

"Yes, sir, I hate work, and shall have a handsome income when I am of age; so I think it will be a good plan to make the most of my youth, and enjoy myself as much as I can."

"Certainly! if you fulfil both these intentions; but, remember, riches may take to themselves wings and fly away, and enjoyment is apt to elude her most eager votaries, and steal in unawares among the plodding workers, who marvel how their labors have become so lightened."

"Then there is a chance for my cousin Edmund having a stray visit from her now and then," said Owen.

"Indeed, I should not much wonder if she takes up her abode with him and his fellow-workers," answered Mr. M—. "But, Owen, you say you intend to be a gentleman, and I am glad to hear it, for a true gentleman comprises every variety of attractive worth, both in character, attainment, deportment, and influence. He is the most self-denying of mortals, ever preferring the convenience of others to his own; improving his time in the cultivation of his talents, exerting his influence, and using his wealth for the counteraction of evil; employing his energies for the social weal; and all this in the most agreeable manner that can be devised. You must, indeed, make the most of your youth to attain such a distinction."

Owen was so astounded at this interpretation of a gentleman's qualities, that he could not utter a single exclamation. So his grandfather continued, "Whilst courteous to others, a true gentleman is not unmindful of himself; but always nice in his person, and unobtrusive in his dress; no tawdry tinsel, no shabby finery, betrays his dependence upon outward adornment. He is refined in his habits and his language, indulging in no low phrase, no vulgar tricks, even in private. Considerate of the feelings of others, he would forego a joke rather than inflict a pang. His politeness is as assiduous in the domestic circle as in royal saloons, and he is so well informed as to be able to converse on congenial topics with the mechanic as well as the statesman, with the merchant or the divine, with the little child or the matured philosopher. The gentleman is welcome in every society; is prepared to do as much good, to all classes of the community, as he possesses leisure to attend to them."

"Stop, dear sir," said Owen; "you are describing a perfect character, but I only meant a gentleman to travel, and amuse himself, and so on."

"Well, to travel as a gentleman, you must be well acquainted with the language, history, and customs of the countries you visit; for ignorance of these things is beneath a gentleman. You must be a judge of paintings, sculpture, and architecture—they are parts of a gentleman's taste and knowledge; and for amusement, a gentleman cannot course or hunt—these pursuits involve so much low companionship and noisy revelry; he cannot gamble, for he would distress his antagonist, and lose his own equanimity; he cannot frequent the theatre, and those public resorts where his ear would be offended by profanity, his delicacy wounded by impurity. In short, the gentleman rightly estimates his own position, his own conduct, and his prospects, and would be the last to make a mistake on either point."

"You have portrayed a vastly superior personage to any that I ever dreamt of, sir," replied Owen.

"Possibly; but as you have thought sufficiently of your future course, to choose a special path, you would surely ascertain all that belongs to that path."

"The fact is, my dear sir, I begin to feel that I have never really thought about the matter."

"Ah, 'tis an old and common error, my lad. The Great Jehovah lamented in ancient days, 'My people do not consider.' And so now, we flutter along the gay garden of childhood, heedless of all but the passing moment; then plunge headlong into the activities of life with reckless ardour, and only pause on the confines of eternity, to wish we could begin again, and redeem the unprofitable past!"

"I am sure that cannot be your case, sir," interposed Edmund, with an affectionate smile. "You have always been busy and useful ever since I can remember."

"You remember but a very small portion of my three-score years and ten, my boy, and I will not now detail the many events which sadden my memory, and induce the heartfelt prayer that you may be taught so to number your days, that each shall add lessons of wisdom and works of acceptance in the sight of our holy Judge; not that by any works of righteousness we can merit His favor, but that we may thus prove how much we love Him who first loved us and gave Himself for us."

Mr. M— paused, but the boys perceived he had more to say, and their attention being more fully roused, they begged him to proceed.

"We have spoken of your profession for this life, my dear grandsons, but your decision for eternity is of infinitely greater importance."

"Of course," said Owen, "I should not think of neglecting public worship, omitting to read the Bible, and when I am a little older and settled in life, I shall think what more I can do."

"Would not wisdom suggest that you should first seek the salva-

tion of your soul, Owen. Life is frail, and many a healthy youth has been cut off suddenly by accident or disease, just as the most promising prospects were opening before him. Others have been arrested by the veiling of the mental faculties; insanity has abridged the day of grace; but when once you have planted your foot firmly on the Rock of Ages, and have been admitted into the Church of the living God, it is highly necessary, that you should become transformed into a living epistle of his Spirit, that may be known and read of all men. In these days of latitudinarian theories, and multifarious 'phases of faith,' young people should be well grounded in the 'sound doctrines' so strongly insisted upon by the apostle Paul. Cling first, then, to the Word of Truth, which is able to guide you in that 'path which shineth more and more unto the perfect day.'"—*British Mothers' Journal.*

VIII. Educational Intelligence.

—GRATIFYING LIBRARY OPERATIONS IN HOWARD.—The Trustees of School Section No. 12, write to the Department as follows:—"At our school meeting in January last, there was ten dollars voted to our Librarian for trouble, and which he declined to accept, but proposed it to go for books to increase our School Section Library. It was then moved and seconded that the Trustees do add ten dollars more, which was carried; and now we enclose you the twenty dollars, which with your liberal addition of 100 per cent. will pay for the books and apparatus ordered. You are aware we had much opposition to a library at first, but it is withered, and will, we think, soon die. We have the pleasure to say, the books have been well read, and hope the small addition now ordered will prove a stimulant. The first invoice, 273 volumes, the number read the first year was 252 volumes; the number read the second year, 290 volumes; the third year 281 volumes, and the current year promises well so far.

—INFLUENCE OF PRIZES IN THE COUNTY OF HURON.—On this subject John Nairn, Esq., Local Superintendent, thus remarks in transmitting his Annual Report:—"The influence which prizes exercise is unquestionably beneficial and improving. The chance of a prize is a powerful incitement to study and perseverance, and when it is gained the taste for reading receives fresh impulse, and becomes almost insatiable. The volume presented may disclose so much elevated sentiment, and detail such interesting incidents of perseverance, application and integrity as to stimulate the scholar to enter upon a like course, by which he may secure honor and distinction in the world. If no prize had been awarded the youth may never have heard of the noble example which is set before him for imitation, and therefore as a means for circulating such instructive books as we find in the catalogue you have published, and bringing them to the notice, not merely of the scholar, but of all the members in his family; prizes ought to receive every encouragement.

—NECESSITY FOR LIBRARIES IN THE COUNTY OF HURON.—This is obvious as a condition of establishing a jail library, as will be seen by the following extract from a late report of the Educational Committee of the County, which has been transmitted to this Department.

"Circular from Chief Superintendent of Education in reference to the establishment of Prison Libraries under consideration.

"Your Committee refrain from expressing any opinion in reference to the propriety of such a measure. They consider it time enough to take action in the premises, when every Common School District or Township Ward in these Counties shall have been supplied with public libraries."

IX. Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

—METEOROLOGICAL PROGNOSTICS ACCOUNTED FOR.—M. Babinet, of the Institute, who has been for some time past in the habit of publishing his meteorological prognostics every now and then, has just written to the *Debats* to explain why he lately foretold a severe winter commencing from the 22nd of last December. The following is the substance of his letter:—"Although meteorology, he observes, is still in its infancy, there is one fact established beyond a doubt—viz., that the dominant wind of France, and of the greater part of Europe, is the south-west, which carries the warm air of France to Russia. The dominant wind being ascertained, it is an acknowledged fact in meteorology that the next strongest, or subdominant wind is the opposite one—viz., the north-east, so that after the Franco-Russian current we may expect the Russo-French one, which will bring the cold of Russia over here. It generally blows at uncertain intervals between November and March,