

### THY WILL BE DONE.

A pious but eccentric Christian was an illustration of the habit of making the best of everything. Having met a painful accident, his near neighbor calling to see him, said: "I am sorry to hear of your accident." Yes, said he, "I broke my leg, bless the Lord." Said the friend, "do you mean to thank the Lord that you broke your leg?" Oh, no, not for that, but that it is better than it might have been, as it might have been my neck." That is the secret of true contentment.

What a severe trial for one in health and actively engaged in his work, to be stricken down and laid aside; that is a dark hour in his experience. He is like one who has received a stunning blow and is bewildered, but by the grace of God he casts himself on the arm of Almighty Power, and is able by-and-bye to say, "Thy will be done;" and feel true contentment of soul. To be contented with our lot, we must learn to look on life in the light of the word of God.—*Dr. Owen.*

### THE DIME NOVEL.

The dry-rot of modern civilization is the dime novel and the two-cent story. In Paris, for example, the press is intensely active in printing the vilest kind of short stories, which are exposed and pushed for sale at every news-stand for the trifle of a sou or two each. And what scenes these stories unfold! They depict crimes of the worst description, often suggesting incentives to wickedness and the means to indulge in it. Female virtue is scouted and ridiculed; the most indecent practices are excused under the plea of necessity; marriage is treated as a free-love contract; family purity and unity are regarded as unnecessary and obsolete; success is portrayed as the legitimate reward of fraud, trickery, misrepresentation and manifold forms of dishonesty; and the very ideals of manhood and truth, and nobility, are utterly perverted.

This cheap literature is the fearful curse of France to-day. It denies the immortality of the soul, and defies the claims of God—since in its view there is neither any God nor any other tribunal to which the soul must give an account of its thoughts and actions. Now while this infamous fiction shocks the pious mind much as a venomous snake would the nerves of a del-

icate, sensitive lady, yet it is hailed by the masses of Paris as one of their chief sources of recreation and joy.

Here is the appalling danger of modern French society. As the Indian serpent charmer loves to wind the slinky folds of the reptile around his arms and neck, so the young generation of the world's gay capital of fashion and pleasure delight to revel in the unclean pictures and sensations awakened by this Satanic press.

Nor is our own country free from the same kind of peril. It must be met by such an indoctrination of morals and such persistent and winsome portrayals of another and better way that boys and girls shall turn from contamination with an instinctive and natural revulsion. Righteousness in the family, taught by the carefully inculcated precepts of the Bible, and exemplified in the characters of parents is the only remedy. After all the love of Christ is the one and sovereign antidote to sin, but to apply this antidote Christ must be enforced with sweet attractiveness upon the mind and heart.—*Christian at Work.*

### SECOND YOUTH.

BY AUGUSTA MOORE.

Life's "middle passage" safely made,  
Youth for awhile returns;  
On every headland once again  
Signal or beacon burns.

And Faith and Hope that fainting sank  
Beneath the stormy main,  
Rise from their graves and plume their  
wings,  
And sing to us again.

And Love comes back with sweeter smiles  
Than those he wore of yore,  
And just as wickedly beguiles  
And mocks us as before.

For but an hour. The lights go out  
In ashes cold and grey;  
And we go forth to life and love  
Whose joy shall ne'er decay.

A Jewish missionary in Russia writes:—"A good piece of gospel work has been wrought in the excellent new translation of the New Testament, by Salkinson, which has come out lately. The learned Jews read this Hebrew New Testament with great pleasure, and praise the beautiful Biblical language of this translation."