ASP CONNET THE SECTIONS AND

A wreath of glory circles still his head-And yet he kneels—and yet he seems to be Convulsed with more than human agony:
On his pale brow the drops are large and red As victim's blood at votive altar shed.—
His hands are clasped, his eyes are raised in prayer—
Alas! and is there strife He cannot hear
Who calmed the tempest, and who raised the dead? There is! there is! for now the Powers of Hell Are struggling for the mastery—'tis the hour When Death exerts his last permitted power; When the dread weight of sin. since Adam fell, Is visited on Him, who deigned to dwell—A Man with men,—that he might bear the stroke Of worth Philippe, and hurst the applicate to the stroke. Of wrath Divine, and burst the captive's yoke-But O ! of that dread strife what words can tell ? Those—only those—which broke with many a groan From his full heart—" O Father take away
The cup of vengeance I must drink to-day—
Yet, Futher, not my will, but thine, be done !"—
It could not pass away—for He alone
Was mighty to endure, and strong to save;
Nor would Jehovah leave him in the grave,
Nor could Corruption taint his Holy One.

## THE FIRST GOOD FRIDAY. (BY THE REV. R. J. MACGEORGE.)

It chanced on a Friday of the month of April, in fashion of his garb, that he had journeyed from some Is he not, good sir, a noble boy for his age?" far-distant land-most probably the country of Mesopotamia. It appeared, however, that the scenery around him was by no means beheld for the first time. On the contrary, he surveyed the leading features of the landscape, with the fond interest of one who had been familiar with them in by-gone years; and the tears which began to course down his furrowed cheek, demonstrated that old events and early associations were fast being reproduced from the unfathomable store-house of memory.

of the city, and in which several groups of shepherds his birth, she would have saved our blessed babe! were engaged in their quiet and gentle occupation. And in the expression of his countenance, one-even the old man had once himself wielded a crook in that sequestered and beautiful plain.

and happiest years had been spent.

mediately in his vicinity. The thoroughfares leading umphant chariot. to Bethlehem were almost deserted-no appearance of festival, to have seen such hosts of devotees bound unknown words! for the seat of Jehovah's sacred Temple.

pective dimensions, were those of an adult and a child folly.' -was a wild, gaunt, spectre-visaged being, whose "Cunning and plausible were the arguments which from the pit of perdition, as if attracted by some horrid restless eye with feverish activity rolled around like he brought forward to prove his position. They conthat of a famished Hyena. His scanty and neglinatural condition; and head-gear had he none, save his own unkempt hair, which hung over his weatherbronzed visage, in tangled masses, like the mane of an unbroken steed of the desert.

For a season, Isaac was filled with no small alarm at the sight of this mysterious being, conceiving that from a pestilence; and here have I dwelt between perchance he might be one of those strangely afflicted demoniacs then so common in Palestine, and who, in their hours of special possession, frequently wrought sore harm to those who lighted upon their lairs. His apprehension, however, was but of brief duration. for he soon discovered that the solitary sorrower belonged not to the tormented vassals of Satan, and that in his eye the light of reason still continued to burn, though flickering and dim as a torch in the win-

Gazing vacantly on the clear, blue sky, that eremite spoke aloud the thoughts which like sulphurous clouds flitted athwart the troubled horizon of his soul. "No," he exclaimed, "the Sadducee was right! The soul is mortal, and the bodily resurrection a doting dream. My Judith! never more can I behold thy liquid black eye-never more be thrilled with thy smile, discoursing love unspeakable. And my darling Benjamin !-- my noble child, what art thou but a lovely dream, fled and vanished for ever. Never again wilt thou nestle thy fair silken-haired head in my bosom, Bethlehem, and on yonder plain have kept many a nor lisp my name in staggering half-uttered words, vigil, tending the flock committed to my care. One more musical by far than the most cunningly played evening towards the close of the year, several of my dulcimer. Ye have vanished, and for ever, like a comrades and myself were thus engaged. The night tain stream. Once, indeed, I thought differently. ness did not prevail, for the sentinel stars in their silstate of existence I would meet both of you again. Heaven. Right, well do I remember our communing But Caiaphas the Sadducee taught me my error, and on that eventful night. Our minds were in a solemn convinced me that there is no resurrection, neither mood, and we spoke concerning the great things which angel nor spirit. Oh! cursed be the knowledge which Jehovah had in store for His people, and especially he bestowed upon me! Dream as it was, it was a of the Messiah, whose coming was confidently looked bright and soothing dream; and since it was dispelled, for by all who had carefully studied the Prophets of life to me has been nought save a simoom-blasted our nation. desert -- a dry and thirsty land, wherein is no water."

donment of grief. Approaching the sufferer, he spoke constrained to close our eyes against the unbearable to him in soothing tones. With gentle hand he raised glory; but at length we were enabled partially to him from the hot and scorching earth; and tenderly gaze upon the miraculous scene which was vouchsafed he wiped the sweat from his forehead, and the dust- to our ken. The curtain of sky which separates us mingled foam from his parched and quivering lips.

"Kind stranger! if thou hadst known my Judith and our child, you would not wonder at the agony which at times masters me, as it has done even now. But I will not essay to describe their peerless beauty, or my surpassing happiness. As well might I attempt to describe to you the scent of a rare and fragrant flower, the odour of which you never experienced.

"It is now more than thirty years since, with my loved and lost ones, I dwelt in a cottage which stood on yonder grassy mound. Not a care disturbed our quiet days; not an anxious thought mared the sabtale to us. Every new sun-rise brought fresh sources rock-encircled pool! Thus ran his gracious message: of unadulterated delight.

my Paradise, to bestow any attention upon the themes ing in a manger.' babe, fairer, we deemed, than ever had sprung from even to sonceive. Millions upon millions of glitter- fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

and oh, how sharply and how steruly!

the porch of our dear cottage. Oppressed with a highest, and on earth peace, good-will toward men. satiety of happiness, I lay with my head reclining upon And then the sounds died away, like the gentle sighthe kindly bosom of my gentle Judith; and as our ing of a summer's breeze, which scarce ruffles the little Benjamin sported and frolicked around us, we leaf of the timid aspen, and all was still and lonsome speculated upon his future destiny and lot in life. as before. We fashioned out for him a stirring and honourable career, and anticipated the time when by his virtne pered solemnly to each other, 'Let us now go even and prowess, he would aid new fame to the tribe of unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to

soiled raiment indicated that he had been for some of a mother, exclaimed, 'indiced, you are in error. Our head bodily. time a wayfarer; and it was equally plain, from the Benjamin hath not yet reached his eighteenth month.

child-our silken-haired, glad-eyed Benjamin-was on the coming Pentecost. doomed to death by decree of the infernal Herod. And, oh! what madness to a mother! that the certifi-In particular he looked with fond intensity upon a cation of his age had been the warrant of his execufair green meadow, situated beneath the rocky terraces tion! Had my Judith been silent as to the period of

----"Nothing do I remember of what then took place. though ungifted with strong fancy-might read, that When my recollection returned, I found myself lying over the corpses of my Judith and my Benjamin-for the mother had been slain in striving to shield her It was even so. Isaac the Bethlehemite, after an first-born from destruction. I was alone in that once absence of more than thirty years in the far East, was happy, gleesome chamber, and the cold night wind. returning to the City of King David, where his first as it stirred my moist hair, sounded as if the destroyer death were whispering in my ear that his victory was One thing the pilgrim specially noted, and that was, full and complete. I writhed under his terrible sting, the unusual quiet which pervaded the scene, more im- and crouched slave-like before the wheels of his tri-

"For a season, I cherished the hope that the palife being presented, save by the guard, who stood list- triarch Job spoke truth, when he declared that after lessly leaning on their spears, or burnishing their worms destroyed the body it should live again, and mail. Another thing arrested the attention of Isaac, that with the same eyes with which we had gazed equally with the unwonted desertion of the city. upon the sun and moon, we should see our Father From the eminence on which he stood, he could des- God, and each other. To the doctrine-faintly held, cry vast multitudes of people thronging towards Jeru- it is true-of a resurrection of the human frame I salem. He knew, indeed, that it was the season of clung as a drowning man clings to a straw; and I the Passover, when the holy City was wont to receive lived in hope that after this chequered life, I should lehem proclaimed THE SIXTH HOUR. many visitors, from all quarters of the world; but he once more meet and embrace my lost ones in that never remembered on any former occurrence of the bright land, where sorrow and sighing are strange and

Standing thus in thoughtful mood, he was startled the Jews, strove to rouse me from my melancholy the pall which was drawn over the whole expanse of by a deep and sorrow-laden groan-expressive of some torpor, as he termed it. He told me that the idea of heaven. Thunder, too, of a deeper bass than ever stern weight of misery, if not of absolute despair. On a future state was a fond imagination-a dreamy before had been uttered, rolled and crashed in inceslooking round to the quarter from whence the sound fable; that angels and spirits were but the creatures, sant peals. It seemed as if the elements had been proceeded, he beheld a sight which at once excited of an idle fancy; and that our wisdom lay in making indued with reason, and were in frenzied voice protesthis wonder and compassion. Seated on the ground, the most of the present moment. 'Eat, drink, and ing against some unheard-of and intolerable deed of between two graves-which, judging from their res- be merry, he said; 'everything else is vanity and wickedness and blasphemy. Over Jerusalem forked

vinced me, but destroyed my slender remains of hope seemed to concentrate upon the spot where stood the visages of my murdered ones glared upon me, through of a tempest-vexed sea. the vine-leaves which decorated the Sadducee's sensual board. I flew from the converse of my kind as these two graves, without a motive and without a hope -weary and heart-sick of life and yet deriving no comfort from the anticipation of a brighter world beyond the tomb."

With tender pity, Isaac pressed the clammy hand with the consciousness that he could import to him fitting and substantial consolation.

"You tell me that you were taught to hold that there is no hereafter, and that spirits and angels are a child, who grasped her hand and looked fearlessly but dreams, or delusions of the designing? Credit it and confidingly in her face, undismayed by the wild not, thou man of bereavement! Of all the spots on the round world this is not the one for cherishing such gloomy and chilling dogmas! Of all God's creatures, an unbelieving Jew is the most in excusable, seeing that his nation has been nursed, so to speak, amid the wonders and mysteries of the unseen and eternal state!

"Thirty-three years ago, I was a shepherd of tudes, ever take away. streak of morning mist-like a foam-bell in the moun- was genial, and though the moon was absent, dark-Time was, when I cherished the hope, that in another ver mail kept watch and ward on the battlements of

"In one instant our vision was blinded by a flood And with that the soul-sick one threw himself upon of light so intense as infinitely to surpass ought that a gasping, choking exclamation. "My Judith-my his face and dug his nails the two funereal mounds, I ever had experienced. It was neither glaring nor Benjamin!" he staggered forward, and encircled them between which he writhed like a crushed and convulsed scorching; but a thousands suns in their noontide both in one mighty, wild, hysteric embrace. The restrength could never have shed such a wondrous mass Isaac could not behold unmoved this pitiable aban- of supernatural brightness. For a season we were from Heaven, seemed as if rolled aside by an invisible hand, and a being whose majestic beauty no words can describe, appeared in the midst of that new and glorious atmosphere, if I may so speak. Rays, such as the diamond sheds, darted from every pore of his person, and his raiment was soft, and feathery, like the fleecy clouds, which sometimes of a summer's eve

weave themselves around the full-orbed moon. "Need I say, that at this strange appearance our earts sunk within us, and we became sore afraid? But the beautiful angel spoke soothingly unto us, and revived our fainting souls. Well do I remember his every word; for who could ever forget the syllables which dropped from that sublimely-sweet voice, fullbaths of our peaceful nights. Sorrow was a strange toned and musical, like pebbles plunged in a deep, Fear not; for behold I bring you good tidings of marked, however, that the countenance of the one who "Of passing events we knew almost nothing. Sel- greatjoy, which shall be to all people. For unto you had shewn ruth and pity, bore marks of resignation dom did I visit either Jerusalem or Bethlehem, and is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which and humble but well-assured hope; and a by-stander then only on pressing and unavoidable occasions. is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: said that the King of the Jews, whose diadem was a My business despatched, I was too eager to return to ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, ly- circle of brambles, had promised that that day he

which interested and engrossed the men of active life. "No sooner had he thus spoken, than lo another On one occasion, I remember, we heard tidings of a marvel! The whole space which our vision could strange and mysterious child which had been born in embrace, was forthwith filled with angelic choristers, met together on the day of Pentecost. They gladly our city, and to visit which certain sages had come a in fashion like unto the herald of Emanuel. Their received the word of Peter, and were baptized, and long and toilsome journey. But we had ourselves a numbers were far beyond the powers of imagination continued stedfastly in the Apostles' doctrine, and

the lions of our father Arlam; and Judith and myself ing ones floated upon the ocean of light, stretching had no love to lavish upon any other, though it had upwards and backwards, till the brain was dizzied and been the son of the Imperial Cæsar himself. Alas! erazed almost, with the impression of infinite number our happy dream was soon to be dispelled for ever- and limitless, extent. Thus ran their concerted song, so mighty in its swell that it must have been heard in "One bright morning I sat with my loved ones in the remotest planet and star: 'Glory to God in the

"So soon as we were capable of speech, we whispass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.' And "Two men-soldiers of Herod the Kinz-came coming with haste to Bethlehem, we were guided by upon us, or ever we were aware of their advent. Fa- a star-like meteor, which, as it were, beckoned us on, tigued with walking in the heat of noon-day, they till we came to the stable of the principal caravanserai. craved our hospitality, which was at once conceded, There we found a goodly young child, lying in a manas no stranger was ever turned faint and hunger- ger, with his father and mother as his sole attendants, smitten from our door. After they had partaken of and meanly attired in the scanty rags of penury. Ere a repast, the sterner looking of the twain cast his eye we could say aught, the coming footsteps of other upon our precious boy; and with a sinister expression, visiters were heard, and presently there entered a which will haunt me on my dying bed, enquired of company of Magi-Eeatern Kings, who had come Attorney at Law, Solicitor in Chancery, Conveyhis mother what might be his age. His comrade, who from their distant dominions to do homage to this seemed to be of a more gentle spirit, made on this a sig- humbly-cradled infant. Grave and thoughtful men the year of our Lord thirty-three, that an aged man nificant sign to my Judith, and prompting her, as it they were, and from their conversation I gathered was slowly ascending the hill, on the ridge of which were, said, 'Of a surety, the child is more than two that it had been revealed to them by the Eternal, that the city of Bethlehem is situated. His worn, dust- years old.' But my loved one, with all the eager pride in that simple babe dwelt all the fulness of the God-

> "It will not interest you to be told, how I agreed "No sooner had she thus spoken, than both the to accompany one of these devout princes to his own armed men arose, the kindlier one with a deep and land, or how I fared in that foreign region. Enough heavy sigh, and told a tale which was almost incom- to say that my patron some months ago was gathered prehensible on account of its surpassing horror. Even to his fathers, and on his death-bed charged me to at this distant period, I can scarce realize the de- return to Judea, as the completion of the Messiah's 38, QUEEN-STREET EAST, 2 DOORS FROM CHURCH-STREET. moniae bitterness which it embodied. Suffice it to work was about to take place; and it behoved me, as say, that the mercenaries informed us, that our only one favoured by Heaven, to be present at Jerusalem

"Thus, oh mourning one, you perceive how great your error, how entire your delusion as regards the future state of being! No angel-no spirit? The air teems with them. Not a sun-beam but bears legions of them on some mission of mercy or judge-

Sadoc, the solitary, who had listened with attention to the pilgrim's narration, was for a while ab- OAKHAM HOUSE, CHURCH STREET, sorbed in thought; and it seemed as if the cloud of despair was beginning to pass away from his care-furrowed brow. But anon he sunk back into his pristine gloom, and wrung his hands as despondingly as "No shepherd," he said, "your words bring me no comfort. Something of the event which you describe I have heard before, but I cannot regard it as aught save a delusion or a dream. At any rate, presuming the sight to be real, it proves nothing as to the resurrection of Adam's children. Oh no! no! There is-there can be no hope for me, the miserable of men. My slain ones, never more shall I behold you! -never more hear the gentle tones of your forever hushed voices! My lot may indeed be called MARA, for it is bitter exceedingly."

At this moment the warders on the towers of Beth-

Ere the sound of their voices had died away, it became darker than the darkest midnight: like that which plagued the Egyptian oppressors, the gloom My relative Caiaphas, the present High Priest of might be said to be felt, so dismal, so profoundly sable bolts of lightning hissed and darted like serpents ejected take pleasure in the feast or the revel? The bloody and tossed, as if its foundations rested upon the waves

In the midst of this mysterious and soul-awing turmoil, a soft, violet-tinted light began gradually to pervade the spot where stood the pilgrim shepherd and the sorrow-blighted Sardoc. As it increased, it Jobbing work of every description promptly was evident that a change had occurred in the locality during the reign of darkness. The twin graves were open, the fresh earth being scattered around, and the nuge stones which had covered them lying at some of the hapless recluse, and his eye glistened as if distance, as if removed by some gigantic power. And closely adjoining these disturbed mansions of morthe dead. One of them was a female, and the other war of the elements which raged around.

But who could describe the surpassing beauty, not so much of feature as of expression, which beamed in the visages of that meek and silent pair? Its main characteristic was peace-peace, passing all understanding-peace, such as the cold, churlish world could never give, nor, with all its manifold vicissi-

Isaac was the first to mark this addition to their company, and he silently directed the attention of Sadoc to the strangers. Slowly and listlessly did the heart-sick hermit turn himself round; but no sooner did he behold the new-come pair, than it seemed as if an electric flood had pervaded his whole frame. Every muscle quivered, every vein swelled, every particular hair stood stiff and rigid. He drew his breath laboured, convulsive sobs, and his eyes seemed glazed by the absorbing intensity of the glare with which he regarded the gentle, saintly group before him. One smile from them-a smile concentrating the rich happiness of years, brightened upon the dark cold places of his heart. His ears thrilled with the long unheard words, "Husband-Father"; and with collection of more than thirty dark years of sorrow and despair was in one moment obliterated; their agonies were forgotten, like the fitful dream of a single night. \* A TO A DO NOT A DO NOT A TOTAL OF

"Oh Sadoc, dearest! come on, and stay not to converse of such matters. Have we not a gladsome eternity before us? The city must be reached before the Ninth Hour. Legions of Angels are flocking thither even as I am now speaking.'

At that heaven-chronicled hour, shepherd, husband wife and child, knelt on the summit of the moun called Calvary. Before them stood three gaunt, bloodstained crosses, illumined by the lightnings which BIBLES, PRAYER BOOKS, & HOMILIES, flashed and twisted around; and they were in time to hear the calm, pale-visaged, thorn-crowned Being who hung on the centre tree, exclaim with full, sweet voice, Books and Tracts on the Catalogue of "It is finished. Father, into Thy hands I commend

In the writhing and pain-fevered wretches who were nailed to the other two crosses, Sadoc recognized the soldiers who had slain his loved ones. He specially should be with him in Paradise.

sides and population of an income and the market of the property Isaac and Sadoc were among the number of those who Advertisements.

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J. E. having removed to the above premises, BOOT AND SHOEMAKER. (Next door to Messrs. Beckett, & Co., Medical Luboratory,) KING STREET WEST, TORONTO.

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THE THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Objects of Science, Art, Manufacture, &c., &c., will be held in SEPTEMBER next, commencing one week after the close of the Provincial Agricultural Fair, and will continue for three

The following is a list of Prizes which will be awarded :-For the best specimencombining Ingenuity and Mechanical A GOLD MEDAL of the value of £12 10s. given by his

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For the second best do-

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For the second best do-

A DIPLOMA,—By the Institute.
For the best specimen of Ladies' Needle Work— A Work of ART-Value £2 10s, by the Institute. For the second best do—
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The Committee will also award a few discretionary Diplomas, not exceeding six in number, for superior specimens not berein conversed. The above prizes are open to the competition of the Province. All specimens for competition must be the bona fide production of the Exhibitor.

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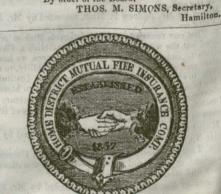
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