







Miscellaneous Department.

SONG. BY JOHN G. WILKINS. The harp at Nature's advent strong Has never ceased to play...

Any prayer made, and praise is given, By all things near and far: The angels sing to heaven, And mirrors every star.

It waves my kneeling on the strand, It looks the human king, Their white locks blowing to the sand, The priesthood of the sea.

They pour their glittering treasures forth, Their gifts of pearl they bring, And all the listening hills of earth Take up the song they sing.

The green earth sends her increase up, From many a mountain shrub, From folded leaf and dewy cup, The pears her sacred fruit.

The mist above the morning hills As misty as the sea's haze; The altar curtains of the hills Are sunset's purple air.

The winds with hush of praise are loud, Or with low sighs of pain, The thunder-organ of the cloud, The dropping tears of rain.

With drooping head and branches crossed The twilight forest greaves, Or speaks with tongues of Pentecost, From all its solemn leaves.

The hills say in the temple's arch, In transient earth and air, The words of the great march, The chorus of a prayer.

So Nature keeps the several frame, Which which her years began, And all her signs and voices shame, The prayerless heart of man.

THE TON ON THE BENCH. FIRST GRENADIER OF FRANCE. For nearly a year there was a touching and beautiful custom to be witnessed in a certain regiment of French grenadiers...

When the companies assembled for parade and the roll was called, there was one name which did not answer—it was that of La Tour d'Auvergne.

When it was called, the oldest sergeant present stepped a pace forward, and, raising his hand to his eyes, said: "Died on the field of honor."

For fourteen years this custom was continued, and the names of the departed Borbonians, to please their foreign masters, forbade everything that was calculated to preserve the spirit of the soldiers.

La Tour d'Auvergne was not unworthy in life that honor thus paid him after his death. He was educated for the Duke de Crillon at the siege of Port Mahon. He served always with distinction, but he was only fit for the command of a company of grenadiers; but, finally, the various grandeur companies being united, he found himself in command of a regiment of grenadiers.

When he was known as the first grenadier of France. But it is one particular exploit of his that we wish to write, more than his career in general. It was when he was forty years of age he went on a visit to the Duke de Crillon, at the time of the campaign which was soon to become the scene of a campaign. While there, he was busy in acquainting himself with the Duke's military arrangements, and he learned that he was to be sent to the front with a company of grenadiers, and he was to be sent to the front with a company of grenadiers.

He had no idea of being captured by the enemy in their hands, and he was to be sent to the front with a company of grenadiers. He had no idea of being captured by the enemy in their hands, and he was to be sent to the front with a company of grenadiers.

There were some things in his favor in such an emergency. The narrowness of the ditch, and the enemy's troops could enter it only in double files, and in doing this he was fully exposed to the fire of the enemy's muskets.

As the troops entered the ditch they were received with a rapid fire of muskets. He had no idea of being captured by the enemy in their hands, and he was to be sent to the front with a company of grenadiers.

placed him, but at last he came to the conclusion that there was a number of loop-holes close together in the tower, so constructed as to command the ditch on the right.

At almost the last assault was made and repulsed, and at that the Austrian commander sent a second summons to the tower.

At this time the answer was favorable. The garrison offered to surrender at sunrise the next morning, and the Austrian commander accepted the offer.

Meantime La Tour d'Auvergne had passed an hour in the tower. He had opened the fire with thirty loaded muskets, but had not been able to discharge them all.

When the demand for a surrender came to him after the last assault, he consented to it upon the condition named.

The next day at sunrise the Austrian troops lined the pass in two files, extending from the mouth of the ditch to the tower.

The heavy door of the tower opened slowly, and the Austrian troops entered the tower.

When the knowledge of it came to the ears of Napoleon he offered to promote La Tour d'Auvergne to the rank of general.

THE NEW MARRIAGE LAW IN ITALY. As may be supposed, few laws that have emanated from the government of the kingdom have excited so much interest as the new law on marriage.

The law, however, requires all marriages to be celebrated in public, at the church or in the presence of a priest.

It is, indeed, almost ludicrous to see the candidates for matrimony, in the presence of a priest, and the result is an apartment which fifty witnesses plain content.

On one occasion I saw a couple fresh from the altar, and they were sitting on a bench, and the bride was holding the hand of the groom.

There are eight of these gilded chairs, and the bride and groom are seated on them, and the witnesses are seated on the other side.

THE GHOSTS TO BE MADE VISIBLY—SPIRITUALISM IN THE PATENT OFFICE. A curious application for a patent was made to the Patent Office in New York for a process to determine the falsity or truth of spiritualism.

It consists of a room closed perfectly, so that all light is excluded, and the room is perfectly dark, and the inventor claims that he can see spirits.

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world while to feed it a little in order to feel relieved from it. I then got up, and, in order to feel relieved from it, I then got up, and, in order to feel relieved from it, I then got up.

THE SORROWS OF MARY. DEDICATED TO THE MOTHERS WHO HAVE LOST SONS IN THE WAR. BY MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.

I SLEEP, but my heart was waking, And out in my dreams I sped, Through the streets and alleys I sped, Where the living, the Lord, lay dead.

There was lying old and lowly, And there was lying young and gay, And there was lying the mother's face, Had come from the holy field.

I saw a light from a casement, And entered a lovely door, Where a woman stricken and mourner, Sat in sackcloth on the floor.

There Mary, the mother of Jesus, And John, the beloved one, And the poor souls were clinging to each other, With heads that with squalor were numb.

And he was of God forsaken? They said, appalled and dead? And goodness vanquished and dead? In there then no God in Jacob?

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