



DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND AGRICULTURE.

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NOTICE.

Subscribers finding the figure 1 after their name will bear in mind that their term will expire at the end of the present month. Early remittances are desirable, as there is then no loss of any numbers by the stopping of the paper.

FALLS AND WHIRLPOOLS.

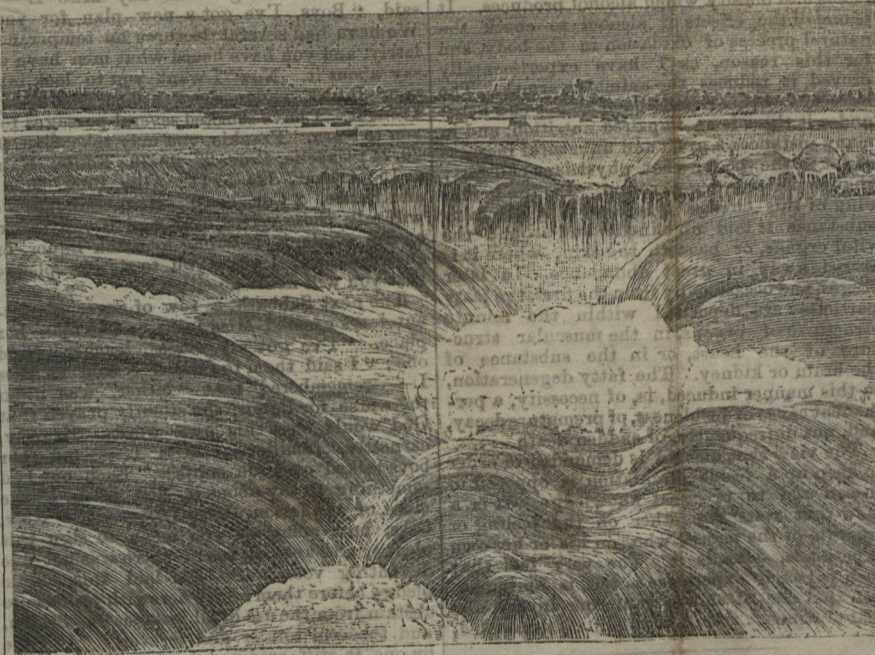
Among the most effective illustrations of the downward career of those who have begun the course of dissipation or sin is that of the poor man who, with his boat, has entered the rapids above a fall or the outward circles of a whirlpool. At first, the gliding, quiet sensation is pleasurable, and the idea of danger but gives a spice of adventure to the situation. Perchance he gives a few tugs at the oars, just to show how easily he could escape from the current's influence, and then lazily allows himself to be drawn in nearer to the margin of the falls or the whirlpool's vortex. There may be friends of his on the shore who cheer him and evince signs of approval at his daring, but there is sure to be some one—perhaps a mother, a wife, children or other loved one—who too plainly sees his danger, and cries to him words of warning or entreats him, for their sakes and his own, to beware of and flee from the danger. If wise, he listens and heeds.

But his is not the only boat in the roughening waters. All around on every side of him are hundreds of others idly floating down the stream or in the giddy circle, and he may point to them and say, "Am I not as safe as they?" Perhaps not. He has already passed and is descending faster than that slow moss-covered vessel almost without life, but a respectable looking craft nevertheless, with a well-to-do occupant. Strange to say, he always looks up the stream to those he has passed and compares his situation to theirs. Perhaps now and then a glance is thrown at the many vessels rapidly disappearing from sight, and are overwhelmed in the seething waters, but it is only a glance; the scene is too sickening to dwell on for even an instant.

But his own pace is visibly increasing, and even his most zealous friends recognize his danger. They call to him, but he laughs at them and pushes his boat a little nearer the edge. They call louder, and he becomes angry; what must they think of him to entertain such fears? Do they mean to associate him with men of disreputable character. But faster and faster he goes. The very pace makes him giddy, and he has neither will nor ability to grasp the means of rescue thrown to his aid. His speed is terrific, and he is on the very brink of destruction. Does he see his danger and his fate? Perhaps he does, perhaps not. Now one shrill scream pierces the air, and he is lost. But his despairing wail does not appear to reach beyond the narrow circle of those giddy ones who immediately follow, and those far out on the smoother water are too much engaged with their own affairs to notice his descent. Thus day by day, year by year, perish many of the best and noblest of our land, who tempted by the outward attractions of sin pause not till drawn to eternal ruin.



CHAUDIERE FALLS, OTTAWA (SUMMER.)



CHAUDIERE FALLS, OTTAWA (WINTER.)

THE TESTAMENT VS. THE PISTOL.

A good idea was that of the man converted in Raymond Street Jail, Brooklyn, mentioned at the Fulton Street Prayer-Meeting. After he got out he carried about with him a Testament where he had formerly carried a pistol, and he found the Testament the better defence of the two. We recommend his example to all who carry pistols for the following reasons: 1. If a man gets angry, and lays his hand on his weapon, the pistol may kill his opponent and involve himself in endless trouble—

perhaps imprisonment for life, whereas, if he pulls out his Testament, both his own wrath and that of his opponent will evaporate at the sight of it. 2. If his children find his pistol they may very likely shoot themselves or some one else with it, whereas if they find his Testament, they can do no harm with it, but his example in carrying it may do them great good. 3. A pistol is costly, to begin with, and needs, from time to time, supplies of powder and balls, as well as the trouble of loading it. The New Testament is very cheap, always

charged, and ready to fire off at any mark, and its chambers are never exhausted.

4. A pistol is as far removed as possible from being a light to the feet and a lamp to the path. The Testament is both.

In these and many other respects the Testament has clearly an infinite superiority to the pistol, and it should be the choice of all sensible men for a pocket-companion. There are many who are never without it, who make it the man of their counsel, and who regularly use its ammunition.

Reader, which would you choose for the teacher of your children, or the husband of your daughter, or the executor of your will—the man with a pistol in his pocket or the man with the Testament?—N. Y. Witness

THE DEVIL'S FOUR SERVANTS.

The devil has a great many servants, and they are all busy, active ones. They ride in the railway trains, they sail on the steamboats, they swarm along the highways of the country and the thoroughfares of the cities; they do business in the busy marts, they enter houses and break open shops; they are everywhere, and in all places. Some are so vile-looking that one instinctively turns from them in disgust; but some are so sociable, insinuating,

Here are their names:

"THERE IS NO DANGER." That is one. "ONLY THIS ONCE." That is another. "EVERYBODY DOES SO." That is the third. "BY-AND-BY." That is the fourth. When tempted from the path of strict rectitude, and "There's no danger" urges you on, say, "Get thee behind me, Satan." When tempted to give the Sunday up to pleasure, or to do a little labor in the workshop or the counting-room, and "Only this once," or "Everybody does so," whispers at your elbow, do not listen for a moment to the dangerous counsel. If the Holy Spirit has fastened upon your conscience the solemn warnings of a faithful teacher or friend, and brought to mind a tender mother's prayers for your conversion, do not let "By-and-by" steal away your confidence, and, by persuading you to put away serious things, rob you of your life. All four are cheats and liars. They mean to deceive you and cheat your soul of heaven. "Behold!" says God, "now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation." He has no promise for "By-and-by."—Christian at Work.

LOSS A GAIN.—How often has obedience to the Word of God been set aside, and spiritual labors viewed even with contempt in comparison with money-getting; and the neglect of God's true service been vainly warranted by false use of Scripture, in order to justify this world-pursuit. How suitable it is that those who have their portion in this life should sweat, fume, worry, and contrive to make both ends meet, or complete their luxuries, as the case may be, and seek their chief delight in things which perish in the using; but for sons of God to spend their time like this almost exclusively is certainly a mocking shadow chase; and those who have been most successful in this vain strife for earthly honors, will see the fire curl around their splendor and utterly consume their wood, and hay, and stubble, whilst those who counted godliness with contentment the real gain, shall, through all eternity, their riches reap. What a blessed thing it is for some children of God when they are "ruined," for to be ruined according to "man's speech," and to lose every pound even, which gives a standing in the world, is often the means of teaching Christians where their fortune really is, and what true riches really are; and gives a gracious opportunity for that heavenly Father, who ever seeks His children's greatest wealth, to manifest His care to succor and sustain.—Word and Work.