

been for Matthias, I should have been like those other girls. Oh, Philip! I never thought any of you needed my forgiveness; only I needed your friendship so sorely."

"Ay! that was it," he said; "we forsook you as if you were unworthy."

It was a sting to him in the midst of his happiness; and more or less the memory of it would dwell with him all his life. They had deserted her when her need was sorest, when the battle of her life was the fiercest. She had been alone when he ought to have been beside her. In their selfish fear for their own fair fame they had left her to bear shame and suffering in dreary loneliness. In a measure he had copied the cowardice and treachery of the disciples when they forsook their Master and fled. No one had stood by her but Matthias, the feeble old Jew, who knew nothing of her Lord.

"You love me, Carola?" he asked, so doubtful of himself, that he was a little doubtful of her.

"I love you better than life!" she answered, pressing closely to his side, as if she felt his doubt. "I love you as my own soul. Yet if my Lord called me away from you I would go, and I would try and do His will. All through, ever since I knew of Him, there has been in my heart, under all troubles, the peace which He left with us, the peace He gives to us. I have not been afraid; my heart has not been altogether troubled."

They walked homewards through the quickly gathering gloom, and went in through the fold-yard gate to enter the house by the garden kitchen. A huge fire was blazing on the hearth; and Mr. Arnold was sitting in the chimney-corner smoking his pipe; and he made room for Carola, and put his arms fondly about her. It seemed as if the past had come back again in perfect repetition. But there was no fear now for the future; no deep valley of humiliation to pass through. There might be sorrow for them; but there would be no more separation; except that brief one, when one goes before another, through the silent gates of death, into the Father's house, where Christ Himself is preparing a place for us.

THE END.

CROKER AND DISRAELI.

Why Mr. Disraeli hated Mr. Croker so bitterly it would scarcely be worth while now to discuss; enough that there were reasons for it, although they were not good reasons; and we need not the evidence of Mr. Croker's case to attest that Mr. Disraeli paid off his personal grudges with no niggard hand. In the first part of his life, especially, Mr. Disraeli was a relentless, and it may almost be said, an unscrupulous antagonist. It may be doubted whether any man was ever so base as the Rigby of "Coningsby" is depicted; it is a conception which must inspire in the mind of every reader contempt and detestation. And yet this vile creature is supposed to have been Mr. Disraeli's portrait of Mr. Croker.

Whether the satire was just or unjust, every impartial reader will be able to decide when he has come to the end of the records of Mr. Croker's life. Before Mr. Disraeli's own position became assured, he pursued all who seemed to cross his path with the vindictiveness of a Red Indian. Mr. Croker, he believed, had once or twice stood in the way of his projects, at a time when politics were less important to him than literature. It has also been stated that Mr. Croker provoked Mr. Disraeli's resentment by attacking him in the *Quarterly Review* and elsewhere; but in reality Mr. Croker had never written a single line against or about him. With Isaac Disraeli he had always been on the most friendly terms, and when the "Commentaries on Charles the First" appeared, it was found that the author had referred in grateful and eulogistic language to the object of Benjamin Disraeli's vindictive lampoons. "To my ever kind and valued friend, The Right Hon. John Wilson Croker"—so wrote the elder Disraeli—"whose luminous and acute intelligence is as remarkable in his love of literature and art, as it has been in the course of a long, an honourable, and distinguished public life, I stand deeply indebted." The son did not share this admiration for Mr. Croker's "acute intelligence." Apparently it was too acute, and had been exercised with too much good faith to satisfy him. How deep was his resentment he showed by a scurrilous attack upon Mr. Croker immediately after his death, published in a newspaper which was known to be his mouth-piece—the *Press*. The attack provoked an indignant remonstrance even from *Punch*. "What," it exclaimed, "the man who served the Conservatives before he gave them that delicate name—when they were Tories—and was serving them from his bed of sickness and pain until within a few hours of his death? The ablest advocate with tongue and pen whom they have had during half a century? The man dies, and before he is laid in the tomb, the paper sacred to their party and to their plebeian chief issues: this spiteful and ungrateful picture?" So it was; and the animosity and injustice which Mr. Disraeli thus exhibited will always remain a blemish on his literary reputation.—*Croker Correspondence*.

THE INQUISITION.

One of the historians of the Inquisition thus describes the tortures to which its victims are subjected:

The first torture was inflicted by suspending a pulley from the roof of the hall, with a strong rope passed through it. The executioners put shackles on the feet of the victim and suspended heavy weights from them. His hands were then bound behind his back, and the rope from the pulley securely fastened to his wrists. In this position he was raised from the ground, and if he still refused to confess, was flogged while suspended. He was then allowed to drop suddenly, but in such a manner that neither his feet nor the weights touched the ground, in order to render the shock of the body greater.

The torture of the rack was inflicted by stretching the victim on his back along a wooden horse or hollow bench, with sticks across like a ladder. To this his head, hands

and feet were bound in such a manner as to leave no room to move. The horse or bench was then moved, literally racking his limbs with pain; and while in this position water was slowly dropped into his mouth on a piece of ribbon, which glided down his throat and produced all the sensations of drowning.

In the torture by fire, the prisoner was placed naked in the stocks; the soles of his feet were greased with lard and placed on hot irons, where they were perfectly fried.

The most horrible death was that by water. The victim was tied in a sitting posture, on a stone; his arms were bound behind his back; over his face was placed an iron mask, which was opened only once a day, when a Dominican friar gave him his allowance of bread and water. From above, a drop of water, a single drop, fell constantly on his head and always on the same spot, for the head was so secured with an iron chain and ring that he could not move it. After a few days the hair was worn away from the spot on which the unceasing drop fell; after a few days the skin was macerated. Day after day, week after week, month after month, and in some instances, year after year, the drop continued to fall, until at last the skull was perforated; and then the first drop that touched the exposed brain was the charitable drop that released the poor victim from the hands of the "priests of Christ."

From the twelfth to the sixteenth century the victims of the Inquisition could be counted by hundreds of thousands, the crime of many of them being merely a suspicion of heresy. The Reformation of the sixteenth century put a check to its progress, because the heretics, under the brave leadership of Luther and his companions, overcame the powers of evil. But the Jesuits gave it new life, and it continued to flourish in Spain and Italy until the present generation. In Seville, in Spain, says Father Gavazzi, as late as 1822, there was visible a large furnace, built expressly in order to burn in it at the same time not less than three hundred human beings. The day of the execution was a great festival. The victims, having mitres of paper on their heads, and wearing shirts painted over with flames and devils, were conducted to their doom, and the last words of the Inquisitors, as they handed the condemned over to the lay executioner, were "be kind to them, and spare their blood!" In a few minutes they were ashes, and their ashes were cast into the river!

LIGHT HEARTS.

Gay airs, quick turns, and a roguish glance that flies

Swift as a sun-gleam over sparkling rills,
A merry, jubilant voice, that mounts and trills,
Like the lark's music poured from shadowless skies;
Sly moods, arch words, capricious coquetries—
"What are these?"—say'st thou—"but the wanton wiles,
Wherewith a slight and trivial soul beguiles
Its kindred souls, bound by the same vain ties?"

Ah! false philosophy! These hearts of light,
Grace, motion, impulse, may yet hide beneath
Their riant surface, depths of passionate might,
Thoughts soft as pity, love whose wakening breath,
Fanned to a flame, makes many a life-path bright,
And self-devotion conquering time and death.

—Paul Hamilton Hayne, in *Independent*.

THE TROCHILUS AND THE CROCODILE.

Herodotus, that remarkably observing old traveller, is the first writer to notice the curious relationship existing between this little bird and the crocodile. In his terse and telling fashion he says: "All other beasts and birds avoid the crocodile but he is at peace with the trochilus, because he receives benefits from it; for when the crocodile issues from the water, and then opens his mouth, which he does most commonly towards the sunset, the trochilus enters his mouth and swallows the leeches which cling to his teeth. The huge beast is so pleased that he never injures the little bird."

Subsequent writers with the sufficient wisdom that comes of much closet study, denied the story of the old Greek on the ground of improbability. On the other hand, the natives find the account too bald, and improve upon it by adding that the zic-zac, as they call the bird, in likeness to its cry, frequently becomes so intent upon his business of picking the crocodile's teeth, that he forgets the lapse of time, and continues his operations so long—in this respect strikingly like our human trochilus, the dentist—that the monster in sheer weariness must close his mouth. This ungrateful action the trochilus indignantly resents, and at once with beak and spurs, proceeds to scarify the crocodile's interior, with the result of causing the tired jaws to open once more.

Modern writers who have been to Egypt confirm the substance of the story of Herodotus, but are sceptical as to the native addition. They affirm, indeed, that the trochilus is the crocodile's friend in its despite rather than with its consent, and that the occasions when the bird finds itself caught between its ugly *protégé's* jaws, though infrequent, are final. This is very likely to be true, for the crocodile is certainly rapacious and blood-thirsty to the extreme of sullen brutality.

If this be the case, it is fortunate for the trochilus that it is gifted with unusual agility. It belongs to the family of long-legged birds, which includes a great many species, ranging from the spry little snipe to the languid herons and cranes. Its beak is short, but its legs are long and muscular, as they need be to enable it to move with the rapidity for which it is remarkable.

When not on duty it remains rather quiet, and seems to wait for the appearance of the ungrateful object of its solicitude with great patience; but when the monster is at last moved to bask upon a sand-bank, the trochilus is full of activity. It runs busily hither and thither, plucking off and swallowing the leeches that always are to be found adhering to the soft parts of the crocodile's body.—*John R. Coryell, in Harper's Magazine for February*.

British and Foreign.

CHINESE lepers are becoming numerous in San Francisco.

THERE are seventy-eight women studying medicine at Paris, thirteen of whom are Parisians.

A FORGED deed of some five hundred acres of land was the present which an East Saginaw man made to his intended bride a few days before marriage.

THE committee of Newington church has agreed to submit the names to the congregation of Messrs. Smith, Galashields, and Macalister, Aberdeen. Mr. Smith has refused to preach as a candidate.

A PRINCESS of the royal family of Bavaria has published at Stuttgart, under the pseudonym of Th. von Bayer, a volume of "Impressions of a Recent *Incognita* Trip Through Poland and Russia."

MRS. MARK HOPKINS has built a new house so costly that its addition to the valuation of the little Massachusetts town of Great Barrington, lowers the tax of the townspeople by about one-half.

THE richest Chinaman in America is Al Ti, of La Porte, Cal., who is worth \$2,000,000. He made money mining, and will repair to the Flowery Kingdom, to enjoy it as soon as his business can be settled up.

WHILE praying during a recent storm, says the Natchez (Miss.) *Daily Democrat*, old Katie Hightower, who has been blind for fifteen years, had her sight suddenly restored, and can see now as well as when a child.

THE Campagna regeneration works have begun. Five hundred labourers have pitched their tents in the ravine of the Almo who are employed in drainage. At night their huge disinfected bonfires present a highly picturesque effect.

KLOTZ, a lumberman of Shasta, Cal., has a big slab pile which he has been accumulating for years, which is to be fired on the night of the 3rd of March, in honour of the inauguration of President Cleveland. He thinks the blaze will be seen 100 miles away.

WHITTIER's letter about the Burns' anniversary contains the following assertion that there is not a logger's cabin in the Maine woods where the Scotch poet's birthday is not to be remembered. A majority of the men in these camps are French Canadians, who never heard of Burns.

THE *Deutsche Medizinical Zeitung* gives an account of a series of successful experiments made in the Prussian army as to the utility of serving schnapps to soldiers in active service. After prolonged trials the army surgeons abandoned the use of spirit, and gave tea or coffee in place of it.

PASTORS EWER, of the Methodist Church, Rotch of the Congregational, and Tenney of the Universalist, in Stoughton, Mass., tried to break up gambling in the fairs held in the town, they say that they have received very ten intimations that their churches would be burned if they persisted in their course.

IN the *London Medical Record* a man advertises to furnish "tuition by correspondence," so that theological, medical, pharmaceutical, and civil service examinations may be passed by men and women of average capacity. Strict secrecy is maintained, and arrangements may be made with candidates until successful.

To counteract the effects of a dose of poison accidentally administered to a man near Beattyville, Ky., there being no emetic remedy on hand, a woman thought the nicotine found in a pipestem would answer the purpose. She broke an old stem, scraped out the inside, and gave it to the patient, who died in ten minutes.

THE Boston Public Library has recently received a very unique publication from Paris, a diary kept by the dress-maker to Marie Antoinette. The orders given by the Queen and the ladies of the court for robes, headdresses, etc., are noted down, and the materials used in producing these articles are enumerated with great accuracy.

THE Rev. Dr. Beven corrects a British misconception of the favourite style of preaching in this country. "The hearers with itching ears," he says, "may search in vain through the length and width of some of the chief cities in America for sensational preaching. The imperial city of New York does not possess such an article."

A NUMBER of prominent men throughout Germany have recently, through a committee formed in Berlin, issued an appeal for contributions to a fund which is to be presented to Prince Bismarck on April 1st, the seventieth anniversary of his birthday and the fiftieth of his public service to be supplied by him to some grand national undertakings at his selection.

THE Hotel de Paris at Rome is in the hands of the Dominicans. An English lady, always accustomed to put up at this hotel, drove to it lately on her arrival in the city, when a monk put his head into her carriage window, and inquired what she wanted. "What is that to you?" she rejoined, but learning the state of the case, retired discomfited.

BENSON J. LOSSING has been asked to designate which of the Bahama Islands is the San Salvador on which Columbus landed. He replies that this is still unsolved. Six islands of the group claim the honour. Popular belief holds to Cat Island, while scientific and historical investigators give reasons for believing that each of the other five Islands is the first landing place of the great Admiral.

THE latest religious sect in Russia is that of the Jerusalemists. As a distinctive sign they wear on their chest a card with a printed dispensation of the Patriarch of Jerusalem to all those who come to visit him. The members of the society pledge themselves to make at least once in their lives a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Their meetings are held at night, in places that are lighted up with no other light than that of their faith.