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Xmas! / 1886.



LENORE.

BY

EDGAR ALLAN POE.

ILLUSTRATED.

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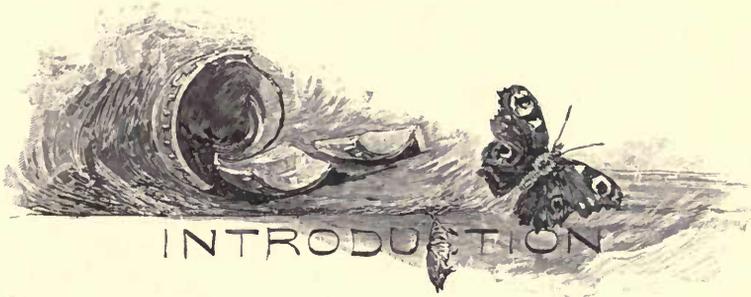
1886.

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REVISED EDITION
OF
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1886



EDGAR ALLAN POE was born in Baltimore in 1811. He graduated at the University of Virginia in 1826; and having spent a year in Europe, he returned to America, and was for a number of years editor of different magazines, among which was the "Broadway Journal." The poem of Lenore was always his favorite, and above his desk always hung the romantic picture of his loved and lost Lenore. He died in Baltimore in 1849.

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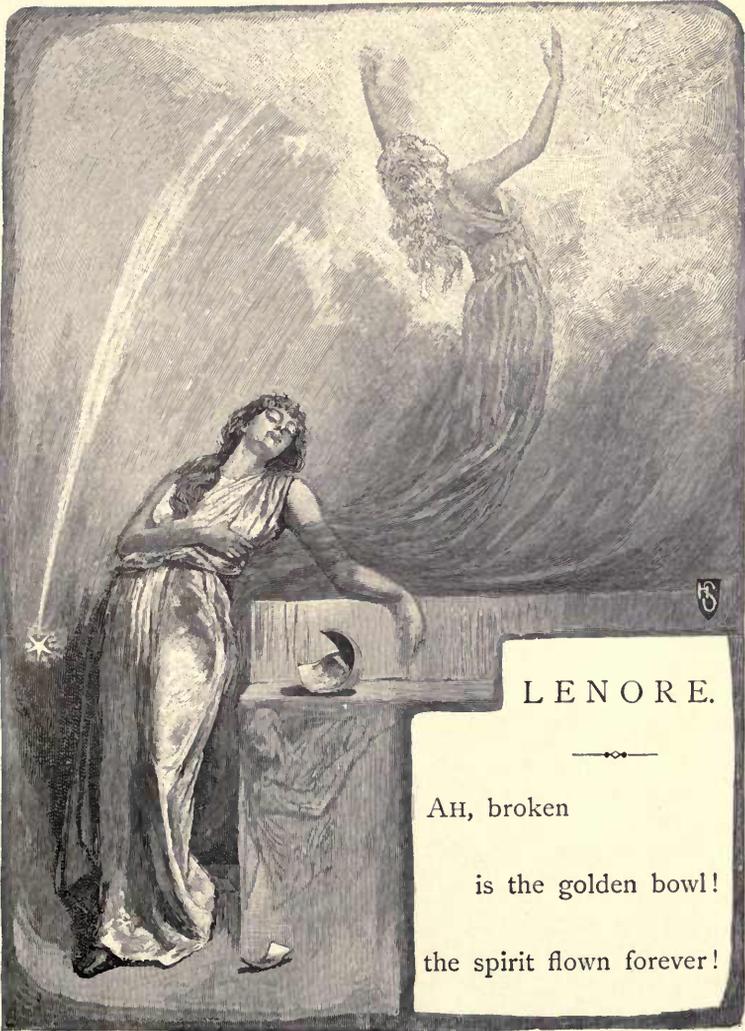
ILLUSTRATIONS

BY HY. SANDHAM, A.R.A.



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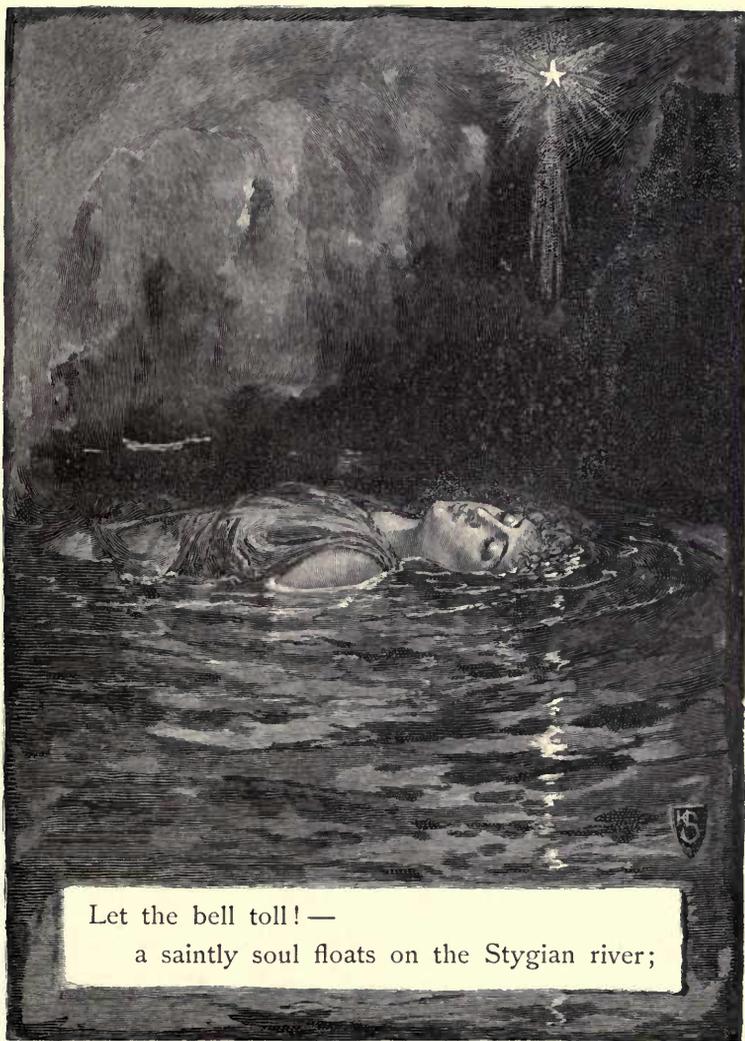


LENORE.

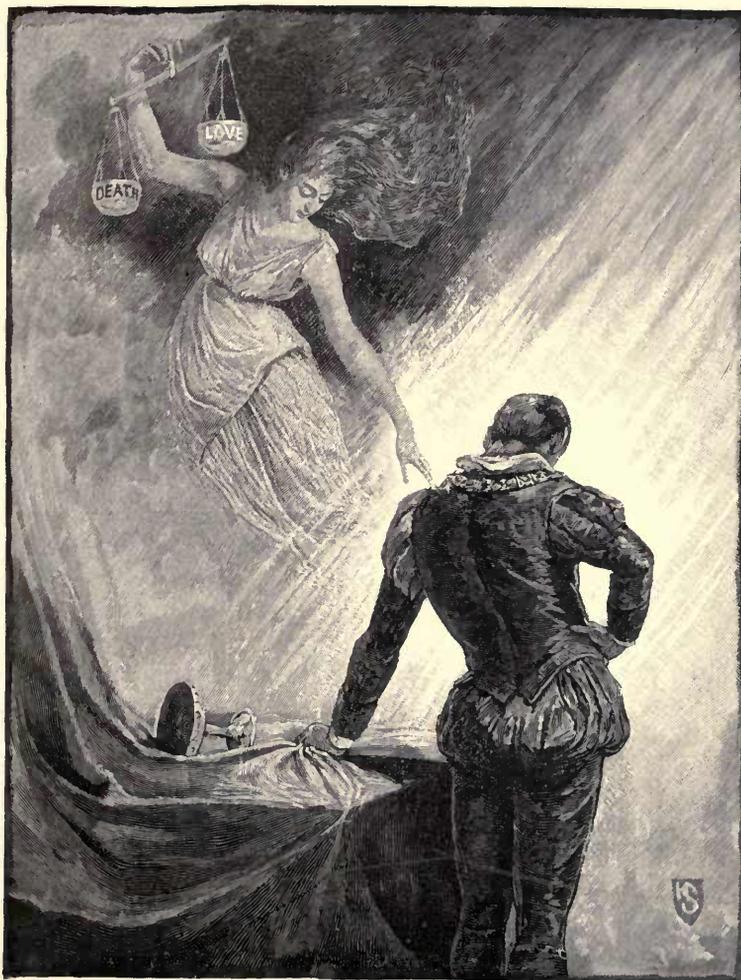
AH, broken

is the golden bowl!

the spirit flown forever!



Let the bell toll! —
a saintly soul floats on the Stygian river;



And, Guy De Vere, hast *thou* no tear?—
weep now or nevermore!



See! on yon drear
and rigid bier
low lies thy love,
Lenore!
Come! let the burial
rite be read,
the funeral song
be sung!—

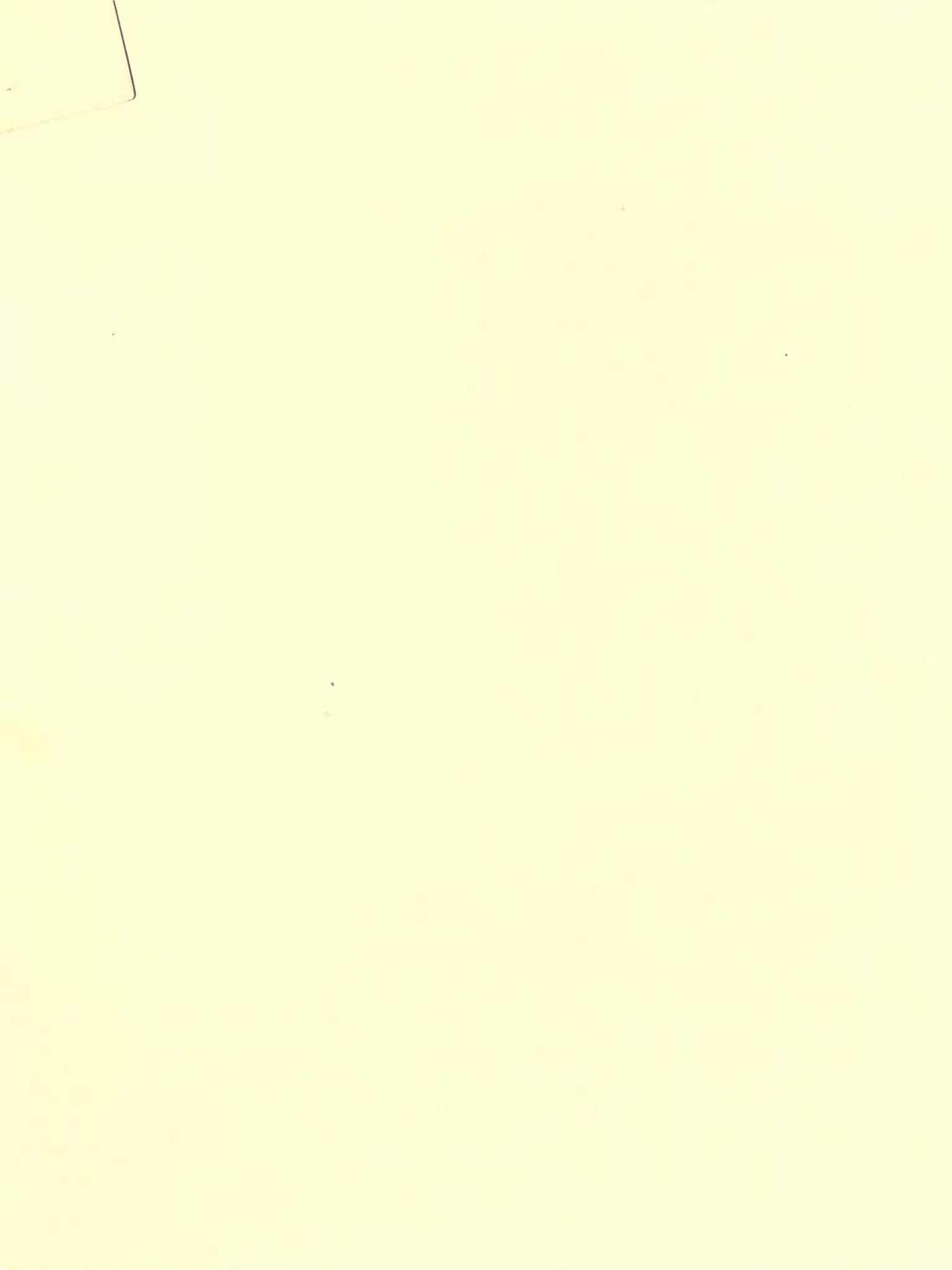
An anthem for the queenliest dead

that ever died so young,—



A dirge for her, the doubly dead,

in that she died so young.



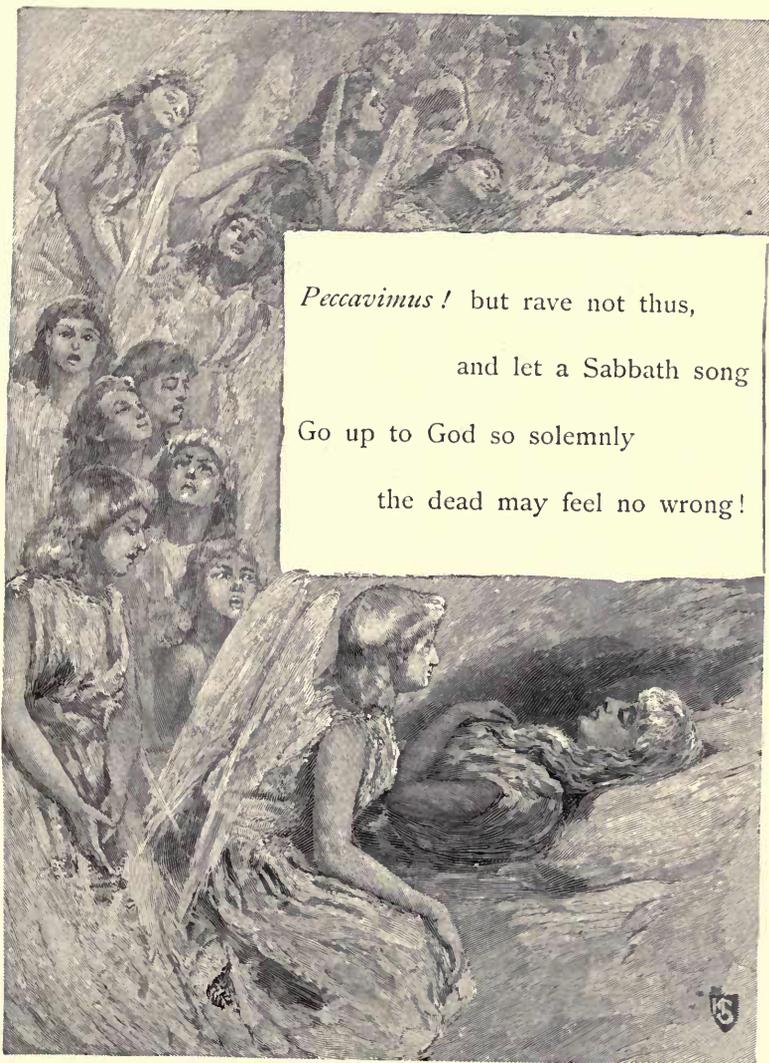


“Wretches! ye loved her for her wealth
and hated her for her pride,

“And when she fell in feeble health,
ye blessed her — that she died!
“How *shall* the ritual, then, be read? —
the requiem how be sung



“By you — by yours, the evil eye, —
by yours, the slanderous tongue
“That did to death the innocence
that died, and died so young?”

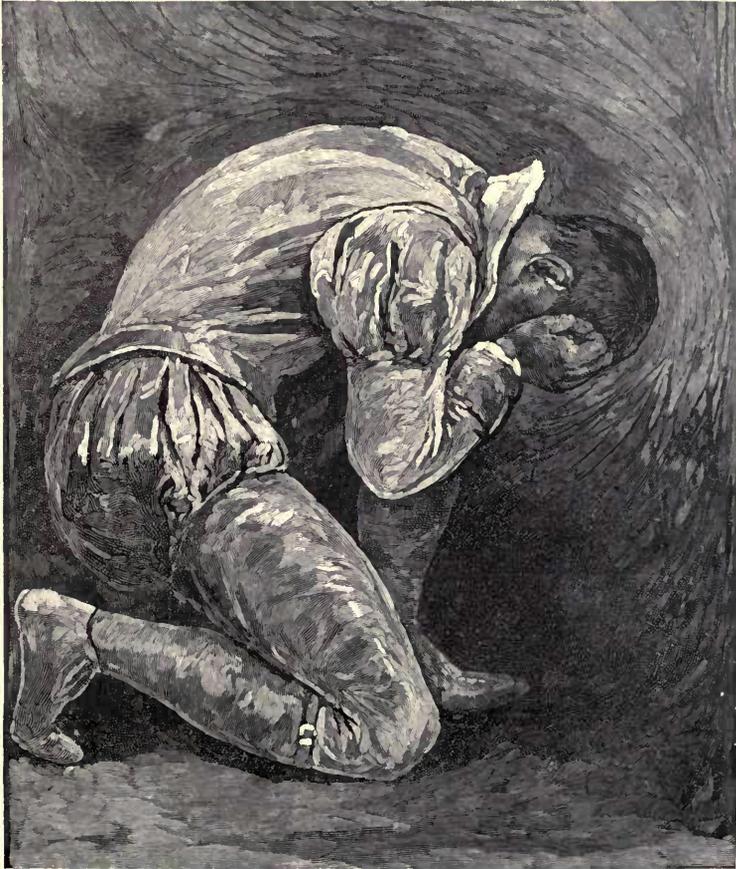


Peccavimus! but rave not thus,
and let a Sabbath song
Go up to God so solemnly
the dead may feel no wrong!



The sweet Lenore hath "gone before,"

with Hope, that flew beside,



Leaving thee wild for the dear child

that should have been thy bride, —



For her, the fair and *debonair*,
that now so lowly lies,

The life upon her yellow hair but not within her eyes, —
The life still there, upon her hair;
the death upon her eyes.



“Avaunt! to-night my heart is light.
No dirge will I upraise,
“But waft the angel on her flight
with a Pæan of old days!
“Let *no* bell toll!
lest her sweet soul, amid its hallowed mirth,
“Should catch the note
as it doth float up from the damnèd Earth.
“To friends above, from fiends below,
the indignant ghost is riven, —
“From Hell unto a high estate
far up within the Heaven, —



“ From grief and groan to a golden throne,
beside the King of Heaven.”

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