THE APOSTOLIC VISIT. (From "Scenes on the Lake of Tiberias," in the Maple Leaf.)

It was the year 96, after sentence of banishment had been superseded by the just and humane Nerva, in favour of the Christian exiles. Jerusalem had been captured, and the nationality of the Hebrew was on the point of extinction. On a quiet summer's eve in that year, two men of very unequal ages-one of whom had attained nearly a century, the other not more than a generation-stood upon the western shore of the lake, at no great distance from Tiberias. Sadly they gazed upon the traces of war still visible around them. Their attire indicated that they belonged to the Christian Priesthood. In order they were equal, for both were bishops in the primitive Church of Christ; yet -though occupying the same spiritual office-they stood in the relation of master and pupil: the scholar was Polycarp-his tutor, the Apostle and Evangelist

Eleven of the Apostolic thrones, surrounding the Son of God in heaven, had been filled: the twelfth was waiting the departure of him who was now bending his eyes in thoughtful contemplation upon the water so often crossed—once through the perils of a storm-in the company of the Saviour of mankind .-Whilst he was thus absorbed in devotional musings, his thoughts doubtless turned to those fellow-labourers who had gone before him; for, raising his hand, he pointed out to his companion one of the spots on the other side, which had been consecrated by the presence of the Son of Man-accompanying the action with

these words: There it was, Polycarp, that our Divine Master spake unto Peter that prediction concerning me, which thou hast before heard from my own lips. At first that prophetic saying was to me as dark as to others; but the Spirit of the Holy One hath enlightened my mind as to its meaning. I have waited its fulfilment through scenes and tales of woe. In spirit have I seen the Messiah come to destroy unfaithful and apostate

"If these places," said Polycarp, who wished to turn his aged friend's attention to those sacred recollections, the recital of which afforded him peculiar the door, and my husband sprang out. His first ex- which had lain upon the boy's breast. "He has seen delight,-"If these places be holy and dear to me and to all that are 'in the Lord,' how great must be thy joy to revisit the consecrated ground where thou hast walked even with the Son of God."

"Over against us," replied the Apostle, pointing out a particular spot on the other side; "Yonder, on the height which still seems green-'for there was much grass in the place'-He who wrought miracles by his own power, blessed the few loves and fishes, and they sufficed for the wants of a great multitude. Above us is Capernaum, where he told the same multitude, who had come to seek Him, that He was 'the bread of life.' There, too, you may see the country of and where 'the herd of swine ran down a steep place into the sea,' (for you perceive that the shores of this

canst thou tell me what shall be hereafter?"

eve had been miraculously strengthened to behold.— we had taken different paths on some part of the jour- chokingly. "When the bottomless pit was opened to my sight, ney. and from the smoke thereof proceeded God's avenging been disclosed to me; yet surely God will raise again the Cross of Christ, and Israel shall be restored .-Content with this knowledge, let us leave this place departed; the Teacher, to "sink to the grave with unperceived decay," the Pupil to win his crown through martyrdom of fire.

THE FRUITS OF EQUIVOCATION. (From the West Jerseyman.)

"Oh! what a tangled web we weave, When first we practice to deceive

I was married while young, to a man of my choice, and how happily my married life was, I can hardly bear to think. Mr. Percy was ---: but no matter, I must not venture to give words to my full heart.

We lived in London. My husband's profession made a city residence almost necessary, and confined him very close to his office. But what signified this? There are happy hearts, and unspeakable enjoyments. in the closest and most crowded streets of a city, and ours was a happy home.

For ten years after our marriage we had never left London, except for an occasional days recreation.-Would that we had never thought of leaving it. But at that time we had two children-boys; and I, foolish as I was, thought that they were delicate-that they pined for fresh country air. I said so, and urged my husband; for he, too, I thought, was wearing himself away by keeping himself so close to his office. I urged him to retreat from business and London for a few weeks, and take us all in the country for a change of air. I had never proposed any plan to which Mr. Percy was not willing to accede, and he now took pains to gratify me. He could not leave London entirely, he said, but he would look out for a cottage a few miles in the country, to which I might take the boys, and he would come and see us as often as possible.

Well, we went into the country; 1 and my children. It was a pleasant village (at least I thought it pleasant then), about eight miles from our Loudon home, and two or three times a week my husband left business early in the afternoon to spend the evening with us, and returned early next day.

One day-oh! I never shall forget that day-I received a note from a friend who lived three or four miles from our cottage, inviting me to spend the day with her. That friend was the mother of our dear Lucy - I determined to go; and after the lunch with my boys I prepared for the walk. I preferred walking there, and my friend had engaged to see me home at night in her carriage. I had no expectation that my husband would visit us that day. Indeed I believed it impossible that he could, as I knew he had an appointment to keep with some committee that

I had given directions to my servant, and told her that I should not return till late, but had not said whither I was going, and was leaving the door of our go apart by himself and weep. He never complained cottage, when my youngest boy (a dear little fellow not of his lot, though his companions imposed on him conquite five years old) ran up to me and asked-

" Mother, where are you going?" I evaded the question! for I feared the boys would wish to go with me, if I should mention the name of Mrs. ____, and I had made up my mind to go alone.

* The Saracens, who were celebrated for their agile Lorsemanship and effective cavalry, wore turbans or mitres—manly, as to the appearance of their beards, but having the hair of their beads flowing and plaited like women.

and put the question in another way. "Are you go- therefore, that I leaped to my feeting to London to see father?"

Unguardedly, thoughtlessly, and yet, oh how crimilis not dying?" nally, I answered, "Yes, yes, to be sure; I am going to London." Little did I anticipate the train of sadly, "that he cannot live till morning." iseries which followed on that answer. How could I.

More than once during my walk the thought ob- with remorse. "Lead me to him!" truded itself that I had deceived my children, and I felt ill at ease. Had I even then listened to the re- asks for you, sir;" and as the man spoke, we stood proofs of conscience, foregone my anticipated plea- beside the bedside of the dying boy. ure, and returned to undeceive them, all would have been well. But I quieted myself with some wretched it was hung in the very midst of the crew, and the London, but not to-day, I did not say I was going to- | ried under the open hatchway, and laid there in a lit-

enjoyed in this world, or shall enjoy even though I motion, while the clear, calm blue sky, seen through live a hundred years, and I then returned. It was the opening overhead, and dotted with myriads of about nine o'clock. I found my boys out of their beds, stars, betokened that the fog had broken away. and the first question they put to me was,

"Did father find you?" mean? and why are you not in bed?" I replied.

at the cottage about an hour after I had left it, and the lap of an old veteran, he lay in an unquiet slum-

waiting for refreshment or rest, returned, leaving word suffered the greatest agony. that he would be back with me, and that our boys A battle-trained and grayhaired seaman stood bemight sit up till we came, if it were not very late.

account which related to my deception. I could un- felt with his finger upon the boy's pulse. As I apderstand that, alas, too well. But as to why Mr. Percy had come so early in the day or how he could have come at all, I could not understand-or why he tears gathered too chokingly in his eyes. should be so anxious to see me.

I did not wait long in suspense. The sound of clamation was one of thankfulness that he had at length | better days." found me. His first question was, "Dear wife, where have you been?"

My account was soon given. "But," said he "the boys told me that you had gone to London,"

"Oh," I said, "that was a mistake." "But mother," interposed Henry, our eldest boy,

you did say you were going to London." I did not reply, for I saw that my husband looked terribly fatigued, and very anxious, and I busied myself in doing something for comfort, and then put the boys to bed.

And then came my husband's explanation. He, the Gergesenes, where evil spirits confessed his might; too, received a letter, that fatal morning, of far more importance than mine-a letter that he thought required my consideration, as well as his own, and setlake are steep the whole way round), 'and perished in ting aside all other business, he hastened to consult the waters;' and not far from us, on this side, is Mag- me. There was no available mode of conveyance to dala, where she lived who, though her sins were great, the village at that time unless he had chosen to hire a was forgiven, 'because she loved much.' Before us, coach, and had there been perhaps he would have preupon the waters now so still, the boat which carried ferred walking. At all events, he did walk, and that the Lord of life, was tossed by one of those tempests, hastily. It was a hot summer's day, but this would which I have known often to rush down suddenly from not so much have mattered, had he found me at the the mountains, and cause great fear and danger to the cottage, or even had he known certainly where I was find in my trunk. It's a small offering, I know, but Galilean fishermen. But see, the sun is almost hid- to be found. Even if I had left no message as to it's all I have." den behind Carmel's steep, and the dews of night are whither I was going, no harm might have arisen, for falling fast,—chill and heavy as when they descended then he would have thought of our friend —, and on the Man of Sorrows in His midnight prayers. We have sought me at her house. But my unhappy, my wicked deceit. Oh! it was that did all the mischief. "One word more, honoured master, and I go with The instant he was told that I had received a letter Thou hast been favoured with a near view of and had almost immediately after started for London, heaven, and with wondrous revealings of the future. he became troubled, anxious lest some bad news had Thou hast described the past history of these places: arrived from a quarter unknown to him, and hurried only, if it is possible, let me be buried by my mother back still more hastily than he had walked from Lon-The Apostle's aged form shook with strong emo- don, hoping to reach the city as soon myself. He my trunk." tion, as he thought of the unearthly sights which his wondered that we had not met; but it was possible

When my husband reached London he found himarmies, I saw them pass over these places, and 'tor- self exhausted and unwell with the very hot, long and were fixed on the stars flickering in that patch of blue ment those men which had not the seal of God in their fatiguing walk; and he became nervously excited sky overhead. His mind wandered. foreheads: they were 'like unto horses prepared unto when he found that I had not reached home before battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns him. He waited impatiently for some time, too much like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men; disturbed both by the pressing business which had I would meet her there. How near they come, and I and they had hair as the hair of women.'* Even now caused his unexpected visit, and by my unaccountable do I see them trampling the Cross and slaying the absence, to take the refreshment he so much needed. angels of the Churches.' More than this hath not After waiting for some time in great and increasing suspense, he went to another of our London friends, imagining the possibility of my being found therenothing doubting the reality of my journey to London. -thou for Smyrna, I for Ephesus." And so they How was he to doubt it? he asked. Had I not explicitly told our boys that I was going thither? and had I ever deceived him or them?

At length distressed beyond measure by the joint effects of disappointed anxiety, business engagements, and bodily fatigue and sickness, my husband once more reached his office, and finding that I did not make my appearance, determined to take a coach, and returned to the cottage with the vague hope that he had misunderstood me. Thus ended this terrible day terrible at least in its consequences.

I must pass over, continued Mrs. Percy, the remainder of my history as briefly as I can.-I dare not dwell upon it.

That night, instead of enjoying the rest he so much needed, my husband complained of pain and weariness. The following day his sufferings increased; we sent for a physician. It was putrid fever. The infection FASHIONABLE TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT might have been taken from the coach in which Mr. Percy travelled. We never ascertained whether or not it was so. But were this the case or not, mine was the guilt, and mine has been the punishment .-My husband died! Poor little Willy was the next victim, and then his brother. In less than a month from the day of that vile falsehood, I had neither husband nor son.

> THE ORPHAN BOY. (From the National Intelligencer.)

"He faded, yet so calm and meek, So gently wan, so sweetly weak.

The bustle of the fight was over; the prisoners had been secured, and the decks washed down, the hands piped below, and the schooner had once more relapsed into midnight quiet and repose. I sought my hammock and soon fell asleep. But my slumbers were disturbed by wild dreams, which, like the visions of a fever, agitated and unnerved me; the late strife, the hardships of my early life, and a thousand other things mingled together as figures on a phantasmagoria. Suddenly a hand was laid on my shoulder, and start-

ing up I beheld the surgeon's mate. "Little Dick, sir, is dying," said he. At once I sprang from my hammock. Little Dick was a sort of protege of mine. He was a pale, delicate child, said to be an orphan, and used to nature; and from the first hour I joined the schooner, my heart yearned for him: for I, too, had once been friendless and alone in the world. He had often superior style. talked to me, in confidence, of his mother, whose memory he regarded with holy reverence, while to the other boys of the ship he had little to say; for they were rude and coarse, he delicate and sensitive. Often when they jeered at him for his melancholy, he would tinually. Poor lad! his heart was in the grave with

his lost parents. I took a strange interest in him, and had lightened I had owed my life to him, for he rushed in just as a sabre stroke was levelled at the rushed in just as a style, and on terms that cannot fail to give satisfaction. sabre stroke was levelled at me; and by interposing his feeble cutlass had averted the deadly blow. In the hurry and confusion since, I had quite forgotten the hurry and confusion since, I had quite forgotten to inquire if he was hurt, though, at the time, I inToronto, June 9th, 1847.

But Willy clung to my hand, and in his winning wardly resolved to use all my little influence to proway said, "You must not go, mother, without telling cure him a midshipman's warrant in requital for his me where you are going." And his brother ran out service. It was with a pang of reproachful agony, "My God!" I exclaimed, "you don't mean it? He

"I fear sir," said the messenger, shaking his head

"And I have been lying idle here!" I exclaimed

"He is delirious, but in the intervals of lunacy he

The sufferer did not lie in his usual hammock, for ophistry-I have not told an untruth-I am going to close air around was too stifling; but had been cartle open space of about four feet square. From the I had my pleasure—the last day of pleasure I ever sound of the ripples, I judged the schooner was in

How calm it smiled down on the face of the dying boy. Occasionally a light current of wind-oh! how "Father find me. Father find me? What do deliciously cool and refreshing in that pent up holdeddied down the hatchway, and lifted the dark chest-The story was soon told. My husband had arrived nut locks of the sufferer, as, with his head reposing in was told that I had gone to London; that I was walk- ber. His shirt-collar was unbuttoned, and his child-

ing thither even then; that I had received a letter ish bosom was open and exposed. He breathed that morning which I put into my pocket, and that I quick and heavily. The wound of which he was dyseemed in a great hurry to go after the letter came. ing had been intensely painful, but within the last On hearing this, my husband, according to our ser- half hour, had somewhat lulled, though even now his A Savings Bank for the Benefit of the Widow & Orphan vant's account seemed troubled, and instantly, without thin fingers tightly grasping the bedclothes, as if he

side him, holding a dull lantern in his hand, gazing All was mysterious to me except that part of the sorrowfully down upon the sufferer. The surgeon proached they all looked up. The veteran who held him shook his head, and would have spoken, but the

The surgeon said-"He is going fast-poor little fellow-do you see wheels was soon heard—a hackney coach drew up to this?" as he spoke he lifted up a rich gold locket,

I could not answer for my heart was full-here was the being to whom, but a few hours before I had owed my life-a poor, slight, unprotected child-lying before me, with death already written on his brow-and yet I had never sought him out after the conflict. How bitterly my heart reproached me in that hour. They noticed my agitation, and his old friend-the seaman that held up his head-said sadly,

"Poor little Dick-you'll never see the shore you have wished for so long. But there'll be more than one, when your log's out"-he spoke with emotion-"to mourn over you."

Suddenly the little fellow opened his eyes, and looked vacantly around. "Has he come yet?" he asked, in a low voice.

Why don't he come ?" "I am here," said I, taking the little fellow's hand, don't you know me, Dick ?" He smiled faintly in my face. He then said,

"You have been kind to me, sir-kinder than most people to a poor orphan boy. I have no way to show my gratitude-unless you will take the Bible you will

I burst into tears; he resumed, "Doctor, I am dying, ain't I?" said the little fellow, "for my sight grows dim. God bless you, Mr. Darnforth.

"Can I do nothing for you, Dick?" said I; "you saved my life. I would coin my blood to buy yours." "I have nothing to ask-I don't want to live--you will find the name of the place, and all of it in

"Anything - everything my lad," I answered, The little fellow smiled faintly-it was like an angel's smile-but he did not answer. His eyes

"It's a long-long way up there-but there are bright angels among them. Mother used to say that can see sweet faces smiling on me from among them. Hark! is that music?" and lifting his finger, he seemed listening for a moment. He fell back, and the old veteran burst into tears. The child was dead.

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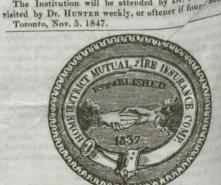
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