

Youth's Corner.

PUNISHMENT OF A SON'S DISOBEDIENCE AND A FATHER'S HASTY TEMPER.

A German Tradition.

In the Chronicles of the city of Freiberg in Saxony, written by Mr. Moeller, the following story is related as one commonly believed among the people, and solemnly recorded by sundry writers of popular narrative. If it should seem difficult to put entire faith in it, the story is not the less instructive as an illustration of the peril attending stubbornness and a passionate temper.

In the year 1531, one Lawrence Richter, a weaver by trade, living in Wine-Street, bid his young son do a certain errand, but the boy was unwilling to obey; and while he was standing near the stove, stubborn and rebellious, the father's anger arose, and he declared with a fearful oath: "I wish you were made to stand there and never to move from the place your feet are resting upon!" The boy became as pale as death, for he perceived that his feet were fastened to the planks of the floor. People went near and tried to lift him up, or to shove him away, but it was of no use, and he complained that they put him to great pain in doing so. When they used great force in order to move him from the spot, the pain became excruciating, and he fell into rage and madness: and their attempts were vain after all; they had to give that up, and the disobedient son had to stand on that spot three years, so that his feet made deep marks in the planks, and every night they had to put stands or desks under his arms, so that he might rest his head upon them and get a little sleep.

At the close of the third year, the Clergy of the town agreed to make this awful case the subject of special prayer; and after having implored God's mercy for the boy, they succeeded in lifting him up from the place where he was standing, to one at the farther end of the room, but there he became fixed again as before, and he stood for nearly four years after that, concealed by a curtain at his own request, for he begged that he might be left to himself and not spoken to by strangers, because he wished to be sad and still. When any one asked him how he was doing, he commonly said, he was under chastisement for sin which he had committed; that he resigned himself to the will of God, and depended upon the merits of Christ through which he hoped for salvation. He took very little food and drink, and had a woeful, sickly appearance.

His state improved a little, about six months before his death; at first he became able to sit down, and afterwards to lie in a bed placed close to the place where his feet had made the second deep marks in the floor of the room. He died on the 11th of September, 1552, in the twenty-first year of his age, declaring his penitence, his resignation, and his faith in Christ as the Saviour of his soul.

It is said that when the father was about to have the planks taken up in which the boy's feet had made the marks, the magistrates gave orders that they should remain as a warning of the judgment of God upon transgression, and as a memorial of his mercy in sending punishment in this world, that the soul may be humbled and obtain life in the world to come.

The story has no doubt so much foundation in truth as that the boy was struck with a dreadful disease in his limbs just after his father's awful curse: very likely from that time he never left the room, but much prayer was offered up for him, and that he became penitent and died in faith. And may every one that reads this be warned of the awfulness of sin in young and old, strive and pray against self-will and angry tempers, and walk in the way of God's commandments, lest his state become hopelessly fixed as Satan's bondman.

HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

SIR WILLIAM WALLACE.—This renowned patriot and hero was the younger son of a Scotch gentleman who lived at Ellerslie, near Paisley, and was born near the close of the thirteenth century. In the sketch of Robert Bruce's life (see Berean of the 18th of December) a short account is given of the unhappy differences which then existed between the Scotch and the English, which compelled Sir William Wallace to oppose king Edward in arms; it is not, therefore, necessary to repeat the story. Wallace was possessed of great strength and courage, and these qualities, combined with affable manners and a ready and fluent way of addressing his followers, gave him great ascendancy over the people who, in the commencement, joined him in great numbers. At first he merely attacked small parties of the English, who then held Scotland. Being often successful in these attempts, he was soon joined by many persons of rank and influence, one of the most celebrated of whom was Sir William Douglas, the head of one of the most ancient and distinguished families of Scotland. These noblemen who joined his standard, brought their followers with them, so that Wallace's force now became an army, and was so formidable that king Edward thought it necessary to send over

from England a body of 40,000 troops, to put a stop to the spreading insurrection. The Scotch force was encamped at Irvine, and had been so well posted by the military sagacity of their leader, upon ground which was entirely favourable to themselves, that it was almost impossible for the English to attack them. Unfortunately, however, the commanders of the Scotch were not united in feeling. Had all been willing to have followed the directions of Sir W. Wallace, whose courage and military talents qualified him for the post of leader, no doubt the English would have been repulsed. But the Scottish Barons were jealous of the superior qualifications of Wallace, and refused to obey him. On account of these dissensions a great part of them deserted him at this critical moment, and made their submission to the English king.

Although forsaken by the Barons, Wallace did not despair, and being joined by many of the lower orders, he still refused to yield obedience to the demands of king Edward, and did all he could to free his country of those whom he considered intruders on her soil. During more than four years he continued to assert the claims of his country with more or less success. In several engagements he defeated the English generals and, had he been properly supported by his countrymen of all ranks, the bloody struggle might have been prolonged for many a year. But the same dissensions which proved so disastrous at Irvine, ruined the Scottish cause; and Sir Wm. Wallace, after having been raised to the post of Regent of Scotland, was deprived of his command and, at last, betrayed by one of his countrymen, Sir John Monteith, into the hands of king Edward. By him he was tried as a traitor, (which charge Wallace denied since he had never sworn allegiance to him), condemned to death and executed. The cruel indignities perpetrated on the Scotch patriot, while they are an indelible blot on the character of king Edward I., show the very barbarous spirit of the age. His head was placed on a pinnacle at London and his limbs distributed throughout the kingdom. Although many of the exploits related of Wallace may be considered as fabulous, there is every reason to believe that he possessed many of the qualities of a brave and sagacious soldier, and a true lover of his country; and that the hardships which he underwent and the exertions which he made were designed by him solely for his country's good.

SIR PHILIP SIDNEY.—Sir Philip Sidney was born at Penshurst, Kent, in the year 1554. He was the son of Sir Henry Sidney, an Irish gentleman, and his mother was the daughter of the Duke of Northumberland. While very young, he was sent to Christ Church college at Oxford, and at the age of seventeen he left the University to travel on the Continent, where he visited France, Germany, Italy and Hungary. Shortly after his return, and when only twenty-two years of age, Queen Elizabeth sent him as her ambassador to the Emperor of Germany. Upon this as well as various subsequent occasions where he was employed, he acquitted himself with much distinction, and obtained a high reputation for his talents. But his life was soon terminated. In the year 1586 he was mortally wounded at the battle of Zutphen, and died in the thirty-second year of his age. He is described by the writers of that age as the most perfect model of an accomplished gentleman; distinguished by virtuous conduct, polite conversation, heroic valour, and elegant learning; and though all this does not assure us of his possessing those qualifications which would render him worthy of the esteem of Berekans, one circumstance in his life speaks so strongly in his favour that it cannot in justice be omitted. While lying wounded on the field of battle, and suffering very much from thirst, a bottle of water was brought to him to relieve it. Just as he was putting the water to his lips, he observed the eyes of a poor wounded soldier, who was near him, eagerly fixed upon the bottle. Sir Philip immediately gave the poor fellow the water which he himself so much desired, observing, "this man's necessity is still greater than mine."

DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.—John Churchill, who by his military talent raised himself to the high and honourable distinction of Duke of Marlborough, was the son of a country gentleman, Sir Winston Churchill, and was born at Ashe in Devonshire, on the 24th of June 1650. He passed the first twelve years of his life at home, pursuing his studies under the care of a clergyman where, if he had remained longer, his career might have been far different and, though less splendid, equally happy. But at that early age his father, ambitious that his son should enjoy the opportunities for distinction and success in worldly matters which present themselves to those employed about the Court, obtained for him the situation of page to the Duke of York, who succeeded his brother king Charles II., on the throne with the title of James II. He became a favourite of his royal patron and, as is usual with young men who have been pages of the Royal Family, was presented with a commission in one of the regiments of Foot-Guards at the age of sixteen, and devoted himself to the profession of arms. He soon had oppor-

unities for distinguishing himself in actual warfare under the Duke of Monmouth, who at that time commanded a body of English troops in the service of France; and for his behaviour at the siege of Maastricht, a town in the Netherlands, he received the public thanks of the king of France; while his conduct was so favourably reported by his commander, the Duke of Monmouth, that Capt Churchill, on his return to England, was promoted to a lieutenant-colonelcy, and soon after received the command of a regiment of dragoons. At the death of king Charles, he was sent as ambassador to France, to notify the French king of the accession of James II. Shortly afterwards he was raised to the peerage as Baron Churchill of Sundryidge. At this time he had a very difficult course to pursue. James II. was a bigoted Roman Catholic, who was doing all he could to favour his religion and to restore the sway of the Pope in Protestant England. On account of his attempt to violate their religious rites and privileges, a great majority of the nation resolved to dethrone him, though he was their rightful monarch, and to invite Prince William of Orange, a near relative of king James, to become king of England. This change of rulers was not effected without a struggle on the part of James and his friends, who received the name of Jacobites, from the Latin word Jacobus, which signifies James. A sense of duty to his country at last determined Lord Churchill to act contrary to what inclination and gratitude to his sovereign might have prompted, and he joined the party in favour of maintaining the ascendancy of Protestantism. He was well received by the Prince of Orange, and having assisted at his coronation, was created Earl of Marlborough. He was also intrusted with the command of the English forces in Holland, and in this as well as in many subsequent campaigns he displayed those great military talents which have rendered the name of Marlborough so famous in history. One of the great battles which he gained was fought at Blenheim, a village in Suabia. In commemoration of this great victory, and as a reward for his distinguished services, he was, in the reign of Queen Anne, created a Duke, and presented with a fine estate and palace in the parish of Woodstock, Oxfordshire, which bears the name of Blenheim park. He also was honoured with the thanks of Parliament and, having lost his only son, a bill was passed to settle his honours on the male and female issue of his daughters. He lived until the accession of George I., having thus seen five sovereigns on the throne of England, and died at Windsor Lodge on the 16th of June, 1722. GS.

THE LATE SURGEON SIDNEY BERNARD.

"MY BELOVED SISTERS AND BROTHERS.—When you receive this letter, it will be a certain token to you that I walk the earth no more—that it has pleased our merciful Maker, as he gave me my life, to cut short my days; and as you read this, if this permitted by him, I shall be near you, for that it is so many believe. None in this world can know the mysteries of hereafter, unless what it hath pleased God to reveal to us. I am well aware I have been a miserable and wretched sinner; but our Saviour has told us, his yoke is easy, and his burden light, and that those that come to him he will in nowise cast out. Oh, that when we are in the heyday of youth and health, we would give ourselves up to his guidance, and not as we do, go on day by day grossly sinning, unmindful of what we owe to our Maker, and careless of warnings held out to us through his ministers—turning our backs on him and his mercies! Would we do we, so conduct ourselves to those placed above us on earth? We are told, God is long suffering and merciful; this is the reason, I think, we allow the cares of families and pleasures of the world to render us heedless of our eternal welfare. Remember the parable of the sower. Oh, I implore you all, as we will meet at God's judgment, seek to crucify the old man within you, and take up our Saviour's cross, and follow him. God so loved the world, he gave for a ransom for man his Son. He was buffeted, spat on, and crucified, and passed through what we must all do—the valley of death, suffering all that we will; and for whom? for you—for all; that if you looked up to him for intercession, and believe that he was your Saviour, the Son of God, the ransom given for your sins, he would ask your Maker to give you eternal happiness. And will you not do all this for him? Did not the Centurion tell this man to go, and he goeth; and that man to do this, and he doeth it? These were his servants, and obeyed. You are God's children, whom he so loved; and will you not come to him? Oh, what joy 'twould be to us all to meet at the last day, and dwell together in eternal happiness! The most careless Christian, nay, every Heathen nation yet discovered looks forward to an hereafter abode—a place to dwell in after death for ever. And shall we, with the most beautiful of any creed, to speak nothing of its being the true belief,—for I know you are all of Christ,—throw overboard our eternal happiness for a few short days of happiness? That your brother's last words may have the effect he earnestly prays God they may have;

that your days, and those of your families, may be prosperous on earth; and that you may be led into the true fold, is my earnest prayer to God. I confess I would, had it pleased God, have been rejoiced to have embraced you all again; he has thought it best to remove me. You will, I know, grieve for me, but do not as for one dead but asleep, and be, I entreat you, resigned to the will of him who formed me. You all must pass through the shadow of death, but is not the sting of death removed—the despair that we otherwise should have? Is not our Saviour victorious over the grave? I have met with sadness and joy while on earth; the former predominated: but God chastened me in his mercy, and by the removal before me of those I loved, rendered the passage of death less terrible. You will hear of how and when it occurred, from one of my messmates, who will send you home a few mementos of me. Sword and epaulettes, latter given me by my messmates of the *Caledonia* on promotion; let who has one have both, or you will share them as you please between you. Matilda's picture I give to Alicia. My father's watch to Matilda; my own to Alicia. The surgical instruments and medical books to either nephew who is to be of that profession, and would advise one to be educated for it. Should he wish the Navy, my claims will be of service in getting into it. My good old friend Risk has some books of mine, I purpose giving him Malone's Shakespeare, as a remembrance. Give my ring to Henry Briscoe, my oldest friend, and tell him to accept it, being from one who long esteemed him. God of his infinite mercy bless and preserve you all, is the prayer of your attached brother.

"SIDNEY BERNARD.
"Obit. Ætat."

The Admiralty, to mark their sense of the services this gentleman so nobly and self-devotedly rendered to suffering humanity on board the fever-stricken *Elclair*, took the first opportunity, after the Report of Mr. Bernard of the state of the vessel, to promote him to the rank of surgeon; but, alas, these honours were lost on the "dull cold ear of death," for this gallant officer was numbered with the last victims. Anxious to pay some tribute to such departed worth, the Admiralty, in the only way they had to confer it, have promoted to the rank of surgeon Mr. Robert Bernard, assistant-surgeon of the *Pique*, 36, in the West Indies, a brother of the deceased.

AN ANNUAL FOR YOUNG LADIES.—The Germans are a delightfully practical people, and the useful with them has precedence of the agreeable. Among a list of annuals just published in Frankfurt, the following holds the first place:—*Christmas Annual for Young Ladies.*—The Complete Knitter: an elementary and comprehensive guide to young ladies in the art of various knitting works, by Nannette Hofflich; with seventy-three illustrations—containing ninety-six patterns for stockings; twelve ditto on the knitting of various kinds; and their different parts; twenty-four on open work for stockings, caps, and gloves; three borders to little caps; nineteen lace patterns, and numberless patterns for caps, gloves, knee-caps, and swathing-bands, aprons, &c. With a short conclusion on washing, whitening, bleaching, taking out spots, &c.; and also instructions on all that is necessary to make a bed comfortable. When young German ladies have studied Nannette Hofflich's annual, so as to be mistress of its contents, they are then, we suppose, allowed to go to practical keepsakes with what appetite they may.—*Prot. Churchman.*


TO PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND TEACHERS OF YOUTH.—If God should place in your hands a diamond, and tell you to inscribe on it a sentence which should be read at the last day, and shown there as an index of your thoughts and feelings, what caution would you exercise in the selection of that sentence! Now this is what God has done. He has placed before you immortal minds more imperishable than the diamond, on which you inscribe every day and hour by your instruction, your spirit and example, something which will remain to be exhibited for or against you at the judgment-day.—*Rev. Dr. Payson.*

FOR SALE,
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Quebec, 26th May, 1845.

THE Girls' department of the British and Canadian School will re-open on MONDAY, the 6th instant, in a room in the Military Asylum.

JEFFERY HALE.
Quebec, 2nd Oct. 1845.

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This Company, which established its Agency in Canada in 1804, continues to assure against fire.
Office, Gillespie's Wharf, open from 10, A. M. to 4 P. M.
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EYES AND HEAD.

THE FENCERS, 14th DEC., 1844.
This Scientific Medical Reviewer made the following critique on GRIMSTONE'S EYE SNUFF, demonstrating its powerful influence on those delicate organs, the Eye and Ear.
GRIMSTONE'S EYE SNUFF.—Perhaps there is no one thing that has effected so much good, and that in so pleasant a manner, as Grimstone's Eye Snuff; and we are really surprised that it has not commanded more attention from the medical profession, for although we are aware that some eminent professors of the medical art have taken advantage of its usefulness, there are many who, however they might be convinced of its utility, prescribe it not because it is a simple remedy that might, on a future occasion, be resorted to without their aid. Independently of its usefulness in removing pains in the head and inflammations of the eye, it is a pleasant stimulus to the nose, so that those who use it combine pleasure with profit, and we can scarcely understand how snuff-takers can forego its advantages for compounds that in many cases possess only the recommendation of being foreign. We would recommend every one requiring its aid to try Mr. Grimstone's Snuff, and we feel convinced that they will be grateful to Mr. Grimstone for the talent he has displayed in forming his excellent compound, and to ourselves for calling their attention to it.

Other Testimonials can be seen.
The Wholesale and Retail Agent for Canada has just received a fresh supply per *Zelus*,
THOMAS BICKLELL,
Grocer and Importer of China, Glass and Earthenware.
St. John Street, Quebec.

EDUCATION.
MISS EVANS begs to inform her friends and the public, that she purposes opening a FRENCH and ENGLISH SEMINARY at No. 1 Des Grisons Street, Cape, on MONDAY, 5th MAY NEXT. Reference can be given to most respectable families in this city, where she has instructed as visiting Governess for some years past.
For terms (which are moderate) apply at the School. An early application is requested, as the number of pupils will be limited.—Particular attention will be paid to Biblical instruction.
Quebec, 13th April, 1845.

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To the PRINTERS AND PROPRIETORS OF NEWSPAPERS IN CANADA, NOVA SCOTIA, &c. &c.
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A specimen will be shortly issued, when the Proprietor will do himself the pleasure of waiting upon the Trade; in the meantime, he will be happy to see or hear from those inclined to give him their support.
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CHAS. T. PALSGRAVE.
June 12th, 1845.

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