

Gazing at Her Picture

Longing for news of my sweetheart,
Awaiting the sign of her hand,
With hope that she might understand.

Thinking of her in the daytime,
Dreading her in the starlight,
With hope that she might understand.

Scanning her face in its frame,
Of cool green and white,
Of yore on a moonlight.

Speaking of her in the picture,
Hoping it might answer my call,
Hoping to see the smile of it all.

Chicago Chronicle.

THE BULL DOG COUNTERFEITER

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The courtroom was crowded with spectators eager to hear the evidence of counterfeiting against a man almost devoid of sight. The government officers were ready with their testimony and anxious, too, for this case had given them more trouble than any other in their experience.

"These hands," answered the prisoner, holding them up for a moment, "now scared and seared by contact with the melting pot, were once deft and true fingers from which I made many of the spurious coins had been passed by Martin or his children, had believed that he had received them as alms from some pauper. In consequence of this delusion the officers had vainly followed clue after clue in their endeavor to find the guilty party, and at last, by the merest accident, had discovered that the accused was the maker of the bogus money."

The trial proceeded with the usual deliberation; the officers adding to their evidence some broken molds and bars of zinc, lead and composition metal that had been found in Martin's cellar. Several shrewdly testified that the accused man had given them the spurious coin in exchange for goods. Martin's lawyer, however, insisted that the court, offered no defense and the jury promptly brought in a verdict of guilty.

"Have you anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon you?" asked the court. The blind man arose and stood erect, his face pale and his figure tall and slender, awayed to and fro until he rested his hand upon the rail of the dock for support. For a few moments his face shone involuntarily; then by a strong effort he mastered his emotion and spoke in a low, clear tone.

"May I please the court," he began, "there is no doubt whatever of the absolute justice of the verdict that has been rendered. I made and passed the counterfeit coins and am ready to bear the punishment for my crime. But before I receive my sentence I would like an opportunity to explain to you and the jury why I became a counterfeiter."

"You may proceed," replied the judge, to whom Martin's dignified bearing appealed. "My name is not Martin; what it is I shall not divulge. Five years ago I held a good position, had a happy home and could afford to give my family the comforts and even some of the luxuries of life. By the merest accident I lost my sight almost entirely. I was able to get around in the less crowded thoroughfares with comparative safety during the day, but at night I was absolutely blind. At no time after the accident was I able to read or write. The little store of money I had saved during my prosperous days, despite the most rigid economy, melted away, and then with an invalid wife and three small children, I stood face to face with the problem of how to live."

"Had you no friends or relatives?" inquired the court sympathetically. "Yes, sir, I had, both," returned Martin, his voice calm and deliberate; "but have you ever known a friend, who, after the first refusal of appeals had passed away, stood by another during years of continued adversity? There are few such, if any, and none fell to me. As for relatives, I made strong appeals to them, urging the many kind and generous acts my father had done for them in the days of his prosperity and of their helplessness. All this was without material avail. One suggested the most rigid economy, another ad-

Another valuable addition in Italy's treasures in the shape of works of art has just been brought to light. In the old church of Ceregno, near Omega, some internal repairs and structural alterations are being carried out. Among the rest a thick coating of whitewash has been removed. Fortunately, with a view to possible discovery, the painter, who was done with care, with the result that there have been found six beautiful frescoes of the best period of Italian art, the work of the eminent painter Grandonio Ferrar. The color is said to be splendid. -London Globe.

In the Frozen North

(Special Correspondence.)

At the reception to Capt. C. F. Hall in New York city, just before he sailed on his last arctic expedition in 1871, Henry Grinnell, the promoter of the expeditions for the search of Sir John Franklin, unfurled the worn and stained flag that Wilkes had carried to the antarctic in 1838 and that later went to northern polar seas with De Haven, Kane and Hayes, and placed it in the hands of Capt. Hall.

"Now, I give it to you, sir," said Mr. Grinnell. "Take it to the north pole and bring it back in a year from next October." A day later Hall sailed on his last voyage to the white north, where he passed so many years in exploration. He and the ship Polar, which carried him never came back. He sailed 500 miles from the north pole when he died, but he had taken his ship farther north than any vessel had ever before; and now Peary is sailing from the same port, to follow the same route through the Smith sound channels, with a steamer ten times as fast as Hall's sailing vessel. He will win the prize that has for centuries lured men as a dunt as himself; never before has the quest been undertaken with as ship so strong and under leadership so experienced. If Peary has good luck he will win. This is the opinion of Cyrus C. Adams, a close student of the subject, who contributes the appended information about previous expeditions.

The Barents Expedition. The English, Dutch and other maritime nations were very curious about these great unknown northern regions and they heard a true and wonderful story of them after the Dutchman Willem Barren's crew reached the north end of Novaya Zemla in 1596 and passed the first arctic winter enforced by Europeans in a hut built of driftwood. "Here we were forced to great cold, poverty, misery and grief to stay all the winter." Those who came back and poor Barren was not among them, for he had found a grave in the midst of his discoveries told of their terrible sufferings in the long winter night. This was Europe's first conception of the dismal darkness that enfolds the far north during the winter months. In 1827 the Norwegian Carlsen reached the north end of Novaya Zemla and saw that but, 278 years after Barren's had left it. The roof had fallen in, but he dug out the snow and recovered some seventy articles that the explorers had left behind on their retreat. Those who stood the cockpit bay at the ropes, told painfully northward. He got as far as 82 degrees 45 minutes when he made a discovery which ended his hopes. He was losing every day more than half the

of the world that were worth \$1,000,000. This vast source of wealth was discovered by a man who was hunting for a road to the north pole.

Unclaimed Rewards. In 1817 the British government passed an act by which the first British ship to sail to 83 degrees north was to receive a reward of \$5,000; to 85 degrees, \$10,000; to 87 degrees, \$15,000; to 88 degrees, \$20,000; and to 89 degrees, \$25,000. This act is still among the laws of England, but not a cent's reward has ever been claimed for the farthest north by any British

Under special arrangement with the Michigan Central, Washt and Great Trunk, Railways, all classes of tickets reading via these lines between Detroit and Buffalo, in either direction, will be accepted for transportation on D. & B. steamers.

View from Duck Island Beach, (Greenland in Distance.)

Not long after these rewards were offered polar travelers reached a weighty decision, and that was that it was useless to attempt to reach the pole by boat alone. They had never found an open sea and were at last convinced that it was futile to think of forcing a sailing vessel through that terrible ice. To reach the pole, they said, they must go by ship as possible and then take to sledges. This opened a new era of polar endeavor, and Peary, in 1897, was the first to try the new plan. North of Spitzbergen he landed on the pack ice, loaded his heavy, clumsy sledges with supplies, and twenty-eight men, tugging at the ropes, toiled painfully northward. He got as far as 82 degrees 45 minutes when he made a discovery which ended his hopes. He was losing every day more than half the

Specimen Iceberg.

distance traveled, because the ice around him was drifting southward. His sledges would not hold out against such odds, and so he drifted back to the open sea and went home, but he had recorded the highest north and west record was not broken for a half century.

Then came Kane in 1853, with a most romantic and thrilling journey up the Smith sound channels, since known as the American route to the high north, and he brought home a new theory that for a while gave great impetus to attempts to reach the pole.

William Morton, one of his men, scaling a cliff, saw Kennedy changing stretching away, perfectly ice free, and he thought he saw beyond it the waters widening out into an open sea. An open polar sea beyond this zone of ice was Kane's theory. What Morton saw was only a strip of temporary open water, but the fine idea evolved from it could not help but stimulate further efforts in this direction.

Peary's Advantage. Peary's special advantages on the present trip are that he is believed to have the best ice ship ever built on ocean; that he has better appliances for traveling over the sea than any earlier explorer in this region; and that he is the best sledge traveler on record.

Pictureque Figure at Washington. Lieut. Peary's North Greenland. (McCornick's Bay, House.)

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