

THE POWER OF THE PEN.

I sing of the pen, that marvel to men—
All over the world,
The wonderful power of the pen is unfurled
Silent and slow its kingdom will grow
And seize as its dower
The throne of the despots Dominion and power.

DR. RIDGEWAY ON INTEMPERANCE.

This able Chicago preacher was asked to explain from his pulpit the causes of the prosperity of the wicked and their general success as compared with men seeking to be righteous. We give a part of his admirable discourse.

The same painful facts confront us in our own otherwise happy country. When I look at the extent of our territory and the sparseness of population, the richness and variety of our soil, the sample resources of our mines, our forests and our rivers, the increasing facilities of trade, manufactures and agricultural, I do affirm that there ought not to be a case of want in the whole land. And I would engage, if my fellow citizens would agree to abolish the manufacture, sale and importation of intoxicating drinks, to support at the expense of the Christian Churches all the poor of our country.

It may be said that the liquor traffic gives employment to a large number of people who would have to be otherwise employed, and would consequently render the other trades more crowded and reduce the price of labor. True; but as I have said, let these men, or others of equal number, go to the fields. Or if labor is cheapened, then cotton, corn, sugar, dry goods, boots and shoes, &c., will also be cheapened. As a rule, the price of labor regulates the price of everything else.

THE FOOLISH VIRGINS.
Late, late, so late! and dark the night, and chill
Late, late, so late! but we can enter still!
Too late! too late! ye cannot enter now!

again and his new trousers in his hand,
begging that they might be sent for the
poor lad. No small sacrifice this for him
to make; and those of us who know him
best can see that in the child was the
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THE MITHERLESS BAIRN.

We noticed the other day the beautiful picture of The Mitherless Bairn. "Leisure Hours" says: We take scarcely less pride than pleasure in presenting our subscribers with this fine steel engraving. In execution, in subject, in teaching, it is alike excellent. Each figure, each detail, is full of suggestion, and will repay careful study. The picture will not only be a beautiful ornament to every home, but will constantly show forth how good and gracious a thing is charity, how pleasant it is to see hearts warming and hands opening to "Mitherless Bairn."

A NOBLE ACT.

A recent number of the Family Treasury gives a very interesting account of the Rev. Mark Guy Pearse, the popular Methodist preacher of London, and author of those queer but excellent books "Daniel Quorn" and "Mister Horn and His Friends," in which we find a little story which will please our little readers, and furnish them a good example to imitate.

IMPORTUNATE PRAYER.

Mr. Moody says: "When my little girl is playing on the floor, and comes to me and says: 'Papa, I want some water,' and then goes right on with her playing again, as if she didn't care anything about it, I don't go and get it. She may come to me the second and the third time but so long as she acts in that way I am in no hurry to put down my book to go after it. But when she leaves all her playthings and comes to me and insists on having a drink, and having it now, then I know she really wants it, and I do not delay getting it any longer."

A PARABLE.

I held in my hand a little dry tree, an infant hemlock. Had it lived a century it might have towered above all the forests, and held up its head in majesty. But it grew on a sort of bog, and a muskrat, digging his hole under it, bit off its roots, and it was dead. It was full of limbs and knots and gnarls, and I felt curious to know how it happened that it was so.

OBITUARY.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF MISS MARGARET ROPER OF NORTH RIVER, P.E.I.
It is rarely that mortals behold such sympathy of character, beauty of power, amiability of disposition, gentle of manner, and christian devotion, as were displayed, in the life and death of Miss Roper.