

into the room. "I'm Grisel Oliphant frae Yair, second cousin tae Walter Nesbit. Hoo are ye?"

Hugh Nesbit managed to give the lady his hand, and made some sort of murmured reply. Then she stood in front of him, eyeing him in a severe and critical manner.

"Humph! ye're a jimpy black body, no like the Nesbit lads, wha hae aye been stout an' fair. Weel, I Loup ye'll mak a guid held o' Aldersyde, an' set an example o' a godly Laird in Ettrick Vale."

Whereupon, whether dissatisfied with her company or not, Miss Grizle very abruptly quitted the young man's presence, and retired to the south room; nor would any asking induce her to leave it again that evening. The Miss Nesbits abode awhile with her; then Janet said she was tired, and bade Tibbie come with her to bid their cousin good-night, after which they would retire to their rest.

Miss Nesbit had borne much that day, and strength of body was failing her under the long-continued strain. As Tibbie and she passed their father's room on their way to their own, she stretched out her hand and touched the door, as if that could comfort and sustain her.

No words passed between the sisters as they made themselves ready for bed. It was weeks since Janet had shared her sister's room: a sofa in the sick room had given her the scanty rest vouchsafed to a nurse.

In a few minutes Tibbie was in bed, and asleep; but Janet moved about the room slowly and heavily, removing her things with dazed, mechanical fingers. Once in the night a noise awakened Tibbie, and she turned round in affright. It was the sound of weeping—not gentle, healing tears, but a fierce, wild storm like the rushing of the wind-tossed Yarrow. She was afraid and awe-stricken, and dared not move. Listening with bated breath, she caught the words: "God tak care o' Tibbie an' me, an' keep Aldersyde. Amen."

(To be Continued.)

#### DAUDET'S TWO LAST MEETINGS WITH TOURGUENEFF.

Writing early in the summer of "Tourgueneff is Paris," for the November "Century," Alphonse Daudet says, in conclusion, of the elder novelist's illness: "Since then I have met Tourgueneff at a party at the house of Madame Adam. He had brought the Grand-Duke Constantine, who, passing through Paris, wished to see some of the celebrities of the day—a Tussaud-museum of living and supping figures. I hasten to say that he saw nothing but attitudes—attitudes of people who pretended to turn their back and of others who presented themselves as fully as possible. Alexandre Dumas, furious at being taken for a curious animal, refused to say good things. Carolus Duran, the painter, sang; Munkácsy whistled, M. de Beust played a pretty valse, which was rather long.

"Tourgueneff and I talked together in a corner. He was sad and ill. Always his gout! It laid him flat on his back for weeks together, and he asked his friends to come and see him.

"Two months ago was the last time I have seen him. The house was still full of flowers; the sound of singing was still in the hall; my friend was still upstairs, on his divan, but much weakened and changed.

"He was suffering from an *angina pectoris*, and, in addition, from a horrible wound in the abdomen, the result of the extraction of a cyst. Not having taken chloroform, he described to me the operation with a perfect lucidity of memory. First, there had been the sharp pain of the blade in the flesh; then a circular sensation, as of a fruit being peeled. And he added:

"I analyzed my suffering so as to be able to relate it to you, thinking it would interest you."

"As he was still able to walk a little, he came down the staircase to accompany me to the door.

"At the bottom, he took me into the gallery of pictures and showed me the works of his national painters—a halt of Cossacks, a cornfield swept by a gust, landscapes from that warm Russia which he has described.

"Old Viardot was there, rather out of health; Garcia was singing in the neighbouring room; and Tourgueneff, surrounded by the arts that he loved, smiled as he bade me farewell.

"A month later, I learned that Viardot was dead and that Tourgueneff had been taken to the country, very ill.

"I cannot believe in the fatal issue of this malady. There must be, for beautiful and sovereign minds, so long as they have not said all that they have to say, a respite—a commutation. Time and the mildness of Bougival will give Tourgueneff back to us; but he will know no more of those friendly meetings to which he was so happy to come.

"Ah, the Flaubert dinner! We tried it again the other day: there were only three of us left!"

#### AN ENGLISH HEDGEROW.

Let us pause a moment and look at one of these August hedgerows, which in their confused mingling of straggling stems and shoots and sprays have a beauty proper to this season alone. Behind a ditch filled and bordered with flowers, bracken, grass, and brambles, rises a dense growth of hazel and young oak, with long hawthorne sprays describing a slender curve against the sky, and here and there the fresh green of some vigorous rose shoot, showing amid the darker foliage. The wild roses, loveliest of climbing hedgerow flowers, are over now; but the honey-suckle twines its red-tipped stems and honey-coloured flowers among the nut trees, and everywhere the bramble is spreading—the bramble which with its red, thorn-studded shoots, set with bright green five-leaved sprays, its pale, downy buds and delicate crumpled pink-and-white blossom, holds its own among the more beautiful of our wayside plants. Where some hidden spring feeds the earth with moisture, the feathery spikes of the meadowsweet scent the air. More conspicuous still, the great hemlock heads rear their tough, strong-stalked growth in every ditch among the drooping-grasses. But it is the

time for red flowers, as spring is more especially the time for yellow. Dandelions are, indeed, of all seasons, and the shining gold of the St. John's wort abounds. But thistles of every shade, from deep crimson to pale lilac-pink, are in bloom; the foxglove is not yet over; mallows open large rose-coloured flowers on the grassy banks; red sorrel and the starry pink centaurea are conspicuous among the fern and bracken, while the vivid red of the young oak shoots glows against the sunlight and the sky. It is the latest bloom of summer, and seems to have gathered to itself some of the warmth and colour of the most ardent moment of the year.

#### "HE CARETH FOR YOU."

My lot may be an humble one,  
My daily life a round of care;  
And yet this thought shall comfort give—  
"The Lord Himself has placed me there."

'Tis He who chooses all my ways,  
Who knows what sphere is best for me;  
If trials come, or pain or ill,  
He wisely orders it to be.

And shall I murmur or complain  
If fancied wants are not supplied,  
Or envy those who wealth attain,  
Whose every wish is satisfied?

Let me the rather oft recall  
How many trials I've been spared,  
How many mercies I have known,  
How richly I have always fared!

And lest an anxious care should rise,  
And craven fears my trust should shake,  
This promise every doubt defies—  
"I'll never leave thee nor forsake."

So may I boldly march along,  
Content whatever may prevail,  
And make this theme my daily song—  
"His promises shall never fail!"

—Philadelphia Presbyterian.

#### POPULAR LOVE OF FLOWERS.

A London paper says that "any one who can remember the homes of the poor in London fifteen or twenty years ago in our back streets and slums will bear us out in saying that scarcely a flower-pot was seen in their rooms or on their window-ledges outside. At the period in which we write you can scarcely go through a street and find a window without some plants in it, either outside or in. This fact being recognized, we come to the natural conclusion that the taste for flowers has increased more than ten thousand fold during the last twelve or fourteen years, and that consequently horticultural and floricultural knowledge has infused into the minds of the people generally a greater love for flowers, thereby improving their taste and tending to make their homes happier. Then we have to look at the effect of a love for flowers from a commercial point of view. Twelve years ago the number of growers who attended Covent Garden Market could be counted by the number of fingers on your hands. Now they are to be counted by hundreds, and the people employed in the production of flowers by many thousands."

#### FRENCH PRETENDERS.

The children of the pretender Naudorf, a German watchmaker, who represented himself as the son of Louis XVI., have addressed a letter to the French nation, beginning "Frenchmen," in which they deny any claim of the Comte de Chambord, or of the present Princes of the house of Orleans, to be considered the heirs of the French throne. They sign their names "Louis Charles de Bourbon," "Charles Edmond de Bourbon," and "Adelbert de Bourbon," the last being a captain in the Dutch Army. They allege that the sovereigns who have governed France since 1793 have deceived the people in concealing from them the fact that the unfortunate son of Louis XVI. was saved from the Temple, where he was placed in charge of Simon, the cobbler. This, they say, is now-a-days a matter of history. The usurpers of his legitimate rights have sacrificed his interests to their cruel ambition, and the fact that these have gone unrecognized has given rise to parties which divide the people, tear them asunder, and drag them to their ruin. They wish to protest against the theory that the descendants of Philippe Egalite are heirs to the throne in order that they may preserve France from the lowest of degradations.

#### ELECTRICITY FOR ENGINES.

L. M. Sabin, of St. Louis, has completed the model of a patent piston-movement electric engine, which he exhibited to a few friends at No. 181 William street yesterday. Its constantly even movement is attained by the use of pivoted armature and the arrangement of arms on the balance-wheel, so that it cannot get on a dead centre. This is the first engine ever constructed to which is applied an attractive and repelling power. It has four magnets, one being a trifle further from the upright bars than the other, which gives it its even motion. It is proposed to apply the engine to cabs, street-cars, yachts, etc. The model exhibited is capable of making 700 revolutions per minute, which can be increased to 1,000. A two-horse-power engine and the storage battery capable of running it twenty-four hours, will not weigh over 100 pounds, while its cost will not exceed forty to fifty cents per day.

WALTER BENTLEY, the actor, will come in for a share of \$400,000 left by his father, the late Rev. Dr. Begg, to be divided among the family.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

CHICAGO has one divorce to every thirteen marriages.

THE province of New York has a Catholic population of 2,000,000.

THE London journals say that the Earl of Aylesford is to reside for the future in America.

FRANCIS Murphy, the temperance advocate has begun a series of meetings in Newark, N. J.

ON the anniversary of Martin Luther's birthday two German Lutheran churches will be consecrated in Chicago.

THE Khedive of Egypt has issued a decree granting an amnesty for crimes connected with the late insurrection.

THE Baptist missionaries in Orissa claim the honour of having been the first to introduce the blue ribbon movement in India.

THE Old Testament company of revisers have carried their final review of the historical books as far as the end of II. Chronicles.

Two subscriptions of £500 each have been promised towards a new place of worship for Martyrs congregation, St. Andrew's, Scotland.

THE largest church organ ever built is said to be one just finished at Ludwigsburg for the Cathedral at Riga. It has no less than 174 registers.

No candidates are forthcoming for the seven vacancies for subalterns in the British Household Cavalry. Formerly there was a long list of them.

THE venerable Sir Moses Montefiore received numerous congratulations from all parts of the world on entering on the hundredth year of his life.

THE "Irish Presbyterian" committee on missions have arranged for a series of biographical lectures on missionaries in Fisherwick Place Church, Belfast.

THE resolution introduced into the Protestant Episcopal Convention at Philadelphia, for the establishment of a court of appeal was indefinitely postponed.

THE trustees of the Princeton Theological Seminary report that the total amount of money in investment, real estate and building is, \$1,378,695.95.

LONDON, October 24.—A despatch to the "Daily News" from Alexandria says that the Egyptians have completely defeated El Mahdi, the False Prophet.

THE Court of Enquiry investigating the origin of yellow fever at the naval station at Pensacola, says it is possible it may have come from germs remaining after the epidemic of last year.

EIGHT members of the Salvation Army were arrested at Watertown, N.Y., for conducting street services. They spent the night in the station house praying and singing most of the time.

IT is proposed to build in London a new Mansion House, or Lord Mayor's official abode, on some available land on the Thames embankment. The existing Mansion House dates from 1758.

THE Czar has decided to grant Russia more freedom and such reforms as are suitable to the spirit of the people. He has entrusted to Count Tolstoi and Count Katgoff the task of preparing a constitution.

HARVARD is about to raise a monument to the memory of John Harvard, the founder of the college. The model has just been completed by Daniel C. French, the sculptor of the "Minute Man," of Concord.

THE Rev. Evan Gordon, of Main Street Gaelic Church, Glasgow, is one of the witnesses put forward by the federation of Celtic societies to give evidence before the Royal Commission at its sittings in Glasgow.

THE Gaelic mission at Partick, Glasgow, has been so successful that the iron church is now overcrowded, and a new building has become necessary. The members have subscribed £300 towards a building fund.

AN analysis of the contributions to Parnell's testimonial has been published. Ireland subscribed £23,000 the bulk of which came from Leinster and Munster, America £2,379, England £773 and Australia and India combined £615.

CITIZENS of Oshkosh, Wis., subscribed \$1,000 and gave it to the managers of the Northwestern Fair in consideration of their rejecting an offer of \$1,000 from a wheel of fortune man to be allowed to run his wheel on the fair grounds.

THE tunnel on the Arlberg Railroad, which is expected to become such an important exit for Austro-Hungarian produce to France and Switzerland, will be nearly six and one-half miles long. It is expected to be finished by the end of October.

MR. B. S. OLDING, a member of the London School Board while addressing a Blue Ribbon meeting at Highbury, stated that out of 1,521 families living in that thickly populated district 871 were families who lived in one room, and as many as nine lived in a single apartment.

MR. MEYER of Paris claims to have invented a paper indestructible by fire. Specimens have been exhibited which had previously been placed for four hours in a pottery furnace. Mr. Meyer has also invented incombustible colours and ink. The invention is likely to be of great value.

ARNOLD HAYNE, George M. Wright and W. H. Weed, of the United States Geological Survey have returned from the Yellowstone Park, where they have been gathering material for a geological and topographical map. They found 500 geysers and 5,000 hot springs within the limits of the park.

THE Georgia farmers' newest craze is Jersey cattle—everything is Jersey. A Cobb county man had, the "Augusta Constitutionalist" says, a bull of ordinary stock that became so vicious that he took him to Atlanta and sold him for \$10. A day or two afterward two Cobb county young men went to Atlanta to buy some Jersey stock, and this identical bull was sold to them as a thoroughbred Jersey for \$175.