

Poetry.

EVENING CHIMES.

O'er the forest gently streaming,
Sighs the wind so soft and low,
My-tye sounds, like sounds in dreaming,
Song of birds and waters flow;

Select Literature.

A STORY OF THE ICE-FIELDS OF ALASKA.

More than twenty-five years ago, Ben. Ringbold and I shipped on board the North Star, on a three year's whaling voyage. Ben, and I had been brought up boys together; and the first time we went to sea, it was in the ship, and we never parted until poor Ben, went on that long voyage which we have all to take sooner or later, and from which none have ever come back to spin yarn about the wonders they have seen beyond.

But the sight which froze our blood was that which we beheld on the edge of the chasm nearest us—the huge white monster we had been following sitting erect upon its haunches with poor Ben, lying close to his side, and the place about them stained with blood that had flowed from their wounds.

For a moment neither the mate nor myself could hardly think or stir, while the monster before us uttered a succession of growls, that sounded as deep and threatening as the coming of the tempest among the sails of the ship.

The spell that was upon us began to wear away, and the mate slowly brought his piece to bear upon the monster, who suddenly dropt down on all fours, and although still uttering his growls, seemed about to commence a meal upon poor Ben, who now by a motion of his hand gave us to understand that he was alive, and sensible of the danger he was in.

For Heaven's sake take good aim, Mr. Jones," I said, as I saw the mate was about to fire. "Aim at its head, but not too low, or you may hit Ben."

There was a loud report which seemed to shatter the icy craze about us, and when the smoke cleared away, we saw the bear standing there, apparently unharmed. The bullet had gone wide of its mark, and another and fiercer growl than any which had preceded it was the return we had from the bear, who appeared to be on the point of making some new move, which we thought must mean in our direction.

"Parker, give me your gun," called the mate to the man behind him; and, as he reached out his hand to take it, the bear suddenly clasped poor Ben in his arms, and appearing itself on its hind legs, took a few steps in our direction, sprang high into the air, directly over the fearful chasm where, for a moment, both man and brute seemed suspended, and then came down so close to the other edge that they seemed to rest for a moment upon nothing.

The bear next made a frantic effort to secure a foothold, and then, to our horror, both man and beast disappeared from sight, down in the fearful chasm.

A cry of horror broke from the lips of all our party, as we witnessed the terrible fate of our companion, and we made our way down as best we could to the edge of the chasm and gazed into its fearful depths. All was gloom, so dense that the lights darting across the sky could not penetrate. We called upon Ben, by name, although we had no hopes of his being alive; and the echoes answered us back, as if in mockery.

I can tell you they were sad hearts that we carried back to the ship. We left poor Ben, in his tomb of ice; and when in the spring we sailed away, it seemed as though we had left him there alive, and more than one tear was shed, and backward look cast to his memory. In after years, when in those parts, I kept well clear of the ice-fields of Alaska.

ments; and with another shout after we had taken breath, we pressed on, Ben, still in the advance and I followed him close, keeping an eye out for danger. A call from the mate for me, caused me to pause until he came up; and Ben, eager to be the first, went on alone, and before we again went forward we had lost sight of him. I increased my pace, as did also the mate; but hardly had we taken a dozen steps when the report of Ben's pistol started us, and the echoes rolled among the cliffs, followed at the same moment by a terrible howl of savage rage and a human cry for aid, which was well-nigh drowned by the roar of the beast, which seemed to shake the very ice upon which we stood.

For a moment that cry fastened me, as it were, to the ice, without the power of motion; but the spell was broken by the mate as he shouted: "Forward men, and rescue your comrade or avenge his death by the death of the monster. But be careful."

The men did not need this to cause them to press forward as fast as possible, but it had the effect to awaken me from the sort of trance into which I had fallen when the cry had filled my ears; and with a bound I sprang forward. A few steps revealed to me a sight so terrible that for years afterwards it haunted me in my sleep, and even now I sometimes seem to see it as plainly as ever.

The space before me was nearly clear of the great ice-boulders which were strewn so thickly behind us; and the way to the foot of the cliff, that we were now close upon, was descending, so much so, that one used to it could have slid upon his feet down to the very bottom, had it not been for a great chasm that opened near the centre of the field, and which appeared to run along its whole length. We could tell nothing of its depth; but the dark line that revealed it to us showed that it would be impossible for us to cross it from its width. Doubtless it was a deep crevice that had been opened by earthquake or by some strange movement in the great field of ice.

George Hughes and George Phillips, who have occupied cell No. 28 for the last four weeks, stated that every night since their confinement, except two, they have heard the noises spoken of, though they have seen nothing. They describe the noises as something awful. They seemed to be the cries of some being in the most dreadful distress. The four inmates of cell No. 32 simultaneously awoke on Monday night, conscious of something terrible, but what they knew not. As they sat up in bed, each too much frightened to utter a word, they felt a cold, rushing wind sweep through the cell, chilling each to his very bones.

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CRUEL TREATMENT OF THE INSANE.

[From the New York Com. Advertiser.] The recent exposure of the secrets of the Illinois Insane Asylum proves that Mr. Charles Reade's description of the horrors of madhouses was in no respect exaggerated. A special committee of the Illinois Legislature makes some amazing revelations of the harsh treatment of the inmates of the State Insane Asylum, at Jacksonville. The most horrible condition of affairs prevailed in that institution. The really excellent laws formed for its management and the protection of the helpless inmates were openly violated. Persons were received for treatment without the formality of a jury, according to the State laws, and others were kept averaging some 330 in number, half males and half females, were subject to the almost irresponsible care of some thirty male and female attendants. How these attendants abused their trust and inflicted the most horrible cruelties upon the helpless patients under their control, is revealed in the report of the investigation committee, with a dry official precision that excites a deeper interest than the more highly wrought description of novelists. All the attendants were not culpable. Some of them were humane persons, but a sufficient number were guilty of cruelties that are repulsive to humanity.

We can only specify a few of the charges reported by the Committee. The terrible punishment of the "cold bath" was inflicted upon the most delicate female patients, some of whom died under and in consequence of the infliction. The patients were placed in a bath two-thirds full of water, with hands and feet tied, and sometimes with the straight-jacket on. Their heads would then be repeatedly plunged under water, and kept there till signs of strangulation appeared. Sometimes the patients were tied upon their backs, and cold water poured upon their faces and mouths. One man, for endeavoring to escape, was hanged and his feet shackled, and kept for three months perfectly naked in a "crib." This "crib" was a sort of open coffin. It was made of plank, about three inches wide and a couple of inches apart, like a cage—was two feet high, six feet long, and two and a half feet wide. The patient could only lie in one position in this "crib" upon his back. Other patients were also placed in this horrible bed for lesser offences than attempts to escape.

Patients have been shut up for months in winter, naked, in "screen rooms." They have been knocked down, and left for dead. They have been dragged, men and women, by the heels fifty or sixty feet to the punishment of the "cold bath." The female attendants were, if possible, more brutal in their conduct than the

men. It was one of the rules of the Asylum that patients should not lie down to rest during the day-time. Some of the weak, idiotic female inmates were constantly violating this extraordinary order, and thus drew down punishment upon themselves. But many of the cases had not even this excuse. The punishment was generally arbitrary, in accordance with the brutal whims of the attendants.

It is fair to mention that the laws of Illinois are most enlightened and humane, and that the State is not liable to injurious reflections on account of these exposures. The blame is to be divided between the Superintendent, Dr. McFarland, and the trustees, whose laxity permitted these abuses to continue unredressed for so long a time. Then again, there is an inevitable tendency in human nature to abuse its power, and trample upon the defenceless. Of course, means are in progress to remedy these abuses, but the exposures that have been made prove that the laws for the protection of the insane require constant watchfulness and supervision by the humane.

A HAUNTED JAIL IN CHICAGO.—The Chicago Times says that mysterious noises have been recently heard in the jail of that city by the officials and prisoners, and some of the latter profess to have seen appalling sights. The noise generally assumes the character of unearthly wails, such as no ventriloquist could make, and appears to come from the vault of a water closet. Two of the guards say they heard the words "O dear!" thrice repeated in tones of fearful agony, apparently issuing from the vault. The noises have been heard of nights for several weeks past. The superstition is rife among the prisoners that the jail is haunted by the spirit of a murderer named Fleming, who was executed nearly two years ago. One of them, a coloured man, named William Jones, says that he awoke one night in his cell and saw the figure of a man hanging with a strap around his neck to the grating which opens into the ventilator from the ceiling. He says that the fright overcame him to such an extent that he fainted. Within the past two weeks the deputy sheriffs who have been on watch, have on several nights been called to the cells of prisoners whom they found in paroxysms of fear and horror, asserting that a spirit had appeared to them.

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THE RAILWAY BILL.—The Government Bill for the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, contains, among other provisions, that it shall run from River du Loup to connect with the line from Halifax, at or near Truro; that it shall be of the 5 ft. 6 in. gauge; that its construction and management shall be under the charge of four Commissioners, to be appointed by the Governor, and to hold office during pleasure, and that they shall have full power to explore, survey and fix the site of the railway between the points named, to purchase land, to give contracts for its construction (contracts amounting to \$10,000 or upwards, requiring to be sanctioned by the Governor in Council); that a Chief Engineer shall be appointed by the Governor to have the general superintendance—under the instructions of the works, and by whom all works must be certified to before payment be made to any contractor; that no member of Parliament shall hold any office of emolument under the Commissioners, or be a contractor or party to any contract for the construction of any part of the railway; and that the salary of the Commissioners and of the Chief Engineer, shall in the first instance, be fixed by the Governor in Council, subject to the revision and confirmation of Parliament at its first session thereafter.—[Montreal Trade Review.]

An amusing incident occurred yesterday in the Dublin head police office. A boy named Conville, an apprentice to a chimney-sweeper, was charged with having attempted to commit a felonious assault on his master's daughter. The charge was proved, and he was sentenced to be imprisoned for fourteen days and kept to hard labor. While awaiting the arrival of the policeman who was to bring him to gaol, he was placed in a room at the basement story of the court, which was used as a lock-up, and there left in company with other prisoners, it was supposed in safe custody. Scarcely, however, had the key been turned in the door, when, turning to account his professional skill, he plunged into the chimney, ascended the flue with amazing agility, and getting across the roof descended another chimney and made good his escape. His fellow prisoners gazed in envious admiration and bore without a murmur the murk shower which came down upon them during his flight. The expression of disappointment in the face of the constable in charge when he found that his vigilance had been baffled, would have formed an interesting subject for an artist.

One of the West India mail packets, which was lying at St. Thomas at the time of the tornado, and received some damage, which was repaired so as to allow her to proceed on her voyage to Jamaica, has arrived at this port. The day after the vessel left St. Thomas, it was discovered that the captain and first mate were deranged. They attempted to run the vessel on shore, and were only frustrated by the third officer, who remarked their strange actions, had them secured, and took command. The malady increased during the voyage and on the arrival of the vessel at Jamaica, both were raving mad. It is remarked that several sailors belonging to vessels that were at St. Thomas during the late fearful visitations, have lost their reason. Several such cases are reported from Jamaica.

THE OYSTER TRADE IN BALTIMORE.—The Baltimore export oyster trade is one of its largest industrial interests. A yearly average of 3,800,000 bushels is taken there from the waters of the Chesapeake, where over 1,000 large boats are engaged in procuring them for the market. Each of these boats average a catch of 4,746 bushels during the oyster season, which is six months in duration, and during that time make an income of some \$2,100. The oysters are packed in air-tight cans and sent to all the principal cities of the West, even as far as Memphis, and after being repacked, can be sent to Santa Fe, or Denver, without losing their freshness. There are thirty packing houses and over ten thousand people interested in the oyster trade in Baltimore. Of the whole number of bushels of oysters brought to the city, 1,875,000 bushels are packed raw; 1,300,000 bushels preserved by steaming and packed, and 625,000 bushels used for home consumption. During the busiest season, 45,000 are opened daily at the various packing houses. St. Louis, Chicago, Cincinnati and Louisville are the largest purchasers.

Mrs. S. A. Allen's PREPARATIONS FOR THE HAIR.

Mrs. S. A. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER, is suited to both young and old. It strengthens the hair, prevents its falling or turning grey, and imparts to it a beautiful glossy appearance. It never fails to RESTORE GRAY HAIR TO ITS ORIGINAL YOUTHFUL COLOR.

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Mrs. S. A. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR DRESSING, or ZYLOBALSAMUM, is essential to use with the Hair Restorer, but the Hair Dressing alone often restores, and never fails to invigorate, beautify and refresh the Hair, rendering it soft, silky and glossy and disposing it to remain in any desired position.

FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN, whose Hair requires frequent dressing, it has no equal. No lady's toilet is complete without it. The rich glossy appearance imparted is truly wonderful. It cleanses the Hair, removes all dandruff, and imparts to it a most delightful fragrance. It will prevent the Hair from falling out, and is the most economical and valuable Hair Dressing known. Millions of bottles sold every year.

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THE undersigned has been instructed by the Owners to offer for SALE or to RENT several valuable FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD PROPERTIES and FARMS in BELFAST and other parts of the Island in good cultivation well wooded and possessing other advantages; and for which good and valid titles and immediate possession can be given.

Also four LOTS being the residue of thirteen Building Lots (the other nine having been sold the present Season) in that most advantageous mercantile situation known as SUMMER HILL, adjoining MONTAGUE BRIDGE, ten miles from Georgetown, where close to 150,000 bushels of Produce are annually shipped and nearly all paid for in Cash. Americans and other speculators purchase here and ship for Great Britain the United States, &c. A number of Stores, Wharfs, a Meeting House Post Office, and Temperance Society have been established for some time, with many Grist and Saw and Cloth Mills in the vicinity; where also any quantity of all kinds lumber can be had in tradeable rates. SUMMER HILLS is the only Freehold Property for sale in the place which renders it most desirable for the above class of artisans now so much wanted in this rising town.

A STORE and DWELLING on it capable of holding 150,000 bushels produce with a double Wharf and site for a Lime Kiln, will be sold or leased on reasonable terms. Plans, particulars or any other information can be obtained by calling at the office of Messrs. BALL & SON, Land Surveyors, Charlottetown. Reference can also be had from W. SANDERSON, F. P. NOTION, THOS. AXON, Georgetown; J. S. BRODERICK, Campbellton, Lot 4; F. W. HUGHES, Examiner Office, Charlottetown, and to the subscriber at Orwell, who is also Agent for the sale of Manny's Mowing Machine, the celebrated YARMOUTH COOKING STOVE, and also for the Filling Mills of Messrs. BOUKKE, Mill View, the Honble. JAS. McLAUREN, New Perth, FINLAY W. McDONALD, Pictou, where CLOTH is received and returned with despatch.

Orwell Store, Aug. 10, 1867. RICHARD J. CLARKE.

BRITISH PERIODICALS.

- The London Quarterly Review, (Conservative.)
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The Westminster Review, (Radical.)
The North British Review, (Free Church.)

Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, (Tory.) These periodicals are ably sustained by the contributions of the best writers on Science, Religion, and general Literature, and stand unrivalled in the world of letters. They are indispensable to the scholar and the professional man, and to every reading man, as they furnish a better record of the current literature of the day than can be obtained from any other source.

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PARTIES desiring POLICIES in this office will please send in their proposals to WM. FULL, Esq., Queen Street, Charlottetown, who is authorized to receive and answer the same. JOS. F. ELLIS, Agent, Pictou, Im Oct. 23, 1867.

R. REDDIN, Attorney and Barrister at Law, CONVEYANCER, &c.

Office—Great George-St., Charlottetown, (Near the Catholic Cathedral.) August 22, 1866. E tf

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