

Choice Literature.

Still and Deep.

BY F. M. F. SKEFF, AUTHOR OF "TRIED," "ONE LIFE ONLY," ETC.

CHAPTER XIX.

THERE was complete silence between Bertrand and his companion for a few minutes, then suddenly Laura pulled the pony up short in the middle of the road, and turning round, fixed her eyes, all filled with changeable flashing light, full on his face, and said to him, frankly, "I will tell you what I have been thinking, Mr. Lisle: here you are coming into a house amongst a set of strangers, with only one person of the lot whom you think you know, but in truth do not; and you are really just like a man entering on an unexplored country, where he may find himself surrounded either by savages that will roast him alive, or by gentle islanders that will offer him the pipe of peace; and it seems to me that you are very much to be pitied."

his career, that he has performed one great feat in inspiring Mary Trevolyan with a certain amount of life and animation. "How was that?" said Bertrand turning sharply round upon her. "Because Charlie, being a sober youth has fallen in love with the staid Mary, and she to him does seriously injure."

Sir Walter Scott's Moral Influence. "In his later days Scott is reported to have asked Laidlaw what he thought the moral influence of his writing had been. Laidlaw remarked on their power over the young, and said that this was surely a good work to have done. Scott was deeply affected, almost to tears, as well he might be. Again, not the young only, but of the old, those who have kept themselves most childlike, who have carried the boy's heart with them farthest into life, they have loved Scott's poetry even to the end. Something of this no doubt may be attributed to the pleasure of reverting in age to the things that have delighted our youth. But would the best and purest men have cared to do this if the things which delighted their boyhood had not been worthy? It is the great virtue of Scott's poetry, and of his novels also, that, quite forgetting self, they describe man and outward nature broadly, frankly, truly, as they are. All contemporary poetry, indeed all contemporary literature, goes to work in the exactly opposite direction, shaping men and things after patterns self-originated from within, describing and probing human feelings and motives with an analysis so searching that all manly impulses withers before it, and single-hearted straightforwardness becomes a thing impossible. Against this whole tendency of modern poetry and fiction, so weakening, so morbidly self-conscious, so unhealthily introspective, what more effective antidote than the brazen atmosphere of Homer, and Shakespeare, and Scott?—Good Words.

The Church of England.

The reply to the question, "Is the Church of England worth preserving?" is "Yes, if she is faithful to her mission." What is her mission? We do not agree with Dean Stanley that it is a National Institution, which ought to tolerate all doctrines that are or may be possessed by her Majesty's subjects. If the Church of England is not a Church, but merely a State Establishment, it is a sham and an offence; and if it is a Church, it must teach and hold certain dogmata. We do not agree with the Ritualists, who hold that the Church of England is Romanist except in name, for if it were so the Church ought to be destroyed. Ritualism is worse than Romanism, because it is Romanism unasked. The Church of England Ritualists have done so much for Romanism in this country that the Pope and his lieutenants must feel deeply grateful. When Monsignor Capel sneered at the Ritualists, the object was to lull the public suspicion that Ritualism was only Romanism in disguise. Then there is the view so ably represented by Mr. Gladstone, and from that we also differ. We admire Mr. Gladstone as a statesman, and we respect him for his pure and exalted character. We shall never forget the service he has rendered the cause of Protestantism by the brilliant assault on Vaticanism; and it is thought that the discomfiture of the Ultramontanes in Germany has been aided by those pamphlets which crushed the Ultramontanist pretensions. Mr. Gladstone holds that the Church of England should be separated from and independent of the Papacy. No Protestant can be more decidedly opposed to the Papacy; but he is tolerant of Ritualism, and he thinks that the Church of England should allow Ritualism, and that the Ritualists and Evangelists should peacefully continue in the same communion. Mr. Gladstone judges other men by himself. He is High Church without being Papistical, and he ignores the fact that Ritualism has been, and is, the means by which Protestants are perverted to Romanism.

Canada. "The wonderful progress, the ceaseless activity, and the almost obtrusive self-assertion of her great neighbor have attracted men's attention from her slower yet perhaps steadier growth of Canada; and it is a matter of remark, not perhaps unaccompanied with a slight ingredient of bitterness, that ten lines in the most important of the English newspapers are devoted to Canadian affairs, while several columns are allotted to those of the United States. The growth of the oak may be less interesting to watch than that of the pine, but its durability is more permanent; and not to attempt to prophecy, it may be remarked that the teaching of history has shown on more than one occasion that power and strength have come from the north, and that the stern features of nature, whilst impeding the advance to maturity, have strengthened the constitution of nations that have been born amidst the rigors of a severe climate."—Blackwood's Magazine.

THE DEATH OF SIR GARDNER WILKINSON, F.R.S., is announced to have taken place in England. This accomplished scholar and antiquary will doubtless be known by name to many of our readers from the interesting and important illustrations he has given us of the customs and mode of life of the inhabitants of Ancient Egypt. He was educated at Harrow and at Exeter College, Oxford, and afterwards spent a great many years in Egypt, where he studied Hieroglyphics, and all indeed that the splendid monuments of that most wonderful country could furnish. The first work of any consequence by which he acquired reputation as an author on that subject was published about 1838, entitled "Manners and Customs of the Ancient Egyptians," derived from a comparison of the painting, sculpture, and monuments still existing, with the accounts of ancient authors. Twenty years afterwards, he produced a book on "Egypt in the time of the Pharaohs," and he furnished a great part of the notes to the Rev. Canon Rawlinson's edition of Herodotus. He subsequently accepted the honor of knighthood bestowed on account of his literary labours, and afterwards published a description of modern Egypt and Thebes. Soon afterwards he travelled through the Slavonic provinces of Turkey, and wrote a book in 1848 upon Dalmatia and Montenegro, Bosnia, and the Herzegovina. He also exercised his pen upon art-criticism, the education of taste and landscape gardening. He was a valuable member of the Royal Society and of other learned institutions.

THE SQUADRON of the British fleet that has been ordered from the East Indies to the Mediterranean was according to previous arrangement to have remained in East Indian waters until next March. The vessels compose the detached squadron, under the command of Rear-Admiral Laubert. The combined crews number over 3000 men. As soon as the new orders are received, the squadron will sail for the Red Sea, and will pass through the Suez Canal. This will be the first time that a fleet belonging to a foreign power has passed through that Canal. The agreement has no doubt been made with the Khedive, and the arrangement is much commented on. It shows at least that England means to defend the position she has assumed with regard to Egypt; and also that she does not mean tamely to submit to the dictation of the three northern powers on the Turkish question.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD that the Ontario Government intends to establish one or perhaps two Normal Schools in the western part of the Province. The Normal School recently established in Ottawa has proved abundantly successful, far more so indeed than was anticipated. It has appeared on investigation that a very large proportion of those who have availed themselves of the Toronto Institution were from the immediate neighborhood of that city, so that while intended as a provincial benefit, and for doing provincial work, its direct influence in bringing students together was very local, and therefore more limited than suited the character of the institution. Our school system, although decidedly in advance of former times as an educational institution, has not yet been able to attach enough of permanency to the office of teacher, so that young men are led to take up teaching as the business of their future lives. They enter it as a stepping stone to something else, perhaps as helping to provide them with the elementary education necessary for medicine or law; in some instances it is taken up for a year or two in order to realize a little money. Practical experience in teaching is therefore quite out of the question. At present perhaps the only thing the Government can do is to multiply training institutions in different parts of the Province, to secure as much efficiency as possible in the preparation of young men for their arduous and important duties.

A SCOTCH elder, on learning from his minister that he proposed a series of lectures on Revelations, cautioned him: "I've no objection to ye taking a quiet trot through the seven churches, but for any sake drive canny among the seals and trumpets."

Miscellaneous.

SIR GARDNER WILKINSON died in November, aged 78. BAIL has been refused to John Clements in the Jane Gilmour case. AN EXPLOSION of Dynamite in Bremen Harbour has killed 200 persons. IT HAS BEEN PROVED that oranges can be raised in South Georgia. A BRANCH COMMERCIAL college has been established at Summerside, P.E.I. ONE THOUSAND men are to be employed on the Lachino Canal during the winter. IT IS SAID to be impossible to get Boss Tweed's property by any process of law. TRAINS were crossing on the ice between Milledgeville and Milkash, N. B., Dec. 5th. HENRY WAINWRIGHT has been sentenced to death for the Whitechapel murder. THE PRINCE of Wales reached Madras Dec. 18th, and has since gone to Calcutta. THE MANHOOD SUFFRAGE Bill was thrown out of the Ontario Legislature by a large majority. THE accomplished Emperor of Brazil intends to make the tour of North America and Europe. WHEELER AND WILSON'S factory at Bridgport, Ct., was burned Dec. 14. Loss \$500,000. THE RUSSIAN Government has just purchased for \$125,000 the celebrated painting of "Danae," by Titian. A PARTY OF MEXICANS has crossed into Texas, and stolen eight hundred head of cattle, and fifty horses. A MAN named Thomas Butt was hung by a vigilance committee on the 17th inst. at the Carson cemetery, Nevada. THE GERVAS REICHBSTAG has rejected the new taxes and increased army estimates proposed by the Government. ON DEMAND of the British Government the Egyptian men of war will be recalled from Zanzibar. DURING THE LAST ninety nine years, seventy-six persons have been executed in Massachusetts. THE TURKISH ADMIRALTY has had to borrow £40,000 to finish paying for the last iron-clad built in England. FOUR VESSELS bound from Quebec to the Magdalen Islands with supplies, have been lost, together with many lives. FROM THE SIX vessels lost on the Magdalen Islands only seventeen men were saved out of eighty-two. UP TO Nov. 30th 1875, the number of immigrants to Canada were 17,000, being 8,000 less than the previous year. MR. B. ASTOR'S TAXES amounted to half a million dollars annually. He paid one forty-fifth of the taxes of New York City. IN SOUTH EASTERN MISSOURI deeds of more than twelve million acres of land have been forged or disposed of at a valuation of over \$90,000,000. A DISTRICT of Bristol, England, has been declared unfit for habitation till midsummer next, on account of the floods. THE U. S. Direct Cable Company have offered £1,000 reward for the discovery of the vessel which broke their cable. AT NEW HAMPSHIRE, the thermometer was twenty degrees below zero on the 19th inst. On Mount Washington it was thirty-eight degrees below. LAST YEAR Germany with a population of 40,000,000 graduated 600 physicians, the United States with a population of 40,000,000 graduated 8,000. THE NUMBER of LUNATICS on Oct. 1st, 1875, in Toronto was 569, in London 628. In Kingston, 362. Of these 1649 there were 1600 absolutely incurable. THE CAPTAIN of the Deutschland was thirty-five miles out of his course when the steamer struck. The vessel had not proper instruments. MR. DEPARMENT, Bishop of Orleans, and M. Wallen, Minister of Public Instruction, were elected senators by the French Assembly on the 15th inst. DIVERS REPORT that the Vanguard has settled down in her bed, having sunk seven feet within the last three weeks. She cannot be moved till next spring, if at all. THE GALLERIES of the Ontario Assembly Chamber were filled on the 16th inst. with ladies, on the occasion of their presenting a petition for reducing the number of tavern licenses. FROM THE MONTHLY REPORT of the United States Department of Agriculture, we learn that the corn crop of 1875 has been one of the largest ever grown in the country—a general increase on last year's crop all over the country of from ten to sixty per cent; the quality however was not so good as in 1874. The potato crop has been extraordinary both in quality and quantity, fully twenty per cent over that of last year. In some cases there have been nearly four hundred bushels to the acre; selling in many places at from fifteen to twenty cents a bushel. The cotton crop yielded four million bales. The tobacco was seventy-four per cent over last year. The fruits have been generally poor, especially apples. The hay has been a small percentage over last year throughout the country. Generally the returns are considered very satisfactory.