had just me shown. The last of Bjax' make. His STUFF I had just read. (All critics thus it deem). I laid me down, I said. And dreamed this dream:

I was in a strange land I'd never seen before; Was one of a small band, Myself and just one more. saw a river there, And knew instinctively I was at Klondyke where I had not wished to be.

One day my luck I tried— Prospecting as they say; A figure I espied When gone a tedious way; An "Ancient Mariner, I thought in my strange dream, Performs his penance here; For it like him did seem.

But soon his side I gained, Than "wedding-guest" more brave: And from his mouth obtained The mournful tale he gave. This man, I should have said, Was digging in the ground; At length he turned his head, And startled looked around.

To this strange man I say With haggard mien and look; 'How do you here, I pray,— This awful Klondyke brook?" No answer—but intent He digged as digged before; My interest did augment;

Quoth I to him once more: "Near mind this earth and moss, Your name please let me know. Some harmless albatross Slew you with a cross-bow?"

He then thus spake to me:

"Once BJAX was my name,
But should no longer be, As I am not the same.

My happy, halycon home On Washademoak lake! Twas Cjax bade me come!" He wept as thus he spake. "Those gladsome days are gone; And I so weak and ill Scarce wot that I live on, Save for the pangs I feel!"

"As gold enough you've got,"
I did to him reply, "Why is it you do not The Klondyke leave for aye? Disease has got you now, And death will have, you soon! would get out I trow Before to-morrew's noon."

He then to me in turn, Anew his tears did drop: "I gladly would return, But I-I CANNOT STOP"!! These words he gravely spoke, And sadder still did seem. I suddenly awoke,

And, lo, it was a dream! THE INTERPRETATION.

And so you see, GAZETTE, You must Bjax endure; Though the best paper yet, You're hampered with this bore. Poor Bjax cannot see To stop would be so wise; Henceforth each week will be His trash before our eyes.

CJAX. Douglas Harbor, September 25th, 1897. NON COMPOS MENTIS.

So meaningless are Bjax's terms, We scarcely know how to reply; But 'tis no wonder that he squirms, And "utters forth" a dismal cry.

From his last piece, it would appear That to his tire he'd likened me; Surely, to all it must seem queer How such a term could fitting be.

If so, 'tis very strange, indeed, That, all this time, he'd treat me so. It might perhaps, be that he means

Does Bjax mean I lend him speed?

That without me he'd be too slow?

I help to bear him o'er his road; If that's the case, to me it seems That I must have a fearful load.

If I am forced to carry what Is "heavier very far than stone"-More weighty, too, than sand"-my lot Is one that scarcely can be borne.

What wonder then that I should burst

'Neath a "fool's wrath," the heaviest load Of any known—also the worst -To mortals trav'ling on life's road.

Bah! Bjax you are getting worse, And list to me my direst foe, The more you rave, when writing verse, The more your weaknesses you show.

Loudly you hooped, and loudly laughed, Like all the others of your kind; But we expect from those who're daft, "The laugh that speaks the vacant

Bjax, I'd grieve to really know Dementia affected you; Write better quickly-that will show That you have understanding, too.

Go to, Bjax! Give no more rhyme-Rhyme really "after our Lake School" Let there be sense in every line, So we will know you're not a fool.

But hold! 'twill then be bad for thee; For, if 'tis proved you don't lack wit, And so have no excure, you'll find-Nemo me impune lacessit. Coq a huppe !!!!

AJAX. Scotchtown, Sept. 27, 1897.

The Modern World.

The world as we know it has only existed a very short time. The "Dark

Ages" did not end till the fourteenth century. Printing was not invented in Europe till the early part of the fifteenth century, and America not known to be in existence till Columbus discovered it at the close 1492. Musical notes were not used till the beginning of the fourteenth century, and not printed till the beginning of the sixteenth; a few years later the first post offices were established at Vienna and Brussels. Watches were unknown till the latter part of the fifteenth century, and were first made in Nuremburg. Newspapers have been in existence in America less than two hundred years. The first was printed in Boston in 1690. The greater part of the world as it exists to-day is less than four hundred years old; and the noisest, most rapid part of it, -steam, electricity, and their application as motive, -has been developed within the present century.

### Asking England's Aid.

London, Sept. 23.—Count Casa Valencia, the Spanish Ambassador to England, yesterday called at the Foreign Office and was closeted for over an hour with Sir Thomas Sanderson, Permanent Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs, regarded as a man knowing most about the foreign relations of England and having great influence in formulating Britain's foreign policy. The subject of the conversation is reported to have been a pro-posed alliance between England and Spain in defence of their American colonies, to curb American aggressions and arrest the extension of the Monroe doc-

The belief exists in diplomatic circles here that Spain desires and is endeaoring to enlist the sympathies of England.
"This" said a member of the diplomatic corps, who declined to permit the use of his name, "means that Spain is trying to borrow the British navy with which to hold Cuba, making representations that the seizure of Cuba by America as she expresses it is the first step toward the presses it, is the first step toward the seizure of Canada.

She hopes to get up an alliance of all the powers having American colonies to resist encroachment by the United States, saying that the time has now arrived to crush the Monroe doctrine and to put an end to the gigantic extensions America is making. They have not got beyond the most desultory talk. The Spanish Ambassador does not see Lord Salisbury; he meets only the Under-Secretary. Lord Salisbury does not take the trouble to to come to London to discuss the matter.

"It is merely a continuation of the effort Spain made about a year ago to get up just this sort of alliance. The last thing on earth Lord Salisbury would do thing on earth Lord Salisbury would do would be to encourage trouble with America. Even the attempt Spain has made to negotiate a loan in England has met with poor success. England has everything to lose and nothing to gain by such alliances, having Canada at stake.

Without England's help Cuba is lost to Spain. England will never help while Lord Salisbury is in power."

At the American Embassy it is said.

At the American Embassy, it is said, nothing is known about Spain negotiating for England's help, and the first attempt with this Government, was such a flat failure that it was not believed a second would be tried.

The Spanish situation is being closely

watched in England. The unanimous opinion is that Cuba is lost to Spain if W. A. CURRIE, D. D. S. America intervenes.

### FOR SUNDAY READING.

A Newspaper Sermon Upon Felix's "A Convenient Season.

Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season I will call for thee.—Acts, Felix was very wily, very timid and

very selfish, as most of us are. Under the circumstances in which the world has entangled itself it is rather difficult to be anything else. What with the teasings and cajolings of personal ambition it requires a certain amount of heroism for a man to do what he knows he ought to do. There is no doubt that goodness is the

best spiritual investment a man can make; that uprightness, integrity, generosity, charity are qualities of character whose value is beyond all appraisal. And yet ambition is an orator with such persuasive speech that it can make the worse appear the better and half convince us that an act at which our conscience revolts will produce the happiness we long for. We allow ourselves to be deceived by specious arguments, and unwho.esome lives mingled with un spoken regrets are the consequence. We all intend to rectify things by and by, but life slips away, the years like

a swift flowing current sweep us into old age, and what we hoped to do remains forever unaccomplished, so far as this life is concerned. Beginning with false premises, we inevitably and logically reach an unsatisfactory conclusion, With the power to make ourselves noble, we waste our energy and die in the sad consciousness that we have not done the half of what we intended to do, and have not done that half as well as we were capable of doing it.

It was so with Governor Felix, and it is so with the majority of us. He saw that Paul's doctrine was the only safe doctrine, and he determined to adopt the principles propounded by him, but it would be more convenient to do so at some future time, and very inconvenient to do so just then. The chance to change himself from a bad ruler into a good man was lost, and it never again presented itself.

There is a similar story told of the wild and dissipated youth who afterward became St. Augustine. He seems to have had two natures, as most of us have. On a certain occasion, when his nobler nature was in the ascendent, he fell on his knees, crying, "O, Lord, make me holy!" but immediately his ignoble nature wrestled for the mastery, and he added, "But not yet!" We all have the same experience.

There is a saint and a devil mside of every human being. In some lives the two skirmish with each other and nothing decisive is attamed-neither obtains the mastery. In other instances there is a pitched battle between the two, and though the fortunes of war waver for a while, the saintly wins the day and the evil surrenders unconditionally. No man knows himself until that battle has been fought. So long as it remains in doubt whether you are to be governed by principle or by expediency, by justice and truth or by personal am-

bition, so long you are building with-out any solid foundation, and your future will depend largely on the temptations which may happen to come your way. If you have clear weather you will get on without any serious mishap, and appear to be a better man and a stronger man than you really are; but if some evil minded chance knocks at your door with its promise of aggrandizement you will be in danger of being so dazzled that conscience will retire in

This "more convenient season" is a

mere figment of the imagination, the de-

dismay and despair.

vice of the spirit of evil, a false prophet, a dose of opium thrust down the throat of your better self. There never was and there never will be a more convenient sason than now. The man who waits until to-morrow always waits until the day after. Difficulties accumulate with the passage of time. If you are about to start on a journey, and, standing in the doorway, watching the first snowflakes of a coming storm, you say, "I will go in the afternoon," or, "I will go in the morning," the chances are that you will wait until it is too late to go at all. Every minute makes your task harder to accomplish. Start at once and you will triumph over the elements. The falling flakes will not impede your progress, and you may reach your destination before the storm bursts in its first fury. But if you wait you make a mistake which may possibly prove fatal. The snow heaps itself in drifts, and by the time you have fully made up your mind to start the roads

have become impassable. In spiritual concerns the same rule holds good, as many a poor, forlorn soul can testify, and as all of us, for that matter, can testify to a certain extent. The habit which you ought to break is now like a spider's web. One sweep of the will and it is gone; delay and the web hardens into threads of steel, and only a giant's strength can break it only a giant's strength can break it.

If you say, "I will mend myself by and by," you will find that your "by and by," you will find that your "by and by," by" will never arrive. It is a delusion, a rainbow, a dream, a nothing. What is worth doing at all is worth doing now. One effort, one mighty effort, calling on all the hosts of heaven for help, and you will make a man of yourself.—New York Herald.

Alphabet of Proverbs. A grain of prudence is worth a pound

Boasters are cousins to liars. Denying a fault doubts it. Envy shoots at others and wounds Foolish fear doubles danger.

God teaches us good things by our own He has hard work who has nothing It costs more to revenge wrongs than

to suffer them. Knavery is the worst trade. Learning makes a man fit company for himself. Modesty is a guard to virtue.

Not to hear conscience is the way to One hour to-day is worth two to-mor-Proud looks make foul work in fair

Quiet conscience is quiet sleep. Richest is he that wants least. Small faults indulged are little thieves that let in greater ones.

The boughs that bear most hang low-Upright walking is sure walking. Virtue and happiness are mother and daughter.

Wise men make more opportunities than they find. You never lose by doing a good act. Zeal without knowledge is fire without light.

Caine's "Christian." Mr. Caine's Christian is a man of Christlike mould. He is Robert Storm, the son of a peer, who, turning his back upon station and wealth, goes out into the wilderness of London, smiting the wealthy and the powerful with scathing words, and seeking to reclaim the fallen men and the fallen women with whom he casts his lot. Over and over again his likeness to Christ is in-

be not let me be misunderstood. Mr. Caine's Christian is no Christ. He is no remcarnated Godhead. He is a very human follower of the Master, eagerly willing in spirit, but weak in the flesh. On the struggles of that spirit and that flesh depends the most vivid interest of the book.

(Late Instructor in Boston Dental College.)

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