

## Poetry.

## REMEMBER THE POOR.

BY REV. A. W. LIGHTFOOT.

Remember the poor, said a sad little voice,  
As the shadows of evening grew dim,  
And the thick heavy snow flakes fell silently  
down,  
Beneath each half-covered limb;  
Remember the poor, and the face of the child  
Was as white as the thick-falling snow,  
And my heart, how it readily ached to hand  
In the little I had to bestow!

A smile checked the tear in her dim sunken eye,  
As she clasped the small gift in her hand,  
And I thought what a joy in this bright world of  
ours.

The wealthy might have at command;  
To purchase a smile from a grief-stricken heart,  
To chase back the tear ere 'tis shed,  
To call a glad look to a sad, saddened face,  
With a pittance that scarce would buy bread.  
O think, ye glad children of affluence think,  
As ye sit by the fire-light's glow,  
Yes, think, as ye gleam on your carpeted floor,  
Of the poor little feet in the snow.

Yes, think, as those gems glitter bright on thy  
head,  
And gleam in that necklace so fine,  
Of the little blue fingers benumbed by the cold,  
That else were as dainty as thine.

## The Fireside.

## CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

BY ANNE MILLS.

(Concluded from INTELLIGENCER of the 5th inst.)

The years came and went, during which Columbus, still zealous and persevering pressed his suit whenever an opportunity offered. He patiently followed the court of Spain from one place to another, and at Seville begged for a final answer. The reply was that, owing to the expenses of the war, the sovereigns did not feel disposed to engage in any new undertaking, but when they had time and money they would listen to him.

Columbus, disappointed and vexed, resolved to leave Spain, and make his way to Paris. But first he must go to Palos and take his son Diego from the convent there, in order to leave him under the protection of his other son Fernando at Cordova.

While at the convent he again met with his old friend the Friar, who, on learning the intention of Columbus, begged him to wait until he made one more effort for him. He had perfect confidence in Columbus's plan, and was anxious that his own country should have the honor of the discovery. He had once been confessor to Queen Isabella, and he felt sure she would listen to any request from him. Accordingly he wrote a beseeching letter to her majesty, and the result was Columbus was ordered to visit the court which was then at Santa Fe before Granada. Columbus arrived just in time to witness the victory of the Spaniards over the Moors, and to see the keys of the city given to Ferdinand and Isabella. The time had now arrived when the sovereigns had promised to listen to him, and they kept their word. But again difficulties arose. They thought he asked too much in case he was successful. He then offered one-eighth of the cost if they would promise one-eighth of the profits, but this and other offers were rejected, and he was again doomed to disappointment—though, under all these trials, he never for a moment thought of abandoning his cherished plan.

Indignant at the treatment he had received, he again resolved to leave Spain forever, and mounting his mule set out for France. He left a few warm friends at Santa Fe, who gathered round the Queen and besought her earnestly not to let the opportunity pass of gaining rich possessions, and extending her religion over other lands.

"I will be done," said Isabella, decided at last, "and I shall pledge my own jewels, to raise the necessary funds."

A messenger was sent in great haste for Columbus, who slowly and sadly was wending his way across the plain of Granada, and he was again brought into the presence of the queen.

The agreement between this that Columbus should be high-admiral and viceroy, under the king, of all the seas, continents, and islands he might discover, and that he should receive one-tenth of all the profits arising from the production of those lands and from the sale of any articles of value which might be found there. These offers and profits were also to descend to his children, and their descendants.

And now at last, after eighteen years of patient and severe trial, of deep mortification and disappointment, he was to be rewarded. He was not now a poor and needy traveler, begging for food, but the commander of an expedition to undiscovered lands, and unknown seas.

On the third day of August, 1492, the little fleet, which had been prepared for Columbus, set sail on his voyage of discovery. It consisted of three slightly built vessels, by no means fitted for the rough winds and angry waves of the Atlantic. The Santa Maria was commanded by Columbus himself, and was the only one of the three that had a complete deck from bow to stern. The whole number of persons who sailed in the fleet was one hundred and twenty. When but three days from port the ruler of one of the vessels came away, and the fleet put into the Canary Island to repair damages.

When once again on its way, and the familiar shores of the Canary Islands were lost to view, and the sailors found themselves sailing on the trackless deep, no land in sight, nor welcome sail, or friendly "ship-a-ho" to cheer them on their way, their hearts were filled with fear, and tears streamed down their weary-beaten cheeks. But soon they began to feel a slight breeze, and the sails were wafted along so rapidly and pleasantly that their fears vanished and they became quite cheerful again. And now, to add to their encouragement, signs of land, as they supposed, began to appear. Patches of herbs and sea-weed drifted past, a white bird flew by, others followed, and now there was an appearance of clouds in the north as if as often seen hanging over the land.

To alter toward these would be to leave his western course, and that Columbus could in no case be persuaded to do.

A handsome reward had been offered by the sovereigns of Spain to the man who was the first to discover land; and this fact, together with their anxiety to end the voyage, kept the sailors always on the alert and constantly imagining they saw land.

Though the cry "Land! land!" had been shouted many times from one vessel to another, and each time had proved a delusion, once the shout was heard when the signs were so distinct that even Columbus thought there could be no mistake and fell upon his knees, while the sailors sang glad hymns of praise. But on sailing towards what they supposed to be the welcome shore they were again deceived. It was only an evening cloud which disappeared as they approached it.

On they sailed, now hoping, now complaining, until again the signs became unmistakable, but when three days sailing the sun went down once more upon a shoreless sea; and the sailors, feeling that they could bear no more, broke out into loud clamors and insisted upon returning to Spain.

They thought they had sailed long enough to satisfy the most daring adventurer, and were resolved to submit no longer. Their plan was to throw Columbus overboard, return home, and say that he had fallen while gazing at the stars through his instruments.

Columbus used gentle and soothing words at first, but finding his crew still unwilling to obey orders, he assumed his proper authority, and in-

formed them that they were sent out by Spain to accomplish a certain end, and he should never return until he had succeeded. At this the men grew despondent, and doubtless would have carried out their plan, had not other signs of land begun to make their appearance. A fish such as they knew kept near rocks floated by, and a branch of thorn with the berries on it, and now a curiously carved staff.

Murmuring ceased at once, and all eyes were turned eager to be the first to see the long wished for land. That night after the evening hymn, Columbus made an address to the crew. He told them he was certain they would all see land that very night, and wished them to keep a good watch, promising a gay vest of velvet in addition to the reward to him who would be the first to sight the expected shore. He spoke, too, of the goodness of God in bringing them safely across the ocean, and in crowning their hopes with success.

Columbus took his station on the top of the cabin of his vessel, with his eager and anxious eye fixed upon the horizon. For the sake of those under his command he always appeared calm and cool and certain of success, when in their presence, but when alone his brave heart was often filled with fears. To-night, as he looked out upon the quiet waters, various were his thoughts. What if he were again deceived and no land appeared; then he felt certain certain death would be his doom for his lawless crew were now ripe for anything, however unjust or cruel in case of another disappointment. Can we doubt that, amidst all this, his supplication went up to the Throne from that tired, overworked, persevering soul, for success—success then?

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When once again on its way, and the familiar shores of the Canary Islands were lost to view, and the sailors found themselves sailing on the trackless deep, no land in sight, nor welcome sail, or friendly "ship-a-ho" to cheer them on their way, their hearts were filled with fear, and tears streamed down their weary-beaten cheeks. But soon they began to feel a slight breeze, and the sails were wafted along so rapidly and pleasantly that their fears vanished and they became quite cheerful again. And now, to add to their encouragement, signs of land, as they supposed, began to appear. Patches of herbs and sea-weed drifted past, a white bird flew by, others followed, and now there was an appearance of clouds in the north as if as often seen hanging over the land.

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formed them that they were sent out by Spain to accomplish a certain end, and he should never return until he had succeeded. At this the men grew despondent, and doubtless would have carried out their plan, had not other signs of land begun to make their appearance. A fish such as they knew kept near rocks floated by, and a branch of thorn with the berries on it, and now a curiously carved staff.

Murmuring ceased at once, and all eyes were turned eager to be the first to see the long wished for land. That night after the evening hymn, Columbus made an address to the crew. He told them he was certain they would all see land that very night, and wished them to keep a good watch, promising a gay vest of velvet in addition to the reward to him who would be the first to sight the expected shore. He spoke, too, of the goodness of God in bringing them safely across the ocean, and in crowning their hopes with success.

Columbus took his station on the top of the cabin of his vessel, with his eager and anxious eye fixed upon the horizon. For the sake of those under his command he always appeared calm and cool and certain of success, when in their presence, but when alone his brave heart was often filled with fears. To-night, as he looked out upon the quiet waters, various were his thoughts. What if he were again deceived and no land appeared; then he felt certain certain death would be his doom for his lawless crew were now ripe for anything, however unjust or cruel in case of another disappointment. Can we doubt that, amidst all this, his supplication went up to the Throne from that tired, overworked, persevering soul, for success—success then?

Eight, nine, ten o'clock had come, and still the ever watchful eyes gazed in the same direction. Suddenly a light appeared. Not willing to trust his own delighted vision, he called an officer to him. Both now watched it with intense interest.

When the morning dawned, Columbus and his crew were before them a beautiful island, fresh and green and covered with noble trees. Naked and wild looking people were running about apparently frightened at the new and strange objects they saw upon the water. Columbus, arrayed in a rich robe of scarlet, entered his boat and was rowed to the shore. He was the first to leap on the beach, and falling upon his knees he kissed the earth, and gave thanks to God, while tears of gratitude fell from his eyes.

He then took possession of the island in the king and queen's name, gave it the name of San Salvador, and called upon all present to take a solemn oath of obedience to him.

Our object in dwelling so minutely upon the earlier life of this great hero, has been to show our young readers the reward of perseverance and honest endeavor; and now we will merely group together some of the most important incidents connected with his later years.

After an absence of seven months and a half, he found him again in Spain, receiving the honors which were so richly his due. Now, with seventeen vessels and fifteen hundred followers returning to the New World. Again in Spain asking for more ships in order to make further discoveries. After long and tedious delays setting out on his voyage; this time actually discovering the Continent of America, though he himself never knew it, or thought he had done anything more than to open new worlds to the eastern part of Asia. Again, the victim of plot and base treachery, sent home to Spain in chains. Once more on a voyage of discovery. Again in Spain, so poor that in a letter to his son he said—"I have no home but an inn; and for the most time have nothing with which to pay my bills." And now, after twenty years of toil, care, and pain we find him on the 20th of May, 1496, setting out on his last voyage not across the starry waters of the Atlantic to his newly discovered lands, but launching out on the boundless ocean of eternity. He was at last buried in Spain, but afterwards his body was removed to San Domingo, from which place was again removed to the Cathedral of Havana in the island of Cuba, where it now rests.

It will be done," said Isabella, decided at last, "and I shall pledge my own jewels, to raise the necessary funds."

A messenger was sent in great haste for Columbus, who slowly and sadly was wending his way across the plain of Granada, and he was again brought into the presence of the queen.

The agreement between this that Columbus should be high-admiral and viceroy, under the king, of all the seas, continents, and islands he might discover, and that he should receive one-tenth of all the profits arising from the production of those lands and from the sale of any articles of value which might be found there. These offers and profits were also to descend to his children, and their descendants.

And now at last, after eighteen years of patient and severe trial, of deep mortification and disappointment, he was to be rewarded. He was not now a poor and needy traveler, begging for food, but the commander of an expedition to undiscovered lands, and unknown seas.