

hope, and some of them made her afraid. For she said to herself:

"Are the good words for me?"

They were for the minister and for the minister's wife, doubtless, every promise of them all, and for many more who heard them spoken. But were they for her?

"For," said she, "if I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear my prayer." And I'm no sure of myself. 'Love your enemies,' the book says, and I doubt there's hatred in my heart to one man."

"Or maybe it is only fear of him and anger. I think if I could only get well away from him, and safe from the dread of him, I would hate him no longer. I would pity him. I pity him now, even. For he has spoiled his own life as well as mine, and what with anger and shame, and the pity of some folk, and the scorn of others, he must be an unhappy man. Yes, I am sorry for him. For the fault was partly mine. I should have stood fast whatever befel. And how is it all to end?"

(To be continued.)

WHILE WE SLEPT.

AFTER the day had vanished,
And the twilight died away,
The angels spread their snow-clouds
Of softest fleecy grey.

Over the stars they drew them,
Hiding the moon's calm face,
And close to the earth's dark edges,
Draped their border's misty grace.

The night winds moved among them,
With wintry breath formed fair
The tiny fragile atoms,
That came falling through the air;

Falling in ceaseless silence,
Myriads of stars so white,
Exquisite shapes of crystal,
Born of the winter's night;

Falling on earth's bare bosom,
Robing each desolate part;
Fold after fold falling o'er her
And the flowers that sleep in her heart.

Where the mountains stand forever,
With reverent head uplift,
It fell in a whitened splendour,
In many a glistening rift.

It transformed the dark old forests
Into huge cathedrals fair,
Of glorious architecture—
Fit place for nature's prayer.

On the outstretched arms of cedars,
In adoring silence bent,
It fell like a benediction,
By the hands of angels sent.

Then the winds were hushed ere the dawning;
The clouds all called away,
And the earth, in her pure adorning,
Waited the coming day.

A. LAWRENCE THOMSON.

DESOLATION OF THE DEEP SEA.

Despite the fanciful pictures which some writers have drawn of the ocean bed, its desolation, at least in its deepest parts, must be extreme. Beyond the first mile it is a vast desert of slime and ooze, upon which is constantly dripping a rain of dead carcasses from the surface, which carcasses supply the nourishment for the scanty fauna inhabiting the abyssal region—in some places more than five miles from the sunshine—and the microscope reveals that the slimy matter covering this deepest ocean bed is similar in composition to the ancient chalk of the cretaceous period, while mixed with it here and there are minute metallic and magnetic bodies, which have been proved to be dust from meteorites. At long intervals a phosphorescent light gleams from the head of some passing fish which has strayed hither from a higher and happier zone. But it is not until we have mounted a good deal nearer the surface that the scene changes for the better. We now meet with forests of brilliantly coloured sponges, while the phosphorescent animals swimming about are much more numerous; and the nearer we get to the littoral zone more and more phosphorescent lights appear, till at length the scene becomes truly animated. When only 1,200 feet separate us from the sunshine we come upon the first seaweed and kelp (1,200 feet is the deepest limit of plant life in the water); but we must rise still another 1,000 feet and more, and get as near the top as 120 feet before we find any reef-building corals. As plants do not live in the deep sea, the deep-sea animals either prey on one another or get their food from dead organisms and plants which sink down to them. Thus Maury says: "The sea, like the snow-cloud with its flakes in a calm, is always letting fall upon its bed showers of microscopic shells." And experiment proves that a tiny shell would take a week to fall from the surface to the deepest depths. Since sunlight does not penetrate much further than the littoral zone, there would be, beyond this, perpetual darkness except for phosphorescence. Many of the animals inhabiting the continental and abyssal zones have merely rudimentary eyes. But these blind creatures have long feelers, which help them to grope their way along the bottom. Other

deep-sea animals, on the contrary, have enormous eyes, and these likely congregated around such of their number as are phosphorescent, and may perhaps follow the moving lamp-posts about wherever they go. And so bright is this light on many of the fish brought up by the dredge that during the brief space the animals survive it is not difficult to read by it. The reason why fishes and mollusks living more than three miles under water are able to bear a pressure of several tons is that they have exceedingly loose tissues, which allow the water to flow through every interstice, and thus to equalize the weight. When the pressure is removed they perish. In the *Challenger* expedition, sent out by the British Government, all the sharks brought up from a depth of a little less than three-quarters of a mile were dead when they got to the surface.

THE OUTCASTS OF LONDON.

In these days when we hear so much of the poverty, crime and wretchedness of outcast London, it is refreshing to have the obverse of the medal occasionally held up before our eyes. The Rev. George W. McCree, a well-known pastor and philanthropist of Southwark, sends to the *Daily News* a very encouraging account of the progress that is being made in removing the causes of "the bitter cry" that still goes up from the abodes of poverty and misery. Mr. McCree is convinced that the poor of London are far less poor, less ignorant, less wretched and less vicious than they were twenty-five years ago. In the matter of sports the people are less cruel, brutal, and depraved than they were. They are cleaner in their habits, and consequently more healthy. There is less disease and a wider acquaintance with sanitary laws. Not only can nearly all the poor read, but they do read, and with much that is evil there is far more that is healthful in their literary tastes. The consequence is that they are far more quick and intelligent, and aspire more than they did to further social improvement. There is every reason to hope that this picture is true to the facts. The active philanthropy of the day is turning the electric lights of sanitary science and Christian sympathy upon the darkest corners and slums of the great city, and revealing depths of misery whose existence was unknown and unsuspected. But the light does not create the misery, though it may help to dispense it. The knowledge that the evil is being gradually overcome will not discourage philanthropic effort, but rather stimulate it by adding the impetus of quickened hope. And if the progress has been encouraging in the past, it should be much more rapid in the future, for never before were so many powerful agencies at work for the regeneration of the "lapsed masses."—*The Week*.

HORIZONS.

MAKE Self the centre and the level of thy thought,
And thy horizon shall so closely hedge thee round
With petty cares, weak worries, all so over-wrought
That of the world without thou hast no sight—no sound.

Mount higher! be it but the neighbour step that holds
Another's trouble or another's joy than thine,
Each step will lead where rarer atmosphere enfolds;
And broader, as thou risest, grows thy boundary line.

Dost see the while thou risest higher, higher still,
How small, ignoble are the things that had seemed great?
What base unworthy aims thy smaller soul could fill?
And, seeing, canst thou idly leave thy life to fate?

Nay! Climb the mast if thou would'st better view the sea;
Push out each boundary and thou standest still at naught;
A God-bound circle must be infinite as He,
And alway thy horizon shapes to fit thy thought.

Toronto.

ALME.

MANUFACTURING CRIMINALS.

There must be some serious defect in the social organization under which it is so uncommon thing for men, able and willing to work, to commit petty offences against the laws for the sake of securing a winter's board and lodging in the common gaol. Toronto gaol, it appears from recent statements, has a number of inmates of this class. There are many such, we believe, in the prisons all over the Dominion. The matter is one well worthy of the serious attention of citizens, philanthropists, and legislators. Criminals are sure to be numerous enough. There is no need that the corridors of our prisons should be converted into training schools for their production. It would surely be cheaper, as well as more creditable to our intelligence and humanity, to have all those who, from any cause, are unable to support themselves, cared for in some less demoralizing fashion. However valid may be the objections to the introduction of the poor-house system as it exists in England, the time has evidently come when some well-considered and systematic provision should be made to meet such cases as those referred to, as well as for the permanent relief of those who are unable to earn their own living. It is surely not an extreme of altruism which demands that this should be done in a manner involving the least possible degree of humiliation. This condition implies that work of some kind should be provided for all who are able to work. It would be more economical, as well as vastly preferable from the point of view of effect upon character, that such work should be done at a loss to the community, rather than that any able to work should be supported in idleness, to say nothing of the degradation inseparable from detention in a gaol.—*The Week*.

British and Foreign.

PHILIP PHILLIPS, "the singing pilgrim," and Ira D. Sankey are home from England.

THE *Trenton* of the U. S. navy, has left Panama for Apia, Samoa, to look after American interests there.

It is stated that of over nine hundred students in Michigan State Normal School about one-half are Roman Catholics.

MACMILLAN & CO. are now issuing their new collection of "Select Essays of Thomas De Quincey," edited by David Masson.

THE United Brethren in Christ report, through their "Year book for 1889," 4,451 organized societies, 1,490 itinerant preachers, 204,517 members—an increase of 9,239.

MRS. M. S. CUMMINGS, principal of the High School, Helena, Montana Territory, has just been elected president of the Territorial Educational Association of Montana.

THE Standing Committee of the diocese of Pennsylvania (Episcopal) has refused its vote in confirmation of Bishop-elect Grafton, of Fond du Lac. Father Grafton is a Ritualist.

Two hundred girls are now being educated in the medical schools of India, and Madras has already supplied six fully qualified female doctors for the northern part of the country.

THE Alabama Legislature, through the influence of the State Women's Christian Temperance Union, has passed a bill for the establishment of night schools in convict stations.

BISHOP HURST, of the American Episcopal Church, who has been for many years an advocate of woman suffrage, has reiterated his belief in the justice and expediency of equal rights.

TWENTY-FIVE active service lieutenants of the German Army, most of whom are experienced in travel, have been chosen by Lieutenant Weissman to accompany him to Africa.

THE Indian princess, Sarah Winnemucca, who attended Wellesley College, and has written stories under the nom de plume of "Bright Eyes," is now teaching an Indian mission school.

THE United States Postmaster-General recommends that at the expiration of present contracts, the Government take the manufacture of stamped envelopes and postal cards into its own hands.

JOHN S. WELLS, of Hartford, Connecticut, has left a will giving the Yale Theological school \$18,000, the annual income of which is to be paid to members of the school needing pecuniary assistance.

AN effort is now being made to secure an endowment for the very useful American school of classical studies at Athens. It has a new building costing \$25,000 on Mount Lycabettus and has done much for American scholarship.

AT a recent meeting of the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York a charter was granted to the New York College for the training of teachers, the first institution of its kind in the United States.

MRS. GOULD, the wife of Jay Gould, was a very gentle woman, whose chief liking was for children and flowers. In late years she spent much time in her conservatories. Mr. Gould built them for her at a cost of \$500,000.

AT a recent meeting of the Presbytery of Cincinnati steps were taken looking to a thorough work in city evangelization, and all the churches of Presbytery were requested to take up a collection for the purposes of the committee's work.

THE Lennox church is the centre of German Presbyterianism in Dakota. Seven miles southwest is the First German Presbyterian Church, with comfortable house of worship and manse. Rev. Ludwig Figge has been pastor for eight years past.

ASCHINOFF's expedition of Cossacks, which intends to found a colony in Abyssinia, have sailed from Suakin for Obock, from which port it will proceed for Massowah. The French Consuls at all of the ports at which the expedition has touched have officially welcomed it.

MRS. JOSEPHINE E. POE, widow of Judge Neilson Poe, of Baltimore, died in that city on a recent Sunday. The Baltimore *Sun* says: Her maiden name was Josephine Clemm, and she was a daughter of William Clemm, of Virginia. Her sister was the lovely Virginia Clemm, the wife of the poet, Edgar Allan Poe, and the Lenore of "The Raven."

NATALIE, the former queen of Servia, was received with royal honours during her recent tour. At the Russian frontier, she was welcomed by Russian officers, in behalf of the Czar and Czarina. At the various towns at which she stopped, the local officials presented bread and salt, expressing at the same time the hope that she might re-ascend the throne.

MR. WILLIAM BAXTER, a Glasgow draper who died lately, has among other bequests left \$12,500 to found a demonstratorship in geology in Glasgow University. His geological and natural history specimens he bequeaths to his native town of Dumfries with \$250 towards founding a free library in that burgh. Mr. Baxter was the author of a volume of verse.

HENRY M. STROHM, son of Abraham Strohm, of New Paris, Ind., who was last year captured and held prisoner by cannibals on the island of Gaun, one of the South Sea group, whence he finally made his escape, has been heard from. He is now on his way to London in an Australian ship, and hopes to reach home in the spring, when he will have circumnavigated the globe.

THE Rev. Mr. Spark has been censured by the North Isles Presbytery of Orkney for neglect of duty in having intimated to his congregation at Rousay that he would preach to them once a month only during the winter, and he has been enjoined to reside within his parish and perform the regular duties. He has been living in Kirkwall in consequence of Rousay manse being in disrepair.

MR. MARK STEWART, M.P., has given notice in the House of Commons that early next session he will move a resolution that it is desirable to revise the constitution of the fairs court in order to obtain a better system of striking the grain average, and to consider the propriety of including other agricultural produce, especially butcher meat and cheese and butter, in the return of the fairs prices.

MR. SWANSON, son of the ex-Moderator of the English Presbyterian Synod, is the thirty-first Protestant minister who has been settled in the parish of Lochmaben. There were seventeen in the Established Church up to the Disruption, and two had followed; there were six in connection with the Reformed Presbytery, three in the Secession, and Mr. Swanson is the fourth in the Free Church.