



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, AT BURTON.

A Forgotten Poet.

Fifty-one years ago there was a school examiner of Geauga County, a native of Bainbridge, by the name of John Carr Miller. He was also a student of law in Chardon. He died after a brief illness, in 1854, at the early age of 23 years, and was buried in Chester. He contributed many poems to the local press. He was a man of remarkable promise. Some of his poems which could not be found are more worthy of selection:

THE DEAD.

The earth is one great charnel-house:
At every step we tread on graves,
Where battle plowed with share of steel,
The blood-perfected harvest waves.
New life and bloom from old decay,
New Form from olden Chaos springs,
And all the glory of the Past
The Present bears on living wings.
The mellow pomp of Autumn woods,—
The flaming red and leafy gold,—
Say, what are these but trophies won
From fallen forest's teeming world?
E'en so are they who walk above
Sustained by those who sleep below;
For such the will of Him who bade
The tide of being ebb and flow.
From life to death, from death to life,
From bloom to blight, from blight to bloom;
So throbs the tireless pulse of fate
And earth affords no quiet tomb.
Who sleep upon the mountain top?
Who rest within the quiet vale?
Who lie in ocean's sparry caves
Far, far beneath the glancing sail?
None, none, far as the viewless winds
And flowing waters wander free,
The ashes of the dead are strewn—
The modest flower, the mighty tree;
All forms of animated life,

Which walk the earth and wing the air
Go view them all, and view them well—
The dead, the ancient dead, are there.

THERE IS A NAMELESS SPELL.

There is a nameless spell,
Which holds my soul in thrall,
Whene'er I view the pallid moon,
On heaven's cerulean wall.
I seem to hear the stars
Ring out their changing chime,



"A GOOD CATCH" FROM BASS LAKE.

In welcome to their throned queen,
Who rideth forth sublime!
I seem to see them cast
Their burning crowns before
Her shining car, to pave its way
Across heaven's azure floor.
And when her placid brow
Sheds holy light on mine,
My loyal heart its homage pays
At her celestial shrine.
Beneath the burning sun,
The garish glare of noon,
My fancy droops, my spirit faints,
But when the stars and moon,
Those lamps of ray serene
Light up their evening fires,
My soul is thrilled with melody
From thousand charmed lyres.
And this it is that holds
My dreaming soul in thrall,
Whene'er I view the pallid moon,
On heaven's cerulean wall.

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