

THE EVENING NEWS.

Friday, April 29, 1870.

Original Poetry.

ON THE DEATH OF SAMUEL HENRY WOOLLEY.

O! bitter is death
When it draws the sweet breath
Of the young and lovely among us!
Mourn, my heart, my heart!
Though I try to be still,
Now the loving and loved is gone from us.

Strife of earth's leaves,
He's passed into heaven,
To dwell with the just and the pure!
And left us on earth,
Mid the sterile and desolate
To learn to submit, and endure.

His morning of life
With beauty was rife—
Son of my heart—I have lost that!—
But on this I'll not dwell,
For no language can tell
What thy loss, and the parting have cost me.

God is my Father—
By this I can gather
A solace for every wound;
To Him I now fly,
And I know He is nigh,
And my lost one—in Him will be found.

Then to Thee, will I come,
Thy will shall be done
In me, and by me dearest Lord,
I'll shed no more tears,
I'll have no more fears,
And complaints shall no longer be heard.

My Father! I'm Thine
And Thy will shall be mine,
For I know all Thou dost is right;
Accept of my heart
It is Thine, every part,
Help me always to fight the good fight.

HANNAH T. KING.

THE FATHER OF FREDERICK THE GREAT.

The king was scrupulously clean, washing five times a day. He would allow no drapery, no stuffed furniture, no carpets in his apartments. They caught dust. He sat upon a plain wooden chair. He ate roughly, like a farmer, of roast beef, despoiling all delicacies. His almost invariable dress was a close military blue coat, with red cuffs and collar buff waistcoat and breeches, and white linen gaiters to the knee. A sword was belted around his loins, and as we have said, a stout raton or bamboo cane ever in his hand. A well-worn, battered, triangular hat covered his head. He walked rapidly through the streets which surrounded his palaces at Potsdam and Berlin. If he met any one who attracted his attention, male or female, he would abruptly, menacingly inquire, "Who are you?" A street loafer he has been known to hit over the head with his cane, exclaiming, "Home, you rascal, and go to work." If any one provoked or hesitated, he would sternly demand, "look me in the face." If there was still hesitancy, or the king was dissatisfied with the answer, the one interrogated was lucky if he escaped without a caning.

The boorish king hated the refinement and polish of the French. If he met a lady in rich attire, she was pretty sure to be rudely assailed; and a young man fashionably dressed could hardly escape the cudgel if he came within reach of the king's arm. The king, stalking through the streets, was as marked an object as an elephant would have been. Every one instantly recognized him, and many fled at his approach. One day he met a pale thread-bare young man, who was quietly passing him, when the king stopped in his joking spirit, and demanded, in his coarse, rapid utterance, "Who are you?" "I am a theological student," the young man quietly replied. "Where from?" added the king. "From Berlin," was the response. "From Berlin?" the king rejoined; "the Berliners are all a good-for-nothing set." "Yes, your majesty, that is true of many of them," the young man added; "but I know of two exceptions." "Of two?" responded the king; "which are they?" "Your Majesty and myself," the young man replied. The king burst into a good-humored laugh, and, after having the young man carefully examined, assigned him to a chaplaincy. From "Frederick the Great," in *Harper's Magazine* for December.

CURIOUS FACTS IN REGARD TO SOUND.—The following curious observations in regard to the transmission of sound have been carefully verified by an extended series of experiments: the whistle of a locomotive is heard 3,300 yards through the air; the noise of a railroad train 2,800 yards; the report of a musket and the bark of a dog, 1,800 yards; an orchestra or the roll of a drum, 1,600 yards; the human voice reaches to a distance of 1,000 yards; the croaking of frogs, 900 yards; the chirping of crickets, 800 yards. Distinct speaking is heard in the air from below up to a distance of 600 yards; from above it is only understood to a range of 100 yards downwards. It has been ascertained that an echo is well reflected from the surface of smooth water only when the voice comes from an elevation.

Other similar phenomena connected with the transmission of sound have been observed, but the results disagree either from inaccuracy in the observations or from the varying nature of the circumstances affecting the numbers obtained. Such variations occur to an extent of ten or twenty per cent., and even more. The weather's being cold and dry, or warm and wet, are the chief influencing causes. In the first case, the sound goes to a greater, and, in the second, to a lesser, distance.—*Technology*.

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