

# The Ellicott City Times.

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### LOCKED IN A SULPHUR ROOM.

Imprisoned for Four Hours a Man Dies of His Injuries.

Edgar Allen Poe's description of the sufferings of a person under the effects of slow suffocation has been verified to some extent by an incident which has just been inquired into at the Leeds City coroner's court.

No sooner had he done so than he remembered that this door had been locked on the outside earlier in the day by his own order. The man who had shut him in was dead, and had gone away disregarding his knocks and cries; and he was thereupon overcome by panic.

## MEMORIAL DAY.

The dead who fell when war was rife Arose and passed, a mighty legion, Into the mystic ether life. The neighboring space bound spirit region. So inaccessible it seems, But those who dwell in that far "yonder" Build lovely altars of our dreams And back to earth at nighttime wander.

They call in voices memory know: "Come, drop awhile your sorrowful labors, Forget the earth and all its woes And live with us, your spirit neighbors, To the one pleasure that endures— Security—and cease from worry. Let thoughts of other realms than yours Arrest you in your aimless hurry."

"What use is all this stress and strain For lofty place or heaping measures? Let your life be a life of bloom And think on death and all its pleasures. The path you tread is for a night, The road we go leads on forever. To but hold for the right. Should be the whole of man's endeavor."

## HER DECORATION DAY.

It was Decoration Day, and Miss Elizabeth Downes found herself in London—far away from her home and the graves of her forefathers.

Now, Bessie Downes had observed Decoration Day ever since she was a little toddler in the Boston suburb which gave her birth.

"It's a shame," said Bessie, stirring the coffee viciously. "General Downes' only daughter unable to lay even a single flower on some soldier's grave—and this Decoration Day! And surely there must be lots of Union soldiers buried in the London cemeteries."

"I want a cablegram sent instantly to my father—General Downes," she said. The servant did not even look surprised. Already this quiet Bloomsbury household was growing used to the whims of Bessie Downes, millionaire's heiress and spoiled child of fortune.

"What General Downes may have thought regarding this very expensive method of seeking information, he answered promptly enough. Before noon Bessie received the reply: "Cousin Randolph Carroll, Kensal Green."

After lunch, the Malcolms' carriage took them to a florist's, where Bessie purchased wreaths and floral tributes for the gravestone relative. Then it was hot for Kensal Green—that quiet old world, "God's Acre," so different from all of the American burial places with which Bessie was acquainted.

## THE SACRED THIRTIETH DAY OF MAY.

When Columbia Chants the Praises and Decorates the Graves of Her Dead Heroes.



"Here lies the body of Captain Randolph Lee Carroll, soldier and gentleman, a credit to his native country, the United States of America."

But another person had reached the flower-bedecked marble before her, and now stood regarding the wealth of decorations with evident astonishment. This was a young man good enough to look upon, and possessed of that attractive liteness which told Bessie instantly that she was not looking at a Briton, but at one of her own countrymen.

"I fancy that you have made a mistake," he said. "The man buried here was not a federal soldier. Capt. Randolph Carroll fought for the south."

"Of course. And so, you see, I drove out here to lay a few flowers on the tomb of this gallant fellow. A grim smile rested for a moment on the young man's face."

"I don't know what a near relation," he said. "Just then the worthy sexton of Kensal Green came stamping down the path, bent on discovering what had happened to delay Bessie. Behind him came the anxious chaperon, Mrs. Malcom, who started guiltily on perceiving her charge in close converse with a stranger of the opposite sex."

"You must be quite a near relation," she said. "Just then the worthy sexton of Kensal Green came stamping down the path, bent on discovering what had happened to delay Bessie. Behind him came the anxious chaperon, Mrs. Malcom, who started guiltily on perceiving her charge in close converse with a stranger of the opposite sex."

## THE MYSTERY OF THE SHAD.

Nothing Known of the Fish After It Leaves the Water.

The movements of the shad are of such interesting and mysterious to ornithologists and fish culturists. Beyond the period when the fish is in the river almost absolutely nothing is known of its habits. It belongs to a class known as anadromous fishes, that is, those whose home is in the sea, but who come into fresh water to spawn.

When the water of the Delaware in the spring reaches a temperature of 50 degrees or over, the shad enters from the sea in great shoals the males first and the females about two weeks later. It was supposed for some years that the males entered first in order to find suitable nesting places, but this assumption is now known to be false from the discovery that the shad does not make a nest, as many other species of fish do, and the real reason for their appearing first must remain, for the present at least, as one of the mysteries which surround the movements of this fine food fish.

The spawning grounds of the shad are the large pools in the Delaware above Trenton to the headwaters, and it is for this reason that the creation of dams in the river would destroy the fisheries in a very few years. It is true that there are also spawning grounds at the head of Timber Creek and a few other streams below Trenton tributary to the Delaware, but they are of very small extent and could not begeth to amount with the number of fish which come in from the sea every year.

There is a grave on the far-off hillside, A lonely, sunken grave, Beneath the grass above it, Above the fallen grave. Where summer's sun smiles warmly, And winter's snow lies deep. Where, o'er the unknown dreamer, Unbidden voices weep.

There is a grave on the hill, O west wind; Pass by with plaintive moan, Bow low to the grass above it, And sigh "Unknown, unknown!" Stoop down, O heavy rain-cloud, And drop a plying tear, If thou dost mourn earth's chosen, Oh, spend thy sorrow here.

There is a grave on the hill, O unto; Pass not that mound o'ergrown, For here the dead man's name, Gives life and name. "Unknown!" Pass not, O wife, O woman; Stoop low, O brother, son; Forget not, He who sleepeth Thy home, thy freedom, won.

There is a grave on the hill, O Father, Thy searching voice shall yet Rouse up the sleeping soldier, Bow low to the grass above it, Where a lonely grave on the hillside, But oh, before Thy throne, The humble shall be honored, The Unknown shall be known! —Hattie Horner Louthan.

There are few influences so hallowed to the living as the memory of the dead. They make good men better; sometimes they make bad men good. It is a grateful and beneficent custom which has been established of devoting one day in the year especially to the commemoration of the virtues of the dead. Their memory comes to us, hidden or unhidden. It comes with the morning light; it comes with the evening shades; it comes in the stillness of the night. Whenever it comes it is always welcome and precious. Indeed, one of our chief companionships, which we cultivate and enjoy more almost than any other, is the recollection of those we have loved and lost.

In the formal appropriation of Memorial Day, however, to the decoration of graves, there is a manifest, outward sign of respect which is seen and in keeping with our ever-present feeling of affection for those who have gone before us. Many improve it by carrying flowers to the spot where their loved ones lie; and many others, by recalling in more vivid fancy the forms and qualities of the sleepers we sigh in vain for the power to awaken.

The Memorial Day procession has come to be regarded as an annual event equal in importance to Independence Day. It is the only day of the year in the civil calendar in which United States troops regularly join with the citizen soldiers, the Grand Army and others, in a celebration that is purely that of the civilian, for the militiaman is looked upon in the same light as the regular army. Each year these professions show more clearly than all else the fact that the north and the south together as one country are steadily growing stronger and stronger. Ten years ago, to see a man wearing the Confederate gray marching in the Memorial Day procession, would have been considered almost sacrilege. To-day it is not only not unusual but a welcome event to the Grand Army posts, composed of the very men who fought so long against an enemy thus clothed.

The Barber's Observation. "Don't you know this is Memorial Day?" said the shoe merchant, thrusting his head inside the door of the barber shop. "Why don't you decorate a little? Where are your national colors?" In reply, the barber in charge of the chair near the door merely pointed at the gorgeous pole in front of his place of business. Then he went on shaving his customer. He had crashed another customer. —Chicago Tribune.

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