

Youth's Corner.

THE ABSENT BROTHER. Laura was a girl of decided piety, who had received a very good education; but she went little into society, and did not encourage the visits of the gay and thoughtless.

One day, two sisters, who thought themselves very accomplished, went to call upon Laura, determined upon finding out her deficiencies, which would give them something to talk about for a good while to come.

They were kindly received; but Laura seemed cold and distant, and there was some difficulty about getting into conversation. The young visitors complained of the rain which had prevailed; but Laura spoke of the thanks which farmers and gardeners ought to give to God for such weather, which favoured the crops to their heart's content.

At this, Miss Kate began to pity poor Laura for being so much "shut up;" as for Miss Bell, she did not know how to express her indignation at those who kept her "imprisoned." The two young ladies had found their tongues, and were making such a powerful use of them that Laura had some difficulty in finding a moment's calm when she could speak.

This was a puzzle for the young ladies. Recreation! and neither balls nor theatre! What then did she call recreation? "Perhaps," Laura replied, "I might with some advantage say what I do not call recreation. Such is the study of the last fashions—going from shop to shop to look at ribbons, and flowers, and colours, and patterns—plugging the milliners, and scolding my waiting-maid—spending hours before the looking-glass in dressing—half the night in dancing, chatting, and being chatted to—coming home full of envy because another has received more attentions than I, and full of headache, or worse, because I have kept unreasonable hours, and exposed myself to the night-air in light clothing."

The two young visitors almost lost their tongues while Laura was speaking; they never had such a looking-glass held before them as that. But they recovered from their astonishment, and began to beg for mercy. "Enough, enough," they both cried out together; and Miss Bell, the younger and more unguarded of the two, let out the following piece of candour: "I had no idea you knew so much about it—at which Miss Kate gave her sister a fierce look, and tried to wipe that out; by observing: "You seem to have looked at the worst side of the question."

Miss Bell had been rummaging the music-books, and now she broke out again: "Dear, dear! I protest, Kate, here's nothing but old Handel, and Haydn, and Mozart—not a waltz, or polka." Kate became alarmed at her sister's indiscretion, and interposed a defence for Laura at once, lest the two should get another lesson upon what is not recreation.

Miss Bell understood her sister's design, and fell in with the artifice immediately: "It is, indeed, Kate; and it will be delightful to introduce him to our friend as an old acquaintance, since she has his likeness here in her collection. But he may have altered, these six years, and in that dreadful climate of India."

This burst drew tears from all three of them. Laura was the first to find her voice, and thus she used it: "I feel with you, dear friends, for I am in the same situation myself. I have a Brother who is absent, but who has promised that he will come and take me to live with him in his own home, for ever. He has done every thing for me, I wish to do nothing but what will please him. And it is but right and prudent I should now get used to what he loves, and avoid what he dislikes. I try to acquire those habits which will suit my eternal home. Therefore I study my Bible, from which I learn the tempers and pursuits which I may take with me and follow in heaven; therefore I separate myself from occupations and pastime which have no place there. And as I admire the gratitude you manifest towards your brother, and love you for the anxiety you feel to please him, let me hope that you will approve of the love which I bear that Brother who endured for me pains such as were never laid upon any earthly relative; and that you will think me right in making his pleasure my highest gratification."

[Charlotte Elizabeth has written something like the above, of course much better, but perhaps less juvenile. The original not being at hand, the above has been drawn up for the BERKAN, and is approved with the acknowledgment that the subject is furnished by Charlotte Elizabeth.]

BEAD-MAKING.

A fine, healthful and intelligent boy of my acquaintance, not long since, in my presence, inadvertently broke a string of beads belonging to one of his female relatives; and on seeing the mischief he had done, freely offered to repair the injury by re-stringing them. He was forewarned it would be a tedious job; but, nevertheless, persisted in undertaking it. When, however, a small portion only of the work had been accomplished, in a length of time greater than he supposed would have been sufficient to get through the whole, he began to show, first, symptoms of weariness, and then of fretfulness. At length, he hastily exclaimed, "It is too tiresome to spend a whole morning in stringing these nasty beads, when I might have been enjoying myself with the others at play!" And throwing down the beads, he seemed on the point of leaving the work unfinished, when, being reminded of his promise, he slowly resumed it, and at length, with sighs and expressions of fretful impatience, completed the business. When he had enjoyed himself in the open air, and recovered his good humour, he came back into the house, and congratulated himself that he had no more to be employed in the tedious process of "stringing these tiresome beads."

"I think, my dear," said his friend kindly, "you might be a better and happier boy and man too, if you would but be wise enough to improve the lesson of this morning!" The boy laughed, and at the same time seemed perplexed, to find out how such wonderful improvement might be drawn from an incident of so trifling a kind. His eyes asked an explanation. "You thought it tolerably tedious to spend an hour of one day, my dear, in stringing a few beads; but do you not know that hundreds, ay, and thousands of your fellow creatures spend their whole lives, even from early childhood to old age, in doing nothing else, during the working days of the week, than either stringing or making beads? Children and women are employed in the former, and youths and men in the latter tedious process, which, I assure you, is far the most fatiguing and troublesome of the two."

"Do tell what that is," exclaimed the boy, "for I am anxious to learn." "In the hope that I may interest and perhaps do you good, I will, my dear," replied his relative. "My knowledge on this point, I gleaned from an article of Professor Silliman's Journal. The traveller who communicated the information, being on a visit to Venice, as a matter of curiosity entered one of the bead manufactories, for which that city, like many in Germany, is famed. He saw in the centre of the apartment a large furnace, containing glass in a liquid state. Two workmen approached two several openings, and each plunged, at the same time, an iron rod into the vitreous mass. These they turned round and round, until a sufficient quantity of the matter adhered to the rods. The glass, in its soft state, was quickly formed into a hollow cone by each workman, and no sooner was this done, than they proceeded to unite the two, by one holding the base of his cone to that of the other. As soon as this point was secured, they went quickly to a part of the room where strips of wood were laid crosswise, in order to form a collection of alleys. Each holding his rod firmly in the hand, they then began to recede from each other in a rapid manner, and by doing so, drew out the softened glass in a moment, as it were, to a long tube of equal width and of about 150 feet in length. The tube which the traveller saw, was of about the size of a common quill; but others were continually made of the smallest diameter. The only difference in the process arises from the pace at which the workmen walk, which, in the case of the smallest beads, is required to be a brisk trot. These tubes are afterwards broken into pieces of about 3/4 yard in length, and carried to the assorting-room, where the experienced workmen are readily enabled to assort them by touch. Then the tubes are carried to another spot, where the labourers are arranged, each in front of a little anvil, and furnished with a small triangular plate of steel, with a blunt edge. In the left hand they take so many of the tubes as they can conveniently place between the thumb and finger, and in the right the steel plate, and with it they dexterously strike off, with one blow, from each tube a piece of uniform length, it being always of about double the length of that which the bead is intended finally to be. As these glassy shavings fall, they are caught in boxes, which, when filled, are removed to still another apartment. In the centre of this is another furnace; but before the cut tubes are placed in this, they are thrown into a mass of moistened ashes, and worked about in it till the pores in the centre become well filled with it. They are now put into small sheet-iron cylinders containing a considerable quantity of clear sand. The cylinders are

placed in the furnace and turned round for some time at a rapid rate, by means of long iron handles attached to them. The heat of the furnace has now made the tubes soft and pliable; and being jostled together in the sand, they assume a round form, while the ashly paste effectually preserves the spherical shape has been secured, the cylinders are taken from the furnace, and by means of the revolving motion, which is continued, the sand is made to accomplish two ends, both necessary to the beauty and perfection of the bead; its hard character serves to polish and smooth off the outer surface, while, forcing its way through the bore, it compels the softer ashes to yield place for its passage, thus making the bores perfect. I should have told you that the different colours are easily secured, by putting materials of the requisite kind in the vitreous mass, while in the original furnace. The closing processes are to sift the sand from the beads, and to polish them between cloths and then to sort and string them for transportation or for home use. The traveller tells, that they who have never seen one, can scarcely judge of the beauty of a Venetian bead-shop."

The boy having heard this instructive description, expressed his regret at the impatience and fretfulness manifested by him at the short difficulty with which he had been contenting, and resolved to think of the little bead-stringers of Venice, whenever he should be tempted to the same evil tempers again. — Domestic Circle.

CHINA MISSION.—Baptism of a native youth (after mentioning the baptism of a European merchant, Bishop Boone proceeds):—The other case of baptism was one of peculiar interest to all the members of the Mission. It was of Kway Chung, a little boy belonging to our school, who was one of the very first taken under our care. His health had for some time laid him aside from his studies, and he began himself to realize the approach of the last enemy, when he requested to be baptized. I have never enjoyed a higher gratification than the examination afforded. But a short time before, he was an uneducated heathen. I found him now radiant with the hopes of the Gospel. His answers evinced a complete understanding of the plain fundamental truths of the Gospel taught in the Creed, and was especially observable that his faith had laid strong hold on Christ as the friend of sinners. Being observed one day by Miss Jones, (whilst sitting quiet and no one speaking to him) to smile, she asked him why he smiled; he answered with the sweetest composure, and with all the enchanting simplicity of a child-like faith, "I was thinking how delightful it would be to be with Jesus after I am dead!" He seemed to have no more doubt that the good Jesus, who came to save sinners, would save his soul, than he had of any fact whatsoever which our senses teach us. A more beautiful and affecting instance of the sustaining power of faith, in the certain and near prospect of death, such support as draws forth the adoring love and gratitude of the beholder to the gracious Saviour, who grants such grace to his dying servants, I have never witnessed. It is in view of such trophies of the divine grace that we are made to cry out with Balala; "let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

This boy had the clearest mind of any Chinese youth I have yet met with; he was a boy of much promise; but his end has more than realized all our expectations, and we can only heartily thank our Heavenly Father that he has so mercifully released him from all the trials of this mortal strife. Chr., whose baptism was mentioned in my last report, has given satisfaction by his uniform Christian deportment, and by diligence in his studies.—He perseveres in his desire to become a Minister of the Gospel. I have recently appointed him a lay catechist, with an allowance of \$5 per month. With this appointment he is very much pleased, and I trust he will, in the exercise of his duties, do much good to his countrymen. Mr. Spalding and he go out much together among the people, to distribute among them our common aims, and to talk to them of the simple, plain truths of the Gospel; an association which is very useful to both parties. It is only by much painstaking, humble labour among those who are the poor of this world, as well as the spiritually poor, that we can hope, in this portion of the Lord's vineyard, to gather into the Church God's elect, who are scattered in these ends of the earth.

We entertain the continual remembrance of our work in the prayers of the members of the Church at home, and that our hands may be strengthened by the annual arrival of new members to increase our Mission.—The Right Rev. Dr. Boone, Missionary Bishop.

THE TUBULAR BRIDGES.—We have had an opportunity of inspecting the stupendous iron tubes which are in course of construction a short distance from the Menai Suspension Bridge for the purpose of forming a passage for trains of the Holy Head Railway across the strait. Immense piers of granite are being erected on each side of the strait, and a massive pier of the same material is rising in the middle of the stream. On these solid masses of masonry the vast hollow metallic ways will rest, forming a line continuous with the railway. The most curious inspection of the tubes will at once convince the spectator of their prodigious strength, and show them to be capable of sustaining a far greater weight than that which is likely to pass across them. They are not either cylindrical or elliptical, as many have supposed, but rectangular, their form being what is not uncommonly called an oblong square, about 30 feet high and 15 feet wide. They are constructed of thick plates of iron, firmly rivetted together, and strengthened by girders at the top and bottom. The chief element of strength, however, is in the bed or base of the work, which is composed of plates of iron set edgewise, so as to form cells; the upper and under surfaces being firmly rivetted to the intermediate perpendicular plates,—the whole, with the walls of

the tube and its covering firmly girded and bound together with the utmost skill and ingenuity, forming a compact piece of workmanship, the strength of which is beyond conception. These enormous tubes are built on stages erected over the stream. The spectator wonders, when contemplating them, how fabrics of such stupendous weight, amounting to many thousands of tons, are to be removed and lifted into the position which they are destined to occupy. They will be floated to the piers on pontoons, and lifted to their final resting-place by hydraulic pressure.—Liverpool Albion.

NIAGARA FALLS SUSPENSION BRIDGE.

In the Editor of the Globe. Sir,—In order that you may have a tolerably correct idea of this apparently fragile, but stable and beautiful work of art, fancy yourself advancing from the highway on the Canada side, about to make a transit—say, a mile and a half below the Falls. Observe these buildings which are rising on either hand as we approach—these constitute the nucleus of what is already named "Elgin Village," which is to be the terminus of the Great Western Railroad. Here, on the rugged shores of the "Niagara," where, but a few short years ago, gleamed through the woods the tomahawk of the Indian—where, beneath the gloomy shade of those towering beeches, roamed the heads of the forest—there has civilization commenced its work. These inhabitants have given place to occupants who constitute, if not a nobler, at least an industrious and more valuable race. Her smiling plains, and villages, and towns, encircled by the wealth of a fertile country, are destined soon to appear. But let us proceed—these temporary wooden towers, fifty feet high, between which we enter upon the foot-bridge, and over which are suspended those powerful cables so securely fastened in the towers are but temporary ones. In their place, when the Railroad shall have been constructed, will arise two noble sphinx-topped towers of stone, sixty-eight feet in height. Don't be afraid—step on the boards. I shall proceed with my story as we proceed on our way. Look up and you will see the cables to which allusion has been already made—they are eight in number, four on each side, and on them depend, by these suspenders, the pathway of the bridge. Each of these cables weighing two tons, consists of seventy-two strands of No. 10 wire, bound together at the space of every fourteen inches with four inches of wrapping, having been previously boiled in linseed oil to prevent corrosion.

In the Railroad Bridge will be sixteen cables, containing each six hundred strands of similar wire, and measuring four inches in diameter. The suspenders that support the double flooring upon which we tread, are one hundred and sixty in number, each composed of eight strands of wire, and bearing a weight of only one hundred and sixty pounds, while each strand is capable of sustaining a strain of fifteen hundred pounds. Thus, you perceive there is no need for alarm. Formerly when there were two separate footways, it required considerable strength of nerve to cross, but since these have been lashed together, forming a load eight feet wide, he must be timid indeed who dares not venture. The width of the railroad bridge will be twenty-eight feet. We have now reached the middle of the somewhat increased vibratory motion indicates. The oscillation was at first considerable, but owing to these guys, securely fastened to the rocks below and on each side of the river, it is now but slight.—Indeed when Mr. Elliot crossed in his buggy on Saturday, (29th July) and afterwards in a weighty two horse carriage, the motion was scarcely perceptible. Lean yourself against those rails which interlace the suspenders, and what a magnificent view on either side presents itself! On your right, in the distance, is the foaming cataract, pouring along its mighty mass of waters, and floating on the surge beneath, a speck on the boiling wave—moves quietly along the pretty little "Maid of the Mist." Beneath you, at the depth of 230 feet, thundering through the narrow pipe-girt gorge at the rate of about 21 miles per hour, are the waters of the upper lakes about to mingle with those of the blue Ontario. But let us advance; the distance from terra firma is still 400 feet. On this side, too, will, of course, be columns similar to those we have already described, and here you perceive the rudiments of "Bellevue Village," doubtless destined ere long to exhibit the bustle and activity which characterize American towns. In January last, operations were first commenced by passing a string attached to a kite. By means of this a wire was drawn across, and next that loosely hanging cable, along which was drawn a cord shaped basket, for the transportation of workmen and others. This basket-ferry, which was used for the first time on the 13th March, was afterwards exchanged for the present bridge, so slight, so secure, and so commodious for man and cartage. Charles Elliot, Esq., the Engineer and Contractor, is a native of Philadelphia, whose vicinity is so beautified by that product of his skill, the Fairmount Bridge over the Schuylkill. It was he also who built the celebrated Wheeling Bridge over the Ohio, having a span of 1010 feet. Honour to the mind which planned and executed such noble structures!

We cannot conclude, however, without noticing that Mr. Elliot has been ably assisted by O. Buchanan, Esq., to whose politeness we are indebted for most of the facts we have thus been enabled to present.

RUSTICS.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY. On the 13th July, Lord Lincoln begged, to ask the Under-Secretary for the Colonies whether a commission has been appointed, either by the Secretary of State for the Colonies or by the Governor General of Canada, to inquire into the complaints of Mr. Isbister and others against the present Government of the Red River settlement or against the Hudson's Bay Company generally; and whether if no inquiry is now pending, he will lay on the table of the House any correspondence which has taken place on the subject. Also, whether a grant has been made by the Secretary of State for the Colonies of Vancouver's Island to the Hudson's Bay Company; and if so, what is to be the form of the grant, what regulations have been made as to the working of coals and minerals, and what stipulations have been entered into, as to there will be any objection to lay on the table of the House copies of correspondence between the Colonial-office and the Hudson's Bay Company on this subject, and of the charter, if any, granted to the company? Mr. Hawes replied that in the course of last year, in the month of June, certain complaints were made in the Colonial office of the general Government of the Hudson's Bay Company, by Mr. Isbister. A statement of those complaints was forwarded to the Hudson's Bay Company, and their answer was requested to the various allegations. Their answers were not altogether satisfactory to the noble Lord, the Secretary for the Colonies; not that the Hudson's Bay Company evaded the questions, but their answers were not sufficiently full to satisfy the noble Lord. The whole of the charges were then

forwarded to Lord Elgin, Governor General of Canada, and his attention was specially directed to them. About a fortnight ago, on the 26th of June, the Colonial office received an answer from Lord Elgin, in which he said he would make the greatest difficulty in instituting the inquiry, being extremely difficult to obtain correct information, which, considering the great extent of the territory, was not to be wondered at. But Lord Elgin stated that, on the whole, it appeared to him that the Government of the Hudson's Bay Company was a good one. A report relating to the Red River settlement had been forwarded to Lord Elgin by an officer whom he had sent there, but it was not sufficiently comprehensive nor accurate as to the complaints made. His noble friend (Earl Grey) had, therefore, taken advantage of a Queen's officer who was going out to the Red River settlement with a small force to preserve the peace there. That officer would be instructed specially to enquire into the entire matter, and, therefore, it would be at the present moment hardly just to the Hudson's Bay Company to lay the correspondence upon the table.

The Earl of Lincoln: As he understood from the hon. gentleman that the inquiry was still pending, he of course would not ask for the correspondence relating to it. But he wanted to know was it the intention of the Colonial office, supposing the Hudson's Bay Company should consent to the terms which the noble earl (Earl Grey) required, to grant Vancouver's Island to the Hudson's Bay Company, without reference to Parliament.

Mr. Hawes replied, that as the matter at present stood, if the company assented to all the conditions which were proposed, the grant of a charter would, in all probability, be made to them.

The Earl of Lincoln wanted to know if the grant would be made without any further information being given to Parliament.

Mr. Hawes said it would be granted in the usual way. He was not aware that charters of that description were ever laid before Parliament.

In reply to a question from Mr. Huitt, Mr. Hawes was understood to say, that in 1836 or 1837, an extension of the grant for the period of twenty-one years had been made to the company. The old charter was, therefore, still in force.

THE ARCHDUKE JOHN, REGENT OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE.

His Serene Highness the Archduke John Baptist, &c., was born January 20, 1782. He is, consequently, in his 60th year, and may boast of the highest possible popularity, a treasure rarely ever attained by any man, no matter what his rank or condition. He is warm-hearted, and his open countenance and modest demeanour are outward types of his worthy character. The varied grave events with which he was concerned in early life, together with his active participation in politics, deeply influenced his mind and mode of life, and added to his natural taste for retirement. His youth was convulsed by wars and troubles. As early as the year 1800, that is, ere he had scarcely attained his eighteenth year, he was placed in command of an army. But fortune was unfavourable to him. This, however, only served to increase his ardour and courage; but he was again doomed to taste of war's misfortunes. The battle of Hohenlinden, with all its painful consequences, tested the young Commander's spirit and character to the utmost. He proved worthy of the test by sustaining the drooping courage of his troops by the noblest example of fortitude. After the peace of Lunéville he was appointed Inspector-General of Fortifications and Engineers, and Director-in-Chief of the Engineer and Cadet Academies at Neudorf (Vienna), which Institutions attained the highest perfection under his control. Notwithstanding his youth, the Archduke, like Prince Louis Ferdinand of Prussia, offered brilliant hopes for the future, amidst the then prevailing darkness. He acquired the affections of the people, also, especially those of the mountaineers from Wallis to Ennsthal. With him originated the idea of arming the people, and of organizing the Landwehr, which he effected in the Tyrol, after indefatigable exertions. There it was that the Archduke fought and assisted at many a glorious and successful combat in 1805. In 1811, his Imperial Highness established the Johannann Institution at Graz. His devotion to all subjects connected with natural history, caused him to examine closely the Alpine range, especially that of Styria; and as he was compelled to traverse every portion of the mountain chain, he became the acquaintance and friend of its hardy inhabitants, who regarded him as one of the most intrepid and expert of all their mountain climbers. He bore a most honourable share also in the perils and glories of the campaigns of 1809, 1813, and 1815. The thirty-three years' peace now commenced, which had not been for the slightest retrograde policy of Prince Metternich, might have borne the richest fruits for Germany, strength, and prosperity. His Imperial Highness totally disapproved of his policy. He even combated it as far as it was possible. Some there are who think he might have done more by retiring completely from all political connection with those who supported the system. Be this as it may, he was regarded as the man, the hero, of the people—the simple unaffected friend of the mountain and valley cottager. This sufficed to render him an object of suspicion to the Government. The chain that separated him from the Court and high aristocracy was widened by an event of a romantic character. He became enamoured of, and married inorganically, the daughter of the Postmaster of Ansee, who assumed the name of Madame de Brandhof, whilst their son received the title of Count de Meran. Whilst in this position, his Imperial Highness devoted himself with increased zeal to the study of natural history and its attendant sciences. Notwithstanding that he had abandoned all political connexions, he was the constant object of suspicion and watchfulness on the part of Prince Metternich. After a long absence he again visited the Tyrol in 1835, and was received with inexpressible demonstrations of joy. But suspicion followed him even there, and the Vienna journals were ordered to arrange their reports of his enthusiastic reception by the cheering and discolouring the truth. The celebrated toast, "No Prussia, no Austria, but a united Germany," attributed to the Prince, at a banquet given to the scientific Meeting on the Rhine, in 1812, attracted the eyes of all Germany towards him. In 1813, when the scientific Meeting took place at Graz, his Imperial Highness became intimate with many of the principal learned men of Europe. He assisted at their Meetings, conducted them on Mountain excursions, and offered them a banquet at his romantic shooting hut among the precipices. Here he adopted the unassuming manners and costume of the simple, hardy men among whom he resided. Attired in a Styrian jacket and Alpine hunter's hat, he climbed the mountains and visited the village cottages whose doors joyfully flew open at his approach. His features, perfectly characteristic of his Austrian family, bespoke the most heartfelt goodness. His stature not above the middle standard, is frail, his eye grey, his head bald, his hair the appearance of age; but his spirits are juvenile, and his whole deportment kindly and active.

His Imperial Highness has long comprehended with clearness and energy those eventual circumstances that are advancing towards solution. The public journals have already made known the position of trust and confidence marked out for him by the force of circumstances and by his own merits in his native land. Similar confidence, similar love, we trust awaits him throughout all Germany.—Berlin Gazette.

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