## Pouth's Corner.

SONG OF THE SNOW-BIRD. The ground was all covered with snow one day, And two little sisters were busy at play, When a snow-bird was sitting close by on a tree, And merrily singing his chick-a-de-de.

He had not been singing that tune very long, Ere Emily heard him, so loud was his song. O sister! look out of the window," said she; "Here's a dear little bird, singing chick-a-de-de.

er Poor fellow! he walks in the snow and the sleet, And has neither stockings nor shoes on his feet; I pity him so! how cold he must be! And yet he keeps singing his chick-a-de-de.

ss If I were a hare-footed snow-bird. I know, I would not stay out in the cold and the snow. I wonder what makes him so full of his glee; He's all the time singing that chick-a-de-de.

ec O mother! do get him some stockings and shoes, And a nice little frock, and a hat, if he choose; I wish he decome into the parlour, and see How warm we would make him, poor chick-a-de-de."

The bird had flown down for some pieces of bread, And heard every word little Emily said; "What a figure I'd make in that dress!" thought

And he laughed as he warbled his chick-a-de-de-

" I'm grateful," he said, " for the wish you express, But I have no occasion for such a fine dress; I had rather remain with my limbs all free, Than to hobble about, singing chick-a-de-de.

" There is ONE, my dearchild, though I cannot tell Has clothed me already, and warm enough too.

Good morning! O who are so happy as we?" And away he went, singing his chick-a-de-de-Rev. F.C. Woodworth, Youth's Cabinet. 

THE WELL-REGULATED MACHINE. In one of the large factories at Lowell, there is a machine for the purpose of uniting a number of fine threads into one larger; there are more than a hundred spools from which the thread is winding off upon another spool. One girl tends this machine, and it is her business to tie the threads whenever one is broken.

Such is the wonderful mechanism of this instrument, that the instant one of these threads is broken, the whole machine is suddenly stop. ped. It is curious to stand by it, and notice the regular movement as each spool is in motion, and the instantaneous pause when a single thread has snapped. I never saw a machine that seemed so intelligent-so like a living thing. I could not help saying, as I saw it stop, "There, it knows it has done wrong; it will not go on till that error is corrected." The thread tied and the machine started again, it went on as before. Children know that a machine, made out of wood and iron, does not understand any thing, and does nothing of its own accord, but only performs what it is made to perform. But it seemed to me as if the thing was alive, and had a soul. It seemed to know when the thread broke, and to perceive that its work would be spoiled if it did not stop to have the injury repaired.

Children know another thing: that they are not machines; that they can think, and reason, and remember, and wish. They are not machines, or they could not love or be loved; but I could not help thinking, as I stood there, what a good thing it would be, if every child would just act as this machine did; if every child would instantly stop, as soon as anything wrong had been done, and not do anything else until that was set right. When one who begins to do wrong goes on in his action, he is only making a bad thing worse.

And then I said to myself, God, who made us, has put within us all something like this, but even still more sensitive than this machine; something that notices when we have done wrong, and calls upon us to stop and repent of the sin before we do anything more. If we do not yield to such a direction of our consciences, the machine seems wiser than we are.

If, then, a single thread breaks which binds us to God, or which holds us back from sin, let us learn not to keep on and increase the wrong, but stop and, by repentance and a better purpose, mend the thread, and prepare to go forward with the blessing of God .-- Youth's Cabinet.

That is to say, let us ask of God that he would mend the thread-for it is a thing which we ourselves cannot do. Our repentance and better purpose will not be sufficient, if we do not ask God and obtain forgiveness of Him, peace to our conscience, and strength to keep our purpose. A tender conscience is that part of the machinery which stops the work, and says that there is something wrong; Grace is the little girl that repairs the evil, and sets the machine going again in its proper work.—En. BRN.]

WEATHER-WISDOM OF THE SPIDERS.

A Frenchman of the name of Disjonval who. being Adjutant General in Holland, had taken part in a revolutionary movement, became a prisoner and, during his protracted confinement, applied close observation to the habits of the spiders which shared with him a gloomy habitation. He discovered that their disappearance was always followed by colder weather; and that, when they appeared again, the weather as uniformly became mild. While thus imprisoned and employed, he learnoll that the troops of the French republic had overrun Holland, and kept pushing forward over the ice; but that a sudden and unexpected that in the early part of the month of December (1794) threatened the destruction of the whole army, and that the French generals were thinking seriously of accepting a sum offered by the Dutch, and withdrawing their troops. republican army might lead to his release, used every exertion, and at length succeeded in getsame time received the painful intelligence that length succeeded in getling a letter conveyed to the French general in his father lost his life in his endeavour to rescue eight sommissaries of police, who have, in every Emigrant.

from the peculiar action of the spiders, that most severe frost, by which the French would become masters of all the rivers, and gain suffi- [men in general !- ED. BEREAN.] cient time to complete and make sure of the conquest they had commenced, before it should

be followed by a thaw. The commander of the French forces believed his prognostication and persevered. The cold weather, which Disjouval had announced, made its appearance in twelve days, and with such intensity that the ice over the rivers and canals became capable of bearing the heaviest artillery. On the 28th January, 1795, the French army entered Utrecht in triumph; and Quatremer Disjouval, who had watched the habits of his spiders with so much intelligence and success, was, as a reward for his ingenuity, released from prison.

INFIDELITY, AFFECTING A MAN'S TRUSTWOR. things. Dying Testimony of an American Judge (Gaston.)-His last words were in admirable keeping with the purity and piety of his long life. Surrounded by a few of his choson friends, who were at his bedside on the first intimation of a danger to which he was insensible, he was relating with great playfulness, the particulars of a convivial party at Washington city, many years ago, and spoke of one who on that occasion avowed himself a "Free Thinker' in religion. "From that day," said Judge Gaston, "I always looked upon that man with distrust. I do not say that a Free Thinker may not be an honourable man; that he may not from high motives seem to do a mean act, but I dare not trust him. A belief in an over-ruling Divinity who shapes our ends, whose eye is upon us, and who will reward us according to our deeds, is necessary. We must that month should not be called the 3rd, but the believe and feel that there is a God-All-wise 14th of September in that particular year. That with the thought—"Almighty!" There was a sudden rush of blood to the brain. He sank in the arms of his friends—and in five minutes his spirit was gone! Not a struggle betokened its flight. Not a groan pained the ear of his agonized friends. His body has gone to the dust: his spirit, we cannot doubt, now rests in the bosom of God Almighty whose name was last on his lips, and to whom he had long given the homage of a pure and devout

THE CRUELTY OF HEATHENISM. From the Rev. C. A. Golimer's Journal, dated Badagry, June 2nd, 1845.

A Sierra-Leone woman, a member of our Church, and mother of an only daughter, applied to us to help her to redeem her child. It seems that the mother, having been sold into slavery, was captured by H. M. ship-of-war, and brought to Sierra Leone, leaving her daughter in this country. After nearly eighteen vears' residence in Sierra Leone, the mother was informed of her daughter, being still here and in consequence resolved, as her husband had no objection, to come hither to see once more her only child. On her arrival here, being informed that her daughter was at Ab. beokouta, she sent word that she had come from Sierra Leone on account of her, and that she must try to come and see her. The daughter, being married, told her husband this, and begged him to allow her to go and see her mother; which he refused. The daughter, however, apparently as anxious to see her mother as the mother to see her, left Abbeokouta secretly, came hither, and lived with her mother for about a month, fearing to return home. One day, when she was in the market, number of people, ordered by her husband caught her, and carried her to Abbeokouta. On her arrival, her husband declared that he would not have her any more as his wife, although she had borne him three children, and demanded of her the repayment of his expenditure on her account previous to their marriage. In order to be able to accomplish this, she began to trade with tobacco and indigo. One day as she and five others were going to Ibadan, a town in the interior, for this purpose, they were all suddenly caught in the road, and this poor woman was eventually sold to the Ijebbu, a tribe of the Yoruba nation, who brought her to one of their principal markets. with the family, observed her exposed for sale, and, not having the means to purchase her, requested one of her acquaintances to buy her, and bring her to Badagry, being sure that her mother would endeavour to redeem her. No sooner did the mother see her daughter again, and become acquainted with her situation, her. Being very poor, she could not give any 101. for the woman; but accepted 81. 15s. Two Sierra-Leone men gave 3l. 2s. 6d., and and our people, for which the mother and the tent. daughter were very thankful. The redeemed woman now lives with her mother, and endeayours to support herself by trading.

[The last advices from that branch of the West Africa Mission of the Church Missionary Society which has for its object the evangeliza- larger revenue than this. tion of the Yoruba nation, many of which, having been liberated from slavery and settled in Sierra Leone, where they were brought under missionary instruction, are now returning to their own country with the hope of carrying to which are sent them from all quarters, examinit the blessings of the Gospel or at least of civilization, state that the missionaries have reached the principal town, ABBROKOUTA.

of the country, had the satisfaction of finding tate justice: in short, these agents are an intel-Disjonval, who hoped that the success of the there his mother and other relatives, after a ligent, industrious committee, on whom rests a head over heels on the ground, and then throwseparation of five-and-twenty years: he at the great responsibility.

January, 1795, in which he pledged himself, his sou when he was carried off by the men- quarter, their offices always open, and whose stealers. Who will not feel his heart moved to within fourteen days there would commence a prayer that this African may be made a blessing to his surviving relatives, and to his country-

PRAYER BRINGING OTHER GRACES.

Prayer is the way of God's appointment; and I never knew any one who really prayed earnestly and perseveringly for divine teaching, that was not brought at length heartily to subscribe to what are called Evangelical doctrines. The Scriptures take away all hope of our understanding those things of ourselves, when they tell us that "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him." Foolish indeed does the doctrine of the Cross appear to the heart untaught by the Spirit of God: but let the heart be once taught to receive it, and it beholds in it "the power and wisdom of God," and a person thus taught, will feel constrained to make it his great desire, endeavour, and prayer, that others may learn it too. By prayer, I do not mean that cold thing, which worldy people call prayer; I mean such an effort as a man, dying with hunger, would use to beg for food; I mean begging, as for one's life; being able to say, as David did—"There is nothing, in heaven or in earth, that I desire beside thee. '-Bridges' Memoir of Mary Jane Graham.

POPULAR ELOQUENCE.

In the year 1751, the English Calendar was eformed by Act of Parliament, the Earl of Chesterfield introducing the subject to the House of Lords and asking leave to bring in a bill for the purpose of skipping 11 days in September of the following year, so that the day after the 2nd of -and"-raising himself and seeming to swell is what you may often have heard called the change from Old Style to New Style, or from the Julian to the Gregorian mode of computation. In a letter to his son, the Earl gives the following account of the eloquence which proved so successful on the occasion : . .

"I consulted the best lawyers, and the most skilful astronomers, and we cooked up a bill for that purpose. But then my difficulties began: I was to bring in this bill, which was necessarily composed of law jargon and astronomical calculations, to both which I am an utter stranger. However, it was absolutely necessary to make the House of Lords think that I knew something of the matter; and also to make them believe that they knew something of it themselves, which they do not. For my own part I could just as soon have talked Celtic or Sclavonian to them as astronomy, and they would have understood me full as well; so I resolved to do better than speak to the purpose, and to please instead of informing them. I gave them, therefore, only an historical account of Calendars, from the Egyptian down to the Gregorian, amusing them now and then with little episodes; but I was particularly attentive to the choice of my words, to the harmony and roundness of my periods, to my elocution, to my action. This succeeded, and ever will succeed; they thought I informed, because I pleased them, and many of them said I had made the whole very clear to them, when in fact I had not even attempted it. Lord Macclesfield who had the greatest share in forming the bill, and who is one of the greatest mathematicians and astronomers in Europe, spoke afterwards with infinite knowledge, and all the clearness that so intricate a matter would admit of; but as his words, his periods, and his utterance were not near so good as mine, the preference was unanimously, though most unjustly, given to me. This will ever be the case; every numerous assembly is a mob, let the individuals who compose it be what they will. Mere reason and good sense is never to be talked to a mob: their passions, their sentiments, their senses, and their seeming interests, are alone to be applied to. Understanding they have collectively none; but they have ears and eyes, which must be flattered and seduced: and this can only be done by eloquence, tuneful periods, graceful action, and all the various parts of oratory."

FRENCH POLICE.

Louis XIV. and his successors appointed, under the name of Lieutenant General of Pocalled Ikorodu, not far from Lagos. Here it lice, a magistrate whose duty was to watch was that a woman from Badagry, acquainted over whatever concerned the public security. In the time of the Revolution, this office was abolished; the people themselves were the through the water towards a canoe lying about police, and it was apparent that, when the mob half a mile from the shore, were highly exhilastained with blood every week the streets of rating; and the excitement increased, as first the capital, protected by the men at the head two or three jet-black heads, and then four or of the government, a prefect of police would have been a very useless officer. But when than she came to solicit our help in redeeming Napoleon was placed at the head of France, he perceived the need of establishing a firm, thing toward the amount. The owner asked vigorous government, and appointed in Paris a prefect of police. This office was preserved by the Restoration of 1815, and by the Revothe remainder was raised in our premises by us lution of 1830. It now remains in its full ex-

The prefect of police is an important officer. He has under his orders nearly six thousand agents of every class, and disposes of money to the amount of six millions of francs a year. Some kingdoms in Europe do not possess a

To give you an idea of the organization of the police: the prefect employs about 300 agents who labour not only by day but for a great part of the night, receiving the reports ing hourly whatever passes in Paris, transmitting orders to inferior agents, deciding the conditions of residence for foreigners, keeping ex-The Rev. Samuel Crowther, himself a native act registers of facts which may serve to facili-

duty is to preserve order and quell disturbances. They are at the service of the citizens, whenever any public or private quarrel occurs They summon before them and interrogate persons arrested, and watch over all that relates to the general security. The commissaries of police are usually chosen from well-educated non; they need, in order to discharge their painful duty, much coolness, sagacity, presence of mind, and promptness in action. They are sometimes exposed to serious dangers, for all culprits detest specially the commissaries of police, and try to embarrass them in every

Thirdly, there are in Paris twelve officers of the prace, who command each a company of serieants of policemen. Their business is to look after robbers, women of ill-fame, and disturbers of the public repose. For some years past they have worn a particular dress, and this has produced a very good effect, by giving more dignity and authority to their official acts.

Lastly, without counting the inspectors, who visit the markets, the public walks and principal shops, Paris possesses a municipal guard, composed of more than 2,500 infantry and 400 cavalry. They are light troops, composed of the best soldiers of the army, always ready to repress disorders, and distinguished by its severe discipline as well as by its bravery.

Here truly is an extensive and formidable organization. But it must be considered that, without such an armed force, the capital of France would be soon given up to the most frightful anarchy .-- Corresp. N. 1. Observer.

THE WIND-WAGON,-We learn from the Independence Expositor, that Mr. Thomas, who has been at work on a wind-wagon, has got the machine completed, and has given it such a trial as to make its success certain. He ran up and down across the plains, found that he could overcome a steep with gentle ascent without difficulty, and that the mole-hills, so numerous on the plains, were no bar to his progress. The construction of the wagon is very simple. It is a frame made of plank, well braced, and placed edgewise on four axle-trees - four wheels to each side - those wheels to be twelve feet or more in diameter and one foot broad—the forward axles, which can be turned just as the forward axle of any wagon with a tongue, by their movement turn the course of the whole concern-two tongues are joined together forward of the wagon, and by ropes coming to the wheel, similar to the pilot wheel of a steam boat—the wagon is steered by a pilot. The sails are like the sails and rigging of a ship, each wagon carries its own supply of Sail; -underneath, a foot or so from the deck of each wagon, the cast iron boxes, &c., will be suspended as ballast. Mr. Thomas expects to convey freight and passengers, and will now engage and bind himself to take freight to Bent's Fort or to Santa Fe, in a reasonable time, at six dollars per hundred pounds. He is to have a depot at Bent's Fort, and thence across the other side of the Arkansas he will run another car within sixty miles of Santa Fe. SCOTTISH AMICABLE LIFE ASSURANCE that, with only one sail and a light breeze, it HEAD OFFICE, 141, Buchanan-street, Glasgow that, with only one sall and a superior of the Constitution and Regulations of this Society rigged its speed will be about twenty at cty insure to its Members the full benefits

AN INDIAN SWIMMING RACE. The candidates, about twenty in number, assembled in allocation to the Members is made on fair, simple, line on the beach, about fifty yards from the and popular principles. waters of the blue lake, which, without a ripple on its lovely countenance, lay sleeping before them. Their anxiety to start was clearly evilored by the Rules, that the whole Directors, Ordinary and Extraordinary, shall be Members of the Society, by holding Policies of Insurdent from the involuntary movement of little ance for Life with it, of more than three years' st tell-tale muscles on their cheeks, red arms, anding. This rule secures to the Public that those backs, and straight legs; in short, they stood Noblemen and Gentlemen who appear as Directors trembling, now in one part, now in another, like principles.

young horses by the side of a cover in England For further particulars, with tables of Premitrembling, now in one part, now in another, like nal rifle was fired, off they started at their utmost speed; and certainly nothing could be finer than to see them, like so many Newfound. land dogs, dash into, and then hop, skip, and jump through the water, until the first stroke of their extended arms showed that they had taken leave of the bottom, and were, comparatively speaking, tranquilly affoat. The whoop and encouragement of their respective friends, as sometimes turning one cheek upwards and sometimes the other, they gallantly stemmed five more rounding the canoe, suddenly changed into as many blood red faces strenuously approaching a prize which had been selected as not only the most appropriate but the most encouraging—namely, a horizontal pole covered from end to end with glass beads for voung squaws. The eye of every swimmer, as he advanced, appeared eagerly fixed upon the dittering prize, which no doubt his heart had already destined for the object or objects of his affection; however, in all regions of the globe, human hopes are eggs that, very often indeed, turn out to be addled; and thus it was with the hopes of the swimmers before us. The race was what is termed excellent; indeed the struggle was so severe that half-a-dozen of the leading swimmers might, to use a sporting phrase, "have been covered with a sheet;" the consequence of which was, that they came within their depths at the same moment, and they were no sooner on their feet than, with unlifted arms, tearing and splashing through the shallow water, they rushed to the beach, then onwards to their goal; and arriving there nearly together, they knocked pole and pole-holders ing themselves upon them they crushed all the

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