

He caught a glimpse of her again the next morning as she came down-stairs and entered the little carriage which was to take her down to Stansstad in time to catch the boat to Lucerne. She was starting early, before it was fairly dawn, and he saw her only by the dim light of lamps, which burned but feebly in the chilly damp of the autumn atmosphere. For a little distance he followed the sound of the carriage wheels, but he arrested his own footsteps. For what good was it to pursue one whom he must never find again? She was gone from him forever. He was a young man yet, and she still younger. But for his folly and crime a long and prosperous life might have stretched before them, each year knitting their hearts and souls more closely together; and he had forfeited all. He turned back up the valley broken-hearted.

Later in the day he stood beside the grave of the man who was bearing away his name from disgrace. The funeral had been hurried on, and the stranger was buried in a neglected part of the churchyard, being friendless and a heretic. It was quickly done, and when the few persons who had taken part in it were dispersed, Roland Selton lingered alone beside the desolate grave.

(To be continued.)

ABOUT THE SUN.

Particularly impressive are the facts and examples by which Professor Young endeavours to convey to the reader some idea of the prodigious forces and activities with which the student of the sun is confronted. Speaking of the out-flow of the solar heat, he says:

"The quantity of heat emitted is enough to melt a shell of ice ten inches thick over the whole surface of the sun every second of time, this is equivalent to the consumption of a layer of the best anthracite coal nearly four inches thick every single second." In regard to the distance of the sun from the earth, he says: "Though the distance can easily be stated in figures, it is not possible to give any real idea of a space so enormous; it is quite beyond our power of conception. If one were to try to walk such a distance, supposing that he could walk four miles an hour, and keep it up for ten hours every day, it would take sixty-eight and a half years to make a single million of miles, and more than sixty-three hundred years to traverse the whole. If some celestial railway could be imagined, the journey to the sun, even if our trains ran sixty miles an hour, day and night without a stop, would require over one hundred and seventy-five years. Sensation, even, would not travel so far in a human lifetime. To borrow the curious illustration of Professor Mendenhall, if we could imagine an infant with an arm long enough to enable him to touch the sun and burn himself, he would die of old age before the pain would reach him, since, according to the experiments of Helmholtz and others, a nervous shock is communicated only at the rate of about one hundred feet per second, or sixteen hundred and thirty-seven miles a day, and would need more than one hundred and fifty years to make the journey. Sound would do it in about fourteen years if it could be transmitted through celestial space; and a cannon-ball in about nine, if it were to move uniformly with the same speed as when it left the muzzle of the gun. If the earth could be suddenly stopped in her orbit, and allowed to fall unobstructed toward the sun, under the accelerating influence of his attraction, she would reach the centre in about four months."

As to the attraction between the sun and earth: "It amounts to thirty-six hundred quadrillion of tons—in figures, 36 followed by seventeen ciphers. . . . We may imagine gravitation to cease, and to be replaced by a material bond of some sort, holding the earth to the sun and keeping her in her orbit. If, now, we suppose this connection to consist of a web of steel wires, each as large as the heaviest telegraph wires used (No. 4), then to replace the sun's attraction these wires would have to cover the whole sunward hemisphere of our globe about as thickly as blades of grass upon a lawn. It would require *nine* to each square inch."

ORIGIN OF NAMES IN THE WEEK.

In the museum at Berlin, in the hall devoted to Northern antiquities, they have the representations from the idols from which the names of the days of the week are derived. From the idol of the sun comes Sunday. This idol is represented with his face like the sun, holding a burning wheel, with both hands on his breast, signifying his course round the world. The idol of the moon, from which comes Monday, is habited in a short coat, like a man, but holding the moon in his hands. Tuiseo, from which comes Tuesday, was one of the most ancient and popular gods of the Germans, and represented in his garments of skin, according to their peculiar manner of clothing; the third day of the week was dedicated to his worship. Woden, from which comes Wednesday, was a valiant prince among the Saxons. His image was prayed to for victory. Thor, from whence comes Thursday, is seated in a bed with twelve stars over his head, holding a sceptre in his hand. Friga, from whence we have Friday, is represented with a drawn sword in his right hand, and a bow in his left. Seater, from which is Saturday, has the appearance of perfect wretchedness. He is thin visaged, long-haired, with a long beard. He carries a pail of water in his right hand, wherein are fruits and flowers.

HOW THE RUSSIANS KEEP WARM.

The Russians have a great knack of making their winter pleasant. You feel nothing of the cold in those tightly-built houses, where all doors and windows are double, and where the rooms are kept warm by big stoves hidden in the walls. There is no damp in a Russian house, and the inmates may dress indoors in the lightest of garbs, which contrast oddly with the mass of furs and wraps which they don when going out.

A Russian can afford to run no risk of exposure when

he leaves the house for a walk or drive. He covers his head and ears with a fur bonnet, his feet and legs with felt boots lined with wool or fur, which are drawn over the ordinary boots and trousers, and reach each up to the knees; he next cloaks himself in a top coat with a fur collar, lining, and cuffs; he buries his hands in a pair of fingerless gloves of seal or bear skin. Thus equipped, and with the collar of his coat raised all round so that it muffles him up to the eyes, the Russian exposes only his nose to the cold air; and he takes care frequently to give that organ a little rub to keep the circulation going. A stranger who is apt to forget the precaution would often get his nose frozen if it were not for the courtesy of the Russians, who will always warn him if they see his nose "whitening," and will, unbidden, help him to chafe it vigorously with snow.

In Russian cities walking is just possible for men during the winter, but hardly so for ladies. The women of the lower order wear knee boots; those of the shopkeeping class seldom venture out at all; those of the aristocracy go out in sleighs. The sleighs are by no means pleasant vehicles for nervous people, for the Kalmuck coachmen drive them at such a terrific pace that they frequently capsize.

WHERE SHALL BABY'S DIMPLE BE!

Over the cradle the mother sung,  
Softly cooing a slumber song;  
And these were the simple words she sung  
All the evening long:

"Cheek or chin, or knuckle or knee,  
Where shall the baby's dimple be?  
Where shall the angel's finger rest  
When he comes down to the baby's nest?  
Where shall the angel's touch remain  
When he awakes my baby again?"

Still as she bent and sang so low,  
A murmur into her music broke,  
And she paused to hear, for she could but know  
The baby's angel spoke:

"Cheek or chin, or knuckle or knee,  
Where shall the baby's dimple be?  
Where shall my finger fall and rest  
When I come down to the baby's nest?  
Where shall my finger's touch remain  
When I wake your baby again?"

Silent the mother sat and dwelt  
Long on the sweet delay of choice,  
And then by her baby's side she knelt,  
And sang with a pleasant voice:

"Not on the limb, O angel dear!  
For the charms with its youth will disappear;  
Nor on the cheek shall the dimple be,  
For the harbouring smile will fade and flee:  
But touch thou the chin with impress deep,  
And my baby the angel's seal shall keep."

—Dr. J. G. Holland.

WITHOUT CAPITAL.

It is bad beginning business without capital. It is hard marketing with empty pockets. We want a nest-egg, for hens will lay where there are eggs already. It is true you must bake with the flour you have, but if the sack is empty, it might be quite as well not to set up for a baker. Making bricks without straw is easy enough, compared with making money when you have none to start with. You, young gentleman, stay as a journeyman a little longer, till you have saved a few pounds; fly when your wings have got feathers; but if you try it too soon, you will be like the young rook that broke its neck through trying to fly before it was fledged. Every minnow wants to be a whale, but it is prudent to be a little fish while you have but little water; when your pond becomes the sea, then swell as much as you like. Trading without capital is like building a house without bricks, making a fire without sticks, burning candles without wicks; it leads men into tricks, and lauds them in a fix.—"John Ploughman" (Spurgeon).

THE man who revenges every wrong that is done him has no time for anything else. If you make your life a success, you can afford to let the dogs bark as you go by.

THERE is nothing more credulous than the incredulity of scepticism. The first Napoleon gave a home thrust to some of his officers who had been very freely ventilating their unbelief in the Bible as a revelation from God: "Gentlemen, it seems to me you make amends for not believing the Bible by believing everything else!"

THE instrumental music question is being raised generally throughout the Free Church of Scotland. Not only has Glasgow taken the matter in hand, but in Dundee, where the question was first ventilated a year ago, a great debate has begun on the subject. The Dundee Free Presbytery sat for hours on a recent occasion discussing an overture in favour of liberty of action; but so many were anxious to speak that the debate had to be adjourned till next meeting. In the Dalkeith Presbytery the question is also to be raised.

How needful, amid the trials of this earthly life, and how blessed it is to look off from the low plane, and past the near horizon of earth and time to the higher, wider heavens, with their juster standards and clearer lights and unsetting glories, that thus we may learn to judge aright of the events around us, and of the influences that are passing over us. Earthly trial, however sharp and however long, is not hopeless or endless, or even aimless, if accepted as the appointment of a parental Providence, and as training and preparing us for rest in Jesus.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE American Board sent out last year forty new missionaries.

THE electric light in the lighthouse at Plauer, in France, can be seen twenty-two miles.

EVERY day 797,563 persons enter the city of London proper, through its sixty approaches, the railways bringing 176,000.

THE Sustentation Fund of the English Presbyterian Church received a bequest of \$100,000 from the late Mr. Mutee, of Manchester.

THE monument to Tyndal, the reformer and martyr, will be erected on the London Embankment, where an excellent site has been procured.

HON. C. H. M. CORMICK, of Chicago, has given another \$50,000 to the North-west Theological Seminary, making the sum of his donations to it \$200,000.

IT is estimated that over five thousand Sabbath school Conventions and Institutes and Assemblies were held in the United States during the past year.

THE committee of the Sustentation Fund of the Presbyterian Church of England have paid the last quarterly dividend of £50, making £200 for the year.

WHAT a comment on the practice of close-fisted Christians is the statement that nine-tenths of the money raised by the Church is given by one-tenth of its members.

THE Brooklyn Tabernacle, the Rev. T. DeWitt Tainage pastor, has ceased to be a free church. The pews are to be rented January 23rd, and hereafter the church will be supported by a regular system of pew renting.

DR. DORNER, of Berlin, the eminent theologian, has been compelled by chronic sore throat to discontinue his lectures in the University, and it is not likely that he will ever again resume his activity as a teacher.

DURING 1880 there were disasters to 198 steamships. Of these 99 were stranded, 40 foundered, 30 sunk by collision, 7 burned, 11 are missing, 6 were abandoned at sea, 2 sunk by ice, 1 broke in two, and 1 was destroyed by explosion.

THE state of the Free Church of Scotland Sustentation Fund at 10th December was, for the seven months, £87,407 18s. 10d., as compared with £91,810 18s. 11d. during the same period of last year, showing a decrease of £4,403 0s. 1d.

A MEMORIAL church is to be erected at Dehra for Rev. Dr. J. H. Morrison, who first proposed the plan for the Week of Prayer, and who recently died, after a service of forty-four years, in the Presbyterian mission in Northern India.

In the United Presbyterian Church Hall there are more students for the ministry, it is stated, than can be used within the denomination, and in all the three Free Church Colleges the number of entrants this year exceeded that of previous years.

BOSTON spends \$18.45 a year upon its primary pupils, \$28.20 on its grammar pupils, and \$87.42 on those in its high and normal schools; 46 per cent. of its school population are in its primary schools, and 54 in its grammar and high schools.

IT speaks well for constitution and climate that Rev. W. B. Alexander and wife, veteran missionaries to the Sandwich Islands, in recently celebrating their golden wedding, could see that of their children and 29 grandchildren, they had only lost one, an infant grandchild, in 50 years.

THE singular fact is shown by the census that Connecticut has 11,000 more women than men. In the small towns the men outnumber the women, but in the cities it is otherwise. New Haven has 1,958 more women, Hartford 1,675, Norwich 1,441, Bridgeport 760, and New London 457.

THE English Presbyterian Synod will be held in London this year, in Dr. Dykes' church, its old quarters. Rev. W. McCaw, of Manchester, will be the Moderator, and, from the many years he has acted as clerk, his voice is more familiar in the Synod than that of any other member.

THE threatening letters and warnings which the Czar of Russia has been continually finding in his handkerchiefs and pockets, under his pillow, and elsewhere, have been traced to a woman who has been in the service of the Empress for eight years. She was caught putting a letter in his prayer-book.

MR. B. F. JACOBS, of Chicago, has just completed twenty-five years as a Sunday school superintendent. During that time he has had under his care not less than 70,000 scholars. From his schools, some of which have been mission schools, five foreign missionaries, fifty ministers, and fifty Sunday school superintendents have gone forth.

A COLONY of Waldensians, who emigrated from Piedmont to Buenos Ayres, where the climate and society did not agree with them, settled five years ago in North-Western Arkansas. It numbers nineteen families, with 125 persons, and is Presbyterian in doctrine and form and worship. They are industrious, frugal, and of earnest piety, and are becoming desirable citizens.

PRESBYTERIANS in London and Scotland are raising £200 with which to reorganize the mission at St. Martin's d'Aixigny, in the centre of France. The people in that locality, numbering 7,000, were of Scotch origin, their ancestors forming the guard of Charles VII. of France. Though their race has occupied the district 400 years, they have preserved much of their Scotch feelings and habits.

"GENERAL" BOGTH gives the following statistics of the Salvation Army in 1881: Number of corps or stations, 251; officers wholly employed, 533; theatres, concert halls, and other buildings used, 334; volunteer speakers, 13,393; number of services held during the year, over 200,000; contributions raised and expended by the people, about £50,000; circulation of the *War Cry*, 200,000; circulation of the *Little Soldier*, 53,000.