

bursting presses of his father's cider-mill testified. And Joe had early learned to love the liquor, as we have heard in his story told to Father Gwynn.

He could not remember when he commenced to drink cider. But his mother, had she been present, would have told him that it was when he first began to walk! It was very cunning—the young parents thought—to see him toddle to the closet and see him sip sweet cider from the cask through a straw. But when he grew older and stronger the baby lips still loved its flavour. Long before the boy became a man he thirsted for more fiery drinks.

Far off on the hillside was his grandfather's brandy distillery. Young Joe began to taste of that also. Before they knew it at home he was a regular drinker. So gradual was the growth of the habit and so cool was Joe's head that he could take large drams without its affecting his conversation or gait.

The rest of his sad history was as Joe told it to the stranger as they sat beneath the tree.

As Joe mused that night he began to think of the "old folks," his mother especially. He did not know whether they were living or dead. It always seemed to him that they were on the old homestead, pursuing the same avocations as when he left. A quick, indescribable longing to see them came over the wanderer. O that the weary, mis-spent years might roll back, and bring him his boyhood again, and a look into the tender mother-eyes! The years had gone, and that sweet-faced parent was perhaps resting from her burden-bearing—for he feared his father's appetite had also got the mastery.

"If she should see me now, I'd frighten her," he said in his anguish; "I used to be her 'handsome boy,' me, old, rough-looking Joe Luscomb!"

His home-longing changed to remorse. He paced back and forth comfortless. When the messenger returned after a fruitless search, he was surprised to find Joe still waiting at the stable entrance.

Joe asked no questions, but reiterated:—

"'Twa'n't no airthly use, sir, I knowed 't wouldn't be?" Joe's depression was attributed to an entirely different cause.

"Don't fret about your little friend, Joe, I am sure we shall yet get news of the child."

What could Joe say? The unmerited sympathy only heaped coals of fire on his guilty head. He put up the bay horse, locked the stable, and retired to bed. But not to sleep, although weary. He tossed about, reviewing the past, and hopeless of the future.

(To be continued.)

A SERMON AT SAILORS' SNUG HARBOUR.

The frontispiece of the June *Century* is an engraving of St. Gaudens's statue of Robert Richard Randall, the founder of "Sailors' Snug Harbour" on Staten Island; and Franklin H. North contributes a lively anecdotal paper on the Harbour, from which we quote a typical sermon of the Snug Harbour preacher: "Chaplain Jones, already mentioned, presides at the little church in the grounds of the Harbour. He is a sailor himself, having served before the mast many years, and knows how to talk to those who 'follow the sea.' When a mere lad he ran away from his English home and shipped aboard an East Indiaman. He is about sixty-five now, and many years ago forsook the sea to study theology. As soon as he was qualified, he went among the sailors of the great lakes, and afterward opened a Bethel in St. Louis. Then he returned hither and became pastor of the Mariner's Church. Worn out by early exposure and hardships, he was about to start for Europe in search of health and rest, when he was appointed to his present post by the trustees.

"The visitor to the Harbour who fails to hear him address his shipmates robs himself of a spectacle at once interesting and unique. Familiar with the characteristics of the sailor, Dr. Jones addresses him in his own language, and this is the prime reason of his influence over him.

"Here is the substance of a sermon... from the text, 'Let go that stern-line,' which is given in substance. 'I once stood on the wharf watching a brig get ready for sea,' began the Rev. Mr. Jones. 'The top-s'ls and courses were loosed, the jib hung from the boom, and the balyards were stretched out ready to run up. Just at this moment the pilot sprang from the wharf to the quarter-deck, inquiring as he did so of the mate in command, 'Are you all ready?'

"'All ready, sir,' said the officer. Then came the command 'Stand by to run up that jib!—Hands by the head-braces!—Cast off your head-fast, and stand by aft there to let go that stern-line!—Let go!—Man the top-s'l balyards—Run 'em up, boys—run 'em up!—Does the jib take?—Haul over that starboard sheet!

"'She pays off fine—there she goes, and—Hilloa! Hilloa! What's the matter? What's fast there? Starboard the helm! Starboard!' shouts the pilot. 'What holds her? Is there anything foul af there? Why, look at that stern-line! Haul it off the timber-head!—Haul off that turn."

"'It's foul ashore, sir!' says one of the crew.

"'Then cut it, cut it! D'ye hear! Never mind the hawser! Cut it before she loses her way."

"By this time there was a taut strain on the hawser. A seaman drew his sheath-knife across the strands, which soon parted, the brig forged ahead, the sails were run up and trimmed to the breeze, and the brig *Billion* filled away.

"So, too, when I see men who have immortal souls to save bound to the world by the cords, the hawsers of their sin, then I think of that scene, and feel like crying out. Gather in your breast lines and haul out from the shores of destruction. Fly, as Lot from the guilty Sodom! Oh! let go that stern-line!"

It is expected that Rev. Andrew McVillie, St. Enoch's, Glasgow, clerk of the Presbytery, will be elected to the clerkship of the Assembly vacant by the death of Sir H. W. Moncrieff.

FOR THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

OUR GALLANT SHIP.

With bounding sea and freshening breeze
Our gallant ship sails swiftly on;
And hopeful hearts repose at ease,
And merry thoughts take vent in song.

No baffling winds disturb the sail;
Our Ocean Queen sweeps proudly by;
A few more billows and we'll hail
Our Fatherland. "Sweet by-and-by—"

A clear, soft voice sings out the strain
That oft hath cheered the weary soul,
And all take up the rich refrain,
Till o'er the waves the accents roll.

A lingering ray of glory streams
On sea and sky, and stretches o'er
A vision fair, till ocean seems
A pathway to that better shore.

The night is dark, the moon is young,
A heavy mist comes spreading out;
The signal lights aloft are hung,
And all aboard is trim and taut.

The bells ring out the midnight hour
In murky sky and splashing tide;
When, lo! a barque of giant power
Comes crashing on her starboard side.

She quivers to her utmost bound;
Like vanquished hero seeks a grave;
With riven beams and gurgling sound
She sinks beneath the dismal wave.

Fond hearts were there, the true, the brave,
Deep buried in the swirling tide—
O blest who know that Christ can save
On sea or land whate'er betide.

The winds a mournful requiem sing,
With wailing moan and tender sigh;
And in our hearts the voices ring
That song at eve "Sweet by-and-by."

Old ocean, let them sleep—
Give them a quiet resting-place
In thy waters still and deep;
Safely hold

Thy treasures, mighty sea,
Until the archangel calls
"Give up thy dead to me."

Glenarry.

C. C. A. F.

INSANITY AND INTEMPERANCE.

Lord Shaftesbury, in his evidence before the select committee of 1859, says: "In the year 1843 I stated that a large proportion of the cases of lunacy were ascribable to intoxication, and that remark applies equally to the present time, for it is applicable to all times that habits of intemperance in so many instances lead to the development of insanity. We shall see how large a proportion of the cases of lunacy is ascribable to intoxication, but we shall draw, moreover, this startling conclusion, that if thousands are deprived from this cause of their reason and incarcerated in mad houses, there must be manifold more who, though they fall short of the point of absolute insanity, are impaired in their understanding and moral perceptions." His lordship added that he had communicated with medical authorities, and the general consensus of opinion is that of an immense proportion of cases of insanity arise more or less from the use of strong drink. I go a step further, and hold that there is abundant evidence to prove that to dissipation, drunkenness and moral depravity, either directly or consequentially by transmission to the next generation, is to be charged an immense proportion of the annual increase of lunacy. No person of authority will, I think, be found to deny that evil and corrupt living in the parents bears fruit in an unhealthy state, both of body and mind, in their offspring. In the lower animals the transmission not only of generic qualities, but even of individual singularities, is a familiar fact: so with mankind it is not to be expected that a pure stream will issue from a polluted source; and how foul and corrupt that source must be any one who sees the habits of the swarms of unfortunate creatures who nightly crowd the streets of any of our great cities may determine for himself. —*The Fortnightly Review*.

RELIGION ON THE CONGO.

When the missionary holds a Sunday service in King Kongo-Mbaka's house, some twenty or thirty idlers look in, in a genial way, to see what is going on, much as we might be present at any of their ceremonies. They behave very well, and imitate, with that exact mimicry which only the negro possesses, all our gestures and actions, so that a hasty observer would conclude they were really touched by the service. They kneel down with an abandon of devotion, clasp their hands, and say "Amen" with a deep ventral enthusiasm. The missionary, on the occasion that I accompanied him, gave a short sermon in Fiole, well expressed, considering the little time he has been studying the language. The King constantly took up the end of some phrase and repeated it with patronizing interest after the missionary, just to show how he was attending, throwing meanwhile a furtive glance at his wives, who were not pursuing their avocations outside with sufficient diligence. A short prayer concluded the service, and when the King rose from his knees he promptly demanded the loan of a hand-screw to effect some alteration in his new canoe. —*H. H. Johnson*.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

In the English north-eastern ports 137 ocean steamships are idle.

In the days of King Edgar only one public-house was allowed in each parish in England.

A YOUNG and well-known English nobleman is the owner of thirty-five cabs and seventy horses in London.

At the beginning of the century there were only 150 Protestant pastors in France; to-day there are at least 800.

PROF. W. ROBERTSON SMITH has been lecturing at the Royal Institution, Edinburgh, on "Mohammedan Mahdism."

THE national monument at Washington, when finished, will be the loftiest structure in the world by about thirty feet.

IN Germany it has been decided that scientific bodies may make their own limitations in the matter of vivisection.

MR. COLERIDGE KENNARD, M.P., is to erect a window in Salisbury Cathedral to the memory of the late Duke of Albany.

THE Prince Imperial of Austria speaks, it is asserted, every dialect known in the Austrian dominions, except Turkish.

THE late Frederick Denison Maurice, Mr. Gladstone says, was "a 'spiritual splendour,' to borrow the phrase of Dante about St. Dominic."

WITHIN two months the House of Lords has had two Roman Catholic accessions—the Earl of Abingdon and Lord North, both converts.

THE widow of the late Rev. Wm. Tasker of Chalmers Territorial Church, Edinburgh, has bequeathed nearly \$15,000 to religious and charitable objects.

BISHOP BEWICK of Hexham and Newcastle has been appointed papal delegate to Scotland to report to Rome as to the state of the Roman Catholic Church in that country.

A PROPOSAL of Dr. J. Moir Porteus, of Edinburgh, that the Assembly be asked to devise means for celebrating the quinqucentenary of John Wyclif was unanimously adopted.

IT is thought probable that the late Duke of Buccleuch has made a considerable division of his vast estates. One of \$50,000 a year he has given to his second son absolutely.

MR. ARCHIBALD HEWAT proposes the immediate formation of a jubilee debt extinction fund to raise \$900,000 to pay off all the debt on Free Church buildings before May, 1893.

THERE is a movement on foot in the Evangelical Union churches to give a public welcome in Glasgow to the delegates from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church who are coming with a view to attend the General Assembly in Belfast.

ON the vacant ground near the Temple Gardens, London, Messrs. Moody and Sankey will begin on 27th inst., a three weeks' mission, their last in that country. Lately Mr. Moody addressed his 3,000 Liverpool converts in Hengler's cirque.

PROF CALDERWOOD has intimated his resolution not to allow his name to be brought forward as a candidate for the representation of Edinburgh. He has come to the conclusion that "it is his duty to abide by the university in the discharge of the work of his chair."

BALACLAVA, although its name will be ever famous in history as associated with the famous light cavalry charge, has hitherto remained an unimportant town. It is, however, now beginning to develop resources, and bids fair to become a fashionable resort for invalids.

THE bishop of Carlisle says if the franchise bill were passed the villager will become a much more important person, and he does not know why the village cottager should not use his power as wisely, as constitutionally, and as much in the fear of God as the inhabitants of town or city.

At the Synod meeting of the Disestablished Episcopal Church of Ireland it was resolved that it is expedient to establish an order of mission preachers, and that the bishops be requested to take the matter into consideration and report to next Synod the best means of carrying this proposal into effect.

SPIRITUALISM is said to be greatly revived in Boston, and clairvoyance is becoming fashionable in what are usually known as the higher walks of life. It is intimated that several of the ladies who have been conspicuous in the promotion of woman's rights have become enthusiastic believers in spiritual mediumship.

THE King of Sweden lately visited a gold mine in Norway, when he made enquiry, among other things, regarding the condition of the work people. On learning that a large number of them were Good Templars, his Majesty replied, "I am very glad to hear it, because they are just the sort of men to give satisfaction."

THE sale of the Hamilton library was concluded on May 11. The library realized £12,907, which, added to the Beckford total, makes £86,455 (\$432,270) for the Hamilton Palace libraries. It is understood that the German Government paid £100,000 for the Hamilton MSS., which were sold by private contract.

DR. HORATIUS BONAR, of Edinburgh, mentioned at his congregational society that there had been fewer disjunctions last year than during any year preceding, and that the number of members had never been so large as it is at present. It appears therefore that the introduction of hymns into the service of prayer has not really injured the congregation.

THE Rev. Dr. Eccleston says that San Francisco is the Paris of America in the fondness of the people for amusement, their love of display, their disregard of religion, and their reckless habits of speculation. He also notes that California has, proportionately, more suicides than any other State, and he finds prolific causes in dissipation, financial embarrassment, and domestic trouble.