

"Madam," interrupted Mr. Arnot, harshly, "permit me to say that this is an affair concerning which a sentimental woman can have no correct understanding. I propose to carry on my business in the way which experience has taught me is wise, and, with all respect to yourself, I would suggest that in these matters of business I am in my own province."

The ashen hue deepened upon Mrs. Arnot's face, but she answered quietly:

"I do not wish to overstep the bounds which should justly limit my action and my interest in this matter. You will also do me the justice to remember that I have never interfered in your business, and have rarely asked you about it, though in the world's estimation I should have some right to do so. But if such harshness, if such disastrous cruelty, is necessary to your business, I must withdraw my means from it, for I could not receive money stained, as it were, with blood. But of this hereafter. I will now telegraph Mrs. Haldane to come directly to our house."

"To our house!" cried Mr. Arnot, perfectly aghast.

"Certainly. Can you suppose that, burdened with this intolerable disgrace, she could endure the publicity of an hotel? I shall next visit Haldane, for as I saw him in the street, with the rabble following, he looked desperate enough to destroy himself."

"Now I protest against all this weak sentimentality," said Mr. Arnot, rising. "You take sides with a robber against your husband."

"I do not make light of Haldane's offence to you, and certainly shall not to him. But it is his first offence, as far as we know, and though you have not seen fit to inform me of the circumstances, I cannot believe that he committed a cool, deliberate theft. He could have been made to feel his guilt without being crushed. The very gravity of his wrong action might have awakened him to his danger, and have been the turning-point of his life. He should have had at least one chance—God gives us many."

"Well, well," said Mr. Arnot, impatiently, "let his mother return the money, and I will not prosecute. But why need Mrs. Haldane come to Hillaton? All can be arranged by her lawyer."

"You know little of a mother's feelings if you can suppose she will not come instantly."

"Well, then, when the money is paid she can take him home, that is, after the forms of law are complied with."

"But he must remain in prison until the money is paid?"

"Certainly."

"You intimated that if anyone went bail for him he need not go to prison. I will become his security."

"O nonsense! I might as well go bail myself."

"Has he reached the prison yet?"

"I suppose he has," replied Mr. Arnot, taking care to give no hint of the preliminary examination, for it would have annoyed him excessively to have his wife appear at a police-court almost in the light of an antagonist to himself. And yet his stubborn pride would not permit him to yield, and carry out with considerate delicacy the merciful policy upon which he saw she was bent.

"Good morning," said his wife very quietly, and she at once left her husband's private room. Laura rose from her chair in the outer office and welcomed her gladly, for in her nervous trepidation the minutes had seemed like hours. Mrs. Arnot went to a telegraph office and sent the following despatch to Mrs. Haldane:

"Come to my house at once. Your son is well, but has met with misfortune."

She then, with Laura, returned immediately home and ordered a carriage for a visit to the prison. She also remembered with provident care that the young man could not have tasted food that morning.

(To be continued.)

### THE BOERS OF AFRICA.

The Boers, whom the English have acquired by the annexation, to their South African colony, of Transvaal, can hardly be classed as desirable subjects, apart from their unwillingness to acknowledge the supremacy of Great Britain. Separated from the outer world by hundreds of miles of only partially settled country, they have established a public opinion among them, lives which does not accord in many things with that of ordinary civilized communities. One cherished belief is that education beyond the most elementary kind is not desirable, and even the wealthy farmers, who have the means to employ tutors from Holland to instruct their children are careful to warn these teachers to go no further than reading, writing and the simple rules of arithmetic. Another feature in their lives is their absolute indifference to dirt. Their homes, even those of the well-to-do class, are mere hovels, in which the family, often composed of numerous members, lives in one or, at most, two common rooms, which rarely undergo a cleaning; a somewhat singular fact, in view of the Dutch descent of the Boers. Their attachment to biblical literature is exceedingly strong, and in almost every household the Bible and one or two commentaries on it form the entire family library. Indeed, their readings in Holy Writ have been so constant that it has strongly coloured their thoughts and language, and in ordinary conversation their ideas take form in words very much in the way that those of the old Jewish patriarchs might have taken. However, the stranger who comes upon the settlement of a Boer, surrounded by his droves and flocks, is not likely to be graciously entertained. Even if a resting-place is given him, he is made to feel that he is not deserving of the consideration. No matter how hungry he may be, his wants are not supplied until the time for the family meal arrives, and then not until the household itself has been provided for. Although the Boers live in so all scattered communities, church regulations are strictly adhered to, and once a quarter the inhabitants over a wide area of country gather at some central point to attend communion service. Their religious belief does not apparently do much to soften their dispositions, for according to the reports of investigating commissions appointed by the English Government, the Boers have not unfrequently treated the surrounding natives with great brutality, and have in many instances captured and made slaves of Caffre boys and girls.—*New York Times*.

### FALLING IN LOVE.

It would be interesting to know what part the process of falling in love is destined to play in the future history of mankind. A review of the past development of the custom, from primitive times to our own enlightened age, suggests the reflection that it has tended to become a slower and more conscious operation. It is not many people who now tumble suddenly and recklessly into this condition of mind. Culture seems to have the effect of transforming the process of falling into one of sliding. To refer again to a somewhat analogous mental experience, culture seems to make less frequent both sudden forms of falling in love and sudden conversions. And this change is plainly due in a large measure to the growth of volitional force. All falling in love is, of course, the direct effect of an involuntary and emotional impulse; yet a negative act of will may perhaps be said to be involved in the non-repression of this impulse. As people advance in intellect and character, the ascendancy of the will increases, and the amatory sentiment is only allowed to attach itself to an object very slowly, and after the fullest critical investigation. It is not necessary to adopt the ultra-prosaic supposition that sexual selection will ever become a purely voluntary action. It is commonly said that more and more persons now marry for definite objects, such as wealth, social position, or domestic adornment; yet the normal mode of selection is still held to include the play of an instinctive emotion as well. What the higher culture seems to do, over and above strengthening the controlling power of will, is to make this emotion more reflective and self-conscious. People learn to understand more clearly their own feelings and tastes, and to know better beforehand what kind of objects is likely to satisfy them. The emotional impulse now shows itself as a conscious wish to possess an object of a certain definite character. Still, the actual conception of a strong affection is a process that goes on outside the will, though the will may be said to approve of it in a new sense when its result is recognized as agreeing with a pre-existing wish and desire. We hardly think, then, that there is ground for the cynical prediction that falling in love is rapidly becoming an obsolete custom. The experience will probably grow much less violent and catastrophic in its character by being brought into closer relation to the intellectual and volitional parts of the mind. And the same influences which bring about this effect will no doubt tend to tone down people's rapturous faith in the occult and transcendent nature of the process.—*The Saturday Review*.

### A CAPITAL PRESCRIPTION.

A rather eccentric yet eminent physician was called to attend a middle-aged lady who had imaginary ills. After many wise inquiries about her symptoms and manner of life he asked for a piece of paper, and wrote down the following prescription:

"DO SOMETHING FOR SOMEBODY."

In the gravest manner he handed it to the patient and left. The doctor heard nothing from the lady for a long time. On Christmas morning he was hastily summoned to the cottage of her Irish washerwoman.

"It's not itself, doctor, it's me wrist that's ailing. Ye see, I was aither givin' out into the black darkness for a few bits of wood, when me foot struck this basket. It stood there, like a big mercy, as it was, full of soft flannel from Mrs. Walker. She told me that your medicine cured her, doctor. So, if you please to put a little of that same on me wrist, I'll be none the worse for me nice present."

"It's a powerful remedy," said the doctor gravely. And more than once in after years he wrote the prescription,

"DO SOMETHING FOR SOMEBODY."

—*Domestic Journal*.

### A WIFE'S RIGHTS.

It is a great mistake for a husband to keep his wife in ignorance of his business affairs. In ordinary families it is she who regulates the outgo, and she ought to know what is the income. Not long since I heard a young wife, just in the early experience of housekeeping, say: "How shall I know whether we are living beyond our means? I can't get any idea of what we have to spend; and, while I try to be very careful, of course I might spend less on my table if we were getting in debt." Surely, she ought not to be blamed if the debit and credit accounts are not prosperous. A loving and anxious wife suffers untold imaginary fears, if she sees a tired or perplexed expression on her husband's face, unless she is assured of the truest confidence between them and knows that no great concern of his is kept a secret from her.

### IF I ONLY HAD CAPITAL.

"If I only had capital," we heard a young man say, as he puffed away at a ten cent cigar. "I would do something."

"If I only had capital," said another, as he walked away from a dram-shop where he had just paid ten cents for a drink. "I would go into business."

The same remark might have been heard from the young man loafing on the street corner. Young man with the cigar, you are smoking away your capital. You from the dram-shop are drinking yours, and destroying your body at the same time, and you, upon the street corner, are wasting yours in idleness and forming bad habits. Dimes make dollars. Time is money. Don't wait for a fortune to begin with. If you had \$10,000 a year and spent it all you would be poor still. Our men of power and influence did not start with fortunes. You, too, can make your mark if you will. But you must stop spending your money on what you don't need, and squandering your time in idleness.

MANY of the people of Afghanistan are as fair as Englishmen. The boys are noted as being particularly handsome.

DURING October over 35,000,000 postal cards were sent from the Holyoke factory—the largest month's business ever done.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE Archduchess Marie Christine left Vienna on the 17th inst. for Madrid.

ADMIRAL HORNBY has countermanded the order to the Channel fleet to move eastward from Malta.

It is intended to establish a Sustentation Fund in connection with the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

THE editor of "Once a Week," feelingly advises ladies desirous of adding to their incomes to try anything but literature.

A MINISTERIAL crisis at Rome has led to an arrangement for the formation of a new Cabinet between Signors Cairoli and Depretis.

THE final splice in the new French cable was made at Eastham, Mass., on the 17th, when congratulatory messages were exchanged with Brest.

DUBLIN despatches say incendiary and agrarian outrages in Ireland are increasing, and British troops are under orders for the scene of the trouble.

THE U. P. Church of Scotland has been moving in the matter of church extension. The sum fixed upon was £20,000, but of this only the half has as yet been realized.

THE publisher of Canon Farrar's "Life of Christ" presented the author with \$10,000 above what had been agreed upon, so large was the success of that work. His "Life of St. Paul" bids fair to do as well. Mudie took a thousand copies of it for his London circulating library, and the American publishers have not been able to supply the demand.

How little we realize of events which are passing around us is illustrated in the fact that since the cholera outbreak in Japan, in April last, there have been 155,000 cases and 85,000 deaths—and yet probably not one person in fifty living in Canada has any knowledge of the awful fact. So little does one half of the world know how the other half lives—or dies.

THE total amount promised to the British Wesleyan Thanksgiving Fund, to this date, is £178,316. The arrangements for the Manchester district meetings are approaching completion. It is felt that much depends upon the Wesleyans of that city and neighbourhood whether the second campaign, now commencing, succeeds or fails in bringing up the total to the expected £250,000.

It is said to have been discovered that the identical sermon of Dr. Parker's, which Dr. Lorimer, of Chicago, has just been accused of plagiarizing from, was preached verbatim by another Baptist minister, in Cananahua, N.Y., in June last. His hearers were so delighted with the discourse that they requested it for publication, and the piller had the audacity to consent, modestly saying in his letter, "I wish that it was more deserving of the honour you confer upon it." Such hypocrisy and falsifying certainly deserve the severest reprobation.

THE number of merchant vessels of all countries is given as 54,921, of which 5,897 are steamers. The gross tonnage is 20,983,540, of which steamers have 6,173,935. England has 18,357 sailing ships, heading the list, and is followed by America, Norway, Germany, Italy, France, Greece, Sweden, Russia, Spain, Holland, Denmark, and other countries having less than 1,000 each. As to steamers, England has 3,542; America, 519; France, 292; Germany, 224; Spain, 214; Sweden, 194; Russia, 156; Norway, 135; Holland, 113; Denmark, 101; Italy, 101; and other States less than 100 each.

HARVARD COLLEGE is to be congratulated on the receipt of the largest bequest in its history, one which will amount, all told, to something like half a million of dollars. The generous testator is the late Walter Hastings of Boston; who gives substantially from \$200,000 to \$250,000 for the erection of a new college hall in memory of his father, grandfather and great-grandfather, all of whom were Harvard graduates, and the remainder of his estate, after certain life trusts shall have been discharged, for a Walter Hastings fund, the income of which is to be expended at the discretion of the President and Fellows. He suggests that it be used for the benefit of students who are sons of American parents in indigent circumstances.

THE extensive hall and offices for the United Presbyterian Church, Scotland, into which the Edinburgh Theatre has been converted, are now ready for occupation. It was expected that the work in connection with the class-rooms and offices would be completed in time for the opening of the theological classes on 4th November, and that the beginning of next year would see the completion of the new hall for the Synod. The alterations on the theatre necessary for the purposes of the United Presbyterian body have been of a most extensive nature, and carried out at a considerable expense; but the results are such as to fully warrant the expenditure of the funds of the Church for such a purpose. The work of reconstruction has cost £20,000, and this, added to the £27,000 paid for the purchase of the theatre, brings up the total cost of the new hall and offices to £47,000.

THE Belgian authorities have not yet recognized the advisability of prohibiting the employment of women and girls underground, although public opinion has done a good deal to discourage this degrading practice. In 1868, in the collieries of the province of Liege were employed 940 females out of a total number of 15,686. In 1877 the numbers were above ground, 1086 women above 15 years of age, and 321 girls under 15; underground were 463 women above 15, and 67 girls under 15. According to the recent report of the chief mining engineer of the province these numbers have still further decreased, the underground female workers being only 453 altogether. It is to be hoped that the Belgian colliery owners will discourage the system until it dies a natural death. In Great Britain the employment of women underground was forbidden by the Regulation of Mines and Collieries Act, 1842 (5 and 6 Vic., c. 99), and, although there is no law to forbid their working aboveground at the pit bank, there is in many coal districts a feeling against it.