

THE ACORN.

A Semi-Monthly Paper, Devoted to Unconditional Unionism and Universal Freedom.

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"Tall Oaks from Little Acorns Grow."

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MEN.

AN ASPIRATION AND A SONNET.

God give us men! A time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands;
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinion and a will;
Men who have honor men who will not lie;
Men who can stand before a demagogue,
And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking;
Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above the fog
In public duty, and in private thinking;
For while the rabble, with their thumb-worm creeds,
Their large professions and their little deeds,
Mingle in selfish strife, lo! Freedom weeps,
Wrong rules the land and waiting Justice sleeps!

TO MY HUSBAND, WHO RETURNED HOME DURING MY ABSENCE.

As perfume lingers round the rose,
When faded, crushed and broken,
So unto thee would I disclose
A life-long love's true token.

When weary and worn thou dost return,
To a hearthstone lone and cold,
Forget not that love's fire will burn
For thee a thousand fold,

And ministering spirits round thee still
Shall all thy wants supply,
And thy interior feelings fill
With joy, which will the world defy.

F. E. H.

TO A BUTTERFLY.

Child of the Sun! pursue thy rapturous flight,
Mingling with her thou lovest, in fields of light;
And when the flowers of Paradise unfold,
Quaff fragrant nectar from their cups of gold.
Then shall thy wings, rich as an evening sky,
Expand and shut with silent ecstasy!
Yet thou wert once a worm, a thing that crept,
On the bare earth, then wrought a tomb and slept;
And such is man; soon from his cell of clay
To burst a seraph in the blaze of day.—Rogers.

"People of small intellect are very dangerous enemies, because they are likely to have few extraneous thoughts to divert them from their immediate object of malice; because they are shrewd noticers of personalities and personal weaknesses; because there is nothing which a fool and a mean man enjoy so much as to catch a wise and honest one at a disadvantage."

"Truth and love are two of the most powerful things in the world; and when they both go together they cannot be easily withstood. The golden beams of truth and the silken chords of love twisted together will draw men on with a sweet violence whether they will or no."

REBELLION.

Now let it work: Mischief thou art a fool,
Take what course thou wilt.—Shakspeare.

In the ever-changing current of events, all Governments are being overhauled, all power possessed by individuals or nations inspected, criticised, submitted to, or resisted. If a nation, a party, or an individual considers themselves oppressed, rebellion, like the wind that sweeps over the desert, revolutionizing every grain of sand that comes within its sweep, is sure, sooner or later, to follow, and it remains to be decided whether wisdom and justice have ruled the uprising—whether a mad determination to maintain law as it exists (whether that law be for the benefit or the reverse of nation or individual,) or whether a sense of wrong creates for itself a new law which shall meet the needs of the nation, party or individual. All who acknowledge a higher than human law, acknowledge the right to rebel under circumstances of oppression; hence the right, the propriety, the necessity of the revolution of seventy-six; and hence the rebellious spirit which actuated our forefathers constitutes them heroes whose memory will ever be cherished in the hearts of the people with gratitude that they could, and did, defend the great idea "that all men are born free and equal." But "when, in the course of human events," laws framed in an undeveloped state of society, when the wisdom of the wisest was insufficient to guard against contingencies arising in a more advanced condition in the future, should permit and uphold wrong; when oppression of the few over the many, first considered a necessity, should afterwards attempt to assume the specious garb of virtue; when in order to maintain a system of slavery and the arbitrary power assumed by the few is exerted to oppress and degrade any portion of the human family; when the few rebel against and endeavor to cast off that wise and benignant Government based

upon one of God's eternal laws, then rebellion becomes infamous. Hence, the names of the leaders of the rebellion of sixty-one will be handed down to posterity covered with the aversion of the good and true of all nations; and America will blush, for a long period of coming time, that she has nurtured into existence traitors and rebels who, at the expense of the safety of the nation, would sustain the narrow round of their limited home institutions. That

There is a Divinity which shapes our ends,
Rough hew them as we may,

was never more apparent than in the issues pending at the present time; while the Southern slaveholder supposed he was rivetting the chains more strongly around his slaves by rebellion against the Government of the United States, which, by courtesy, had heretofore winked at his supremacy of power, was in fact pursuing the only course which must eventually bring about a result diametrically opposite to that which he intended. There are many wrongs enacted in this world of ours which are never heeded until written in fair round characters, so plain "that he who runs may read," and presented to the world's inspection. Then the nations stand aghast and exclaim, "these things ought not so to be." The bland courtesy of the Southern planter has long deceived the world into the belief that so pleasing an exterior could never cover a putrifying, festering sore in the body politic; but his rebellion has violently torn away the disguise showing the deformity and abominations of the system of slavery as practised at the South in all its horrors; and the Government of the United States, aroused by the conviction of the wrong which its defenders have written and published, has arisen in the majesty of its strength and declared, "It shall not so be." F. E. H.

We have all heard of asking for bread and receiving a stone, but a young man may be considered still worse treated when he asks a young lady's hand and gets her father's foot.