



DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND LITERATURE.

VOLUME XXIV. No. 19.

MONTREAL & NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 20, 1889.

30 CTS. per An. Post-Paid.

CLERGYMEN'S CHILDREN.

Oliver Wendell Holmes advises a young man seeking success to select, in the first place, a sturdy father and grandfather. "But," says a writer he might have added "don't choose a clergyman for father, if you wish to avoid bitter criticism for youthful frailties." The writer has wondered already why parishioners so severely condemn their pastor's children for acts condoned when done by their own darling progeny. Do they forget that experience is acquired, not inherited? The popular prejudice concerning the degeneracy of ministers' children should be shattered and sunk by a broadside from the man-of-war—Fact. To contribute to this end we have loaded our howitzer with grape-shot from the magazine of truth.

The orator, statesman and patriot, Henry Clay, was the son of a Baptist minister. President Cleveland and President Arthur were both sons of clergymen. Allen G. Thurman, is the son of a Methodist minister. President Harrison, is the son-in-law of a Presbyterian clergyman. Vice-President Morton, is the son of a Congregational clergyman. C. S. Bricc, Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee, and Senator M. S. Quay, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, are sons of Presbyterian clergymen.

Turning to the bright pages of English and American literature, what illustrious sons of clergymen we find! The late Matthew Arnold, the apostle of "sweetness and light," the only man who ever

became a classic while living, and George Eliot, the unsurpassed delineator of the growth of character, were respectively son

and daughter of English clergymen. Charles Kingsley, poet and historical novelist, was the son of Rev. Dr. Kingsley.

Goldsmith, dramatist, poet, historian and novelist, the author of the "Vicar of Wakefield," and "The Deserted Village," was the genial son of a clergyman. Coleridge, poet, philosopher, critic and theologian, was the youngest son of the Rev. John Coleridge. The author of "Jane Eyre," was the daughter of the Rev. Patrick Bronte.

We adduce four American writers, each the pre-eminent representative of an honored class:

Oliver W. Holmes, the generous and genial poet, that happy union of pathos and sunshine, of wit and wisdom, is the son of Rev. Abiel Holmes. James R. Lowell, the poet and scholarly critic, is the son of the Rev. Charles Lowell. One of the many famous children of the Rev. Lyman Beecher is the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," in more than one respect the greatest novel of the present century. That eminent philosopher, Ralph Waldo Emerson, was the son of the Rev. William Emerson. Holmes, Lowell, Stowe and Emerson! Names that are household words, bright ornaments in a young nation's casket of jewels.

Finally, note the brilliant galaxy in the religious world. Charles Haddon Spurgeon, one of the grandest men of God in Great Britain, is the son and grandson of clergymen. Henry Ward Beecher, the most prominent American divine of the present century, was the son of a clergyman, and brother of four other clergymen. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, and Charles,



"The pearly shell that murmurs of the far-off murmuring sea."