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ONE LINK GONE.

Take the pillows from the cradle
Where the little sufferer lay;
Draw the curtains, close the shades,
Shut out every beam of day.

Spread the pall upon the table,
Place the lifeless body there;
Back from the marble features—
Lay the ambient curse with ears.

With its little blue-veined fingers—
Crossed upon its sinless breast;
Free from care, and pain and anguish—
Let the infant sleep rest.

Smooth its little thread about it;
Pick its toys from off the floor;
They, with all their sparkling beauty,
Never can charm their owner more.

Take the little shoes and stockings—
From the doting mother's sight;
Faltering feet no more will need them—
Walking in the fields of light.

Leave, faint and worn with watching—
Through the long dark night of grief;
Draw your tears and sooth your pangs—
Gain a respite of relief.

Mother can be no more needed—
To stay the little moment;
And though a pang may leave it,
It can never be alone.

WHEN YOU'RE DOWN.

What legions of friends always blesse us—
When golden success lights our way;
How they smile as they softly address us—
So cordial, good-humored and gay—
But 'tis when the sun of prosperity—
Has set—then how quickly they frown,
And cry out in tones of severity—
"Kick the man, don't you see he's down?"

What though, when you know you're a son—
Your heart was open as day;
And your "friends" when they wanted
You'd oblige—and never ask them
"pay."

What though not a soul you ever slighted,
As wanderers about through the town,
Your "friends" became very near-sighted,
And don't seem to see you when down.

When you're "up" you are loudly exalted—
And traders all sing out your praise;
When you're down all sing out your faults—
Faulted.

And they really don't fancy your ways—
You're always "tip-top" when you'd not
Be single every sucker and down—
But it's exceedingly funny.

Things are altered—"because you were
down."

The critics—he heart that forgave—
Is free from the world's selfish rust,
And the soul whose high noble nature
Is to raise fallen man from the dust,
And when in adversity's open—
A victim is likely to drown.

All hail to the friend whose devotion
Will fit up a man when he's down!

Romance of the Sea.

From the London News.

A remarkable story reaches us from Liverpool. Six sailors, bearing the names respectively of John Coleman, D. McGaugh, Middle Baptiste, Jonathan King Dilombo, Charles King, and Francis Edward Gray, have just passed through a succession of adventures on a desert island, which more than realized the most thrilling of the many romantic stories of ship wreck written for our youth. The fine new iron clipper ship, Mercurius, left San Francisco early last January on her return to England, having previously made her first voyage from the Clyde to Sidney. She was commanded by Captain Carttherson, an experienced navigator, and all went well with her until the 25th of March. In the early morning of that day, it being then dark and raining heavily, the good ship struck upon a dangerous coral islet, known as the Roca's Reef, lat. 36° 52' S., lon. 32° 20' W. No one had thought of danger until five minutes before the Mercurius struck. The lookout man then gave the alarm: "Breakers ahead!" The Captain was called, the course of the ship was altered, and her helm was put "hard over." But it was too late. A few seconds of that intense anxiety in the endurance of which men seem to live years, and then all doubts were solved by the Mercurius first grazing her side below the water against the sharp edges of the coral, and then striking violently on it twice. She began to fill instantly, and as she was hanging as it were over the ledge of the rock, water was passed to man the long boat, in the hope of saving all hands. But while this was being done the ship lurched suddenly outwards, and went down like a stone in eight fathoms water. Out of the twenty-two men on board the Mercurius the morning found but six alive, and these, after swimming two hours, and until the tide fell, gained a footing on the ledge and proceeded to explore it.

Looking to the sea, the fire and main mast of the Mercurius were just visible above the water; looking over the islands which were to be their home, some fifteen acres of barren rock interspersed with patches of sand, and connected with a narrow isthmus with another barren rock equally barren of the same size, met their gaze. One oceanic tree was the only sign of vegetation. It was the constant resort of those planted there some years ago by order of Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco, in order that the reef might be seen more easily as vessels on the Brazil or Cape Horn route, in the direct track of which it lies; but there had been reefs there previously, and with the aid of articles left behind by the survivors, the shipwrecked men contrived to bend circumstances to their will. They found two iron tanks deposited in convenient positions and filled with water, as well as a considerable quantity of broken timber, out of which they built themselves a log hut. They found, too, that pearl of price, a broken knife, a hammer, a two ounce weight and a large copper bolt, and with these clumsy tools they made two boats out of the planking strewn about the rocks, fastening them with nails which they extracted from the broken timber of other wrecks. It does not appear that the poor fellows had any thought of escaping in these boats, but they were enabled to make fishing excursions and to sail with signals flying in search of passing ship.

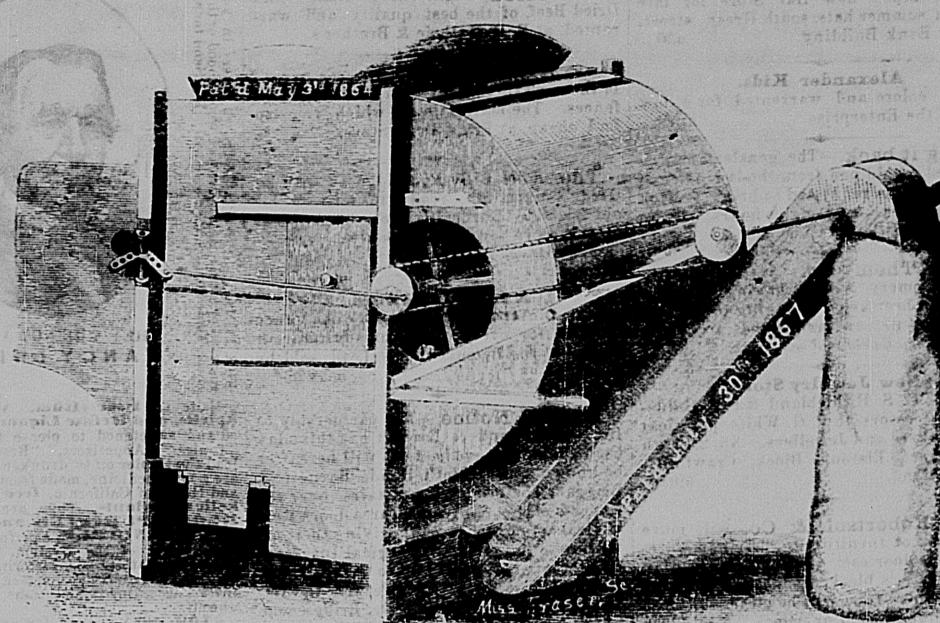
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July 23, 1870

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