

"Yes; every inch of him. It is queer you have not met him. When you came to town he was often at the house, but lately he has been in Philadelphia. She makes no secret of answering his letters."

"It is a wonder to me that you, have, so far, escaped a closer alliance with the Moravians," he observed, facing her, as he helped her down a rough part of the way.

"I never was tempted," she replied, carelessly. It was a perfect day, to the end. He left them at the door, declining an invitation to tea, but promising to call next day to learn how they had borne the fatigue.

In the morning a cold wind blew, to remind him that summer was over. This wonderful summer, which he must soon know to be the gladder or the saddest to look back upon all through life. Yesterday he had been hopeful, but to-day he was all despondent. The parlour windows stood wide open, the curtains looped up for sweeping, and Content was moving about, wielding a brush of peacock's feathers. She was singing; and it was strange to him that he had never heard her sing alone before. Her voice had a sweet pathos, but no tone of passion, as she sang.

Armes Herz, was klages: du?
Ach, auch du gehst einst zur Ruh?
Was auf Erden muss vergehn
Giebt es wohl ein Wiedersehn.

Here she turned sud-ly, and saw him. He stepped in by the window, and met her with extended hands.

"Oh! my friend, do not set our Wiedersehn in heaven! Let it be nearer."

And then he told her all that was in his heart.

"And now, my little prophetess, did your second sight show you all this?" he asked her, by and by.

"Oh! no, indeed. The people who had the second sight could never see what was to happen to themselves. I think Effie saw further, ever so much. She had her suspicions before, and when you came back she thought something must come of it, I'm sure, though she never spoke."

"Before! O, Content!"

"Oh!" she cried, blushing rosy-red and covering her face. "I didn't mean to tell! But how could I help it?"

"Five long years! My poor little girl! But you shall see how I will make up for lost time."

"There is no lost time," she answered him. "I needed it all, I had so much to learn."

"And you have learned so well! Now you must help me, so that I may not be behind you. But, with you to teach me, how easy it will be for me to learn your hardest lesson—Content."

THE END.

WORKINGMEN IN THE BRITISH PARLIAMENTS.

The advent of bona fide workingmen to seats in the British Legislature only marks a phase in that vast, though, as far as England is concerned, peaceable revolution which will ever be regarded as one of the distinguishing features of the nineteenth century. During the early decades of the century the labouring classes were politically, and in many respects socially, under the heavy heel of a tyrannical or indifferent aristocracy; their voice was unheard or unheeded, save when, in 1832, the voice was mingled with the stern rumblings of revolution. Intellectually the working classes then were far behind the standard of to-day; socially they had no influence; politically they were regarded as outside the pale, and unfitted to exercise even the power contained in a vote. The time was a weary one for the labouring man, and justice was apparently slow to make its advent. But delay had its advantages. The workingmen of Great Britain received a much-needed education in the management of their trades unions and in many other directions—a training that matured the judgment and self-control of those whose vote in future days will be so powerful for good or ill.

The social and political improvement in the industrial population has been most clearly discernible during the last twenty or thirty years. Fifty years ago a workingman would have been ostracized even if he had obtained election to Parliament; now he is received there as an equal. Before the Reform Bill of 1867 the voting power of workingmen was comparatively small, and few of the middle classes would have listened to a request for a workmen's representative, had there been no property qualification to stand in the way of such an election. With the passage of that Act the condition of things was changed in the great centres of population. It is not, therefore, a matter of surprise that there should be a wish on the part of those to whom political power has been committed to have a direct voice in the making of the laws in which as citizens they are so deeply interested. Ardent, however, as workingmen members might be wished for by their class, a greater difficulty still blocked the way—the want of money to sustain them in Parliamentary life. This difficulty has, however, been overcome by the nomination to Parliament of the men who are leaders in the unions, and who are being maintained by the funds of these societies.—*Edward Brown, in Harper's Magazine for September.*

A BURNING PETROLEUM WELL.

Traversing a portion of the oil regions of Pennsylvania recently in midwinter, after surmounting a steep hill by means of a rocky and zigzag road, the writer found a well-wooded valley on the opposite slope in which a small clearing was visible. A deep snow covered the earth, and the branches of pine and hemlock were bent with its weight. Rising out of the centre of the field, with a background of the densest forest, was a tall flame singularly out of keeping with the bleak surroundings. The air was very still, and the flame scarcely bent from the perpendicular, although swaying slightly at times and varying in height. At its highest it was level with a young pine near by, whose slen-

der top was probably twenty feet above the ground. Stopping to examine it, a low, sullen, surf-like roar proceeding from the flame was heard, and observation showed that the snow within a circular space fully one hundred feet in diameter had been melted by the heat.

It was a strange scene to encounter in the woods. The tall flame, rising apparently from the earth; the dark pines in the background, laden with new-fallen snow; the glare of the light upon the white field; and the utter absence of human habitations, formed a scene at once desolate, beautiful and impressive. The gathering shades of night added a wild and fantastic element, and it required no great stretch of fancy to see wood-nymphs and sprites dancing in the spectral light. In the Dark Ages such a flame would have been invested with supernatural attributes. To a Pennsylvanian such scenes are not uncommon. It was simply a deserted petroleum well, and doubtless some wayfarer had lighted the gas escaping from it. Such beacons are plentiful, although seldom met with in so wild a locality. Along the Alleghany River and its tributaries, on the banks of the Upper Ohio, at Murrysville, in Washington County, and in various portions of Eastern Ohio, such flames have become a familiar sight. Certain portions of the city of Pittsburg are illuminated every night by these magnificent gas lights, which at times turn night into day.

One who has not seen a burning well cannot realize the impressions the sight produces. It gives one an idea of tremendous force and power. Wells like those at Murrysville, or the famous "McGugan," in Washington County, with a pressure of not less than four hundred pounds to the square inch, produce a flame that has not a little of the element of the terrible in it. The roar is deafening, and the light is visible for many miles. When swayed and twisted by the wind, the flame assumes the most fantastic shapes. Heard from a distance, the roar reminds one of the thunder of Niagara.—*H. D. Mason, in Brooklyn Magazine.*

FOR THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

THUNDERSTORM ON THE PRAIRIE.

A shadow falls on the sunlit prairie—

The flowers are trembling, afraid to die;

A word breath, soft as the wing of fairy,

Has whispered, "Bend, for the storm is nigh;"

And the flowers bend, and the wild bird cowers.

And out to westward the storm-cloud lowers.

Hark! it mutters, the distant thunder!

The clouds are darkening, the winds arise;

Swift tongues of flame rend the clouds asunder,

In living fires through the darkening skies.

And the cloud-ranks blacken, and gather round,

Called out to war by the thunder's sound,

Gathering columns that, deeper, denser,

Wrap the prairie in sullen gloom,

While flaming lightnings, in glare intenser,

Seem winged spirits of death and doom;

Through the darkened heavens they dart and fly,

And the sunlight pales and forsakes the sky.

Rushes the storm, like an army dashing

In headlong madness, with death behind;

Rolling thunders, and lightnings flashing,

Boon and gleam through the deepening wind.

Winds and thunders that shriek and roar,

Rolling and echoing o'er and o'er.

The awed earth trembles, and nature shivers,

Wind voices wail through the groves in woe,

While the weak leaf flutters, and strong limb quivers,

And tall trunks reeling, bend to and fro;

And the stoutest snap with a crash and groan,

While the rain sobs wildly in fitful moan.

Now nearer lightnings their banners spreading

'Gainst inky blackness, in flame unfurled,

Herald nearer thunders, new horror shedding—

A voice fit to God to a sin-tranced world;

Such "mighty thunderings" as Pharaoh prayed

Might cease, and Jehovah's wrath be stayed.

And man, weak man, can but fear and wonder,

And own a power that is all divine,

A hand of might that can quell the thunder

And bid His sun on the land to shine;

And the flowers look up from the rain-drenched sod,

And we own with Nature, "The Lord is God."

Mossmire, N.-W. T. M. A. NICHOLL.

Two Otago ladies, one the daughter of Rev. W. Will, of East Taieri, have taken the degree of B.A. in the university of New Zealand.

LUTHER'S home as a child at Mansfield, in Saxony, has just been restored to its original condition when the Reformers' parents dwelt there four centuries ago. The old house will be inhabited by a body of deaconesses, who will nurse and care for the sick and poor of the town.

MR. MUNDELLA, it seems, deserves the credit of having secured a Maine law for the North Sea. The other Powers at the international conference at the Hague were not desperately in earnest; and it was Mr. Mundella who succeeded in educating our own departments up to the platform of prohibition. At the outset they contemplated nothing more stringent than regulation.

In the London Presbytery there is a minister with a pastoral charge who is also a barrister in practice. At Auckland, in Australia, the Presbytery has been considering the application of a minister who wishes to drop one of his out stations and to make up for the loss of income by practising as a lawyer. The Presbytery seemed to think that the combination of minister and lawyer should not be countenanced.

British and Foreign.

No fewer than eighty Jewesses attend the weekly sewing class at Mildmay Hall.

In Otago and Southland the Presbyterians outnumber all the other Churches put together.

DR. DONALD FRASER, London, opened the new church at Knockbain, Munloch, recently.

A UNION of parish church choirs in Louthgow Presbytery has been formed. It will give an annual festival of church music.

THE temperance people of Russia petitioned the Emperor two years ago for permission to hold meetings and have only just received his permit.

LOCHMABEN Presbytery is defunct, as only two members attended its last meeting. It can only be resuscitated on petition to the superior court.

A DEPUTATION from the Edinburgh Students' Holiday Mission, accompanied by Prof. Henry Drummond, has been visiting some of the Welsh colleges.

BISHOP SANDFORD, of Tasmania, has offered to give up part of his income to the Church Society, as it cannot meet the demands made upon it for the support of the clergy.

A MEETING of the association for procuring religious equality in Scotland has been held in Glasgow to consider a proposed scheme for a disestablishment council for Scotland.

THE late Admiral Sir William King Hall, K.C.B., who died suddenly of apoplexy recently, in his seventieth year, became a total abstainer on account of the drunkenness of his ship's crew.

MR. CHARLES CAMERON, who was a member of Dr. Andrew A. Bonar's church in Glasgow, has been ordained in St. Andrew's Church, Hobart, Tasmania, as pastor of Campbell Town and Tunbridge.

MISS ELLICE HOPKINS, Mrs. Lucas, the sister of John Bright, and some other English ladies will attend the national convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union to be held at Minneapolis on October 22.

THE Rev. Mr. Galbraith, of Keasay, is spoke of as the successor of the late Dr. George Mackay, of Inverness. He is one of the most popular Gaelic preachers in the Church, and has refused several calls to important charges.

THE work of the English national council of the Young Men's Christian Associations during the past year has been the most fruitful in its history; forty-nine new associations have been formed, bringing the total up to 270.

THE Caithness Presbytery has declined to sustain the call from Pulteneytown Free Church congregation to Mr. Nigel Craig Robertson as colleague to Rev. George Stevenson, whose assistant he has been. Less than one-half of the members signed it.

THE triennial conference of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the world is to be held next year at Stockholm, and the King of Sweden has expressed, in a personal interview with the secretary, his hearty appreciation of the proposed visit to his capital.

A MEMORIAL from the West United Presbyterian Congregation, Haddington, has been presented to the Presbytery suggesting the union of the two congregations in that town—the minister of the East Church having resigned. Former negotiations between the two had no practical result.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER, the conqueror of Scinde, addressing a body of soldiers, said: "Soldiers, if you love your lives do not drink. Forty-four of us were on one occasion suffering from sunstroke, and the only one of those forty-four to escape was myself. The secret was I did not drink."

ALL the newsboys in Bridgeton, Glasgow, were taken on a pleasant trip lately to Cardross, where they were regaled on the shore with dinner and tea, by Mr. William G. Kirkland, student. This is the first summer excursion of the sort for the newsboys at the east end of Glasgow, and is intended to be annual.

THE Rev. Dr. Adam Lind, of Elgin, was presented by his congregation with a silver salver and \$1,250 on the occasion of his jubilee, and addresses were presented to him by the Presbytery and others. Rev. John Smith, M.A., of Edinburgh, preached, and Prof. Duff and others delivered congratulatory addresses.

THE *Scottish Law Review* says the statement of Mr. Leys in the Court of Session will be long remembered by those who heard it as the most excellent example of personal pleading within memory. The writer adds that he never heard sympathy so universally expressed with a person confessedly disobeying the law.

THE Rev. Alex. Henderson, Durham, a son of Rev. Andrew Henderson, of Paisley, was married in St. Giles, Edinburgh, to Miss Fanny Vickers Cay, a daughter of Surgeon-General Cay, late of the Coldstream Guards, who, when in the 97th Regiment, was a friend of Captain Hedley Vickers immediately after his conversion.

PRINCIPAL CAIRNS conducted jubilee services recently in commemoration of the formation of Chairside United Presbyterian congregation in 1836. He referred to the connection Chairside had with the foundation of the Secession Church, the Rev. Henry Erskine, father of Ebenezer and Ralph, having laboured several years in the parish.

THE Rev. A. Andrew reported to Glasgow Free Presbytery, that Plantation congregation has now fully 400 members on the roll, with twenty office-bearers. Parkgrove Congregational Church, purchased for them by Mr. J. Campbell White, for 7,000 guineas, is to be called the White Memorial Church, and will be opened on the third Sabbath of September.