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28 March, 1896

A Thankful Soul

By Frank L. Stanton

I take life jest as I find it. If it's hot I never mind it; Hunt around fer shady trees An' jest whistle up a breeze! If it's snowin', why—I go, Jest go a-skimmin' 'crost the snow! (Ever try how good it feels' In a wagon off the wheels?) Spring or winter, summer, fall, I'm jest thankful fer 'em all!

Folks say this world's full of strife; That jest 'livens up my life! When the good Lord made it, he Done the best fer you an' me— Saw the sky had too much blue, Ar' rolled up a cloud or two An' rolled up a cloud or two. Give us light to sow an' reap Then throw in the dark fer sleep. Every single drop of dew Twinkles on a rose fer you.

Tell you! this world's full o' light— Sun by days and stars by night; Sometimes sorrow comes along, But it's all mixed up with song Folks that always make complaint They ain't healthy—that they ain't! Some would jest live with the chills If it warn't fer doctors' bills! Always findin' fault with things— Kill a bird because it sings.

I take life jest as I find it; If it's a sunshiny day, Hot or cold, I never mind it-That's my time fer makin' hay; If it's rainin', fills my wish— Makes the lakes jest right fer fish; When the snow falls white as foam, Then I track the rabbits home. Spring or winter, summer, fall, I'm jest thankful fer 'em all! —Demorest's Magazine.

A Scholar in Disguise

A correspondent of the "Canada Presby-A correspondent of the "Canada Fresby-terian," who was a student in Scotland in 1865, tells a story of the late Professor John Stuart Blackie which well illustrates the way in which this famous teacher, who could some-times be very severe, could also be cordial when he came in contact with serious students. The correspondent was preparing for his do

when he came in contact with serious students. The correspondent was preparing for his de-gree in classics, and was spending a little time at Braemar. He had gone up to a great rock called the Lion's Face, and was lying beside a path reading the third book of Virgil's "Æneid" aloud. Suddenly he felt the touch of a stick on his shoulder, and, turning about, saw a man hy bis side by his side.

It was a tall, lean man, with a shepherd's plaid thrown loosely around his shoulders. In his right hand he held a shepherd's crook, and on his head was a "wide-awake" hat, almost as wide of brim as the cowboy hat of the American plains American plains.

"Ye're reading Virgil, laddie," said the man. "Yes, sir."

"Let me hear ye translate this," he con-tinued; and in a wonderful way he rolled off a

dozen lines of the poet, chosen at random. The young man did his best to render it into English, and then parsed and scanned the lines, in a faulty way he thought. But the un-known man in the guise of a shepherd was pleased to commend the student's effort. Then the two walked together down to

Then the two walked together down to Castleton, the stranger talking eloquently and most instructively of the writings of the Greeks and Romans. When their ways parted the man said:

man said:
" I suppose you don't know who I am?"
" No, sir," answered the student.
" Well, I am Professor Blackie, of Edinburgh.
I dare say you have heard of me."
" Oh, very often indeed."
" Aye, aye," said the Professor, slowly and thoughtfully.
" And I dare say ye've heard that many folk think I'm a wee bit cracked," tapping his forehead with his finger; " but never

forget, laddie, that, as Tam Chalmers once said, a crack often lets in the light !"

Why Latin is Used

"Why doesn't the doctor write his prescrip-tion in English instead of Latin?" asked a man of a druggist, whose reply the New York "Herald" publishes: In the first place, Latin is a more exact and concise language than English, and, being a dead language, does not change, as all living languages do.

and concise language than English, and, being a dead language, does not change, as all living languages do. Then, again, since a very large part of all drugs in use are botanical, they have in the pharmacopœia the same names that they have in botany—the scientific names. Two-thirds of such drugs haven't any English names, and so couldn't be written in English. But suppose a doctor did write a prescrip-tion in English for an uneducated patient. The patient reads it, thinks he remembers it, and so tries to get it filled from memory the second time. Suppose, for instance, it called for iodide of potassium, and he got it confused with cyanide of potassium. He could safely take ten grains of the first, but one grain of the second would kill him. That's an extreme case, but it will serve for an illustration. Don't you see how the Latin is a protection and a safeguard to the patient? Prescriptions in Latin he can't read, and con-sequently does not try to remember. Now for a final reason. Latin is a language that is used by scientific men the world over, and no other language is. You can get a Latin prescription filled in any country on the face of the earth where there is a drug-store. We had a prescription here the other day which we had put up originally, and which had since been stamped by druggists in Lon-don, Paris, Berlin, Constantinople, Cairo, and Calcutta. What good would an English pre-scription be in St. Petersburg?

The man that sings the loudest in church throws his head so far back that he can't see the collection-basket when it comes along. Some folks are so fond of trouble they can't enjoy honey for thinking of what might have happened if the bee had stung 'em. The road to heaven is so narrow that some people have about decided there is not room for two at a time. When you hear a man saying that this is a hard world, ten to one but he's broken his leg trying to fly when he should have been walking.—*Atlanta Constitution*.

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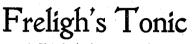
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The Uses of Poetry

Poetry, as at present practiced in this coun-try, has several important functions that are not put down in the books. It is very good gymnastics for a young writer, giving him exer-cise in the choice of words with precision, and in their melodic value and significance. This is invaluable at a time when the young writer has few ideas but abundant energy. More-over, poetry is a very safe outlet for youthful sentiment. You can say almost anything to a young woman in rhyme, without entangling yourself in a promise of matrimony. It is as safe a present as a box of candy. Then, too, safe a present as a box of candy. Then, too, in the modern magazine, poetry is an indis-pensable gap-filler. It is just as useful as mud in filling up the chinks in a log house. But In mining up the chinks in a log house. But its most ornamental office of recent years is to furnish material for pretty little books to young publishers, who of course desire to make a good showing on a small investment. Noth-ing has been discovered that will so handsome-by adorn two ounces of band mode proces and ly adorn two ounces of hand-made paper and an eccentric book-cover as a sprinkling of verse

An eccentric book-cover as a sprinkling of verse here and there. Even a pastel does not bal-ance on a page quite so artistically. Chicago has been the leader in what might be called the Deckle-Edge Renascence. An examination of many of these recent books of poetry shows that hexameters and iambic pentameters are very much out of style. The lines are too long, and eliminate or curtail the wide margins that are the chief delight in book-making. To all young poets who want to be published we say most earnestly, do not make your lines over four feet, and taper them down to a single explosive syllable. Then give them a crescendo ending with a large cap line and three!!! We used to hear of the poetic ear; it has been superseded by the typo-graphic eye.—" Droch" in "Life."

Two Phases of Home Mission Work in a New Territory

To the Editors of The Outlook: The story of the beginnings of missionary work by Christian ministers in Oklahoma is one of the most stirring of the many astonishing things which oc-curred at the successive "openings" in which thou-sands of men frantically sought and found homes; in which claims were made for almost every 160 acres of lond ours thousands of gauges miles of paraito liter of land over thousands of square miles of prairie liter-ally in a day. Among the first to come to almost every projected town-site were ministers of the every projected town-site were ministers of the Gospel. In very many cases there were preaching services within a day or two after settlers were per-mitted to enter the territory. Very soon church organizations were established, church buildings erected, and missionaries began regular, persistent, and energetic work. Most of the funds for the erec-tion of the buildings and for the support of the ministry were supplied by Christian people in other parts of the country. One missionary told me he received only fifty cents "trom the field" during his first year of work.

received only fifty cents "trom the field" during his first year of work. This work was not that of any one denomination. Most Protestant denominations actively partici-pated. Each of the leading denominations has spent money and effort freely. Many thousands of dollars will be expended this year by each of several such denominations. Much good has been done and is being done. The missionary spirit is not dead. Be-lief in the value of their distinctive principles or practice is not abated among the membership of our churches. churches.

That more good could have been done, that there would be more effective work now and a better pros-pect for the future, if there had been and were now a Wiser distribution of work and less division of the Christian forces in a community, seems evident. For eight months I have lived in a pleasant county

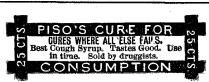
For eight months I have lived in a pleasant county town of twelve to fifteen hundred population, these mainly white, English-speaking Protestants. The town is six years old. It has five church build-ings, belonging to orthodox Protestant denomina-tions; another such denomination is preparing to erect a building. It is said there are as many more religious denominations maintaining distinct organ-izations and holding accracional services. Two of the religious denominations maintaining distinct organ-izations and holding occasional services. Two of the denominations with church buildings or regularly holding services have the same name—one "North," one "South." Two others are so nearly alike that ministers freely pass from one to the other. Two have "special peculiarities" which tend to keep them separate from other Christians. The total active resident membership is perhaps two hundred. Prob-ably not a larger number have attended all the churches at any one time in months. The six so-

ious training of the students of this college. Neither for them, for the few Christian people, nor for the irreligious mass of the population does the present condition seem a fortunate one. An effort has been made to secure a consolidation of two of the churches. This has been strongly opposed by the membership of one. It has been suggested that the responsibility does not rest alone on the Christian people here, but on the official representatives of the different denomi-nations, and especially on those who apportion and distribute the money contributed for home mission work. A thoughtful pastor in the Territory recently said: "Each denomination has acted as if there were no other Church to preach the Gospel in Oklahoma.' Is there anything to be done ?

G. E. Morrow. Oklahoma Agricultural College, Stillwater, Okla.

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The Outlook

Tours and Travel

28 March, 1896

Recreation Department Health Resorts Full information in rela-The Outlook

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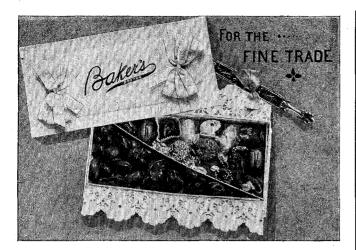
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The Outlook

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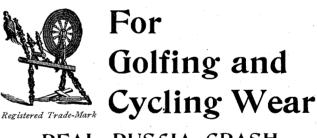


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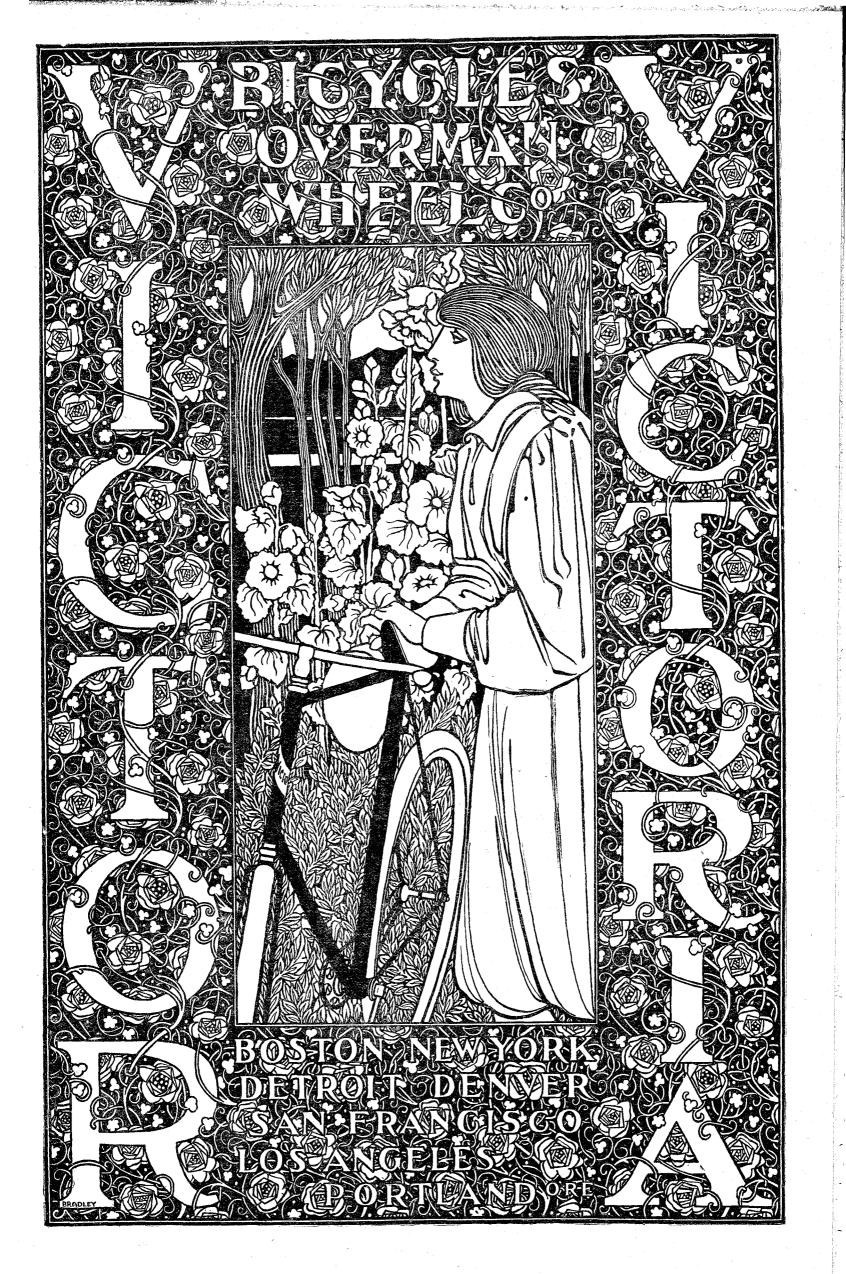
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