FOUNDED 1853

THE INGERSOLL CHRONICLE,

AND CANADIAN DAIRYMAN.

G. F. GURNETT, Proprietor.

TERMS FOR THE CHRONICLE AND DAIRYMAN, by mail, if asked for at the office of publication, or at the bookstores, $1.50 in advance; $2.00 if not so paid. Delivered at homes, or business places of subscribers, in town, $1.75 in advance, or $2.75 if not so paid.

The circulation of THE CHRONICLE AND DAIRYMAN is by general admission many times greater, both in town and surrounding country, than any other newspaper in South Oxford. It is the best medium in this district to reach the farming community of the county and adjoining townships.

It has the largest circulation among Canadian Dairymen, being devoted specially to the interests of that class.

Printing by Steam Power in all its branches.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Advertisements will be inserted in THE CHRONICLE AND DAIRYMAN, at 8 cents per line for the first insertion, and 3 cents per line for each subsequent insertion.

For solid legal and official advertisements the charge is 10 cents per line for the first, and 5 cts per line for each subsequent insertion

Condensed advertisements:—Servants wanted—Places Wanted—Lost or Found—Strayed—To Rent—For Sale—Board—Situations Wanted—or Vacant, 50 cts., (10 lines or under) will be published at the rate for the first insertion and 25 cts. for each subsequent insertion.

Ten cents per line for the first insertion and five cents per line for each subsequent insertion, is the charge for inserting "special notices" with reading matter and in the same type.

Professional cards, not exceeding 6 lines, will be inserted one year for $5; 50 cents per line per year for each line over six lines.

Commercial advertisements, ordinarily displayed matter, will be inserted at the following rates:—

Time.	1 In.	¼ Col. 4 In.	½ Col. 6 In.	¾ Col. 12 In.	1 Col. 24 In.
1 week..	$1 50	$ 3 50	$ 4 00	$ 6 00	$ 10 00
2 weeks..	2 25	3 75	6 00	9 00	15 00
3 weeks..	2 70	4 50	7 20	10 80	18 00
4 weeks..	3 00	5 00	8 00	12 00	20 00
5 weeks..	3 30	5 50	.....	.....	.....
6 weeks..	3 60	6 00	9 60	14 40	24 00
2 months.	4 50	7 50	12 00	18 00	30 00
3 months.	6 00	10 00	15 00	24 00	40 00
6 months.	9 00	15 00	24 00	30 00	60 00
12 months	15 00	22 00	40 00	60 00	100 00

The above contract prices do not give the right to advertise Houses or Farms for Sale, or to Rent, Clerks, Domestics or Servants Wanted, Articles Lost or Found, Entertainments, Auction Sales, &c., but extend exclusively to the legitimate commercial announcements, ordinarily displayed under the head of business matter. Such matter will be charged at the rate of 8 and 3 cents per line.

The Ingersoll Chronicle,

AND CANADIAN DAIRYMAN.

VOL. XXXV.—NO. 24. INGERSOLL, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1888. WHOLE NO. 1796

CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. ARCHER, M.D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Castoria cures Colic, Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhœa, Eructation, Kills Worms, gives sleep, and promotes digestion, Without injurious medication.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 MURRAY Street, N. Y.

A. N. CHRISTOPHER.

BANKER & BROKER

(NOT INCORPORATED.)

Money Loaned on Notes and Mortgages at Lowest Rates of Interest.

Deposits received and interest allowed thereon, which can be withdrawn at any time. Real estate bought and sold upon reasonable terms. Special attention paid to collections and prompt remittances.

$50,000 to Loan at 5½ & 6 per cent per annum.

Office, King St., Market Building, INGERSOLL.

Imperial Bank of Canada

HEAD OFFICE, - TORONTO

Capital Paid Up, $1,500,000.
Rest, - - 650,000.

Purchases Municipal Debentures, Issues Drafts on its branches and agencies in the North-West. Transfers Moneys by Telegrams to Winnipeg and Brandon. Dealers in Sterling Exchange. Savings Department.—Deposits received and interest allowed. Agents in London, Messrs. Bosanquet, Salt & Co., 73 Lombard street, with whom moneys for transmission from Great Britain to Ontario and the North-West may be deposited.

D. R. WILKIE Cashier.

SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT.

Deposits of $4 and upward received and Interest allowed thereon at current rates.

INGERSOLL BRANCH.

J. A. RICHARDSON, Manager.

MERCHANT'S BANK OF CANADA.

CAPITAL PAID UP $5,799,200
RESERVE 1,700,000

INGERSOLL BRANCH.

THIS BANK TRANSACTS A General Banking Business, Buys and Sells Exchange on England and the United States, and issues Drafts on New York and all parts of Canada. Particular attention paid to collections for Customers and Banks.

A. M. SMITH, Manager.

THE TRADERS BANK OF CANADA.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL - - $1,000,000

Head Office, Toronto.

H. S. STRATHY, General Manager. ALEX. MANNING, President.

BRANCHES.—Aylmer, Brantford, Drayton, Elmira, Glencoe, Hamilton, Ingersoll, Maidstone, Orillia, Ridgetown, St. Thomas, Toronto, Wallaceburg, Watford.

Savings Bank Department.

Sums of $1 and upwards received on deposit and interest allowed thereon from date of deposit to withdrawal; no notice of withdrawal required. GP NOTES discounted at lowest rates. American and Sterling drafts bought and sold. Drafts issued on all parts of Canada. Special attention paid to Collections.

C. W. M. SIMPSON, Manager Ingersoll Branch.

J. C. NORSWORTHY GENERAL

Banking & Loan Agent

KING STREET, INGERSOLL.

Transacts a General Banking, Loan and Insurance Business.

ISSUER OF MARRIAGE LICENSES.

I beg to announce to parties wishing to borrow upon Mortgage Security either to pay off present encumbrance, to purchase additional property or to improve present holdings, that I am authorized by my principals to offer loans for the present at the following low rates of Interest, viz.: For loans of $500 upwards at (5½ to 6 per cent.) five and a half to six per cent. per annum, according to the terms of repayment required by the borrower. Now is the time for parties wanting loans to make their applications. (The mortgage can be made and the money paid over at any time that it is required.) These exceptional low rates are not likely to be kept open any great length of time. 58ay

CHEESE MAKERS ATTENTION

Having purchased the

DAIRY FURNISHERS SUPPLY AND PROVISION BUSINESS

Lately carried on by Mr. C. H. Slawson

At the Old Stand, Thames Street, Ingersoll.

We intend keeping a general stock of the best brands of Annatto, Rennets, Rennett Extract, Presses, Hops, Curd Knives, Rubber Goods, Brushes, Press Rings, Test Instruments, Glassware, Milk Books, Scale Boards, Cheese Cotton, Strainer Cloths. The best brands of salt and all other articles required in the cheese manufacturing business, also Hams, Bacon, Lard, Butter, &c., all of the best quality and at the lowest possible prices.

We Solicit the Support of all our old Friends,

and the trade generally. Satisfaction guaranteed both in quality and price.

CASSWELL & CO.

Dealer in Dairy Furnishings and Provision Merchants.

Casswell's old stand, Thames St.

DEEP Sea Wonders exist in thousands of lakes, but are surpassed by the marvels of invention. Those who are in need of profitable work that can be done while living at home should at once send their address to Hallet & Co., Portland, Maine, and receive free, full information how either sex, of all ages, can earn from $5 to $25 per day and upwards, wherever they live. You are started free. Capital not required. Some have earned over $50 in a single day at this work. All succeed.

You will save Money, Time, Pain, Trouble, AND WILL CURE

Catarrh

BY USING ELY'S CREAM BALM

A particle is applied into each nostril and is agreeable. Price 50 cents at Druggists; by mail registered, 60 cts. Circulars free. ELY BROS, Druggists, Owego, N. Y.

NASAL BALM CURES COLD IN THE HEAD

A POSITIVE CURE FOR CATARRH. GIVES Immediate Relief FOR Cold in Head, HAY FEVER. EASY TO USE.

Not a Snuff, Powder or Irritating Liquid. Price 50 cts. and $1.00. If not obtainable at your druggists, sent prepaid on receipt of price. Address FULFORD & CO., Brockville, Ont.

IMPORTANT TO ALL

Who are Bald, or have Thin or Grey Hair, or who are troubled with

DANDRUFF

DR. DORENWENDS'

GREAT GERMAN 'Hair Magic'

Will be found invaluable for the hair and scalp. It cleanses the scalp of all Dandruff. Invigorates the growth of the hair, and in cases of baldness where there are the slightest signs of roots left it will produce good crops of hair. It restores grey hair to its original color, and is an excellent dressing.

DO NOT DELAY if your hair is in a weak condition get a bottle at once.

For sale by J. Gayfer, J. W. Browett, R. Knoshaw & Co., D. Secord. Ask for it.

A. DORENWEND, - Sole Manfr., TORONTO, CANADA.

A. Dorenwend is the leading manufacturer of Hair Goods in Canada. 1771vy

NO MORE PILLS!

MOTHERS LIKE IT! CHILDREN LIKE IT!! Because it is agreeable to take. IT CURES LIVER COMPLAINT, BILIOUSNESS, DISORDERS, ACID STOMACH, DYSPEPSIA, LOSS OF APPETITE, SICK HEADACHE, CONSTIPATION OR COSTIVENESS

CAMPBELL'S Cathartic COMPOUND

PRICE, 25c. PER BOTTLE.

IMPERIAL CREAM TARTAR BAKING POWDER

PUREST, STRONGEST, BEST, CONTAINS NO ALUM, AMMONIA, PHOSPHATES, or any injurious materials.

E. W. GILLETT, TORONTO, ONT. CHICAGO, ILL. Maker of the CELEBRATED ROYAL YEAST CAKES.

COUGHS, COLDS, Croup and Consumption CURED BY ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM 25c. 50c. and $1.00 per bottle.

1000 Fine White Business Envelopes, with Card neatly printed for $2.25. Best value. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Send copy, with remittance. Postage prepaid to any part of the Dominion. THE CHRONICLE, Ingersoll.

DR. HODDER'S BURDOCK AND SARSAPARILLA COMPOUND

CURES Liver Complaint, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Sick Headache, Kidney Troubles, Rheumatism, Skin Diseases, and all impurities of the blood from whatever cause arising. Female weaknesses and general debility. Purely vegetable.

Highly Concentrated. Pleasant Effectual Safe

ASK FOR DR. HODDER'S COMPOUND.

Take no other. Sold everywhere. Price, 75 cents per bottle. Proprietors and manufacturers.

THE UNION MEDICINE CO., TORONTO, CAN.

DR. HODDER'S Cough and Lung Cure

Sold everywhere. Price 25 cents and 50 cents per bottle. Proprietors and manufacturers.

THE UNION MEDICINE CO., TORONTO, CAN.

BEGLER & JACKSON BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, &c. Money to Loan at lowest rates. Offices, King Street, over Bank of London, Ingersoll. J. C. BEGLER, J. B. JACKSON, B.A.

M. WALSH, BARRISTER, NOTARY PUBLIC, Solicitor in the Supreme Court of Ontario, &c. Money to lend at lowest rates, Mortgages Bought and Sold. OFFICE up Stairs, Walsh's Block, Thames Street, Ingersoll, Ont.

JAMES F. McDONAGH, B.A., LL.B., BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY AT LAW. Thames-St., Ingersoll. 1680

JAMES VANCE, BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, CONVEYANCER, &c. Office over G.N.W. Co.'s office, Thames street.

W. W. OLCROFT, BARRISTER, Solicitor, Notary Public, Conveyancer &c. $400,000 to loan on Mortgages at 6 per cent interest. Mortgages bought. Office over Browett's Drug Store Thames St., Ingersoll, Ont. 168ay

DR. McKAY, L.R.C.P. & I M., EDINBURGH. Coroner for the County of Oxford, Graduate of the College of Physicians, Edinburgh.—Late Surgeon in the British Marine Service. Office, Thames Street, Ingersoll. Residence—Charles Street.

J. ARTHUR WILLIAMS, M.D., MEMBER Royal College Surgeons, England; Licentiate Royal College of Physicians, London; Licentiate Midwifery Royal College of Surgeons, London; Member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Ontario. PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, ETC. Particular attention given to diseases of the eye and ear. Office—The Brady's Block, King-st. west, nearly opposite the London Bank. Residence, King-st., 3 doors West of Methodist Church

W. F. DICKSON, M.B., L.R.C.P. & S. & L.M., Edinburgh, and L.F.P. & S., Glasgow. Member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. Office, Brady's Block, corner Thames and King streets. Telephone 79

F. D. CANFIELD, M.D., HOMOEOPATHIST, Physician and Surgeon. Office, Thames Street Ingersoll. 1626

DR. R. FOXTON, MEMBER Royal College Surgeons, England, successor to the late D. Hoyt, Ingersoll. Office, King Street, formerly occupied by Dr. Hoyt. Night calls at office attended to. Telephone Connection.

DRS. WM. AND H. SCOTT. OFFICE, opposite the Caister House, Woodstock. Office hours from 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and from 6 to 8 p.m. Residence, corner of Ingersoll Avenue and Light Street. 23

W. A. SUDWORTH, SURGEON DENTIST, MEMBER of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, Graduate of Dental College. Anæsthetics administered for the painless extraction of teeth. Office opposite the Market, Ingersoll

H. W. HILL, PRODUCE and Commission Merchant, Agent for the Empire Loan Association. Money to loan at lowest rates on farm and town property. Market Square, Woodstock. Tenders. January 31st, 1884. 1586ty

J. H. BEGLER, SOLICITOR, CONVEYANCER, Notary Public, &c. Issuer of Marriage Licenses. Money to Loan at six per cent. Office, opp. the Market, Ingersoll. 1675tf

PIANO ORGAN, SINGING, HARMONY AND COMPOSITION.

DR. VERRINDER, (Organist of St. Peter's Cathedral, London), attends Ingersoll weekly for the purpose of giving lessons on the above. Terms moderate. Apply to DR. VERRINDER, 402 Queen's Ave., London. 544

G. W. DUNPHY, V.S., GRADUATE AND MEDALLIST of the Ontario Veterinary College, Toronto. Treats all Diseases of Horses and Cattle, SURGICAL OPERATIONS A SPECIALTY. A full supply of medicines for horses and cattle always on hand. SALFORD, ONTARIO.

J. D. MILNE, V.S., VETERINARY SURGEON, (Graduate Ontario Veterinary College), Ingersoll, Ont. Treats all diseases of domestic animals. Residence, 2nd door South Rices' Hotel, Oxford-st., Office Market. 164ay

JAMES BRADY, LICENSED AUCTIONEER INGERSOLL, ONT., is prepared to attend all sales in town or country. Ingersoll, April 20th, 1883. 1466

Lowest Rates to Europe

By the Following First-Class Steamship Lines:

White Star Line sailing from N.Y. every Wednesday. Cunard Line " " " " Tuesday. Inman Line " " " " Saturday. Dominion Line " " Quebec & Liverpool. Allan Line " " N.Y. every Saturday.

The White Star and Inman Lines will furnish saloon accommodation on special steamships for passengers holding second cabin tickets.

Price only $35.00. Return, $65.00. Steerage by all Lines $20.00.

Parties intending to visit the Old Country are requested to call at my office for further information which will be cheerfully given.

WM. ROBINSON, AGENT, G. T. R. Station, - Ingersoll.

CARSLAKE'S Grand Derby Sweep $25,000.00.

1st horse (in duplicate) $1,000 each prize, $2,000
2nd " " 500 " " 1,000
3rd " " 250 " " 500
Other Starters (divided equally) 22,000 in duplicate 44,000
Non-Starters (divided equally) 34,500 in duplicate 69,000
4000 Tickets at $5 each.
Drawing May 24th. Race May 25th, 1888.
Tickets cost deducted from all prizes.
Address, GEORGE CARSLAKE, Prop., Masonic House Montreal.

The Great English Prescription. Cures Weakness, Spermatorrhœa, Emissions, Impotency, & all diseases caused by abuse or indiscretion. One Package, $1, sufficient for ordinary cases. Three Packages, $3, will cure the worst cases. Guaranteed to cure. Address, Eureka Chemical Company, Detroit, Mich. For sale by D Secord.

A SIN NOT TO BE FORGIVEN

BY LIZZIE W. CHAMPNEY.

I.

It is not my purpose to exonerate Allan Halsey. Doubtless he richly deserved the punishment which he brought upon himself, but his fault at the first was an inconsiderate one, and the system of hypocrisy in which he found himself entangled was entered upon from the good natured impulse of shielding his friend. That friend was Andrew Steele. They had been chums throughout their college course, but their paths had diverged widely during the four years which had elapsed since their parting under the shadow of alma mater. Steele had studied for the ministry, grown greater and more melancholy, narrow chested and possibly narrow minded, but always pure of soul and tender of heart, as he bent over his books. Halsey, on the contrary, had plunged at once into the world. His aim in life was to become a journalist. He could adapt himself easily to circumstances, and when he found that the highest prizes were beyond his reach he lowered his ideal and accommodated himself to the actual, and at the end of four years was quite content with what he would have spurned at the outset, a regular position as pulpit reporter of one of the leading newspapers.

"I think a little of my experience would do you good," he said to Steele, as they sat together in the summer on the clover under the old orchard trees of his friend's home. "It would give you a chance to improve your style, by a comparison with that of the most eloquent and scholarly men of the day. It would broaden your theological ideas, and give you points in composition and delivery. If you will submit to taking a few hints from me I can put you up to a thing or two. There are certain dodges that these great guns are not above using, which are remarkably killing, and I doubt whether they are ever taught in the seminary. If you are going in for divinity you might as well be at the top of the heap, a regular doubly distilled D.D., and the pastor of a wealthy city church. I have come to the conclusion that the ministry is a better field for a smart man than journalism, and I almost regret my choice. You see you have a competition; nearly all the brilliant fellows take to the law, the regular digs to medicine, the long headed ones to politics or business, those mistaken beggars who care more for glory than gold hang on to art or literature, while only the chaps without any particular vocation are left for the ministry and the missionary fields. Now don't flare up. Can't you see that it is the luckiest thing in the world that it is so? If you have a clear idea from the start what you mean to accomplish, you can just sail in like a whale among the fishes."

Andrew Steele answered quietly: "You do not understand my aims. I am physically unsuited to lead the career you have marked out for me. I have not sufficient health to carry out what I wish, and that is to teach the suffering to endure."

Halsey examined his friend curiously. "You do look a trifle used up," he said. "I am glad I accepted your invitation to spend a fortnight with you, for I am going to take you in hand. We will pass a week or more in the woods; hunting and camping will soon give tone to your mind, as well as to your complexion, and you will bid goodby to morbid self abnegation as soon as you land a four pound bass."

But Halsey found that he had a difficult task upon his hands. His friend's melancholy was deeply rooted in a frail physique. The dark woods and mountain solitudes seemed to increase his gloom. He took no interest in sport of any kind, and it was evident that some settled trouble was preying upon his mind.

"What is it, Steele?" Halsey asked one evening as his friend sat moodily and dejectedly regarding the smoldering embers. "Is there a lady in the case, or is it money? Out with it like a man; the very telling of the annoyance will make it seem less. I wish you that I've been in a dozen tight places."

"It is my health," the other replied. "I fought for it all through; my college course, but it was of no use. Two years ago I broke down utterly with nervous prostration. I had to abandon my study, and was compelled to put myself under the care of a Dr. Corcoran, of ——. It was a most providential thing. He took me into his family and his good wife nursed me like a mother. I was so weak that I could only lie still like a little child and watch the leaf shadows of the vine play leaping upon the wall. I was with them three months, and they treated me like a son. You have guessed that there was a lady in the case. Before the three months were over I had fallen in love with Miss Corcoran."

"Very commendably and quite the proper thing under the circumstances. I suppose she brought you your gruel and read aloud to you, fanned your fevered brow and all that. I only wish such a piece of good luck would fall to me."

"You are quite wrong. In all that time I never saw Miss Corcoran."

Halsey whistled.

"Whom having not seen I love,' I used to repeat to myself again and again in those days. Miss Corcoran was in Philadelphia completing a course of medicine which she had begun with her father. They told me that she was fitting herself to go out as a missionary, and she wished to make herself useful among the women and to gain admittance to the harems as a physician. Dr. Corcoran's family was a large one, there were others staying in the house and I was given her room. I have never known much about women, and all the dainty fittings of that room were a revelation to me. It seemed to bring me very near to her, and, as I told you, I used to lie and study one object and then another, and it seemed to me that I could imagine from them just how she looked as well as her tastes and mental characteristics. There was a cabinet desk beside the window and the carpet in front of it was more worn than before the dressing table. That told its story to begin with. The decorations of the room were of an eastern character. An India shawl was draped to form a curtain, a Tunisian prayer rug was spread beside the bed and a Daghestan one in front of the grate. There was a Moorish plaque over the mantel, and boxes of Japanese lacquer, a bamboo easy chair from Calcutta, Turkish embroideries and scarfs, and other suggestions of the Orient scattered about. This was not the indiscriminate gathering of a fashionable devotee of bric-a-brac; there was a consistent method in all and it indicated a fixed purpose. All the trend of her mind was to the east, and the books in her small but well selected library showed the same taste. As I improved in health I read them through, and sometimes returned to make a note in answer to the penciled queries upon the margin. She had been studying Arabic, but seemed interested in all Asiatic literature, and had secured everything that could be had through translations from the "Arabian Nights," and the "Koran" to Matthew Arnold's works, and the poems of Omar. There was a portfolio of photographs and engravings, reproductions of the works of French oriental painters, views from Doré's Bible, photographs of Palestine and Egypt, the bazars of Cairo, the gardens of Damascus and the minarets of Constantinople, and the library showed that she had read and studied of all. She was one of those women of whom it could be said that to know her was a liberal education."

"I should think so," Halsey replied. "Do you know, my friend, that it strikes me that so much knowledge suggests a rather mature person, and not exactly the frivolity of sweet 16?"

"No, she was not very young—23. I learned by consulting the family Bible, and I saw her portrait in her father's study when I became well enough to walk about the house. A sweet, girlish face it was, enough to steal any man's heart away; but I loved her before I saw it—for the beauty of her mind."

"And have you never seen her, or told her of your affection?"

"I have never seen her. I went back to the seminary, completed my course, doing double work in the following year in order to make up for lost time. But in the midst of my work I thought continually of her. I wrote to her, told her something of the interest with which she had inspired me, and begged to be permitted to correspond with her. She replied courteously, giving her reasons for declining the correspondence. I wrote again and again, but she would not reply. After graduation I visited Dr. Corcoran, and told him everything. He heard me very kindly, but was inclined to treat the whole matter as entirely imaginary. His daughter was still away from home, and would remain so for a year longer. He talked to me very seriously about my health, and told me I was in a fairer way to be buried than married, and he should disapprove of his daughter's becoming interested in me solely on that ground. 'Go home for a year or more,' he said; 'rest and exercise; make a sound, healthy man of yourself; and when you have done that, come and see us again, and I will introduce you to my daughter.'"

"Why in the name of common sense haven't you followed his advice?"

"I have done so, Halsey, as far as is possible. I have put myself in training as though I were going to row with a prize crew; but you cannot realize the difficulties of my position. I am a minister without a parish, and so belong to everybody. I have done more work the past winter than any regularly settled pastor of my acquaintance, and I have had before my mind always my own personal, private desire to fit myself for a foreign field, so that some time if I win Miss Corcoran—and if I gave up that hope I should give up everything—we may go out to our life work together. We have a returned missionary at Sunderland, and I am studying Turkish with him. I want to have some acquirements which will recommend me to the board, so that I may not have to waste a year on the field in preparation."

"You appear to have carried out Dr. Corcoran's advice in regard to rest to the letter," Halsey remarked dryly. "I wonder you haven't unpacked your knobbliest old clothes man of the Bowery to instruct you in Hebrew, and taken a dip into Chinese by way of pastime."

"I studied Hebrew at the seminary," the other replied, not perceiving the irony in his friend's remark. "I think I have made the most of my opportunities, but now, just when I need it most, my brain fails me. I must preach at Ramoth Gilead next week, and my head is in a whirl. I can't settle on a train of thought, or collect two consecutive ideas on anything but the unpardonable sin; that is uppermost in my mind the whole time, and it was while puzzling over that subject that I fell into the state of ruin from which Dr. Corcoran rescued me."

"Steele," exclaimed Halsey, "you have acted like an idiot. If you want to marry Miss Corcoran and sail away to Joppa, which I consider a very sensible idea, as the sea voyage would build you up and foreign travel is just what you need to top off your education and fit you for a shining position, a candlestick on a hill and not a city under a bushel, you know—if this is your little game, I say why in the name of common sense do you pay any attention to side issues? Why don't you say to Ramoth Gilead: 'Gentlemen, you may go to Jericho. I have other fish to fry'?"

"Simply because Ramoth Gilead lies in my way. It was the birthplace and early home of Dr. Corcoran. It was through him that I received this call. And he writes me a very pleasant letter apropos of the subject. This is what he says:

MY DEAR STEELE: It is a long time since we have heard from you, and I trust you have improved the time by laying in a good stock of health. I have some little influence with the board, am in fact their health inspector, and I happen to be of a mission with which I think you would like, and for which I think you admirably qualified. I won't ask you to come on an uncertainty, as I can arrange for an examination a little nearer your present residence. The church at Ramoth Gilead will give you a call as candidate in a few days. I have a number of trustworthy friends in that place and if they send me a good report of your physical condition (I have no doubt in any other particular), I will send your name in to the board and they will probably make you a proposition soon. This does not compromise you in the least, for you need not accept the offer when it comes. Before you refuse, however, we would like to have you make us a visit and let us talk over the matter together. Faithfully yours, GIDEON CORCORAN.

P.S.—Mrs. Corcoran unites with me in this invitation, and my daughter, who heard much of you and will be with us, will be happy to meet you.

"There it is—the opportunity of my life slipping from my hands. If I were to see Miss Corcoran to-night I could talk to her of nothing but the unpardonable sin."

"O, come now," Halsey replied, cheeringly, "you have given me a tolerably connected account of the whole affair, and I dare say you will make your way with the young lady. What bothers me is what sort of an impression you will make on those Ramoth Gilead farmers as regards health. It's a pity you haven't a physique like mine; but never mind, all will end well, and we will meet again in Palestine or Babylon—you the patriarchal head of a numerous family and I the war correspondent of The Daily Shouter. You must write up your experiences and I will bring them home and see that they are well brought out and that you get a pretty penny out of the affair. Or you may get yourself lost and I'll enact Stanley to your Livingstone and we'll advertise each other from Dan to Beersheba. You must put this unpardonable sin nonsense out of your head and put your best foot forward generally. Don't bother about thinking up a new sermon; give them one of your old ones, but put a lot of vim into it. Beat the dust out of the pulpit cushions. Let them know that you are alive."

Steele shook his head sadly. "I want them to know that I am a strong, well man, and I feel a lassitude creeping over me which makes the lifting of that fishing rod a difficult task."

"Cheer up! cheer up!" exclaimed Halsey. "You will be rested in the morning; it is all that confounded Japanese and Turkish study. Take a leaf out of Charles Kingsley's book; buy a pair of boxing gloves, and I'll pummel faith, hope and charity into your poor little shriveled body."

The next morning Andrew Steele was delirious. It was with great trouble that his friend conveyed him home. On the morning after their arrival the sick man had a lucid interval. He regarded Halsey with wistful dry eyes. "It has come," he said. "I've broken down. If I could have held out three days longer—"

"You are right, old fellow," Halsey replied, cheeringly; "give up to it completely; let the disease do its worst, instead of trying to fight against it, and it will spend its force all the sooner."

"But I must send a supply to Ramoth Gilead," he murmured; "I promised to preach for them to-morrow, and there is no time to secure any one else."

"I will go for you," Halsey exclaimed, impulsively, "and read one of your sermons." His friend was sinking into unconsciousness again, but he grasped the idea partially and a smile of unutterable relief chased the torture from his face.

"You will take my place," he said in a tone of perfect confidence and profound gratitude; "you will do everything for me better than I could do for myself. I can endure anything now."

In a few moments he was quietly sleeping. "I must not betray his trust," Halsey said to himself, as he rummaged through his friend's desk; but the drawer which probably contained the sermons was locked, and he could not find the key. He glanced at his watch; he had barely time to catch the train. "Never mind," he thought, "I have a dozen of good ones by the ablest New York divines in my shorthand notebooks. I will read one or two of them."

Hastily throwing the note books and a few necessary articles into a hand bag, he set out for Ramoth Gilead. The station was merely a platform in the wilderness. The little settlement lay three miles away, around the spur of Mount Haystack. An elderly man was waiting upon the platform and shook hands with Halsey, remarking: "You are Mr. Steele, I spose. Dr. Corcoran has written us all so much about you, that the whole parish feel as if they knew you, though there isn't one of us that has ever set eyes on you."

Up to this moment all that Halsey had intended was to explain the situation, and to offer to supply his friend's place by reading some of the sermons with which his shorthand note book was abundantly supplied. Now the idea struck him that he might do his friend a good turn by actually personating him. The deacon had just shown him that this was possible. Why not do it? His self esteem told him that he could make a favorable impression upon these country people, and that a report would be sent to Dr. Corcoran of the athletic appearance of the Rev. Andrew Steele, which would secure his friend the position he aimed. Personally, the whole thing appeared to him in a humorous light. It would be another racy experience of life, and would make a good story for his Bohemian club, "The Free Dancers." There was a risk of detection, but that only added fascination to the enterprise. His decision was made in a twinkling, and he took hands with the deacon with quite a ministerial air.

II.

"I am going to take you to our house," the deacon remarked, as he led Halsey to his horse and buckboard, which were hidden in a group of sycamores at a little distance from the track. "You see it rather tires the doctor to have company put up at the parsonage."

"I am glad of that," thought Halsey, wondering how he could have stood the two days' scrutiny of a doctor of divinity, adding aloud: "I am sure I shall enjoy myself with you, and I hope you will tell me something about your people, and what kind of preaching you like up here."

"Well, young man," the deacon replied, "we like the Gospel. Some of the oldest amongst us are fond of points of doctrine, but the most part are spiritual babes and have to be fed on milk. They can't stand stronger meat than free agency and free ordination. We are mostly plain people, too. We like plain living, plain dressing and plain speaking. We don't take much stock in a man who quotes Shakespeare in his sermons or that wears jewelry, or that is over particular about his victuals."

Halsey stole a hand furtively within his linen duster and removed a diamond stud of which he was not a little vain. He had bought it at a bargain of an acquaintance who was obliged suddenly to raise a sum of money, and it had only been a perfectly safe investment of a little spare cash, but people here could not understand this, and it was just as well to suppress its glitter for the present. He was glad that he had chosen a black necktie that morning, and was still more thankful that he had not thrown away his last white one after wearing it to Mrs. Delano's german at Narragansett pier.

The good deacon was evidently pleased with the young man's deference in asking his opinion, and he gave it liberally. "We all think a sight of the old doctor," he said; "it's almost more than some of us can bear to think of his being set aside from this pulpit. The more you can show the people that you haven't come to take his place; that you look up to him as your father in Israel; that you consider yourself put here only to stay up his hands as Aaron and Hur did those of Moses, the more you will please them. He will sit in his pulpit on Sunday, and of course you will ask him to make the longest prayer."

"All of them, all of them," Halsey exclaimed, eagerly. He had not before considered the contingency of being obliged to address the Supreme Being in mock devotion, and he was glad to be relieved from this act of hypocrisy.

"I suppose you've not been ordained yet," the deacon continued, "and it will be the doctor's part to pronounce the benediction. Any other little attentions which you can show him will better your chance with the congregation." The deacon seemed to take it for granted that Halsey's supreme aim in life was to settle down as assistant preacher in this obscure town, and the young man laughed inwardly, scornfully reviling the notion; while he replied with the utmost deference, "I will endeavor to bear your advice in mind."

They passed scattering farms, and on one of these the deacon pointed out a man clad in russet blue overalls, faded blue shirt and flapping straw hat, who was engaged in breaking a yoke of oxen, as an important magnate in the church. "That," said he, "is Brother Slocumbe. He was a Methodist before he joined our communion, and there's nothing now that he likes better than a rousing camp meeting. He's a hard worker, and generally sleeps through the morning service, but he gets considerably refreshed in mind by evening, and he can be depended upon to occupy the time if he's wanted. He's fond of a pretty lively kind of preaching, with a good deal of thrashing around. The doctor's getting too weak lunged for him. He likes to have a minister come out strong on everlasting punishment and the danger of falling from grace, and when a man preaches he wants him to preach all over."

Halsey made a mental memorandum to give to Brother Slocumbe one of the strongest sermons he could find the next morning, and he listened eagerly for further suggestions.

"We've a sprinkling," said the deacon, "I'm thankful to say it's only a sprinkling, of folks who think more of culture than they do of religion. The Pearce girls rather lead here on matters of education. They read German and attend the summer school of philosophy at Concord. When they don't find fault with the minister we all take it for granted that he's some. It would be a grand thing if you could show them that you know as much as they do, but you don't look as if you were equal to it, and you needn't put yourself out for them. There are the Rogerses, who used to be Episcopalians; they'll be bothering you about a ruridecanal exercise, but don't you give in; we've fit that for five years, it would cost too much to get it printed, it's too much trouble to get used to, and it looks like going over to Rome."

Halsey rubbed his forehead thoughtfully. Should he give the Misses Pearce one of Felix Adler's lectures before the Society of Ethical Culture or one of Joseph Cook's disquisitions? If the Rogers family held the traditions of Mother Church he thought he could slip in a selection from Cardinal Mc-Closkey which would please them.

Their ride was over, and the deacon's wife greeted them cordially and welcomed them to a hot supper of fried chicken, "rix" biscuit and green tea. At the close of the repast the deacon remarked, "There's a prayer meeting appointed for to-night at our house. It isn't very well attended generally, but curiosity may bring some few out to see you."

"A prayer meeting! Consternation," was Halsey's thought. "What shall I do?" Had he said aloud: "I suppose the doctor will come and lead the meeting."

"The doctor's a-coming," the deacon replied; "that's his buggy coming up the hill."

A well worn and dusty chaise stopped at the gate, a venerable man alighted, accompanied by a sprightly young lady, who sprang nimbly to the ground, making only a good natured pretense of accepting the assistance of the courteous old gentleman. Halsey was introduced at the door and received the good minister's rather formal and priestly benediction with a feeling something like that of shame. He turned for relief to the young lady, to whom the doctor motioned him with a wave of the hand and the rather unsatisfactory introduction, "My niece, Orient." What was he to call her? Nothing for the present, since they were not upon a footing which would permit the use of her Christian name; but as he glanced at her bright attractive face with its mischievous smile, he felt that an intimacy which such a form of address would indicate with a bewitching little personage like this would go much to reconcile a man to even this desert solitude. She had a bright, intelligent countenance, made piquant remarks, was quick at repartee, and was as completely at home and unembarrassed in his society as a city belle. In chatting with her he quite forgot to prepare his thoughts for the coming ordeal of the prayer meeting. The people began to gather. The deacon introduced Brother Slocumbe—who had exchanged the overalls for his store clothes, but about whose freshly tallowed cowhide boots the scent of the stable still lingered. The Pearce girls came attended by a lantern and a dog. They were very plain, and not at all young. Halsey thought discourteously that if the lantern flamed brightly enough to display their faces the protection of the dog was entirely unnecessary. The deacon's wife brought in lamps and a few well thumbed hymn books. The deacon roused Halsey from his pleasant chat with the remark, "I guess all's come that's coming;" and the doctor, handing him a Bible, insisted that he should take charge of the meeting.

"Will some one select a hymn?" he asked in fear and trembling, and one of the Misses Pearce started "Sweet Hour of Prayer." At its close he read a chapter from the Gospels chosen quite at random. Having closed the Bible he called upon the doctor to lead in prayer, and endeavored during its slow progress to evolve some train of thought suitable to the occasion. Suddenly the story of Blind Bartimaus, which he had just read, suggested a sermon of Henry Ward Beecher's. His short hand report book was in his pocket, and fortunately, the notes were legible. Before the doctor had reached "Amen" he had selected two pages, had read them over twice, and was prepared to repeat them in an off hand manner, with quite the air of giving utterance to something entirely his own. As he began he noticed that the eyes of the doctor's niece were fixed upon him as though in anticipation of keen enjoyment. "He is going to get into a muddle," they seemed to say; "my attention will add to his embarrassment, and I am going to be very nice and attentive."

Halsey spoke fluently and saw her air of amused superiority fade into one of blank wonder, which said plainer than any words, "I have made a mistake estimate of this young man's abilities; he is not such a ninny as he looks."

After speaking for twenty minutes Halsey apologized for occupying so much time, gave out another hymn and called upon the deacon and Brother Slocumbe to fill the remaining minutes with prayer and exhortation.

At the close of the meeting the doctor shook hands with him, with genuine approbation. "The Lord has committed a great talent to your trust, my son," he said to him in the dusk, as Halsey helped him into his conveyance. "Go not out to the battle in your own strength. Remember the admonition of the King of Israel, 'Let not him that girdeth on his harness, boast himself as he that putteth it off.'" His niece was shyer than she had been before the meeting. Evidently she was impressed with Halsey's superior abilities, and the young man's heart swelled with elation. As he returned to the house the Misses Pearce were just leaving with their smoky lantern, and he could do no less than offer to see them home. The way was long and it was pitchy dark when he returned, but the eldest Miss Pearce had insisted on his availing himself of her lantern. "You can give it to