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SELECTIONS.

THE SUN SHINES ALL THE SAME.

Dead silence in the darkened room,
The last faint gleam of smouldering fire;
A woman kneeling by a bed,
A baby corpse stretched closely by her;
A rude straw pallet on the floor,
A sleeping boy of half a score;
The broken walls, the cold, bare boards,
The shattered panes, the lockless door—
All speak as with a thousand tongues,
The thrice-told story of the poor.

The daylight breaks through half-drawn blinds,
And hours creep on with weary feet,
And as the morning struggles in,
The waking sounds rise from the street,
The kneeling woman softly sighs,
The baby corpse is half released,
And turning through the morning's ray,
She sees the sun rise in the east.

Oh! weary night, gone down Time's void,
And with thee taken life and love;
Oh! weary night, through countless hours,
All starless were thy skies above.
The morning dawns, but brings no life,
Still cold and gray, the stolid birth,
Night has no softening in her glance;
Young morn no sympathies with earth.

he sleeping boy, with sudden start
Awoke, and stood beside the dead;
o word he spoke, but as he knelt,
He kissed the sunlight on the bed;
Then, as though drawn by hands unseen,
He rose and to the window came,
And with a sad, cold look he said:
"Mamma, the sun shines all the same."

The mother raised her tearless eyes,
Dim with her watching by the dead,
And with a glance of instant light,
She saw the sunshine on his head.
With hands upraised toward the sky,
"Praised be," she said, "His holy name,
Whatever ills afflict us here,
Who makes the sun shine all the same."

EVE'S APPLE-TREES.—The botanical curiosities of the Island of Ceylon are replete with varied interest. Sir Alexander Johnston, while inquiring into the history of the country, had drawings made of a great many trees, plants, and other vegetable productions to which any religious, political, or moral interest was attached by the native Hindoos, Buddhists, Mohammedans, or early Christians. One of these is "the forbidden fruit, or Eve's apple tree," the Tabernemontana dichotoma of the "Hortus Kewensis." Its native name is "diwi kaduru" signifying "forbidden," and "diwi tigers." The flower of this extraordinary production, is said to emit a fine scent. The color of the fruit, which hangs from the branches in a very peculiar and striking manner, is very beautiful, being orange on the outside, and a deep crimson within; the fruit itself presenting the appearance of having had a piece bitten out of it. This circumstance, together with the fact of its being a deadly poison, led the Mohammedans, on their first discovery of Ceylon—which they assigned as the site of Paradise—to present it as the forbidden fruit of the garden of Eden; for although the finest and most tempting in appearance of any—it has been impressed—such was their idea—with the mark of Eve's having bitten it, to warn men from meddling with a substance possessing such noxious properties. Its

effects are so poisonous that two European soldiers, shortly after the capture of Columbo in 1795, being unaware of the nature of the fruit, were tempted by its appearance to taste it, and very soon sickened and died.—*The World of Wonders.*

AN UNDERGROUND RIVER.—Midway between Donegal and Ballyshannon, a very singular phenomenon may be seen. Running through the grounds of Major Hamilton, of Brownhall, is a small river, which bores its way underground, from cavern to cavern, for nearly two miles. The caverns are formed in the limestone, and the power of petrification possessed by the water is very astonishing. Sticks, straws, leaves, etc., are soon coated and crusted over, and by degrees hardened into stone; and so rapid is the process, that we may see one-half of the same leaf of the moss green and growing, and the other half crusted over in the process of petrification. The caves are, some of them, very beautiful, and when lighted up by the aid of a fragment of magnesium wire, the effect is most brilliant and striking, the walls sparkling as waterfall. The roof of the cavern is broken through studded by countless diamonds. In one of them the river makes a fine and as the spectator stands in the subdued green light, looking up through a mass of ferns and stems of trees, with the hoarse roar of the waterfall plunging into an unseen depth through a cloud of mist at his feet, the dim cave partially lighted up around, but dark and mysterious in its recesses—the effect is inexpressibly charming—it is a perfect chamber of romance, and one can fancy superstition formerly holding high court here. Almost equally striking in another way is the manner in which the river once more makes its appearance into the light, wheeling up from a dark unfathomable-looking hole under a wide rift of rocks. Stealthily emerging from the ground, it oozes forth in a still black stream; a veritable kelpie's hole, about which, if legends do not exist, it is certainly high time they did, as a most eligible opportunity has been hitherto unaccountably neglected.—*Fraser's Magazine.*

GOLD MASK OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR.—This interesting relic of remote antiquity is preserved in the Museum of the East India Company. It was found by Colonel Rawlinson, while engaged in prosecuting the discoveries commenced by Layard and Botta at Nineveh and Babylon, and is supposed to have belonged to King Nebuchadnezzar. In exhuming from the mounds of these long lost rival cities, the instructive remains of this once gigantic power, the Colonel discovered, in a perfect state of preservation, what is well believed to be the mummy of Nebuchadnezzar. The face of the rebellious monarch of Babylon covered by one of those gold masks usually found in the Assyrian tombs, is described as very handsome; the forehead high and commanding, the features marked and regular. The mask is of thin gold, and independent of its once having belonged to the great monarch, has an immense value as a relic of an extinct people. The Arab tribes encamping about Wurka and other great mounds, search in the loose gravel with their spears for coffins. Gold and silver ornaments, which have been buried in these graves for centuries, are worn by the Arab women of the present day; and many a rare object recovered thus are sold and melted by the goldsmiths of the East. The Arabs mention the discovery, by some fortunate shepherd, of royal tombs, in which were crowns and sceptres of pure gold.

AN EXTRAORDINARY DISCOVERY.—A piece of news reaches us through the *Missouri Republican* which, if it should prove to be true (which we by no means affirm), is of the highest historical interest. But is it true? The engineers engaged in making the piers of a railway bridge at St. Louis, to cross the Mississippi, are said to have found an ancient tunnel below that mighty river! Details are given. The tunnel, we are told, "passes under the river to the Il-

linois shore, and whether it is wholly the work of some ancient race who once inhabited this land, whose interesting remains are strewn so thickly up and down this great valley, or whether it is partly natural and partly artificial, remains to be seen, in any case it is none the less stupendous. The main passage we should judge to be about 20 feet high by 15 feet broad, and systematically arched overhead, part of the way by cutting through solid rock and part by substantial masonry; the bottom seemed to be much worn, as if by carriage wheels of some sort. There are many lateral passages which, of course, we had no time to enter. These are about eight feet high and six feet wide. In the main passage we saw no tools or implements of workmanship; but on entering one of the lateral passages we soon emerged into a large chamber supported by leaning pillars of solid rock, when the chamber was excavated. Around the walls of this chamber there were what seemed to be niches closed with closely-fitting slabs, each slab covered with inscriptions in Runic uniform characters, which to our eyes bore a marvellous resemblance to those upon the slabs in the Mercantile Library, which were brought from the mine of Nineveh. Between the niches were projecting pilasters, with draped Assyrian or Egyptian heads, which presented a most impressive and awe-inspiring effect as they were illuminated by the torchlight. Those sweet, sad faces looked down upon us from the ancient ages, like the souls of the departed."—*Hebrew.*

TRUE POWER.—There is truly a noble sway of man over man; one which it is our honor to seek and exert; which is earned by well-doing; which is a chief recompense of virtue. We refer to the quickening influence of a good and great mind over other minds, by which it brings them into sympathy with itself. Far from condemning this, we are anxious to hold it forth as the purest glory which virtuous ambition can propose. The power of awakening, enlightening, elevating our fellow-creatures, may, with peculiar fitness, be called divine, for there is no agency of God so beneficial and sublime as that which He exerts on rational natures, and by which He assimilates them to Himself. This sway over other souls is the surest test of greatness. We admire, indeed, the energy which subdues the material creation or develops the physical resources of a State. But it is a nobler might which calls forth the intellectual and moral resources of a people, which communicates new impulses to society, throws into circulation new and stirring thoughts, gives the mind a new consciousness of its faculties, and rouses and fortifies the will to an unconquerable purpose of well-doing. This spiritual power is worth all other. To improve man's outward condition is a secondary agency, and is chiefly important as it gives the means of inward growth. The most glorious minister of God on earth is he who speaks with a life-giving energy to other minds, breathing into them the love of truth and virtue, and strengthening them to suffer in a good cause, and lifting them above the senses and the world.—*Hebrew.*

A NEW AND ADMIRABLE PLAN.—In South Carolina they have inaugurated a plan to smooth the way for bashful lovers, which, on its first trial, produced astonishing results, and which, we believe, could be generally applied with incalculable benefit to society. It is described as follows:

A short time since, at a wedding in South Carolina, a young lawyer moved that one man in the company should be selected as President; that this President should be duly sworn to keep entirely secret all the communications that should be forwarded to him in his official department that night; that each unmarried gentleman and lady should write his or her name on a piece of paper, and under it place the name of the person they wished to marry, then hand it to the President for inspection; and if any lady and gentleman had reciprocally chosen each other, the President

was to inform each of the result, and those who had not been reciprocal in their choice were to be kept entirely secret. After the appointment of the President, communications were accordingly handed up to the chair, and it was found that twelve young ladies and gentlemen had reciprocal choices, and eleven of the twelve matches were solemnized.—*Ex.*

SAGACITY AND KINDNESS OF RATS.—It has often been noted that rats are very clever in the plans they try to secure plunder, and it also deserves mention that they are frequently found to exercise great kindness toward those of their number who may have sustained injury. The following story illustrates the second of these traits more than the first: While Alexander Gunn, cattle dealer at Braehour, England, was lately passing the Mall of Dale, his attention was attracted to a large rat coming out of its hole, which, after surveying the place, retreated with the greatest caution and silence. It returned soon afterwards, leading by the ear another, which it left close by the hole. A third rat joined this kind conductor, and the two then searched about and picked up small scraps of grain, these they carried to the second rat, which appeared to be blind, and which remained on the spot where they had left it, nibbling such fare as they brought it. They seemed then to relax in their own exertions, and only continued for a short time; after which one of the rats seized a small stick about five inches in length, which he inserted in the blind one's mouth, and in this way conducted it to the water, of which they all partook, and afterwards led its companion back to the hole.

Correspondence.

"The ants are a little people on the earth, yet they are exceeding wise."—*SOLOMON.*

Editor Deseret News:—It is not my intention to enter into any discussion as to the truth of the above saying of the ancient sage, but I think, if any one wishes to witness a scene of confusion on a small scale, all he need do is to disturb an ant hill, and if he can discover any great amount of wisdom, or even a "method in their madness" he will do more than I have ever been able to do. But, perhaps the ants of the present age are only "degenerate sons of noblesires" who lived in Solomon's day. Be this as it may I have for years considered them a nuisance that ought to abated, for the following reasons:

First, I have experienced very unpleasant sensations on my own person, from their attacks; second, they have, without my permission, established themselves on my grounds and have made serious inroads upon my borders; and third, I have seen my children (who but a minute before were enjoying themselves in all the innocence of childish glee) driven almost frantic with the torture inflicted by these merciless pests. For these reasons I have felt justified in waging a war of extermination against them, but the present indications are, that unless there is a change of tactics on my part the ants will "all live long and prosper."

Now, any one who will inform me how to bring this war to a speedy and successful termination will henceforth be considered, by me, a benefactor to the human race, and I shall esteem him worthy of a name among "the representative men of Utah."—*NORVAL.*

Died:

Of Inflammation of the Lungs, at Harrisville, Weber County, on the 17th inst. Philomela, daughter of Joseph and Jane Taylor, aged 6 months and 27 days.

WELLS & BARKER,

CUTLERS and GUNSMITHS,

Second South Street, Opposite Faust's Stables
Stoves and Cutlery Repaired on short notice
Produce taken. d102&sl3ta