

POETRY.

INDIAN SUMMER.

A smoky haze surrounds the hills. And seems to lie on every mound. A fragrance as of incense fills The air around.

PEARLS FROM THE EAST.

Let thy discourse be hushed in softness. Now sink to prose and now poetic rise. Since now in this the changeful mind finds ease.

PRECIPITATION.

Be thou precipitate in no affair. Nor turn thy reins from thoughtfulness and care.

ACTIVITY.

View the earth's sphere and the revolving skies. This sinks by rest, and those by motion rise.

FRIENDS.

Do not an old and well-tried friend forsake. For new allies, for this may end in woe.

WOMANLY BEAUTY.

Her beauty like the mid-day glorious sun. Like the Narcissus, half in sleep, her eye.

LITERATURE.

THE COOK'S BOY.

Our ship was lying in Gibraltar harbor. The day had been a remarkably pleasant one. And hundreds of people from the shore had been on board to examine one specimen of Uncle Sam's art architecture.

It was now fifteen years ago that I was a foremast hand on board the "Hunter." A man by the name of Adams Warren, who was one of the owners, had taken passage.

"What makes you look so sad, Luke?" she asked, in a silvery tone of kind kindness. "I was thinking, Miss Judith," replied the cook's boy—and as he spoke, he gazed into the face of the girl as though she was one whom he could almost worship.

"Don't call me Miss, I don't like it, Luke. But tell me what you were thinking about. If ever I have troubles it always does me good to tell them to somebody. Now tell me yours."

"I couldn't interest you, Judith, to hear the story of a poor boy like me." "O yes, it could," the little girl cried, slipping her hands together with much earnestness.

"My parents were very poor, and after the funeral expenses were paid, I was not a cent left. I know of no one else as I know not that I had one of my own. I was nine years old, and during the time I suffered most with work and sorrow. It wasn't bodily suffering, for I had enough to eat and drink, and I had clothes enough to wear; but it was the suffering of the heart, and I went to school part of the year, but I wasn't like other school boys. I was a poor-house child, and they stung me. If they had done no more than this, I should have been content; but they taunted me with my misfortune, and made light of my orphanage.

"At length," he continued, after he had wiped his eyes, "An old farmer took me from the almshouse, and set me to work upon his farm. At first I felt thankful, but soon found that it was worse off than before; for I was ill-treated, and had to work like a dog. The farmer's wife was a hard-hearted woman, and she often beat me. That was worse than all the rest, for I never deserved it, nor did I openly complain. I staid with the man over four years, but matters grew worse and worse, and often when I went up to my little bed in the garret of the barn, did I pray that I might die before I awoke again. But I lived on, and I lived on only to suffer. At length I resolved that I would bear it no longer. One dark, stormy night I secured a few crusts of bread, and after the folks had retired, I stole out from the barn and ran away. For nearly a fortnight I traveled on, and although I reached the city of New York, even there I dare not remain, so I went to the wharves to see if I could not find a chance on board some ship, and I found this ship was on the point of sailing."

"I told my story to Captain Fitch, and he took me on board. I am well treated here, but yet I cannot help at times thinking of the scenes through which I have passed. I can see the sweet face of my mother as she breathed her dying blessing; and I can see the pallid cheek and sunken eyes of my father as he took me by the hand and made me promise that I would ever be honest and virtuous. God knows I have most faithfully kept my promise, and I always will. Little Judith wept as though she had herself suffered all she had heard; but she was not the only one who had heard Luke's story, for, as he closed it, Mr. Adam Warren moved carefully away from the other side of the galley where he had been standing all the while.

"At this moment Mrs. Warren came up from the cabin in a terrible fury, in search for her child. "Where is Judith?" "Here I am, mamma." Mrs. Warren started forward and saw her child just rising from the side of Luke. "What on earth are you doing here?" "Luke was telling me a story, and I returned the little girl, as her mother led her aft. "Don't let me see you talking to that dirty boy again. It is horrible, Judith, for you to be conversing with such low, filthy company."

Luke heard these words and I could see the heaving of his bosom, and the quivering of his lip, as they fell upon his ear. He rose and went into the galley, and closed the door after him. "We doubled the Cape of Good Hope and were standing up into the Indian Ocean. It was in the afternoon. The old ship was under double reefed top-sails and reefed courses, with the wind blowing hard on the larboard quarter. Little Judith was on the poop, looking on upon the weather mizzen topmast hatches. Her father was there, too, and he was gazing upon his child with a sort of calculating pride. The mate was throwing the log, and Luke Winship had been called up to hold the reel. Just as the glass was turned and the log-line checked, one of the men who was looking off to the wind-ward, uttered an exclamation of surprise, and on turning to the same direction, we saw one of those solitary mountains of water, as sailors call them, that had been months in collecting, rolling down upon us. Instinctively, those upon the poop grasped the rigging for support, dropping the reel and log-line to the care of itself. Judith, I said, was at the weather-bow; but as she saw the giant wave towering above her, she involuntarily let go her hold and started toward her father; but she was too late. The ship was struck upon the quarter; she reeled and staggered beneath the blow; Judith was dashed to leeward; and the next moment she was overboard! Her father uttered a frantic cry and sprang to the lee shrouds. The man gazed into the boiling surge where the sea was whirling in one wild vortex, but they dared not brave the mad terror of the ocean.

"O God! My child, my child," cried the frantic father; and while yet he strained his eyes upon the place where his girl was being tossed by the foam covered sea, a light form brushed past him and plunged into the flood. "It was Luke Winship," shouted Captain Fitch. "Get away the life buoy," shouted the mate. "Get it away quick, both of them! Down with the helm! All on deck here. Who'll go in the boat?" All hands were quickly on deck. The mate was the first in the stern of the boat; I was the second and five more quickly followed. We got out the oars, and the falls were raised carefully till the boat touched the water. We unhooked, and started off, and as soon as we were clear the ship's yards were braced up, the main sail clewed up and she was lying to with her main top sail aback. Luke struck out boldly for the little girl, and although the sea heaved him about fearfully, yet he reached her first as she was sinking. He caught her by the wrist, and with a bound that was almost superhuman he held her above water. The angry waves had swept off to the leeward, and the boy and girl rose and fell on the bosom of the long waves. Both the life buoys were driven past them. Luke's strength began to fail him, but still he held the form of the insensible Judith. He began to waver, and twice his head sunk beneath the surface of the running sea; but as he rose the second time the boat reached him, and I caught him by the collar of his jacket. He was fairly insensible when I touched him, but his grasp on Judith was like a death grip, and soon they were both safe in the boat.

We reached the ship in safety. Mr. Warren had fainted, but the husband caught the form of his daughter and rushed to the cabin where Luke was also conveyed, and ere long they were both brought to consciousness. Mr. Warren pressed the boy to his bosom, and promised to be a father to him, and even the rejected mother did not hesitate to look kindly on the preserver of her daughter. "It was some time before Luke recovered," but when he did fit about, he went not back again to the cook's galley, but walked on the deck. He was now allowed to associate freely with Judith; and many an hour did I see them sit together on the poop, listening to each other's simple stories. Sometimes Mrs. Warren looked nervous when she saw them thus; but she dared not forbid it; public opinion was too strong against the prejudice which she still cherished though in a modified form. We anchored in the Hoogly, and Mr. Warren went to Calcutta. He took Luke Winship with him, and from that morning till today I saw him not again. Shipping you noticed that man with whom I was talking on the quarter deck this afternoon, didn't you?" "Yes, we all answered. "And you noticed that splendid looking woman by his side?" "Yes, yes." "Well, resumed old Ben, as he brushed a tear from his bronzed cheek, "that was Judith and she is now his wife. Fifteen years have passed since we parted at the gangway of the old ship Hunter, but he knew me the moment he saw me, and so did Judith. He is now a rich merchant, doing a heavy shipping in New York, and is up here on business. He made the captain promise that I would go on shore and visit him to-morrow. 'Ben,' said he as he shook me by the hand, 'I am now rich, but I have never forgotten or broken that sacred promise I made to my father on his death-bed. And shipmates I don't believe he ever has."

As the old boatswain's mate closed his yarn, he turned slowly, thoughtfully away, and went below, and soon afterwards was followed by those who had called to see that the sentiments it indicated reached their hearts and excited their noble sympathies. Deacon Cooper keeps a general store in the village of Knuckledown, and enjoys the reputation of being good at an argument, a bargain or a prayer. As a rule he keeps on good terms with his neighbors, even with Baptists, whose theology he does not endorse, and is particularly kind to clergymen; but the new Baptist clergyman, a young and sensitive man, felt rather hurt at the way he was treated by him the other day. The Deacon was sitting in his office, very busy with some accounts, and was so situated that he could not command a view of the whole of the store without rising and going to the office door. 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