The Port Macquarie N[illegible]

AND HASTINGS RIVER ADVOCATE.

[illegible]L. 1.—NO. 1. PORT MACQUARIE, SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1882. PRICE 6D.

Poet's Corner.

[L]OVE AND THE BLOSSOMS.

[Bl]ossoms so beauteous and gay,
[illegible] mock my sorrowing heart;
[K]now that my love's away,
[Ye]t with grief we had to part.
[In] the wide-spreading shade
[Tha]t sheltered us many a day;
[W]hy have you heart to blossom
[Wh]en you know my love's away?

[illegible] sailed o'er the ocean bright,
[Th]e billows white with foam;
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[W]rite on the wrapper "with care."

[illegible] as to him over the ocean,
[illegible] in thy folds, to-day;
[illegible] seat is vacant
[illegible]'s tree so white and gay.
[illegible] my heart will be troubled
[illegible] sails on the tossing sea;
[illegible] the beautiful spring-time
[illegible] lost its charm for me.

[illegible] love the birds are singing
[illegible] song and s[we]et,
[illegible] around are [illegible]ling
[illegible] soft to my [illegible]et.
[illegible] flowers ca[nno]t charm me,
[illegible] the birds' songs [a]re not for me;
[illegible] rejoice with the blossoms,
[illegible] hasten him back from sea.

[illegible] TO A CHILD.

[Sh]all I sing you, Child, for whom
[M]any lyres are strung;
[illegible] the only tune assume
[illegible] Maid so young?

[illegible] there are on either hand!
[illegible] is on the cards—
[illegible] grow up with quite a grand
[illegible]ate for bards!

[illegible] then be shamed, undone,
[illegible] with what a scorn
[illegible] that luckless one
[illegible] you, newly born;

[illegible] your helpless cradle" bent
[illegible] to turn,
[illegible] tiresome compliment
[illegible] concern!

[illegible] words be so discreet,
[illegible]

[illegible]

CHAPTER I.

GOLDEN DAYS.

"[illegible] do you really think Black Knight [will let] me ride him?"

[The] questioner is a dainty little girl, [i]n a dark blue riding-habit, wearing a [illegible]med felt hat in which is the bright [win]g of a bird, and she grasps in one [gloved] hand a pretty riding-whip, while [with the o]ther she holds up her long skirt.

"[Let] me ride him? Of course he will. [I'll teac]h him how to behave himself," replied [illegible] "You just wait a bit, and I'll give [you a g]allop across the common; he under-[stands m]e."

"[Do]n't you think he would behave [w]ithout your riding him?" asked [illegible] with a contraction of the [illegible]ms as if I was quite a baby [illegible] pony has to be galloped about [before I m]ount him; and you know, [I was t]welve years old yesterday."

"[Bu]t you're a baby, Eva, but [illegible]t is a sad pickle, you know; he [did a]ll he could to throw me off his [back when I] first had him, but he soon learnt [that he could]n't do."

"[An]d I don't like the idea of Eva [illegible] said Mrs. Rashleigh, who was [illegible]

[illegible] and the son, though a young [illegible] be relied upon."

"[Ye]s, ma'am," replied Wall with a [illegible] the children; "there's no vice in [illegible]ght, he's only a bit fresh, and he'll [soon have t]hat taken out of him, and Miss [Eva can ma]nage him well enough herself."

[Thou]gh Eva would have mounted the [illegible]tle pony immediately if only to [illegible]s opinion of her courage and [illegible] Bruce forstalled her, and [illegible]ver the common that faced The [illegible] was fully ten minutes before [illegible]

[illegible] the back the pony seemed quiet [illegible]here was a wicked gleam in his [illegible] he had understood the conver[sation]. [N]o sooner was Ev[a] [illegible] skirts [illegible]

It was a pretty sight to see these two children, for the boy was only two years older than the girl, and he bid fair to be as fine a man as she did to be a [lo]vely woman.

"All things consi[illegible] will not be a bad match for E[illegible] Rashleigh as she turned to w[illegible]

"He has family and p[illegible] pectations," she went on; "and [illegible] is like her mother, will be beautiful, [illegible] will be rich. Of course, with the wealth [she] will inherit, she might expect more than Bobby will be ever likely to give her."

[illegible] you saying, my dear?" asked a [illegible]ice by her side, and looking up [illegible] perceived her husband, who [illegible] in a sunny corner, and whom she was just about to pass.

"Oh, I didn't see you, George," she replied with a shade of embarrassment.

"No, I suppose not; but what were you saying?" he persisted.

"I was only indulging in my weakness for castle building," she returned with a timid smile.

"And whom were you building castles for?" he questioned. "Not for me I hope."

"No dear, for myself," she said humbly; "I was only thinking of Eva and of that nice boy, Bobby Bruce."

"Well, [and w]hat of them?"

"Nothing, dear, only I thought it would be nice for them and for us all if they were as fond of each other when they grow up as they are now."

"Nice, nice; fond of each other; husband-hunting is all you women think about," growled Mr. Rashleigh like an ill-tempered cur.

"Fond of each other," he continued, working himself up into a rage—a matter never very difficult with him—"you'd better not put such notions into their heads, madam, or you'll live to repent it—d'ye hear me? you'll live to repent it."

"My dear, I should never think of doing anything of the kind," replied his wife meekly. "They are both of them such children," she continued with a smile; "and," she added with a spice of mischief, "I don't suppose Sir Edward Bruce would think of allowing his son to marry our niece."

"What do you mean, madam? What do you mean?" demanded M[illegible]

[illegible]

"Then more shame to him," was the reply. "[M]y money is real, Mrs. Rashleigh; my [mo]ney's hard, and Eva will have eigh[ty] thousand pounds from me alone when I die—[ei]ghty thousand pounds, Mrs. Rashleigh."

"But she will have nearly as much as that without you, my dear," said his provoking wi[fe] placidly.

"Confound it, madam, what do you mean?" demanded the irate husband, literally glaring up[on] his spouse; "isn't my money as good as that of any of her other uncles and aunts?"

"Quite, my dear; better I should say, if to[o] it in trade and make it honestly can m[ake] money better."

[M]r. Rashleigh winced at this, for it was his pride to be considered a country squire w[ith] a long purse and a by no means insignificant pedigree.

"But, you see, dear," pursued Mrs. Rashleigh seeing her advantage, "Eva has a very comfortable fortune besides what you can give her, and as she is the last of our family, an[d on]ly a girl, it is very desirable that she sh[ould] marry a man of position and standing. It [is] as though we had any children of our own," added the poor lady with a sigh.

"[An]d whose fault is that, ma'am? Perhaps you say that's my fault too!"

[B]ut at this point Mrs. Rashleigh covered her face with her hands and ran into [illegible]

[illegible]

least [illegible]

A meanwhile the two children went on the[ir w]ay, happily unconscious of the discus[sion] of which they formed the subject.

[Blac]k Knight, after his little bit of display of [tem]per, was behaving in a most exemplary ma[nner], and Bobby, who was mounted on one of [Mr.] Rashleigh's stout cobs, rode along by the s[ide] of his little companion with an air of [pro]prietorship that was very amusing to sym[pat]hetic Wall who brought up the rear.

"[I']m very glad Black Knight carries you so w[ell]," he was saying, as they rode along; "bec[au]se I want you to be very fond of him, Eva, [for] my sake, when I am away."

"When you are away?" echoed the girl; "you['r]e not going away, Bobby, are you?"

"Course I am," returned [illegible] someting like pride [illegible] up o[n] his [illegible] knight[illegible] [illegible]maintain [illegible] honour and [illegible] love.

[illegible] will you go, Bobby?" asked

[illegible] like other boys do," was the

[illegible] [tha]t you had a tutor just as I [illegible]" she urged.

[illegible]r," said the boy seriously; [illegible] away; my father says he [illegible] a tutor for me, and I [illegible] and he [illegible] that [illegible]

can't afford to keep horses for me to ride; that's why I gave you Black Knight, and why I asked Mr. Rashleigh to give me a mount when I come out for a ride with you."

"Oh?" said Eva thoughtfully.

"Yes," said the lad; "but I'm not sorry. It's awfully slow being in that big house with only my father and a tutor, and the servants; [th]at's why I'm glad to come over and see you [illegible] but now I'm going away to school [illegible] of boys to play with and [illegible] sure it will be awfully jolly."

"Some boo[illegible] it is jolly," said E[illegible]

"Oh, books never te[illegible] sweeping assertion from Bo[illegible] wise remarked:

"But I shall have holidays you know, Eva, and then I can come and see you."

"But we shan't have any boys here, and you don't think there's any fun without boys," said Eva half disdainfully.

"Oh, yes, I do," he replied, in happy unconsciousness of her displeasure. "I think there'll be great fun in coming home, and having you to ride with and play with and talk to, and all the old places to see, and to feel that I am free from tutors and lessons. It will be delightful. Now, don't you think it will, Eva?"

"Yes," replied the girl reluctantly, "I daresay it will be nice for you; but what shall I do while you are away?"

"Oh, I'll give you my white rabbits and two guinea-pigs," said Bobby, in a tone which implied that such magnanimity was abundant consolation for any woe.

"But I can't take the rabbits for a ride," pouted Eva.

"Of course you can't; but you've got Knight to ride while I am at school. It was because you should have him when I was away that I gave him to you instead of taking the twenty pounds that Mark Handsell offered me for him."

"It was very good of you," replied Eva despondently, "and I'll take great care of Knight; but I should like to have you too, Bobby."

This was said in such a pathetic and tearful manner that Bobby felt generous, and his heart stirred within him, and he thought he might as well confide his intentions to his [littl]e playmate; so he said:

"You'll have as much as you want of me [so]me day, you know, Eva, for when I am a [man I'm going to marry] you."

[illegible]

[illegible] and all arrangements connected with [illegible] entirely with him; "I mean to marry [you], and we will live at Bruce Hill, and won't [we] be jolly, that's all!"

"Yes, we shall be jolly," assented Eva; "and you really will marry me, Bobby?"

"Of course I will," he replied grandly. "You're the nicest little girl I know. I don't [care for] the Halls, and the Granthams, and the [illegible]ans, as I do you, and I like you better [than] anyone, except my father?"

But at this point of the conversation, Wall who had overhead some portion of it, ventured to ask:

"Don't you think we had better ride a little faster, Miss Eva?"

Eva glanced at Bobby, who replied a trifle curtly:

"Yes, we shall be late for luncheon at this rate."

And so saying he gave the rein to his steed and the whole party went on at a brisker pace.

But Wall's question had stirred up a strange feeling in the boy's heart.

The man had addressed Eva and not him, and had roused him to the remembrance that he was not his servant, and that, however condescendingly he might promise Eva to come and marry her, there might be people in the world who would think the favour on the other side.

The ideas thus suggested silenced him, and made him very thoughtful.

For the last twelve months matters at Bruce Hill had been anything but pleasant, and day by day they seemed to be getting worse. Servants were dismissed, and their places were not filled; horses were [illegible] were sold, nothing [illegible] unless the stately [illegible] and Bobby, as he [illegible] called to mind his father's constant remark that he "could not afford it."

"W[as] it really so?" the boy asked himself; [illegible] his father becoming a poor man; and if it were so, what would be the end of it? Would they have to go away from Bruce Hill and live in a small house, or what would happen?" Eva asked:

"Will it be a long time before you come and marry me, Bobby?"

"It will be when we're grown up," he replied vaguely.

But he never thought of asking if she would wait for him.

The thought of the rival in the girl's heart never entered his head; and, had these two children been questioned, both would have agreed that the kindness, and favour, and condescension were all upon Bobby's side, and that the advantage and gratitude were, or should be, on that of Eva.

Perhaps Wall, who overhe[ard] most of the conversation, may have had his own opinions upon the subject. Be that as it may, he had been trusted with the two children to take them for a ride over certain ground, and, though he spoke with the accustomed deference of a perfect servant, he took very good care that the juvenile couple should not have time this morning to indulge in any more rash promises.

[illegible] might like [illegible], but the maste[r illegible]

if what I've heard tell is true, Master Bobby might think himself lucky to come and marry Miss Eva without making such a favour of it; but that's the way with female folk, be they old or young. They think too little of themselves or they think too much."

And meanwhile the children cantered along, laughing and talking, soon forgetful of everything but the pleasure of the moment, until Wall warned them that it was time to turn their faces homeward.

"You'll come in to lunch?" ask[ed] Ev[a as] she alighted at the [d]oor of The B[eeches] [illegible]

[illegible] at home," he replied [illegible]

And at this moment a servant approached, saying:

"If you please, sir, a servant came over from Bruce Hill to say Sir Edward wanted you as soon as you came back from your ride."

"Thank you; was that all the message?" asked the boy quickly.

"Yes, sir; all," was the answer.

"Then I must say good-bye, Eva," said Bobby seriously. "I suspect I have had my last ride with you for a long time; my father is probably going to town, and will send me to school at once; good-bye, dear."

"Oh, don't go away to school; don't go and leave me, Bobby," sobbed the girl; "I shall have nobody to play with and talk to when you are gone."

But Bobby was not sentimental and he replied a little brusquely:

"Don't be a muff, Eva. I don't like to think of you as being silly like other girls; you ought to know better."

Whereupon poor Eva wiped her eyes, and wondered why something more should be expected of her than of other girls.

Bobby w[as] a little gentleman, and he would not go away without saying good-bye to Mr. and Mrs. Rashleigh, who had both of them, in their respective ways been very kind to him.

"Good-bye, sir," he said, going up to the master of the house, who had as yet scarcely [reco]vered from the effects of the discussion [h]e had had with his wife. "I think I'm going away to school, sir, but I hope I may come to The Beeches when I'm home for the holidays, and thank you for lending me your cob, and for all your kindness."

"Going away! going away! What are you going away for?" asked Mr. Rashleigh.

"[I am] going to school, sir; good-bye, Mrs. [Rashleigh] [illegible]

[illegible]

But [Mr. Rashleigh], who [illegible] fumbling in his pocket, produced a pill-box, [a]nd having manipulated its contents said:

"If you are going to schoo[l] you'll want some pills, youngster; here, ta[ke] this and don't swallow more than one at a time."

Then the uncertain-tempered old man turned away, while Eva whispered:

"They're half-sovereigns, Bobby, but oh, I do wish you wouldn't go."

And she hung on his arm, and bu[rie]d her childish tear-stained face on his shoul[der].

Bobby was himself very sorry to go.

He tried to comfort his little companion, and he kissed her pretty face, and told her that he would come back again, and that the time would soon pass between this and the holidays.

But he did not repeat his promise that he would one day come and marry her.

Perhaps he thought that Mr. and Mrs. Rashleigh would not approved of it, or it may be that some of the dark shadow of the future chilled his heart, and made him fe[el] that this parting might be for ever.

A second message from Bruce H[ill], however put an end to his leave-taking, and Eva, still in her hat and habit, stood wa[tch]ing her youthful lover and companion as he walked away, leaving all that was bright in his youth behind.

To be continued.

False Imprisonment.—Cons[tabl]e Collins, of Kempsey, has had to fork [out] £10 and costs for having wrongfully im[pris]oned a lad named Henry Tillbrook. [The] evidence showed that Collins was und[er th]e influence of liquor, and that, without a[ny] just cause, he arrested Tillbrook on th[e pr]etence that the latter had been guilty [of] disorderly [illegible] all small boys;' also that [illegible] only 'four glasses of shandygaff that [illegible] He admitted having been once, durin[g t]y-five years of service, fined for d[ru]nness, and acknowledged to playing b[illegible]ds occasionally. He stated that ti[illegible]tins 'baa-d' him, and that Tillbrook [illegible] Denny, your breath smells; you can't [illegible]me.' Judge Murray said that the const[able h]ad evidently been drunk, and that th[e] [illegible] perceiving this, had chaffed him [illegible] amount of damages claimed by T[illbrook] was £200.—"Bulletin."

Some extraordinary [illegible] reported by a correspondent of th[e] [illegible] Express" to have taken place at [illegible]an Catholic Chapel of Gurteen, [illegible]. The pews were put up to [illegible] late parish priest, and let [illegible] bidders. His successor, how[illegible] that he would [illegible] auction [illegible]

New System [of] Teaching.

We take the following interesting report from the "S. M. Herald," in reference to a new system of [te]aching that is now being tried as an expe[rimen]t in Sydney:—

For about [illegible]nths a Kindergarten has bee[n] [illegible] connection with the C[rown-street] [Scho]ol; and notwith[standing] [illegible] separable from the [illegible] new educational [illegible] there have been [illegible] results achieved are [illegible] highest degree satisfactory. We have [had] [an] opportunity of seeing the system in operatio[n] and of noting the degree of educational advancement which the little pupils ha[ve m]ade, and certainly, for the training of y[oung ch]ildren, the Kindergarten appears to [be super]ior to the old "infant class" met[hod]. [Th]e probability is that the compa[rative adv]antages would be still greater in [the case] of more advanced pupils—but of [these we] have no practical experience. T[he Kin]dergarten at the Crown-street schoo[l is a]n experiment. The instructre[ss is Mrs.] Crowly, a lady who holds a firs[t class cert]ificate from the Kindergarten in [illegible] of the Lond[on] School Board; a hi[ghly e]ulogistic testimonial from the chairm[an of] that board, a[nd a] similar document f[rom th]e Training Co[llege] at Christchurch, [illegible] Mrs. Crowly was brought from E[ngland to] New Zealand [in] 1878, for the pu[rpose] of introducing [the] system into that colony, and she accordin[gly] established a Kindergarten in a buildin[g] specially erected, and formed a teacher class, to which she delivered explanatory lectures. During a recent period of [re]trenchment in New Zealand, Mrs. Co[wly] resigned her appointment rather than sub[mit] to a reduction of emoluments [illegible] induced to visi[t] this colony [illegible] been [illegible] Public [illegible] ning ha[illegible] New Ze[aland] [illegible]

[illegible] tens, or at [illegible] system, in con[illegible] Public schools [illegible] the effort is lim[ited] [illegible] Crown-street sc[hool] [illegible] made for traini[ng teac]hers to carry on the same work in ot[her sc]hools. At first, even at Crown-street, there was no suitable place in which the children could meet, but about five or six weeks ago a small separate building was erected, and the teacher has now a fair opportunity of carrying out the system efficiently in the instruction of the children under her charge. The pupils, of whom there are about 30, are the very youngest in the school, varying in age from 4 to 7 years. [T]hey are drafted from the ordinary infant class, and receive no teaching other than that given in the Kindergarten.

Most people have some idea of the character of the Kindergarten (literally "child-garden") system, which owes its establisment to the determined efforts of the German teacher, Frederick Frobel; but it is difficult to fully understand it without seeing it in actual operation. There are none of the ordinary books, set lessons, and machine-like regulation of the ordinary system. The children are educated by the development of all their faculties of observation and understanding—not taught by means of lessons committed to memory and repeated with parrot-like skill. The children's studies, if the word can be [illegible] elements. For instance, a child, by means of two small sticks, like matches, of equal length is taught to make the letter T, and it also learns at the same time that that letter is formed by a horizontal and a perpendicular line. The same two pieces of stick, and the same lines, differently joined, form the letter L, but the child then learns what constitutes a right angle. By the same means the letter V is formed, and it is explained that this sign represents the figure 5. Again, there are half a dozen worsted balls of different colors, three primary and three secondary, and in handling these the child learns to distinguish the colours and know their names. Again, a piece of paper is folded and refolded into many ingenious [illegible] shapes, the nature [illegible] as it is formed [illegible] pupi[l] [illegible]

learns to make a ball, an oval, a bird's nest, &c. The bare outline of a [illegible] is drawn upon the black-board by the tea[cher], and the children copy this on t[illegible] they have freedom given t[illegible] and while one will a[illegible] make the jar a jug, another [illegible] ornamentation, each child [illegible] taught and teaching himself [illegible] The studies are constantly va[illegible] and songs in which the child[ren] [illegible] whole proceeding is pla[illegible] play, in which they have [illegible] and physical faculties dev[illegible] having their natural res[illegible] tiveness constantly repre[illegible] a[re] utilised as a means of [illegible] result is that the child[ren] [illegible] the Kindergarten to [illegible] are never caned, and [illegible] are be[tter] behaved than the chi[ldren i]n an ordinary infant school, simply because they have to submit to the same irksome restraint, their attention [is] so occupied and their interest [is] retained that they have little opportunity [for] mischief. No two children are taught in the same way—they have individual pec[uliarities] that have to be noticed and borne in [mind by] the teacher, and the method of instru[ction] regulated accordingly. To perform this thoroughly the teacher must be sp[ecially] trained; for the children learn ever[y]thing from their instructor, and the Kinder[garten] apparatus is intended merely as a guid[e] [illegible] [illegible]tion of Frobel's principles. [illegible] such a s[illegible]

[illegible] his [illegible] his gentl[illegible] won the [illegible] tangible shape [illegible] regard to the Rev. [illegible] will gather from the subjoined notice, which we take from the "Australian Churchman":—

"On Thursday, June 15, Mrs. Noad an[d] Mrs. Swan, on behalf of the parishi[oners of] St. Peter's, East Maitland, presente[d the Rev.] W. Swindlehurst, who leaves to take [charge] of a parish at the Manning, with an [illegible] testefully illuminated and engros[sed on] parchment, a handsome silver comm[union] service, and a purse of sovereign[s]. [The] address was in the following wor[ds]:—

"[To] the Rev. W. Swindlehurst. [illegible] of St Peter's regret for our s[illegible] are about to leave the distric[t] [illegible] willing that you should take [illegible] from our midst without an ac[knowledgment] of our appreciation of your [illegible] work, of yo[ur] [illegible]

[illegible] the accompanyi[ng] [illegible] our esteem." Th[illegible] behalf of the body [illegible] who presented it, a[illegible] tions were the [illegible] Swan. The rev. [illegible] reply. Mr. Swin[dlehurst] [illegible] years active [illegible] assistant in the [illegible] and wil[l] we are [illegible] to employ simil[ar] [illegible] of labour. On [illegible] Mr. Swi[ndlehurst] [illegible] an address [illegible] the re[illegible] Mait[land] [illegible] The [illegible] pointe[d] [illegible]