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VOLUME X.

BUCHANAN, MICH., THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1877.

NUMBER 47.

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Poetry.

TATTLING. Oh, could there in this world be found Some little spot of happy ground, Where village pleasures might be found, How doubly blessed that place would be, Free from all night and day in liberty, Free from all night and day in liberty, Or gossip's endless prattling.

STORY.

The Price of Dora's Gold. "If you had half the spirit of a man, you would go too!" Poor John Raynor had heard this so often in the last two weeks that at last he was roused to answer. "See here, Dora," he said, pulling his wife down upon his knee, and holding her fast, "do you mean that? You have said it about fifty times since this expedition was talked about, now tell me if you want me to go."

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my life-long home, and my darling wife! But at last he was roused, not on any hope such as spurred the others on, but to the fact that Dora wished him to go. "She thinks more of the gold than of me!" he thought, rising heavily from his chair, and speaking slowly. "Since you wish it, Dora, I will go!" he said, and even her enthusiasm was held in check a moment by his pale face. "Oh, I don't want to drive you," she said, pettishly, "if you are content to vegetate for life in this miserable hole, I suppose I can put up with it."

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death in the gold regions, but never were the names of the party from Topham in the list, and Dora hoped against hope. Winter snows were lying over the farms, and fifteen months had dragged out their weary length since John Raynor had left his home. A pale, wasted shadow of Dora moved listlessly about the farm-house, and Nannie muttered often: "She'll not be long after her husband and child!"

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A KODAK MENTION. "This note also she is fair, And hath a wealth of golden hair; 'Tis not that she can play and sing, To charm a child or soothe a king, And wear no other gown but blue, Nor high heeled boot, nor corset laced To show her slenderness of waist; 'Tis not that she can talk with ease, Or walk with any grace you please— 'Tis not that she can row and ride, And do a dozen things beside; The reason why I love Miss Brown, Are that she never wears a frown, Nor sulks, nor pouts, or mopes, or frets, Nor is about 'battles' or 'sets'; Nor nurses lapdogs by the fire, Nor bids her friends their charms admire; Nor sets upon the Derby day, And when she's lost calls to pay; By bonnets does not bound her hair, And is not indisposed to walk; Nor bullies her small brothers, nor Esteems their childish games a bore; With pigmies never her cheek defiles, Nor practices coquetish wiles; Needs not a maid to make her things, Nor plaques papa for diamond rings; On biscuits is content to lunch; Loves Shakespeare, Keats, Pope and Punch, Never descends to vulgar slang, Never was known the door to bang!"

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A Pacific Coast Meteor. The large number of meteors lately observed in the sky has attracted considerable attention, especially among scientific men, who are of the opinion that the earth is passing through a belt of these vagrant interstellar particles whose orbit intersects that of the earth. There is some diversity of opinion regarding the nature and origin of these stones, of which it is calculated at least 5,000 fall upon the earth's surface yesterday. The theory most widely accepted is that they are bodies of our planetary system that have come near enough to be acted upon by the earth's surface gravitation, and thus drawn out of their orbits. A great many aerolites have been found, and nearly every scientific institution in the world is possessed of one or more. The largest of which there is any authentic record was found on the west coast of Greenland. It weighed twenty tons, and is now in the Royal Academy at Stockholm. An aerolite of probably much greater size was seen last Friday night by a Chronicle reporter, who was belated on the Ocean House road. At about 12:45 he noticed a peculiar light on the sand and sea around him, and upon looking upward discovered what appeared to be an immense ball of fire descending toward the earth. Its course was so rapid that before he had fairly recovered from his astonishment the mass fell into the sea, apparently about half a mile from shore. A loud, hissing noise, followed by a sharp explosion, accompanied the fall, and so frightened the horse which the reporter was driving that, while attention for the next five minutes was directed toward the unruly animal, he noticed that the tail of the meteor, as it is called, or, more properly, the combustion occasioned by the immense velocity with which the stone traveled through our atmosphere, remained visible for about two minutes. From the brilliancy and area of the fire surrounding the falling stone, and the splash occasioned by its sudden immersion, it is certain that the aerolite must have been of immense size, although, of course, no estimate could be made with any accuracy during the few seconds the aerolite was visible. It is to be regretted that the stone did not fall on the land, as in that case an unequalled opportunity to study meteoric formation would have been afforded to the scientists of San Francisco; but as the water is comparatively shallow at half a mile from shore it is barely possible that careful dredging might recover the stone. The resistance of the water would probably check the velocity of the falling body sufficiently to prevent its imbedding itself in the bottom to any great depth, and possibly the stone is simply resting on the bed of the ocean. It is a good opportunity for scientific investigation, and, if recovered, the aerolite would be a great acquisition to the collection of the Academy of Sciences.—San Francisco Chronicle.

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