to bring about that end. It was simply a question of confidence and figures, not by listening to compliments and blarney. He would willingly retire with the general into the library, while his good friend, Mr. Vane, would perhaps stroll about the grounds, taking care to be within call if his valuable services were required.'

His good friend Mr. Vane, who during lunche-on had been paying particular attention to some old and remarkable Madeira which was on the table, did not seem at all to relish the plan thus sketched out. At the first, he seemed inclined to make some strong and open remonstrance, but a glance from underneath Mr. Delabole's bushy eyebrows dissuaded him therefrom, and he contended himself by shrugging his shoulders and indulging in other mild pantomimic signs of dissent and objection, Previously to retiring with Mr. Delabole, Sir Geoffry, with punctillous courtesy, accompanied Mr. Vane to the hall-door; pointed out to him where were the pleasantest walks in the grounds, how best to reach the spots from whence the favourite views were to be obtained, and handed him the keys of the conservatory and the gates opening into the home park. Mr. Vane received all this polite-ness very coolly, inwardly determining to take the very first opportunity of revenging himself on Mr. Delabole for the uncoremonious treat-ment received at that gentleman's hands. Left to himself, Mr. Vane strolled idly about

the grounds switching the heads off the flowers with his cane, and cursing Delabole's impudence for having relegated him to the duties of the second flddle.

" Make the best of your time, my good friend," said he, stretching himself upon a bench shaded by the overhanging branches of a large tree, and shaking his fists in the direction of the tree, and shaking his lists in the direction of the house, "make the best of your time, to swagger and give yourselfairs, and show that you are the head of the concern; while I am, or am supposed to be, only one of its paid officers; for within a week or ten days at the outside, I shall be my own master, and if you attempt anything of that kind with me then. I shall be anything of that kind with me then. I shall be in a position to tell you my opinion of you in the very plainest language. Don't think I have not noticed of late, how very tightly you have drawn the rope which binds me to you! Telegraph for me when I am away, told to go here and there, to find out this and that, brought down here and shunted on one side, as though I were a mere clerk, whose business it is to make memoranda of what may pass between their excellencies. Oh, my good friend Delabole, you may take your oath I will not forget this. When once my marriage with Mrs. Bendixen is an accomplished fact, and I have the knowledge that I am beyond any harm which you could do me, then you shall taste the leek which you have compelled me so frequently of late to swallow. I will put my foot on your neek, as you have put yours on mine, I will—Hallon, whose this coming this way? One of the garadeners, I suppose? No, by Jove! the purson who was poking about at the station, and who seemed to take such interest in us and our moveseemed to take such interest in us and our move-ments. Wint can be want? He must be a friend of Sir Geoffry's and makes his way through the grounds as a short cut from one part of his parish to the other. He will see I am a friend of the general's, and will want to enter into conversation. I hate parsons, and shan't take any notice of him."

With this miniable resolve, Mr. Vane curled up his feet beneath him on the bench, pulled out a clgar, and was just about to light, it, when, glancing up from under the brim of his hat, he saw the tall figure of the clergyman standing

side him.
Philip Vane dropped the cigar, and sprang to

"Who are you?" be cried, "and what are you

There is no occasion for you to disturb yourself," said the new comer, quietly lifting his hat,
"My name is Druge, and I am rector of one of
the parishes in Springside. I am speaking to Mr. Vane, I believe ?"

"That's my name," said Vane, shortly, and resuming his seat, "though I cannot imagine how you knew it, unless you read it off my portmuntenu, when you were dodging about the sta-tion this morning."

"I knew it before I was dodging about the

station, as you are politely pleased to say," said Mr. Drage; "I know a great deal more about you, as you will find out, before this interview is at an end!"

"The deuce you do !" said Philip Vane, with a cylical smile; "I did not know my fame had extended to these parts. And what do you know about me, pray, Mr .-----.... I forget your

"My name, I repeat, is Drage!"

"Drage — Drage," muttered Philip Vane.

"Any relation of Drage, of Abchurchlane?"

A most respectable man, holding a leading position in the City. My dear Mr. Drage, I am delighted to make your acquaintance." And he

" said Mr. Drage, but otherdo not think

and noted with astonishment the heetic flush in his checks, the brightness of his eyes, the mobile working of his mouth.

may say what you please," he said,
"It is a matter of perfect indifference to me. If you were in the City, your father's clerks could telr you what position I hold there. City men are careful in their representation, and of what they say of each other; but you are a

parson, and are privileged I suppose 7"

"I am a parson. It was in that capacity I became acquainted with the circumstances, the knowledge of which has induced me to seek out. You are about to be murried, Mr.

The dullest of laymen could have told you that," said Mr. Vane, again with a cynical smile; "the report was in the newspapers."
"Exactly; but the point I am coming to has not yet found its way into the newspapers, though it will probably be published

And it is-"It is that you are married already !"

As Mr. Drago pronounced these words a chill crept over Philip Vane, and for an instant he felt as one stupefied and benumbed. But he speedily recovered himself, and looking his com-panion straight in the face, said :

"Either you have been befooled yourself, or yor are trying to make a fool of me. In the latter case a hopeless and dangerous experi-

"I should not attempt to put my wits in antagonism to yours," said the rector, quietly, "but facts have been said to be stubborn things, and the marriage register of Chepstow Church, with the signature of Philip Vane and Margaret Pierrepoint in one of its pages, is still extant !"

"Who told you of this ?" asked Vane, breathing hard and speaking low.

Your injured and descried wife !"

"Is the woman who once passed under that name still alive?" asked Vanc. anxiously. "The lady who has the terrible misfortune to hold that position," said the rector, drawing himself up and looking at his companion with infinite disgust, " is alive and well." " And you come from her?"
" No, I am here on her behalf, but not with

her knowledge." There was a momentary silence, broken by

Vane, who said: "And what is the your seeking this interview with me?" "To warn you that I am cognisant of the position in you stand; to warn you against the commission of the crime which you contain the market."

tem pla te-"And to ask for a round sum to buy off the

"And to ask for a round sum to day on the opposition of yourself and your interesting accomplice. Is not that it, Mr. Drage ?"

"You scoundre!!" said Mr. Drage, "Do you dare to address such language to me—a ciergy-

"If it comes to a question of language," said Vane, with a laugh, "I believe that 'scoundrel' is scarcely a term much bandled about in cleri-As a matter of fact, I have found many gentlemen of your cloth not less open to

a bribe than the rest of the world."
"You shall find one at least who scorns to discuss even the possibility of such an arrangement. Let us bring this interview to a close; you will clearly understand my object in seek ing it. I came to warn you that if you persevere in carrying out this marriage, I will most assuredly hand you over to the law!"

"And I warn you that if you interfere in my business, I will kill you!" said Philip Vane, savagely. "Such a threat has no terrors for nie." said

the rector. " Perhaps not," said Vanc, with a contemptuous glance at his companion's feeble frame; "however, I will find some decisive means—of

bringing you and your client to reason."

"Stay," cried Mr. Drage, "I did not come here to bandy threats, but simply to discharge: solemn duty. I will take no answer from you solemn duty. I will take no answer from you now, irritated as you are by the discovery that your real position is known to me. Think over what I have said, and save yourself from the commission of this great sin. If you have oc-casion to write to me you know were I am to be

Philip Vane hesitated for a moment, then

bowing his head, he said in a low tone:

"You are right. Do not think any more of
the wild words I uttered in my rage; leave me to think over the circumstances in which I am placed, and the manner in which I can best extricate myself from the danger into which I was

about to plunge. Leave me and—Heaven bless you for your kindness."

Mr. Drage looked at him with brimming eyes, and lifting his hat solwly walked off.

"That was the best way of sottling him," said Philip Vane to himself, as he watched the rector down the nath. "I must must his marriage lown the path. "I must push this marriage through at once, and make some excuse for hav ing it a perfectly quiet one."

(To be continued.)

(For the Hearthstone.)

THE PILBURY PORTFOLIO. THOUGHTS UPON MEN AND THINGS,

IN PROSE AND VERSE.

BY REV. II. F. DARNELL.

PAPER L-"SPECTACLES."

WHAT THEY ARE. I have been giving some thought lately to the matter of "speciacies," In doing so, I have regarded them not so much from a philosophic as from a social and moral point of view. I find the subject far more prolific than I had at first supposed. How many things do we imagine that we have safely in our mind's grasp until we begin to analyze them, and find to our shame that we have only the shadow instead of the substance; and how many things do we think we can put into a mushell until we commence trying to pack them! I find this to be the case! From the common centre, spectacles, my thoughts seem to radiate in every conceivable direction, so that it is positively confusing; whilst before me is the dread possibility that when I have got through my thinking I only may be found to have circled the square instead of squar ing the circle. Here we have,—The origin of spectacles; the infinite varieties of spectacles actually in use; what bounds we are to set to the "genus spectacles;" the different purposes for which individuals make use of spectacles; aliat people did in that long and dark period when they were unblessed by speciacles; the when they were unblessed by spectacles; the advantages and disadvantages arising from the use of spectacles. Then, rising to a higher ground, (the moral aspect of the matter in hand,) we are opposed by a ray of more bristling pro-blems yet which we are invited to tackle. Is it essential to spectacles, (designed as they are supposed to be for the purpose of aiding or correcting imperfect vision), that they should themselves be visible and material? Has not anyprejudice, which wise taking no notice of the movement, "I do not think that you will be quite so pleased to make my acquaintance when you have heard all I have to say!"

Philip Vane looked hard at his companion, judgment as much as to his observation? asmuch as mental delusions and aberations are more serious than optical, ought we not to be even more careful in our selection and use as to

> of the other ? I do not propose within the narrow limits to this paper to dwell upon all the points which I have here jotted down, nor do I propose even to touch upon them in the order in which the have been presented. I proceed simply to per down my thoughts in connection with this matter just as they entered into, and were altered through, my own mind. Whether those int be pleased to dignify them by the name of "thoughts," or complicently regard them but as the musings of some amiable lunatic who has deluded himself with the idea that he is a thinker, it is of course beyond my power to decide. Let it comfort me, should that be the case, to remember, that even philosophers have sometimes judged of each other, that when they thought they were thinking, they were only thinking they thought.

the character of the one species of spectacles than

I have been impelled to the consideration of "speciacies" from my having observed of late how many of my fellow beings are in the en-joyment, of what I have heard styled, this "new sense:" as well as by the vast number and inflnite variety of these popular appendages which are offered for sale. I had often noticed this before in a general kind of way; but I determined at length to devote one leisure hour to a more perfect and practical consideration of the subject. I imagined I could best set about this in two different ways. First, I could recall to mind all those of my friends or acquaintances who were in the habit of wearing spectacles, and note, as far as I was able, the particular kind they wore; the end they had in view in wearing them; and how far that end in each case had been gained. Secondly, I could take my stand in a quiet corner of one of our crowded thoroughfarce, as if waiting for a friend or a public conveyance, and endeavour thus to arrive at a similar result by carefully studying each spectacled passenger as he passed me by, min- individual, who had as for as colour is concerned

gling with the human stream which surged continually through the busy streets of the capi-tal. My observation usually proving more re-liable than my memory, I deckled upon adopting the latter course. I tremble to think, modest as the latter course. I tremble to think, modest as I am with respect to my personal appearance, upon how many lenses I must have been temporarily photographed during that one hour!

The following is the result of my observations, and the conclusions to which they led me.

I found the wearers of spectrum.

I found the wearers of spectacles to be elegion."
In my engerness to note those who used them, I suppose I became for the time blind to those unhappy ones who possessed them not; for all at once it seemed to break upon me that it was I who was singular in being destitute of them, and not those in wearing them. Had I not been so interested in my observations, I verily believe

further, confined to neither sex, nor to any period of life; nor did they think for one moment of restricting themselves to any one particular form of this useful implement. The spirit in which it was worn was by no means the same in every instance. Some carried it trium phantly, and others timidly; some modestly, and others audaclously; some apologetically, and some jauntily. In each case, however, I fancled ected a sort of conscionsness of being " spec-

It was but natural that the venerable old gentleman who first passed me should help out his failing sight with their friendly aid. The silver hairs that glittered upon his broad, open brow, beneath his smooth and stapely hat, suited, and sufficiently accounted for, the appending ; as did the wrinkled forchead and feeble gait of that aged char-woman, bending her steps home-ward from the scene of toll which called for stronger and younger limbs than hers. But it did not seem natural they should east the incongruous shadow of distant age over that grace ful girl, whose feir check, delicate profile, and light, quick step, spoke rather of seventeen than seventy. This incongruity, however, attained its climax in the instance of a great over-grown, moon-faced lad of sixteen or thereabouts; who, with mouth agape, gloated through the double array of glass presented by the shop window and the large round panes planted upon his own countenance upon the cakes and confectionery within, Query: Did the exterd of the aperture displayed by his open mouth represent the degree to which the sweet-ments had been individually magnified by the double medium through which he contemplated them?

And now let me attempt to describe some few of the peculiarities which distinguished the different species of spectacles which were presented terent species of spectacies which were presented to my curious gaze, as those netually used and approved by my fellow beings. To begin with, there was the richly plated pair, (I think they were hexagonal), borne by the old gentleman before alluded to. The weight of those specta-cles, and the amount of workmanship expended upon them, must have been quite amazing. If the west organ of the wearr, but not been a the nasal organ of the wearer had not been a "noble Roman" that any general officer would have been proud to own, he could never have sustained that burden so patiently and heroleally as doubtless he had done the last quarter of a century. Who will say but that the nose did well, (as sung by the poet), to Incur all the expense and risk of litigation rather than be robbed of his title to an honour, the support of which devolves usually so entirely upon himself? So numerous and broad were the plated joints of the spectacles we are contemplating, extending rs they did across the bronzed cheek of the veteran ar beyond his ear, that I could not but think, as the profile moved past me, how closely it resembled a length of the mahogany flute which lay on a side-table at my chambers, and whose duicet notes had so often soothed my

adder hours, Immediately following these, the property of a young and pale-looking individual, probably a clerk in some banking house, came a pair with rims and fastenings of light blue steel; so slender in their make, and so completely obscured by ambrosial locks, that, save for the glittering glance they flashed upon me as they went, I should scarcely have been able to detect them. This variety I discovered to be very prevalent among a certain class of business men. Keen and practical, they simply wanted their specta-cles to see with; and had no fancy for carrying a single cause upon their nose, or indeed upon any other part of their person, beyond what there was actual occasion for. They evidently did not think it necessary to mount a pair of glasses weighing 64 oncessolely for the reason that there happened to be such a pair in their possession which their fa-thers or grandfathers had carried before them.
I could not but regard this as no small proof of strength of mind and moral courage. If it be considered something in these days even to be to a grand fath able to confess to a grant ather now much greater the priviledge, whilst adjusting these valuable relies of the past upon our patient nose to be able and claim, as if casually and with becoming nonchalence, "By the by, these were my grandfather's spectacles!" May there not be some connection between wearing one's grandfather's spectacles, and viewing with our grantfather's spectacles, and viewing with our grantfather's spectacles. grandfather's eyes the things of to-day? Is not he who is content to do the one, quite capable of doing, or likely to do, the other? The next variety of this universal article to

which my attention was drawn differed both in which my attention was drawn intered both in colour and form from any which I had noted in connection with the buman visage. I had in-deed observed spectacles similar to those expos-ed for sale in a shop-window which I passed almost daily on my way to the City. I had almost daily on my way to the City. I had however regarded them metely as a work of crt: a sample of what time and ingenuity could accomplish in that particular line; never supposing for one moment that it was ever serious intended that they should be worn. In fine I had taken it for granted that this extraordina-ry achievement in speciacles was to the opti-cian what those wonderful exhibitions in headgear which crown the barber's blocks were, to him whom a facetious writer has stiled the " Hartist in air" ; or at any rate to be in the same

calegory with the far-famed razors, constructed to sell and not to shave. But "incredible dictu!" a purchaser had been found. "Illi robur et æs triplex circa pectus erat." Moreover he word them with the air of one who thought he had the best in the bargain, and who was rather proud than otherwise of the decoration. But I must describe them. First, as to their colour, Now I had already remarked some variations in the shade of the glasses which were borne east me; but these were only of a faint and uncharacter. The slightest possible tinge only of blue or green detructing from the pure chrystal. These on the contrary were a deep. dark green. It was positive cruelty to carry such a pair before me just at a moment when my mind was full of this subject; when I wished to give it the fullest attention, I yet had but minutes in which to prosecute my inves tigations in each particular case. I was at once consumed with the desire to know how the orld and its contents looked from behind these extraordinary aids to vision. How did I appear how did everybody else appear, to this bold

thus stepped out of our world into another? If I blushed, (as I sometimes did), would be detect my weakness? If I turned dealy pule, would be

must have enjoyed a perpetual spring. He had but to adjust these wonderous lenses before his visage and he was in an Eden of his own creation. The dusty or mud-stained pavements of the City vanished at once. The walks were clad with verdure, and soft green mosses draped the beginned walls of the temples of Mammon, and I must have straightway gone off and purchased a pair, if only to keep me in countenance.

Those superior beings, gifted with the mow line of gazing through the mystic pebble upon the works of nature and of art, were, I perceived better constant and of art, were, I perceived better constant and for arrayed in Lineon green. moved to and fro, arrayed in Lincoln green. Clap a good overcoat upon that man's back, place a muffler around his neck, and than set him on the top of the Alps, or send him to winter in Canada, it matters not; you might change his country but not his clime. With those charmed spees on his nose, he would mistake even the tweak of Jack Frost for the sting of a mosquite; he could smap his fingers. In the face of the grin Ring of his beard of icicles; yea, thing him a shilling, as to a "Jack-in-the

green, and bid bim fool it at his will.

But in construction these spectacles were as remarkable as in colour. Not content with allowing the spectator to look out of what I suppose we may term, his front windows, our insenious friend, the optician, had also provided him with a window on cach side by whoring. him with a window on each side by placing an additional piece of glass at each exterior angle, which moved on a thoge, giving altogether a kind of ubiquitous expression to the contenance which was really something more than human You never seemed to be safe from that man's eye unless you were fairly behind his back. He rentinded you of one of those houses which you always pray may not fall into the hand of a prying neighbour; which standing at a corner a little in advance of the rest, and being windowed as above, not only commands the street run ing up directly opposite to it, but also both to the left and right of that in which it is situated. What an invaluable acquisition would these glasses be to the pedagogue! Wor he to the luck-less half breeched youngster who presumed to prank on the right or left wing of the watchfull ceneral armed with this terrible tundement Through the side window would the delinquent be at once detected, and bleed and burn as a dorious tribute to the achievements of science With a pair of spectacles such as these, even the esceing-round the corner" would seem to be no longer a indicrous impossibility; and should they came generally boto use, might we not look for the avoidence of many collisions a-foot or otherwise which are now of such fre-quent occurrence at our street-corners.

Time would fad me to dilate upon all the va-Time would fail me to dilate upon all the varieties of this useful invention, whose use I witnessed. There was the compromise between the eyo-glass and the spectacles. A species of impostor who, when he was off duty, dangled negligently upon the breast of the wearer; but who, when occasion required, suddenly showed himself the double-faced fellow he really was, and the trice was bright own and meaning and in a trice was jerked open and mounted upon his proper sent. In addition to this were a host of eye-glasses of every conceivable form and material, which I rank also under the heal of spectacles, from those set massively in gold to those in horn, or, (as I saw in one case) consisting of merely a round piece of glass pieceed with a hole by which a riband or slender guard was attached. Here, then, we have glanced over, only cursorily it is true, the entire field. We have traced the mightlest achievements in set ence and art, in connection with speciacles, down to the simple lense, the original and the essence of them all.

But a few words as to why people wear spec tacles. "Of course," you say, "to aid their vision. In many cases this may possibly be the case; but unless I am unduly cynical, or my knowledge of human nature is sadly at fault, it seems to me that in numerous instances we must look for some other solution yet. "Jerry," tsald a postman lately to a certain acquaintance (said a postman lately to a certain acquaintance who stood at his post waiting for a job) "here's a letter for you from your hoy?" Jerry took the epistle with much external composure, though his hand trembled visibly, for many miles of sea divided the father and son; but his presence of mind did not desert him. Taking out his spectacles from his pocket and putting them may be made to enough the advance of the contract seamed th them upon his nose, he merely scanned the address carefully, putting the letter by with the exchanation, "So it is, poor boy; that's his hand, and no mistake." Now, had I not known exactly how it was with Jerry, that he did not know B from a bull's foot, and that not one syl-lable of that letter would be comprehend until it was read to him by his wife, I should, of a blessed invention is that of spectacle means of these shabby glasses Jerry, before his little world, was able to hold his own as a man of fair parts; whilst, when driven in a corner, he could find at all times a convenient way of es-

cape, "he had mishid his spectucles."

When, moreover, I pause to think of the gravity which they import to the divine; the dignity with which they invest the bench; the air of shrowiness and sagacity they lend even to the naturally obtuse; and the Hon-hearted boldness with which they inspire the diffident; I cannot but think that we might with some show of reason place beside the old adage—
"None so blind as those who will not see"—
a new one that I have ventured to coin for the occasion,-" They are not all blind who wear spectacles."

So much for those useful aids by which man's failing vision is preserved to him at seasons when he would otherwise pass his days in a species of intellectual twilight, and be dependent wholly on the sympathy and assistance of others for all the delights of a keen observation, the enjoyment of reading, and the expression of his thoughts in writing; and which, if used at times, (as they doubtless often are) for other ends than those they were intended to subserve, are yet to be reckoned as one of the most blessed and beneficent institutions which have crowned the research and skill of man.

paragraphs as to the moral aspect of the matter. Viewed from this standpoint, who does not wear spectacles? And are they not as various in the colours with which they clothe the individuals or objects on which they gaze, as those we have just been considering, or as the temperament, disposition, and mental or moral obliquity of those who see through them. the politician puts on his spectacles (party spirit), and views through them the ranks of his opponents; if found in that unfortunate position a very angel of light would be to him the personification of all that is treacherous and hase. When for instance Mr. Bright looks through his at a British nobleman, what does he behold? "A bloated aristocrat," be he a very minnow in contrast with his own well "A species of vampire; developed person. "a sucker of the people's blood," And when in turn my Lord Dundreary languid-ly directs his golden eye-glass to the portly form

of the modern Penn, what is his judgment?
"A wascally demagogue! A wegular wepublican, you know!" In vain may we look for a true estimate either of ability or character when prejudice and party-spite distort and impair the vision. "Call her pretty," says the haly, once young but now passing into the sere and yellow leaf, " why she hasn't a good feature in her face!" Exactly so, my dear; but if you will be good enough to take offyour spectacles, (which I need enough to take offyour spectacles, (which I need enough to take offyour spectacles, (which I need scarcely tell you consist of an ill-natured envy scarcely to your country of an in-natured entry of charms no longer your own), you will perceive that the young buly in question has a sweetness of expression and a charm of manner, which those odious glasses would not permit you to see; and which may well account for the excha-mation of approval which attracted your tadig nant scorn

I might multiply illustrations ad infinitum, or ad nuisecum, but I forbear. It is not essential, however, that these speciacles should always distort and deteriorate our mental vision. One proof to the contrary, and I have done, "My love," said a young husband to his winome bride, as he conducted her somewhat diffidently to her future home, "I have done my dently to her future home, "I have done my best to make you comfortable. It is but a poor place, but I trust we can live happy in It!" "A poor place, darling! Why It is the dearest little home that ever was; and what is better still, it is all our own. I shall be as happy as the day is long!" Dear little loving bride, shar-less the right black of engaledge time, her bear has the right kind of specificles upon her taper little nose. Long may she wear them! And as for you and me, dear render, whether we be adorned or no with those triumphs of the opticlan's skill and ingenuity to which I have altud-ed, may there be no spectacles before our mental vision but those which consist of that spirit of affection which purifies and beautifies all upon whom it looks and that lotter spirit of charity which "thinketh no evil," and "covereth a multitude of sins."

H. F. D.

THE VIOLATION OF LAW.

BY HENRY WARD BERCHER.

Nothing can be more sure than that wrongoing—that is, the violation of the law inflxed in the material world, in our bodies and minds, in our social relations, or in society—is the cause of suffering and of disturbance in the indivalual and in the community, and the only cause. If there was no aberration from absolute law, there would be no suffering. Directly or Indirectly, all disturbance springs from variation of law. I do not now refer to the subject of resof law onsibility, of blameworthiness, of transmitted numities, with the long retinue of important infirmities, with the long retinue of important questions that goodong with that subject; I only state the universal fact that disobedience, and suffering as the consequence of it, go logether. It would be an await thing, universally to

be deplored, if we could bring peace and wrongdoing lute inseparable companionship. It is a benevolent thing that God has made wrongbehavolent thing that God has made wrong-doing and suffering to be inseparably joined. For if men could violate law in nature, in themselves, in their civic and social relations, in the great spiritual realm, and pass without penalty or pain, good would be at a discount. Virtue would go uncrowned. It would be subs-tantially the abdication of God's government in this world. The sign or token of peace consists in the force and many and pains that follows. in the fears, and pangs, and pains that follow wrong-doing. And to make wrong penceful; to softer any man to bridge over the chasm, and continue to do wrong, and yet have peace, would be to set aside the divine moral govern-

ment among men.
All attemps to procure peace in this way are flusive and mischievous. And all the hymns and songs, and various dreams and prophecies, on this subject, are worse than useles, if they leave an impression upon the infud that by and by there is to come, by an evolution no more perceptible than that by which the sensons ad-vatee, a period in which God shall, by his own power, fill the world with peace. If there is any-thing that stands out in the listory of the world, it is that men are to achieve peace by earning it through righteousness. And yet there is no fact that next nor to be emulasized and ls no fact that needs more to be emphasized and

charified from inistickes and error, than this.

We find record of the same errors and mistakes in the history of the earliest days of the Christian dispensation. Then there were men that cried, "Peace! peace!" as if peace was a fabric that could be bought at the store and made into garments of any patern desired; as if it was not a thing that could only be obtained through the outworking of moral conditions, And God said, "No peace shall there be to the wicked." In other words, wickedness is utterly incompatible with a condition of harmony and peace. And all attempts to produce peace. ny and peace. And all attemps to produce peace to the individual confirm this truth. Taking the whole run of human life, they that have a life based upon moral elements, will have the fruit of that life-peace and joy; while they that have not, will not. No device can make it

anette, by customs, by hiws, by expedients and rules of politoness, though they are not useless and are not to be scoffed at, are yet but pallintives of the universal mischief of schishness. The collisions, the disconforts, the trritations, the pains, the sorrows which belong to men's experience, may be more or less managed and prevested from running to extremitles by these expedients of social life; but after all, there is at one cause and one cure.

Whatever tends to produce moderation in

communities of men; whatever tends to produce a positive and active state of kindness windever tends to produce practical justice and real recitinde, tends to cause a deep and per-manent peace. Whatever tends to neglect them, or overthrow them, tends to produce inharmony. When these elements are neglected, or verthrown, no possible substitute for them an be found. Peace must come from natural and moral laws, and not from any artificial socleties or inventions of men.

An ingenious mothod of defrauding their customers, it seems has lately, been adopted by certain intelligent tradesmen. Their weights are not "unjust," but their scales are placed on a loping board so that they tell against the purchaser. At the Sessions liouse at Nowington last week, among many tradesmen who were summoned for having unjust weights and measures in their possession, a fruitore was charged with having his scales in the position referred to ready for weights. In reply to the Blench, the inspector stated that the scales were correct when placed in the proper position, and under these circumstances the magistrates said they could not convict. There was no doubt the public were defrauded by the position in which the reales were placed, but in such cases the public must look out for themselves. It was not the first time similar cases had been brought under their notice, nor can there be any doubt that it will not be the last: for it is obviously an immense boon to dishonest tradesmen to allow then to adopt a system by which they can freely cheat without bringing themselves within the pale of the law. An ingenious mothod of defrauding their custom-

An exchange tells that at "twenty years of age Le-land Stanford arrived at California with only one shirt to his back. Since then, by close attention to busi-ness, he has accumulated over ten millions."

A GENTLEMAN once met a very quiet newshey sell-ing newspapers. "Is there any news?" enquired the gentleman. "Lots o' news," replied the boy, "but nothing to hollor."

