

The Poet's Corner.

Borrioboola Gha. A stranger preached last Sunday, And crowds of people came To hear a two hours' sermon With a barbarous sounding name;

So well their wants he pictured That when the plate was passed, Each listener felt his pocket, And goodly sums were cast;

A pale and puny creature In dirt and rags forlorn: What could she want, I questioned, Impatient to be gone.

Down in a wretched basement, With mould upon the walls, Through whose half-buried windows God's sunshine never falls,

A chair, a broken table, A bed of dirty straw, A hearth all dark and fireless— But these I scarcely saw.

The famished and the naked, The babes that pine for bread, The squalid group that huddled Around the dying bed,

There's work enough for Christians In distant lands we know; Our Lord commands his servants Through all the world to go,

O Christian, God has promised Whoe'er to thee has given A cup of pure-cold water Shall find reward in heaven.

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"Yes," she uttered with a sigh, when we came to the age column—"Is it absolutely necessary," said she, "to fill in the age?"

"Tuts, it may be to some folk, but to a sweet young creature like you it cannot matter a button."

"Well," said Miss Robina. "But, now, Mr. McLaughlin, I'm going to tell you a great secret," and she blushed as she softly continued:—"The minister comes sometimes to see us."

"I have noticed him rather more attentive in his visitations in your quarter of late, than usual, Miss Robina."

"Very well, Mr. McLaughlin; but you must not tease me now. You know Miss McFarlane is of the opinion that he is in love with her, while Miss Susan thinks her taste for literature and her knowledge of geology, especially her pamphlet on the Old Red Sandstone and its fossils as confirming the Mosaic record, are all matters of great interest to Mr. Fraser, and she fancies that he visits so frequently for the purpose of conversing with her."

"Oh, just this," continued Miss Robina, "I had no reason to conceal my age, as Mr. Fraser knows it exactly, since he baptized me. He was a young creature then, only three-and-twenty; so that's just the difference between us."

"Nothing at all, Miss Robina," said I—"nothing at all; not worth mentioning."

"In this cheerful and passing world," said Miss Robina, "three-and-twenty years are not much after all, Mr. McLaughlin!"

"Much," said I. "Tuts, my dear it's nothing—just, indeed, what should be."

"I was just thirty-four last birthday, McLaughlin," said Miss Robina; "and the minister said the last time he called that no young lady should take the cares and responsibility of a household upon herself till she was—well, twenty-eight, and he added that thirty-four was late enough."

"The minister, my dear," said I, "is a man of sense."

So thus were the Miss McFarlanes' census schedules filled up, and if ever some one in search of the "Curiosities of the Census" should come across it, he may think it strange enough, for he will find that the three sisters McFarlane are all at year's bairns.

We call the special attention of post-masters and subscribers to the following synopsis of the newspaper laws:

1. A postmaster is required to give notice by letter (returning a paper does not answer the law) when a subscriber does not take his paper out of the office, and state the reasons for its not being taken. Any neglect to do so makes the postmaster responsible to the publishers for payment.

2. If any person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrears, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether it be taken from the office or not. There can be no legal discontinuance until the payment is made.

3. Any person who takes a paper from the post-office, whether directed to his name or another, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for the pay.

4. If a subscriber orders his paper to be stopped at a certain time, and the publisher continues to send, the subscriber is bound to pay for it if he takes it out of the post-office. This proceeds upon the ground that a man must pay for what he uses.

5. The courts have decided that refusing to take a newspaper and periodicals from the post-office, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

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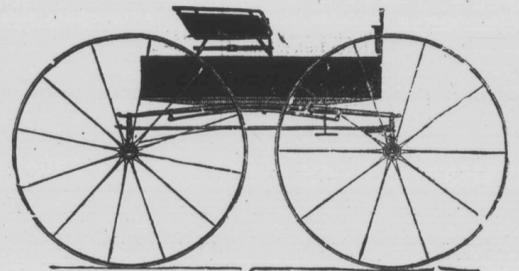
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