

sigh that Helen opened her eyes that morning and thought hastily over the duties of the day before her.

"Oh, dear! it is nothing but 'work, work, work,' from weary morn till night!" she said, despondingly; but the next moment her eyes fell on her little red Bible, and, opening it mechanically, she read—

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as to the Lord, and not unto men."

She read and re-read the verse. "Heartily:" the word was so strong, so inspiring; but what did it really mean? As she pondered, and lightly turned the leaves of her book, another verse of cheer met her eyes, lighting up and bringing out the truth of the first, as the warmth of the fire used to reveal the words written with invisible ink, with which in dark, troublous times men were wont to communicate their secret intentions to others.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, rejoice." That was the beautiful secret of working heartily: to rejoice. One passage of Scripture rose up to interpret and emphasize another.

"To rejoice always, to work heartily," Helen said to herself as she left her room—"that is what I have to do to-day."

And with a gladness born of her happy thought, her voice trilled joyously the last lines of Bernard's grand song of the celestial country:

"Exult, O dust and ashes!
The Lord shall be thy part;
His only, His forever,
Thou shalt be, and thou art!"

"Sakes alive, Miss Helen," said Matsie, as Helen opened the kitchen door; "is that you singing so early? Well, nobody can help it; if you will sing before breakfast, course you must cry before night; and I s'pect there'll be enough to make you cry; for we've got a pow'ful sea of work to get through to-day, and everything is all helter-skelter to begin with. The cakes are frozen hard as Pharaoh's heart, 'cause I forgot to put them by the fire, and the bread-sponge ain't riz a bit—it is as heavy as a bag of sand. I don't know what we are going to do, Miss Helen, I declare to goodness I don't."

Helen's glad singing ceased, and a troubled expression crossed her face. For a second she looked as if the tears Matsie predicted would come long before the shadows of night. But the troubled look soon passed—her morning reading had not been in vain; and with a brave heart she set herself to work to remedy the evils her own inexperience and Matsie's carelessness had brought upon her. It would be late in the day before the bread would be light enough to bake, and that was an annoyance, for the work always seemed to drag until the baking was done; but it could not be helped, and Helen tried to gird herself with stronger endurance than usual. She dreaded her father's displeasure over the heavy cakes, and in spite of her efforts the wheels of the day felt already heavily weighted, and it seemed much easier to sigh than to rejoice. Mr. Humphrey came into his breakfast with a colder, sterner face than usual, and a volley of complaints with which to salute his daughter.

"He was half-sick with a cold; his head ached; Ronald and Sibyl with their noise had almost distracted him; it was unaccountable why Helen could not make them obey her, and stay quietly and peacefully in their beds like well-trained, civilized children, instead of laughing, shouting, and racing round the house like two wild animals escaped from Barnum's Menagerie—he was sure she could do so, if there was a particle of government in her nature. The weather was cold enough to make a well man ill—ice and snow everywhere, the glare was so dreadful he didn't know but blindness for a little while would be a relief; and as for his breakfast—poor Mr. Humphrey could neither find appetite to eat it, nor words to express his dissatisfaction with it. The coffee was the thinnest, weakest, poorest stuff he had ever tasted that pretended to be coffee; and as for the cakes—with one mouthful Mr. Humphrey pushed away his plate and uncorked all his vials of wrath upon his daughter's head.

"Other men, situated as he was, had daughters who studied their comfort and sought to please them, and compensate, in some measure, for the great loss they had sustained; but he believed Helen never thought of any one's comfort but her own—he was sure if she did he should have a much more comfortable home than he now had.

"The cooking was simply execrable: the secret was, he supposed, that she left it all to Matsie, and was too dainty to attend to it herself. The cakes were not fit to give to any one, far less to him. He should think, if she had any filial feeling at all, she would see how miserable he was, and be anxious to cook for him the most tempting food in her power; but no, she cared for nobody but herself, and he was sorry for the father, and brothers, and little sister who had to look to her for consideration and sympathy;" and Mr. Humphrey blew his nose fiercely, and settled back in his arm-chair with an expression of martyr-like resignation.

His sudden outbreak had almost deprived Helen of breath. It was not often that Mr. Humphrey allowed himself to give such full vent to his ill-humour. Usually he was cold and reserved; rarely praising his children; and expressing his anger, when they displeased him, in the fewest and sternest words possible. This morning, irritated with the weather—with his cold—and with his poorly prepared breakfast, he had lost control of himself and uttered words that rung in Helen's ears for days to come; fell like a blow on nerves already sensitive and over taxed, and grieved her more than her father or any earthly friend ever grieved.

"She cared for none but herself; she studied no one's comfort but her own." Often, in the coming weeks, Helen would wake from a troubled sleep, in the dead of the night, with these words on her mind; and in the darkness and silence she would review the past days, trying with painful earnestness to see where she had failed in duty and in love, and thinking with anxious, wearying thought what more she could do to make her home brighter, her dear ones happier. Through days of hard, exhausting labour, she would often be goaded to efforts far beyond her strength, by the recollection of those stinging words and the haunting fear that they might be true. Such were the after results of Mr. Hum-

phrey's bitter speech. But Helen was not naturally meek; she was quick to feel indignant at wrong to others or herself; and when her father stopped speaking, forgetful of everything in her excitement, she exclaimed, with a burst of passionate tears,

"Papa, I think you are very unjust."

With one step Mr. Humphrey stood by her chair.

"I will allow no daughter of mine to accuse me of injustice," he said, sternly, laying his hand heavily on her shoulder. "Leave my presence. I do not wish to see you again until you can remember what is due from a daughter to a father. Go."

(To be continued.)

OVER THE WIRES.

I hear a faint, low singing,
Like the sound of distant choirs;
'Tis a message gloo'fully winging
Over the telegraph wires.
And what are the glad wires humming,
As they stretch in the sunlight away?
"I am coming, coming, coming—
I am coming home to-day!"

And now I hear a sobbing,
Like some soul sitting alone,
With a heart that is wearily throbbing,
And lips that can only moan.
Oh! what are the sad wires sighing,
As they reach through the darkness of night?
"He is dying, dying, dying—
Come on the wings of light!"

The titillation of laughter
Next falls upon my ear,
And a burst of mad mirth after,
Like a sound of a distant cheer.
And what is the gleeful story
That the round fire spreads afar?
"Our nine is crowned with glory—
Hip, hip, hip, hurrah!"

Oh! what are the wires relating,
Morning, and noon, and night?
"The market is fluctuating!"
"Report of the Senate fight!"
"Cashier S—a defaulter!"
"Arrest a man named Brown!"
"Jones died to-day by the halter!"
"What went suddenly down!"
"Dead!" "Born!" "Going!" "Coming!"
"Deluge!" and "Drought!" and "Fires!"
Singing, and sobbing, and humming,
Over the telegraph wires.

"AS SAFE AS THE BANK OF ENGLAND."

"As safe as the Bank of England," is an assurance of safety which is never questioned. No one ever lost money in the Bank of England. Its notes are good all over the world. Many strangers go to see it. Only a few persons can go around at once, with a guide. In one room notes that have been paid have the corners torn off and holes punched in them. Over fifty thousand notes, worth a million pounds, are paid every day, and thus cut out. They are kept five years, and if you give the number and date of a note, in less than three minutes it can be found; so that if you paid a note you owed and a man said you did not do so, you could prove that you had paid it. The largest note is one thousand pounds. One hundred and twenty men are in the room where paid notes are clipped, and 1,200 in all the bank. All the notes used are printed in the bank, and the printing machines keep register of every one. Here pensions are paid to crippled soldiers. Here gold and silver plate—private property—is kept. Two things I heard interested me. "Gold is very brittle," said our guide. "If you throw it about upon a counter—that is a number of gold pieces—and then sweep it off the counter, you will find that the fragments count up. We are very careful with them in the weighing room. All the gold sovereigns that you put in your pockets in the morning with other pieces of coin, at night will not be just the same. We know that and weigh every sovereign that has once been out of the house. We have sent boxes of gold coin by express that have come back to us unopened, yet the rubbing of the gold has worn off five pounds' worth." We came away, agreeing that this great bank is one of the world's wonders.

In the way of providing something for a rainy day, Philadelphia manufactured \$100,000 worth of umbrellas last year.

MR. HENRY M. STANLEY, the African explorer, has arrived at Brussels, and has had an audience with the King of Belgium.

ONLY partial success seems to have followed the establishment of Drunkards' Retreats in England. Although the health of all the patients is improved while under the care of the institution, many fall back into drunkenness as soon as they returned to the temptations of ordinary life.

I HAVE heard that in the desert, when the caravans are in want of water, they are accustomed to send on a camel with its rider, some distance in advance; then after a little space, follows another; and then at short intervals, another. As soon as the first man finds water, almost before he stoops down to drink, he shouts aloud "Come!" the next one hearing the voice, repeats the word "Come!" while the nearest again takes up the cry "Come!" until the whole wilderness echoes with the word "Come!" So in that verse the Spirit and bride say, the first of all, "Come!" then "let him that heareth say, 'Come!'" and whosoever is athirst let him come, and take of "the water of life freely."
—Spurgeon.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

MR. GLADSTONE has again declared that he cannot interfere with the operations of the Mormons in England.

IT is said the value of the agricultural products of New Jersey exceeds that of any other State in proportion to area cultivated.

Kossuth recently celebrated the eighty-first anniversary of his birth, and thirty-third of his condemnation to death as a traitor.

A NATIVE Hindu has been appointed temporarily to fill the office of Chief-Justice of India by the Viceroy of India, Lord Ripon.

CHARLES DOWNING says it is not safe to give a decided opinion concerning any new strawberry or raspberry short of five years' trial.

IT is shown by statistics just issued that last year there were 17,251 known thieves at large in England, of whom 1,260 were in the city of London.

AN agitation against shrill railway whistling is on foot in England. It is stated, on good authority, that notes of low pitch would be quite as effective as the shrill, ear-piercing shrieks now used.

PROHIBITION is to be strictly enforced in Madagascar. Under a new law, promulgated by the Queen, the manufacture and sale of liquor are forbidden under a penalty of "ten oxen and ten dollars."

NEWS of a very terrible nature has been received at Copenhagen from Iceland. The population, who have already suffered severely from famine, has been decimated by an epidemic of measles.

LAST year the British Conference of the Wesleyan Church declined the offers of some seventy candidates for the ministry. This year sixty three candidates offered and twenty-four of these were declined.

CAPTAIN MAYNE REID, the novelist, is poor and lives on a small farm in England. He has lately been awarded a pension by the British Government in recognition of his services during the Mexican war.

A WEALTHY Armenian of St. Petersburg has set apart \$250,000 to found a college for his countrymen at Erzeroum. Ten years ago he sent seven young Armenians to Germany to be educated, as a preliminary step.

DR. BERNARDO, so well known in his "Night and Day" care of the destitute boys of London, recently received a gift of \$15,000 from one lady at a time when "funds were running low," and his faith was being sorely tried.

FAIRMOUNT PARK, Philadelphia, which contains 2,740 acres, is the most extensive park in the United States, but not the largest in the world. Deer Park, in the environs of Copenhagen, Denmark, contains about 4,200 acres.

ENGLAND spends annually \$735,000,000 for the luxury of liquor. Ten years ago England scarcely had a bishop who was a total abstainer; now there are ten. Then not a hundred of the clergy were total abstainers; now there are 4,000.

NEARLY all the farmers of Iowa who have been troubled by the cyclones of the past season have provided against future loss of life by digging outside cellars, into which they and their families may retire in future possible similar emergencies.

MR. JOSEPH COOK says in one of his lectures that in a conversation with an eminent German Professor the latter remarked, "Unless you destroy the use of that word 'smart' among your people it will break the neck of your great Republic."

THE Jesuits driven from France have established themselves in considerable numbers in that land of Christian liberty, Turkey—their purpose being to renew the attempt, which so lamentably failed in 1692, to bring the Armenians to the feet of the Pope.

TOBACCO crop reports from the various sections of Virginia and North Carolina represent the quality and colour fully equal to the crop of 1880, if not superior. The crop of Virginia is put at 90 per cent. of an average crop, and that of North Carolina at full average.

THE "New England Farmer" says:—"With great crops in almost every country in Europe the foreign demand for American grain for the next few months will be small. This should insure us cheap flour at any rate, and reduce the expenses of living in a material degree."

A SCOTCH farmer, who has been exploring the Canadian North-West, says the soil is everything that a farmer could wish. The quality of the wheat grown is finer than any that can be raised in Great Britain, and the yield fully as heavy as could be obtained from the best lands.

IT is stated that Mr. Spurgeon, though in better health than last spring, still bears traces of his sufferings. His feet are gouty, his hands are swollen and twisted with rheumatic gout, so that his gesture is no longer free and unconstrained, but his voice still possesses the charm and variety of tone that have so largely augmented his power.

A CURIOUS experiment is about to be tried in Utah—namely, to see if oysters will grow in the waters of the Great Salt Lake. A man who believes that the experiment will succeed has ordered 600 seedling oysters from New York, and they will soon be planted in what seems a suitable place. Opinion is divided as to the success of the attempt, but on the whole it is unfavourable.

"GENERAL" BOOTH, of the Salvation Army, proposes to send a contingent to India, under the command of Judge Tucker, to attack the strongholds of Hindooism. The judge, who has given up his office and a salary of £800 a year to enter the ranks of the Army, hails from India, several of whose languages he can speak, and is about to return thither with five or six comrades. The party intend to dress like the natives, to eschew European customs, and to adapt themselves to the manners of the people.