

commenced applying at the various stores and offices of the city.

So far from giving any encouragement, people were much surprised that he had the assurance to ask to be employed and trusted again. The majority dismissed him coldly and curtly. A few mongrel natures, true to themselves, gave a snarling refusal. Then there were jovial spirits who must have their jest, even though the sensitive subject of it was tortured thereby—men who enjoyed quizzing Haldane before sending him on, as much as the old inquisitors relished a little recreation with hot pincers and thumb screws. There were also conscientious people, whose worldly prudence prevented them from giving employment to one so damaged in character, and yet who felt constrained to give some good advice. To this, it must be confessed, Haldane listened with very poor grace, thus extending the impression that he was a rather hopeless subject.

"Good life!" he exclaimed, interrupting an old gentleman who was indulging in some platitudes to the effect that the "way of the transgressor is hard"—"I would rather black your boots than listen to such talk. What I want is work—a chance to live honestly. What's the use of telling a fellow not to go to the devil, and then the same as send him to the devil?"

The old gentleman was somewhat shocked and offended, and coldly intimated that he had no need of the young man's services.

A few spoke kindly and seemed truly sorry for him, but they either had no employment to give, or, on business principles, felt that they could not introduce among their other assistants one under bonds to appear, and he tried for a State-prison offence that was already the same as proved.

After receiving rebuffs, and often what he regarded as insults, for hours, the young man's hope began to fail him utterly. His face grew pale and haggard not only from fatigue, but from that which tells disastrously almost as soon upon the body as upon the mind—discouragement. He saw that he had not yet fully realized the consequences of his folly. The deep and seemingly implacable resentment of society was a continued surprise. He was not conscious of being a monster of wickedness, and it seemed to him that after his bitter experience he would rather starve than again touch what was not his own.

But the trouble is, the world does not give us much credit for what we think, feel, and imagine, even if aware of our thoughts. It is what we do that forms public opinion; and it was both natural and just that the public should have a very decided opinion of one who had just shown himself capable of gambling, drunkenness, and practical theft.

And yet the probabilities were that if some kind, just man had bestowed upon Haldane both employment and trust, with a chance to rise, his bitter lesson would have made him scrupulously careful to shun his peculiar temptations from that time forward. But the world usually regards one who has committed a crime as a criminal, and treats him as such. It cannot, if it would, nicely calculate the hidden moral state and future chances. It acts on sound generalities, regardless of the exceptions; and thus it often happens that men and women who at first can scarcely understand the world's adverse opinion, are disheartened by it, and at last come to merit the worst that can be said or thought.

As, at the time of his first arrest, Haldane had found his eyes drawn by a strange, cruel fascination to every scornful or curious face upon the street, so now he began to feel a morbid desire to know just what people were saying and thinking of him. He purchased both that day's papers, and those of the previous day, and finding a little out-of-the-way restaurant kept by a foreigner, he "supped full with"—what were to him emphatically—"horror;" the dinner and supper combined, which he had ordered, growing cold, in the meantime, and as uninviting as the place in which it was served.

His eyes dwelt longest upon those sentences which were the most unmercifully severe, and they seemed to burn their way into his very soul. Was he in truth such a miscreant as the "Courier" described? Mr. Arnot had not shrunk from him as from contamination; but she was different from all other people that he had known; and he now remembered, also, that even she always referred to his act in a grave, troubled way; as if both its character and consequences were serious indeed.

There was such a cold leaden despondency burdening his heart that he felt that he must have relief of some kind. Although remembering his rash invocation of fatal consequences to himself should he touch again that which had brought him so much evil, he now, with a reckless oath, muttered that he "needed some liquor, and would have it."

Having finished a repast from which he would have turned in disgust before his fortunes had so greatly altered, and having gained a little temporary courage from the more than doubtful brandy served in such a place, he obtained permission to sit by the fire and smoke away the blustering evening, for he felt no disposition to face the world again that day. The German proprietor and his beer-drinking patrons paid no attention to the stranger, and as he sat off on one side by himself at a table, with a mug of lager before him, he was practically as much alone, and as lonely, as if in a desert.

In a dull, vague way it occurred to him that it was very fitting that those present should speak in a foreign and unknown tongue, and act and look differently from all classes of people formerly known to him. He was in a different world, and it was appropriate that everything should appear strange and unfamiliar.

Finding that he could have a room in this same little dingy restaurant-hotel, where he had obtained his supper he resolved that he would torture himself no more that night with thoughts of the past or future, but slowly stupefy himself into sleep.

(To be continued.)

It costs \$30,000 a year to keep St. Peter's at Rome in repair.

#### A SERIES OF LOSSES.

Loss of money follows drinking;  
Loss of time, and bitter thinking;  
Loss of business follows these;  
Loss of strength, and loss of ease;  
Loss of health, respect, and love;  
Loss of hope of heaven above;  
Loss of friends, who once admired;  
Loss of mind, by frenzy fired;  
Loss of usefulness, alas!  
Loss of life's purpose, for the glass;  
Loss of life, and loss of soul—  
Crowns his loss who loves the bowl.

#### BRIBERY A CENTURY AGO.

On the 11th of March, 1768, the Parliament, having nearly lived its term of seven years, was dissolved, and the most unprecedented corruption, and bribery, and buying and selling the people's right to their own house came into play. The system originated by Walpole was now grown gigantic, and the sale and purchase of rotten boroughs was carried on in the most unblushing manner by candidates for Parliament, particularly aristocrats, who had managed to secure the old boroughs as their property, or to control them by their property. The Mayor and Aldermen of Oxford wrote to their members long before the dissolution to offer them the renewal of their seats for the sum of £7,500, which they meant to apply to the discharge of the debts of the corporation. The House arrested the Mayor and Aldermen, and clapped them in Newgate for five days; but on their humbly begging pardon at the bar of the House, they released them again to continue their base contract. Nay, whilst in prison, those corporation officials had sold their borough to the Duke of Marlborough and the Earl of Abingdon. Lord Chesterfield states in his letters to his son that he had offered £4,500 for a borough seat for him, but was laughed at; and was told that the rich East and West Indian proprietors were buying up little boroughs at the rate of from £3,000 to £9,000. Thus new interests were coming in from the East and West Indies by which men, seeking to protect their own corruptions in these countries, and to secure their unrighteous prey, swelled the great Parliamentary sink of corruption by which the people were turned out of their own house by the wealthy, and made to pay their greedy demands on the Government; for that which these representatives of rotten boroughs bought they meant to sell, and at a plenteous profit. Well might Chatham say this rotten part of the constitution wanted amputating. Where the people of corporations had votes, they were corrupted beyond all hope of resistance by the lavish bribes of the wealthy. The Earl Spencer spent seventy thousand pounds to secure the borough of Northampton for his nominee. There were attorneys acting then as now for such boroughs, and such corrupt constituents, who were riding about offering them to the highest bidders. One Hickey was notorious amongst this tribe of political pimps and panders; and above all, the borough of Shoreham distinguished itself by its venality, which assumed an aspect almost of blasphemy. The burgesses united in a club to share the proceeds of bribery equally amongst themselves, and styled themselves "The Christian Club," in imitation of the first Christians, who had all things in common.—*Cassell's Illustrated History of England.*

#### A GOOD EXPERIENCE.

God knows me better than I know myself. He knows my gifts and powers, my failings and my weaknesses, what I can do and not do. So I desire to be led; to follow Him; and I am quite sure that He has thus enabled me to do a great deal more in ways which seem to me almost a waste in life, in advancing His kingdom, than I could have done in any other way; I am sure of that. Intellectually, I am weak; in scholarship, nothing; in a thousand things a baby. He knows this; and so he has led me, and greatly blessed me, who am nobody, to be some use to my Church and fellow-men. How kind, how good, how compassionate, art thou, O God! O, my Father, keep me humble! Help me to have respect toward my fellow-men, to recognize these several gifts as from Thee. Deliver me from the diabolical sins of malice, envy, or jealousy, and give me hearty joy in my brother's good, in his work, in his gifts and talents, and may I be truly glad in his superiority to myself, if God be glorified. Root out all weak vanity, all devilish pride, all that is abhorrent to the mind of Christ. God hear my prayer. Grant me the wondrous joy of humility, which is seeing Thee as all in all.—*Dr. Norman McLeod's Diary.*

#### THE TERM PORTE.

The term "Porte," which is used to denote the administrative government of the Ottoman Empire, and includes the Sultan, the Grand Vizier, and the great Council of State, had its origin in this way: In the famous institutes established by the warrior Sultan, Mahomed II., the Turkish body politic was described by the metaphor of a stately tent, whose dome rested upon four pillars. "The Viziers formed the first pillar, the Judges the second, the Treasurers the third, and the Secretaries the fourth." The chief seat of government was figuratively named "The lofty Gate of the Royal Tent," in allusion to the practice of earlier times, when the Ottoman rulers sat at the tent door to administer justice. The Italian translation of this name was "La Porto Sublima." This phrase was modified in the English to the "Sublime Porte," and finally the adjective has been dropped, leaving it simply "The Porte."

THE southern part of St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, has been restored at the expense of the venerable Dr. William Chambers, the publisher. The stone-work of the edifice had been hidden from view, but it is now restored to the condition and appearance which it presented before the Reformation, and the whole forms, it is said, an excellent specimen of fifteenth century architecture.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

It is said that Cardinal McCloskey has asked and received permission to erect three new bishoprics in the United States, to be under his jurisdiction.

The death is announced of the Rev. James Tripp, rector of Spofforth, England, in the ninety-third year of his age. Cardinal Manning was formerly his curate.

FROM a list of priest-associates of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, it appears that there are no less than twenty-six members of the Confraternity among the Episcopal clergymen of Canada.

THE Empress Eugenie has been persuaded to abandon the intended visit to South Africa. It is stated that the Empress has derived so much benefit from her residence on Deeside that she will return early next year.

THE Rev. Dr. Watson, Dundee, is to be nominated for the Moderatorship of the Church of Scotland at the next General Assembly. The Rev. Dr. Thomas Main, Edinburgh, will be the Moderator of the Free Church Assembly.

THE centenary of the birth of the Rev. Dr. Chalmers is on the 17th of March, 1880. The Free Church proposes to hold a great meeting on the 3rd of March, 1880, at Edinburgh, being the day of the next meeting of the Commission of the Assembly.

THE Astronomical Observatory on Mount Etna is almost completed, but the large quantity of snow which has already fallen will prevent the moveable iron cupola and the telescope from being fixed till next summer. The total cost, including a second building, capable of sheltering twenty persons, will be about £2,500. It is about 9,000 feet above the level of the sea.

PROTESTANTISM has found its way into the magnificent palace of Versailles, and the sound of sweet French verses is heard in its splendid halls. The Protestant Church of the place is to be rebuilt, and meantime Jules Favre, who has married a Protestant, has secured a place for them in the Ciel de Boeuf. Louis XIV. did not dream of Protestant worship in his grand home.

A NEW lectureship has been founded in Magee College, Derry, Ireland, by Mr. John Carey. There is already one lectureship in this institution known as the "Smyth Lectureship," and the series of lectures on these foundations will be delivered in alternate years, and the Carey lecture is also to be repeated before the students at Belfast College. The compensation for each course of lectures is to be \$500.

SEVEN Belgian priests have gone to the length of prohibiting children attending the communal schools from entering their churches. The minister of justice has, in consequence, issued a circular calling attention to the existence of laws making the churches free to all. A priest having refused to perform the marriage ceremony for a Catholic girl, because she teaches in a communal school, the Pope has, on appeal, ordered the bishop of the diocese to allow the marriage.

IT is reported that parsimony rules the hour at the Vatican. The Pope is economical to a degree that is quite distressing to his attendants, and especially to the hangers on about his Court, who were accustomed to doles and frequent gifts for petty services. Even audiences are sparingly granted, and benedictions are not flung about as generously as in the days of the generous-hearted, garrulous Pius Nonus. Leo XIII. may go into history as the "parsimonious Pope."

ARRANGEMENTS are being made for the holding of an All-World Sunday School Convention in London, next year, in connection with the Raikes Centenary. The Church of England Sunday School Institute, and the Wesleyan and Old Bailey Sunday School Unions, have the matter principally in charge. It is intended to hold services in St. Paul's Cathedral, the City road Chapel, and Mr. Spurgeon's Tabernacle. Mass meetings will be held in Albert Hall and elsewhere.

IT is reported from Rome that the Pope is busily preparing for a consistory, to be held in the middle of December, at which an allocation will be delivered, "reviewing the condition of the Church and supplying a narrative and explanation of Leo XIII.'s administration during his pontificate." Another long encyclical is also in course of preparation on the subject of education throughout the world, "from which," to quote again from the correspondent of the London "Standard," "a great amelioration of the intellectual and moral characteristics of the priesthood"—whatever this may mean—"is expected."

THE conflict in New Calabar, West Africa, is between King Amachree, of New Calabar, and his followers, on the one hand, and a powerful chief called Will Braid, and his adherents, on the other. Since the King of New Calabar died the accession to the throne by Amachree has not given satisfaction. During the conflict mentioned the wounded or prisoners were immediately killed and in many cases eaten by the lower classes. It is thought that the British naval commander would not interfere unless British subjects were molested. Bonny is suffering almost equally with New Calabar and the trade of the district is almost at a standstill. The King of Jaja is also reported collecting forces to join in the struggle. In such an event the inhabitants of the three rivers would be drawn into the conflict.

A CURIOUS illustration of the power of the press is afforded by the action of two despotic governments abroad; one secular, the other religious. The Vatican has decided to establish a daily newspaper in Rome to give a more authoritative expression to the views of the Pope than is given by any existing clerical paper; a decided advance this since 1535, when his most excellent Catholic majesty, Francis I. of France, forbade any exercise of the art of printing in that kingdom on pain of the halter. The Russian Government has given notice to all the principal editors of St. Petersburg that neither Germany nor Austro-Hungary nor the treaties between these Powers and Russia can be discussed by them; and it is announced, apparently by authority, that on the return of the Emperor to St. Petersburg a new official paper will be established to influence public opinion.