

## THE LESSON OF CONTENT.

Never fret yourself to see  
All the things that others have,  
Take your lot contentedly.  
It is better to be brave,  
Cheerful, self-reliant, strong,  
Craving naught by God denied,  
Than to join the restless throng  
Sated, yet unsatisfied.

Never fret yourself to do  
More than lies within your power;  
Let your work be always true.  
Steady, patient, hour by hour,  
It is better far to build  
Good foundations, slow and sure,  
Than to rear in haste unskilled  
Towers, whose strength is insecure.

## TALES OF HORROR.

While we are sitting calmly and peacefully in our homes, the while listless and lukewarm in our religious duties, our fellow Christians in Armenia are suffering horrible atrocities, persecutions and massacres by the Turks.

In one city alone five hundred Christians were murdered at one time, their only means of escape being acceptance of the Mohammedan religion.

Fresh tales of horror daily reach us. In the provinces of Harport and Diabekur alone eight thousand houses have been burned, and more than fifteen thousand Christians murdered. One Bishop, MarGauriel, a very learned priest, and twelve companions were recently slaughtered while on their way to visit their Patriarch.

These people suffered a real martyrdom; for if they had sacrificed their faith they would have been spared.

When we read of these terrible persecutions, we can only thank the dear Lord that we have such manifold blessings, and pray for the protection and relief of our poor, sorrowing fellow-Christians of the Orient.

## A TOUCHING INCIDENT.

I think you will find in this little scrap, matter for thoughtful people, sane people, Christian people, to consider.

The Lunatic Asylum is now on Ward's Island. The following is taken from my records of 1878, while I was in charge:

"A beautiful and touching incident I saw to-day in the Asylum. I noticed an old lady, propped up by pillows, who seemed very feeble. She was pale and sad, and was quite uneasy and restless. At her side stood a German woman about thirty five years of age, leaning back against the wall, and busily engaged in the little attentions which a careful nurse is wont to pay to the sick.

She passed her hand gently over her brow, smoothed down her white hair, adjusted her pillow, passed her

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arm gently around her and raised her up, then laid her back upon her pillow."

"All through the day, from early morn till night, she continued this labor, constant and faithful, as few children could or would perform. Yet she was a lunatic, nursing a lunatic. And what was the inspiring motive? Nothing more nor less than this: She fancied this old, white-haired woman to be her own mother."

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## A CAT'S FUNERAL AS CONDUCTED BY A DOG,

"Every one has observed instances of affection between those proverbially hostile animals, the dog and the cat," says "The American Naturalist" (February), "but a case cited by I' Elevuer merits special attention. A dog and a cat belonging to the same master were the best friends in the world and spent their time in frolicking together.

One day while playing as usual, the cat died suddenly, falling at the dog's feet. The latter, at first, did not realize what had happened, but continued his play, pulling, pushing, and caressing his companion, but with evident astonishment at her inertness. After some time he appeared to understand the situation, and his grief found vent in prolonged howls. Presently he was seized with the idea of burying the cat. He pulled her into the garden, where he soon dug a hole with his paws, and put in it the body of his former companion. He then refilled the hole with dirt, and, stretching himself out on the grave, re-umed his mournful howling. The idea of burying the dead cat was extraordinary.

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Whence came the thought? Could it be imitation, or, which is a better explanation, did the dog have a vague idea of concealing the event which might possibly be imputed to him? But then it would seem unreasonable for him to call attention to the fact, by installing himself on the grave and howling. However even human criminals are sometimes equally inconsistent. It is difficult to form an exact idea of what gave rise to the dog's conduct in this case.

## RAISING WATCHES.

One day Willie came running to his mother with a little round black thing in his hand. He wanted to know what it was.

"It is a seed," said the mother. "If you should plant it in the ground, before very long it would begin to grow and soon you would have some lovely flowers."

"If you plant things, will they grow?" asked Willie.

"Yes," said his mother. She was very busy just then, and did not pay much attention to what he was saying.

The next day his mother missed her watch. She looked everywhere. At last she asked Willie if he had seen it.

"Oh, yes, mamma," he answered, "it is all safe. I planted it in the garden, and soon will have a lot of little watches."

"Come at once and show me where you planted it," said the mother.

After some time they found it. It was covered with damp earth, and very nearly spoiled.

For taking the watch without permission, Willie spent half an hour in his bedroom. He does not think raising watches is a useful occupation.

—It has always seemed to me that, at the administration of the Holy Communion, no communicant ought to allow the alms basin to go by without his or her gift going into it. The Holy Eucharist is the Feast of Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving and almsgiving are twin sisters, never slightly separated. We all, through the priest's words, offer upon the altar "our alms and oblations." At the celebration, therefore, the wife should give for herself, not the husband for



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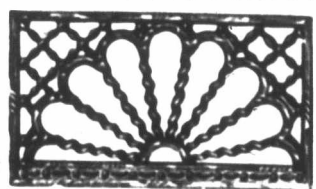
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her. The son and daughter should give for themselves, not the father for them. Each and every communicant should take pains at that time, at least, to give; I frankly say that, for myself, even though officiating, I do not feel it right not to have my own gift also in the basin. But I do not ask to judge my brethren of the priesthood in this regard. Only I think it should be urged strongly upon all communicants, and especially upon all those being prepared for confirmation, that every one, young and old, male and female, rich and poor, each one for himself or herself, should take pains to have a gift without fail placed in the alms basin at the time of the celebration of the Holy Communion.

—A double-minded man, it is true all the world over, is "unstable in all his ways," like a wave upon the streamlet, tossed hither and thither with every eddy of its tide. The recognition of a determinate purpose in life, and a sturdy adhesion to it through all disadvantages, are indispensable conditions of success. The outside world understands this matter well. Hence, in the great life-race, the vacillating are outrun by the steady, al-

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