

Poetry.

BE MERRY WHILE YOU MAY.

"There is a crook in every lot,
A shadow on the road
Through which we journey on to reach
A happier abode.
As surely as the evening comes
To close the eyes of day,
Will grief appear; and so my dear,
Be merry while you may.

We cannot say to joy, "Remain,"
Nor unto grief, "Depart;"
The morning and the night must come
To every human heart.
And though the twilight hour dispels
The cheerful, sunny rays,
Shed not a tear; but oh! my dear,
Be merry while you may.

The sky may not be always bright,
The sea not always calm,
Nor breezes bring an argosy
Of spices or of balm.
'Tis time enough to weep and mourn
When sorrow has its day;
And you'll agree 'tis well to be
Right merry while we may.

Along the shores of life the tides
Have ceaseless ebb and flow;
And through the year the seasons have
Their time to come and go.
Then let us make the best of life,
And if not always gay
Of fall of glee, why shouldn't we
Be merry while we may?

EDWARD BROWN, STOKER.

(CONCLUDED.)

"Now, my lass," I says, "quick"—
and I raised her up—"hold on by the
side while I make a rope fast around you."
And when I stood up to hail the boat
—the boat warn't there, for in those brief
moments she must have capsized, and we
were alone in the sinking steamer, which
now lay in the trough of the sea.

As soon as I got over the horror of the
feeling, a sort of stony despair came over
me; but when I saw that pale, appealing
face at my side, looking to me for help,
that brought the manhood back, and in
saying encouraging things to her I did
myself good.

My first idea was to make something
that would float us, but I gave up that
directly, for I could feel that I was help-
less; and getting the poor girl more into
shelter, I took a bit of tobacco in a sort
of stolid way, and sat down with a cork life-
buoy over my arm, one which I had cut
loose from where it had hung forgotten
behind the wheel.

But I never used it, for the storm went
down fast, and the steamer floated still,
water-logged for three days, when we
were picked up by a passing vessel, half
starved, but hoping. And during that
time my companion had told me that she
was the attendant of one of the lady pas-
sengers on board; and at last, when we
parted at the Cape, she kissed my hand
and called me her hero, who had saved
her life—poor grimy me, you know.

We warn't long, though, before we met
again, for somehow we'd settled that we'd
write; and, a twelve month after, Mary
was back to England, and my wife. That's
why I said I took her like out of the hands
of death, though in a selfish sort of way,
being far, you know, from perfect. But
what I say, speaking as Edward Brown,
stoker, in this: Make a good fight of it, no
matter how black things may look, and
leave the rest to Him.

There are some well-dressed, tender-
handed fellows who are always in attend-
ance at fires but who cannot be stirred to
action and usefulness, even in the sight of
frail, panting women carrying water or
lugging goods from burning buildings.
These gentlemanly shirks always attract
attention even from their very inactivity.
A man with much love for the clothes up-
on his back, and who has soft hands but a
hard heart, should keep away from a fire.
He will be in the way of busy men and
women; and then again one looser my
infert many who could work well, but are
generally led by example. We would like
to whisper this into the ear of the well-
dressed idler at a fire. If your coat is a
very good one take it off, or run home
and change your duds. Don't hang about
doing nothing, and have the women re-
marking about your cowardice, your
meanness, and your laziness.—*Brussels Post.*

A gentleman in Danbury, Con., has
long been annoyed by his neighbor's hens,
which made a daily practice of revolving
through his front garden and back yard.
And what did this worthy gentleman do?
He just went patiently and put some old
hats and bay under his steps and in the
barn, and when those hens came on their
marauding expeditions those that came to
scratch remained to lay. He has had all
the fresh eggs he wanted this spring, and
has sold \$160 worth to the man that owns
the hens.

FORGIVENESS.—The brave only know
how to forgive; it is the most refined and
generous pitch of virtue human nature
can arrive at. Cowards have done good
and kind actions; cowards have even
fought, nay, sometimes conquered; but a
coward never forgave; it is not in his na-
ture; the power of doing it flows only from
a strength and greatness of soul conscious
of its own force and security, and above
all the little temptations of resenting every
attempt to interrupt its happiness.

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for the election of Directors for the ensuing
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Feb. 9, 1878—pat law till meeting

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- Baker's Practical and Scientific Fruit
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- Parry's Fruit Garden, 2 50
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February 23, 1877—2i

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