

## JACOB FAITHFUL.

### "Materfamilias" Vanquished—Bribery at Elections Condemned.

JACOB has received so many kind words and cordial compliments that it is to be feared he is in danger of losing his balance. To meet and counteract this, Mr. Wilson has kindly forwarded a letter from *Materfamilias* in which JACOB is handled in a very kind, motherly, feminine fashion, but still decidedly without gloves. His letters, it seems, for a week or two past have neither been delicately worded, nor are in the slightest degree indicative of refinement of feeling or good sense. Now this is too bad. Not too bad that the correspondent should so write, but that JACOB should have given any just occasion for such severe remarks. But has he? It must be left to each one's judgement. Nothing would give me more pain than the feeling that I had written one word which a delicate and refined young lady could not read with propriety, or ponder over with profit. Perhaps *Materfamilias* may remember the remark of the late Sir Arthur Helps in his charming little volume called "Companions of My Solitude," to the effect that when he was at college he was notorious, if not celebrated, for saying bold and rather outspoken things on very delicate subjects, without giving offence, and how he there and then proceeds to show his continued faculty in that line by a long disquisition on seduction and kindred subjects. It is possible that JACOB has not the faculty of Sir Arthur. At any rate, however, he meant well, and deceives himself greatly if he was either coarse or indelicate. Better try another than try me, but rather try me than try nobody. *Materfamilias* must know that there is a frightful amount of immorality on all sides, in the country as in the town, and to shut one's eyes to the fact is not the most likely way to have it remedied. Sir Arthur, in the book to which I have already made reference, says in reference to the wrecks of womanhood that are on every side:—

"Poor things, poor things, the best, the kindest!  
"Fall a-wreck for their heart is bildest;  
"And feels and loves, and will not reason,  
"And they are lost, poor things, poor things!"

Now JACOB does not think that either the best or the kindest fall soonest, or fall at all, but he holds, with the same writer already quoted, that many a seduction that takes place, apart from the forgetful and permanent consequences, is as mean and contemptible as cheating a child at cards. The fact is that many a *Materfamilias* is criminally inexcusably to blame for never speaking reasonably and lovingly to their daughters on certain subjects, never warning them, never putting them on their guard, and thus leaving them, in many cases through their ignorance and native indelicacy, to fall easy victims to the wiles of the destroyer.

Having said his say, and delivered his soul on a very important but very ticklish subject, JACOB lies to fresh fields and pastures new. His thoughts go away to Egypt, and are anxious. They cross to Britain, and are anxious. The wander about at home, and are sad. The struggle in Egypt promises to be long and bloody. In Britain things seem all at sixes and sevens, and herein this Canada of ours many seek bread and have neglected such as charity bestows. People say that things are beginning to mend. JACOB would be rejoiced to believe that they are, though what signs there are of such improvement requires a keener sight than JACOB possesses to see.

It is to be hoped that things are improving in the matter of bribing at elections. Those who profess to know decidedly say

that they are. If so, alas, for what has been. It is very disheartening to notice how many people can, sell their votes and even glory in the transaction. It is said that some three or four hundred personations of both the dead and the living took place at the late contest for Mayor in this city. Each of these was, of course, a case of perjury, and evidently with what a legal heart the perjury was committed. This is the way in which freedom has always been lost and ruined. Free institutions can only subsist among people of high intelligence, and unquestionable morality. If freedom in Canada is not able to kill corruption, corruption will assuredly kill it. When money is everything and truth and honour and uprightness very much matters of jest, things are in a bad way. As a matter of self-preservation the people of Canada ought to declare every one that either takes or offers a bribe infamous, and as such to be classed among criminals, paupers, and lunatics, as disfranchised to the day of their death. And does not that show JACOB in a new light? He would show no pity. The briber and the bribed, as well as the man who had a vote and would not use it, ought to be disfranchised. They are bad citizens, and ought to be treated as such.

JACOB stumbled into Temperance Hall when the Convention was sitting. Will it be believed that I could not get up steam? The tawdry chalk drawing that Grip presented, and which figured behind the chair, was awfully much of the woolly. JACOB scarcely thought that the wise bird could have been guilty of such a piece of claptrap. Such, however, is life. If Sam. Blake and all concerned were pleased with it, why should it be allowed to bother JACOB?

## Our Scriptural Enigma.

FOR BIBLE STUDENTS.

NO MONEY REQUIRED. TRY YOUR SKILL.

NO. XLIX.

We have had a good deal of protesting against poor No. XLVI. One, whose communications are always welcome, and who brings to bear upon the solution of the Scriptural Enigmas an especial amount of care, intelligence and neatness, writes: "There is nothing doltish about the party who arranged No. 46. Apparently he has had a very prolific mind and has probably forgotten more than many learned. At any rate he has succeeded admirably in mystifying what purports to be a key to his riddle. He is clearly entitled to a notch in the temple of fame for constructing his questions on the principle of pure, unadulterated ambiguity; in fact I might venture to assert that they are the very essence of obscurity, double-distilled. He evidently intended that his Enigma should bring ordinary mortals to a stand, as well as puzzle the learned and silence the philosopher." When such a one writes in this fashion, there must be some considerable amount of obscurity. Let us see. The first is,

1. Though little, none may thee despise.  
For oh! how great in Christian eyes.

This finds a correct and natural answer in Bethlehem as indicated by Micah, 5 and 2. But Baptism, as some give it, won't do; neither will Beaz; neither will Babes; neither will Balr. A good many are thus cut off at once.

No. 2. Anna, Luke ii., 36.

3. Rest, Hebrews, 4:9-11

A very intelligent and generally accurate correspondent gives "Righteousness," which

will not do, as she will see when she thinks over it.

4. Saint, 2 Thess. i., 10  
5. Asenath, Gen. xli., 37-45  
6. Benoni, Gen. xxxv., 18.

Some have Benjamin, and this is the name of the same person, but it won't answer the other conditions.

7. Abagtha, Esther i., 10.  
8. Sabcan, Job i., 14.

The number who have been successful is small, but we could not on that account decline to give the prizes. The following friends will accordingly get each a book, on forwarding 12 cents to Mr. Wilson for postage: Miss Baxter, Thorold; Lizzie Boyd, London; R. W. Black, Goodwood. In addition may be mentioned Wm. Jamieson, Moorefield; George Adam, Belleville; James Weir, Kingston; Alfred Wicks, St. Thomas.

For No. XLIX. take the following:—

1. In every house my first was found  
And rolled and rumpled round and round,  
And this was woman's work, 'tis said,  
To fill each mouth with daily bread.  
But now they see the running stream,  
Such work to do—or, haply steam,  
So changed its form; and yet its name  
Still to this day remains the same.
2. My next once propped a pilgrim's head,  
And laid a threatening giant dead;  
Once showed God's help and power to save,  
And a new name to Peter gave.  
Type of His strength who guards the humble,  
But makes the disobedient stumble.
3. Part of my first will make my whole,  
True picture of a callous soul!  
The paradox may make you stare,  
But of your own hard heart beware.  
Bin a man's life the law alleged,  
And hence forbade it to be pledged.  
A prophet once my whole beheld—  
By a strong angel's hand propelled—  
Into the deep with fury hurled.  
To show the judgment of the world,  
When Satan's Kingdom shall be o'er,  
And Babylon be found no more.

We expect not only the answer in chief, but a statement and explanation of any reference throughout the questions. We thought of giving another, but, upon the whole, have concluded that this is enough. We have already explained about the Clock to the word Love, and trust Miss Yates will be satisfied. We plead guilty to not remembering about whether or not her letter was received. We rather think not, but at such a distance of time, and with so many letters to open and read, she will kindly excuse the apparent but most unintentional oversight.

EDITOR OF ENIGMA,  
"Truth" Office.

### The Kitchen.

It is a mistaken idea to suppose that any room, however small or unpleasantly situated, is "good enough for a kitchen. This is the room where most of the time and labor is required, and it should be one of the brightest and most cheerful in the house; for upon the results from no other department of woman's domain depends so greatly the health and comfort of the family, as from those of this "household workshop." If it be true, as is often said, that the character of a person's work is more or less dependent upon outward surroundings, is it to be greatly wondered at that a woman immured for the greater part of the time in a small, close, dimly-lighted room, whose only outlook may be the back alley or the woodshed, supplies her household with products of her labor that fall far below a high standard of health and housewifely skill?

Every kitchen should have plenty of windows, and the sun should have free entrance through them; for light and fresh air are among the chief essentials for success in all departments of the household. Good drainage should also be provided, and the ventilation of a kitchen ought to be as carefully attended to as that of a sleeping-room.

Undoubtedly, much of the distaste for, and neglect of, "house-work" so often deplored in these days, arises from the unpleasant surroundings accompanying this department of labor. If the kitchen be light, airy, and tidy, and the utensils bright and clean, the process of compounding from the raw materials those articles of food that grace the table and satisfy the appetite, and all the labor connected therewith, will be a pleasant task, and one entirely worthy of the most cultivated woman.

## Music and the Drama.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—The two nights' engagement of the "Bunch of Keys" was altogether too brief. Such an ingeniously arranged, and cleverly performed bit of absurdity has seldom, if ever, been seen here. If "A Bunch of Keys" should return next season a week's engagement would be none too long. This week at this theatre we have the singular spectacle of an all-star company in a new play entitled "Notice to Quit." The mere mention of such names as Mr. and Mrs. McKee Rankin, Messrs. Frank Mordaunt, Daniel Harkins, Thos. Hamilton, John J. Wallace, Charles G. Edmunds, and Chas. S. Ray, and Miss Alma Stuart and Miss Stanley, was all that was required to pack the house. The play itself is by Conquest & Pettit, and the scenery and appointments are of the most elaborate description. A description of the piece will be given next week.

MONTFORD'S MUSKUM.—Last week Mills, Rice & Barton's Minstrels delighted the patrons of the Museum. The troupe is composed of some very clever performers, and as the building was crowded each evening, the engagement must have been a very satisfactory one financially. It is pleasing to note the growing popularity of this theatre as a result of the decided improvement in moral tone which Mr. Montford has brought about. In fact there is nothing cheap about the Museum but the price of admission. This week Skiff & Gaylord's Novelty Company open in their well known specialties.

On Wednesday evening last the officers and men of the Royal Grenadiers presented at the Grand "Icien Parle Français" and "Boots at the Swan." As an amateur performance this was one of the most important events of the season, and the large and brilliant audience which filled the house testified their appreciation by calling each player before the curtain, and each of the lady performers was presented with a magnificent bouquet.

### Adelina Patti.

Amongst the thousand and one incidents which the tongue of rumor delights to retail concerning this charming cantatrice, the following should be remembered as one which reflects no less credit on the judgment and good sense than on the artistic skill of Madame Adelina Patti.

It is said that when the young girl was first presented at Paris to Rossini, and called upon to exhibit her vocal powers to that autocrat, he complimented her highly upon her natural endowments, but added, "Now you have only to learn to sing."

Instead of awakening her resentment or depressing her hopes, this remark only stimulated the brave young artiste to fresh endeavors, and impelled her to pursue that judicious and unceasing course of study which ultimated in rendering her the very best operatic vocalist of the age. Thus it is that the charm of Madame Patti's exquisite voice is not only heightened by the supreme acme of art and culture, but also by that total absence of "gush" and affectation, which so often mars the efforts of the most eminent artistes.

Worshipped as the empress of operatic art, and justly admired as a woman, Madame Patti adds to her other fine qualities the attribute of a noble heart, for it is confidently affirmed that in the neighborhood of her Welsh castle, her benefactions to the poor and lowly have earned for her a homage far superior and more lasting than that of courts and salons. In truth, then, the love and blessings of the helpless and suffering, form the one crown of Adelina Patti's life, which will increase in radiance and lustre, and crystallize into immortal glory, whilst her artistic powers diminish, and the fleeting sources of her public triumphs fade into dim forgetfulness.

The latest method of wearing the watch is with a ribbon bow in place of a chain. The watch is tucked in the bosom of the dress and bow arranged outside.

A pale sea green bonnet of velvet, for the opera, is ornamented with a bouquet of silver, flowers and wheat and a fine silver lace ruching. The effect is recherché.