

BATTLE-PIECES

AND

ASPECTS OF THE WAR.

BY

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*The Monitor's Fight.*

No passion ; all went on by crank,  
 Pivot, and screw,  
 And calculations of caloric.

Needless to dwell ; the story's known.  
 The ringing of those plates on plates  
 Still ringeth round the world—  
 The clangor of that blacksmiths' fray.  
     The anvil-din  
 Resounds this message from the Fates :

War shall yet be, and to the end ;  
 But war-paint shows the streaks of weather ;  
 War yet shall be, but warriors  
 Are now but operatives ; War's made  
     Less grand than Peace,  
 And a singe runs through lace and feather.

(1866)

*Shiloh.**A Requiem.*

(APRIL, 1862.)

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SKIMMING lightly, wheeling still,  
 The swallows fly low  
 Over the field in clouded days,  
     The forest-field of Shiloh—  
 Over the field where April rain  
 Solaced the parched ones stretched in pain  
 Through the pause of night  
 That followed the Sunday fight  
     Around the church of Shiloh—  
 The church so lone, the log-built one,  
 That echoed to many a parting groan  
     And natural prayer  
     Of dying foemen mingled there—  
 Foemen at morn, but friends at eve—  
     Fame or country least their care :  
 (What like a bullet can undeceive!)  
     But now they lie low,  
 While over them the swallows skim,  
 And all is hushed at Shiloh.