

Poetry.

WINTER.

BY J. W. THIRLWALL.

Winter is shaking his feathers of snow, From his outspread wings o'er the world below,

And the wind is moaning ever; Moaning and shivering as if 'twere cold, Time slowly creeps, as if grown old, And the naked forests quiver.

The snow had fallen upon my head, From the winter of years that has o'er me sped,

And care like the wind is plying; And every day becomes more bold, While friendship halting, waxeth cold, And hope on the waste is dying.

Snow on the valley, and snow on the hill, Snow on the woodland, and ice on the rill, Rude tempests rage and roar, Freezing the earth and each plant on its breast,

Fretting to madness the ocean's unrest, As if 'twould calm no more.

But the snow will melt from the mountain head, Sweet blossoms by spring o'er the earth be shed,

Seas calm, woods teem with song, And the winter of age find peace and rest, In a far off land amid the blest, Where none can suffer wrong.

(From Chambers Journal.)

A Cast of the Net.

THE STORY OF A DETECTIVE OFFICER.

CHAPTER IV.—CONTINUED.

"Send one of your own men will you?" answered the boatman. "I've got something to tell the governor" (that was me), "as I think he ought to know."

"Cut away then, Bill," says the sergeant to the constables; "these fellows are ironed, and we can manage all that are aboard this craft."

So the man went off in my wherry; and the Thames men tried to make poor Barney a little more comfortable, while I nudged his waistcoat, hoping to stop the bleeding.

"It ain't no use," he said; but in that short time his voice was almost gone, and we could tell that he was dying. "I'm done for, Mr. Nickham. If there's a reward, you'll act fair and square, I know; you always was a gentleman—let my sister have"—And with that he gave a gasp and was dead.

I rose up, dreadfully vexed for the poor chap. The sergeant and one of his men were looking after the skipper, when I felt myself touched on the arm.

"I say, sir," said the boatman, "when I'm in for a thing, I go through with it honorable. Did you know as you was followed?"

"Followed? no!" I said.

"I thought we was!" said Peter Tilley. "We was followed, sir, by a light wherry with two people in it," continues the boatman; "and when they saw our boats, they held hard; and as you all boarded the ship and the noise began, they rowed away as hard as they could go."

"Which way did they go?" I said.

"Down river," says the man. "But it's of no use thinking after them now. They are ashore long afore this."

This was likely enough; and it was quite certain that Edmund Byrie was one of the two in the boat, and I had lost him for the present. Well, it couldn't be helped; so we set to work to question the men and search the ship, till the doctor came. The men knew nothing more about the business than that they were going to have two passengers, a lady and a gentleman, this voyage. One of the Thames men understood Dutch, or we should not have heard even this scrap of information. The sulky boatman never uttered a word, except that once he said as I passed him, and he said it with a bitter curse: "I always had my doubts of you."

The doctor came off; but poor Barney was stone-dead, while the skipper's skull was badly fractured. However, the paper was all there; so I supposed, and so it proved; and I shouldn't have cared if the skipper's head had been broken fifty times over.

We got our prisoners to the shore, leaving the craft in charge of a Thames police galley that came in answer to our signals; and late as it was, I drove with Peter Tilley in a cab to the City.

Our people there were immensely glad, I can tell you; and when I went over to the Bank (for there was no need for secrecy or dodging now,) I thought the gentlemen never would have left off paying me compliments. Poor Barney Wilkins that was dead deserved most credit, but it could not do him any good to say so now, so I let them go on.

The paper was examined, and found to be exactly the quantity required, enough, I believe, to have made about twenty thousand bank-notes. Ah, if they had got into circulation!

I hope you will understand, however, that I did act fair and square, and when the reward was paid (and the Bank people did come down most liberally, I bought my house at Pentonville with my

share,) I told the gentlemen about poor Barney and his wishes. And I'm proud to say they found his sister out and took her away; and after a time she went abroad with kind people, who looked after her, and took care of her money till she got married, and did well. Why, she sent me a snuff-box made out of pure Australian gold, and a letter, signed by herself and husband, who was a butcher in a great way of business out there; and they sent it as an acknowledgment of my having acted all fair and square. I promised so to do, and so I did.

Conclusion in our next.

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April 4—11

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There never has been a time when the healing of so many different diseases has been caused by outward application as the present. It is an undisputed fact that over half of the entire population of the globe resort to the use of ordinary plasters.

DR. MELVIN'S CAPSICUM POROUS PLASTERS are acknowledged by all who have used them, to act quicker than any other plaster they ever before tried, and that one of these plasters will do more real service than a hundred of the ordinary kind. All other plasters are slow of action, and require to be worn continually to effect a cure; but with these it is entirely different: the instant one is applied the patient will feel its effect.

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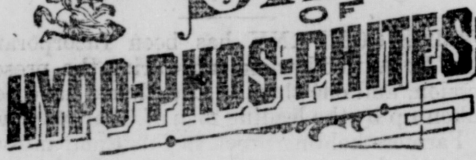
Being, however, convinced of the wonderful cures effected by DR. MELVIN'S CAPSICUM POROUS PLASTERS, and their superiority over all other plasters, they now actually prescribe them, in their practice, for such diseases as rheumatism, pain in the side and back, and all such cases as have required the use of plasters or liniment. After you have tried other plasters and liniments, and they have failed, and you want a certain cure, ask your druggist for DR. MELVIN'S CAPSICUM POROUS PLASTER.

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