American Union.

J. H. EMERSON, EDITOR.

DENTON MARYLAND.

Poetry.

THREE HEAVENLY BLOSSOMS.

BY FRANK W. FARWELL.

I found them by the river,
Where living waters flow;
Three blossoms blooming ever,
On the tree of life below.

I plucked them by the river,
From off one parent stem;
I wove them there together,
For me a diadem.

They crowned my soul with glory;
They filled my heart with love;
They tell a wondrous story,
Of blissful worlds above.

Go down to the mystic river,
Seek more for you and me;
Three blossoms blooming ever—
Faith, Hope, and Charity.

A Match Not Made In Heaven.

My mother was determined I should "make a good match,' and on short notice she married me to a Mexican, Don Pedro Aldezo, one reputed of immense wealth—a lion at Saratoga, where first we met.

He wore diamonds enough for a prince's ransom, and letters of credit were unlimited.

My mother informed me "her mind was made,' the day we returned to New York. Six months later I was the wife of Don Pedro Aldezo, and had accompanied him to his native land.

To my surprise, after spending a few days in each of several Mexican cities, including the capitol, Don Predro had conveyed me to a lonely hacienda, situated on the broad, wild slope that stretches inward toward the mountain regions.

He told me this was a temporary residence until some repairs could be made upon his ancestral palace, to fit it for my abode.

I made no objections to this plan, lonely and mountenous as it was, for the truth was, the little love I had felt for my husband had ere this been lost in the intense but mysterious fear with which he inspired me.

No thought of disputing his will entered my mind, and life seemed but a sheer dead monotony of self-sacrifice at the early age of an eighteenth birth-day.

But as the weeks grew into months, I began to question why he did not remove from the rude hacienda. I had no books, no newspapers, no letters, and my only resort was the final question.

My only answer was a slow lifting of the fringed eyelids, and one of the lurid, baleful glances that always drove me dumb with terror. Never again did I allude to the palace, nor did I ever behold it.

I was much alone in the hacienda; few travelers ever visited us; my only society being half-bred servants, a dirty, ignorant, squalid set, sunk in the lowest depths of social degradation. My husband would mount his horse and ride away over the plains, and often days would elapse before his return, and then sometimes he would appear followed by a numerous retinue of travelers, as he informed me, whom he would feast in that distant portion of the straggling hacienda set apart as the dwelling place of his retainers, where the loud discordance of their revelry would make the night hideous to my ears.

One day when he was absent two travelers stopped at the door of this building, and asked for food. I saw them as they arrived, and something familiar in their air and gait attracted my attention. The servants who seemed to know them well, set food before them, which presently I saw them eating in the open air within the court.

As I looked memory strengthened, and I knew them for a couple of vile fellows who had annoyed me at Saratoga two years before, and with whom I had seen Don Pedro conversing. They loitered about all day, as I learned, for my husband's return.

At nightfall he came, and he had a long conversation with them, even before he came to greet me.

As the moon arose they galloped out of the court mounted on two of my husband's best horses, and struck straight across the plain.

A saw my husband watching me, as if to detect my knowledge of these visitors.

But I had long ceased to question him; he seemed satisfied with my silence, and no allusion was made to the strange guests.

All the next day he wandered about the place, moody and sullen, and evidently brooding over better thoughts.

Some crisis in my fate, I felt, drew nigh.

My suspicions—long active, but vague—now rested on the fact of his fellowship with those prowling villians who had just left us.

That mysterious fellowship was sufficient to brand him with crime, though of what nature I dared not hazard a guess.

I felt danger, and my whole soul cried out for mercy and help.

At midnight the tramp of horses and jingling of bells were heard, and amid the furious yelping of dogs, a party rode into the court.

My husband arose and went out to meet his guests. I detected among their voices those of our strange visitors.

My husband returned and feigned sleep; while I feeling some great event awaited me, still kept silent watch.

My breakfast was brought to my room, and when I would have gone forth, I found myself a prisoner.

The long, weary day passed at last and the horrible night came on.

My husband did not present himself, but his voice was heard mingling with the revels.

Midnight came and all was hushed. I could not sleep, and wrapped securely in a dark shawl, I sat at my window behind the sheltering jealousies, and gazed out upon the wonderous beauty of the night.

I had sat thus an hour when low voices attracted my attention. One I dedected—my husband's voice; the other a woman's unfamiliar to my ear, and hoarse, as if the speaker struggled to repress some profound emotion.

"Why did you come?' I heard my husband say. "I forbid you, and if Helena should learn of this, she would prove troublesome, patient and subdued as she appears.

"So you have crushed the white bird's fluttering wings, have you, Pedro?' the woman answered. "You well know how to peform such feats.'

"Ha—Ha! Well said; but yours were never crushed, my proud Lorena. You will go at noon, will you not?'

"Oh, no! I must remain one day more. I have come so far and waited so long to see you.'

"But Helena——'

"Oh, I pity her! I must stay, but I pity her!'

"You need not. I tire of the puny, pale creature. She'll die some day—disappear as many others have done; and then you shall come back and reign sole mistress.'

"What! stain that pearly skin with her life blood?'

"Ha—ha! Who, I say, can stand in my path, when I wish them removed? But hist! yonder is her window—speak lower——'

And they moved on, while I, sick with horror, crawled to my couch, to lie and think shudderingly what I had heard.

"Hist—hist!'

There surely my name was whispered under the window. I crept through the lattice. A note was pushed through the jalousies, and a dark figure glided away.

It turned at a distance, and the rays of the moon fell upon an uplifted face. Oh, horror! It was the face of a Cuban lady, whom also I had seen at Saratoga, a reigning belle at the time I met my husband.

When the first dawn of morning appeared, I read my note.

"I am a woman like yourself,' it said, "and once I was innocent. But now I am guilty and would risk much to win back that devil you call husband. Be ready tomorrow at midnight, and I will aid your escape from this den of robbers and send you to your friends.'

How the hours dragged along in their interminable length. Presently at midnight my door silently open. I followed the dark figure to where our spirited animals were tied, and in the deep stillness of the night we sped with an arrow-like swiftness over the plain.

In three days we reached a sea-port. A vessel was ready to sail for New York.—My companion accompanied me on board.

On my twentieth birth-day I drove to my mother's home, and 'tis not strange she failed to recognize the blooming girl she confided to a fate worse than death.—I am now twenty-five, but I look as though fifty winters had shed their snows upon me. The brilliant match I made was to a notorious robber thief—a terror and dread to all the land.

Mothers, this is no fancy sketch, but a true tale and remember, in making your daughters future, look to true worth and less glitter.

Evil Speaking.

Speaking evil of others is one of the most unamible habits that can be acquired, and one that leads to infinite mischief. It is not always easy to avoid it, for there are a great many people in the world who are not what they ought to be, who do many things they out not to do. It is hard for a blunt, generous mind to refrain from expressing itself about mean people and mean acts; there is something in meanness and dishonesty that rouses the luxury of denouncing them in bold and unsparing terms. But the practice, as a practice, is a troublesome and dangerous one.

There are occasions when it is our duty to speak out in exposure of wrong; but in general it is best to abstain from evil speaking, even of evil persons. We are not made judges of other's actions, no one has the right to assume the character of arbiter and censor. Even the best of us have our faults, and if every one should presume to denounce the vices and misconduct of others, the world would be given up to defamation.

We may see and hear much we do not admire and cannot like; we may become cognizant of the many evil deeds done by evil persons; but it is a part of wisdom and discretion to pass them by without notice, except to speak of them cautiously may be necessary as a warning to friends.

We all have enough of enemies in this world, without provoking others by ill tempered comments. The enmity of evil men is the thing to be avoided, for while it can do us no good, it may do us much harm. Besides, we may make mistakes in the haste of honest indignation, and speak evil of good men for acts we do not understand. Such is a mistake worse than the other; for while it is prudent to promiscuously denounce evil men, it is cruel wrong to defame a good one.

HEALTH FROM FLOWERS.—It is reported that an Italian professor has discovered that perfumes from flowers have a chemical effect on the atmosphere, converting its oxygen into ozone, and thus increasing its health imparting power. As the result of his researches, he states that the essences of cherry, laurel, lavender, mint, juniper, melons, fennel, and bergamot are among these which develop the largest quantities of ozone, while anize and thyme develop it in a less degree. Flowers destitute of perfume have no such effect. He recommends dwellers in marshy localities, and near places infected with animal emanations, should surround their homes with a profusion of the most odoriferous flowers.

Golden Words.

The habit of looking on the bright side is invaluable. Men who are overcome reckoning up what they want rather than what they have—counting the difficulties in the way, instead of contriving means to overcome them—are almost certain to live on corn bread, fat pork and salt fish, and sink to unmarked graves. The world is sure to smile upon a man who seems to be successful, but let him go about with a crestfallen air, and the very dogs in the street will set upon him. We must all have losses. Late frost will nip the fruit in the bud, banks will break, investments will prove worthless, valuable horses will die and china vases will break, but all these calamities do not come together. The wise course to pursue, when one plan fails, is to perform another; to fill its place with a substitute, and evermore count what is left rather than what is taken. When the final reckoning is made, if it appears that we have not lost the consciousness of our internal rectitude; if we have kept charity toward all men; if by the various decipline of life, we have been free from follies and confirmed in virtues, whatever we have lost, the great balance sheet will be in our favor.

CUT TO THE BONE.—Dr. Jone's wife was awakened by a noise in her room the other night, and when she sat up in bed she saw the doctor standing over the arm-chair in the room. He had a towel tied around one of the legs of the chair, and with a hand-saw he was cutting it in half. Mrs. Jones exclaimed:

"Henry, what in the name of common sense are you doing?'

"H-s-s-h,' replied the doctor, "you'll wake the patient. You hold the chloroform to his nose while I take his leg off.—I'm about half way through the bone now.'

Then Mrs. Jones got out of bed and shook him and pinched him until he awoke. Then he exclaimed:

"How's the patient?'

"Mrs. Jones merely said, "Come to bed you idiot, and stop hacking up the furniture.'

"Gracious, Mariah,' said the doctor, as he collected his scattered senses, "do you know I thought I was in the hospital sawing on a leg that had a compound fracture. There's a $50 fee gone.'

And Jones went to bed feeling as if he was an injured man at having lost that money.

OCCUPATION.—What a glorious thing it is for the human heart! Those who work hard seldom yield to real or fancied sorrow. When grief sits down, folds its hands, and mournfully feeds upon its own tears, weaving the dim shadows that a little exertion might sweep away into a funeral pile, the strong spirit is shorn of its might, and sorrow becomes our master. When troubles flow upon you dark and heavy, toil not with the waves and wrestle not with torrent; rather seek, by occupation, to divert the dark waters that threatened to overwhelm you into the thousand channels which the duties of life always present. Before you dream of it those waters will fertilize the present, and give birth to fresh flowers that will become pure and holy in the sunshine which penetrates the path of duty, in spite of every obstacle. Grief, after all, is but a selfish feeling, and most selfish is the man who yields himself to indulgence of any passion which brings no joy to his fellow men.

SISTERLY AFFECTION.—A Boston letter to an Eastern newspaper relates that upon one of the fashionable South End squares of that city there has lived in a four-story brick house, until very lately, a woman who has hired for her servant her own sister. The latter was treated in all respects as a menial, and though the woman and her husband, having no children, dined alone when there was no company in the house, they never permitted the sister to sit with them. Not only this, but the sister servant was kept at work from early till late, and there was no such thing as leisure for her, or a particle of the consideration due from one so nearly related to her. Finally, the woman moved out of town, and the sister determined to find an easier place. Accordingly she engaged to go to a summer resort as a pastry-cook in a fashionable boarding house. Now it has transpired that her sister and former mistress has engaged board for the warm season not only at this very resort, but also at the very house where her sister is to furnish the daily pies and puddings.

GROWING OLD.—"It is the solemn thought connected with middle life,' says the late eloquent F. W. Robertson, "that life's last business has begun in earnest;—and it is then midway between the cradle and the grave, that a man begins to marvel that he let the days of youth go by so half enjoyed. It is the pensive autumn feeling; it is the sensation of half sadness that we experience when the longest day of the year is past, and every day that follows is shorter, and the light fainter, and the feebler shadows tell that nature is hastening with gigantic footsteps to her winter grave. So does man look upon his youth. When the first gray hairs become visible, when the unwelcome truth fastens itself upon the mind that a man is no longer going up hill, but down, and that the sun is always westering, he looks back on things behind. When we were children we thought as children. But now there lies before us manhood, with its earnest work, and then old age, and then the grave, and then home. There is a second youth for man, better and holier than his first, if he will look on and not back.'

A smile costs the giver nothing, yet it is beyond price to the erring and relenting, the sad and cheerless, the lost and forsaken. It disarms malice, subdues temper, turns enmity to love, revenge to kindness, and paves the darkest paths with gems of sunlight. A smile on the brow betrays a kind heart, a pleasant friend, an affectionate brother, a dutiful son, and a happy husband. A smile resembles an angel of paradise.

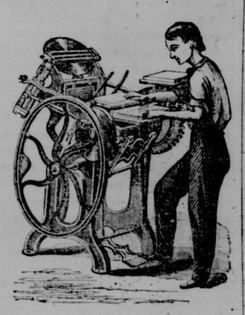
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may9th-tf.

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5-6-tf. EDWARD PRITCHETT

NOTICE.

EDUCATIONAL.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS of the County will be closed on the 9th of July; and such schools as have too small attendance to justify keeping them open will be closed at an earlier date; of which action the teachers of such schools will receive due notice.

An examination of applicants for certificates to teach in the Public Schools of this county, and a re-examination of those now holding certificates, will be conducted in Denton on the 20th and 21st of July.

Applicants will take notice that they will be required to be examined in Physiology and Geometry in addition to the branches heretofore prescribed. By order of the Board. GEO. F. BEAVEN,
5-20-4w. Secretary.

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Returning, leave Baltimore from Pier 3 Light St., foot of Camden, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 9 o'clock, P. M.—the Tuesdays and Thursdays trip terminating at Medford's Wharf, and the Saturday trip extending to Denton, making all the landings as above. Makes close connection with the Maryland and Delaware Rail Road at Easton, and the Dorchester and Delaware Rail Road at Cambridge.

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oct30 tf

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