



Transcription of *The Nutshell*, a manuscript newspaper, ca. 1830.

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The Nutshell

Vol. 1<sup>st</sup> No. 2.

Edited weekly by the members, of The Young Men's Debating Club.

Motto. "Judge not the kennel by the shell."

Terms. Ready contributions, lenient criticism and good attention.

Payable in advance.

### Early Rising

With regard to early rising, people who know the famous proverb will remember that wealth is as sure to follow in its track as the snow is sure to form itself into muddy streams and pools under the melting influence of a vertical sun, and that health is as sure to accompany it as is the sun sure to rise in the Orient.

But, before we rashly conclude to continue or adopt the practice of early rising, let us ascertain whether the results are desirable or otherwise. — Learned doctors, wise philosophers and other thinking individuals have come to the sage conclusion that wealth is a state far removed from happiness. Poets and novelists give to their heroines angelic beauty, exquisitely susceptible minds, and almost heavenly perfection of soul with an accompaniment of the utmost degree of happiness, that human imagination can paint, but where shall we find that sentimental production whose heroine is allowed to possess an instant of perfect health? In view of these things, who can fail to see that early rising being production of these two great evils is a barrier to man's happiness, and, consequently, instead of being a benefit is a positive disadvantage. Young gentlemen, let me warn you against any inordinate desires or any attempts to become "men of property," for they who find riches tread the path of sorrow and dismay. Young ladies, let me beseech you, do not entertain within your breasts the rash hope of living to a "good old age" for in that case you can never become heroines. Let me entreat you never to declare yourselves in robust health, for, this truth established, your lives can never be looked upon as worthy of record. Your list of virtues will fall far short of the standard, unless your nerves are shattered, your health precarious and your soul far too big for your body. After seeing the direct opposition of both health and wealth to man's happiness we have only to condemn that practice which is sure to bring about these results as very destructive and carefully to be considered.

Wisdom is said, by the same proverb, to attend early rising, and there can be no doubt that the originator of the proverb intended to speak of that kind of wisdom which father Adam and mother Eve acquired when they transgressed the great "Laws of Nature," that is, the knowledge of good and evil, and there is sufficient reason to justify this belief. The fact that man is prone to evil is proof positive that when more time is given more evil will be committed by most of mankind, hence, if he prolong the day by commencing it at an early hour, he will give a greater amount of time to acquiring knowledge, which consist of a little good and a deal of evil. Such being the case, we have only to recommend, particularly to persons engaged in literary pursuits, well-ordered lives, consistent deportment and a good long nap before breakfast.

### My Sister

How many hallowed recollections cluster around that name of angelic sweetness—the name of sister. How chaste and holy the memories of her who filled our homes and hearts with light and love. I had a sister once; a sister on earth to share my every joy, and to participate in my every pleasure; not only to laugh when I laughed but with me to drop the sympathizing tear. She was my dear, my well-beloved, my only sister. She was bright, joyous and gay; yet death and guilelessness were upon her lips; love was in her heart and a heavenly spirit tempered her every act. Her innocent lips spoke words of wisdom even in her childish years; her beautiful countenance was lit up by many a loving and holy smile; and what shall restrain from vice and lead in the path of virtue, if it be not a sister's voice, if it be not a sister's smile? I loved my sister. She was too pure and holy for earth. When spring time came—when the earth was carpeted in its richest attire—when the songsters poured forth their sweetest melodies—when the opening bud, the tender leaflet and the blooming flower were mantling the earth in very beauty's self—when the cooing of the dove and the murmur of the rannel was heard with soothing sweetness—then, when all nature proclaimed the youth of the year, that bud of promise, my sweet sister was taken to bloom perennially in paradise.

But yesternight she came back to me in my dreams with caressing words and smiling looks. Then as I awoke I realized more than ever that I still had a sister, —yes, and angelic sister; then I felt one less cord binding to earth, and one more—aye, a sister cord—binding to heaven. Then I saw that my Father had not willingly grieved the

heart. Then I read new meaning in those words of holy writ, that, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Ed. J. H.

"The One that made us is Divine"

A silent voice—a silent voice

I hear it everywhere

'Tis borne upon the morning breeze

And on the evening air.

I hear it in each lowly flower

That by the wayside springs

I hear it in the morning brook—And in the ocean wave  
Where voices seem to speak to me—From out their "deep sea-grove,"  
I hear it in the first glad notes—Of the gay birds of spring  
And when the summer zephyrs—On light and airy wing.

I hear it in the sighing leaves—As Autumn's chilling breath  
With withering blight and frosty touch—Consigns them all to death.  
As on the golden clouds I gaze—Along the western sky  
I am imposed beyond a doubt  
That there's a power on high.

And when the radiant orbs of night—Do one by one appear  
'Tis then I feel there is a power—That rules this lower sphere  
Let others say 'tis not enough—That reason's light is dim  
And there must be some clean light, in this dark "world of sin"  
But I would ask no other proof—Of an almighty power  
Than what I see in every leaf—In every blooming flower.

The law of nature; 'tis the same  
Whate'er the eye doth meet  
"On every side—around-above"  
Harmonious and complete.

The light of reason, 'tis enough  
And that to us is given  
To teach us every duty here  
And guide the soul to haven.

L. P. W.

### Whispering

This is a subject of which it is necessary to speak as regards its phenomena, for of its substance we know and can know nothing. Of its effects, I might, if it were necessary, speak at length—but that is entirely uncalled for, as most people are well acquainted with these.

We see its effects in the walks of everyday life, wherever we turn our eyes where human beings are, there we see it, and an agent which is so active and incessant in its operations—as is this of which I speak—of course could not carry on its works before our eyes, without showing forth visible effects of which every one must be sensible, but in regard to the essence of the thing philosophy is entirely at a stand. It may be a question of some importance whether it be a material or immaterial substance but that is a question which I feel compelled to waive, as I feel unable to throw any light on the subject.

If it is a material substance I must confess myself wholly ignorant of its constituent elements, or whether it is of itself an elementary principle. So far as we can trace its cause from its effects, it appears to be a disease which rages—not at stated periods, not a particular season of the year, nor yet during any special time of the moon to which so many things which transpire on the face of this sublunary planet, are ascribed—but one to which a person is accessible at all times. It appears to be particularly prevalent among students—but whether it is caused by hard study, or the want of it, is a question I do not feel qualified to settle; but from what I have noticed from the phenomena I am inclined to the latter opinion.

This much of what it is—now the next question which naturally arises is—is there any cure for it? or, has it a natural tendency which is incorporated in the nature of its subjects, which it is impossible to eradicate? And here again, so far as human philosophy has been able to extend, is a question which must be waived. Many

remedies have been devised, which have served, in a measure, to mitigate the evil—but it still exists.

I have this briefly noticed the effects, causes and remedy of this crying, or rather, hissing evil, in the form of a few inquiries, hoping to elicit thoughts from others, and believing the best remedy for it is only to think about it.

### Advertisements

Messrs. Moulton & Gage would respectfully solicit the attention of the public at large to their fine specimens of mischief which they keep constantly on hand together with a very large assortment of day goods consisting mostly of bonnets, shawls, furs, &c. &c. Being gentlemen of much experience and extensive business they hope to receive liberal patronage. Their goods command the highest prices and customers will be served with the greatest reluctance imaginable.

### Lectures

We have the pleasure of announcing to the literary world the intention of Mr. F. J. Hoyt—a gentleman of much talent and extended observation—of giving a course of lectures—treating on mathematics, the classics, philosophy, chemistry, &c. to commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April next and probably continue to the end of time.

### New Discovery.

Dr. J. Keath, one of the most skillful and experienced of physicians, has succeeded, after many trials and tribulations, in bringing to light a great and wonderful discovery. It is certainly one of the greatest improvements of the age. And after having fully satisfied himself by personal experience that his discovery is, in every respect, what it is represented to be, he presents it to the world under the name of Keath's Remedy for Collisions." It is warranted perfectly harmless, consisting merely of the essence of tulips. It has sometimes been found effectual in certain cases of "disease of the heart." In some cases two applications will be found necessary but of course Dr. K. will not hold himself responsible for the results if too frequent applications are made.

Kissing.

Kissing, what is it? A mere smacking of lips—but for an instant and all is over. Those to whom this thing is a pleasant recreation tell us it has a beneficial influence, but neglect to inform us what that influence can possibly be. From actual observation all we can perceive in this performance is a flash of something not unlike lightning only that it is not accompanied by thunder. It is said to be a very happy state when noses are thus brought into close contact but to me it seems perfectly horrible, not only horrible but dangerous. How young gents can have sufficient courage to attack and this lay violent hands on earth's finest flowers is a great mystery. They must have terrible dispositions—not unlike the lion, this to pounce upon their innocent prey. It seems also that they must possess a charm not unlike the charm of the lion, for it is said their victims feel no pain from the wounds made the them so also the "fair" seem delighted by the kisses of the "unfair." But yet we see it in everyday life. Old and young alike enjoy themselves in this, to us, unknown bliss. Can there then harm come from it, if our parents engage in like sports, have they any right to say to us "why do ye so?" In conclusion, could there be any possible reason why we should not come to this room eve and have a good social time? D.L.G.

Fate Leaves—No. 1.

Patterson

Behold

Fate Leaf No. 2

Balch

Another star dawns on our sight. Its course is slow, its lustre [i.e. luster] ever increasing. Let us once more consult the Magic Book and ascertain to whom belongs this brilliant destiny. One, kind, faithful, ever-obliging, attentive to the wants of others, consulting their wishes rather than his own, and in his school-days winning the affection and love of his associates by his kind endeavors for their happiness, which is the marked characteristic of his after years, endeavoring to promote the highest good of

those among whom he labors. His attention is now called to the condition of the world, and as he sees how vice and wickedness prevail he determines to do what he can towards its overthrow. Behold him now as daily he goes among the people of his charge, ministering to the cause of the poor and needy, faithfully warning the perishing of their danger, encouraging those who are in the path of right to pursue in the footsteps of Him whom they profess to love. Time passes on; and still the affections of his heart are bestowed on no one. Accidentally he meets with one, who had been a companion of his school-days, although unrecognized by him. Attracted by her gentleness and modesty, he seeks an introduction and becomes acquainted with her. Till now he has never met with one with whom he felt desirous of writing his destiny. But he believes there is a congeniality between their tastes and affections and that she is well-calculated to fill the position of a clergyman's wife.

Behold them now as years roll on, happy in their domestic relations, they pass the remainder of their lives among the people to whom he first ministered, greatly beloved by all.

#### Chronicles—Chap. 1<sup>st</sup>

Now behold it came to pass in the days of the peaceful reign of King William that he was enticed away by the children of another part of the land. And when the king made it known unto the people that he should rule over them no more, lo! they were sore dismayed and said unto him "Why do ye this thing since it seemeth [i.e. seems] not good in our sight?" And he answered and said unto them "Inasmuch as ye would not take to your homes those who came unto me to strengthen and increase my fame abroad therefore will I go forth from among your and rule over you no more forever." And when the people heard this thing they murmured and said amongst themselves "Who then shall reign over us for our children can no longer go to the temple to receive instruction?" And they were troubled in their minds and knew not what to do. And it came to pass that when the days for King William's departure drew near, the people did all assemble themselves within the temple to listen to the children as they went in and out before them uttering many wise sayings. And when there was an end of all these things it was proclaimed in a speech by one of the children of the land that they should no longer meet together in the temple and that King W. was going to another part of the



land to rule over another nation. And the people did all lift up their voices up and weep for he was greatly beloved among them.

Now it came to pass that after King William had departed they had no king for a long time until one, Gustavus whom surname was Stanley of an unknown tribe from the East, came among them and behold he was fair to look upon and he found favor in their eyes and with an accord they did appoint him king. But he did sometimes wax very wroth and his acts did not please the people and his reign was a short one for the people of a distant part of the land did send unto him that he might go and rule over them. And he departed and he was succeeded by one, Seth, a [illegible] of the tribe of one of the wise men and he likewise came from the East. And the people did rejoice and were exceeding glad that he had come amongst them for they saw that his dominion it was a goodly one.