

For doing. Men may fall, but you and I
Should be invincible to live or die,—
To wage firm battle against sin and wrong,
To wait—that's hardest, dear—however long
For joys withheld, and God to answer why,
To banish yearning hope, if it be vain,
To say good-bye if we must parted be.
Had we but half loved, then we might complain
Parting were murdered possibility,
But loving, O my love, so perfectly
We are beyond the touch of any pain.

There are several lyrics which it would be pleasant to quote if space permitted, and some quite striking conceptions come under the heading of "Contrasts," among them this:

A man and woman steeped in ecstasy,
Murmur, mid kisses, "Merciful is Fate."

Far off, one—who has set that woman free,
Dies lonely; and a maid waits desolate.

Mrs. Trask's verse is not without its inequalities, and an inadequate word sometimes lessens the force and beauty of her figures. But the collection as it stands is so genuinely good that we may hope to see later lyrics as pleasing as these from which we select one of the briefest:

Love reaches to the infinite. To-day
I love you to the uttermost; you sway
My spirit by your subtle power,—yea
I yield me wholly, love you far above
All that has been. Ah! Dear, that is to-day,
To-morrow, as before, my soul will say
In very truth, as yet I know not love;
Only the love of loving and the larger thirst
For infinite revealing, eager as at first.

A. L. M.

+ +

AN ECONOMIC STORY.

The Free Soil Prophet of the Verdigris. By R. E. Heller (Abingdon, Ill.). Price: paper 50 cents, cloth \$1.50; postage, 10 cents extra.

This story is without any element of interest except its elucidations of economic principles; and the interest which these excite depends in no degree upon the narrative, but altogether upon the author's unusual power of clear exposition. A good essay has been spoiled by a poor story. The author's purpose is to advocate the doctrine of "use and occupation" as the basis of titles to land, his method being the abolition of taxes on improvements, the abolition of taxes on personal property up to say \$5,000, the abolition of taxes on land occupied by the owner as his actual residence, and the taxation of all unoccupied land and land occupied by tenants to the full ground rent value. It will be observed that this method differs from that of Henry George in only two particulars, the taxation of personal property above a certain maximum, and the exemption of sites actually used for residence, George's idea being that personal property should not be taxed at all and that land should be taxed according to its value regardless of its use. That Mr. Heller's proposition might be worth while under given conditions as the largest step in the right direction which the people could then be induced to take, is probable; but as a rounded plan, it would hardly stand criticism on the basis of either justice or economics.

THE CITY

The Hope of Democracy

BY
FREDERIC C. HOWE, Ph. D.

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