

**A PAGE FROM THE HEART.**

A cloud is over my path,  
A gloom is in my side,  
I cannot give the one  
Nor from the other hide,  
Or that this cloud would hide the face,  
Which follows where'er I go,  
And yet it wears a smile  
That lingers every where,  
The smile of my dear boy,  
Shed not a light so day,  
That has so long obscured my day.

**Miscellaneous Selections.**

**THE FATHER OF RAILROADS.**

Though mainly an engineer, he was also a daring thinker on many scientific questions; and there was scarcely a subject of application or a department of scientific science, on which he had not employed his faculties in such a way as to have formed large and original views. At Drayton, and Mr. Stephenson frequently joined in it. On one occasion an animated discussion took place between himself and Dr. Buckland on one of his favorite theories of the origin of the world. Dr. Buckland, a much greater master of tongue than Stephenson, completely mastered him. Next morning before breakfast, when he was walking in the grounds and deeply pondering, Sir William Follet came up and asked him what he was thinking about. "Why, Sir William, I am thinking over that argument I had with Buckland last night. I know I am right, and that if I had only the command of words which he has, I would have beaten him." "Let me know all about it," said Sir William, "and I will see what I can do for you." The two sat down in an arbor, where the estate lawyer made himself thoroughly acquainted with the points of the case; entering into it with all the zeal of an advocate about to plead the interests of his client. After he had mastered the subject, Sir William rose up, and rubbing his hands with glee, said, "Now I am ready for him; and I will be made acquainted with the plot, and I will introduce the subject of the controversy at dinner. The result was, that in the argument which followed, the man of science was overcome by the man of law; and Sir William Follet had at all points the mastery over Doctor Buckland. "What do you say, Mr. Stephenson?" asked Sir Robert, laughing. "Why, Sir, I will only say this, that of all the powers above, and under the earth, there seems to be no power so great as that of gab."

**THE SUBSTITUTION OF THE**

One Sunday, when the party had just returned from church, they were standing together on the terrace near the hall, and observed in the distance a railway train passing along. "Now, Buckland," said Mr. Stephenson, "I have a power for you; can you tell me what is the power that is driving that train?" "Why, Sir, it is the power of steam," said Mr. Stephenson, "and it is the power of the engine." "Oh, very likely, a cunning New-castle driver. What do you say to the light?" "It is nothing else, and the engine; it is light bottled up in the earth for tens of thousands of years—light, absorbed by plants and vegetables, being necessary for the condensation of carbon during the process of their growth; if it be not carbon in another form—solid, or after being buried in the earth for long ages in the form of coal, it is not light; it is again brought forth and liberated, made to work as in that locomotive, for great human purposes." The idea was certainly a most striking and original one; like a flash of light it illuminated in an instant an entire field of science.

**THE SUBSTITUTION OF THE**

The Substitutor having been appointed Agent to the above Company, he is prepared to receive Proposals for FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE. The large Capital of the Company, and the number of its Agents, will enable it to rank with the most eligible Companies, either in America or Europe, with respect to the advantages offered to the Public.

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