

**DEW-DROPS OF THE NINETEENTH
CENTURY: GATHERED AND
PRESERVED IN THEIR BRIGHTNESS
AND PURITY, PP. 1-202**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649561711

Dew-Drops of the Nineteenth Century: Gathered and Preserved in Their Brightness and Purity,
pp. 1-202 by Seba Smith

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SEBA SMITH

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DEW-DROPS

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IN THEIR BRIGHTNESS AND PURITY.

BY SEBA SMITH.

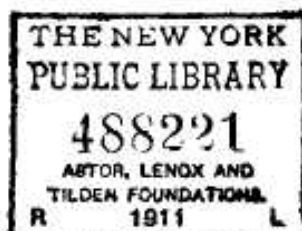
"My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass."—*Holy Writ.*

NEW YORK:

PUBLISHED BY J. K. WELLMAN,

110 Nassau Street.

1846



Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1845, by

J. K. WELLMAN.

In the Clerk's office of the District Court, for the Southern District of
New York.

S. W. BENEDECT, STER. & PRINT.
16 Spruce Street, New York.

P R E F A C E .

Dew-Drops—and wherefore? The title to a book should in some degree at least be a sort of index to its character. In our present little offering, if the title is not an appropriate emblem of what the book is, it is certainly a true type of what we desired to make it. It was our desire that the brightness of the dew-drop should shine through our pages, while they should at the same time be marked with such plainness and simplicity, that he that runs may read. What is more pure than the drops of morning dew? So it has been our aim to gather into our little fountain nothing but sweet and pure waters; that while they spread over the moral "field of the world," they may "drop as the rain, and distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass," awakening the better sympathies of the heart, nourishing the germs of virtue, and presenting, in its bright mirror, "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever

H. Gulq, Oct. 24, 1910

304

things are of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise," inducing men to "think on these things."

We do not say that we have accomplished this in any very successful degree ; but such has been the aim and such the spirit with which we have arranged and prepared this little volume. We feel a conviction, indeed, that in many of the articles here presented, there is a brightness, and a purity, and a beauty, that renders them worthy of the title of *Dew-Drops*. It is not necessary for us to speak of them in detail, for we cannot but think they will speak for themselves. There is one, however, to which we feel constrained to refer, that we may pay a humble, but deserved tribute to its author. It is the article entitled "The Wife," by Mrs. Lucy K. Wells. This lady was the daughter of a respectable and worthy clergyman in the state of Maine, who deceased many years ago. She grew up to become a lovely and beloved wife, and the mother of several children. But adversity and severe afflictions fell to her lot, with which she struggled for a few years with heroic and Christian patience, till she was at last borne down by their weight, and sunk like "the traveller in the midst of his journey."

She was a woman of high intellectual endowments and the purest moral culture. Under favorable circumstances she would have become one of

the best and worthiest writers in the country. But her pathway was "hedged up," and opportunity was never allowed her to enter the fields of literature. She did, indeed, now and then in a momentary respite from toil, or in hours stolen from sleep, throw off an occasional article, and circumstances had recently placed two or three of her manuscripts in our hands. But while we were looking about for means of using them to her advantage, the silver cord was loosed, the pitcher was broken at the fountain, and her gentle and tried spirit was exhaled, like a dew-drop, to Heaven.

EDITOR.

New York, Dec., 1845.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in the context of public administration and financial management. The text notes that without reliable records, it is difficult to track the flow of funds and ensure that resources are being used effectively and efficiently.

2. The second part of the document addresses the challenges associated with data collection and analysis. It highlights that gathering accurate and timely data is often a complex task, requiring the use of various methods and tools. The text suggests that investing in modern data management systems and training staff in data analysis techniques can significantly improve the quality and reliability of the information used for decision-making.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in enhancing organizational performance. It discusses how digital tools and platforms can streamline processes, reduce errors, and facilitate communication between different departments and stakeholders. The text also mentions the importance of ensuring that these technologies are secure and that data is protected from unauthorized access.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the need for continuous improvement and innovation. It suggests that organizations should regularly evaluate their current practices and seek out new ways to optimize their operations. This could involve experimenting with different models, adopting best practices from other organizations, and fostering a culture of learning and experimentation.

5. The fifth part of the document concludes by emphasizing the importance of leadership and governance in driving organizational success. It notes that clear vision, strong communication, and effective decision-making are all critical factors in ensuring that an organization remains focused on its goals and achieves its mission. The text also mentions the importance of maintaining high standards of ethics and integrity in all organizational activities.

CONTENTS.

THE Field of the World—James Montgomery,....	9
The Palace of Beauty—Mrs. Child,.....	11
“I would not live alway”—Rev. Dr. Muhlenburg,	21
The Brown Mug—Seba Smith,.....	23
The Beleaguered City—H. W. Longfellow,.....	37
Advice to a Daughter—Bishop Madison,.....	30
The Return of Youth—W. C. Bryant,.....	44
The Rich Merchant—Anon,.....	46
The Water—Elizabeth Oakes Smith,.....	50
The Two Sisters—Kötzebue,.....	52
The Old World—Geo. Lunt,.....	64
Remarkable Instance of Memory—from the “Life of Coleridge,”	67
The Pool of Bethesda—Seba Smith,.....	70
The Witch of Endor—Elizabeth Oakes Smith,....	71
Love thy Neighbor as thyself—Leigh Hunt,.....	80
The Wife—Mrs. Lucy K. Wells,.....	81
Lament of the Irish Emigrant—Mrs. Price Black- wood,.....	99
St. Paul and Thecla—Ancient Fragment,.....	101
The Three little Graves—Seba Smith,.....	113
The Freshet—H. F. Harrington,.....	116