

YOUTH'S CORNER.

DEATH, IN THE MIDST OF LIFE.

A few years ago a little boy was riding in the stage. It was a pleasant summer's day. The horses were trotting rapidly along by fields, and bridges, and orchards, and houses. The little boy stood at the coach window with a happy heart, and looked upon the green fields and pleasant dwellings: upon the poultry in the farm-yards, and the cattle upon the hills. He had not the least idea that he should die that day. But while he was looking out of the window, the iron rim of the wheel broke, and struck him upon the forehead. The poor boy lay senseless for a few days, and then died. There are a thousand ways by which life may be suddenly extinguished, and yet how seldom are they thought of by children! They almost always entirely forget the danger of early death, and postpone to a future day making their peace with God. And how little do those who read this think that they may die suddenly. Many children when they go to bed at night say the prayer,

"Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep, If I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take."

I used to say this prayer, when a child, every night before I went to sleep. But I did not know then, as well as I do now, that I might die before the morning. Almost every night some children go to bed well, and before morning are dead. It is, therefore, very dangerous to delay repentance. Love the Saviour immediately, and prepare to die, and it will be of little consequence when you die, for you will go to heaven, and be happy for ever.

But we must not forget that a most terrible doom awaits those who will not serve their Maker. It matters not how much we may be loved by our friends, how amiable may be our feelings. This alone will not save us. We must repent of sin and love the Saviour who has suffered for us. We must pass our lives in usefulness and prayer; or when the day of judgment comes, we shall hear the sentence, "Depart from me, for I know you not." It is indeed a fearful thing to refuse affection and obedience to our Father in heaven. He will receive none into his happy family above but those who love him. He will have no angry, disagreeable spirits there. He will receive none but the penitent, and the humble, and the grateful, to that pure and peaceful home. Who does not wish to go to heaven? O then now begin to do your duty, and earnestly pray that God will forgive your sins, and give you a heart to love and obey him.—Rev. J. S. C. Abbott.

HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

SIR THOMAS GRESHAM was the son of a respectable merchant who held the post of King's Agent at Antwerp; the son was appointed to the same office in the year 1551, and had to spend a great deal of time at that foreign port. By Queen Elizabeth he was promoted to the post of Queen's Agent in foreign parts, which however did not oblige him to reside abroad, it seems; for we find that at this time he built a large residence in the city of London; and after its completion he offered to build an Exchange for the convenience of the merchants, if the city of London would give the ground on which to erect it. In those times the merchants of London used to meet at a certain hour of the day in the open street to transact business, whereas at Antwerp Sir Thomas had become acquainted with the superior advantage of meeting in a building erected for the express purpose. The city of London accepted his liberal offer, and Sir Thomas fulfilled his promise, so that on the 29th of January 1570 the building was opened, and received from the Queen the title of the "Royal Exchange." It has since been replaced by another on a larger and more magnificent scale.

Sir Thomas Gresham had so many affairs to transact for Queen Elizabeth, and was in so much favour with her, that he was frequently called the "royal merchant." On one occasion the Queen paid him a visit on his estate at Osterley near Brentford; and in giving her opinion upon the place, she pointed out one spot where she thought a wall ought to stand. Sir Thomas immediately made preparation for such a number of masons to come and set to work at the commencement of night, that on the following morning, to the great surprise of the Queen, the wall stood just where she had wished it; and it had been built up so quietly that neither the Queen nor any of her suite was disturbed by noise from the workmen.

But Gresham was not a man of mercantile skill only; he was well acquainted with ancient and modern languages, and evinced his regard for science by the provision which he made in his will for the appointment of four scientific men with salaries for which they were to deliver lectures in his large house, hence called Gresham College, but which has since been taken down to make room for improvements. He is also mentioned among those who had a particular regard for John Fox, the author of "Acts and Monuments of the Church," commonly called the Book of Martyrs, who was a pious man and zealous Protestant. Sir Thomas Gresham died in the year 1579.

CHAUCER may be called the father of English poetry, his career falling into those days when literature was at a very low ebb, and learning almost confined to the priesthood, who perverted it for purposes of their own aggrandizement, while they suffered abject ignorance to prevail among the population in general. Geoffrey Chaucer was born in the year 1328, studied the law, travelled in Holland, France, and other parts of Europe, and bore various offices at court. He had great interest with John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, who was a determined enemy of the monks, and patronized the celebrated John Wickliff, the forerunner of the Reformation; through him Chaucer also became acquainted with Wickliff, and his poetical talent was brought into use to expose the corruption of the priests to ridicule, and rouse the indignation of the people against them. When the Duke's influence failed, Chaucer's prosperity was much reduced; he had enjoyed an income of £1000 a year, which enabled him to live with great dignity; but he was brought into distress during the absence of the Duke, who had gone to Spain and married the King's daughter, expecting to ascend the Spanish throne. He, however, returned without attaining his object, and then his friends rose into importance at the English court again; Chaucer among the rest, whose sister-in-law the Duke married when the Spanish Princess died. His "Canterbury Tales" are the most celebrated of his works; in the time of his adversity he wrote a serious treatise under the title of "The Testament of Love." The latter part of his life he spent chiefly at Dunnington Castle near Newbury; but he fetched his last illness in London to which he went on business connected with his income, and died in the year 1400, being nearly seventy two years old.

EDMUND SPENSER was born in London in the year 1553, was educated at Cambridge, and went to the north of England, after having taken his degree at the University. During his stay of two years in the north, he placed his affections on a young lady who in the end gave her hand to another. This disappointment probably nourished his poetical talent, for we find that the first poem he made public contains the lamentations of a tender lover; and the poet celebrates one Rosalinde who is supposed to have been the object of his slighted affection. At the persuasion of a friend who esteemed him for his talents, he came to London in the year 1578, and was introduced to the accomplished Sir Philip Sydney who took delight in encouraging genius. By him Spenser was favourably brought under the notice of Queen Elizabeth, who appointed him to the post of Poet Laureate, or "Versifier," as the ancient title was, to Her Majesty. This office did not prevent him from acting as Secretary to the Vice-Roy of Ireland, and indeed he manifested a good deal of talent for business—which is more than can be commonly said of Poets. In Ireland he resided at different times, having received a handsome estate there from the Queen; in that country also he completed his principal poem "The Fairy Queen" which has transmitted his name to posterity. In the latter part of his life, Spenser was straitened in circumstances; a rebellion which broke out in Ireland, only just allowed him to escape with his family—it is reported even that one of his children lost its life in the burning of his house which was set fire to by the insurgents. He took refuge in England, and died in the year 1599.

MSL.

THE WISE men of old derived their light and wisdom from the Jews, because the latter possessed the true light, the revelation of God. Our modern sages do just the reverse: they depart from the true light of Revelation, and derive their folly from themselves or from the heathen.—Martin Boos.

HELP AGAINST DARKNESS.—When it is night in the great world, I cannot make it day; I am obliged to wait until the sun rises. So likewise when it is night in me, I cannot make it day nor light: I must wait, praying, until the Sun—the Light—shines upon me. Wait therefore!—Jb.

THE GLORY OF THE WORLD, AND A MAN'S HOODS.—Death strips us of the glory with which this world hath clothed us, even as a boot-jack draws off our boots. Another wears my boots, when I am dead, and another succeeds to my glory. It is, therefore, of little value.—Jb.

SCRIPTURE IS THE ONLY RULE OF FAITH.—We thankfully look into Antiquity, for its elucidation. We do not reject Antiquity: but we will not be enslaved by it. Our motto is: ONE SOLE RULE—THE BIBLE.—Rev. Joseph Jones.

THE CHRISTIAN'S LIGHT.—"The Christian," says a pious German author, has his star in heaven like the wise men, but he must also hold his lamp in his hand, like the wise virgins."

There is both point and truth in this remark. The wise men came to worship the Infant Jesus—and opened their treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh—royal gifts. How many, who think themselves guided by the star in heaven, utterly forget thus to bring gifts, or to open their treasures of rich and holy affections for Christ. Still more are there, who trim not their lamps.

MONTGOMERY'S ATTACK UPON QUEBEC, ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1775.

English Account of the affair from SMITH'S HISTORY OF CANADA.

December 31st, 1775. About four o'clock this morning, Captain Malcolm Fraser, of Colonel Maclean's regiment, in going his rounds, perceived signals not far from St. John's gate; and finding the weather such as the enemy wished for, by the last deserter's report, he alarmed the guards and picquets, who stood to their arms; all the sentries between Cape Diamond and Palace gate saw many and repeated flashes like lightning; on the heights of Abraham lights like lanterns were placed on poles at regular distances. Two rockets were thrown up from the foot of Cape Diamond, and immediately a hot fire was kept up on those who lined the walls at that place, and a body of men were seen in St. John's suburbs; from the flashes of the enemy's firing we perceived they were hid behind a bank of snow; however we returned their fire, directed by their flashes: during this sharp musquetry, the drums were beating to arms, the bells rang the alarm, and in less than ten minutes, every man in the garrison was under arms at his alarm post; even old men upwards of 70 were seen forward to oppose the rebels. Colonel Maclean detached a party of the British militia, under Colonel Caldwell, to reinforce Cape Diamond; there he was to make the disposition of the men, and return to the parade. Mr. Montgomery, with 900 of the best men attacked at Près de Ville, and Arnold with 700 chosen fellows, attacked at Sault au Matelot. The attack at Cape Diamond, the parade of men (Canadians it is said) near St. John's gate, with a bombardment from St. Roc's, were intended to draw off our attention from the Lower Town, where the rebels were to make the real attacks. Our guard at Près de Ville had seen the flashes, every man was posted before the alarm was given; the gunners, with lighted matches, waited for the word of command, Captain Bransfair, who commanded the battery, coolly waited the near approach of the enemy; he saw a group advancing; they stopped within fifty yards of our guns; there they seemed in consultation; at last they rushed forward to their destruction, for our grape shot mowed them down; groans and cries were heard, but not a soul was to be seen; however, we kept sweeping the road with our guns and musquetry for some time. At the other end of the town Mr. Arnold was wounded in the leg, in passing the picquets behind the Hotel Dieu, from whence a shower of balls was poured on his party in their way to the Sault au Matelot; he was sent disabled to the General Hospital; the officers under him forced our guard, and made us retreat to a barrier about two hundred yards nearer the centre of the Lower Town; there we made a stand, returning a brisk fire, which the enemy, under cover of houses, poured upon us.

General Carleton, experienced in military affairs, saw the advantage the rebels gave us over them; he improved it, and sent Captain Laws out at Palace gate, with a detachment of the troops to take the enemy in rear; and Colonel Maclean ordered Captain Macdougall to support him with a party and to keep possession of the post we had abandoned. Major Nairne of the Royal Emigrants, and Monsieur Dembourses of the same corps, by their gallant behaviour attracted the notice of every body. The general ordered them, with a strong detachment, to the support of those already engaged in the Lower Town. These two gentlemen mounted by ladders, and took possession of a house with fixed bayonets, which the rebels had already entered, and thus secured a post which overlooked a strong battery on Lyburner's wharf, and commanded a principal street.

The regular troops, the militia, the seamen, in short every person bearing arms marched cheerfully, led on by their officers. They placed the greatest confidence in the General's knowledge, and they advanced secure of victory. Colonel Maclean, the second in command, with that coolness which distinguishes the good soldier, had his eye every where, to prevent the progress of the attackers; his indefatigability since he arrived in Quebec merits much praise; no man could do more for the good of the service; every power of his was exerted, especially on that day. Colonel Caldwell took infinite pains with the British militia; by his good example he made that corps emulous to appear where danger made their presence most necessary.

The seamen were under the strictest discipline; Colonel Hamilton and Major McKenzie headed the brave fellows, who behaved, as they do on all occasions, like British tars. The handful of Royal Puzileers, commanded by Captain Owen, distinguished themselves, and the Royal Emigrants behaved like veterans. The French militia shewed no backwardness; a handful of them stood the last at Sault au Matelot; overcome by numbers, they were obliged to retreat to the barrier. As the General had foreseen, the sortie made the victory ours; we hemmed the rebels in on all sides: they called for quarter, and we made prisoners, 1 Lieut. Colonel, 2 Majors, 8 Captains, 15 Lieutenants, 1 Adjutant, 1 Quarter-master, 4 Volunteers, 350 Rank and file, not wounded; and 41 Officers and soldiers wounded: Total 426.

The flower of the rebel party fell into our hands; we have reason to think that a great number were killed and wounded.

American Account of the affair from HALE'S HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES.

Meanwhile the snow fell incessantly, the cold became intense, and the sufferings of the troops from the rigour of the season and their continual toil surpassed all that they had ever before felt, or witnessed, or imagined. To increase their distress, the small-pox broke out in the camp, presenting death in a new shape, and adding to the severity of their labours, by lessening the number to bear them. In the midst of these trials, their attachment to the cause, and devotion to their commander, (Montgomery) remained unabated; but these, he reflected, must soon give way before such severe and constant suffering; and for himself, he determined to make immediately a bold desperate effort.

Assembling his officers, he proposed to storm the city. He placed before them the motives which operated upon his own mind. He did not deny that the enterprise was highly difficult and dangerous, but maintained that success was possible. He addressed a band of heroes whose sentiments were congenial to his own, and the decision was unanimous in favour of his proposition. The plan and time of attack were concerted, and to each officer was assigned his particular duty.

On the last day of December at four o'clock in the morning, while a violent snow storm was raging, the troops marched from the camp in four columns, commanded by Montgomery, Arnold, Livingston, and Browne. The two latter were directed to make feigned attacks upon the upper town, in order to distract the attention of the garrison; while the two former proceeded to assault the lower town at opposite points.

Livingston and Browne, impeded by the snow, did not arrive in season to execute their feints. Montgomery, advancing at the head of his column, along the banks of the river, came to a barrier or stockade of strong posts. Two of these he saved off with his own hands. The guard within were alarmed, and fled to the block-house, fifty yards distant, where several pieces of cannon were stationed. He passed through the opening in the barrier, encouraging his men to follow. The troops at the block-house, to whom the guard had communicated their terror, began to desert it.

At this moment, Montgomery halted, to allow the troops near him to form a body. Observing this delay, a Canadian, who lingered behind, returned to the block-house, seized a match which was burning, and discharged a cannon loaded with grape shot, and fortunately pointed at the little band. The discharge was instantly fatal to Montgomery, and to several favorite officers standing around him. The men seeing their beloved leader fall, shrunk back; colonel Campbell, the next in command, ordered a retreat, and that part of the garrison stationed at the block-house, was left at liberty to hasten to another part of the city, already in commotion from the attack of Arnold.

This officer, marching like Montgomery, at the head of his column, had entered the town. Advancing along a narrow street, which was swept by the grape shot of the enemy, he received a severe wound in the leg, and was carried to the hospital. Captain Morgan, afterwards distinguished by his exploits at the south, assumed the command. Placing himself at the head of two companies, he boldly approached the enemy's works, and entering through the embrasures, drove the men from their guns.

Here he halted until the rear of the column came up. When time was given for reflection, the danger of their situation, a small band in the heart of a hostile city, filled even the bosoms of the brave with dread. Morgan retained his firmness; and when the morning dawned, with a voice that resounded through the city, summoned his troops to the assault of a second battery, a short distance in advance of the first.

Before this a fierce combat ensued. Many of the enemy were killed, but more Americans, who were exposed to a destructive fire of musketry from the windows of the houses. Some of the most daring mounted the wall, but seeing on the other side two ranks of soldiers, with their muskets on the ground, presenting hedges of bayonets to receive them, should they leap forward, they recoiled and descended.

Wearily with exertion, and benumbed with cold; exposed to a deadly fire from every quarter; their arms rendered useless by the snow which continued to fall, the soldiers sought refuge in the houses. Perceiving that all further attempts would be vain, Morgan gave the signal of retreat. Some of the men fled, but most were unwilling to encounter another tempest of shot. They refused, however, to yield, until assured of the fate of Montgomery, when, losing all hope of success and escape, they surrendered themselves prisoners of war.

The loss of the Americans, in this desperate enterprise, was above four hundred, of whom one hundred and fifty were killed.

The account placed side by side with the above was drawn up, as the respectable author of the HISTORY OF CANADA informs his readers, by an Officer of the garrison of Quebec, in the form of a journal of occurrences from day to day. It seems to have been written without any view to publication, and bears the impress of truth as much as any

thing we can well imagine. The account above is taken from a book composed in the way of competition for a prize of 400 dollars and a gold medal which was offered, in the year 1820, by the AMERICAN ACADEMY OF LANGUAGES AND BELLES-LETTRES for "the best written history of the United States" &c. "calculated for a class-book in academies and schools." Four works were submitted to the judges, and of these the one which contains the above had the prize awarded to it. Whether the judges had an eye to the accuracy of the work, or to the gratification it might afford to national vanity, may become a matter of question when the two narratives before the reader are compared with each other.—EDITOR.]

SIGHT RESTORED.

NERVOUS HEADACHE AND DEAFNESS CURED, BY THE USE OF GRIMSTONE'S EYE-SNUFF. Patronized by the ROYAL FAMILY OF GREAT BRITAIN. For its efficacy in removing Disorders incident to the EYES AND HEAD.

THE FOUNCERS, 14TH DEC., 1844. This Scientific Medical Reviewer made the following critique on GRIMSTONE'S EYE-SNUFF, demonstrating its powerful influence on those delicate organs, the Eye and Ear. GRIMSTONE'S EYE-SNUFF.—Perhaps there is no one thing that has effected so much good, and that in so pleasant a manner, as Grimstone's Eye-Snuff; and we are really surprised that it has not commanded more attention from the medical profession, for although we are aware that some eminent professors of the medical art have taken advantage of its usefulness, there are many who, however they might be convinced of its utility, prescribe it not because it is a simple remedy that might, on a future occasion, be resorted to without their aid. Independently of its usefulness in removing pains in the head and inflammations of the eye, it is a pleasant stimulus to the nose, so that those who use it combine pleasure with profit, and we can scarcely understand how snuff-takers can forego its advantages for compounds that in many cases possess only the recommendation of being foreign. We would recommend every one requiring its aid to try Mr. Grimstone's Snuff, and we feel convinced that they will be grateful to Mr. Grimstone for the talent he has displayed in forming his excellent compound, and to ourselves for calling their attention to it.

Other Testimonials can be seen. The Wholesale and Retail Agent for Canada has just received a fresh supply per Zealous. THOMAS BICKLILL, Grocer and Importer of China, Glass and Earthenware, St. John Street, Quebec. MONTREAL TYPE FOUNDRY.

TO THE PRINTERS AND PROPRIETORS OF NEWSPAPERS IN CANADA, NOVA SCOTIA, &c. &c. THE Undersigned having purchased the above Establishment, begs to solicit a continuance of the Patronage which has been heretofore so liberally bestowed upon him as Agent to the Foundry. Having revised and greatly added to the material, he can confidently recommend the Type now manufactured by him as equal to any manufactured on this Continent. The services of an experienced practical man, from New York, have been engaged in the mechanical department, and the Printers, in this City are confidently appealed to as to the beauty and quality of the Type cast in this Foundry. A specimen will be shortly issued, when the Proprietor will do himself the pleasure of waiting upon the Trade; in the meantime, he will be happy to see or hear from those inclined to give him their support. Old Type taken in Exchange at 6d. per Pound. Printers' Materials, and any article not manufactured in Montreal, brought in from New York at 20 per cent. in advance. CHAS. T. PALSGRAVE. June 12th, 1845.

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