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DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Salt Lake City.

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Original Poetry.

GLOOM OF AUTUMN.

(By the late Sister Fanny Murray.)

Hail ye sighing sons of sorrow,
View with me the autumnal gloom,
Learn from thence your fate to-morrow—
Dead, perhaps laid in the tomb!

See all nature fading, dying,
Silent, all things seem to mourn:
Life from vegetation flying,
Calls to mind the mouldering urn.

Nations die by dread Bellona,
Through enraged tyrannic kings;
Just as plants in pale Pomona,
Fall, to rise in future springs;

Mournful scenes when vegetation
Dies by frosts, or worms devour,
Doubly mournful when a nation,
Falls by neighboring nations' power.

Death and war my mind oppresses,
Autumn shows me my decay,
Calls to mind my past distresses,
Warns me of my dying day;

Autumn gives me melancholy,
Strikes dejection through my soul;
While I mourn my former folly,
Waves of sorrow o'er me roll.

Lo! I hear the air resounding,
With expiring insects' cries;
Ah! their mourn, to me how wounding,
Emblems of my wretched sighs,—

Hollow winds around me roaring;
Noisy waters round me rise;
While I sit my fate deploring,
Tears fast streaming down my eyes.

What to me are autumn's treasures,
Since I know no earthly joy!
Long I've lost all youthful pleasures,
Time must health and youth destroy.

Pleasures once I fondly courted,
Show'd each bliss that youth bestows,
But to see where once I sported,
Now embitters all my woes.

Age and sorrow since have blasted
Every youthful pleasing dream;
Quivering age, and youth contrasted;
Oh! how short the glories seem;

As the annual frosts are cropping
Leaves and tendrils from the trees,
So my friends are yearly dropping,
Through old age and dire disease.

Former friends, Oh! how I've sought them,
Just to cheer my drooping mind,
But they've gone like leaves in autumn,
Driven before the dreary wind.

When a few more years are wasted,
When a few more springs are o'er,
When a few more griefs I've tasted,
I shall fall to rise no more.

Fast my sun of life, declining,
Soon will set in endless night;
But my hopes, pure, and refining,
Rise to future life and light!

Cease this fearing, trembling, sighing,
Death will break the sullen gloom;
Soon my spirit, fluttering, flying,
Must be borne beyond the tomb!

A FRANK PETITION.—The old miser who offered the following prayer was not measly-mouthed, and his devotion-sincerity is certainly worthy of imitation:

"O Lord, thou knowest that I have nine houses in the city of London, and likewise that I have lately purchased an estate in fee-simple, in the county of Essex. I beseech thee to preserve the counties of Middlesex from fire and earthquakes; and as I have a mortgage in Hertfordshire, I beg of thee likewise to have an eye of compassion on that county; and for the rest of the counties thou mayest deal with them as thou art pleased!" O Lord, enable the banks to meet all their bills, and make all my debtors good men. Give a prosperous voyage and return to the Mermoid, sloop, because I have insured it; and as thou hast said, that the days of the wicked are but short, I trust in thee thou wilt not forget the promises, as I have purchased an estate in reversion, which will be mine on the death of that most prodigal young man, Sir J. L.

Keep my friends from sinking and preserve me from thieves and house-breakers; and make all my servants so honest and faithful, that they may attend to my interests and never cheat me out of my property night or day.