

before him. The fact that Haldane was overwhelmed with shame and fear should have tempered his course with healing and saving kindness. But Mr. Arnot had already decided upon his plan, and no other thought would occur to him save that of carrying it out with machine-like precision. His frown deepened as he saw the reporter, but after a second's thought he made no objection to his presence, as the increasing publicity that would result would add to the punishment which was designed to be a signal warning to all in his employ.

After a moment's lowering scrutiny of the trembling youth, during which his confidential clerk, by previous arrangement, appeared, that he might be a witness of all that occurred, Mr. Arnot said coldly,

"Well, sir, perhaps you can now tell me what has become of the funds which I entrusted to your care last evening?"

"That is my purpose—object," stammered Haldane; "if you will only give me a chance I will tell you everything."

"I am ready to hear, sir. Be brief; business has suffered too great an interruption already."

"Please have a little consideration for me," said Haldane, eagerly, great beaded drops of perspiration starting from his brow; "I do not wish to speak before all these witnesses. Give me a private interview, and I will explain everything, and can promise that the money shall be refunded."

"I shall make certain of that, rest assured," replied Mr. Arnot, in the same cold, relentless tone; "The money was entrusted to your care last evening, in the presence of witnesses. Here are the empty envelopes. If you have any explanations to make concerning what you did with the money, speak here and now."

"I must warn the young man," said the policeman, interposing, "not to say anything which will tend to criminate himself. He must remember that whatever he says will appear against him in evidence."

"But there is no need that this affair should have any such publicity," Haldane urged, in great agitation. "If Mr. Arnot will only show a little humanity toward me I will arrange the matter so that he will not lose a penny. Indeed, my mother will pay twice the sum rather than have the affair get abroad."

The reporter just behind him grinned and lifted his eyebrows as he took down these words *verbatim*.

"For your mother's sake I deeply regret that 'the affair' as you mildly term it, must and has become known. As far as you are concerned, I have no compunctions. When a seeming man can commit a grave crime in the hope that a widowed mother—whose stay and pride he ought to be—will come to his rescue, and buy immunity from deserved punishment, he neither deserves, nor shall he receive mercy at my hands. But were I capable of a maudlin sentiment of pity in the circumstances, the duty I owe my business would prevent any such expression as you desire. When anyone in my employ takes advantage of my confidence, he must also, and with absolute certainty, take the consequences."

"Bad luck ter yes!" mentally ejaculated Pat, whom curiosity and the fascination of his own impending fate had drawn within earshot.

"What do you intend to do with me?" asked Haldane, his brow contracting, and his face growing sullen under Mr. Arnot's harsh, bitter words.

"Do! What is done with clerks who steal their employer's money?"

"I did not steal your money," said Haldane impetuously.

"Where is it, then?" asked Mr. Arnot, with a cold sneer.

"Be careful, now," said the policeman; you are getting excited, and you may say what you'll wish you hadn't."

"Mr. Arnot, do you mean to have it go abroad to all the world that I have deliberately stolen that thousand dollars?" asked the young man desperately.

"Here are the empty envelopes. Where is the money?" said his employer, in the same cool, inexorable tone.

"I met too sharpers from New York who made a fool of me—"

"Made a fool of you! that was impossible," interrupted Mr. Arnot, with a harsh laugh.

"Dastard that you are, to strike a man when he is down," thundered Haldane, wrathfully. "Since everything must go abroad, the truth shall go, and not foul slander. I got to drinking with these men from New York, and missed the train—"

"Be careful, now; think what you are saying," interrupted the policeman.

"He charges me with what amounts to a bald theft, and in a way that all will hear of the charge, and shall I not defend myself?"

"Oh, certainly, if you can prove that you did not take the money—only remember, what you say will appear in the evidence."

"What evidence?" cried the bewildered and excited youth with an oath. "If you will only give me a chance, you shall have all the evidence there is in a sentence. These blacklegs from New York appeared like gentlemen. A friend in town introduced them to me, and, after losing the train, we agreed to spend the evening together. They called for cards, and they won the money."

Mr. Arnot's dark cheek had grown more swarthy at the epithet of "dastard," but he coolly waited until Haldane had finished, and then asked in his former tone,

"Did they take the money from your person and open the envelopes, one carefully, the other recklessly, before they won it?"

Guided by this keen questioning, memory flashed back its light on the events of the past night, and Haldane saw himself opening the first package carefully, and he remembered how it was done. He trembled, and his face, that had been so flushed, grew very pale. For a moment he was so overwhelmed by a realization of his act, and its threatening consequences, that his tongue refused to plead in his behalf. At last he stammered,

"I did not mean to take the money—only to borrow a little of it, and return it that same night. They got me drunk—I was not myself. But, I assure you, it will all be returned. I can—"

"Officer, do your duty," interrupted Mr. Arnot, sternly. "Too much time has been wasted over this affair already, but out of regard for his mother I wished to give this young man an opportunity to make an exculpatory explanation or excuse, if it were in his power. Since, according to his own statement, he is guilty, the law must take its course."

"You don't mean to send me to prison?" asked Haldane excitedly.

"I could never send you to prison," replied Mr. Arnot coldly; "your own act may bring you there. But I do mean to send you before the justice who issued the warrant for your arrest, held by this officer. Unless you can find someone who will give bail in your behalf, I do not see why he should treat you differently from other offenders."

"Mr. Arnot," cried Haldane passionately, "this is my first and only offence. You surely cannot be so cold-blooded as to inflict upon me this irreparable disgrace? It will kill my mother."

"You should have thought of all this last evening," said Mr. Arnot. "If you persist in ignoring the fact that it is your own deed that wounds your mother and inflicts disgrace upon yourself, the world will not. Come, Mr. Officer, serve your warrant, and remove your prisoner."

(To be continued.)

TAKING THINGS EASY.

There is no small art in taking things easy, so long as we must suffer annoyances in this breathing world, saying as little as possible about them, and making no parade of our martyrdom. If making a fuss and rendering every one else about us uncomfortable in any way abated the ills that flesh and spirit are heir to, there would be some slight excuse for the folly and selfishness; but since we cannot escape tribulations of one kind or another, fretting only aggravates them. Either let us be silent and endure, or take arms against our woes, and by contending end them. In general, he who makes no ado is supposed to have no troubles of his own, or an organization so inferior that it is not jarred out of tune by the rough usage of fortune; to make the very worst of every trouble, big or little, from the fracture of a teacup to that of a skull, is considered by many a proof of great sensibility and depth of character, while he who pursues the other course, who endures reverses, slights, injuries, pin-pricks of annoyance, agues of anxiety, physical and mental neuralgias, without reporting them to every passer, and howling his grievances into the ears of every listener, is spoken of as of fibre too coarse to feel acutely and suffer keenly. "It is his temperament," we are told. "He takes nothing to heart." Some one, however, wittily advises us: "Never tell your misfortunes; nobody likes to have unfortunate friends." But in spite of this warning many seem to think that disaster itself is a recommendation to favour; that they deserve a bonus for serving as a target for fortune's arrow; and they are not seldom acutely jealous lest some other should be deemed their superior in suffering. In the meantime, everyone has a welcome for the person who has the good sense to take things easy. It is comfortable to be able to agonize over one's own trials, to "amind at leisure from itself." The person who can go without her dinner and her Spring suit and not advertise the fact; who can lose her purse and keep her temper; who makes light of a heavy weight, and can wear a shoe that pinches without anyone being the wiser; who does not magnify the splinter in her finger into a stick of timber, nor the mote in her neighbour's eye into a beam; who swallows her bitters without leaving the taste in other people's mouths; who can give up her own way without giving up the ghost; who can have a thorn in the flesh and yet not prick all her friends with it—such a one surely carries a passport into the good graces of all mankind.—*Bazar*.

"ADVANCED THOUGHT."

The advocates of "advanced thought" are diligently engaged in the endeavour to obtain admiration for and an imitation of the life and works of Goethe. In his last days he made this confession: "When I look around me and see how few of the companions of earlier years are left to me, I think of a summer residence at a bathing-place. When you arrive you first become acquainted with those who have already been there some weeks, and who leave you in a few days. This separation is painful. Then you turn to the second generation, with which you live a good while, and become really intimate. But this goes also, and leaves us lonely with the third, which comes just as we are going away, and with which we have, properly nothing to do. . . . I have ever been considered one of Fortune's chiefest favourites; nor can I complain of the course my life has taken. Yet, truly, there has been nothing but toil and care; and in my seventy-fifth year, I may say that I never had so few weeks of genuine pleasure. The stone was ever to be rolled up anew."

As Goethe had no well-founded hope for the life to come, his life here, according to his own acknowledgment, was not worth living.

Contrast with these confessions the grateful review and exalting expectation of the great Apostle to the nations: "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day."

That was a life worth living.

ETON College, England, has established a factory—a building of three floors—in which various mechanical appliances are to be erected, so that the boys may be taught the practical use of tools. Here is one step in the progress of industrial education.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

THERE are two Baptist Churches in South America; one at Santa Barbara, Brazil, and the other at Demerara, Guiana.

It is said that the Pope is trying to induce the Belgian bishops to assume a more moderate tone in regard to the new school law.

THERE is a movement among the laity of the Church of England to secure lay representation in the Convocations; a reform much needed to make those bodies progressive or useful.

THE Metropolitan of Moscow lately preached on the infallibility of the Czar, a doctrine formerly held by the orthodox Greek Church but of late years suffered to fall into abeyance.

A CAPETOWN despatch of October 28th says, hostilities will be resumed against Chief Secoceni if he refuses to submit to the British. Sir Garnet Wolseley is on the road to Secoceni's country.

REPORTS from the foreign mission fields of the Irish Presbyterian Church indicate great progress and promise for the future. The Jewish mission is especially prosperous, and receives constant additions.

THE largest congregation in the United States is said to be that of the First African Baptist Church of Richmond, Va. It has 3,300 members. On one Sunday its pastor baptized 598 persons and added nearly 900 persons to the church.

A ROME telegram says it is stated the Vatican has determined to appoint Vandenbranden, one of the Pope's secret chamberlains, to be coadjutor to the Archbishop of Malines. This indicates a conciliatory attitude towards the Belgian Government.

THERE are over 12,000 educated natives in Calcutta who understand English perfectly, and it is thought the Gospel should now be preached to them in the same simple, full and direct way that it is preached to those who are nominally Christians.

MTEA, the enlightened African King, described by Stanley, has not only forbidden any of his subjects to sell a slave on penalty of death, but has also forbidden all Sunday labour, and has been seriously discussing with his chiefs the evils of polygamy.

A GERMAN Jewish paper believes that the Zulus are descendants of Ishmael. Among other facts in support of this theory it notes that circumcision is practiced, that Abraham is a common name among them, that they detest pork, and that the laws respecting individual purity are very similar to those prescribed in the book of Leviticus.

THE health of the Rev. Dr. Cumming, of London, has somewhat improved of late, though he is still totally unfit for ministerial work. A fund sufficient to secure for the doctor an annuity of £300 has been realised. Crown Court congregation are now hearing candidates with a view to the appointment of Dr. Cumming's successor.

POSTAL cards have been introduced into India, but it is very difficult to make the natives understand their use. They are generally regarded as a compulsory kind of paper, upon which a letter is written and then is enclosed in an envelope. A native official not long ago enclosed in a big cover his annual report written on a series of postal cards.

A NOB has recently made an extensive discovery of Roman coins near Nassenfuss, in Styria. Near the high road, about a foot and a half below the surface of the ground, he found nearly 5,000 coins, almost all copper, the greater portion in an earthenware pot, and the rest lying upon and around it. The pot was quite soft, but after a short exposure to the air it became quite hard. Owing to oxidation and the infiltration of clay most of the coins were welded together in a shapeless mass, and great pains and care were needed to separate them with as little injury as possible. They belong to the reigns of Severus, Gallianus, Claudian, Aurelianus and Probus. The largest portion belong to these two. There were none of Diocletian, so that probably they were hidden shortly before his reign.

A CHINAMAN named Charles Ar Showe, who may be of pure Celestial blood, though the name is mongrel, became a tea merchant in Boston thirty years ago, married an American wife, grew wealthy, and mixed in cultivated society. Lately he visited his native land, and, on returning, says to the Boston "Herald": "Everything in China seemed almost as strange to me as it did to me when I first came to Boston." He found few social changes, however. "Individual taste, if it leads to a deviation from the set forms of society, is frowned down, and so long as this feeling is prevalent in China its people are slaves to custom, opinion and usage." We believe it is he who, criticising a rival American tea merchant, said: "He runs about and does too much work that he ought to make his clerks do. He ought to put his legs on the table and think."

ACCORDING to the Shanghai "Shen Pao," the literary students of Nankin have been treating the authorities to a mutiny which would compare favourably in its proportions with anything that can be exhibited in the western hemisphere. It all grew out of the alleged charge that two of their associates were not of respectable parentage, and that the authorities were secretly favouring one of them for the sake of a bribe. Things came at last to such a pass that brickbats were freely hurled, and broken heads were numerous. At length the authorities were called in and the riot was quelled. It seems that in China, among those not deemed of respectable birth, and therefore not entitled to become candidates at public examinations, are the following: the sons of slaves, of domestic servants, prostitutes, play actors, and yeoman underlings of various kinds. There are also personal disqualifications which debar a candidate, such as have been flogged with the bamboo in punishment of an offence and others. If the students refuse *en masse* to be examined for any reason, some one of the officers is certain to be cashiered. But if this is done, some of the ringleaders among the students are almost certain to be beheaded.