

POETRY.

Selected.

THE PARTING.

Come close, my little love, boy.
My only earthly bliss,
Come cling around your mother's neck,
And give a parting kiss.

O! thru dear fond and loved one,
To this thy happy home,
When thou art far away from me,
Will thy young thoughts e'er roam?

Where, by a mother's bosom pressed,
Thou'st lived a happy child,
And bloomed as the fragrant rose,
Amidst the woodland wild.

And must I send thee forth my son
In young and tender years,
To tread the soil of foreign climes,
And bathe them with your tears?

Will strangers watch o'er thee me dear,
As I have always done,
Cherish and guard thy youthful steps,
And smile on thee, my son?

Ah! who will mark thy gambols now,
Or guard thy little bed,
When sickness comes who then will smooth
The pillow for thy head?

In fancy, I will often gaze
Upon that noble brow,
And kiss that rosy cheek and lip,
As I have kiss'd it now.

How I shall miss my darling child,
Thy voice at early dawn,
Calling on me at break of day,
To share the rising morn.

But I shall miss thee more my child,
At twilight's pensive hour,
When the cool balmy western breeze,
Doth shut the evening flower.

When next I clasp thee, in my arms,
And press thy shaded cheek,
Matured years will crowd thy brow,
And time thy features speak.

And if, my little lovely boy,
Thou'st reachest manhood's years,
Think of her anxious hours for thee,
Her sacrifice—her tears.

None save a mother's broken heart,
Would ever bid thee go,
Her pride, her hope, her only joy,
The solace of her woe.

None save a mother's energy,
Could ever bid thee part,
But I must bid thee now farewell,
Thou idol of my heart.

I thus have nerv'd my widow'd heart,
Ahs my child, 'tis done;
And oh! ye Powers that rule above,
Protect my only son.

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DELAYS.—Written in 1595.

Sun delays, they breed remorse,
Take thy time, while time is lent thee;
Creeping snakes have weakest force,
Fly their faults least thou repent thee.
Good is best when sorriest wrought,
Ling'ring labours come to nought.

Hoist up sail while gale doth last,
Tide and wind stay no man's pleasure;
Seek not time, when time is past,
Sober speed is wisdom's leisure.
After wits are dearly bought,
Let thy fore-wit guide thy thought.

Time wears all his locks behind,
Take thou hold upon his forehead;
When he flies, he turns no more,
And behind, his scalp is naked:
Works alwayn'd have many stays,
Long demur breeds new delays.

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INSCRIPTIONS ON THE WALLS OF

LA CHARTREUSE.

In solitude God speaks to the heart of man,

and in silence man speaks to the heart of God.

An hour strikes, it is already past!

Judge not God's works, by thy weak reason

scanned,

Made but to love him, not to understand.—

Lit. Gaz.

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CYRUS'S EPITAPHE.—The following is inscribed upon the tombstone of Xantippe Thomas; wife of Andrew Thomas, who scolded herself to death in the early part of the last century:

Here lies the wife of neighbor Thomas,
Whom death in mercy carried from us;
For when alive she was so old,
So ugly, sluttish, such a scold;
That round about her for a mile,
All things were in a constant brawl;
I've known the storm at such a rate
That even the chimney back would sweat;
Trammels, through fear, forgot to hold,
And read no count of fire grew cold.
Her husband never drop'd a tear,
Till he had plashed her body here;
And then he blubbered like a lout;
For fear she'd scratch her passage out.

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VARIETIES.

From Chamber's Edinburgh Journal.

THE DOWNDRAUGHT.

Sides by side with Victims, whom we commemorated in a former Number, might he placed the kindred species Downdraughts, who are only different from the accident of their having friends who will rather be weighed down by them to the very earth, to the grave itself, than permit them to sink by themselves. The Downdraught is in reality a Victim, and one of the darkest shade, being generally a person totally worthless in character, and abandoned in habits; but then he has not altogether cut the cables which bound him to his native grade in society—he has not all forgot himself to stone—he is still domesticated with his friends—he has a mother, or a wife, or a brother or a sister, or perhaps an old aunt, who will try to keep him in food and clean linens, and, having lost all hope of his ever being actively good, will do anything for him, if he will only preserve a neutrality, and put up positively evil. He is a victim in appearance (always accepting the glean shirt,) but he enjoys the happy superiority over that

class, of having an open door to be to when he pleases, and either a kind relation, who considers him "only a little wild in the meantime," or else one who, for the sake of decent appearances, will endeavour to patch up all his peccadilloes, and even be tyrannised over by him, rather than shock society by an open rupture. The personal tendencies of a Downdraught to victimization are strong as the currents of the great deep, but he is withheld from it by others. He has always some anchorage or other upon decent life, to keep him back from the gulf to which he would otherwise hurry on. In many cases, the very kindness and indulgence of friends was the original cause of his becoming a Downdraught. He had every thing held to his head. He was encouraged in his pretences of headaches as an excuse for staying away from school. When afterwards an apprentice, he was permitted to break off, on the score of being compelled to put on fires and sweep out the shop.—Or, perhaps, it was from none of those causes. Possibly, he was just one of those persons who seem to be totally destitute of all perception of the terms upon which men are permitted to exist in this world; that is, that they are either to be so fortunate as to have "their fathers born before them," so that they may accede to wealth without exertion, or must else do something to induce their fellow creatures to accord them the means of livelihood without beggary. That many persons are really born without this great leading faculty, is unfortunately too indisputable; and, assuredly, they are as proper inmates for a lunatic asylum as more frantic madmen; for what is the use of reason, or even of talent, without the desire of exerting it, either in one's own behalf, or in behalf of mankind; the terms of existence we allude to are expressed in the text of Scripture, "By the sweat of thy brow thou shalt earn thy bread;" so that the man must be considered a kind of heretic, as well as a fool, who will not, or can not, understand them. Yet the fact is, so, that many men arrive at maturity with either a sense of these conditions of life, more or less imperfect, or no sense of them at all. They perhaps conceive themselves to be born to keep down the pavement of Prince's Street with boots one inch and a half deep in the heel, or to fumigate the air of that elegant street with cigars at three shillings per dozen; but that is the utmost extent to which their notions of the purposes of life ever extend. These men, of course, are predestined Downdraughts. We see them already with our mind's eye, exhausting the kindness and patience of a brother, or a wife, yea almost of a mother, with their idle and dissolute habits—dragging those relations slowly but surely down into misery and disgrace—from only in the mean time saved from being kicked out of doors, as they deserve, not by any regard for merits of their own, for they have none, but by the tenderness of those relations for their own reputation.

A decent citizen, of the name of Farney, retired about five-and-twenty years ago from active life, and, planting himself in a neat villa a little way beyond the southern suburbs of Edinburgh, resolved to do nothing all the rest of his life but enjoy the ten or twelve thousand pounds which he had made by business. He was a placed, inoffensive old man, only somewhat easy in his disposition, and, therefore, too much under the control of his wife, who unfortunately was a person of a vulgarly ambitious character. The pair had but one child—a daughter, Eliza Farney—the toast of all the apprentices in the South Bridge, and really an elegant, and not unaccomplished young lady. The only object of Mr. and Mrs. Farney now had in life, besides that of enjoying all its comforts, was the disposal of this young lady in marriage. Whenever there is such a thing as ten thousand pounds connected with the name of a young lady, there is generally a great deal of more fuss made about it than when the sum is said to exist in any other shape or circumstance. It is important in the eyes of all the young men who think themselves within shot of it. It is important in the eyes of all the young women who have to lament that they do not possess similar advantages. It is important in the eyes of all the fathers and mothers of sons, who think themselves within range of it. And, lastly, it is important, immensely important indeed, in the eyes of parties, young lady, mother, and father, sister or brother, who have any thing to say in the disposal of it. Money in this shape, one would almost think, is of a different value from money in any other; the exchange it bears against cash in business; or cash in the prospect of him who knows he can win it, is prodigious. At the very lowest computation, a thousand pounds in the purse of a young lady is worth ten thousand in the stock of a man of trade. Nay, it is astonishing what airs we have given a few hundred pounds of this kind put on in respect, or rather disrespect, of decent people, who were almost winning as much in the year. In fact, the fiddle faddle about the disposal of an heiress is a great farce; and never fails to put either the parties concerned in the disposal, or else the candidates for the acquisition, into a thousand shabby and selfish attitudes. It is hard to say if the young lady herself is the better for it all. The only certain effect of her possessing a fortune, is, that it deprives her of ever having the pleasing assurance, given to most other women, that she is married for her own sake alone. Sincere love is apt to retire from such a competition through the pure force of modesty, its natural accompaniment; and the man most apt to be successful is he who, looking upon the fair as only a mercenary adventure, pursues it as such, and only hopes to be dis-

tractedly in love with him. But he says truly and tenderly loved, by a young maid of the name of Russell, whose parents had been acquainted with the Farneys in their earlier and less prosperous days, but were now left a little behind them. Young Russell had been the playmate of Eliza in their days of childhood; he had read books with her, and taught her to draw, in their riper youth; and all the neighbours said, that, but for the brilliant prospects of Miss Farney, she could not have found a more eligible mate. Russell, however, was still but the son, of a poor man. He was himself struggling in the commencement of a business, which he had begun with slender means, in order to sustain the declining fortunes of his parents. His walk in life was much beneath the scope of his abilities, much beneath his moral deserts; but, under a strong impulse of duty, he had narrowed his mind to the path allotted to him, instead of attempting to do justice to his talents by entering upon any higher and more perilous pursuit. Thus, as often happens, an intellect and character, which might have brightened the highest destinies, were doomed to a sphere all unequal for them, where they were in a manner worse than lost, as they only led to a suspicion which was apt to be unfavourable to the prospects of their possessor, namely, that he was likely to be led, by his superior tastes, into pursuits to which his fortune was inadequate, or into habits which would shipwreck it altogether. Russell looked upon Eliza Farney, and despised. He saw her, as she advanced into womanhood, recede gradually from his sphere in society, and enter into one more suitable to her father's improving fortunes, into which it was not for him to intrude. Eliza had, perhaps, entertained at one time a girlish fondness for him; but it was not of so strong a character as to resist the ambitious maxims of her mother, and the sense of her own importance and prospects, which began to act upon her in her riper years.

"Amongst the rest young Edwina loved,
But never talked of love."

Some appearance of coldness, which he saw, or fancied he saw, in her conduct towards him, caused his proud and pure nature to shrink back from the vulgar competition which he saw going forward for the hand of "the heiress." It was not that the fondest wishes of his heart were met with disappointment—perhaps he could have endured that—but he writhed under the reflection, that external circumstances should separate hearts that once were allied, and that no conscious purity of feeling, no hope of hereafter distinguishing himself by his abilities, was of avail against the selfish and worldly philosophy which dictated his rejection. It was left for him to retire into the chambers of his own thoughts, and there form such solemn resolutions for improving his circumstances and distinguishing his character, as might hereafter, perhaps, enable him to prove to the cold being who now despised him, how worthy, how more than worthy, perhaps, he was of having enjoyed her affections, even upon the mean calculations by which he was now measured and found wanting.

The mother, to whom this rupture was chiefly owing, now applied herself heartily to the grand task of getting her daughter "properly disposed of." Every month or so, her house was turned topsy-turvy, for the purpose of showing off the young lady in gay assemblies. Care was taken that no one should be invited to these assemblies who was merely of their own rank. Unless some capture could be made in a lofier, or what appeared a lofier circle, it was all as nothing. The human race hang all in a concatenation at each other's skirts, these before kicking with all their might to drive off those behind them, at the same time that they are struggling might and main, despite of corresponding kicks, to hold fast, and pull themselves up by means of their own predecessors. This is particularly the case where a mother has a daughter to dispose of with the reversal of a few thousands. Money under these circumstances, as already explained, would be absolutely thrown away if given only to a person who estimated it at its ordinary value; it must be given to one who will appreciate it as it ought to be, and sell pounds of free will and honorable manhood for shillings of the vile dross. At length, at a ball held in the Archers' Hall—a kind of Almack's in the east—the very man was met with—a gentle young spark, said to be grand-nephew to a Baronet in the north, and who was hand in glove with the Greengrocers, a family of quicq' gentility in the New Town, but who loomed very large in the eyes of a person dwelling in the south side. This fellow, a mere loose adventurer, whose highest destiny seemed to be to carry a pair of colours if he could get them, and who positively had no claims upon consideration whatsoever, except that he kept a decent suit of clothes upon his back, and was on terms of intimacy with a family supposed to belong to the *haut-ton*; this poor unattached wretch, recommended by impudence and a moustache, which he ambiguously wore so would take off when married, gained the prize from which the modest merit of Russell was repelled. In a perfect flutter of delight with the attention he paid to her daughter, terrified, lest he should change his mind, or any unforeseen event prevent the consummation so devoutly to be wished, the managing mother presented no obstruction to the courtship. "Such a genteel young man!" she would say to her husband. "He is greatly taken up in good company. Just the night before last, he was at the Honourable Mrs. —'s party in Oman's Rooms. He danced with Miss Foster, the great heiress, who, they say, is dis-

tractedly in love with him. But he says she has naethin' the like the elegant carriage of our 'Liza. Indeed, between you and me, say he, jokingly, to me the other day, she's splay-footed. He could make his fortune at once, you see, however, and I'm sure it's really extraordinary of him to particularise the like o' us in the way he's doing"—and so forth. The old man sat twirling his thumb and saying nothing, but having his own fears all the time that all was not really gold that glittered. He was, however, one of those people who, upon habit and principle, never say a single word about any speculative things that is proposed to them; till the result has been decided, and then they can tell that they all along thought it would turn out so. It was untelling the precence and wisdom that old Farney believed himself to be thus possessed of. Suffice it to say, the managing mother within the month, made out a mitimus of destruction in favour of her daughter, Eliza Farney, spinster, consigning her to the custody of William Dempster, Esq., blackguard by commission, and Downdraught by destiny.

The fortune of Miss Farney was not exactly of the kind that suited Mr. Dempster's views. It was only payable after the death of her father Mr. Dempster, therefore, saw it to be necessary, to take expedients for obtaining the use of it by anticipation. He commenced a large concern in some mercantile line, obtaining money in advance from the old gentleman in order to set the establishment on foot. He also procured his signature to innumerable bills, to enable him to carry it on. The business, in reality, was a mere mask for obtaining the means of supporting his own depraved tastes and appetites. There was hardly any kind of extravagance, any kind of vice, which he did not indulge in at the expense of old Farney. The result was what might be expected from such premises. Exactly a twelvemonth after the marriage, Dempster stopped payment, and absconded without so much as taking leave of his wife. His folly and profligacy together had already absorbed the whole fortune with which Mr. Farney had retired from business, besides a good deal more for which the unfortunate old man was security. He was in consequence totally ruined, left destitute in old age, without the least resource; while the young elegant female, who, a short year before, was the admiration and envy of glittering circles, had just become a mother, upon the bed which only waited for her convalescence to be sold for behoof of her husband's creditors.

Concluded in our next.

The following curious scene is described in the Aberdeen Herald:—"On Thursday, one of the honourable company of 'sweeps' having taken an enemy into his mouth, ascended one of the houses in Justice street, and scrambled away until he got upon the top of an old chimney, where he could both see and be seen to considerable advantage. He now began to cut capers, to the great amusement of a considerable crowd assembled to witness his performances.—In a short time he began to strip himself, and at last appeared more than half naked. In this state he continued nearly two hours, playing all sorts of fantastic tricks, till at last he beat himself to a more serious employment. He unloosed several of the bricks of the chimney, and dropped them down the various vents, to the great annoyance of the indwellers and the damage of sundry pieces of crockery. Several patrols having by this time arrived, things began to wear a rather alarming aspect, as he proceeded to throw pieces of bricks upon the crowd collected, which by this time was immense. At last, the Sheriff, who had arrived, suggested that the water works, should be allowed to play upon him till compelled to come down. A body of men were despatched for one of the fire engines. During these proceedings, three men, (one of them dumb,) undertook to bring him down; and they ascended the roof in various directions. The sweep stood eying them one after the other, with a large brick in his hand, ready to throw at the one who should first approach. However, the party were firm, and advanced cautiously, till at last the 'dummy' made a spring and seizing the brick, grappled with his opponent amidst the cheers of the multitude. The other two came to his assistance; and one of the most astonishing scenes occurred, perhaps ever witnessed. Here were four men standing upon the top of a very narrow chimney, about forty feet high, and three of them engaged in a desperate struggle with one who was careless of his own life, and utterly regardless of others'. The struggle was for some time very doubtful; and the drunk with which the sweep was inspired seemed to redouble his strength, for at one time he had almost shaken himself free of all his opponents, and nearly precipitated them into the street below. At last they succeeded in getting him down to the roof of the house; and after many blows and bruises, a rope was put round his waist, and he was lowered to one of the windows, through which he was taken into the house, and afterwards carried to the police office amidst the shoutings of thousands."

Let this be remembered; it may be of great use to some other sufferers. It is quite possible that had the loadstone been applied in season that it might have saved the sight of his eye. I hope this circumstance will be generally known through the country, as it may be the means of doing much good to those suffering from similar cases.—*Fall River Recorder.*

Pews in St. Paul's Church.—For Sale or to let, several Pews in St. Paul's Church. Apply to WM. TAYLOR, Frederician, 11th June, 1853.

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his boots blown off his legs, and his leg broken; and the others are in such a state that it is feared they cannot recover.

The men, now under ground,