

HOME.

Sweet word that spans all space, that knows no bound,
Yet dwells in narrowest compass; welcome word!
Dear type of Peace—though sheltered by the sword.
Mid Saxon-speaking races only found.
Our earliest recollections all about
With little notes of these; our years are stored
With memories of these; each spot adored
By youth, in age becometh holy ground.
Thou clings in the handgrip of the Sire;
Thou mettest in the Mother's tender kiss;
The wanderer longs to reach thee—Guiding Star
Of all his thoughts; like Israel's Pillar Fire
By night thou leadest him through childhood's bliss,
To that loved Home he pictures from afar.
—LORD ROSSLYN.

A SMUGGLER'S DAUGHTER

In 1842 I commanded the revenue cutter Fire Fly and was ordered to the Gulf of Mexico to see after the irregularities that were reported in several ports bordering on the gulf.

In due time I arrived at and investigated the custom affairs at Mobile and soon after sailed for New Orleans. In both these places I found the state of affairs even worse than I had supposed, and at once set to work investigating.

I had not conducted this a week before I ascertained that the custom house officials were in league with a band of Texas and Mexican smugglers, who were running in large quantities of goods without paying duties. I at once communicated with the authorities at Washington, and in due time received orders to report the names of the delinquents and then turn my attention to breaking up the gang of smugglers, taking them and their vessels into the nearest disinfected port.

I fitted the cutter for a cruise and started on my commission. Before I had been on the look-out a week I had the good fortune to capture a Texan craft, well laden and bound for the port of New Orleans.

Again, starting out, I cruised for several days without coming in contact with anything suspicious. But I knew very well that there were more than one craft engaged in the nefarious business, and that sooner or later I should fall in with them.

During a calm one day, my trim little craft hardly moving through the waters, I thought I heard the sound of voices to the windward. There was a thick fog lying upon the waters, which prevented me from seeing beyond my bowsprit scarcely a rod; but every moment the voices sounded plainer, and soon I detected the splashing of oars and conjectured that some craft like ourselves was becalmed, and were striving to make a little headway with their sweeps.

I at once ordered my lieutenant into the boat to see what sort of a craft it was whose captain was evincing so much enterprise. The search and observation occupied nearly half an hour, at the end of which he returned and reported the immediate presence of an undoubted smuggler, but whom he suspected had also caught a glimpse of him as he peered through the thick fog. I at once ordered all the boats lowered and manned, with the intention of boarding the suspicious craft and overhauling her papers. But the rascals got the start of me, and after scuttling the schooner they took to their boats and struck out astily to make their escape. The pursuit was highly exciting, but as they took different directions, they gave us much trouble in following them.

At length we overhauled one of their boats, containing two rough-looking men, and one of the most beautiful women that it has ever been my fortune to encounter in any part of the world. The smugglers dropped their oars, and, drawing their pistols, showed fight. But, without firing a single shot, we convinced them of the folly of resistance, and they immediately surrendered, and were taken on board the cutter. The pursuit of the other two boats proved fruitless.

I was surprised to find in my lady prisoner one whose culture eminently fitted her for the best circles of society. Gradually I drew her confidence and her history from her. Her father had at a former period been very wealthy; but, having engaged in war between Texas and Mexico, had lost nearly everything, and had lately resorted to smuggling to get it back again.

She was his only child, and fearing that ill might come to her he resolved to take her with him. This she could bear much better than the addresses of her father's lieutenant, a coarse, villainous-looking rascal, who had during the past year made violent pretensions of his love and had offered his hand in marriage. This she had often refused, but he continued his importunities, to her great sorrow and disgust.

A week passed on, during which time I had fallen deeply in love with the smuggler's beautiful daughter, and had evidence that she was not altogether indifferent to me. In fact, we came exceedingly familiar, and passed many an evening on the after-deck conversing about various localities and on various subjects.

One evening about dark I left my cabin and came upon deck for the purpose of taking my last observation by daylight. Before I had time even to glance beyond my vessel an armed band of men leaped upon my deck and suddenly sprang upon me. I was thunderstruck, and for a moment

not comprehended my situation. They were the same crew of which I had captured two, and who had been reinforced and came out with the intention of capturing the Firefly.

It was a piece of unwarranted carelessness on the part of the men on watch, but there was no help for it now. My crew, with the exception of the man at the wheel, and the one on guard, were held below, and I was myself entirely unarmed.

"Surrender or die!" demanded the leader—the very man who had so annoyed my beautiful friend by his offers of marriage. "And then," he continued, "show me where you have placed Hope Austin."

"I will do neither until compelled," I answered resolutely.

"Then take a taste of that!" and he sprang upon me with his drawn cutlass.

At this instant Hope Austin appeared in the cabin gangway with a cocked pistol in each hand. Coming directly up to where I stood she placed one of them in my hand and leveled the other at the head of her old annoyer.

Thrusting his sword into his scabbard, he drew a villainous-looking pistol and pointed it at my head, at the same time ordering one of his men to shoot Hope if she made any demonstration; but before the words were fairly out of his throat he measured his length on the deck, and the others surrendered.

Hope accompanied me for some time after that and until I had freed the Gulf from its smugglers and on my return to Washington I obtained a short leave of absence, during which time and by the aid of a minister I changed her name to my own.

THE USE OF SLANG.

Americans the Worst People on Earth in This Respect.

"A man born and bred in the United States fails to appreciate how much slang he daily uses in conversation," said an intelligent American who had just returned from a continental tour.

"He fully appreciates these blemishes, however, when he returns to America after having had daily intercourse with some of the well bred persons in Europe. He picks up these blots on perfect speech so gradually and they multiply so rapidly that before he is aware of the extent of these acquisitions at least one-tenth part of his vocabulary consists of slang expressions. This fact is so true of America that even the ignorant peasants of Ireland recognize it when their countrymen return to their native land.

As heard in America slang seems to add force and expression to conversation, but this is only seeming, for when contrasted with really simple and consequently elegant diction the difference in strength can readily be seen. There are some slang words, however, in the American vocabulary which, if used at the right time and place, find their bull's eye like a minie ball. But as a rule the use of slang words is only a blemish on conversation, and its use cannot be too heartily condemned."

Museum and Church.

Before a dime museum on Washington street, Boston, the other Sunday evening was a sign announcing: "Scientific Church. Grand Concert and Lecture on Old Maids and Prize Fighters. Collection 10 Cents." A steady stream of men was passing the ticket office, each depositing his "collection" and receiving a ticket in return.

Not far away was a church in which was a service advertised with an equally striking title. There was good singing, too, and free admission. But the audience was a slim one. The contrast suggested that the devil can beat the church as a drawing power in concerts and entertainments—in fact, in everything except pure religion. As a steady going pastor once said: "In the long run there is nothing that keeps up a church like piety."

Grand Duchess Alexandrine.

The Grand Duchess Alexandrine of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, the sole surviving sister of Emperor William I, was born during a ball at the royal palace. Queen Louisa and her grand mistress of the robes, Countess von Vose, left the ball suddenly and noiselessly shortly after the dancing had commenced, and the entertainment proceeded without interruption. Toward midnight the countess suddenly returned to the ball room arrayed in a dressing gown, and, regardless of court etiquette, hurried up through the maze of dancers to the King, to whom she announced the birth of a daughter.

How Names Grow.

How names grow receives an odd illustration in the Congo country. White people are known in the Upper Congo districts as Batendele. Tendele was as near as the Congo nature could get to the pronunciation of Stanley, "ba" being the common prefix for people. In a somewhat similar way the Indians of the northwest coast bestowed the title of Boston men on all white people, as ships from Boston were those most frequently seen by them in old days when the Oregon coast was a howling wilderness.

Church's Novel Advertisement.

One of the leading churches in Minneapolis has adopted a novel method of increasing its attendance. Each Saturday evening a committee of

gentlemen visit the hotels and take off a list of the guests who are domiciled there over Sunday. Neatly printed invitations to attend service in the church are enclosed in envelopes, sealed up and directed to these guests. They are left with the clerk with directions to place them in the boxes in the morning. As each man comes down to breakfast Sunday morning he finds a letter for himself. Opening he discovers the invitation. It excites his curiosity and in many cases the invitation is accepted. The plan has been in operation but a short time only, but thus far has been found to work well.

Electricity for Cancer.

A young physician attached to the Chelsea Hospital for Women has invented and used, it is said with success, a machine which, in cases of cancer, will direct a current of electricity against a diseased cell strong enough to destroy it and at the same time will not injure a healthy cell. Those that are destroyed are said to turn into a hard substance, that remains without causing the patient any inconvenience.

To Relieve the Pain of Tooth Pulling.

An electric instrument has been invented which is designed to remove the pain incidental to the extraction of teeth. It consists of adjustable prongs carrying buttons and connected with an electric battery. The buttons are placed on the face over the nerves leading from the teeth to the brain, and a circuit is established the moment the extracting instrument touches the tooth to be removed.

Buy Home and North-Grown Trees.

Parties wishing Fruit Trees will do well to examine my Nursery Stock at Luther Ponsler's farm, 2 miles north and one-half mile east of Rensselaer.

I have over 5,000 Apple, 1,000 Cherry, and 400 Pear—all choice varieties. These trees are in a thrifty and healthy condition.

I also have the agency for the Greening Bros. Nursery at Monroe, one of the best Nurseries in the State.

All stock bought of me guaranteed true to name, and insured for one year where properly taken care of at the following prices:

Apples—HOME TREES—20c.
Michigan 30c.
Crebs, 30c.; Cherry, 30c., &c.
H. B. MURRAY.

Electric Light in Strasbourg Cathedral. The first German Catholic church to be lighted electrically is the grand old Cathedral at Strasbourg. Arc lights have been used outside with fine effect, and it is stated that many of the noble lines of the architecture are accentuated by night as they never have been by day.

Loose's Red Clover Pile Remedy. is a positive specific for a forms of the disease. Blind, Bleed, Itching, Ulcerated, and Protruding Piles. Price 50c. For sale by Long & Eger

Petroleum Discovered in England. People at Middlesborough, England, are excited over the alleged discovery of petroleum in the ground beneath them. Experimental borings are being made to a depth of 2,000 feet.

J. E. Spitzer, at the P. O. book store takes subscriptions for standard magazines and papers, without extra charge.

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