

Joe swung one long leg over the platform-rail to accommodate passers-by, and remarked:

"I declare! Who'd thought I'd struck the Water Queen fus' time I came to Bos'n! There's old Simons, suckin' his pipe 'n' grumblin' I know—he could n't draw breath 'thout grumblin'! How are you, Simons?"

Joe laughed aloud as Simons turned, scanned the approaching train, and spoke to Johnson.

"Grumblin' again, cause he can't make me out," muttered Joe; "it's the style I'm got up in. There goes his pipe!—Cap'n Marsh is puttin' his head out o' the gangway like a wood-chuck out o' his hole,—he's beat too! They'd a knowed me a mile off in my old duds with my legs danglin' from the poorhouse wharf,—how times is changed!"

When the train was opposite the schooner, Joe hailed them with frantic demonstrations, despite the brakeman, who evidently thought him a little out of his head.

"It's me,—Joe Luscomb!" Then as they did not distinguish him or the words, he grasped the brake, "How does this thing work, Mister? Can't I haul her up a bit to see old friends?"

As this could not be done, Joe swung off at the next crossing, and rapidly retraced his way to the wharf where the Water Queen lay at anchor. He was soon among the "boys," receiving a warm welcome.

"We thought you'd settled among the hills for life, Joe," said Captain Marsh, "going to stay this way now?"

"Well, I-d-n'-know, sir,"—Joe doffed his cap as of old, but there was a sudden gravity on his face,—"Joe seems like a bit of 'rift-wood sometimes, when he gets despondent' and forgets what great things the Almighty has done for him! Cap'n," he asked, abruptly, "whatever 'come o' that 'ere boy,—Winfred Campbell,—what stole passage on this 'ere schooner?"

"The little chap that somebody sent off, making him a bit o' driftwood, too?"

The Captain's emphasis held a world of meaning. It hit Joe hard; he moved uneasily, crushing the cap in his hand.

"T'war for his good, sir, I done it, though my heart has misgiven me many a time since. Miss Hanlan, she writ me your message that the lad had another place, one you got him; and that he could n't be got to go to Mis' Sheaves."

The Captain told Joe where they left Winfred, and many of the principal events in his after history.

"Bless him!" murmured Joe. "Did you see him lately, sir?"

"We called there on our way up, but young Campbell was piloting somebody up the river."

"Well, well, who'd a thought that little timid shaver'd get to be a pilot!" exclaimed Joe. "I'd give suthin' to set eyes onto him again."

He hesitated, then said, clinching his cap:

"Say, Cap'n, after the trick I served ye—puttin' the boy aboard, unbeknownst—ye would n't let me work my passage down 'n' see him again, would ye?"

Captain Marsh had forgiven him for that long before. He was quite willing to take Joe. Johnson and the rest welcomed him warmly.

"We'll have a merry night in the fore-castle," said one, "it'll be better than going to the theatre to hear Joe's yarns."

The new gravity suddenly spread over Joe's face, hiding the pleasure he had shown at his kindly reception.

"I've a story to tell ye, lads, one that belongs to the sea; it's the adventures of the last o' a family, way up country—who left all to be a sailor," Joe looked at each man with an expression of tender doubt,—but it's not a very merry story, friends."

"We'll hear it anyway," said Johnson, breaking an awkward silence, for Joe's tones and changed appearance indicated a deep personal interest.

So, down in the hold of the Water Queen that night was an unwonted sight, the sailors listening in thoughtful silence to a story of sin, repentance, and pardon through Jesus Christ.

(To be continued.)

THE AFRICAN "FATHER OF WATERS."

The Congo, unlike most other great rivers, has no delta. When, by its own labours of erosion and deposition, its actual channel shall be so far obstructed as to make fresh means of exit desirable, they will no doubt be found, and the excavation of such auxiliary branches is even suspected as having already begun. But at present it discharges into the sea by a single, unbroken estuary, seven and one-half miles across, in which a sounding line of 200 fathoms does not everywhere touch bottom, and a current runs of five to seven knots an hour. The enormous volume of the outflow may, from this data, be imperfectly estimated; and, in point of fact, the Congo, although overmatched as regards the length of its course by more than one rival stream, stands second only to the Amazon for the unvarying copiousness of its waters. Capt. Burton places at the surprising figure of at least 2,500,000 cubic feet per second the volume of water borne by it; and the admitted and sober estimate is 2,000,000. Now the Mississippi, when at the height of its March flood, carries down no more than 1,150,000; it sinks in November to 228,000, and its mean discharge is 675,000 cubic feet a second; while the Ganges has less than a third of the contents of the giant stream of North America. Moreover, the Congo never runs low. It swells, indeed, and sinks, as the rainy and dry seasons succeed each other, but within a relatively narrow range of oscillation. Such extreme inequalities as are observed in the Nile and the Niger are here partially compensated by the alternating periods of affluents drawing their stores from opposite sides of the equator. At Boma, accordingly, the difference between the level of the river in January, when it is highest, and in August, when it is lowest, does not exceed four or five feet, though higher up, in the narrows, it may amount to twelve or even sixteen. This noble stream was first made known to Europe through the enterprise of a hardy Portuguese navigator. Diogo Cam, commissioned by Joao II. to

extend the scope and enhance the glory of his reign by maritime discovery, reached its mouth in 1484, and planted, in token of Portuguese supremacy, an inscribed column on its southern shore. The river (which has borne as many names as the Moon goddess) hence became known as the Rio de Padrao, or River of the Pillar. But in a chart of 1513 the name of the "Congo" (*Rio de Manicongo*) appeared, and has prevailed. It was derived from the then powerful and well-organized native kingdom of Congo. (*Mani-Congo* signifies "king" of Congo,) since disintegrated into a multitude of sordid chieftainships, through which the stream flowed to the sea. The euphonious appellation of the "Zaire"—a corruption of the local title *Nzad*, "river"—was first used by De Barros in his "Decades," (1552,) and was consecrated by the verse of Camoens:

"Alli o mui grande reino esta de Congo,
Por nobis ja convertida fê de Christo,
Por onde o Zaire passa claro e longo,
Rio pelos antigos nunca visto."

Within the last few years Mr. Stanley has endeavoured, but without success, to associate the Congo with the name and eminent services of Livingstone; while in its highest reaches—a striking testimony to the narrow circumscription of tribal horizons—its native designations rival in number and are frequently borrowed from those of its tributaries.—*The Edinburgh Review*.

AT SET OF SUN.

If we sit down at set of sun
And count the things that we have done,
And counting find
One self-denying act, one word
That eased the heart of him who heard;
One glance most kind
That fell like sunlight where it went—
Then we may count this day well spent.

But if through all the live-long day
We've eased no heart by yea or nay;
If through it all
We've done no thing that we can trace
That brought the sunshine to a face;
No act, most small,
That helped some soul, and nothing cost,
Then count that day as worse than lost.

—Ella Wheeler.

A GREAT GALA DAY.—A.D. 1393.

And now the great day arrived when Wykeham's work was sufficiently completed to allow of the first "seventy faithful boys" to be received within its walls. On March 28th, 1393, all the good folk of Winchester, both lay and clerical, assembled to witness the opening of the college and to see the little bands of scholars, headed by their master, come down from St. Giles's Hill, chanting psalms as they entered into possession of their promised land.

Since that time both dress and fashion have changed more than the stone walls, but standing in the almost unaltered quadrangle we can picture to ourselves the fourteenth century crowd who, partly from curiosity, partly from admiration of their bishop's work, would be pressing forward on that spring day to share in the proceeding—the poor in their rough untanned shoes, leathern breeches (galligaskins as they were called), and their smock frocks of russet or undyed wool; the richer citizens, though clad much in the same fashion, had finer material, whilst those in longer dresses looked much like the "Blue coat" scholars of our own day. Somewhat apart from the villeins and tradespeople stood the knights and nobles, decked in silk and velvet, their *cotte hardie* or tight-fitting vests (from the sleeves of which hung long strips of cloth) partly hidden by a bright coloured mantle fastened jauntily at the shoulder. A few had hats with feathers in them, that fashion having just come in; others wore small hoods tied under the chin and ornamented with jewels or gold. Below their parti-coloured hose their very conspicuous long shoes were noticeable, some with toes bending upward like the claws of a bird, and looped with chains of gold or silver to the knees, sadly impeding the movement of their owners.—*English Illustrated Magazine*, August.

EFFECTS OF TEMPERATURE.

The effects of temperature on men do not depend so much on the mean for the day, month, or year, as on the extremes, as when the days are hot and the nights comparatively cool the energy of the system becomes partially restored, so that a residence near the sea, or in the vicinity of high mountains, in hot climates, is other things being equal, less enervating than in the plains, as the night air is generally cooler. It is commonly believed that hot climates are necessarily injurious to Europeans, by causing frequent liver derangements and diseases, dysentery, cholera, and fevers. This, however, is, to a certain extent, a mistake, as the recent medical statistical returns of our army in India show that in the new barracks, with more careful supervision as regards diet and clothing, the sickness and death rates are much reduced. Planters and others, who ride about a good deal, as a rule keep in fairly good health; but the children of the Europeans certainly degenerate, and after two or three generations die out, unless they intermarry with natives and make frequent visits to colder climates. This fact shows that hot climates, probably by interfering with the performance of the various processes concerned in the formation and destruction of the bodily tissues, eventually sap the foundations of life among Europeans; but how far this result has been caused by bad habits as regards food, exercise, and self-indulgence I cannot say. Rapid changes of temperature in this country are often very injurious to the young, and old, causing diarrhoea and derangements of the liver when great heat occurs, and inflammatory diseases of the lungs, colds, etc., when the air becomes suddenly colder, even in summer.—*Nature*.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

It is estimated that at least \$800,000 was contributed last year by the women of America to carry the truth to the benighted women of heathen lands.

THERE are about 50,000 Italians in New York. Most of them speak the English language. New York also has about 40,000 persons who live by gambling.

THE Revised Old Testament is now ready for publication. Twelve of the twenty-seven members of the revision committee have died before completing the work.

IN a census taken in April last, the population of Athens, Greece, is shown to be 84,903, which is 18,069 more than was the population in 1829, the date of the last census.

PASTOR Cadot, the Baptist minister at Chauny, has transformed a dancing saloon at Noyon, Calvin's birth-place, into a place of worship, and is holding services there.

LOCUSTS are reported to have destroyed the crops in Southern Mexico and Yucatan. Thousands of families will have to depend on their governments for support in consequence.

THE Minister of Worship in Italy has appointed Signor Rafael Mariano, an ex-priest and a Protestant convert, to the chair of Ecclesiastical History in the University of Naples.

PROF J. BRUCE HALSTEAD, of Princeton College, has accepted the Senior Professorship of Mathematics, with a salary of four thousand dollars a year, at the University of Texas.

A PARISIAN marchioness has taken service in a Marseilles hospital as a nurse for the cholera victims: she is pretty and young, dresses in plain calico, and has been very useful. She is fulfilling a vow made during the illness of one of her children.

A PARSEE girl has astonished her race in India by bringing a suit for breach of promise of marriage. It is the first instance of the kind known in that land, and it has created a great scandal.

THE communicants within the bounds of Langholm Established Presbytery, Scotland, increased in the ten years ending in 1881 by 52.9 per cent., whereas the population only increased by 3.7.

THE German Evangelical Tract Society, of Berlin, has a membership of nearly 8,000, and an annual income of about \$8,000. During the year 1883, about 600,000 tracts were gratuitously distributed.

THE Congregationalists of Great Britain have in hand a Jubilee Fund. At last reports it had reached \$1,525,000. The British Christians of all denominations seem well educated in the religion of giving.

THE French government has granted a constitution to the Evangelical church of Tahiti, which means that the church will be allowed to manage its own internal affairs without the interference of local magistrates.

SIX millions of people are estimated to have died of starvation in India during the last seven years. The soil destined for their support was employed in raising opium, with which to kill sixteen millions of Chinese.

HENRY M. STANLEY expresses the belief that the Congo Free State will soon be recognized by all the Powers, and will become a great federation of native chiefs, controlled by a commission of Americans and Europeans.

THE movement for the abolition of slavery in Brazil, which has long been advancing in a very tardy fashion, seems now likely to become accelerated. The province of Amazonas was, on the 10th of July, formally declared free from slavery.

REV. MR. MUNRO, Reay, has withdrawn his resignation, as he has been informed that "many parties in the Church" who sympathise with him intend to adopt "resolute action to oppose every departure from the principles of the Free Church as at the Disruption."

THE Salvation Army has 749 corps at home and 191 abroad; 444 corps of children. In Great Britain and Ireland it has 846 buildings, with seating capacity for 560,000, and buildings abroad with capacity for 190,000 sittings. Thirteen languages are used in their meetings.

MR. MOODY's co-workers in London presented him, the night before his departure, with a splendid clock, striking the Westminster chimes on gongs. The presentation was made at the Hon. Mr. Kinnaird's house, and Lord and Lady Aberdeen were of the company assembled on the occasion.

THE City of Rome has probably a greater proportion of ecclesiastics among its people than any other city in the world. Among its 180,357 inhabitants there are, besides the Pope and his cardinals, thirty-four bishops, 1,333 priests, 2,404 monks, 1,872 members of various orders, 2,700 nuns, and 850 lay brethren.

LORD GRANVILLE is about to erect a monument at Ebb's Fleet, on the Isle of Thanet, county of Kent, in commemoration of the landing there of Augustine on his mission to England in the sixth century. This interesting historical memorial will consist of a reproduction of one of the famous Saxon crosses at Sandbach, near Crewe, and stands twelve feet in height.

SCOTLAND'S "harvest of the sea" for the past year is estimated at £3,286,242. The larger portion, a little over two millions sterling, is derived from the herring fishery, which has for a long period been the most important fishery in the country. The haddock caught were valued at £340,693, and the total value of the shell-fish is put at £82,945. The oyster beds have largely fallen off in productiveness.

IN cosmopolitanism New York takes the lead. In club houses the following countries are represented: Japan, China, Cochín China, Turkey, Russia, Norway, Sweden, Malacca, Hungary, England, Ireland, Wales, Scotland, Prussia, Austria, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Switzerland, Greece, Holland, Belgium, Brazil, Mexico, Poland, and Cuba.