

the first time staring at him open-mouthed from the side of the road.

The prospect of seeing Innocentia, and the mere sight of the flowers that spoke of her so eloquently, made Anthony feel intensely grateful to any one who had in the smallest degree been instrumental in bringing him for the first time to her home; so he beckoned to the boy, and telling him he had not forgotten that he had run away without being paid when he was acting as his guide, and he should, therefore, have what was due to him. Therewith he dropped a gold piece into the lad's rough hand, and rode away, leaving him staring at it as if he thought it was fairy money, which would turn to a worthless pebble in his hand, as his grandmother had always told him coin of unearthly origin was sure to do.

Meanwhile, over the hills in the darkening twilight went Anthony Beresford, at a pace which Juan thought decidedly dangerous, while his heart beat high at thought of the meeting that waited him, and the fleet steps of the horse seemed slow to his impatience.

It was night before Refugium was reached, and when they stopped at the concealed door, which Juan dismounted to open, Anthony, too, flung himself off his horse, feeling as if his own feet would take him quicker to Innocentia than even the swift Arab. Leaving Juan to bring in the horses, he darted through the shrubberies towards the house, where he could see that the open hall door was sending out a stream of light into the darkness of the night, which shed a brilliant illumination on the marble steps of the portico; and as he drew near, and the sound of his foot was heard on the path, flying down from the open door came the lovely form of Innocentia, to meet him. The light gleamed on her white robes, and turned her long hair, floating on the wind, to threads of gold, and the transient glimpse of her face, as the rays from the hall lamp shone full upon it, showed it all radiant with smiles of pleasure, and eloquent with the welcome that soon would burst from her lips.

"Anthony, Anthony!" said the clear melodious voice he had heard of late only in dreams, "come quick, I want you, I want you so much;" and the outstretched hands were caught in his own the next moment, while he stammered out his words with difficulty from the excess of his joy.

"My Nina, my darling, do I really see you again, and you called me, you wished me to come—to come quick! Have you really missed me?"

"Oh yes, Anthony, ever so much! I have wanted you all the time; and now you have come back to stay; have you not? You must never go away any more."

"Do you really wish that, sweetest Nina? would you like me to stay here always?"

"Oh yes, that I should; are you not my friend? and friends never should part."

"Ah, never indeed!" he said, clasping her hand more closely in his.

(To be continued.)

#### SCANDAL.

There is much confusion in the popular use of the word "scandal," and it carries so much weight with it, even when misapplied, that not only for the sake of clearness in the abstract, but to avoid loose language in religious controversies, some thought may well be bestowed upon it.

The original meaning of the word is obviously *something said or done which causes others to offend*; but we do not always use it in this sense, as for instance, when we speak of some clergyman preaching doctrines or introducing ceremonies "at which members of his congregation are scandalized." The phrase there seems to mean that certain persons were hurt in their feelings or rendered indignant. What requires notice is this: that with the unthinking the gravity of the word "scandalized" introduces obliquely the idea that what is not liked is necessarily worthy of condemnation. A moment's thought, however, will show us that many things which grate upon our feelings may be in the highest degree correct and salutary.

The fact is, that taking offence is as often reprehensible as giving offence. Positive and sturdy objectors have no right to claim the consideration of babes and weaker brethren, without entering, to some degree at least, into the merits of the case. Preconceived opinions may be prejudices, and if we are to be guided by our prejudices we must bid farewell to peace and improvement. Prevailing notions may have much in their favor; but they must have solid argument as a basis, otherwise they are valueless. The mere annoyance which they feel when something distasteful is presented to them, can only be considered by weak and ignorant people a serious and conclusive argument. Carried out in practice, it would make the prevailing fashion of the day, however hollow it might be, sacred and inviolate. It is troublesome, no doubt, to examine the merits of a case; but it is singular that any should confess themselves unwilling to take the needful trouble, and prefer falling back on the unsubstantial plea that they are scandalized.

Those who, through ignorance or inadvertence, are led by others into sin, not those who make a noisy proclamation of their grievances, are the real victims of scandal. To stand quietly by and see abuses prevail without lifting a finger to remove them, from fear lest those who are not ashamed to call themselves weaker brethren should offer opposition, is really to be an author of scandal. And yet it is not uncommon to hear all giving of offence deprecated in such a way that we are almost cajoled into the belief that activity and enthusiasm are sins in themselves, and begin to doubt whether the apostles were not in the wrong when they gave dire offence to the priests and the Sanhedrim, or whether in later times, such reformers as Borromeo and Luther were justified in disturbing the tranquility and rousing the opposition of the men of their generation. We must not always listen to the plaintive cries of those who profess to be scandalized.

That there is, however, such a fault as endangering the virtue of others by injudicious words and deeds is not to be denied; but this is quite a different thing from the conscientious advocacy of matters of importance.

The latter is our bounden duty, however great may be the unpopularity with which it is received; in this case the guilt

involved often lies with the captious critics, and not with the active reformer. St. Paul devotes much care to the inculcation of a discreet self-restraint, even in things permissible; but his motive is not the petty fear lest any one should be grieved or annoyed, but lest he should be hindered from becoming a disciple of Christ, or tempted to forsake the faith which he had embraced. In ordinary walks of moral duty, the real enemies of weak brethren are they who, without committing any palpable outrage, do what they ought not to do, or leave undone what they ought to do. The higher the worldly position of these false lights, the more extensive is the evil which they do. Thus those who waste their money on needless dress and entertainments embolden others to think lightly of the claims of frugality; those who are not quite temperate enough in the matter of bodily enjoyments, make it easier for others to plunge into positive profligacy. Unfortunately it is needless to enlarge on this; instances are only too obvious and too numerous.—*Churchman.*

#### THE BAY OF FUNDY.

Passamaquoddy Bay is an appurtenance of the Bay of Fundy, as is also the Island of Grand Manan; but to describe the Bay of Fundy without mention of the fogs that harbor in it would be as grave a short-coming as to write a scientific treatise on fog without analysis of the article as found in the Bay of Fundy. Fogs, we may say, are never missed in the Bay of Fundy, though *mist* is a feeble word to denote them. To see the Bay of Fundy, in fact, in some weathers, one might about as well look on the map, and go no further.

There is another conspicuous feature of the Bay of Fundy, namely, its swollen and tumultuous tides, which sweep with unexampled volume and swiftness in from the Atlantic, and up its harbours and rivers, rising to an audacious height, and, when retiring, uncovering an impressively wide expanse of rock-bound and weed-matted shore. At low tide in the Bay of Fundy the shores look as if the sea had receded never to return. At high tide it looks as if the deep were rising to overwhelm the land. To stem the resulting currents even under steam is sometimes difficult; under all sail, or with the oar, it is often impossible.

"Does the Gulf Stream have anything to do with forcing these tides in here?" I innocently asked of a landsman on Grand Manan as we were discussing the phenomenon.

"No," was his emphatic reply; "it's more likely the tides has suthin' to do with pushin' the Gulf Stream off."

The Bay of Fundy, which may be regarded as the outside of the secluded precincts we are now to explore, might be called the American Bay of Biscay, except that its waters are a little less exposed to the powerful winds which sweep the open sea. It may be described to the eye as a short, stout left hand of the Atlantic thrust up in a north-easterly direction between Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and terminating only in a thumb and little finger. The little finger sinuously penetrates New Brunswick very nearly to Northumberland Strait, beyond which lies Prince Edward Island, and with which it is proposed to make a connection by means of a canal, so cutting off Nova Scotia into an immense island. The thumb, entering Nova Scotia and bending to the east and south, broadens into the Basin of Minas, which gives to the great promontory almost an inland sea.

It is into this Basin of Minas and up along its affluent Windsor River that the Fundy's tides pour with their greatest volume and force, rising, it is affirmed, to an occasional height of sixty feet, and with such sudden velocity as now and then to surprise and overwhelm cattle feeding on the marsh lands by the shore. In the Windsor River, steamers, it is said, have to dodge the tides.

The extreme length of the Bay of Fundy is about one hundred and seventy miles; its width ranges from thirty to fifty miles; its depth is generally great. Its shores are for the most part bold and rocky, sometimes grandly precipitous. It is a capacious ocean pocket; filled and emptied twice in the twenty-four hours. With its tides, fogs, winds, and "iron-bound" shores, it is anything but an inviting water to mariners, and has been the scene of some of the direst tragedies of the sea, while not without attractions of the strongest sort for the artist, the tourist, and the sportsman.—*Harper's Magazine for March.*

ALL God's developments have method. No matter how small a thing He sets Himself to do, He does it with a plan. There is not a blade of grass under your feet, but He has a perfect method in its development. God would never clothe our fields and woods as He does if He were to work as we work, in haphazard dabs and dashes, here and there, persevering nowhere, finishing nothing, fragmentary patch-work.

CHRIST is prepared for us often to deal very treacherously, and to be deceived by Satan's lie, that there is good in forbidden fruit; yes, He is prepared for all our foolishness. He turns to Peter, and says, "Lovest thou me? feed them." He turns to the Father, and says, "Lovest thou me? bless them." Oh! it is precious in this tempestuous world to wrap ourselves up in a sense of His unchangeable love, His inexhaustible grace.

KIND WORDS—WHY USE THEM?—1. Because they always cheer him to whom they are addressed. They soothe him if he is wretched; they comfort him if he is sad. They keep him out of the slough of despond, or help him out if he happens to be in. 2. There are words enough of the opposite kind flying about in all directions—sour words, cross words, overbearing words, irritating words. Now, let kind words have a chance to get abroad, since so many and so different are on the wing. 3. Kind words bless him that uses them. A sweet sound on the tongue tends to make the heart mellow. Kind words re-act upon the kind feelings which prompted them, and make them more kind. They add fresh fuel to the fire of benevolent emotion in the soul. 4. Kind words beget kind feelings toward him that loves to use them. People love to see the face and hear the voice of such a man.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

TEN Baptist ministers, laboring in Italy, had a place in the funeral procession of King Victor Emmanuel, carrying banners inscribed "United Italy."

THERE is a rumour that Queen Victoria's youngest son, Prince Leopold, contemplates entering the ministry of the Church of England, if his health permits.

A TELEGRAM from the Netherlands says a marriage between the Prince of Orange and the Princess Beatrice of England is contemplated.

MRS. GENERAL GAINES being asked how she retained her youthful feelings to the age of over eighty years, replied, "Soap and water and a clear conscience."

THE Bishop of Litchfield, Eng., while recently consecrating a cemetery, strongly favored the movement for conducting funerals with as little ceremony and cost as possible.

OVER 100,000 people in Great Britain have contributed £1,620 or 388,800 pence towards a memorial at Kidderminster for Sir Rowland Hill, the originator of penny postage.

THE First Baptist Church of Portland, Oregon, recently received six new converts from its Chinese mission, one of whom was the first Chinese woman ever baptised in this country.

THE little coterie in Boston who met to commemorate the 140th anniversary of Tom Paine's birth, passed a resolution demanding a modification of the Act of Congress against obscene literature.

THE "Indian Quarterly Evangelical Review" publishes a list of sixty-three translations of the Holy Bible, or portions of it, by Protestants, for the use of the inhabitants of the various provinces of India.

THE "Advance" says that the Tenth Presbyterian Church, Chicago, has been merged with the Eighth, making thirteen Presbyterian churches which have been organized in the city and gone out of existence.

MR. HENRY VARLEY's visit to Australia has resulted in a more extended and fruitful revival than was ever experienced there. Some thousands in Melbourne and its suburbs have professed faith in Christ.

THE Akhoond of Swat, the chief of a small tribe on the frontier, has recently died. His influence over the whole Mussulman population of India was very great, and the Indian mutiny was largely owing to his instigation.

THE Marquis of Bute is successfully introducing beavers into Scotland, having provided for a little colony a carefully walled-in park, through which runs a mountain stream, in which they have already built three dams.

SAN FRANCISCO is to be supplied with water from the Blue Lakes, distant nearly 125 miles. There are three of these lakes, the highest being nearly 9,000 feet above the sea. The contract price is about \$16,000,000.

IT is an interesting illustration of Christian enterprise that before Stanley reached England a mission party had left to evangelize the natives of Africa on the Congo River, who were brought to the notice of the world by his recent explorations.

DR. R. S. STORRS, the eminent Brooklyn Congregational minister, preached a sermon last Sunday in which he declared that his faith in the endlessness of future punishment was as definite as his faith in the eternity of happiness, and that the two have the same basis in Scripture and reason.

THE Rev. Fergus Ferguson, who is charged with heresy, is strongly supported by his congregation, which has recently added \$500 to his salary, and by resolution expressed "their unshaken confidence in Mr. Ferguson's teaching."

DR. DYKES has been lecturing upon the changes in religious thought, and among other things suggested that a revision of the standards of the Presbyterian Church was not advisable until the new ideas had become crystallized.

THE "Lutheran Observer" defends its use of the word "edigram" instead of "editorial," as being in analogy with anagram, epigram, monogram, etc., and proposes the introduction of the word "photogram" instead of "photograph," which it maintains is the instrument by which the photogram is made.

REV. DR. N. BOUTON, in his address on the fiftieth year since his settlement as a pastor in Concord, N.H., among other illustrations of progress, cited this striking contrast: When he began his pastoral visits he was invited to drink at every house; now not one of the eighteen or twenty ministers there has in the last fifteen or twenty years been invited by a parishioner to drink intoxicating liquor.

THE National Bible Society of Scotland have just issued a very interesting report of their work during 1877. The total issues of the year are stated to have been 361,192, being 52,865 of an increase over 1876, notwithstanding that the home issues were less by 18,080. This is not the only matter of gratification to the directors, for the income of the year has been the highest yet known.

THE Waldensians in their mission work in Italy have, in their five virtual Presbyteries of Piedmont, Lombardo-Venetic, Tuscany, Rome-Naples, and Sicily, 39 churches, 19 stations, and 47 places, visited by their 31 pastors, 14 evangelists, 51 teachers, 14 colporteurs. They have 3,735 regular attendants at public worship, 14,965 occasional hearers, and 2,414 members, 226 of whom were admitted the past year. They have also 1,888 pupils in their day-schools and 1,637 in their Sunday-schools.

THE following petition to Her Majesty has been signed in Inverness:—"Unto Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. The humble memorial of merchants, traders, and other loyal inhabitants of the Royal Burgh of Inverness. Humbly sheweth,—That your Majesty's memorialists have entirely lost confidence in Lord Beaconsfield as your Majesty's adviser and first Minister of this country. May it therefore please your Most Gracious Majesty to discharge Lord Beaconsfield, and, if necessary, dissolve the present Parliament. And your memorialists shall ever pray," etc.