

The Freeman.

Dr. A. W. NICHOLSON,
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A TOUCHING INCIDENT.
BY REV. J. M. DOSH.

In travelling we often meet with persons of different nationalities and languages. We also meet with incidents of various character—some sorrowful, and others joyful and instructive. One of the latter character I witnessed recently, while traveling in the cars. The train was going west, and the time was evening. At a station a little girl about eight years old came aboard, carrying a little bundle under her arm. She came into the car and deliberately took a seat. She then commenced an eager scrutiny of faces, but all were strange to her. She appeared weary, and placing her head on a pillow, she prepared to try to secure a little sleep. Soon the conductor came along collecting tickets and fare. Observing that she asked if she might lie there. The conductor replied that she might, and then kindly asked her to take the instrument of my husband's salvation. I made inquiry for the child at 8—n, and learned that in three days after her return she had died suddenly without any apparent disease, and her happy soul had gone to dwell with her mother, and my little girl, and the angels in heaven. I was sorry to hear of her death, but my sorrow is turned to joy, when I think my angel daughter received intelligence from earth concerning her father, and that she is on the heavenly highway. O, sir, I think I see her near the Redeemer. I think I hear her sing, "I'm safe at home, and pa and ma are coming," and I find myself sending back the reply, "Yes darling, we are coming, and will soon be there." O, my dear sir, I am glad that I ever formed your acquaintance. May the blessings of the great God rest upon you. Please write to me, and be assured, reverend sir, I would be most happy to meet you again.

She answered "I am going to heaven." He asked again, "Who pays your fare?" She then said, "Mister, does this railroad lead to heaven, and does Jesus travel on it?" He answered, "I think not. Why do you think so?" "Why, sir, before my Ma died she used to sing of a heavenly railroad, and you know I so nice and kind I thought this was the road. My Ma used to sing of Jesus on the heavenly railroad, and then he paid the fare for everybody; and that the train stopped at every station to take people on board; but my Ma don't sing to me any more. Nobody sings to me now, and I thought I'd take the cars and go to Ma. Mister, do you sing to your little girl about the railroad that goes to heaven? You have a little girl, haven't you?" "He replied, weeping, "No, my little dear, I have no little girl now. I had one once, but she died some time ago, and went to heaven."

Again she asked, "Did she go over this railroad, and are you going to see her now?" By this time every person in the coach were upon their feet, and most of them weeping. An attempt to describe what I witnessed is almost futile. Some said, "God bless thee, little girl!" Hearing some person say that she was an angel, the little girl earnestly replied, "Yes, my Ma used to say I would be an angel some time." Addressing herself once more to the conductor, she asked him:

"Do you love Jesus? I do; and if you love him, he will let you ride to heaven on his railroad. I am going there, and I wish you would go with me. I know Jesus will let me into heaven when I get there, and he will let you in, too, and everybody that will ride on his railroad. Yes, all these people. Wouldn't you like to see heaven, and Jesus, and your little girl?" These words, so innocently and passionately uttered, brought a great gush of tears from all eyes, but most profusely from the eyes of the conductor. Some who were traveling on the heavenly road shouted aloud for joy.

When she asked the conductor, "Mister, may I be here until we get to heaven?" He answered, "Yes, dear, you may."

This brought a fresh flood of tears from all present, and the conductor knelt by her side, and embracing her, wept the reply he could not utter. At this juncture the brakeman called out, "H—s. The conductor arose and requested him to attend to his (the conductor's) duty at the station; for he was engaged. That was a precious piece. I thank God that I was witness to this scene, but I was sorry that at this point I was obliged to leave the train. We learn from this incident that out of the mouth of even babes God hath ordained strength, and that we ought to be willing to represent the cause of our blessed Jesus even in a railroad coach.

SEQUEL.
REV. MR. DOSH: I wish to relieve my heart by writing to you, and saying that that angel-visit on the cars was a blessing to me, although I did not realize it in its fullness until some hours after. But blessed be the Redeemer; I know now I am his, and he is mine. I no longer wonder why Christians are happy. O, my joy, my joy! The instrument of my salvation has gone to God. I had purposed adopting her in the place of my little daughter, who is now in heaven. With this intention I took her to C—h, and on my return trip I took her back to S—n, where she left her ears. In consultation with my wife in regard to adopting her, she replied: "Yes, certainly, and immediately, too, for there is a Divine providence in this." "O," said she, "I never could refuse to take under my charge the instrument of my husband's salvation." I made inquiry for the child at 8—n, and learned that in three days after her return she had died suddenly without any apparent disease, and her happy soul had gone to dwell with her mother, and my little girl, and the angels in heaven. I was sorry to hear of her death, but my sorrow is turned to joy, when I think my angel daughter received intelligence from earth concerning her father, and that she is on the heavenly highway. O, sir, I think I see her near the Redeemer. I think I hear her sing, "I'm safe at home, and pa and ma are coming," and I find myself sending back the reply, "Yes darling, we are coming, and will soon be there." O, my dear sir, I am glad that I ever formed your acquaintance. May the blessings of the great God rest upon you. Please write to me, and be assured, reverend sir, I would be most happy to meet you again.

ANSWER TO THE TEN QUESTIONS.
THE TRADE IN "INTOXICATING LIQUORS."

WHAT ELSE DOES IT DO?
It extinguishes all natural affection. It crushes the hopes of those who fondly trusted. It brings the gray hairs of the widowed mother with sorrow to the grave. It brings remorse, despair, and a wish to be wiped from the face of the earth, to escape, if possible, the wretchedness and misery of a failed life. It breathes like a serpent, it stings like an adder. Readers, men and women, are you doing all your duty? Are you using all your influence? Are you praying earnestly at the throne of grace to that strong friend with whom nothing is impossible? Are you "telling Jesus" who shed His precious blood for the "uttermost?"

Think God if you are, if not, waste not a moment. Husbands, fathers, and brothers are falling on every side, many may yet be saved. Let us in every way do what we can, trusting in the Lord, that this wide spreading evil, this trade in intoxicating liquors, may be utterly abolished from our land.

Deal gently with the erring. Speak kindly, don't fail to recognize him in the street, though he has been in the gutter. Remember, a kind word to the fallen sinner may make him want to now has become the great and important lesson of the age.

Dear reader, hear with me when I ask you not to try to shake off your responsibility upon another. Think not because you have no sin, and do not have to say to your husband, John, don't drink, never thought the man John was a better man, never took a glass in his life, that this concern you. No, rather think God if it is you, and you, who are every way in your power to make you any way in your power to help any one.

Yours truly,
J. M. DOSH.

Cardinal Rauscher, who died on the 24th of November, was one of the small minority in the Third Council who opposed vigorously the infallibility dogma.

WEEK OF PRAYERS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 2nd.
The following topics should be the subject of prayer for the week:—The state of the world, the progress of the Christian cause, the souls of the heathen, the redemption of the Jews, the triumph of the Gospel, the conversion of the world.

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