

was not to be carried out. All through his journey, two separate trains of thought had been running in his mind—one of his own goodness and self-sacrifice in troubling him self about these Reeves people and their burdens, and the other his good fortune in securing on easy terms such faithful service as he felt sure his cousin Tom's boy would render.

"You'll find out your mistake when it is too late," he said irritably. "I shan't make such an offer again, I can tell you."

"I'm very thankful to you for it, sir," Dick answered respectfully, "but we all have a right to do what we honestly believe to be right, haven't we, sir?"

"And a right to starve as the result!" said Mr. Dodds quite angrily, having just recollected that he was quite sure one of his journeymen was robbing him in ways he could not find out, but which sharp young eyes like Dick's could soon have detected. "People who have their living to make soon find out they must not be too particular." (It did not occur to him that that might be his treacherous workman's own reflections.) "They must live."

"They have a right to die if they choose that rather than doing wrong, sir," said Dick.

"Well, well," observed Mr. Dodds, rising. "I'll go up to the inn now, to my friend. We shan't leave till to-morrow morning, and I'll look in upon you as we drive by. Remember, I've done my utmost to help you, and you won't be helped, and really it is very ungrateful and trying on your part. But I don't want to be hard on you, and so I'll give you another hint, Dick. If you ever do get a little money together toward those debts, go to your creditors and ask them what they'll take to give you a discharge in full. They'll be glad to see any of the money, and they'll let you off nearly half they've charged. You may be sure they've made out their bills expecting as much."

"I'll pay them every penny, sir," said Dick, "with thanks over for their patience. If they've cheated me, that's their fault. But I know better."

Mr. Dodds did not ask what these formidable debts were. If he had, it might have made him uncomfortable to find that the comforts which had soothed his cousin's last days, and which were to burden Dick's start in life, scarcely amounted to more than he and Mr. Baye's paid for the viands they consumed at the sumptuous supper they ordered at the inn, and over which they sat long and late, discussing unsatisfactory workpeople, bad debts and unfulfilled contracts.

They woke late next morning, with bad headaches and touchy tempers. So Mr. Dodds had no time to alight at the Reeveses' cottage, but called out to the mother and son to come out and shake hands with him. He only paused long enough to ask Dick if he was still in his same foolish mind. While Mr. Dodds was speaking to the boy, Mr. Baye's glance had wandered to the mother, and just as they drove off he made some remark to his companion, of which Dick only caught the word "price." Perhaps Mrs. Reeves heard something more; could it have been something which made her even unusually silent and thoughtful all day? Dick thought she was pondering over the wisdom of his determination. So just before he said good-night, he put his hands on her shoulder, and said:

"Mother, isn't it jolly when what is right is also what we like? If I could have helped you by leaving you, I'd have had to go. But it would have been terribly hard."

She did not answer. She raised her eyes to his face, and looked steadily at him for two or three minutes. Then she said suddenly:

"Dick, I must go to Caddiford to-morrow in the carrier's cart."

"Why, mother?" exclaimed Dick, surprised.

"You must not ask me why I am going," she said nervously.

It was Dick's turn to gaze at her. He was accustomed to implicit obedience and trust. But he asked now:

"It isn't anything about me?"

"No, child," she answered, with a convulsive effort. As she spoke she moved, and Dick's hand coming in contact with her hair displaced the comb, and it fell in a rich, wavy white coil on her neck. Dick stroked it tenderly.

"Father's silver," he said in a gentle whisper. "Do you remember how he used to call it that, and make a riddle out of it? 'When is silver worth more than gold? When it is on mother's head!'"

The widow burst into a flood of tears, and threw her arms about her son. "Yes," she said, with a singular emphasis, "yes, Dick, it is 'father's silver.'"

(To be continued.)

#### TAINÉ'S BOYHOOD.

Taine's real name is Hippolyte Adolphe Taine, but he is usually called "Henri Taine," which he himself, in a letter to me, attributes to a whim of the editor of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. He was born on the 21st of April, 1828, at Vouziers, a small town between Champagne and the Ardennes. His family may be counted among the intellectual aristocracy of France; all were well educated and also in fairly prosperous circumstances, though not exactly rich. Some were members of the Chamber of Deputies; his grandfather was Sous-prefet. His father, a very learned man, taught Hippolyte Latin; an uncle, who had resided for a long time in America, made him familiar with the English language. "All that was English fascinated him from an early period; even as a boy he found delight in reading books in the language of Shakespeare. While French novels were forbidden fruit to the young people, foreign literature was thrown upon them without any restrictions, and their elders rejoiced when a youth showed a disposition to acquaint himself in this way with the languages of other countries. Our hero devoted himself to the study of English classics, and thus at an early age laid the foundation of the accurate knowledge of English literature to which he afterward owed a large amount of his celebrity. The promising boy was only thirteen when he lost his father. A year later his mother brought him to Paris, where

she at first placed him as boarder in an excellent private school. Not long after he entered the College de Bourbon (now Lycée de Condorcet), where he distinguished himself above all his schoolfellows by ripeness of intelligence, by industry and success. At the same time he was the constant object of tender care and unremitting watchfulness on the part of his admirable mother, a woman of warm affections, who did all in her power to bestow a thorough education on her children. In the year 1847 he obtained the first prize for a Latin essay on rhetoric, in 1848 two prizes for philosophical treatises. These achievements threw open to him the doors of the so-called Normal School, a kind of seminary in which the pupils were trained for professional chairs in the universities. This higher preparatory course of study, is, however, utilized by many only as a stepping stone to a literary career. Many celebrated writers were Taine's colleagues at the Normal School; Edmond About, Prevost Paradol, J. J. Weiss, Francisque Sarcey—these all were professors only for a short time, and soon embraced definitely the career of literature and journalism.—*The Nineteenth Century*.

#### DREAMING.

I dreamed as I slept last night.  
And because the wild wind blew;  
And because the splash of the angry rain  
Fell heavily on the window pane,  
I heard in my dream the sob of the main,  
On the seaboard that I knew.

I dreamed as I slept last night.  
And because the oaks outside  
Swayed and groaned to the rushing blast,  
I heard the crash of the stricken mast,  
And the wailing shriek as the gale swept past  
And cordage and sail replied.

I dreamed as I slept last night.  
And because my heart was there,  
I saw where the stars shone large and bright  
And the heather budded upon the height.  
With the Cross above it standing white:  
My dream was very fair.

I dreamed as I slept last night.  
And because of its charm for me,  
The inland voices had power to tell  
Of the sights and the sounds I love so well  
And they wrapt my fancy in the spell,  
Wove only by the sea.

—All the Year Round.

#### TAMPERING WITH JURORS AND POLITICAL JOBBERY.

Corruption in all its forms has existed in England at different periods of her history. Tampering with judges and juries was once common. A statute of the reign of Henry VII. in the year 1494 recites that "perjury is much and customarily used within the city of London among such persons as jassen and been impanelled upon issues joined between party and party." "The Dance of Death," translated from the French in the same reign by John Lydgate, with new incidents, adapted to the England of his day, mentions a juror who had given a false verdict for money. Stow tells us that in 1468 many London jurors were punished by having papers fastened to their heads, setting forth how they had been tampered with in such and such a suit. A letter from the Bishop of London to Cardinal Wolsey, given by Grafton in his "Chronicles," says that a London jury would find Abel guilty of the murder of Cain. Jardine remarks that the "proceedings against persons accused of State offences in the early periods of our history do not deserve the name of trials; they were a mockery of justice." The purification of the Bench was probably due in large measure to the fate of Bacon. However that may be, England can now boast of a long line of incorruptible judges and immaculate juries. That form of bribery which is often a concomitant of party government—the bestowal of offices and valuable considerations of various kinds to secure allegiance to the party in power—was very common during the eighteenth century in England. Walpole, writing in 1775, says of Lord Lyttelton: "This hopeful young man, who, on being refused a place, spoke for the Americans, and two days, on getting one, against them, being reproached with such precipitate changes, said that with his fortune nobody could suppose that he thought of the value of the salary." During the reign of George III. 358 peers were created, nearly all for political jobbery, which generally took the form of the manufacture of a constituency to return adherents of the Government. It was a common practice to carry an election by splitting up one freehold into ten, thus multiplying tenfold the influence of the local magnate. Lord Melville, during the first quarter of this century, was able to return thirty-nine out of the forty-five members for Scotland. Horace Walpole, in commenting on the death of Lord Clive in 1774, writes with the utmost naïveté, "He has just named ten members for the new Parliament."—*The Quarterly Review*.

MADAME SOFIA BONFIANI, of Rome, declares that the chief torch-bearer in Italy is the British Bible Society. Through its agency there has been an enormous diffusion of Scripture in Italy during the past twenty-five years. The Bible, or a portion of it, is much more readily accepted or bought by the people than is generally supposed.

THE first Provincial Council of the Romish Church which has been held in Scotland since the Reformation met recently in the Benedictine Monastery, Fort Augustus. A code of canons or rules for the better organization and government of their Church in Scotland has been adjusted. The deliberations were private and the decisions not published till confirmed by the Pope.

## British and Foreign.

THERE are said to be upward of 100 applications for the vacant charge at Parton, Scotland.

THE China Inland Mission has been obliged to abandon a new mission at Wan Shien on account of the anti-foreign sentiment in that place.

DR. STEWART ("Nether-Lochaber") is preparing a paper on the early history of Dunstaffnage Castle for the Scottish Society of Antiquaries.

A MEMORIAL window for the late Lord Curriehill is to be placed in St. Giles's by his son, Rev. T. Marshall, M.A., Caputh, and the Misses Marshall.

THE sum raised for missions at present by all the European and American Churches is \$113,375,000; of this the United Kingdom raises \$6,005,000.

THE *Lancet* states that beer and other stimulants predispose to sunstroke, and advises the use of non-intoxicating cooling beverages as a preventive.

MR. A. P. THOMPSON, assistant to Mr. Jolly in West Port Edinburgh, has been ordained there to the charge of the Warwick Presbyterian Church in Bermuda.

PRINCIPAL CAIRD has undertaken to write the volume on Spinoza, in place of Dr. James Martineau, for the series of "Philosophical Classics" edited by Prof. Knight.

CAREBROOKE Castle was lately the scene of the celebration of the jubilee of the introduction of total abstinence into the Isle of White. Over 7,000 people were present.

REV. DAVID PLAYFAIR, B.A., Cantab., who was for thirty-seven years minister of Abercorn parish in Linlithgowshire, has died at Edinburgh in his seventy-first year.

DR. MACGREGOR, of St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, seconded the nomination of Lord Advocate Macdonald at his re-election as M.P. for Edinburgh and St. Andrew's Universities.

THE Town Council of Maidstone have unanimously resolved to inscribe the name of John B. Gough upon the walls of the council chamber among those of other eminent men of Kent.

IN accordance with the will of an old lady, who disliked the noise of the rustics' boots in coming into service, the nave and aisle of Old Weston Church were covered recently with grass cut from land bequeathed for the purpose.

DR. SUMMERVILLE has delivered thirty-five addresses in his Highland tour which began at Campbeltown and extended to Islay and Mull. He is now about to visit Skye, Lewis and Barra, and afterward the Fort William district.

REV. A. ANDREW, the pastor, has undertaken to raise one-half of \$6,000 required to enable his congregation to enter the White Memorial Church at Plantation, Glasgow, free of debt, and they are endeavouring to raise the remainder.

MR. FLIEDNER, whose mission in Madrid is chiefly supported by Christians in Germany and Holland, has bought a house for his orphans in the Escorial, which once belonged to Philip II. He has great faith in the resurrection of Spain.

MR. THOMAS BLAKE, M.P., has instituted an action for libel against John Bellows, of Gloucester, a Quaker, who during the recent election charged Mr. Blake with having bribed whole congregations of Baptists in the Forest of Dean by means of five pound notes.

COMPLAINT is made in the daily papers at Rome of the general inattention at the most solemn services in St. Peter's. It is a ridiculous as much as the Corso or theatre. People walk up and down, chatting and laughing, while the solemn Requiem or Miserere is being sung.

At the Wesleyan Conference it seemed to be the prevailing opinion that the class meeting is not now the power it once was. One speaker said it "did not *bite* as it used to do," and that whilst they were making members faster than ever, they were losing them faster than ever.

IN Copenhagen there are only twenty-two Christian pastors, or one for every 11,000 inhabitants, while there is one physician for every 820. In the whole city there are but 47,000 communicants, and in her parishes but two churches exist for 110,000 souls nominally belonging to them.

THE Wesleyans have resolved to mission that plague-spot of London, the district within a quarter of a mile limit of Piccadilly-circus. Rev. M. Guy Pearse and Hugh Price Hughes are to lead the onslaught on this central stronghold of metropolitan vice, and \$125,000 is needed to meet the cost.

BISHOP ENEN, of Inverness, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, has resigned. He is very feeble, and is not expected to recover. His last official act was to confirm the election of Dr. Dowden as Bishop of Edinburgh. Bishop Eden still retains the office of Bishop of Moray, Ross and Caithness.

THE Rev. Dr. Sellar, of Aberlour, has bequeathed \$6,250 to establish a Bible reader for the parishes of Keith, Aberlour, and Bobarn: \$1,250 to the Schemes of the Church of Scotland; \$500 to the parish poor; \$1,000 for bursaries and prizes for essays; \$500 for Craigellachie mission, and other sums for the good of the parish.

THE Rev. J. Bryant French, pastor of Albany Road Chapel, walked from London Bridge to Belgravia as a sandwich man, bearing two boards saying that his chapel was infected with dry rot, and that the congregation was too poor to defray the expenses of repairs. He had to submit to a good deal of ridicule, and obtained the sum of £2. 9d. in response to his novel mode of appealing for public subscriptions.

THE Rev. George J. Mingins, of Union Tabernacle, New York, preached a remarkable sermon lately in the church at Danoon, from Acts iv. 33. Mr. Mingins concluded by referring in touching terms to the pleasure it afforded him to give witness once more to the grace of God in his dear native land. In the afternoon Mr. Mingins, and Mr. James Croil, of Montreal, addressed the Sabbath school. Mr. Croil has left the Clyde this week for Lucerne.