

The Church.

"Her foundations are upon the holy hills."

"Stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the Old Paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls."

Vol. XIX.

HAMILTON, C. W. APRIL 18, 1856.

No. 98.

Poetry.

From the Western Planet.
SPRING.

Come my dear Planet, since the winter's o'er,
The snow-birds gone, and sleigh bells heard no more,
Come, say, what barren waste or mountain rock
Lies there towards the north, to increase their flock?
Or what deep wood, to human eye unknown,
Or what Arctic island have they flown?
As by intuition, they seem to dread
Dark rugged earth, to snow-capped regions led,
Marvellous visitor of thine track,
How warm the blood that swells his throat-like track!

How sport an' flutter in a chilling blast,
Like modernity of our day and place,
With bells and sleighs, and hur o'ups, the chase,
Till Erie's breath dissolve both ice and snow,
Gay bells and gait display in pompous show,
Till just let snow-birds take their northern flight,
Their merry bells and sleighs bid us—good night!

Thus pass the gloomy season of our home,
No grudge the fickle state of southern clime,
On states or slights we pass three months away,
On foot or horse, they splash from day to day,
Their snow birds, too, inferior far to ours,
One-half the size, of dull and mouse-like colors,
Remain not there, but pass us northward late,
In a moment, to test the cannibal state—
Great parents, which matrons may delude,
Till these choose heat, these cold to incubate!
But these winter birds have passed,
And earth disrobed of ice, of snow and frost,
We catch the notes of blue-birds on the wing,
Those faithful harbingers of the joyous spring,
Without a compass they steer through midnight air,
With faith and hope to distant scenes repair,
With Christian's faith such as to sunn'd birds,
Death gives them wings, nor miss their way to
Heaven!

Clarendale, March 29, 1856. J. S.

THE CRIMINAL WITNESS.

In the spring of '48, I was called to Jackson to attend court, having been engaged to defend a young man who had been accused of robbing the mail. I had a long conference with my client, and he acknowledged to me that on the night when the mail was robbed, he had been with a party of dissipated companions over to Toplam, and that on returning, they met the mail carrier on horseback coming from Jackson. Some of his companions were very drunk, and they proposed to stop the carrier, and overhaul his bag. The roads were very muddy at the time, and the coach could not run. My client assured me that he not only had no hand in robbing the mail, but that he tried to dissuade his companions from doing so. But they would not listen to him. One of them slipped up behind the carrier and knocked him from his horse. Then they bound and blindfolded him, and having tied him to a tree they took the mail bag, and made off to a neighboring field, where they overhauled it, finding some \$500 in money in various letters. He went with them, but no way did he have any hand in the crime. Those who did it had fled, and as the carrier had recognized him in the party, he had been arrested.

The mail bag had been found, as well as the letters. These letters, from which money had been taken, were kept by order of the officers, and duplicates sent to the various persons, to whom they were directed, naming the particulars. These letters had been given me for examination, and I had returned them to the prosecuting attorney.

I got through with my private preliminaries about noon, and as the case would not come up before the next day, I went into court to see what was going on. The first case which came up was one of theft, and the prisoner was a young girl, not more than seventeen years of age, named Elizabeth Ludworth. She was very pretty, and bore that mild, innocent look which we seldom find in acrimony. She was pale and frightened, and the moment my eyes rested upon her, I pitied her. She had been weeping profusely, for her bosom was wet, but as she found so many eyes upon her, she became too much frightened to weep more.

The complaint against her set forth that she had stolen one hundred dollars from a Mrs. Naseby, and as the case went on, I found that this Mrs. Naseby was her mistress, she (Mrs. N.) being a wealthy widow, living in town. The poor girl declared her innocence in the most wild terms, and called on God to witness that she would rather die than steal. But circumstances were heard against her. A hundred dollars in bank notes had been stolen from her mistress's room, and she was the only one who had access there.

I reflected for a moment. I cast my eye towards the prisoner, and she was at that moment looking at me. She caught my eye and the volume of humble prayerful entreaty I read in those tearful orbs, resolved me in a moment. In my soul I knew that the girl was innocent or at least—I firmly believed so—and perhaps I could help her. I arose and went to the girl, and asked her if she wished me to defend her. She said yes. Then I informed the court that I was ready to enter into the case, and I was admitted at once. The loud murmur of satisfaction which ran through the room, quickly told me where the sympathies of the people were.

I asked for a moment's cessation, that I might speak with my client. I went and sat down by her side, and asked her to state to me candidly the whole case. She told me she had lived with Mrs. Naseby nearly two years, and that during all that time she had never any trouble before. About two weeks ago, she said, her mistress lost a hundred dollars.

"She missed it from her drawer," the girl told me, "and she asked me about it, but I knew nothing of it. The next thing I knew, Nancy Luther told Mrs. Naseby that she saw me take the money from the drawer—that she watched me through the key-hole. They then went to my trunk, and they found twenty-five dollars of the missing money there. But O, sir, I never took it—and somebody else put that money there!"

I then asked her if she suspected any one. "I don't know," she said, "who could have done it but Nancy. She has never liked me, because she thought I was treated better than she was. She is the cook and I was the chambermaid."

She pointed Nancy Luther out to me. She was a stout, bold-faced girl, somewhere about two-and-twenty years old, with a low forehead, small gray eyes, a pug nose, and thick lips. I caught her glance at once, as it rested upon the fair young prisoner, and the moment I detected the look of hatred which I read there, I was convinced she was the rogue.

"O, sir, can you help me?" my client asked in a fearful whisper. "Nancy Luther, did you say that girl's name was?"

"Yes, sir." "Is there any other girl of that name about here?"

"No, sir." "Then rest easy. I'll try hard to save you."

I left the court room, and went to the prosecuting attorney and asked him for the letters stolen from the mail-bag. He gave them to me, and having selected one, I returned the rest, and told him I would see that he had the one I kept before night. I then returned to the court-room and the case went on.

Mrs. Naseby resumed her testimony. She said she entrusted her room to the prisoner's care and that no one else had access there save herself. Then she described about the missing money, and closed by telling how she had found twenty-five dollars of it in the prisoner's trunk. She could swear it was the identical money she had lost, it being in two tens and a five dollar bill.

"Mrs. Naseby," said I, "when you first missed the money, had you any reason to believe that the prisoner had taken it?"

"No, sir," she answered. "Had you ever before detected her in dishonesty?"

"No, sir." "Should you have thought of searching her trunk had not Nancy Luther advised you and informed you?"

"No, sir." Mr. Naseby then left the stand, and Nancy Luther took her place. She came up with a bold look, and upon me she cast a defiant glance, as much as to say "trap me if you can." She gave evidence as follows:

She said that on the night when the money was stolen, she saw the prisoner going up stairs, and from the manner in which she went up, she suspected that all was not right. So she followed her up.

Elizabeth went into Mrs. Naseby's room and shut the door after her. I stepped down and looked through the key-hole, and saw her at mistress's draw. I saw her take out the money and put it in her pocket. Then she stooped down and picked up the lamp, and as I saw that she was coming out, I hastened away. Then she went on and told how she had informed her mistress of this, and how she proposed to search the girl's trunk.

"You say that no one, save yourself and the prisoner, had access to your room," I said. "Now could Nancy Luther have entered that room if she wished?"

"Certainly, sir. I meant no one else had any right there."

I saw that Mrs. N., though naturally a hard woman, was somewhat moved by poor Elizabeth's misery.

"Could your cook have known, by any means in your knowledge, where your money was?"

"Yes, sir; for she has often come up to my room when I was there, and I have given her money with which to buy provisions of market-men, who happened to pass along with their waggons."

"One more question: Have you known of the prisoner's having had any money since this was stolen?"

"No, sir."

I now called Nancy Luther back, and she began to tremble a little, though her look was as bold and defiant as ever.

"Yes, sir," she said, "why did you not tell me that?"

"I am a lawyer," I answered. "You can certainly do it for she is innocent!"

"Is she your sister?"

The youth hesitated and colored.

"No, sir," he said. "But—but—" Here he hesitated again.

"She has no counsel?" I asked.

"None that's good for anything—nobody will do anything for her. O, save her, and I'll pay you all I've got. I can't pay you much, but I can raise something."

The youth who had first asked me to defend the prisoner, caught me by the hand, but he could not speak plainly. He simply looked at me through his tears for a moment, and then he rushed to the fair prisoner. He seemed to forget where he was for a moment, his arms round her, and she laid her head upon his bosom, the wept aloud.

I did not attempt to describe the scene that followed, but I fancy Nancy Luther had not been arrested for the theft, she would have been obliged to seek the protection of officers, or the great people would surely have taken care of her, if they had done so more.

On the next morning, I received a note, very handsomely written, in which it was told that the prisoner had got a slight token of gratitude due for my efforts in her behalf. It was signed "Several Citizens," and contained one hundred dollars. Shortly afterwards, the youth came to pay me the money he could raise. I simply showed him the note I had received, and asked him if he would not keep his hard-earned for his wife when he got home. He owned that he had intended to make Lizzy Madworth his wife very soon.

I will only add that on the following day, I succeeded in clearing my next client from conviction of robbing the mail, and I doubt not that I made a considerable haul of the fortunate directors of the latter, which had saved an innocent girl, on the day before, in my appeal to the jury; and if I made them feel that the finger of Omnipotence was in the work, I did it because I sincerely believed my client was innocent of all crime, and I am sure they thought so too.

THE LAND TITLE FORGERIES IN ENGLAND.

A motion was made on Wednesday before one of the Masters in Chancery, Dublin, to have all the deeds, documents, checks, and receipts having reference to the case of the Earl of Kingston and John Sadler, brought in and lodged for the purpose of having the account which was decreed by the Master taken. Counsel appeared on the other side, but objection having been made, the Master decreed accordingly. It is understood that this particular case will bring to light some frightful revelations in connection with the history of Sadler as a speculator in the Irish land market, and as the founder of the Irish Bank.

The invention of Alexander Dumas has been thrown into the shade by the disclosures which have just taken place respecting the affairs of the Tipperary Bank. "Was there ever," said the Master of the Rolls in Ireland, "so gigantic a fraud committed by any man, or body of men, upon unfortunate contributors who were being swindled out of their money?" The court alluded to the scandals which have come to light affecting another member of the Sadler family. It seems that no later than the 1st of February last Mr. James Sadler (M.P. for Tipperary) published the annual report of the affairs of the bank. It announced a dividend of six per cent, and a further bonus of three per cent, for the last year's trading. It also asserted that, after a dividend and bonus, there remained a surplus of £3,303 12s. 4d., which was to be carried to a reserve account of £17,375 12s. 7d., spare money lying by. Yet at that very time the bank was in a state of hopeless insolvency. The liabilities of the bank were £200,000. James Sadler had allowed his brother John (*par nobis fratrum*) to overdraw his account by £200,000. The assets of the concern were £35,000. See, how to the last John Sadler tried to mislead!

How, after so many precautions against the Porte, with the object of confining still more the principle of our integrity, could the protecting Power recognize the right to violate it by an exemption in its own favor and its special interest?

European Intelligence.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GREAT BRITAIN.

By a decree in the *Monitor* M. A. Fould, Minister of State, and Admiral Hamelin, Minister of Marine, have been promoted to the rank of Grand Crosses of the Legion of Honour.

Admiral Pausad, Commander-in-Chief of the Baltic Naval Division, has left Paris for Brost.

The telegraphic dispatch announcing the birth of the Imperial Prince caused an extraordinary sensation at Marsoville. All the vessels to the two harbours, foreign as well as French, were in an instant dressed with flags.

The results of the conference of Constantinople have produced in our country the most painful impressions. We expect nothing less than fresh negotiations on the part of Turkey on our ancient treaties, and its usual disdain for the prayers of 6,000,000 of Roumanians. The Boyards are accused of being divided among themselves, but on this occasion, at least, they have proved that the interests of their country have silenced the spirit of party. They agreed with each other on what was to be done, and went at once in concert with Prince Ghika. The Prince approved their conduct, and declared that he would address a protest to him to be communicated to the allied Powers, and a commission of Boyards was named to proceed to Paris to defend before the Congress the rights of the country, and to propose the union of the propositions of Turkey. The same day, the national protest was signed by all the clergy and the Boyards, and was communicated to the Consuls at Jassy, despite the earnest remonstrance of the Austrians. The deputation were on the point of leaving for Paris when the Prince received a firman from the Sultan against any movement or any demonstration in opposition to the wishes of the Sublime Porte. The firman of his Highness, backed by Austrian bayonets, has disconcerted every one. We are now, indeed, an object of derision to the Greeks, for our sympathy for Turkey, and for our blind confidence in Turkey, and we know not what answer to give who they say to us in the streets. "It is still to Roum that you will be forced to have recourse in the long run," they say to you, in the most critical situation of affairs. On one side Turkey overwhelms us in recompense for our devotion to her, on the other hand Austria stifles our cries of distress, and the Ambassador of France appears to have acquiesced in our condemnation. Our last hope is in the decision of the conference of Paris, which, if not quite in conformity with our wishes may at least be more equitable and more in harmony with our ancient treaties. Our countrymen now in Paris are alone charged to speak in the name of the Roumanian nation, and to solicit from the representatives of the allied Powers the recognition of the principle—the only principle capable of raising us from our present condition, and of enabling us to realize the expectations of the Western Powers—namely, that of presenting strong barriers against the invasions of the North."

The following petition has been addressed to the Porte relative to the Moldavian frontier:

On the eve of the important conference which are to regulate, in Paris, the general conditions of peace, and to insure, by a new and definitive settlement of the frontier, the safety of the European States, we address ourselves with confidence to the benevolent protection of the Sultan, our august Sovereign, humbly expressing to him our wishes, in order that he may promote their realization, which is not less important to the common interests of the great European family than to the private advantage of Moldavia. According to the first article of the Austrian propositions, accepted by Russia, that power is to surrender the portion of the territory of Bessarabia, beginning at Obetyrn and following the line of moun-

APRIL.

From Mrs. Trull's Canadian Settlers' Guide.

April in Canada is not the same month in its general features, as the lovely, showery, capricious April, that month of smiles and sunshine, in dear old England. It is often cold, stern and harsh, yet with many hopeful changes that come to cheer us into the belief that winter is gone, and the season of buds and flowers is at hand, and some years it is so; but only once in five or ten years does the Canadian April prove a pleasant genial month.

Some warm, lively, even sultry days, misty like Indian Summer, are experienced, and the snow melts rapidly, and a few flies creep out and sport awhile in the warm beams of the young sun, but by and by a cloud takes all away. The wind blows chilly, snow showers fall, and all is cold, cheerless winter again.

In fine April a few blossoms peep out from under the thick carpet of dead leaves, and then you see the pretty snow-flower or Hepatica lifting its stately head and waving in the spring breezes on the way-sides, on upturned roots and in the shelter of the underwood where the forest is a little thinner so as to admit of the warm beams of the sun; pale pink, blue of two shades and snow white are the varieties of this cheerful little flower. Violets, the small white, and few pale blue ones, are next seen. The rich tansy, at the edges of your clearing produces the sanguinaria or blood root—the modest white flower shrouded at first breaking the soil in vine-shaped leaf, refined with orange. The red of this plant affords a bright red dye to the Indians, with which they stain the bark of the mats and baskets. You may know the blood-root, on breaking the leaf or the roots, by its red juice.

In low, open, moist ground, the mottled leaf of the dog's tooth violet (*erythronium*) comes up, and late in April the yellow bell, striped on the outside of the petal with purple brown, come in abundance. "Spring beauty," too, in the April flower, a delicate little flower with pale pink striped bell—*Clytonia* is its botanical name—but we love to call this *yellow star* may easily remember.

As the snow melts off in the woods, the leaves of various evergreen plants appear still fresh and green. Among these are the pyrolas or sweet wintergreens, a numerous and lovely family of Canadian plants; several varieties of the clubmoss, one of which is as the festoon pine, and is used to make wreaths for ornamenting the settlers' houses with. The wild garlic, too, shows its bright green spear-shaped leaves early in this month. This plant so eagerly sought for by the cattle, to which it is a very healing medicine, is drowned by the daffodil, as it destroys the flavor of the milk and spoils the butter.

If the above month of April should prove cold, many of the above named flowers put off their blossoming time, appearing in the ensuing month of May.

A THIRD HERO.

On the night of the 31st January, the packet from Dover to Calais, after experiencing a very heavy weather, was unable, in consequence of the continual violence of the storm, to enter the port of Calais. Two English travellers on board expressed great anxiety to catch the train for Paris, and insisted on being allowed to land. For this purpose, they got into a small boat, which was the only one left. The boat had scarcely left the ship's side when she capsized by a large wave, and the whole crew were precipitated into the waves. An English gentleman who had remained on deck, immediately took off his coat and sprang into the sea, and, at the imminent hazard of his own life, succeeded in reaching two of the unfortunate passengers, and brought them safely to the ship's ladder. He was himself assisted upon deck, but he was unable to do so until the boat had nearly left the ship's side when she capsized by a large wave, and the whole crew were precipitated into the waves. 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