

"Detained? Among your auld wives, I suppose. What claim have they upon ye, I should like to ken."

"The claim they have on any other of the nurses. I am paid to attend them. And besides, I am sorry for them. It is a pleasure to be able to help them— or any one in distress—my best pleasure."

To this there was no reply, and Allison, who of late had brought her work with her to pass the time, went on knitting her little stocking, and there was silence, as on the other days.

"What do you mean by saying that you are paid like the other nurses?" said Brownrig after a little.

"I mean just what I said. Doctor Fleming offered me the place of nurse here. I held it once before, and I like it, in a way."

No more was said to Allison about it then or after ward. But Brownrig spoke to Dr. Fleming about the matter, on the first opportunity, declaring emphatically that all that must come to an end. He grew more like his old self than he had been yet, as he scoffed at the work and at the wages.

"It must end," said he angrily.

"Mr. Brownrig," said the doctor gravely, "you may not care to take a word of advice from me. But as you are lying there not able to run away, I'll venture to give it. And what I say is this. Let weel alane. Be thankfu' for sma' mercies, which, when ye come to consider them, are not so very sma'. Yes, I offered her the place of nurse, and she is paid nurse's wages, and you have the good luck to be one of her patients. But ca' canny! (Be moderate.) You have no claim on Mistress Allison, that, were the whole story known, any man in Scotland would help you to uphold. She came here of her own free will. Of her own free will she shall stay—and—if such a time comes—of her own free will she shall go. In the meantime, take you all the benefit of her care and kindness that you can."

"Her ain free will! And what is the story about Rainy's meeting her on the street and threatening her with the law, unless she did her duty? I doubt that was the best reason for her coming."

"You are mistaken. Rainy did not threaten her. He lost sight of her within the hour, and would have had as little chance to find her, even if he had tried, as he had last time. No, she came of her own free will. She heard from some auld fule or other that you had near put an end to yourself at last, and he told her that it was her duty to let bygones be bygones, and to go and see what might be done to save the soul of her enemy."

"Ay, ay! her enemy, who wasna likely to live lang, and who had something to leave behind him," said Brownrig, with a scowl.

"As you say—who has something to leave behind him, and who is as little likely to leave it to her as she would be likely to accept it if he did. But that's neither here nor there to me, nor to you either, just now. What I have to say is this, Take ye the good of her care and her company, while ye have them. Take what she is free to give you, and claim no more. If she seeks my advice, and takes it, she'll go her own way, as she has done before. In the meantime, while she is here, let her do what she can to care for you when the auld wives and the bairns can spare her."

And with that the doctor bade him "good-day," and took his departure.

(To be continued.)

ROYAL TRAINS.

"THE Queen's Train," it may be remarked, is a misnomer, to start with. There is no such train. Two saloons there are, close-coupled and connected by a gangway, that are reserved for Her Majesty's exclusive and personal use, which never leave Wolverton except to carry her to or from Balmoral; but that is all. The rest of the Royal train is made up with such saloons or other vehicles of the company's ordinary rolling stock as may on any particular occasion be required. Nor are the Royal saloons themselves in any way very remarkable. One thing to be noticed is that they are entered by a folding carriage-step—a survival, doubtless, from the days when platforms were not yet of a uniform and sufficient height. The floors are deeply carpeted, and the sides and roof thickly padded with quilted silk, to deaden the noise and vibration of the train, from which, as is well known, Her Majesty suffers. To reduce this to a minimum, she, by her own desire, travels to and from Scotland at a speed markedly below that which the meanest of her subjects can command any evening in the week for the modest payment of a good deal less than one penny per mile. One of the saloons is fitted as a bedroom, and between the two is a lavatory, whose basins and fittings in metal, chased and gilt, deserve to be mentioned as a real work of art. These saloons are, it should be added, now more than twenty years old. Since they were built the art of railway carriage construction has advanced with rapid strides, and the North-Western authorities would willingly, if permitted, replace them with new ones. *The Railways of England*, by W. M. Acworth.

CURE OF INEBRIATES.

FROM the *Quarterly Journal of Inebriety*, published at Hartford, Conn., under the auspices of the American Association for the Study and Cure of Inebriates, we make the following extracts from a recent lecture by Dr. Elliott, at Toronto: Four conditions must be observed. The first condition of cure and reformation is abstinence. The patient is being poisoned, and the poisoning must be stopped. Were it an arsenic instead of an alcohol, no one would dispute this. So long as the drinking of intoxicants is indulged in, so long will the bodily, mental, and moral mischief be intensified and made permanent. Abstinence must be absolute, and on no plea of fashion, of physic, or of religion ought the smallest quantity of an intoxicant be

put to the lips of the alcoholic slave. Alcohol is a material chemical narcotic poison, and a mere sip has, even in the most solemn circumstances, been known to relight in the fiercest intensity the drink crave which for a long period of years had been dormant and unfelt. The second condition of cure is to ascertain the predisposing and exciting causes of inebriety, and to endeavour to remove these causes, which may lie in some remote or deep-seated physical ailment. The third condition of cure is to restore the physical and mental tone. This can be done by appropriate medical treatment, by fresh air and exercise, by nourishing and digestible food given to reconstruct healthy bodily tissue and brain cell, aided by intellectual, educational, and religious influences. Nowhere can these conditions of cure be so effectually carried out as in an asylum where the unfortunate victim of drink is placed in quarantine, treated with suitable remedies until the alcohol is removed from his system, then surrounded by Christian and elevating influences, fed with a nourishing and suitable diet, and supplied with skilful medical treatment. His brain and nervous system will then be gradually restored to its normal condition, and after a period of from six to twelve months in most cases, he will be so far recovered as to be able to return to his usual avocation and successfully resist his craving for drink. The fourth condition of cure is employment. Idleness is the foster mother of drunkenness, industry the bulwark of temperance. Let the mind of the penitent inebriate be kept occupied by attention to regular work, and the task of reformation will be shorn of half its difficulty.

NIGHT'S MYSTERY.

Oh, mystery of night! whose shadows fall
Noiseless and deep, to quench the sunset's glow!
Fold all thy shadowy robes about the day,
And bid sweet silence hush all things below.

Shower from thy wings the silver stars of light,
To sparkle in the cloudless depths of blue;
And pour the golden radiance of the moon,
On tree and flower—to rival sunset hue.

Come with thy sweet enchantress, restful sleep,
To breathe repose on wearied brain and heart;
And lead us to the fairy land of dreams
Where flowers never fade, nor joys depart.

From thy weird halls steal forth faint murmurings
Of other worlds, whose import we would know;
But vain our hope to catch the heavenly notes
Our ears are dulled with time's uncadenced flow.

When first the morning stars sang to the earth,
Did they reveal the secret of thy course?
Have the fleet winds that wander with the clouds
Ne'er whispered of the mystery of thy source?

Thy face is beautiful, yet dread, oh, night!
Love claims thee for his own, yet so doth hate;
And pleasure holds high revel at thy noon,
But death and sorrow on thy footsteps wait.

We cannot read thy message, veiled and dim,
But when time's shadows flee—as that dark cloud
Was light to Israel—thou wilt stand revealed
Sister of light, with glory full endowed.

S. P. M.

VERY CANDID TESTIMONY.

(From the Toronto Mail.)

To the Editor of The Mail: As a constant reader of your paper I will thank you to insert the following:

Having read so many valuable testimonials as to the value of Warner's Safe Cure, I think it my duty to contribute one, and I speak from actual knowledge.

In 1883 my wife took pains across the kidneys, and from there to her shoulders and to the pit of the stomach. The skin came off her finger ends and also off her lips, and turned purple red. She was under a doctor's care for about three years, and took different medicines, but no relief came. I got disheartened, and said one day, "Will we try some patent medicine?" She said, "Jack, let me die, I have taken medicine enough." I went down to W. Clark's drug store and procured two bottles of Safe Cure, and one of pills. I continued on until she had taken eleven bottles, when she said: "I need no more; I have no pain anywhere, and I feel quite myself again." My wife has never since suffered from the dreadful pains which she had before taking Warner's Safe Cure. I am sorry that in justice to the purveyors of that invaluable medicine I have not reported on it before, but nevertheless I recommend it to every human being suffering with the same affliction.

Yours, etc.,

J. COOPER.
Lightkeeper, Port Arthur.

April 22.

[The foregoing letter comes to us direct from Mr. Cooper, without the knowledge of the purveyors of the medicine, unsolicited, and may therefore be considered as conscientious testimony. We publish it at the request of the writer, and it is not an advertisement.—ED. THE MAIL.]

British and Foreign.

THE Rev. John Black, for eleven years minister at Lochwinnoch, is dead.

THE *Messiah* was performed in the Wesleyan Chapel in Edinburgh on Good Friday.

THE new census of Baptist ministers in England gives the number of abstainers as 1,267.

ONE out of every three of the boys and girls in the board schools of London is a total abstainer.

BOTH Dr. A. K. H. Boyd and Dr. Cameron Lees have received the degree of LL.D. from St. Andrews.

PRINCIPAL DYKES' first session as head of the English Presbyterian College has been a brilliant success.

LIVERPOOL Presbytery has decided to invite the Synod to hold its meetings next year in St. George's, Liverpool.

THE treasurer of a monastery at Vienna has been expelled and handed over to the secular authorities for embezzling 25,000 florins.

A SPLENDID memorial window to Duncan Wright, founder of an educational endowment at Paisley, has been placed in the abbey there.

MR. JOHN KIDD, the last survivor of the nine rescued by Grace Darling, died lately. He was for many years an office-bearer in Carnoustie Church.

AT Keble College they have been obliged to lock up Keble's books, so many autographs have been torn or clipped out of them and stolen by his admirers.

THE Rev. Mr. Heughan, of Nairn, formerly colleague at Irvine of the late Dr. W. B. Robertson, has accepted the call to succeed Mr. Dunlop at Pollokshaws.

THE Rev. John Robertson, of Stonehaven, preaching in Glasgow the other day, said, "he believed every word of the Westminster confession, because he never read it."

A PEAL of thirteen tubular bells, the first in Scotland, has been fixed in St. Giles', Edinburgh. Though much sweeter than the old peal, they are hardly powerful enough.

THE Kirkcudbright branch of the Ladies' Foreign Mission Association, which includes sixteen parishes, contributed last year 802 articles of the value of \$265 besides \$325 in money.

THE sermon delivered in the church at Tunbridge Wells recently, was heard by telephone at a dozen different parts of the town; a bed-ridden lady was among the listeners.

THE Rev. John Thomson, of St. John's, Hawick, author of several works on agriculture, and an ardent temperance and peace advocate, has died at the age of seventy, of paralysis.

MR. BIRCH has a fine piece of statuary at the Academy representing the martyrdom of young Margaret Wilson in the Solway; she is tied to the stake with face upturned and a prayer on her lips.

ABOVE \$5,500 has been contributed by Union Church, Glasgow, of which Rev. A. Skene, M.A., is pastor, and notwithstanding the depopulation of the neighbourhood the membership is the same as it was ten years ago.

THE Rev. H. R. Haweis, one of the founders of the Cremation Society, advises those who have never done any good in their lifetime to order their bodies to be cremated that they may at least be the cause of good after their death.

THE Rev. C. W. Worledge, late curate of the notorious ritualistic church, of St. Peter's, London Docks, has been formally received into the Romish communion. He was at one time connected with the college at Millport, Cumbrae.

THE Rev. William Forwell, formerly of Alva and Blocharn, but latterly owing to failing health without pastoral charge, died lately while travelling home from Marseilles. He was a man of considerable originality and great force of character.

LADY M'ARTHUR, at whose death the \$250,000 left by Sir William to the Wesleyan Church fell to be paid, died last week in the Isle of Wight. Lady M'Arthur had suffered from a distressing mental affliction which excluded her from society for many years.

THE latest letter from Dr. Kerr Cross, with respect to the fighting on Lake Nyassa has elicited a manifesto from Commander Cameron, who urges that an expedition should be immediately sent to the relief of our countrymen. He is himself ready to start at once.

THE inhabitants of Portskerra are indignant at Rev. Mr. M'Kay, of Altnabarra, for the charge of Sabbath-breaking he preferred against them in Caithness Synod. They assert that no such thing as women selling fish ever existed in the district, even on week-days, far less on a Sabbath.

THE Rev. John Campbell preached the annual sermon in connection with the Scottish Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, in Buccleuch Church, Edinburgh, recently. He denounced the circus, the menagerie, the bird-cage, and foolish parents who purchase guns for their boys to shoot the beautiful sea-gull.

IT is expected that 650 delegates from America will be present at the world's Sunday School Convention in London, which meets on July 2, and extends over the three following days. A Cunard steamer has been chartered to sail with the delegates from New York on June 19, and from Liverpool a special train will carry them to London.

THE Rev. J. Robertson, of Whittinghame, has received the degree of D.D. from St. Andrew's University. He is an alumnus of Edinburgh. The same honour has also been bestowed on Rev. William Duke, M.A., of St. Vigean, as well as on Prof. D. L. Adams, B.D., the occupant of the Chair of Oriental Languages in Edinburgh University.

DR. SHOOLBRED, addressing the students in the U. P. College, Edinburgh, spoke of the indebtedness of the U. P. body to the senatus of the sister church. Kindness had drawn closer the bonds of amity and love which had so long subsisted between their own and the Free Church, and he hoped the two churches would ere long be drawn into lasting union.

BISHOP WORDSWORTH, preaching in St. Giles' in connection with the graduation ceremony in Edinburgh University, showed that the spirit of free enquiry was an essential element of true Christianity, and also enlarged upon the question of Church Union. This is the first time an Episcopalian dignitary has appeared in the pulpit of St. Giles' since the day on which Jenny Geddes made her name historic.