

## THE POETICAL MEMORY AN ESSAY

I AM one of those silly people (there are a lot of them—quite enough to make it pay) who are so irritated at the arrival of a bill that I nearly always throw it on the fire. For all that, I had been humbly proud of my memory, and it was an awful shock to me one morning when I received this bill,

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**J W BENSON, LTD**

JEWELLERS, GOLDSMITHS, SILVERSMITHS AND WATCH & CLOCK MAKERS.

25, OLD BOND ST  
(STEAM FACTORIES LUDGATE HILL.)

ESTABLISHED 1749

*E. A. Cowley, Esq.*  
21 Warwick Road,  
Kensington W.

*London, 28th Nov. 1908*

<i>1907</i>	<i>April 11 To repairs, Coffee Pot</i>	<i>4 6</i>
<i>Sept 7</i>	<i>new glasses to gold bezels &amp; hunting watch</i>	<i>2 -</i>
<i>Oct 30</i>	<i>relining and refitting lid of Godeilo with case pickers, supplying two new pickers pockets and new tooth brush bottle: repairing and supplying two platelet clips to side standards - removing brouses and polishing all silver mounts - also cleaning and preserving all leather fittings</i>	<i>8 10 -</i>
<i>28 "</i>	<i>repairing and cleaning Gold bezels; half hunting watch</i>	<i>13 6</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>9 10 -</i>

for I had a very clear impression in my mind that the contract was for £5.

Indeed, I wrote and said so.  
But alas! my poor memory was most certainly at fault. Messrs. Bensons replied:



Sir,

In reply to your letter respecting your account we beg to enclose statement herewith, from which you will see that the £5 you handed to our Assistant was in payment of your old account, the various items of which ranged from October 1906 to September 1907, and statements of which had been rendered to you each quarter. This payment of £5 left a balance of 6/6, and with the 13/6 charged for repairing the gold Watch and £8/10/- for repairing Gold Case, the total of your account to date is £9.10/-. With regard to the item of £8/10/- we cannot understand how you come to be under the impression that it should only be £5, as we are certain our Assistant did not quote this latter price for doing up the Gold Case. Trusting that this explanation will make the matter quite clear to you.

We beg to remain, Sir,

E. A. Crosby, Esq.,  
21 Warwick Road,  
Kensington, W.

Yours obediently,  
J. W. Benson Ltd.  
per J. W. B.

This explanation *did* make the matter quite clear to me; for I had all the time in my possession—not thrown in the fire after all!—their original account.

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1851 *E. A. Crowley Esq*  
*21 Warwick Row*  
*London: 20. 00. 1905*

*To*  
*Relevancy - refitting with pyrokin lid of*  
*24 inch steel base new pyrokin plates*  
*& new cut glass bowl front to take*  
*supplying the fluted clips & repairing*  
*and standard do, removing burner*  
*& replacing all other mounts*  
*cleaning & renovating all brass fittings*  
*cleaning & repainting a Gold & Silver*  
*& half & quarter English & French*  
*Balance of old etc*

5  
 136  
 66  
 70

ALEISTER CROWLEY.