Sacredness of a Promise.

An eminent British statesman is said to have traced his own sense of the sacred-ness of a promise to a curious lesson he got from his father when he was a boy. When home for his holidays, and walking with his father in the garden, his father pointed to a wall which he intended to have pulled down.
"O," said the boy, "I should so like to

see a wall pulled down." "Well, my boy, you shall," said his fa

The thing, however, escaped his memory, and during the boy's absence, a number of improvements were being made, amongst others the pulling down of this wall, and the building of a new one in its place.
When the boy came home and saw it, he

said:
"O, father, you promised to let me see that wall pulled down."
Instantly the father remembered his promise, and was deeply pained to think that he had been careless about his plighted

"My boy," he said, "you are right. I did promise, and I ought not to have for-

did promise, and I ought not to have forgotten. It is too late now to do just what Isad I would, but you wanted to see a wall pulled down, and so you shall."

And he actually ordered the masons up and made them pull down and rebuild the new wall, that as nearly as possible his promise might be made good.

"It cost me twenty pounds," he said to a friend who was bantering him about it, "but," he added solemnly, " if it had cost me a hundred, I should have thought it as

"but," he added solemnly, "It it had cost me a hundred, I should have thought it a cheap way of impressing upon my boy's mind, as long as he lives, the importance a man of honour should attach to his plighted word."

The Gospel.

The Gospel gloomy! It is an anthem from the harps of heaven, the music of the river of life washing its shores on high and pouring in cascades upon the earth.
Not so cheerful the song of the morning
stars, nor the shouts of the sons of God so
joyful. Guehing from the fountains of
eternal harmony, it was the first heard on earth in a low tone of solemn gladness, utered in Eden by the Lord God Himself. This gave the key-note of Gospel song. Patriarchs caught it up, and taught it to the generations following. It is breathed from the harp of the Psalmist, and rang like a clarion from tower to mountain-top as ike s'clarion from tower to mountain top as prophets proclaimed the year of jubilee. Fresh notes from heaven have enriched the harmony, as the Lord of hosts and His angels have revealed promises and called on the suffering children of Zion to be joyful in their King. From bondage and calle, from dens and caves, from bloody fields, and fiery stakes, and peaceful death-beds, have they answered in forces which cheered the disconsolate and made oppresors shake upon their thrones, while sun and moon, and all the stars of light, stormy wind fulfilling His Word, the rearing sea and the fulness thereof, mountains and hills, fruitful fields, and all the trees of the wood have rejoiced before the Lord, and the coming of His annointed, for the re-demption of His people and the glory of His holy name. — Dr. Hodge.

The Evangelical Movement in Italy.

"What, we may ask, was the course which it would have been wise for the which it would have been wise for the churches of this and other countries to have pursued with regard to the evangelization of Italy? The opportunity was a grand and almost unprecedented one for demonstrating to the Romish Church, which has always boasted of the Church and the countries of the Church with the state of the church wit its unity, the real unity of the Church of Christ. Had the various Christian denominations agreed to co-operate in a hearty support of the Waldensian and Free Christian Churches in a strenous endeavour to destroy the 'root of bitterness' that has sprung up between them, and that tends these two communions rivals Miher than fellow-workers in the common cause, the Roman Catholic Church might have been compelled to acknowledge that the divisions existing among Protestants are of minor significance compared with of the land. Native jealousies and sus-picions have thus been fostered. The People have been unable to perceive the printual unity of Protestantism as opposed to the factitious but imposing external unity of Roman Catholicism. The formation of denominational missions has also broved a great hindrance to the exercise of cturch discipline, the rejected of one com-munity being only too readily welcomed into the ranks of another. These sectarian divisions are most numerous in the city of Rome, the very place beyond all others where they should have been most carefully avoided. A united prayer-meeting is held every week, and is attended by trapelists and members of the various missions; but such a gathering does but little to mitigate the evils arising from the little to mitigate the evils arising from the tristence of a number of parties with different names and different methods of thurch order and discipline. Why try to etablish Methodism in Rome, or why, if this must be done, should not English and American Methodists work together? Ent no cash party must have its own mis-But no, each party must have its own mis-sion. Again, why try to make all Romary believe that baptism by immersion is the only Scriptural mode, or, if this must be done, it cannot surely be necessary to set up separate churches, or to proclaim as the American Baptists do that this particular method is almost essential to salvation.
Rach of these denominations doubtless draws some souls to the Saviour. Still, we must confess to a feeling of disappointment when we remember the marvellous, and one might almost say sudden removal of the barriers which prevented the entance of light, and when we contemplate the actual appearance of this part of the mission-field. The scandal is humiliating."

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Congregationalist. NOME can enter by the heavenly gate bove who do not enter by the narrow gate blow. Thou Shalt Not Steal-

Don't be alarmed, dear readers of the Basar. I am not a clorgyman in disguise. I do not propose delivering my views upon the cardinal virtues, nor speculating upon the possible approach of the end of the world. I merely wish to ask you why it is that people who in every other respect are strictly conscientious have absolutely no

this commandment.

I do not allude to thests on an audacious and grand scale, but to something infinitely more vexing—borrowing, by your friends, your books and music for an unlimited number of years, or forever, as best suits them.

Have people entirely stilled their consciences on this subject? I am sure we are all taught in childhood that

"It is a sin To steal a pin."

How much worse, then, to appropriate a book! I speak with feeling, having lost at least half of a valuable library of books and music, including some European publications that can not easily be replaced in this

country.

I will not allude to such trifles as paper. covered novels; when I lend them, it is with my eyes opened to the fact that I shall never see them again, and seldom am I mistaken. I have now arrived at such a point of despair that I have my name printed upon any book I especially value, and propose for the future to embellish the fly-leaves with the time-honored rhyme:

"Take not this book For fear of shame. For hear you see The owner's name."

A friend of mine possesses a very extensive library, chiefly of fiction. I asked her once how many volumes she usually lost per annum. "Seldomone," she said, "for every book on my shelves is numbered, and when I load one I with it down in my when I lend one I write it down in my catalogue with the name and address of the party in possession of it. After a reason-able lapse of time, if the book is not returned, I send for it."

I have not yet had the time nor the patience to catalogue my library, and doubt much if I should have the moral courage of my friend to send boldly after the abitation of the second se stracted volumes: I presume, therefore, it will be my fate to suffer for the rest of my life.

I have, or had, certain books that I need constantly for reference, and such as I should never think of asking anyone to lend me; I should as soon think of request-ing the loan of the family Bible. These volumes, however, possess peculiar fascina-tion for some of my friends, and one was kept so long that in despair, I decided that Miss — was writing an article on the same subject that I had in contemplation.

Horace Greely once wrote in a presenta-tion copy of some author: "I deem it quite as exceptionable in one to ask the loan of a book as of a man's hat, coat, or

any other necessary article of clothing."

When a book is returned to me it is usually, if unbound, bereft of its paper cover; if the cover is too substantial for easy destruction, some of the leaves are missing or loosened. I well remember lending an elegantly bound and illustrated copy of the Sketch Book to a very intellectual German gentleman. Strange to say, he returned the book, accompanied by warm proless of the citle attackling.

warm praises of the style, etc., adding:
"You will excuse me, that in the enthusiasm of the moment I ventured to mark a few passages that particularly impressed

me."
What could I do but patiently smile at an act of vandalism that I would not have tolerated from a member of my own family? This man, who was almost a stranger to me, had literally destroyed (for me) a great portion of this choice volume. I possess some books so precious that I scarce can bear to have them touched by other hands, and to have entire pages covered with rough dashes of the pencil was really too much for my patience. It was quite as hard as to say cheerfully, "Never mind," when a clumsy foot destroys one's dress at a ball.

As for music, I should not dare to estimate the amount I have spent in replacing the songs and piano forte pieces that my dear friends have borrowed, they having chosen to retain them altogether, or to rethe truths of the Gospel which it is the aim of all to proclaim. Instead of this, the cld course has been pursued. Various sections of the church have deemed it their day to rend their agonts to take possession of the land. Native ical procession of the land. imagine any one borrowing. I think, however, that all other injuries sink into significance before this one: when your most intimate friend borrows "this lovely piece," or "that sweet song," keeps it long enough to learn it thoroughly, then fetches it back embellished with her fingering or breathing places—of course, very different from yours —and calmly performs it to an admiring andience at your "kettle-drum" or soirce chantante. Words fail me to do justice to this circumstance. I am uncertain whether for the future to boldly perjure myself, when asked to lond a piece, by saying that I have it not, or to run the risk of being called "selfien and mean" by frankly owning that I can no longer afford to lend my music.—Harper's Bazar.

> THE Queen's Balmoral estate covers 25, 350 acres, and is of the gross annual value of £2,392 16s. The Prince of Walss has an estate at Ballater containing 5,801 acres, of the annual value of £816 12s.

> DR. McDonald, representative of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria, Australia, reported to the Scotch Kirk General Assembly that in that Church the lowest stipened was \$1,500 and a manse.

> A couple of English missionaries, Messrs. McFarlane and Lawes, began the first real Protestant mission work in New Guinea about two years ago. They have been assisted by sixteen South Sea Island teachers, and report eight stations ocoupied.

A BLESSING not in disguise is a church debt, if a writer in the Independent can be believed. He says, "We have a debt on our church. It has been there for a long time. It will doubtless be there for a long time to come. When we are asked to contribute to any object, we refer to the debt. It has thus saved us a great deal of money—more than the debt; itself, many times over." The Blessing of Good Wives.

"No companion so valuable and safe can a man have as a discreet and godly wife. It is her province and care to make her home nest and attractive in appearance, genial, sweet, and healthy in atmosphero—the place to which her husband shall turn with glad and longing heart. It is her aim to be in person and manner so engaging, in the state of social terms of the state of t spirits so fresh, in affection so genuine and true, in thought so elevated and pure, that the shall seek her companionship with never-failing zeal and joy. And it is by such companionship that a sweet and refined woman moulds and fashions her husband to a grace and worth to him attainable in no other way. Her delicate sensibility seizes upon and unconsciously elevates his esthetic nature. He grows up towards her standard of good taste. The purity of her thought abashes his vulgarity. The gentle-ness of her spirit woos the slumbering nobility of his nature to the forefront of life, and makes him great in the strength of manly tenderness. Her piety, more simple, trustful and steadfast than his, sweetly holds him to truth, to duty, and to God. Her grace of manner gently smooths away his masculine roughness and angularity. A most mighty wielder of the moral pruning knife is a judicious wife. One by one, ec-centricties and rudnesses from the outer life, excrescences and vicious growths from the inner life, are cut away, until the man, in character and conduct, is rounded and complete."—The Monday Club.

A Sign of the Times.

Dr. Wallace, Professor of Church History in Edinburgh University, and minister of Old Greyfriars, has resigned his position, to take the editorial chair of the Scotsman. The London Globe considers this appointment one of those circumstances which bring to mind with peculiar force the posi-tion attained by the periodical Press amongst the world's teaching agencies, and the revolution it has brought about in the status of the pulpit. There is no abatement of the claims put forward by the pulpit in relation to the highest spiritual con-cerns of humanity, and with these the newspaper does not presume—at least ostensibly—to meddle; but there is an al-most infinite range of subjects of every day interest, with which the pulpit used to deal more or less indirector, but which deal, more or less indirectly, but which have in these times passed over to the direction of the journalist. It is no un-common thing for clergymen—as for barristers, men of science, responsible officials of the State, and even for men who are to have been advisers of the crown—to use the press as a vehicle for the communication of their thoughts to society at large, often more effective for their purpose than the ordinary and readier means of their proper professions. But it is unusual for an ecclesiastic, eminent in his calling, popular and successful in his public ministry, and entrusted with scholarly duties in an importent university, to surrender all these advantages for the sake of assuming the onerous functions of a newspaper editor. The man who has that within him which he must say, is driven with the force of destiny to the daily press; and Dr. Wallace is not far from the truth if he believes that the occupant of the editorial desk of the Scotsman may exercise even greater power over the mind of his country power over the mind of his country— though he will have to forego the adulation of admiring audiences and to sink his personality in his work—than the incum-bent of a popular church and a successful university chair.-London Advertiser.

FIFTEEN years ago there were only sixteen thousand Jews in Paris. There are now over fifty thousand.

As a result of Messrs. Moody & Sankey's services in Dublin eighteen months ago an effort is being made by evangelical Chriserect a hall which may be made the centre of united effort in the evangilization of Ireland. tians of all denominations in that city to

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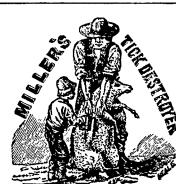
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a friend who is a sufferer, he will do a humane act by
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PHILLAPRIPHIA, Juna 25th, 1857
SETH HANCE, Baltimer, Alt. Down Fir. Nothing Your adveitisement, i was middeed to try your fer beefing your five shields it was mixed with highery in July 1853. Immediately my physician was summoned, but the could give me no relief. I then consulted another physician, but is seemed to grow worse. I then treed the treatment of another, but without any good effect. I again returned to my family physician is was cupped and the deserted different times. It was consulted without any premonitory sympatics in the property of the seement of the seement of the property of the seement of the

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was by my persuasion that Mr. Lyon tried your Pills,
list case was a very bad one; he had fits nearly at his
life. Persons have written to me from Alabama and
The man was a very bad one; he had fits nearly at his
life. Persons have written to me from Alabama and
The man was a very believed, for the purpose of ascertaintage on the subject, for the purpose of ascertainrecommended them, and the your Pills.

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