

South's Corner.

EARLY RISING. Get up, little sister: the morning is bright, And the birds are all singing to welcome the light; The buds are all opening—the dew's on the flower; If you shake but a branch, see there falls quite a shower.

Lady Flora Hastings.

THE PRUNING KNIFE JUSTIFIED. Mary went with her Mother and looked out into their beautiful garden, and there she saw the gardener at work. "What do you see, Mary?" "Why, Mother, I don't see anything but John cutting the bushes—and that rose-bush he has cut down so low, that I know he will kill it. If he does, Mother, I would scold him well, for I just now told him that you would be angry to see it so cut to pieces, for that you thought more of it than all the bushes in the garden—since it was a slip of the bush planted on father's grave."

Well, my dear, so it is with God's people—afflictions make us bear fruit to him, and as Christ himself says, "Every branch that beareth fruit he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit."

SENSIBILITY OF THE FASHIONABLE. A short winter day was just drawing to a close, as a young and poorly clad girl reached the door of a splendid mansion in Broadway street, New York.

"The work is well enough," said Mrs. B. examining it carefully; "but why did you not bring it before? It is at least a week past the time it was promised. Unless you are more punctual and keep your word better, I cannot let you have any more work."

It was growing dark, and the room was not yet lighted, so that the tears that gathered in the girl's eyes could not be seen, but her voice was very tremulous as she answered: "I did not mean to break my word, ma'am; but my mother has been much worse, and my little brother, in chopping wood, cut his foot, so I had to—"

"That is always the way with these people," said Mrs. B., "a sick mother, or a sick aunt, or a cut foot, anything for an excuse." Meantime Mary reached the humble dwelling she called home. Whether her feelings were labouring under the wound thoughtlessly inflicted, or her mother's illness distressed her, or her heart sickened at the thought of helpless poverty, or it might have been the contrast between the room she had left and the one she had just entered, which forced itself upon her; whatever was the cause, contrary to her usual sobriety, and her care to appear as cheerful as possible before her mother, she covered her face with her hands, and leaning upon the rude table before her, burst into a passion of tears.

Mary started from the bed. "That is my name, ma'am."

"Ah, yes, you are the one I just saw at Mrs. B's. I inquired you out, and have come to see if I could be of any service to you. How is your mother?"

"The last tallow candle was dimly burning beside the bed where Mary had been reading. The lady went towards it, and took the hand of the emaciated sufferer.

"No, ma'am. My poor husband's last sickness cost me so much, that I have now nothing to pay one. I hope I shall get better in a few days, and then all will go on well; but it is very hard for poor Mary."

"But you have a high fever, and should be attended to. My husband is a physician; he will call and prescribe for you; and here are some provisions for the children; and Mary, just open the door; my servant has brought you a wheel-barrow load of wood ready split; give all your attention to your mother, and you shall be provided for."

Their hearts were too full for expression of thanks; but the lady needed them not to convince her that there was no luxury like that of doing good. There were tears shed in that humble room that night, but not of bitterness, and there were thanksgivings to which those are strangers who are "inconvenienced with goods, and have need of nothing."

Post-Script.—Mrs. B. went that night to witness the performance of a popular tragedy, and was so overcome by the distress of the hero and heroine, as to be unable to hear the sight of any poor person that wanted help, for several days.

THE SWISSMAN'S LAND PERILS. About four months since, I was accosted by a weather-beaten tar, whose appearance showed that he had weathered many a storm, but whose blackened legs, and trembling limbs, proved that the perils of land had been more disastrous than the dangers of the deep. He had for years, while on shore, been the victim of the ransacking landlords, and the prey of those harpies that infest their sinks of iniquity. He approached me with a dejected look, and spoke as follows:—

"I hope you will excuse me, sir, but I am in a very bad state as you perceive. I have suffered dreadfully for a long time from drinking, and although I don't care much about myself, I can't help it, when I am where it is, and my shipmates are urging me to drink."

"You had better make up your mind to leave off at once," I said.

"That is what I want to do, sir, and if you will put my name on the Temperance Book, I would thank you."

"I will gladly do it," said I; "and if you will come up to-night, I will go with you to the Temperance Meeting."

A little before the time named he presented himself, with his nerves somewhat steadier, but still a pitiable looking object of intemperance. "Well," said I, "you are true to your time;—and off to the meeting we went—and as soon as the invitation to sign the pledge was given, up he stepped, and down went his name."

After the meeting, I gave him a caution to stand fast, and we parted. The next morning, my new convert made his appearance, and with a sorrowful look, said, "I can't stop where I am, sir, if I do, I shall break my pledge. My landlord and shipmates are trying all they can to get me to drink. I can't stand it, sir—I can't stand it."

"Well," said I, "you must leave. How long have you been in the house—what is the amount of your bill?" He replied:—

"I have only been there for two or three days, but my bill for grog is rather heavy."

"I paid the amount of his bill, which was nearly nine dollars, and had his damage taken to the Sailor's Home, where he stopped about a week, kept his pledge, got thoroughly sober, and obtained a voyage up the Straits, and, for once in his life, rendered himself on board a sober seaman, in possession of his senses, and knowing what port he was bound for."

Three months slipped round, and brought back my honest tar. He met me with a look of gratitude, and gave me such a grip as made my fingers fairly ache.

"Well," said I, "have you kept your pledge?"

"Oh yes, sir, and mean to keep it."

He returned to the Sailor's Home—was paid off—rigged himself out in a new suit of clothes—paid the little debt he owed, and in a few days was shipped again.

As he was going on board, I saw him. "Look here, sir," said he, shaking in his hand seven or eight dollars in silver. "I have been sailing out of this port, FIFTEEN YEARS; and, for the first time, I am going to sea with all I want, and money in my pocket! If I had been where rum was, I should not have had a cent, or bit of tobacco. Good bye, sir—good bye. God bless you. There is nothing like temperance after all."—Sailor's Magazine.

FLOOD OF THE DRANCE, IN SWITZERLAND. In the spring of 1818, the people of the valley of Bagnes became alarmed on observing the low state of the waters of the Drance, at a season when the melting of the snows usually enlarged the torrent; and this alarm was increased by the records of similar appearances before the dreadful inundation of 1595, which was then occasioned by the accumulation of the waters behind the debris of a glacier that formed a dam, which remained until the pressure of the water burst the dike, and it rushed through the valley, leaving desolation in its course.

In April, 1818, some persons went up the valley to ascertain the cause of the deficiency of water, and they discovered that vast masses of the glaciers of Gatzro, and avalanches of snow, had fallen into a narrow part of the valley, between Mont Pleureux and Mont Mauvoisin, and formed a dike of ice and snow 600 feet wide and 400 feet high, on a base of 3,000 feet, behind which the waters of the Drance had accumulated, and formed a lake above 7,000 feet long. M. Venetz, the engineer

of the Vallais, was consulted, and he immediately decided upon cutting a gallery through this barrier of ice, 60 feet above the level of the water at the time of commencing, and where the dike was 600 feet thick. He calculated upon making a tunnel through the mass before the water should have risen 60 feet higher in the lake. On the 10th of May, the work was begun by gangs of fifty men, who relieved each other, and worked, without intermission, day and night, with inconceivable courage and perseverance, neither deterred by the daily occurring danger from the falling of fresh masses of the glacier, nor by the rapid increase of the water in the lake, which rose 62 feet in 31 days—on an average nearly 2 feet each day; but it once rose 5 feet in one day, and threatened each moment to burst the dike by its increasing pressure; or, rising in a more rapid proportion than the men could proceed with their work, render their efforts abortive, by rising above them. Sometimes dreadful noises were heard, as the pressure of the water detached masses of ice from the bottom, which, floating, presented so much of their bulk above the water as led to the belief that some of them were 70 feet thick. The men persevered in their fearful duty without any serious accident, and, though suffering severely from cold and wet, and surrounded by dangers which cannot be justly described, by the 4th of June they had accomplished an opening 600 feet long; but having begun their work on both sides of the dike at the same time, the place where they ought to have met was 20 feet lower on one side of the lake than on the other: it was fortunate that latterly the increase of the perpendicular height of the water was less, owing to the extension of its surface. They proceeded to level the highest side of the dike, and completed it just before the water reached them. On the evening of the 13th the water began to flow. At first, the opening was not large enough to carry off the supplies of water which the lake received, and it rose 2 feet above the tunnel; but this soon melted from the action of the water, as it melted the floor of the gallery, and the torrent rushed through. In thirty-two hours the lake sunk 10 feet, and during the following twenty-four hours 20 feet more; in a few days it would have been emptied; for the floor melting, and being driven off as the water escaped, kept itself below the level of the water within; but the cataract which issued from the gallery, melted and broke up also a large portion of the base of the dike which had served as its buttress: its resistance decreased faster than the pressure of the lake lessened, and at four o'clock in the afternoon of the 6th of June the dike burst, and in half an hour the water escaped through the breach, and left the lake empty.

The greatest accumulation of water had been 800,000,000 of cubic feet, the tunnel, before the disruption, had carried off nearly 300,000,000—Lecher says, 270,000,000; but he neglected to add 60,000,000 which flowed into the lake in three days. In half an hour, 330,000,000 cubic feet of water passed through the breach, or 300,000 feet per second; which is five times greater in quantity than the Rhine at Basle, where it is 1300 English feet wide. In one hour and a half the water reached Martigny, a distance of eight leagues. Through the first 70,000 feet it passed with the velocity of 23 feet per second—four or five times faster than the most rapid river known; yet it was charged with ice, rocks, earth, trees, houses, cattle, and men; thirty-four persons were lost, 400 cottages swept away, and the damage done in the two hours of its desolating power exceeded a million of Swiss livres. All the people of the valley had been cautioned against the danger of a sudden irruption; yet it was fatal to so many. All the bridges in its course were swept away, and among them the bridge of Mauvoisin, which was elevated 90 feet above the ordinary height of the Drance. If the dike had remained untouched, and it could have endured the pressure until the lake had reached the level of its top, a volume of 1,700,000,000 cubic feet of water would have been accumulated there, and a devastation much more extensive must have been the consequence. From this greater danger the people of the valley of the Drance were preserved by the heroism and devotion of the brave men who effected the formation of the gallery, under the direction of M. Venetz. I know no instance on record of courage equal to this: their risk of life was not for fame or for riches—they had not the usual excitements to personal risk, in a world's applause or gazetted promotion,—their devoted courage was to save the lives and property of their fellow-men, not to destroy them. They steadily and heroically persevered in their labours, amidst dangers such as a field of battle never presented, and from which some of the bravest that ever lived would have shrunk in dismay. These truly brave Vallaisans deserve all honour!—Brookedon, following Escher, in the Bibliothèque de Genève.

TEST OF MERIT FOR ABLE-BODIED NEGROES.—A certain landed proprietor, whose country residence was much frequented by beggars, resolved to establish a test for discriminating between the idle and the industrious, and also to obtain some small return for the alms he was in the habit of bestowing. He accordingly added to the pump, by which the upper part of his house was supplied with water, a piece of mechanism so contrived that at the end of a certain number of strokes of the pump handle, a penny fell out from an aperture to repay the labourer for his work. This was so arranged, that those who continued at the work, obtained very nearly the usual daily wages of labour in that part of the country. The idler of the vagabonds of course refused this new labour test; but the greatest part of the beggars, whose constant tale was that "they could not earn a fair day's wages for a fair day's work," after earning a few pence, usually went away, abusing the gentleman for his hardness and sagacity.

THE BUREAU.—How comes it that this little volume, composed by humble men in a rude age, when art and science were in their childhood, has exerted more influence on the human mind and on the social system, than all the other books put together? Whence comes it that this book has achieved such marvellous changes in the opinions of mankind—has banished idol-worship—has abolished infanticide—has put down polygamy and divorce—exalted the condition of woman—raised the standard of public morality—created for families that blessed thing, a Christian home—and caused its other triumphs, by causing benevolent institutions, open and expansive, to spring up as with the wand of enchantment? What sort of a book is this, that even the winds and waves of human passions obey it? What other engine of social improvement has operated so long, and yet lost none of its virtue? Since it appeared, many boasted plans of amelioration have been tried and failed; many codes of jurisprudence have arisen, run their course, and expired. Empire after empire has been launched on the tide of time, and gone down leaving no trace on the waters. But this book is still going about doing good—leaving society with its holy principles—cheering the sorrowful with its consolations—strengthening the tempted—encouraging the penitent—calming the troubled spirit—and smothering the pillow of death. Can such a book be the offspring of a human genius? Does not the vastness of its effects demonstrate the excellency of the power to be of God?—Dr. McCullough.

THE NEW CHRISTIANITY. (So new that the Bible says not a word about it.) Assisted by M. De Lamoignon to the address of congratulation from the Irish Confederation to the French Provisional Government, 2nd April 1848.

Citizens of Ireland.—If we require a fresh proof of the pacific influence of the proclamation of the great democratic principle,—this new Christianity, bursting forth at the opportune moment, and dividing the world, as formerly, into a Pagan and Christian community,—we should assuredly discern this proof of the omnipotent action of an idea, in the visits spontaneously paid in this city to republican France, and the principles which animate her, by the nations, or by fractions of the nations, of Europe.

We are not astonished to see to-day a deputation from Ireland. Ireland knows how deeply her destinies, her sufferings, and her successive advances in the path of religious liberty, of equity, and of constitutional equality with the other parts of the United Kingdom, have at all times moved the heart of Europe!

We said as much a few days ago to another deputation of your fellow-citizens. We said as much to all the children of that glorious Isle of Erin which the natural genius of its inhabitants, and the striking events of its history, render equally symbolical of the poetry and heroism of the nations of the north.

Rest assured, therefore, that you will find in France, under the Republic, a response to all the sentiments which you express towards it.

Tell your fellow citizens that the name of Ireland is synonymous with the name of liberty, courageously defended against privilege—that it is one common name to every French citizen! Tell them that this reciprocity which they invoke—that this reciprocity of which they are oblivious—the Republic will be proud to remember and to practise invariably towards the Irish.

Tell them, above all, that the French Republic is not, and never will be, an aristocratic Republic, in which liberty is merely abused as the mask of privilege; but a Republic embracing the entire community, and securing to all the same rights and the same benefits. As regards other encouragements it would neither be expedient for us to hold them out, nor for you to receive them. I have already expressed the same opinion with reference to Germany, Belgium, and Italy; and I repeat it with reference to every nation which is involved in internal disputes—which is either divided against itself or at variance with its Government. When there is a difference of race—when nations are aliens in blood—intervention is not allowable. We belong to no party in Ireland or elsewhere, except to that which contends for justice, for liberty, and for the happiness of the Irish people. No other party would be acceptable to us, in a time of peace, in the interests and passions of foreign nations. France is desirous of reserving herself free for the maintenance of the rights of all.

We are at peace, and we are desirous of remaining on good terms of equality, not with this or that part of Great Britain, but with Great Britain entire. We believe this peace to be useful and honourable, not only to Great Britain and the French Republic, but to the human race. We will not commit an act—we will not utter a word—we will not breathe an insinuation at variance with the principles of the reciprocal inviolability of nations which we have proclaimed, and of which the continent of Europe is already gathering the fruits. The fallen monarchy had treaties and diplomatists. Our diplomatists are nations,—our treaties are sympathies! We should be insane were we openly to exchange such a diplomacy for unmeaning and partial alliances with even the most legitimate parties in the countries which surround us. We are not competent either to judge them or to prefer some of them to others; by announcing our partiality of the one side we should declare ourselves the enemies of the other. We do not wish to be the enemies of any of your fellow-countrymen. We wish on the contrary, by a faithful observance of the republican pledges, to remove all the prejudices which may mutually exist between our neighbours and ourselves.

This course, however painful it may be, is imposed on us by the law of nations as well as by our historical remembrances. Do you know what it was which most served to irritate France, and estrange her from England during the first Republic? It was the civil war, in a portion of our

territory, supported, subsidized, and assisted by Mr. Pitt. It was the encouragement and the arms given to Frenchmen, as heretics as yourselves, but Frenchmen fighting against their fellow citizens. This was not honourable warfare. It was a royalist propagandism winged with French blood against the Republic. This policy is not yet, in spite of all our efforts, entirely effaced from the memory of the nation. Well! this cause of discussion between Great Britain and us we will never renew by taking any similar course. We accept with gratitude expressions of friendship from the different nationalities included in the British Empire. We ardently wish that justice may found and strengthen the friendship of races; that equality may become more and more its basis; but while proclaiming with you, with her (England), and with all, the holy dogma of fraternity, we will perform only acts of brotherhood, in conformity with our principles, and our feelings towards the Irish nation."

TARIFF OF CARTAGE AND CARRIAGE. The Corporation By-Law, the principal regulations of which were inserted in the last number of the Berean, provides that, for the purpose of regulating the charge for cartage, the City shall be divided into the following divisions or distances:—

Table with columns 'From' and 'To'. It lists various streets and distances for cartage and carriage rates, such as 'The City to the City', 'The City to the Market', etc.

Table with columns 'FROM' and 'TO'. It lists various streets and distances for cartage and carriage rates, such as 'St. Paul's Market', 'St. John's Market', etc.

people, and his confidence in them was not misplaced; your King, in alliance with his people, preserved Prussia and Germany from ignominy and degradation. At this moment, when our fatherland is menaced by the most fearful and immediate danger, I address myself with confidence to the German nation—among the noblest branches of which my people may with pride include themselves. Germany is a prey to fermentation at home, and threatened with danger abroad from more quarters than one. Deliverance from this twofold and urgent peril can arise only from the cordial union of the German princes and people under one guiding hand. This guidance I take upon myself during these times of danger. My people, who shrink from no danger, will not desert me, and Germany will join me with confidence. I have this day adopted the ancient German national colours, and have placed myself and my people under the resuscitated banner of the German empire. From this day forth the name of Prussia is fused and dissolved into that of Germany. The Diet, which has already been convoked for the 2nd of April, in conjunction with my people, presents the ready medium and legal organ for the deliverance and pacification of Germany. It is my resolve to afford an opportunity to the princes and states of Germany for a general meeting with the organs of this diet on a plan which will be proposed without delay. The diet of the German states which will be thus provisionally constituted must enter boldly and without delay upon the requisite preliminary measures for averting dangers both at home and abroad. The measures at this moment urgently called for are—1. A declaration of general popular neutrality. 2. A declaration of armed neutrality. This national armament and this declaration will inspire Europe with respect for the sacredness and inviolability of the territory which boasts the German language and the German name. Unity and strength alone will be able in these days to maintain trade and commerce in our beautiful and flourishing fatherland. Simultaneously with these measures for averting impending danger, the German united diet will deliberate on the regeneration and the foundation of a new Germany—an united, not a uniform Germany—an union with diversities—an union with freedom. The general introduction of genuine constitutional legislation, with the responsibility of ministers in all the several states, open courts of justice, trial by jury in criminal cases, equal political and civil rights for all religious persuasions, and a truly popular and liberal administration, will alone be able to accomplish this great end.

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