

The Day of Silence

At Chelsea the jar was again opened. This time Pollock drank an indefinite number of mugs, and so on until he had quaffed with him for continuing to tempt Billy. The child had swallowed at least a pint, and began to show the effect of it; he lay back in the stern, laughing to himself, his eyes fixed on the blue sky.

A sky such as London rarely knows; of exquisite purity; a limpid sapphire, streaked about the horizon with creamy cloudlets. All the smoke of the city was borne eastward; the zenith shone translucent as over woodland solitudes. The torrid beams of the past week were forgotten; mild and soothing splendor summoned mortals to come forth into the ways of summer and be glad.

With the last impulse of the flowing tide they reached the broad water beyond Battersea Bridge, where Solomon began to prepare himself for a delicious plunge. The boat could not be left to Billy alone; Pollock was content to wait until Burden had had the first swim. Quickly stripped, the big limbed fellow stood where his boy had been sitting, and of a sudden leaped headlong. Billy yelled with delight at the great splash, and yelled again triumphantly when his father's head rose to the surface. Solomon was a fair swimmer, but did not pretend to great achievement; he struck out in the upward direction and swam for about a quarter of a mile, the boat keeping along with him; then he was glad to catch hold of the stern. Pollock began to fling off his clothes.

"My turn, old pal!" he shouted. "Tumble in, an' let's have a feel of the coolness." Solomon got into the boat, and sat naked at one of the oars, Billy managing the other. Five minutes saw him back again; he had swallowed rather alarmingly, a result of the gallon or two of ale which freighted him. Then Burden took another plunge. When he had swum to a little distance, Pollock whispered to the boy:

"Like to have a dip, Billy?"

"Shouldn't I just! But I can't swim."

"What's the odds? Go over the side, an' I'll bid you by the lands. Off with yer things sharp afore yer father sees what we're up to."

Billy needed no second invitation. In a minute he had his clothes off. Pollock seized him by both arms and let him down over the side of the boat. Solomon swam ahead, and as the tide had ceased to drift the boat onwards, he was presently at some distance. With firm grip, Pollock bobbed the child up and down, the breadth of the tub allowing him to lean cautiously without risk.

Then the father turned to look, and saw what was going on. He gave a terrific shout.

"Confound you, Jim! Pull him in, or I'll

"Old ver jaw!" roared the other, laughing. "He's all right. Let the kid enjoy himself—swart yer!"

Solomon struck out for the boat.

"He's a comin'," said Pollock, all but helpless with half-drunken laughter.

"Pull me in!" said the child, fearful of his father's wrath.

And at the same moment he made an effort to jump upon the gunwale. But Jim Pollock also had bent forward, and the result of the two movements was that the man overbalanced himself. He fell into the water, and the water and sank. Billy with him. From Burden sounded a hoarse cry of agony. Already tired with swimming, the terrified man impeded himself instead of coming on more quickly; he splashed and struggled, and again his voice sounded in a wild shout for help.

There was a boat in sight, but far off. On the Battersea side a few people could be seen; but they did not yet become aware of what had happened. From the other bank no aid could be expected.

Pollock came to the surface and alone. He thought only of making for the boat, as the one way of saving Billy, for he had no skill in supporting another person, and he himself swam. But the stress of the moment was too much for him; like Burden, he lost his head, and by clutching at the boat, pulled it over, so that it began to fill. A cry, a heartrending scream, from the helpless child, who had just risen, utterly distracted him; as the boat swamped, he clung madly to it; it capsized, and he hung by the keel.

Billy was being wafted down the river. Once or twice his little head appeared above the water, and his arms were flung up. The desperate father came onwards, but slowly; fear seemed to have unstrung his sinews, and he struggled like one who is himself in need of assistance. Once or twice his voice made itself heard; but Pollock, who was drifting with the boat, returned no answer. And from the drowning child there came no sound.

A steamer was just putting in at Battersea pier—too far off to be of use. But by this time some one on the bank of the old church had seen the boat bottom upwards. An alarm was given.

Too late, save for the rescue of Jim Pollock. Burden had passed the boat and was not far from the place where his child had gone down for the last time; with ordinary command of his strength and skill he might easily have kept afloat until help came to him; but he sank. Only his lifeless body was recovered.

And Billy—poor little chap—disappeared altogether. The seaward-rushing Thames bore him along in its muddy depths, hiding him until the third day; when his body was seen and picked up not far from the place whence he had started on his merry excursion.

This disaster happened about four of the clock. Two hours later, Mrs. Burden, having done her day's work and received her pay, moved homeward.

Since noon she had been suffering greatly; what on her knees, scrubbing floors and staircases, she had several times felt herself in danger of fainting; the stooping posture intensified a pain from which she was seldom quite free; and the heat in this small windowed staircase, crowded among larger buildings in an alley off Fleet street, was insufferably oppressive; once or twice she lay flat upon the boards, panting for breath. It was over now; she had earned the Sunday's dinner, and could return with the feeling of one who has done her duty.

On Monday she would go to Guy's Hospital, and get something for that pain. Six months had passed since her last visit to the doctor, whose warning she heeded but little. It won't do to think too much of one's ailments. But they must give her a good large bottle of medicine this time, and she would be careful to take it at the right hours.

She came out into St. Bride's Church yard, and was passing on towards Fleet street, when again the anguishing spasm seized upon her. She turned and looked at the seats under the wall of the church, where two or three people were resting in the shadowed quiet. It would be better to sit here for a moment. Her weak and weary limbs bore her with difficulty to the nearest bench, and she sank upon it with a sigh.

The pain lasted only a minute or two, and

in the relief that followed she was glad to breathe the air of this little open space, where she could look up at the blue sky and enjoy the sense of repose. The places of her new room about were still and vacant, almost till Monday morning. Only a dull sound of traffic came from the great thoroughfare, near at hand as it was. And the wonderful sky made her shiver with the river. She had felt a slight uneasiness about him, now and then, for Jim Pollock was a reckless fellow at all times, and in weather like this he was sure to have been drinking freely; but Solomon would look after the boy.

They would get back about eight o'clock, most likely. Billy would be hungry; he must have a bit of something for supper—fried liver, or perhaps some steaks.

It was time for her to be moving on.

She stood up; but the movement brought on another attack. Her body sank together; her head fell forwards.

Presently the man who was sitting on the next bench began to look at her; he smiled—another victim of the thirsty weather!

And half an hour passed before it was discovered that the woman sitting there in the shadow of St. Bride's Church was dead.

That night Jim Pollock went to the house in Southwark where Solomon Burden and his wife and his child had lived. He could hear nothing of Mrs. Burden. The key of the attic lay on the ledge above the door; no one had been, said the neighbors, since father and son went away together early that afternoon.

In the little home there was silence.

(THE END.)

Economy and Strength.

Valuable vegetable remedies are used in the preparation of Hood's Sarsaparilla in such a peculiar manner as to retain the full medicinal power of every ingredient. Thus Hood's Sarsaparilla combines economy and strength and is the only remedy of which "100 Doses One Dollar" is true. Be sure to get Hood's.

Hood's Pills do not purge, pain or gripe, but act promptly, easily and efficiently.

A closed bank in Arizona has issued the following notice: "This bank has not been opened since the people \$36,000; the people owe it \$35,000; it is the people who are busted; when they pay we'll pay."

Sure to Regulate the Bowels.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used for over FIFTY YEARS for CHILDREN WHILE TEETHING with PERFECT SUCCESS. IT SOOTHES THE CHILLY, SOOTHES THE COLIC, and is the best remedy for DIARRHEA. Sold by druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take it other kind. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

A ken on the farm of Lewis Livingston, near Pensacola, Fla., recently taking a walk, it is claimed, a correct representation of the dial of a clock on the shell. This hen bears watching.

Give Holloway's Corn Cure a trial. It removed ten corns from one pair of feet without any pain. What it has done once it will do again.

Two-thirds of all the cotton duck produced in the world is made within twenty miles of Baltimore.

At Death's Door—Dyspepsia Conquered.—A Great Medical Triumph.

LYMAN'S VEGETABLE DISCOVERY FOR DYSPEPSIA. My medical adviser and others told me I could not possibly live, when I commenced the use of Northrop & Lyman's VEGETABLE DISCOVERY for Dyspepsia. My case was one of the worst of its kind. For three years I could not eat meat and my weight decreased from 219 to 119 pounds. All the food I took for thirteen months previous to taking this

VEGETABLE DISCOVERY consisted of milk. I am now entirely cured and have regained my usual weight, can eat anything with a keen relish and feel like a new man. I have sold over 30 dozen VEGETABLE DISCOVERY since it cured me, as I am well-known, and people in this section know how low I was, and thought I could not possibly be cured. They are eager to try this grand medicine. It certainly saved my life, as I never expected to recover when I first commenced using it. I am not exaggerating anything, but feel glad to be able to contribute this testimonial and trust it may be the means of convincing others of its merit as a certain cure for Dyspepsia. J. J. VAN VORST, (Signed.) General Merchant.

Wotton, P.Q.

An Oswego, N. Y., woman kills all stray cats by means of chloroform. The Humane Society, of New York State, decided at a recent meeting that such action should be emulated.

The great lung healer is found in the excellent medicine sold as Pickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup. It soothes and diminishes the sensibility of the membrane of the throat and air passages and is a sovereign remedy for all coughs, colds, hoarseness, pain or soreness in the chest, bronchitis, etc. It has cured many when supposed to be far advanced in consumption.

Probably one of the smallest specimens of horseshoe ever born is a recent arrival on the farm of C. B. Barrett, near Walton, N. Y. The colt is a week old and stands but two feet high.

Captain's Sweeney, U.S.A., San Diego, Cal. says: "Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy is the first medicine I have ever found that would do me any good." Price 50 cents. Sold by W. P. Rogers.

The grenadiers, a body of tall, strong soldiers who threw bombs or grenades into the enemy's ranks, were established in France in 1667, in England in 1685.

Piles Piles! Itching Piles.

SYMPTOMS:—Moisture; intense itching and stinging; most at night; worse by scratching. If allowed to continue tumors form which often bleed and ulcerate, becoming very sore. SWAYNE'S OINTMENT stops the itching and bleeding, heals ulceration and in most cases removes the tumors. At druggists, or by mail, for 50 cents. Dr. Swayne & Son, Philadelphia.

Lyman, Sons & Co., Montreal, wholesale agents.

In the value of land is estimated to be 34 times the annual rental.

THE "TREE OF LIFE" OF INDIA Furnishes a vitalizing elixir (new to this country) which rapidly and permanently cures NERVOUS DEBILITY, EXHAUSTION and LOSS OF NERVE FORCE.

Sufferers from trouble of the generative organs can get full particulars free of a powerful vitalizing elixir extracted from the roots and bark of a plant found only in the hills of British India and known to the natives as the "Tree of Life." This elixir, which is entirely new to this country, has been made and used by Mrs. Besant in India for years, and without one failure to cure, it restores all the functions and a new life is begun. It has also a powerful influence in chronic Constipation, Indigestion, Liver Complaints and Female Troubles. Correspondence strictly confidential. Address, Mrs. MATHIA BESANT, Toronto, Canada. A word to the wise is sufficient.

MR. MEREDITH AND NO POPERY.

(From the Toronto Globe.)

In his speech in the Legislature last week Mr. Meredith protested strongly against the accusation that he had raised a no-Popery cry. He had done nothing of the kind, he said. It was most unfair to bring such a charge against him. "He repudiated most emphatically every charge of insinuation to the effect that the members of his side of the House were disposed to treat those of the Roman Catholic faith with the least degree of harshness. Far from it. Equal rights for all was the platform on which they stood. That was the policy of himself and his followers at the last election, and that would be their policy at the impending elections."

We have no doubt that Mr. Meredith could make a presentable argument in favor of his disclaimer. Of course he has never shouted "no-Popery," nor committed himself to the absurdities which are spoken on street corners and in grocery stores and bar-rooms.

Whenever he has spoken on the subject it has been with the skill of a practiced lawyer and politician. The speech in which he advocated combination against the common enemy is a good example of his method of dealing with these questions. He said:

"Is there not a great danger to the State in the great threat there is between parties swaying from one side to the other and existing from that other what that other in conscience could not give without the support of that compact minority? I say that is one of the dangers to modern civilization. I say that this method of a solid compact, by which both parties are willing to throw down their arms, is one of the great evils we have to contend with in Parliamentary Government, and against which both parties should unite, unite against the common enemy, for there is danger in the community."

The utmost care was taken to avoid the utterance of anything personally offensive to Catholics. There were even expressions of sympathy towards Catholics, and of a desire to do them justice. Nevertheless, the address was so pleasing to the anti-Catholic agitators that the Mail commented upon it in these words:

"If the reader will examine the speech of Mr. Meredith, which he delivered in London on Monday evening, he will perceive that not only has the Mail's policy been approved, but it has been adopted in its entirety—not a single plank rejected."

Mr. Meredith has repudiated the no-Popery cry before now. Upon the eve of the elections of 1886 he said that the man who would raise such a cry in a country like this was an enemy not only of his country, but of his God. Yet Mr. Meredith and his friends at that time were reaping all the benefit that could be derived from the raising of that very cry. The Mail was then the organ of the party toward which it is now rapidly returning, and its whole campaign against the Government was an attempt to array against it the forces of Protestantism. His two candidates in Toronto, men of high standing in the party, put "no-Popery" in the foremost place in their platform. The main campaign document was the "Lynch-Mowat concordat," a fierce and unscrupulous appeal to sectarian passion, ignorance and prejudice. Mr. Meredith made his disclaimer of no-Popery in very general terms. He was careful not to repudiate the Mail, not to repudiate the Lynch-Mowat concordat, not to repudiate that most dishonest attempt to discredit the Government, the agitation against the so-called "Ross Bible." He made no earnest effort to quench the flame of fanaticism which had been lighted and fed by the organ of his party, the campaign literature of his party, the candidates of his party.

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