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POETRY.

THE LILY AND THE ROSE.

BY FANNY CROSBY.

I.

I am happy, said the Lily,
In my quiet, shady nook,
For I listen to the music
Of the robin and the brook;
There are few, perhaps who love me
In this lone, secluded spot,
Yet I'm happy, said the Lily,
And the Rose I envy not.

II.

I can see her leaves unfolding,
And her smile from yonder bower,
While her blushes and her beauty
Are the pride of every flower;
Yet contented here I blossom,
Though I share an humble lot,
I am happy, said the Lily,
And the Rose I envy not.

III.

We must never look with envy
On the wealthy or the gay,
Is the lesson which my story
Would to every heart convey;
There is virtue in contentment,
Though we share an humble lot,
We'll be happy, like the Lily,
And the Rose we'll envy not.

MISCELLANY.

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT'S VISIT.

In their complimentary reception of Admiral Farragut the Board of Admiralty have for once represented the feeling of the country. While the American war was raging, the lack of British sympathy which caused so much bitterness among the Northern politicians never stood in the way of the heartiest recognition of skill and valour, on whichever side it was displayed. The leaning towards the South, which it seems the Americans will never forgive, was itself not wholly political. The heroism with which the armies of Lee and Jackson contended against odds that seemed to exclude hope was almost enough in itself to decide the sympathies of all except those who were strongly committed by political affinities to the cause of the North. The same sentiment of admiration for valor and resource gave to Admiral Farragut unexceptional popularity in this country, quite irrespective of the side on which he was fighting. The man who ran the gauntlet of the batteries to which New Orleans vainly trusted for defence, and who with masterly skill first taught the lesson how an invulnerable ironclad might be fairly worried to death by a host of feebler enemies, had altogether too much the character of the ideal British sailor to allow the keenest opponent of his cause to remember on which side his feats of bravery were performed. Accordingly, throughout the war, the name of Farragut was scarcely less honoured in England than those of Lee, Stuart, and Stonewall Jackson. It was creditable to the Admiralty that, laying aside all national jealousy and exceptional caution, they frankly admitted their distinguished visitor to the innermost secrets, if there are any, of our dockyard administration. Whatever the Lords of the Admiralty saw on their inspection, Admiral Farragut was invited to examine; and whatever conclusions he may have drawn as to the comparative merits of the naval policy of England and America, he must have seen much that would be new to him after all his experience. To a certain extent the theories of shipbuilding and gunnery respectively in favour in the two countries are determined by the different conditions which circumstances have hitherto enforced upon them. The primary purpose of the American fleet was inland hostilities, while the first consideration with us is, and must be, ocean fighting. Hence the multitude of American ships built to effect the greatest possible destruction under favouring conditions of wind and sea, and only capable of crossing the waters that separate America from the Old World as a sort of dare-devil feat, almost to be compared with the voyages of the rafts and little craft that have lately managed to make out the trip from New York to England with the object of showing what the reckless bravery of American seamen is capable of attempting. The opposite condition has made it almost an inflexible maxim in our navy that all ships are worthless that cannot be kept for years in commission, roving from port to port over all the navigable oceans of the world.

To those who are capable of looking at more than one side of a question it must be plain enough that each country might learn something from the experience of the other; and if, as is probably the case, Admiral Farragut should think that his own people have the more to teach, we cannot say that we are prepared to question the conclusion. It is quite true that the American navy is deficient in ships able to keep the sea at all times and in all weather, and the creditable fact that the *Miantonomah* was got across the Atlantic (though not without careful nursing is very far from proving that their favourite type of low-lying Monitors is really the true pattern for the navy of a first-rate Power. Our *Warrior* must equally have struck an American sailor as wanting in many of the excellences which the ships of his own country possess. Scantily defended against hostile shot with inadequate power of retaliation, the typical English ironclad would unquestionably, under many circumstances, be absolutely at the mercy of an ugly Yankee Monitor. In smooth water the English ship would be crushed by the heavy American guns, while utterly unable to make any effective reply; and in a seaway the Monitor, with her excessively low freeboard and consequent steadiness, would be able to work her guns with ease, while ours were plunging their muzzles into the waves. On the other hand, the *Warrior* is proof against all weather, and can steam and sail like a yacht. The radical differences between the systems of two such countries as England and the United States almost of themselves prove that neither has approached as yet to the perfect type of a man-of-war. On both sides of the Atlantic the problem is still unsolved, how to combine the sea-going qualities of a British cruiser with the superior fighting power of an American Monitor. Something undoubtedly must be sacrificed in any compromise between two methods so entirely distinct; but if all prejudice were laid aside, it might not be impracticable to design a ship which should possess a large share of the merits of each of the rival plans. If the marvellously steady platform given by almost submerged turret-ships cannot be to the full extent preserved in a sea-going cruiser, it ought to be possible to preserve a very large share of this almost indispensable quality even in vessels intended to house a crew in safety and comfort in the stormiest seas. Unfortunately the ablest among our official designers are wedded to the theory that any such attempt must be abandoned in despair. They will give up nothing for the sake of stability, and each new ship is higher out of the water than the last, and proportionately unsteady in any kind of sea. It is this determination to follow and exaggerate the old traditions, and to ignore all the remarkable experience which has been gained in the American war, that has left our navy without a turret squadron, and has, in the judgment of all who have specially studied the subject, almost insured the failure of the huge Monarch in the very qualities in which, as a turret-ship, she ought to excel. Perhaps the most important of all the advantages gained by mounting guns in turrets is the possibility of improving the steadiness of the ship by reducing her height out of water; and it is strange that, when the Admiralty did at last undertake to build a turreted cruiser, they should have insisted upon giving her an amount of free-board almost without precedent even among broadside ships. The question whether any combination is possible of the advantages afforded by the turret and the broadside principles is left to be determined by an experimental vessel built in a private yard under the direction of Captain Coles, while the last new vessel designed by the Admiralty is one more specimen of the central tower contrivance, which resembles nothing so much as a ship whose revolving turret has been accidentally jammed. These peculiarities of the British navy will no doubt have quieted any alarm that Admiral Farragut may have felt at the enormous scale on which we are endeavouring to increase the defensive power of our future liners.

The contrast between the guns in vogue on either side of the Atlantic is scarcely less remarkable than the conflict of ideas on the subject of shipbuilding. Much exultation has been lately manifested at what is called the defeat of the Rodman gun, which has been the subject of recent experiments; but, though we can obtain an equal amount of penetration with a smaller charge and a lighter gun, our ordnance is still in some respects behind the American. Penetration of iron armour, though among the most essential matters, is not the only duty which guns should be able to perform, and in the shattering effect on the frame of an enemy's ship the enormous Rodman shot would surpass any of our lighter projectiles. The excellence of the metal of the model American gun is quite unrivalled by anything we are able to produce, and the mere fact that this gun has been fired with 100 pounds of powder proves that the Americans can produce cast-iron of a quality which has never been approached in this country. The greatest difficulty of all, in the problem of constructing heavy ordnance, is in putting together material which will stand the tremendous charges required to give a penetrating velocity to very heavy shot. Neither cast-steel nor built-up guns have as yet shown a satisfactory power of endurance; and though it is highly improbable that the much despised cast-iron will by itself prove more lasting, it may very well turn out that metal of the excellence obtained in America, with an inner lining on the Palliser principle, would be stronger and more durable than any of the first-class guns we have succeeded in producing. The stubbornness with which we have refused to learn from foreigners may have seemed, to an experienced observer like Admiral Farragut, more than a counterpoise to the partial successes we have achieved in the line we have marked out for ourselves, and it would not be without precedent if the real excellence of much of our English work should be more than neutralized by the narrow prejudices of the official mind. Something, it may be, of the same defect might perhaps be traced by a critical observer of the American navy; but the facility with which naval improvements are admitted into their dockyards is in striking contrast with the stubborn exclusiveness of the English Board, and we may be sure that any suggestions which our distinguished visitor may carry home for the benefit of his Government will be welcomed with a readiness of which English authorities seem altogether incapable. This unteachable temper has been at the root of our greatest failures, and unfortunately the evil is not mitigated by the lapse of time.

[*The Saturday Review.*]

IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA.

I cannot describe to you the strangeness of New York. It is unlike anything else I ever saw, and yet I hardly know why or how. It is neither foreign nor English. The houses are all low, and with the lowest possible roofs, and almost all of a warm red brick, which makes it a particularly attractive town to my eyes; and then the use of stoves must be quite universal, as there is hardly a chimney to be seen; and the atmosphere is as brilliantly clear as that of Italy, and more so even—quite indescribably clear. Perhaps that is one reason why the town produces such a curious effect: large, bustling, dirty, yet in an air as clear and pure as at the top of a lonely hill. Then there are no poor houses, but all look medium somehow; and the notices on the houses—I mean the large printing on the walls—are something like those in Paris. The shops look almost mean. As to this hotel, it is so bewildering that it baffles description. It is monstrous—like a labyrinth of palaces; and has two entrances—one quiet one for ladies, one like a noisy exchange for gentlemen. We got two small bed-rooms on the fifth floor, whither we ascend in a very nice lift. The whole of this enormous palace is warmed by hot-water pipes, which warm wonderfully well, but too much, to my thinking, here, where of course we cannot let them cool, if we wish ever so much. Our room is very hot, though it is freezing hard, and we have no fire or stove. —— And I went out immediately to get some circular notes changed; but found, alas, that it is Washington's birthday, and nothing can be done—not even a few things wanted; so we must needs wait here till Monday, with scarcely decent clothes to wear. We have no money, and can get none till too late for the Washington train; and on Sunday there is no way of getting there. Then —— and I had a walk up Fifth Avenue, and then up Broadway, and I did enjoy it greatly. Fifth Avenue is the swell place for gentlemen's houses—and such nice houses! all of a creamy brown stone, with flights of steps leading to the door, and such pretty rich-looking dwellings. We were in luck, for all the sledges were out, and Fifth Avenue crowded with gentlemen's sledges filled with ladies wrapped in such furs, and drawn by pretty horses dashing along in the lightest and prettiest vehicles—like fairy sledges, compared with the great unwieldy German things I have seen. They all look so rich I cannot tell you. Then the pavement was full of dainty, fantastically-dressed little ladies, looking thoroughly French, and as un-English as it is possible to conceive, all in short dresses. Their faces are perfectly charming. I never could come to America and return unmarried if I were a man. Such sweet, delicate, refined little faces—all rather like Mrs; ——; and with such lovely dark eyes. Broadway I was much disappointed with. It is not at all a fine street, and the shops are really mean—nothing but mean it is an odd, odd place. The people all look so independent: even the beggars just carelessly request money, and then go away instantly; and oh the loud chorus of hawking and spitting all round, wherever one turns; I saw a few nice churches in our walk, but no other large buildings whatever. I must go on with my account of our doings from yesterday. We went down to our dinner at six o'clock, and found that the system here is that of a sort of gigantic restaurant, with meals going on all day: for instance, breakfast, from seven to eleven; lunch, from one to two; dinner, from two to five, and again from half-past five to half-past seven; tea, from six to nine; supper, from nine to eleven. Everybody who enters the house, as far as I can make out, pays $5 a day for board. Whether this includes apartments or not I cannot tell [$6. 63 c. to the pound at present]. This entitles them to eat whatever they like, and most generous meals are provided. Whether one partakes of all or none, one pays equally. No wine or beer, but iced water and excellent coffee *ad libitum*. An enormous variety is given for dinner, very well cooked; any amount of ice cream, which seems the great article consumed here.—*Fraser's Magazine.*

MUSICAL FISHERY.—We have sometimes thought that women, by the mere use of their tongues, can make quite noise enough in the world; but they are not of our opinion, to judge from this new fashion: "In Paris many ladies now ornament the chignon with little rows of curls, having tiny bells attached to them; and many have small castanets suspended in this manner, which make a lively rattle at each movement of the head." What with the rustle of her dresses and the ringing of her bells, or the rattle of her castanets, it must be rare for a French lady now to have a quiet moment. A drawing-room in Paris must be as noisy as a parrothouse, when half a score of ladies are chattering together. French women always wag their heads when they are talking, and the rattle of their castanets must be well nigh as incessant as the prattle of their tongues. We have always thought the lady a vastly silly creature who rode about on horseback "with rings on her fingers and bells on her toes," but surely ladies are as foolish who wear bells on their back hair. No doubt they do so with the object of attracting men's attention, and as there are many fools alive, they have, doubtless, their reward. Ladies aim at admiration by outdressing one another, and with a similar intention they will probably begin to vie with one another in the noise which they can make. Besides a peal of bells, or a pair of castanets, perhaps a pair of little kettle-drums, will be suspended from the chignon, to be played upon by mechanism which may be set in motion by a slight shake of the head. Indeed, we should not wonder if accordions be worn by way of musical attractions, or if miniature street-organs be concealed in the back hair, constructed to play lively, sad or sentimental music, according to the mood in which the fair wearer may be.—*Punch.*

CONTINUATION OF THE NEW YORK HERALDS MEXICO CITY CORRESPONDENCE ON THE LAST MONTHS OF MAXIMILIAN IN MEXICO.

MEXICO, Oct. 8, 1867.

It is quite possible that there still remains in the public mind a desire to know some of the reasons for the strange conduct of Maximilian last fall. When the departure of Maximilian from the Castle of Chapultepec, on the memorable morning of the 19th of October, 1866, two days after receiving the sad news regarding his wife's derangement, became known in the city of Mexico, the utmost consternation prevailed among all parties and all classes. The conservatives wherever they turned their eyes met with nothing but shame, desertions and complete abandonment of their cause. Those who were without funds quietly submitted themselves to fate, while a great number of the wealthier members of the party lost all presence of mind, claiming that, having committed themselves and their property to the empire, it was not honorable to be thus abandoned by their leaders, and their entire thoughts were concentrated upon the sole idea of securing their safety by fleeing from the unhappy country, or by some other means. That part of the liberal or conservative party—for such a fraction did exist, and which may be denominated the liberal-imperial party—did not experience less alarm, but so controlled themselves as not to exhibit it, and in the midst of their trouble began to plan for the future, and endeavored to so direct matters that at the opportune moment an organization of some sort of a government could be effected which would still array itself against the republican government, of which Benito Juarez was the President.

During all of this time Marshal Bazaine was not idle, but, offering the protection of France, first to one party and then to the other, he succeeded in preventing the organization of either, and, relying upon their weakness, he endeavored to assume authority as chief of the nation.

The diplomatic corps, of course, played its part also, and something would have been done and a great advantage might have been gained by any Power, at least the glory and honor of having aided in passing over the government into the hands of Juarez, if any government had thought it worth while to send a minister of tolerable ability to represent its interests here. But among all of these gentlemen in Mexico, the only one who had any right to any pretensions in this line was Mr. Scarlett, who had represented England, but who had left Mexico, as we have advised in previous letters, a few days after the departure of Maximilian, leaving the British Legation in charge of his secretary, Mr. Middleton, whose diplomatic ability may be summed up by relating the fact that the Emperor Maximilian was once desirous of consulting him upon certain matters, and communicated this desire to him through his secretary. Accordingly the hour and place of meeting were fixed and agreed upon by both parties, but to the great surprise of the Emperor, two days after, Mr. Middleton communicated to the secretary of Maximilian that, having reflected upon the interview proposed, he had concluded to decline it.

Austria was represented by the Baron de Lago, a man perhaps better fitted to represent the moon than any nation on this sphere, in consequence of his being subject to periodic attacks of what may be considered lunacy. When not laboring under these mental invasions, even in his best moments of mental health he was sorely afflicted with a mania of fright to such an extent that this representative of the most monarchical government of Europe, and the representative of the brother of Maximilian, spent much of his time in running up one street and down another, stopping only occasionally to convince some one that he always had been, and to the end of his life should be, a stanch republican, and that he had always declared to his government that Mexico was essentially republican and unfit for any other government than a Republican one. Prussia could not boast over Austria—she fared no better. Her representative, M. de Magnus, had undoubtedly the wish to do all he could to rescue the Emperor Maximilian from this terrible mire which he knew him to be in, but he seemed not to have the ability to devise any method or pursue one if originated or suggested by another. However, he was a constant attendant in the antichamber of persons very near the Emperor, and as the result of his diplomatic talent he succeeded in accomplishing the following results, not very important to the nation he represented, nor to the world, nor of benefit to Maximilian. He obtained a condecoration for his father, a Prussian banker, the refusal of the Grand Cross of Guadalupe for himself, and the refusal of the Cross of St. Charles for his daughter. Belgium, the home of the Empress Charlotte was represented by a Mr. Hooricks, whose life of frivolity and dissipation did not suffer him to be a proper judge of his own actions, much less the political situation and necessities of the country to which he was accredited, or of the interest of the country which he represented. Mr. Cuztopazzi, the representative of Italy had distinguished himself in Naples his native country by abandoning his King, Francis, at a convenient moment, joining the interests of Garibaldi, a poor recommendation to the imperial party which considered that the salvation of Mexico rested in the establishment of a monarchy. Mr. Danó, the French Minister, never scarcely acted for himself, but lent himself blindly to the aspirations of others who had sufficient talent to have gained the confidence of his imperial master Napoleon, as any one may judge from the fact that, whenever Napoleon thought it convenient to make one of his diplomatic evolutions, he preferred to send a special agent to his imperial brother Maximilian rather than confide his diplomatic tumblings to his legitimate agent and representative. Reflecting upon the fact that Mr. Danó quietly submitted to this conduct of his imperial master, instead of resigning his post at once, we readily form an opinion of the representative of France under such difficult circumstances, which required for the protection of French interests and French honor, a man of the first abilities. His diplomatic career was ultimately crowned with the single success of marrying a Mexican heiress and leaving Mexico with passports from the liberal government since the re-establishment of the Republic and only a few weeks since. Spain was represented by the Marquis de Rivera, who if not a man of ability, at least never committed gross mistakes, and who never forgot to be a gentleman. And the consular semi-ministerial representative of the United States what shall be said of him? Through the press the world has already been made familiar with his double dealings with Maximilian, his endeavor to carry water on both shoulders, his private interviews and secret visits at the palace; the charges which have been laid at his door are or may be so various that it is not necessary here to repeat them. Are we not right in asking the question, was he a man of such exceedingly small mental calibre as not to appreciate the vast responsibility of his position as representative of the Republic of the United States, the only government recognizing and recognized by the liberal government of Mexico, or was he so busily engaged in private enterprises that he mistook the latter for his duties as a representative, and so failed to take advantage of that moral weight which the United States exercised over the mind of Maximilian, omitting to bring about one solitary practical result either in favor of the Republic, the empire, or of the country which he was sent to represent? Such being the diplomatic corps at the capital, Maximilian felt that he could accomplish little or nothing through them toward a peaceful surrender of his authority as ruler to the people, to whom he was convinced he should surrender it. There was no nation at hand through its agent or minister to assist in perfecting and carrying forward a plan by which he could learn the will of the people, and secure his own action in accordance with such will, without the repetition of revolution and the shedding of blood. History should not record Maximilian as a bad man. He was, of course, misdirected, deceived at Miramar, even after his long and serious hesitation as to the possibility of Mexico's asking for an Emperor, but, having come to Mexico, he was undoubtedly, at this hour, satisfied that a monarchy on the American continent was a doubtful problem, and he hoped to honorably retire from the country.

What a moment for Lewis D. Campbell to have appeared on this field of diplomacy. Had he landed when at Vera Cruz, or even returned there from New Orleans in January last, he would have had the opportunity forced upon him for writing his name aloft, higher up among those of the world's most distinguished diplomatists. Maximilian longed to spare Mexico from the authority and the money-grasping adieux of Bazaine, and to be magnanimous by acceding to terms, as it were voluntarily, even more exacting than those which the United States had forced upon France. But destiny would not have it so. The only possible expiation of the attempt to establish a monarchy in Mexico appears to have been the death of the instrument employed by others who were out of danger, for Maximilian persuaded, as he was, that he ought to rely exclusively on American interests, made a last effort in Puebla, when on his way back to Mexico, to obtain the aid of the United States, not with the object of consolidating his throne, but to endeavor to obtain the aid of the United States in bringing the empire to an honorable end. He sent Mr. Luis de Arroyo to the United States with a sufficient amount of money to enable him to represent their interests with honor to the person who sent him. But although Mr. Arroyo departed from Puebla in the last days of the month of December, 1866, this gentleman, instead of repairing to his post with the utmost speed, lost the most precious part of his valuable time in attending to the investment of his ill gotten gains in the island of Cuba, where he is now said to be the proprietor of a fine plantation.

In Puebla the Emperor Maximilian met, for the first time, General Castelnau and Mr. Danó, who had come expressly from Mexico to prevent his return to the capital, and who tried every possible means to prevent the execution of the line of conduct which he had traced out for himself at Orizava, viz:—the assemblage of a Congress, and the determination not to abdicate while a French soldier was within the Mexican territory, as they were soon to leave, unless the mission of Mr. Arroyo should make it advisable to leave sooner, and the French delayed their departure. No effort to upset the Emperor's resolution was left untried, and more than once he seemed to waver. It is certain if Maximilian had received less slights and insults from Bazaine and Castelnau there would have been greater probability of success, but he