

tained amendments from both sides. This was the *MAGNA CARTA*.

Estimates have varied as to the true character of the *Magna Carta* and in many cases its importance has been vastly exaggerated. As a matter of fact, it was nothing but a confirmation of existing customs, particularly desired as a safeguard against the exceptional and irregular increase of burdens due to the extremities to which John was reduced. And so, after all allowance has been made for the mistakes due to cen-

turies of indiscriminating admiration, the charter remains as an impressive example of what perhaps is a united and national capacity of resistance to arbitrary government. Drawn up long before the so-called reformation, it is worth nothing that this blow for freedom — such in effect was the Rebellion of the Rich — was struck, not by Protestants or infidels, but by Catholics; and that, not in the "glorious age of enlightenment," but in the supposed darkness and ignorance of the Middle Ages.

THREE LITTLE DROPS

Look....!

*Three little drops of water
Drip into a pool of wine;
The scarlet 'sea winks welcome*

Then....!

*In the timeless silence
Of a universe at hush;
Angelic legions hover
In anticipation — tense.*

Hark....!

*Priestly lips are trembling
Words of might and power;
Heaven's Lord Himself is hast'ning
To the summons of a whisper.*

Now....!

*The scarlet Blood of Christ
Brimms the hollow cup;
And lost in the throbbing purple —
Three little drops of men!*

Gregorio Binuya, Jr.