Pouth's Corner.

THE FATHER IS COMING. The clock is on the stroke of six, The father's work is done; Sweep up the hearth and mend the fire, And put the kettle on ! The wild night-wind is blowing cold, 'Tis dreary crossing o'er the wold.

He's crossing o'er the wold apace, He's stronger than the storm; He does not feel the cold, not he, His heart it is so warm: For father's heart is stout and true As ever human bosom knew.

He makes all toil, all hardship light ;-Would all men were the same, So ready to be pleased, so kind, So very slow to blame! Folks need not be unkind, austere, For love hath readier will than fear!

And we'll do all that father likes, His wishes are so few ! Would they were more! that every hour Some wish of his I knew! m sure it makes a happy day When I can please him any way!

-I know he's coming, by this sign, That baby's almost wild; See how he laughs, and crows, and stares, Heaven bless the merry child! His father's self in face and limb, And father's heart is strong in him !

Hark! hark! I hear his footsteps now-He's through the garden gate; Run, little Bess, and ope the door, And do not let him wait! Shout, haby, shout, and clap thy hands, For father on the threshold stands. Mary Howitt.

RECOVERY OF A DAUGHTER.

Many years ago, several German families left their country, and settled in North America. Amongst these was a man from Wirtemberg, who, with his wife and a large family, established himself in Pennsylvania. There were no churches or schools then in that neighbourhood, and he was compelled to keep the sabbath at home with his family, instructing them himself to read the Bible and pray to God. He used very often to read the Scriptures to them, and always used first to say, "Now, my children, be still, and listen to what I am going to read for it is God who speaks to us in this book." In the year 1754, a dreadful war broke out

in Canada, between the French and the English. The Indians took part with the French and made excursions as far as Pennsylvania where they plundered and burned all the houses they came to, and murdered the people. In 1755, they reached the dwelling of the poor family from Wirtemberg, while the wife and one of the sons were gone to a mill, four miles distant, to get some corn ground. The husband, the eldest son, and two little girls, named Barbara and Regina, were at home. The father and his son were instantly killed by the savages, but they carried the two little girls away into captivity, with a great many other children, who were taken in the same manner. They were led many miles through woods and thorny bushes, that nobody might follow them. In this condition they were brought to the habitations of the Indians, who divided among themselves all the children whom they had taken captive.

Barbara was at this time ten years old, and Regina nine. It was never known what became of Barbara; but Regina, and a little girl of two years old, whom she had never seen before, were given to an old widow, who was a very cruel woman. Her only son lived with her and maintained her; but he was sometimes from home for weeks together, and then these poor little children were forced to go into the forests to gather roots and other provisions for the old woman, and when they did not bring her enough to eat, she would beat them in so cruel a manner that they were nearly killed. The she knelt down under a tree, and repeated the prayers to the Lord Jesus, and the hymns which her father had taught her, the little girl prayed with her and learned the hymns and prayers by heart. In this melancholy state of slavery these children remained nine long years, till Regina reached the age of nineteen, and lier little companion was eleven years old. While captives, their hearts seemed to have been drawn towards what was good. Regina continually repeated the verses from the Bible, and the hymns which she had learnt when at home, and she taught them to the little girl. They often used to cheer each other with one hymn from the hymn book used at Halle, in Germany:

"Alone, yet not alone am I, Though in this solitude so drear." They constantly hoped that the Lord Jesus would, some time, bring them back to their Christian friends.

In 1764, the hope of these children was realized. The merciful providence of God brought the English Colonel Bouquet to the place where they were in captivity. He conquered the Indians, and forced them to ask for peace. The first condition he made was, that they should restore all the prisoners they had taken. Thus the two poor girls were released. More than 400 captives were brought to Colonel Bouquet. It was an affecting sight to see so many young people wretched and distressed. The colonel and his soldiers gave them food and clothes, brought them to a town called Carlisle, and published in the Pennsylvania newspapers, that all parents who had lost their children might come to this place, and in case of their finding them, they should be restored. Poor Regina's sorrowing mother came, among many other bereaved parents, to Carlisle; but, alas! her child had become a stranger to her:

ner, as well as the language of the natives. The poor mother went up and down amongst the young persons assembled, but by no efforts could she discover her daughters. She wept in bitter grief and disappointment. Colonel Bouquet said, "Do you recollect nothing by which your children might be discovered? She answered that she recollected nothing but a hymn, which she used to sing with them, and which was as follows:

"Alone, yet not alone am I, Though in this solitude so drear; I feel my Saviour always nigh, He comes the weary hours to cheer. I am with him, and he with me,

Even here alone I cannot be."

The colonel desired her to sing this hymn. Scarcely had the mother sung two lines of it, when Regina rushed from the crowd, began to sing it also, and threw herself into her mother's arms. They both wept for joy, and the colonel restored the daughter to her mother. There was no one to own the other little girl; and as she

for "the book in which God speaks to us." Her mother unfortunately was destitute of that treasure, having lost every thing when the natives burnt the house. A Bible, however, was presented to her, when application was made at Philadelphia; and it is remarkable that Regina had so retained her early instructions that she was enabled to read, immediately the precious book was handed to her .- Related by the Rev. Mr. Rone, of Elsinore in Denmark.

THE DYING YOUTH.

There is no place on earth like a dying bed. There is no hour in man's brief journey across this world, like a dying hour; so solemn, so impressive, and so full of dread interest to each individual when he arrives at that place, and feels that his hour has come. Then the soul makes a pause. She looks back on a receding world, and onward into a dark eternity. There is no retreat. The hour of exchanging worlds has come. To have then a good hope of pardon, and of heaven, how blessed and invaluable! To have no hope then, when flesh and heart fail, and all mortal ties about to be sundered and to of a youth of sixteen, the child of many prayers. Said a pious minister:

I once knew a youth of sixteen, the son and hope of pious parents, and the favourite of a has succeeded in preserving the animal alive, I large circle of associates. He was my friend, am unable to say. We went together to the school-room, to the play ground, to our chamber. I have seen him while listening to the pleadings of parental faithfulness, urging him to immediate repentance, and warning him, by a brother's recent grave, of the danger of delay. He listened in silence and respectful attention, but the alluring pleasures of youth dazzled him, and he resolved to leave religion to a future day.

One evening he met a circle of youthful acquaintance. It was a gay circle and a thought-less one. In the midst of their mirth his eye fell on a hymn-book, he opened it and read-And must this body die,

This mortal frame decay? And must these active limbs of mine
Lie mouldering in the clay?
He laid down the book, and forgot its warning

Late that evening he came to my chamber, breathing short, like one who had been walking fast, and lay down by my side. After some time he turned to me and said, 'Will you get up and get me a glass of water? I feel unwell.' I arose and called the family. He was manifestly ill, but not apparently in immediate danger. The next morning he was worse. A physician was called, but did not understand his case. Search was then made, and it was found that by mistake he had taken a dose of deadly poison. The hand of death was upon him. For three hours his body was writhing little girl always kept close to Regina, and when in agony, but that was forgotten in the more excruciating agonies of his soul. I heard his minister tell him of a merciful Saviour. I heard his father, kneeling by his bed-side, pour out to God the most agonizing prayer for him that language could express. I heard his mother exclaim, 'Oh! my son! my son!' till she swooned and sunk upon the floor. I heard him, as he tossed from side to side, cry out, 'Oh, Lord, have mercy on my soul! Oh, my God, have mercy on me! mercy! mercy! mercy! and then reaching out his hands to his father, he exclaimed, 'I am lost! I am lost! am I not, father?

His breathing grew shorter, and his voice fainter, until raising his hands as if he would cry 'mercy' once more, he expired. Fifteen years have rolled away since I heard those cries of a dying agony, but they ring in my cars now as if it were but an hour. That look of fierce despair is now in my eye, and my ear echoes with the heart-rending cry, 'I am lost! am I not, father?' How can I forget them! They came from the death-bed of my friend, and that friend my own beloved brother.

Reader, by my brother's dying groans, by the tears which fall or this paper while I think of him, and by the tears and groans of Calvary, beseech you, remember, and lay to heart the truths you are here taught .-- Boston Christian Witness.

INSANITY, BROUGHT ON BY HOME-SICKNESS.

From Report of the Boston Lunatic Hospital. Home-sickness is a cause assigned for the disease in five cases [out of 49.] This has but in one case before been found on our record; wards, the visage of the genus scolopax bears and yet, I am persuaded it is a more common cause than is usually supposed. It is in all stupidite, some of the foregoing circumstances cases observed among those who have recently indicate the possession of as large a share of left Ireland; and these are principally females. intelligence on the part of the present convert Regina had acquired the appearance and man. The poor girl, in hope of obtaining an indepen- to civilization, as most of the feathered race

dence-of soon being able by honest industry are capable of testifying by their actions to our to accumulate a sum of money sufficient, either to place herself beyond the reach of want here. or to take herself and her little fortune back to the old country, leaves the home of her infancy, the friends and associates of her childhood, and all those scenes of varied enjoyment and high excitement to which her heart had been wedded. She travels over the sea-suffers much from a long passage perhaps, and scanty food—shut up in the steerage of the ship with companions not of her own choosing. Hope is still with her, and bids her hold up her head for the coming of the bright day when she shall be repaid for all these evils. She reaches our shores—is received coldly, even by her own country women, who seem to think her an intruding gleaner in their harvest-field. With difficulty she at length obtains a situation, at a price greatly reduced from what she had been encouraged to hope for, before leaving clung to Regina and would not let her go, the becomes sick—in short, she is disappointed in mother took her also to her home. brances of home now throng and haunt her mind; and in proportion to the degree of her early happiness is her present misery. She is a forlorn, broken-hearted woman. It is not strange, unprepared by education, or any extraordinary natural endowments as she is, that her mind should give way under these accumulated agonies.

This is not an imaginary description. Among our inmates, a few months ago, was one who came from Ireland, a stranger to all on board the ship, and without a friend in this country. She reached this city—could find no employment, no one to compassionate her conditionwas compelled to lodge during the chilly autumn nights on the "Common " madness and consumption seized her there, and in one month destroyed her.

A TAME. SNIPE.

Letter from G C ogswell, Esq., M. D., to the Liverpool Mail: dated Warrington, Jan. 8,

It seems to be not generally known, that the common snipe (Scolopax Gallinago) is capable die in despair, how dreadful beyond imagination of being domesticated. Bewick, in his History to conceive! To avoid it is worth a whole life of British Birds, makes no allusion to the of ceaseless effort and prayer. And yet such subject. In Yarrell's work, bearing the same dread hours do come, with all their indescriba. title, it is incidentally mentioned (vol. ii. p. ble solemnity. That hour came in the history 608), that "a snipe, slightly wounded in the pinion, which was kept in confinement for some time by Mr. Blyth, would cat nothing but earth-worms." Whether any other naturalist

On Friday, the 30th of October, while some men were out in the fields in this neighbourhood, amusing themselves with catching small birds with a fly-net, they secured a full-grown snipe, which came into my possession on the following day. The head was partially denuded of feathers, in consequence of the bird having struggled against the bars of a cage through impatience at being confined. How. ever, it made no effort to escape when held in the hand, and would even stand quietly on the knee, drink water out of a glass, and fish up worms from the bottom. I have now had this singular pet for more than two months, and, to all appearance, it is perfectly reconciled to its novel mode of life. During the late continuance of severe frost, there seemed every probability of its dying of hunger, as earthworms were not to be procured, and, like the specimen noticed by Mr. Yarrell, it at first refused to take any other kind of nourishment; however, necessity soon prevailed inasmuch as the raw flesh of the hare and rabbit, together with tripe cut into narrow strips, have been taken into favour, but the ordinary kinds of butcher's meat are rejected. Earthworms remain decidedly the favourite article of diet, and of these it consumes a quart in three or four days.

The habits of this creature are surprisingly familiar, considering its commonly supposed irreclaimable nature. During the night it reposes quietly in a cage, standing upon one leg, with the head under the wing. By day, however, a desire to be enlarged is signified by an incessant striking of the bill and head against its prison wires. When released, it flies about the rooms and passages, walks on the table, is pleased at being noticed by those about it; and it is on terms of great intimacy with a little spaniel lap-dop. No situation appears to accord so well with the animal's ideas of comfort as a place on a stool before the fire. Thus accommodated to its liking, and especially if at the same time fondled with the voice and hand, or enjoying the close proximity of its canine associate, it emits a subdued whistling note, sometimes, but very rarely, varied with an approach to a twitter. The food is usually given to it in a glass of water. Wherever the vessel is placed, all that is requisite to secure a prompt attendance is to scrape against the edge with a metallic substance. In feeding, it has great difficulty in seizing a worm, or any substance of similar form, that may happen to be lying on a flat surface. After repeated unsuccessful attempts the morsel is at last got lengthwise between the mandibles, and disappears. Strangers are readily distinguished from the people of the house, as shown by an evident difference of manner, indicative of alarm, manifested in their presence. Should any one be too rude in his advances, the bird, in endeavouring to avoid him, has a peculiar way of erecting the tail feathers and turning them all in the opposite direction. It likes to be kept clean, and devotes frequent attention to the smooth and orderly arrangement of the plumage. Although, in the opinion, at least, of Milne Edthe stamp of stupidity, (leur aspect dénote la

apprehension .- Halifax Times.

A VERY METHODICAL MAN.

There was method in every thing that Mr. Thurn did. He set up in business, and lived in very good style in the city; at the end of two years his family moved into a genteel cottage in the country for the summer, Mr. Thurs declared himself insolvent, and paid ten shil lings in the pound. Before winter came on his family moved into town again, the establish ment was restored as before, business com menced afresh, and things went on for two years, then the family moved into the country for the summer, Mr. Thurn failed, and paid ten shillings in the pound. This was done three times, as regularly as clock-work.

When the Assignee had made up the balance-sheet after the fourth insolvency, Mr Thurn was astonished to learn that it was proposed to declare a dividend of eight shillings in the pound. "I cannot possibly consent to that, Sir," said Mr Thurn: "I always pay ter shillings in the pound, and will pay no less." The Assignce told him it was impossible this time : the assets would not yield it. " That need not stand in the way, Sir," replied Mr. Thurn: "You may declare ten shillings in the pound, and, upon my honour, I will pay the difference out of my own pocket."

Coverousness Punished,-There has just died, says the Presse, in the Insane Hospital, an old man, by the name of Simon, whose history affords a useful lesson, and deserves to be mentioned. When Napoleon resolved upon erecting a palace for the King of Rome, near the barrier of Passy, a stall, belonging to a poor cobbler, by the Name of Simon, interfered with the line of building proposed by the architect. In order not to disarrange the regularity of the construction, they determined to purchase this stall, and applied for that purpose to the proprietor. Simon, who had learned what was going on, had conversed with his neighbours, and by their advice demanded 20,000 francs for his stall. The agent of the Emperor hesitated several days, and determined at length to accept it; but Simon, who had been once more to seek advice, now declared that as they had not been willing to take up his first offer at once, he had increased his claims, and now demanded 10,000 francs. This price was 200 times the value of the spot, and seemed so exorbitant that negotiations were once more broken off, and they commenced the building, making a slight alteration in the original plan-But after a few months they perceived that the purchase of the shop was absolutely necessary, and renewed their negotiations with Simon, but he had once more increased his claims, and now asked 60,000 francs for his property. They offered him 50,000 francs, but he absolutely refused it. The Emperor then ordered them to remain where they were, and to change all their plans, rather than to have anything to do with the stall. The poor cobbler perceived too late that he had abused his good fortune, and offered, of his own accord, his property for 50,000 francs, then for 10, then 30, then 20 but they would not listen to him, for they had made entirely different arrangements. In the meantime, the events of 1814 caused the palace of the King of Rome and the cobbler's stall to be forgotten. Two years afterwards, Simon, compelled by want, sold his property for 150 francs, and a few months after, the vexation and disappointment which he had experienced having affected his reason, he was sent to the Insane Asylum, where he recently died, at the age of 79 years.

You must learn to strengthen your faith by of God's great goodness towards you. Do you acknowledge to have received much? Let that make you certain to receive more: "to him that hath, more shall be given." When you doubt what you shall have, search what you have had at God's hands. Make this reckoning, that the benefits he hath bestowed are bills obligatory, and sufficient sureties that he will bestow further. This present mercy is still a warrant of his future love; because " whom he loveth, he loveth unto the end." Is it not thus? Yet if we could reckon up as many evident, clear, undoubted signs of God's reconciled love towards us, as there are years, yea days, yea hours, past over our heads; all these set together have no such force to confirm our faith, as the loss, and sometimes only the fear of losing a little transitory good, honour, credit, or favour of man, a small calamity, a matter of nothing, to breed a conceit (and such a conceit as is not easily removed) that we are clean crossed out of God's book-that he regards us not-that he looketh upon others, but passeth by us like a stranger to whom we are not known .- The Lord be merciful to our weakness! but thus it is. Well, let the frailty of our nature, the subtilty of Satan, the force of our deceivable imaginations be, as we cannot but deny but they are things that threaten every moment the utter subversion of our faith; faith notwithstanding is not hazarded by these things. "Simon, Simon, Satan hath desired to winnow thee as wheat"; here is our toil; but I have prayed for thee, that they faith fail not;" this is our safety. No man's condition so sure as ours: the prayer of Christ is more than sufficient, both to strengthen us, be we never so weak, and to overthrow all our adversary's power, be it never so strong and potent .- Hooker.

Abstract of the Receipt and Expenditure of the City of Quebec, from the 1st of Jany, to the 31st December, 1846 .. (Condensed from the Mercury.) RECEIPTS.

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Fruit and Biscuit at 12s. 6d.

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R. M. HARRISON.

Agent for Canada. Quebec, August, 1845.

THE BEREAN.

EDITED BY A GLERGYMAN OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, Is published every THURSDAY Morning, BT G. ET A LA IL IE T, Printer, Bookseller and Stationer,

4, ANN-STREET. TERMS: - Fifteen Shillings a-Year, or Twelve Shill ings and Six Pence if paid in advance.

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