D. R. Hodge
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POET'S CORNER.

"To charm the languid hours of solitude,
He oft invites her to the Muse's lore."

THE ROAD OF LIFE.

BY S. LOVER.

Oh, youth, happy youth, what a blessing,
In thy freshness of dawn and of dew,
When HOPE the young heart is caressing,
And our griefs are but light and but few.
But in life as it swiftly glides o'er us—
Some musing for sadness we find;
In youth we've our troubles before us—
In age we leave pleasure behind.

Ay, trouble's the postboy that drives us
Up hill till we get to the top,
While JOY's an old servant behind us,
We call on forever to stop.
Oh, put on the drag, JOY my jewel,
As long as the sunset still glows;
Before it is dark 'twould be cruel
To haste to the hill-foot's repose.

But there stands an INN we must stop at—
An extinguisher swings for a sign;
The house is but cold and but narrow,
But the prospect beyond is divine!
And there, whence there's never returning,
When we travel, as travel me must,
May the gates be all free for our journey,
And the tears of our friends lay the dust.

PADDLE YOUR OWN CANOE.

My father died, God rest his soul,
When years I numbered two,
And left me 'midst the world alone,
To paddle my own canoe.

A step-grandaddy, now no more,
Taught me my P's and Q.—
And ever in my ears he dinn'd
You'll paddle your own canoe.

My home was no Elysian spot
Of bright and sunny hue,
And therefore I the sooner left,
To paddle my own canoe.

And thro' the world I roamed at large,
O'er land and ocean blue;
And though the struggle oft was hard,
I paddled my own canoe.

For thus I argued, man to man
Is often times untrue;—
Then while with health and strength you're blest,
Just paddle your own canoe.

As partners in the strife for gain
Self-interest will pursue;
And leave you with their debts, perhaps,
To paddle in your canoe.

And then no sympathy you'll find
From friends that once were true—
They knew you lost when first you ceased
To paddle your own canoe.

But I one cherished object sought
And ever kept in view—
A friend of pure unsullied heart,
To paddle in my canoe.

A friend she is in need and deed—
Her interest mine is too—
We twain are one—I still may say
I paddle my own canoe.

Miscellaneous.

WHAT A BOY CAN DO.

In passing along one of our streets the other day, a little fellow fell in with an old salt, who was shivering, with three sheets in the wind.

"Ship ahoy?" hailed the tar—and the little chap hauled up alongside. "Where away may be the Seaman's Mansion?"

The lad proffered to show him, and they held along together—the sailor steering very wildly, sometimes hard up, as though he had struck a heavy sea, and then yawning off to the right or left, as the case might be.

"I am not exactly water-logged," said he, "but have too much of a deck load, and my top hamper is rather heavy for my ballast; eh! A little too much of the critter aboard—hick! you understand.—Shun the rum, the *blue rum*, my little man, as you'd avoid old Timbertoes! Shiver my topsails! but it has been the ruin of me.—Shun the critter, my lad, as you'd shun a pestilence!"

The lad promised to bear in mind this advice, and then asked him why he did not sign the temperance pledge.

"And where may that temperance pledge be found?" inquired he.

His young comrad informed him that there was to be a temperance meeting at the Exchange that evening, and offered to go with him if he would sign the pledge.

"What a child urging me to sign the pledge! I'll go. Come in here, my little one, (by this time they had arrived opposite the Seaman's Mansion,) and take supper with me; as soon as we've got the ballast in, we'll haul up for this same temperance meeting. Stave in my bulwarks, if we won't."

The little fellow stuck to him, and as soon as supper was over, went with him to the temperance meeting, where the old salt signed the pledge. As he did so, he remarked that whenever he was tempted to drink, he would think of that little boy's care for his welfare.

We doubt not but that warm-hearted old tar will keep his pledge so long as his "timbers" hold together. The next day he went to sea, not forgetting to call upon his juvenile friend before his departure. And he assured him that he should seek his wife and family on his return.

Easton Star.

DEVOTED TO POLITICS, GENERAL NEWS, ADVERTISING, ETC.

Volume 5—No. 35. EASTON, MD.—TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1845. Whole No. 245.

ELOQUENT EXTRACT.—Dow jr., who preaches a short sermon through the columns of the New York Sunday Mercury every Sabbath, thus talks of Autumn and its glories. It is eloquent, and the last sentence is sublime:

"When I look upon the wan features of the fields—take a survey of the devastated dominions of Flora—and then behold with what a gorgeous apparel the woodlands are arrayed—I can't help thinking that some spirit hand has collected all our bright and favorite flowers, thrown them into a cauldron, boiled them together, and poured the dye-stuff upon every grove and forest!—yes, and be-sprinkled the whole with the powder of past summer's rainbows. How calm!—how quiet!—how beautiful! The skies have assumed a more tranquil hue—the atmosphere is milder than of late—the distant mountains have donned bluer mantles—and heaven touches the hill tops nearer home—and the sunsets!—the golden sunsets!—glorious sunsets—Oh! they are enough to make a man holler for somebody to hold him by the coat-tail!"

SAYING FROM THE PERSIAN.

The horse that is ever bounding, makes a short journey long. The man who is ever vaunting performeth little.

Muscles open their mouth only to swallow the pearls dropped from the stars.—Wise men open theirs only to utter words more precious than pearls.

The King has many servants, but no friend. The Arab has no servants, but he has his horse. The Arab is richer than the King.

The rose is sweetest when it first opens and the spikenard root when the herb dies. Beauty belongs to youth, and dies with it, but the odor of piety survives death, and perfumes the tomb.

The fishes are mute, lest they should reveal the secrets of the great deep. Solomon knew them, and yet he died.

The traveller in the desert, when his camel runs his nose into the sand, throws himself upon his face and death flies over him. What the prudent man sees the Viziers do that doeth he likewise, and so saveth his head.

Fire createth all things and destroyeth all things. A little is life, a great [illegible] death.

Love is like a diamond with [illegible] Lake [illegible] their [illegible] It is precious but imperfect [illegible] were at [illegible] desert. It makes wise men fate[illegible] makes not folly discreet.

The Nightingale sings not by day, for then the angels sleep. They wake with the stars, and she cheers them in their watching.

Life, to the young, is a fairy tale just opened—to the old it is a tale read through, ending with death.

The wise man was asked, what cures all misfortunes? and he answered—death! A fool was asked the same question, and he answered—nothing!

A sage and a poor shepherd looked for truth. The sage searched for her among the stars. The shepherd found her at his feet.

Poetry is like a mirage. It magnifies small things, and gives to common things singular forms.

Happiness, like a snail, is never found from home.

Misery is written on the portals of Paradise. Joy is written on the gates of Hell.

The Rose prayed for a gift, and the Genius gave it thorns. The Rose wept, until it saw the Antelope eating Lillies.—*Buffalo Commercial.*

A STORY OF POCKET PICKING.

The adroitness of the nimble-fingered gentry who make pocket picking their *profession*, is often a matter of astonishment to the unpractised. We have heard of a case which illustrates the *legerdemain* of this wide-spread and dangerous species of villainy more thoroughly than any other we have heard of. It may be relied upon as authentic.—*Albany Citizen.*

A few weeks since, a gentleman at the Astor House, in New York suddenly missed a gold watch, which was worth more to him than it could be to any body else. He marvelled much at its absence, for he knew he had only been in and out of the Office and Reading Room of the Hotel since he noted the hour by it. In the hope of recovering it, he advertised his loss and offered a reward of $50. The same day he received a note, informing him that he could have his watch by calling at a certain house in an obscure part of the city. After some little hesitation he resolved to go. The watch was too valuable to him to be given up without at least this attempt to recover it. So he went. His call at the door was promptly answered by a very gentlemanly looking person, who in reply to his inquiries, replied that he had in his possession the advertised watch, and that on payment of the offered reward he would deliver it up. The loser promised to pay the $50, provided he was convinced the watch was his. It was exhibited, and the gentleman recognised it at once, paid the reward, and gladly placed the recovered treasure in its place in his vest pocket. As he was turning to go away he remarked.

"I am glad, as you may suppose, to get my watch back again, but I should really be pleased to know how you took it from me."

"That I will inform you," readily replied the pick-pocket. "Now you remember holding an animated conversation with two other gentlemen in the Reading-room of the Astor house on the morning you lost your watch?"

"I do," replied the loser.

"Well, do you not also remember that a gentleman who stood near by left his newspaper, drew near, and finally joined in the discussion?"

"Very distinctly" replied the other "and also that he engaged in it with much warmth."

"Precisely," continued the narrator, "and do you not remember that he at one time, in his earnestness, tapped you two or three times on the left breast *thus*?" (suiting the action to the word.)

"Yes," replied the gentleman.

"*Then* I took your watch," said the other, and turning, shut the door and disappeared.

The gentleman returned to the Astor, musing on this strange occurrence, and while relating it to some of his wondering friends, was astonished to find that his watch was again missing! When the adroit knight of the nimble-fingers described how he had *once* filched from him his watch, he took it again! So the gentleman finally lost his watch, after having paid to the thief the reward for its recovery.

ON PRAYER.

Prayer [illegible] of our spirit, the stillness [illegible] the evenness of recollec[illegible] meditation, the rest [illegible] glue of our tempers [illegible] quiet mind of [illegible] daughter of years ol[illegible] kness; and he Apply to [illegible] angry, that is, [illegible] posed spirit, is AGR[illegible] battle to medi[illegible] in the outquar[illegible] a perfect alten[illegible]er, and there[illegible]ention, which THE [illegible] a right line to for [illegible] seen a lark rising meeting [illegible] and soaring up[illegible] B. M[illegible] way of the [illegible]ng as he rises, and hopes to Wednes[illegible] get to heaven, and climb over the clouds; By orde[illegible] But the poor bird was beaten back with the loud singings of an eastern wind, and [illegible] motion made irregular and unconstant, [illegible]ding more at every breath of the [illegible], than it could recover by the libra[illegible]d frequent weighing of his wings: [illegible] little creature was forced [illegible] and pant and stay till the storm was [illegible] and then it made a prosperous flight, [illegible]'d rise and sing as if it had learned [illegible]ic and motion from an angel, as he passed sometimes thro' the air about his ministries here below; so is the prayer of a good man.

Prayers are but the body of the bird; desires are its angel's wings.—*Bishop Taylor.*

MORN[illegible]

[illegible] S. Osgood."]

[illegible] altar [illegible] soul;

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [