

What "Sing a Song of Sixpence" Means.

You all know the rhyme, "Sing a song of sixpence, a pocketful of rye," but have you heard what it really means? The four-and-twenty blackbirds represent the twenty-four hours, the bottom of the pie is the world, while the top crust is the sky that overarches it. The opening of the pie is the day dawn, when the birds begin to sing, and surely such a sight is fit for a king.

The king, who is represented as sitting in his counting-house, counting out his money, is the sun, while the gold pieces that slip through his fingers are the golden sunbeams. The queen, who sits in the parlor, is the moon, and the honey is the moonlight.

The industrious maid, who is in the garden at work before her king—the sun—has risen, is the day dawn, and the clothes she hangs out are the clouds. The bird who ends her song nipping off her nose is the sunset. So we have the whole day, if not in a nutshell, in a pie.—*Selected.*

Why He Quit the Business.

A man who keeps a restaurant has his two children wait on the table.

One of them is a boy about ten years of age. A customer was attracted by the quickness of the little fellow, and said:

"You have a splendid waiter."

"Yes," said the proprietor, he is my son. I used to sell liquor, but he made me quit it."

"How?" asked the visitor.

The father told the story. The boy had come home one day and said:

"Papa, we boys at school had a talk to-day about the business of our parents. Each fellow we asked, 'What does your father do?' One said, 'My father works.' Another said, 'My father keeps a store.' I said 'My father sells liquor.' 'That is the meanest business on earth,' said one of the boys. Father, is that so?"

And the father said, "Yes, John, it is, and God helping me, I will get out of it." And so he did.—*Young People's Paper.*

Miss Frances Ridley Havergal, the illustrious hymn-writer, lived and moved in the Word of God. It was her constant delight, solace and inspiration. It is related of her that on the last day of her life, says a contemporary, she asked a friend to read to her the forty-second chapter of Isaiah. When the friend read the sixth verse, "I, the Lord, have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee," Miss Havergal stopped her. "Called—held—kept—used," she whispered. "Well, I will just go home on that." And she did "go home on that," as on a celestial chariot, and the home-going was a triumph, with an abundant entrance into the city of God. What Word of God have you to go home on?

Pray for Your Pastor.

An eminent minister, congratulated upon his wonderful power in the pulpit, said: "I ought to speak with power. A half-hour before each service twenty-five of my most devoted young men gather in my study, and a volume of prayer goes up to God for me. Then I go into the pulpit and stand on the prayers of those twenty-five young men. No wonder you think I preach well."

"Did you have a good time last night, papa?" a little boy asked his father. "Yes, my son, the Lord wonderfully owned his word, and I felt as if I was standing in mid-air." "Ah, I knew you would, Nellie, and mamma, and I were praying for you."

One Sunday morning about nine o'clock, a lady was led to pray much for her pastor. At the weekly prayer-meeting she heard the pastor say, "I could not attend the nine-o'clock meeting last Sunday morning, for at that hour I tore up

the sermon, previously written, and put it in the waste-basket, and prepared another.

Pray for your pastor. In the prayer-meeting, at the family altar, in your closet, just before you go to the service, while he preaches. Any preacher will feed and bless his people if they pray for him enough.—*Word and Works.*

Rum in Africa.

A missionary in Liberia writes that he is only waiting for some one to take his place there, so that he may come home and take the platform against the liquor traffic. He says: "I can do Africa more good warring against the liquor traffic here than I can preaching and teaching the gospel there. Africa, with the simple gospel of Jesus is saved, but Africa with rum is eternally lost; for the few missionaries that can survive there can not overcome the effect of the river of strong drink that is being poured into the country."

Died.

BEAMAN—At Prosser Brook, Albert Co., N. B., on Dec. 16th, 1899, after a long and painful illness of cancer, Jane, beloved wife of Wilfrid Beaman, aged 55 years, fell asleep in Christ to wait the resurrection morn. The departed leaves a husband, three sons, (one in U. S.), two daughters and a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn their loss, which was her gain. By her death, and Elgin Baptist Church sustains a great loss. Her home was one where the servants of God found always a welcome. The funeral services were conducted by the Pastor.

HOREY—Deacon Stephen Horey passed peacefully away from his home in Ludlow, to his home on high, Jan. 31, 1900. Bro. Horey was a good man, and will be missed in Church and country.

HEATH—At Cloverdale, Car. Co., Dec. 28th, 1899, of heart failure, Mrs. Mary A. Heath, aged 67 years, leaving a son and daughter to mourn. She was a member of the Baptist Church in Gardiner, Maine.

DUNPHY—At his son's residence, Mouth of Keswick, Dec. 26th, George Dunphy, in the 95th year of his age. Bro. Dunphy enjoyed remarkable good health up to a few days of his departure. His funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. George Howard. He died in the triumph of faith.

THORNE—On Dec. 13th, at the residence of his son, A. R. Thorne, Dea. James Thorne, aged 87 years. Bro. Thorne was baptized by Rev. James bleakey, and is the last one of the old Board of Deacons of the Butternut Ridge Baptist church, also one of the oldest settlers of the place. For many years he filled the office of deacon. He was constantly at his post, until he was unable to attend to the duties of his office on account of age and infirmities. He then requested the church to appoint Bro. Richard Mullin to perform the duties of his office, when the church unanimously elected him honorary deacon and, as he requested, elected Bro. Mullin deacon. Since then he has almost constantly been confined to his house. With the kind care of his son and family he enjoyed life as well as was possible for a person to. The writer had the pleasure of visiting him several times, and he seen always contented, and patiently waiting for the time to come when his Master would call him home. The time came, and on the 14th of December his many friends laid him away to rest. He was highly respected by all. He leaves five sons, and three daughters, and many friends to mourn their loss. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Frederick T. Snell.

WIGGINS—Rev. H. N. Wiggins, formerly of Queens Co., N. B., died of consumption, on December 23rd, in the 32nd year of his age. Bro. Wiggins was born at Waterboro, N. B., on February 17th, 1868. He was born again on April 11th, 1887, and was baptized by Rev. M. F. King, April 24th, and united with Wiggins Cove Baptist Church. He was elected deacon of that church and superintendent of the Sunday-school. Mr. Wiggins was a young man of more than ordinary talents and soon began to lead prayer meetings and exhort with much acceptance. It was not long before he felt called of God to preach the gospel. He resisted the call for a time but finally had to yield. He was licensed to preach in June, 1892, and after that he spent some months in missionary work in New Brunswick. In May, 1893, he accepted a call to the Baptist church in Stratham, N. H., and was ordained there on October 24th of the same year. He labored with that church for three and a half years, and added a number by baptism. He then accepted a call to the Baptist churches of Greenville and New Ipswich, N. H., where he did excellent work, but had to resign in September on account of ill health. He went to California thinking the climate there would be beneficial to him, but after a few weeks, finding that his health was rapidly failing, he left for home and got as far as North Carolina, where he died. His body was brought to Greenville, N. H., where he was laid to rest until the morning of the resurrection. The funeral sermon was preached by Pastor J. W. Higgins, from 2 Timothy 4:7 to a large congregation of all denominations, including six ministers who came to pay the last tribute of love to this honored servant of God. In 1893 Bro. Wiggins

was elected clerk and treasurer of the Portsmouth Baptist Association, which office he filled with credit. He was appointed to preach the Milford Association sermon last year, which he did before that body in September. It was one of his last sermons. "Servant of God well done." He leaves a sorrowing wife and two children, a mother, four sisters and two brothers to mourn their loss.

KAY—At Forest Glen, on December 7th, Annie, beloved wife of Albert Kay, in the 25th year of her age. She leaves a sad husband and three little ones. May God be their support and saviour.

DUNCAN—At Lewis Mountain, on December 15th, Ruth, beloved wife of Robert Duncan, in the 44th year of her age, leaving a husband and eleven children to mourn the loss of a kind wife and mother. Asleep in Jesus. May God bless the dear children and sustain the lonely husband.

HERITT—At the Portage, Kings Co., on December 10th, David Heritt, in the 66th year of his age, leaving a widow, one son and a daughter to mourn their loss. Bro. Heritt had been failing in health for some time, and had been confined to his bed about a fortnight when inflammation set in and carried him off suddenly. About forty years ago our brother professed faith in Jesus Christ, and united with the Hazelock church. Later he transferred his membership to the Pettaucodid church, where he continued to retain his honorable standing until his death. May God comfort the living who mourn.

CORBETT—A very sad event took place here on Saturday. A fortnight before, Miss Bessie M. Corbett of Moncton, came to Sussex to spend her holidays with her grand parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Drummond. She was taken ill on Wednesday night, the third inst. On Saturday an operation was performed for appendicitis, but she died the same day. She was nearly fourteen years old. Much sympathy was felt for the bereaved family. The girl was a general favorite in Sussex where she had spent her vacation for a number of summers. The floral offerings were especially beautiful, the large number of them attested to the high esteem in which the young lady was held both in Sussex and Moncton. Before she died she bid her loved ones farewell and assured them of her trust in Christ, saying, "I am not afraid to die."

Married.

WORTHING-WILBUR—On Jan. 1st, at the home of the bride's parents, in New Horton, Albert Co., by Pastor Truman Bishop, Frederick A. Worthington of San Diego, Cal., and Laura M. Wilbur, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Wilbur.

TINGLEY-WRIGHT—In Lynn, Mass., at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Wright, by Rev. Albert N. Davis, Mr. Joseph B. Tingley, formerly of Hopewell, N. B., and Eva Wright, daughter of the named parents. This wedding took place Christmas afternoon and is reported as a brilliant affair.

WILSON-HORSEMAN—At the home of the bride, Lutz Mountain, December 20th, 1899, by Pastor I. N. Thorne, Oty C. Wilson, and Letitia Horseman, both of Westmorland Co., N. B.

GILDART-PROSSER—At the Parsonage, Little River, Albert Co., December 6th, 1899, by Rev. I. N. Thorne, George W. Gildart, and Ressie Prosser, both of Little River, Albert Co., N. B.

BARTES-WALLACE—At Cloverdale, Carleton Co., Jan. 3rd, by Rev. J. D. Wetmore, Samuel G. Bartes of Avondale, Car. Co., to Lottie, eldest daughter of Dea. Charles Wallace.

STEWART-DAY—At Chipman Station, N. B., on the 17th inst. by Rev. W. E. McIntyre, Thomas A. Stewart to Jennie E. Day, both of Chipman.

Rev. J. W. Horsley, Prison Chaplain, in his "Prisons and Prisoners," gives some striking examples of the workings of conscience. Here is one: "Another man who had been convinced of sin in listening to a mission sermon by Rev. W. H. Aitken surrendered himself to the police in consequence, and told me how thereby a degree of happiness had come to him that was a blessed change from the misery and fear of his former state:

The Christian who does not believe in foreign missions so as to support them is willing to let the thousands of heathens to die without the knowledge of Christ.

Truth is as impossible to be soiled by any outward touch, as the sunbeam—*John Milton.*

The aids to a noble life are all within.—*Arnold.*