

Weekly Messenger

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THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

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BUSINESS NOTES.

A company is being formed in St. Thomas, Ontario, for the manufacture of bronze monuments, for which it is claimed that, while as durable as marble, they can be made much cheaper. The Bay State Iron Company, a large concern in Boston, is reported suspended with heavy liabilities. Three thousand coal miners have returned to work at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, at three and a half cents a bushel, the lowest wages paid for two years. The failure of the Klonan Iron Steel Company, Moundsville, West Virginia, has involved the firm of Andrew Klonan & Brother, operating the Superior rail mill, Allegheny City, Pennsylvania. Over a hundred and fifty hat-finishers have struck at Yonkers, New York, where the manufacturers had made a general reduction in wages, owing to alleged difficulty in competing with convict labor. It is now officially shown that the liabilities of Follet, the failed note broker of New York, amounted to over three and a quarter millions, besides contingent liabilities of about nine and a half millions, while his actual assets were but one million and ninety thousand. F. & H. Brown, merchants, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, have failed; liabilities twenty-five thousand and assets sixteen thousand dollars. The owner of the plantation of La Mercedita, Cuba, has failed, owing a million and owning six hundred thousand dollars' worth. Louis Lewis & Co., merchants, Montreal, have arranged with their creditors at twenty-five cents in the dollar, half cash and half unsecured at six months. The direct liabilities are twenty-five thousand dollars, and indirect the same amount. The iron firm of John V. Ayers & Sons, of Chicago, has failed for two million dollars; the assets are unknown, but the firm claims to have half-a-million's worth of stock on hand. They are the largest stockholders of the Brown, Bonnell & Co.'s rolling mill at Youngstown, Ohio. The Fox River Iron Company, of Green Bay, Wisconsin, has assigned with assets of ninety thousand dollars, being about thirty thousand over liabilities. That such a large amount of disaster should befall the iron trade is a very bad sign of the times, iron being one of the leading factors in the commercial life of a country. General reports indicate a dull state of trade in the States, largely produced by the floods in the Middle States, which have affected business over a far wider extent than the territory flooded. Iron is quiet and dull, but petroleum is higher, firmer and advancing. Ocean freights are easier owing to less demand for transportation and a larger supply of shipping. There were two hundred and twenty-one failures in the United States during the week, thirty-five less than in the preceding week and forty-nine more than in the corresponding week in 1882, and seventy-six more than in the same week in 1881. Canada had thirty-five, an increase of one failure.

OLD WORLD MATTERS.

The most exciting thing in British parliamentary affairs has been the procession of twenty-five thousand men which followed Mr. Bradlaugh, the infidel radical member for Northampton, to Parliament when he went to demand by letter the seat to which he had been so many times elected. The letter was read by the Speaker and the Attorney-General, Mr. James, introduced a bill to allow members to affirm instead of swear allegiance upon taking their seats, and this action satisfied Mr. Bradlaugh, and he retired, his followers quietly dispersing. A letter from Mr. Healy, member of Parliament, complaining of being subjected to irritating prison rules in Kilmainham Gaol, gave opportunity to the Irish members to make a demonstration in the House, and they moved for a committee of enquiry, which the Government opposed. Sir Wilfrid Lawson moved an amendment to the address in answer to the speech from the throne, in which he condemned the Egyptian war, and it was defeated by one hundred and seventy-nine to one hundred and forty-four. The most exciting phase of the preliminary trials of the Irish conspirators has been the turning informer of James Carey, one of the prisoners and a member of the Dublin Council. His evidence comprised minute details of the conspiracy to murder public men and policemen. The other prisoners frequently hissed and jeered at their betrayer. The most important event for the week in French politics is the acceptance of the resignation of the Ministry, and the selection of M. Jules Ferry to form a new one.

THE FLOODS.

The floods in the Middle States have subsided after doing incalculable damage. On the fourteenth the people of Cincinnati were appalled to discover the Ohio rising a second time, and a new reign of terror began which happily only lasted about a day until another fall in the water took place. In that city great destitution resulted among the thousands of people turned out of home by the floods. By order of the Bishop, the Roman Catholic churches were thrown open to receive the homeless. All the bakeries above water were tested to their utmost capacity to supply the demand for bread, and soup-kitchens were established at various points. Liberal contributions for relief come to the authorities, several single gifts of one to three thousand dollars having been made. With the exception of a line running to Baltimore and Washington, there was no communication by rail with the outside world. A railway station platform and sheds became undermined by the waters and collapsed, carrying with them fourteen boys who were watching the floods, and other persons of unknown number. Necessaries of life and comfort rose in price, in some cases doubling, and houses in the inundated districts became unsafe from undermining and the bursting of sewers. Ninety thousand persons were estimated to have been out of employment on the fifteenth, through the stoppage of the factories, and it was at one time thought all would have to shut down to avoid danger of a water famine in the regular supply. About one o'clock in the morning of the

day just mentioned a sad event supplemented the general distress. Some men went into the cellar of a four-tenement, three-story block to get some lumber for a raft they were making, when a lighted candle taken with them ignited fire damp or sewer gas that had collected, and a terrific explosion ensued, wrecking the entire building and filling the whole neighborhood with terror. The people, fearing further explosions of sewer gas forced up by the water pressure, fled from adjacent houses in scant attire. By five o'clock the firemen had taken out all the occupants of the house, when three were found killed, two perhaps fatally injured and several more or less hurt. It is calculated that twenty-five thousand people in Cincinnati will be in want for perhaps fifty days, while the loss in property is placed among the millions and a great deal of business embarrassment has been produced by the serious obstruction of trade. Jeffersonville, Indiana, was flooded from two to twenty feet, and five thousand people were homeless in the city. Hundreds of people were quartered in the upper stories of public buildings and food was taken to them in skiffs. The scenes of suffering were most woful, and the material loss is set at over a million. At Louisville, Kentucky, over three hundred squares and two thousand houses were submerged, five thousand workmen were driven from their shops and twelve thousand people from their homes, and the total loss is three millions. The authorities decline all offers of assistance outside of the city. New Albany, Indiana, appealing to the Legislature for relief, reports that it will take from a hundred and fifty to two hundred thousand dollars to relieve the absolute distress of its people. The whole valley of the Licking River and Clear Creek was under water, and a thousand acres of wheat were destroyed. From Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, to Cairo, Illinois, where the Ohio joins the Mississippi, there was hardly a town or city not wholly or partly submerged. For thirty miles beginning in the upper suburbs of Cincinnati and ending with Lawrenceburg, twenty-five miles below, the damage, destitution and distress is unparalleled in American history.

FIRES.

An explosion of gasoline started a fire in Blaisdell & Co.'s knitting mills, near Amsterdam, New York, which caused a loss of fifty thousand dollars. David Dodge's store at Mitford, Ontario, was burned; loss of two thousand five hundred, partly insured. Colender's billiard factory, Stamford, Connecticut, caught fire by spontaneous combustion in the varnish room, and was burned at a loss of two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. A loss of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars was caused by the burning of Crofthead's twisting mills, Milton, Scotland, and five hundred persons thrown out of employment. Two or three thousand dollars' loss was caused to R. Baird, Mitchell Brothers, Messrs. Ross Robertson and H. Wilde by a fire in Kinross, Ontario. The United States Iron and Tin Plate works at Demmler's station, Pennsylvania, were burned, loss one hundred thousand dollars, and three hundred men out of work. Mr. George Robertson's

carriage factory, Kingston, Ontario, was damaged a thousand dollars by fire and was insured. The steam lumber mills of James Robertson, Milleroches, Ontario, were damaged, without insurance, four thousand dollars' worth. Valentine's knitting mill, Bermington, Vermont, was burned, loss over a hundred thousand. D. Masson, & Co.'s, wholesale grocery store in Montreal was burned out; loss to building and stock more than covered by eighty thousand dollars' insurance. The Mignonne street boys' reformatory, managed by the Christian Brothers, in the same city, was damaged to the extent of thirty thousand dollars, and several firms occupying portions of them lost in amounts from one to ten thousand dollars each.

CRIME.

Body-stealing continues to be practised to a heavy extent in the rural districts of Quebec, the plunder being sold to medical colleges in Montreal and the United States. A negro named William Hughes brutally murdered his wife at Willow Grove, twelve miles from St. John, New Brunswick, because she refused to live with him on account of his bad usage of her. Mr. Ketchum Graham, a former Provincial legislator, was attacked with knives while going into his house at Sydney, Ontario, and severely wounded in the face and hand, his assailant escaping. Three of the defaulting officers of the Jersey City Bank have been convicted and sentenced—Boyce to ten years, Beach to four and Shaw to six. The New York press is on the track of a ring of officials in the department of taxes and assess-ments, which is alleged to be robbing the rate-payers right and left.

SEVERAL PROMINENT MEN have recently died. Mr. James Court, a wealthy citizen of Montreal, died in Glasgow, Scotland, at the age of seventy-two. He had gone to Europe to spend a portion of the winter and just returned from Switzerland. Mr. Court was a native of Hamilton, Scotland, and came out in the same ship as Sir Hugh Allan, and both were employed by the same firm. He was identified with every moral reform in the city, and his generosity was a distinguishing feature of his character. Mr. William E. Dodge, of New York, widely known for his activity in moral, religious and philanthropic works, died in that city from the effects of a cold contracted while presiding at a political meeting. He leaves a wife and family and an estate valued at fifteen million dollars. Mr. Dodge was associated with the temperance reform for the past fifty years. The Hon. Mr. Morgan, ex-Governor of New York, is dead; also the Hon. John McMurich, a prominent merchant and politician of Toronto.

A CRAZE FOR LOTTERIES has suddenly struck the Province of Ontario, and among a number of proposed schemes of that sort is one to wipe out the debt of the city of London at one stroke, by the issuance of two hundred thousand tickets at five dollars each. Some influential newspapers have been carried away by this sudden gambling mania, but others join a portion of the pulp in denouncing lotteries as dishonest, immoral and demoralizing.

STEP BY STEP.

A TRUE STORY, BY JULIA M'NAIR WRIGHT.

Saturday and Sunday had been the great days of carouse at the Bambeck grog-shop. Cortin's bar-tender had not been paid a salary, but he had been given a certain share of the proceeds of sales; he even more than Cortin, resented the work carried on by the Wade family. His profits were falling off wonderfully; on Saturday nights they went up to the Cottage to hear singing; on Sundays they now had something to read, and expected to go to the meeting in the evening, and did not desire to go loaded with fumes of whiskey and tobacco; therefore the guests at Cortin's liquor store decreased. The bar-tender nourished a deadly hatred toward all the Wade family; he called them "thieves and interlopers hypocrites and fanatics;" he longed to have some evil happen to them. "They leased the house for six years," he said to his old mother, "or 'd Cortin would turn them out fast enough."

"It would be a pity to turn out such a genteel, kind-spoken family, with a good deed for every one," said his mother.

"Good deeds! Bad deeds you may say; they are filching the food out of our mouths, and the profit out of our purse."

"But, Jen, my lad, I'm fearing this is a bad business and will lead you to ruin. I would you were back in the mine."

"But I can't be back, since that lump of ore fell on me and lamed me. If I hadn't this, we'd starve."

"Perhaps so. But all the same, Jen, my boy, I'm more uneasy about you now than when, 'on, wrought in the mine. I'm that afraid you'll come to harm."

"Well, I did come to harm there, sure enough," said Jen, looking at his crushed foot. "What are you fearing now?"

"Sure, my dear boy, the mine wrecked a piece of your body, but if you turn drunkard you'll be wrecked entirely."

"Never you fear that. You'd better fear lest I am starved out and end in a poor-house, and you too, old woman. I wish to gracious that their house would burn down over their heads, for there isn't another one in this district, within ten miles, that would do for them that could be had, and so I should be rid of them and their ways. I've a mind to light the place myself, and so be done with them."

"Oh, Jen, Jen," said the old woman, "don't talk in that way; you may be led into evil, and what then? You'd get to State's prison, and break your poor old mammy's heart!"

"They'd better not drive me too hard," said Jen, sulkily.

The new war-room was being built; Philippa had received thirty dollars from her former Sabbath school, ten of which went for papers, and twenty were to be laid out in renovating the present lumber-room; meanwhile the men and women of the lammet met in the big kitchen of the cottage.

The children of Dora were present at these meetings; the bright faced boy and the two pretty little girls were much admired by the bank men, many of whom were shut out from all home ties, and were far away from friends. One of the men, Luke Green, a herculean fellow, one of the hardest drinkers, took a great fancy to little Katy; the child's fragility and strangely timid manner seemed to have an absolute fascination for Luke Green, and he was constantly making curious toys for her; he scarcely ever came near the Cottage—and he was found of making errands there—without some gift to lay on the shrine of his baby charmer. Luke had been careful never to touch liquor when he was going to the Cottage, he had too much respect for the ladies; he went there clean, sober, and quiet. But one Sunday Luke forgot himself; the day was hot, and old habit was strong, and Jen was persuasive, and moreover Jen had added to the allurements of the "Free-and-Easy" a bowling alley, and while Luke played bowls he now and again had a glass of grog. He reached the Cottage after the rest of the men had gathered, and Rappé Wade was sitting by the table looking out a cl' pter. The children were near a window by themselves, and Luke had made a rustic basket for Katy. Two tipsy to exact-ly consider the proprietaries of the occasion, he went across the kitchen, staggering a little, and holding out the basket. The three ladies were near the organ, selecting familiar hymns and tunes; poor Katy was the object of her intense horror, a drunken man, coming toward her. Her big eyes

grew bigger, with black circles under them; her skin became livid, she spread out her thin, wavering hands, and uttering a terrible scream, fell on the floor in a convulsion. All was confusion; in a minute carried the child away, and after a little, Rappé came back to the room full of men.

"What is it, sir? Can we do anything? Shall we fetch a doctor?" cried Bent.

"What is wrong with the blessed little one?" said Luke, sobered by surprise and distress.

"Luke," said Mr. Wade gravely, "it was you; you alarmed the child. She saw that you were tipsy."

"But not to hurt," protested Luke, flushing, "not to hurt. I did take a little, but drunk or sober, I'd never harm a hair of that child's head."

"I daresay," replied Mr. Wade, "but yet the very sight of a man in liquor throws our poor Katy into a spasm. Now, my men, sit down. I will change the order of exercises to-day. I am going to tell you a true story. I have made up my mind to take you in to my confidence, and tell you part of the history of my own family. When I carried Katy to her bed, Miss Wade, my sister, said, 'Oh, the curse of strong drink! the curse of strong drink!' and I made up my mind, if anything that I could say would help to free you, my good fellows, from the curse of strong drink, that I would say it, at any sacrifice to my personal feelings."

The men sat down and looked solemnly attentive. After a short prayer, Rappé Wade, in simple, feeling language told them the history of his unhappy brother-in-law. He depicted the joyous young couple, the comfortable home, the idolized children. He showed that home entered by the serpent, the fight with poverty and shame, the disgraced children, the nearly ruined health of the wife, the poor little child born to the curse of a Haunting Fear. Then came the violent death—the shadowed memory—the breaking up of the household. Again and again, as he recited the wrongs of his sister and her children, his voice was broken by emotion. The men listened breathless; and here and there a big tear rolled down a brown, rough cheek. When the story was ended there was a dead silence, and, bending his head, Rappé Wade prayed earnestly that all those present might be delivered from the power of strong drink. He then opened his Bible and read rapidly texts concerning drinking and drunkards.

"The drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty."

"Nor drunkards shall inherit the Kingdom of God."

"A wake, ye drunkards, and weep."

"While they are drunken as drunkards they shall be devoured;" and so on for many others. When he had closed, there was a pause; then Bent rose and said: "Sir, we have been much given to drinking; there was no interest or amusement provided for our leisure hours, except what we had at the grog-shop. Until your family came, there was no gathering-place for us of Sundays, except at the Free-and-Easy. Temptation was in our way, and many of us fell into it. I know we have wasted our hard-earned wages, and lost days' work, and gotten many a bruise and ache and fever down here at the 'Free-and-Easy,' and why it is named FREE or EASY, I can't tell. As for free, it leeches you of your last copper, and as for easy, it treats us in the end hard enough. I, for one, wish we had a Temperance Society here, and a Pledge. I'd sign the pledge fast enough, and I've no doubt, if we had a society and a place for meetings, we could manage to have as good a time as we ever did at the grog-shop. What say, friends?"

"I say," responded young Brown, rising, "that if we had a place of meeting, we could spend a little of that cash we've been lying out so free on beer and toddy, in getting us papers and such things, and we'd find that signing the pledge was to our pleasure and our profit."

"I feel," said Mr. Wade, "that our Company have done wrong in not providing some place for your proper entertainment. I think we owe you a reading-room, or a meeting-room, or whatever you like to call it. I intend to have the lumber-room cleaned out, seated, whitewashed, and put a stove in it, and among you, if you keep it clean, you shall have it for a meeting or society room, for all who do not bring drinking or gaming into it. I don't say it is only for those who sign the pledge. Some of you

may not choose to take that step now, but will be ready to do so by and by; but I do hope that you will form a Temperance Society, and that many of you will find it in your hearts to take the pledge now."

The news of the temperance talk at Mr. Wade's house, and the project of a Temperance Society, which met at once with some warm supporters, roused to double fury the wrath of Jen, the bar-keeper.

"I'll be even with them, the swindlers!" he shouted; "they want to snatch the bread from my mouth."

"Well, son," said his mother, "suppose you take some other way of getting bread? The lady from the house said to me lately, 'Wouldn't your son rather give up this and take some other work, if it was offered him? Perhaps something could be had for him at the works. I think they ought to do something for him, as he was hurt in the bank.'"

"Tuts," said Jen, gruffly, "this pay's twice as well as their poor, starveling wage."

"Maybe so, but that wage is honest, and fair earned, and this comes out of the impoverishing of you fellows."

"Don't you go again' me, mother," said Jen crossly.

"Well, I'm looking at things more serious like," said his mother, "and you're hardening, Jen, and not so nice a lad as you were once—and I'm afeared that there's another world after this that we're not rightly preparing for, and mebbly, boy, you'll lose your soul for a poor bit of living here."

"Oh, bother! Brown has been preaching to you; he's turned a regular Methodist. I wish he was dead, and Bent moved away, and Wade's house burnt to cinders."

The change at the Works was made, the renovated lumber-room was handed over to the men for week-day and Sunday meetings, and the Sabbath Temperance papers subscribed for began to come, and the men clubbed their money for one or two Dailies. The Temperance Society, formed with ten members, was soon fifteen strong; and most of those who did not join were friendly.

Aunt Grace said to Philippa that as they had many friends who took popular magazines, they had better write and ask them for numbers which they were not keeping for binding. These magazines were a great treat to the men assembled in their new resort, and what they called the Reading-room was a formidable rival of "Cortin's Free-and-Easy." Cortin himself seldom appeared near the Works, but he was a loud reviler of the religious and moral enterprises there. He called it "sneaking Methodism," proclaimed his belief that there was neither God, future life, nor immortal spirit, and extolled his own doctrine. "Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die." He carried his hostility so far that he refused to sell Mr. Wade produce from his farm, and when Jen the bar-tender wished his bad wishes and grumbled what he would like to do to the Wade family, old Cortin slapped him on the shoulder, crying, "Go it, Jen! You're a lad of spirit. I'll stand by you!"

Jen brooded over his losses and supposed wrongs, and shaped in his mind the images of the revenge which he would like to take. Dangerous work this.

"Vice is a monster of such hideous mien, As to be dreaded, needs but to be seen; Be seen too oft, familiar with her face, We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

It was a November night, the first November after Philippa went to Bambeck, and Nathan Bent, for a wonder, could not sleep. He turned restlessly on his pillow for a long while, then rose, dressed, and went to the window of Luke Green's cottage, and tapped. In response, Luke stuck his shaggy head into the night air.

"Green," said Bent, "I can't sleep. I'm worried about the master. He's got enemies—people mostly has, that sets themselves in any wise against the current. I've heard a word or two dropped as I wouldn't like to repeat, and I've seen a sign or two I would not like to mention. I may misjudge folk. Howson'd ever, Green, I'm a-going to walk up to, and round about the master's rottage, and I don't know but you might prefer going with me."

Sartain, said Green—who, since the day when he had frightened Katy into a fit, had touched no intoxicating liquor—"I'll be out there in a gif."

The two men started by the cross path—it was a quiet night, and the moon, just beginning to rise, lent a faint light. They had neared the cottage, by the kitchen side, when a dark form slid out of the shadow of the house, and, at the same time, a flash of

flame shone broadly against the building. An incendiary had been at work!

"You nab the man, and I'll see to the fire!" said Bent, in high excitement, but speaking softly to Green.

Green diverged from their path, and went, in long leaps, like a hound on the track, after the fugitive, who seemed to get on but slowly in his escape.

Bent flew to the cottage; tow, pine-shavings, tarred sticks, and kerosene had been freely used to ignite the wooden building, and were taking fine effect.

"Fire! Fire! FIRE!" roared Bent, kicking at the front door, and seizing a rake, which stood on the back porch, and beginning to drag away the pile of combustibles. In a moment Rappé Wade was out beside him, and soon Aunt Grace, Philippa, and maid, with wet blankets and buckets full of water.

The shouting attracted a few wakeful men from the works, and when they arrived on the scene they found Bent and Mr. Wade, with crowbar and axe, tearing the burning boards from the house side, and the woman throwing water. In a few minutes the fire was conquered—a dozen charred boards, a blackened window-frame, a burned door still marked the incendiary's work; and even at the instant when it could be thus summed up, Luke Green appeared, almost carrying the sinner in his arms—Jem Cope, the bar-tender.

"Well, here's a pretty showing for you," cried one.

"Dead Set for State's prison, for we saw you at it!" cried Bent.

"Yes, he's in for it, sure enough," observed Green.

"And folks as never harmed you!" cried a bystander. "To burn a house over the heads of a family of women and children just on winter's edge, as you may say. It's my idea, as men ought to hang for arson."

Thus Jen got no sympathizers, and was in a state of abject horror; his knees shook under him; his face was ghastly; his heart beat wildly; his breath came in short gasps.

Next question was, what to do with Jen for the night. The following day he could be carried to the county seat and committed to await his trial; but where to put him for this night? It was now one o'clock.

"I have it boss," said Bent, "your smoke-house is just the place"—he pointed to a solid little brick building, with an iron roof and door, and a small, barred window in the top. "He'll be safe there; let's put him in." None of them saw an old woman, with a face of agony, hiding behind a clump of junipers, at the outskirts of the group. The old woman's anguished eyes scanned every face, and read condemnation and anger on all but one. That exception was the face of Philippa—where intense compassion for the terrified criminal seemed to vanquish all other feelings. It was Philippa who spoke out:

"Then if you put him in there, you must put the cot in for him to rest on."

"The floor's good enow for the likes o' him," said Green.

"But the floor is all ashes. Brown, bring the cot from the front attic; we must not be cruel to him."

So the cot was set in the smoke-house, and then Jem Cope was thrust in there, and the iron door was locked, and Rappé Wade laid the key on the sitting-room table.

"My good friends," said Rappé, "go home. Thank you for the interest you have shown, and for saving my house. I am sure poor Cope would not have thought of playing me this evil turn if it had not been for the influence of drink."

"Mebbly not," said Bent, "but drunkenness can't be pleaded in excuse for crime. It's only one crime more to the account."

"Well, good-night, boss, and safe sleep to ye all!" and the men trooped off to the village.

The woman behind the junipers, tears pouring over her wrinkled face, drew her mantle over her gray hairs, and sat down like Kizpah watching behind her dead, hers was the attitude of one long used to patient waiting.

The Wade family shut their doors; then all sought their rooms but Philippa; she concluded to recline in a large chair in the sitting-room until morning; she was wakeful and distressed, and it seemed to afford Katy vast comfort that aunt Philippa would watch until morning; the child felt sure that with aunt Philippa watching, neither the fire nor the man could break out.

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one by one; the old woman by the junipers saw them go out, and she saw, too, by the moonlight, a thin hand clatching the iron bars of the smoke-house window, and trying to shake them vainly. She knew that her poor Jem had climbed up by his cot to see if there was any way out of his prison, and had found his attempt hopeless. Now all the lights were out but the one that burned in the sitting-room—a long silence, it must be half-past two, and all in the dwelling must be asleep. The watcher rose, and going to the window of that one lighted room, peeped in. She turned the slats in the blind, a very little to do so. She saw Philippa sitting by the table, her chin resting on her hand—the big book open near her must be the Bible. The old woman looked at her steadily for a little while, then put a long, skinny finger through the shutter, and tapped on the window-pane with her nail. At the sound Philippa lifted her head and listened; Mrs. Cope tapped once more. Philippa drew near to the window, and saw the withered finger against the glass. There was no cowardice in this girl; she raised the window a little, then a voice whispered through it:

"Oh, Miss, Miss, I'm the mother of that poor wretched boy who tried to harm you all."

"Mrs. Cope, is this you? Why are you here?"

"Oh, Miss, you don't yet know a mother's heart; I'm here 'cause he, my poor boy, my only boy—is there."

Philippa perceived that the old woman's voice trembled, and her teeth chattered with cold. She said:

"You are chilled through, Mrs. Cope; go to the door and I will let you in."

So she gave the old woman a chair at the hearth, and stirred up the fire. A little tea-kettle was humming on the hob, and Philippa put some ginger and sugar in a bowl, and poured hot water on them, and made the old creature drink this tea and eat a piece of bread from the closet which was near the fire-place.

"Oh, Miss," said the old woman, "my poor boy's beside himself, and has done a dreadful thing. He never would have done it but he has been drinking. Miss, he never was very strong, but he was a good boy to me, and gave me all he earned; and when he got hurt in the bank two years ago, he first never did a thing for him; cast him out like an old shoe; and Mr. Cortin, he set him up in the store, and it's ruining him. Oh, Miss, now he'll go to the State's prison, and I'm old, and I'll never live to see his term out—and I'll die alone, and none of my own kin to close my eyes. Oh, Miss, he's all in the world I have, all that is left for me to love, the only one who loves me."

This was desolation indeed, and Philippa burst into tears.

"Miss, dear!" pleaded the poor distracted mother, "if he could only get out, he should never trouble any one here more—he should never keep a liquor-store more. Oh, Miss, he is young, and was hard put to it; and I've been an ignorant mother; I take the fault for myself. Oh, Miss, pity me!"

"I do, I do," said Philippa; "but what can I do?"

"Oh, Miss, if you pleased but set him free!"

"I dare not. I should be committing a crime. He has committed a great sin, and justice demands penalty."

"Oh, my lady, it's mercy I'm after, not justice."

The poor old creature fell on her knees, and clasped her arms about Philippa.

"Miss, have mercy upon me! My son is sickly; whatever he is, he loves me and his home. Oh, if he is shut in the Penitentiary for years, treated cruel, maybe, he'll die alone, with no mother to give him a last kiss; and I shall die alone, without a child to close my eyes. Miss, dear Miss, do let him out."

"Oh, Mrs. Cope, but he has been guilty of such a crime."

"I know it all, Miss; but he's my only boy, and I'm his mother."

Such a trembling agony seized the old woman, that Philippa feared she would fall dead on the floor. In the intensity of her pity, Philippa looked toward the table. There, beside the Bible, lay a great key, with a stick tied to the handle. Mrs. Cope followed Philippa's glance, and she too, saw the key. Her clasping arms loosened; she rose slowly from the floor. Philippa turned away; sat down by the fire, and hid her

face in her hands. She heard the door close. Then, after a little time, the door opened, a step was in the room, and then was gone, and once more the door was softly shut. The key lay on the table by the Bible.

Philippa locked the front door, drew her chair near the fire, and wrapped in her big shawl, fell asleep. The ringing of the bell for breakfast roused her.

As they ate, a waggon came up, with three men in it, come to take Jem Cope to the county seat.

Raphe Wade, with a sigh, went into the sitting-room, and got the big key from the table.

He came back soon, with the men, all amaze.

"Sister Philippa, did you leave the sitting-room last night?"

"No," replied Philippa, quietly.

"What time did you fall asleep?"

"Somewhere after three."

"Well," said Raphe Wade, "the key was exactly where I put it."

"Boss, shall we search the hills?" asked the men.

"Do as you like," replied the superintendent.

"What do you like?" urged the men.

"Well," said Mr. Wade, reluctantly, "it was a great crime that he tried to commit, and might have had terrible consequences; but we escaped; and he is very young, and the only son—"

"Of his mother; and she is a widow," quoted Brown.

And some breath of the compassion that sanctified the air of Nain, floated to them, carried on those words down the centuries, and over great distances; and the men also sighed, and went back to their work. Perhaps they had condoned a felony, but they were unlearned in such matters, and felt sure that Jem Cope had had quite enough of arson.

Mr. Cortin put another man in his liquor-store, and warned Mrs. Cope out of the little house which she occupied. This was the way in which he "stood by Jem," as he had promised. But then the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

As for Jem, he had disappeared.

The new keeper of the "Free-and-Easy" found it hard to make a living, but other people seemed to thrive at Bambeck. The village looked thrifty; the Works were extended; new hands were hired; ten new houses were built, filling up all the space the Company owned, and some one opened a little store, "dry-goods, notions, hardware, and groceries," a little of everything, a great deal of nothing!

Mrs. Cope took a tiny house, a mere cabin, at the foot of the hill; she went out nursing and working in the village, and seemed hard put to it to get along. Many a basket of provisions did she get from Philippa, who was her staunch protectress.

One stormy March day, just on the edge of the evening, old Mrs. Cope came to the Cottage for Philippa.

"Miss, I want to speak to you privately. Come out beyond the wood-shed. Walls have ears."

Philippa put on her cloak, and followed the old woman.

"Miss, I want to trust to ye a secret; it is not to be told to a living soul. It's no at secret to harm any one, Miss."

"Then I will keep it," said Philippa. "Miss, do you understand anything of doctoring?"

"Yes, something," said Philippa, who had such a talent for nursing and dosing, that her friends called her the "Family Doctor."

"Well, Miss, dear, it's my Jem. I've kept him hid on the hills in a bit cabin all winter. Sometimes coming to stop with me a little, after the searching died out. And, Miss, he has got that low and ill, I make sure he is like to die. And he's beyond my help, poor dear, and no doctor within miles, and me afeared to call one, if there were, lest some enemy should take leave to prosecute him. Miss, he's never drank one drop since that night. And he's mortal shamed and heart-broke. When I says I was coming to speak with you, says he, 'Mother, let me die like I deserve; don't be calling on them as I treated that shameful!'"

"I will go and see him," said Philippa.

"And, Miss, you won't tell e'er a soul, for he's nervous and fearsome."

"No, I will keep your secret," said Philippa.

Philippa must have merited her title of a "Family Doctor," for though, when she

first visited him, Jem Cope was a miserable skeleton, seemingly with death on his face, by May he was once more in tolerably good health.

Philippa got orders for knitting-work from the city for Mrs. Cope, and it seemed wonderful what quantities of knitting that old woman did. But truth was, that sitting behind a screen in her cabin, was a young man who knit twelve hours in a day, faster than her rheumatic old hands could ply the needles; so there were two at the work.

By June it was seen that there was pressing need of a church at Bambeck. But there was no money, and no land.

Said Philippa: "I shall ask Mr. Cortin for land."

"You might as well ask a stone wall," said Raphe, "he would not even sell it for that at that price."

"There is no other land-owner, and he must be asked. Come, aunt Grace, we will go together!"

Behold these two women asking old "Atheist Cortin" for land to build a church on. He fairly glared at them.

"I'd sooner lose every cent I own! Why did you come to me? You knew I wouldn't bearken to you!"

"Sir, there was nowhere else to go, and we must have the land," said Philippa.

"Well, you won't if you must! Asking me! The idea; it is the maddest piece of absurdity I ever heard of!"

"Not at all," said Philippa, firmly. "Since we really must have the land, and the Lord has led us on to the point where land is indispensable, then I know that he means us to have it, and will give it to us. But the Lord works by the use of means, and the means are to ask you for it."

"I'll soon show you clearly, Miss, that the Lord has nothing to do with my affairs. The land is old Job Cortin's, and you can't get it out of me. I've shut down my will on it like bars of brass. You shall NEVER have my land!"

"Yes, I think we will," said the dauntless Philippa, "all hearts of men are in the Lord's hand, and like rivers of water, He turns them whithersoever he will."

"He can't turn mine," said old Cortin, "and I don't want you, Miss, to stand here longer talking."

As old Cortin thus defied God, a brave light of faith shone in Philippa's eyes. "Come, aunt Grace," she said. "Good-day, Mr. Cortin, but you will let me have that land, and I'll come to help sign the papers whenever you are ready."

Now, by what processes God worked who shall say!

The mission in Bambeck moved steadily on until the last of August, Philippa sure that her church was coming, for now ten men were waiting to unite with it, and the Temperance Society was forty-six strong.

Philippa was sitting alone by the table one August evening, preparing a Bible-class lesson, when in stalked old Cortin. He flung two long envelopes on the table before her.

"Something's got the better of me!" and out he walked.

Philippa opened the envelopes.

One was a deed for a quarter of an acre of land, just where it was wanted, for a church.

The other was a cheque for twenty-five hundred dollars to build the church.

Then they arose and began to build.

In October the keeper of the "Free-and-Easy" informed Mr. Cortin that his stores were about exhausted; that it was impossible to make a living by grog-selling in Bambeck.

"Clear out then," said old Cortin.

A fortnight later Raphe Wade met Mr. Cortin in the street.

"Wade," said Cortin, pleasantly, "would you like to have the 'Free-and-Easy' for a school-house? I'll give it to you, rent free, if you can find a man to teach there. I always believed in the three great R's."

Raphe Wade wasted no time; he raised funds among his friends, and got one of those self-denying Christian workers, of whom a few remain even in this age, who was ready to come and teach the school and shepherd the little church at Bambeck Bank.

On the tenth of December that church was dedicated; it's entire building and furnishing expenses covered by the *Atheist's* contribution. The workmen at the Bank buying an organ, and the Company a Horn.

Over the door of the church is this inscription:

Asked of God, June 16th, 187—
Received from God, Dec. 10th, 187—

The next spring, a pale, lame young man, a zealous member of this church, might have been seen clerking in the office at the Works. He is one of the warmest friends the Wade family could desire; but once he tried to burn their house!

"This is a great work," said a young pastor from the city, who seemed fond of coming to Bambeck, and who was speaking to Philippa; "how did you undertake it?"

"I did not undertake it," replied Philippa, "it just sprung up, step by step, as I went on in a way where God seemed to have hedged me in."

"Well," said the minister "I think some of the best work of the time has been done in just that way, merely doing the duty of the hour, neither looking forward nor backward, but doing what God set before us."

THE END.

BOYS AND GIRLS' TEMPERANCE TEXT-BOOK.

BY H. L. READE.

(National Temperance Society, New York.)

LESSON VIII.—ALCOHOL AND THE HUMAN STOMACH.—Continued.

What is the color of the stomach in its natural condition?

The color of the stomach in its natural condition is like that of the blush on the cheek of a person in perfect health.

What constitutes the inner coating of the stomach?

The inner coating of the stomach is a delicate and highly sensitive membrane.

What gives it its sensitiveness and color?

Its sensitiveness and color are caused by the presence of innumerable nerves and minute blood-vessels, which penetrate and interlace it completely.

How does the frequent use of a small quantity of alcohol affect the color and character of the stomach?

The frequent use of a small quantity of alcohol irritates the nerves, and causes the minute blood-vessels to become more distended and distinct.

Suppose the amount taken into the stomach is increased, what then is the effect?

Usually inflammation follows irritation, the stomach turns to a dark-red color, the blood-vessels are greatly enlarged, and there are both soreness and pain, with other sensations that cannot be described.

Suppose the drinking habit becomes fixed, and alcohol in considerable quantities is always found in the stomach, what is its condition?

The color of the stomach becomes a dark red; its surface is roughened; and ulceration is frequently caused.

Why is the stomach thus roughened or wrinkled?

Because alcohol has much the effect upon it that tanning has on animal skins.

And what is the end?

The poison thus unites the membrane for its digestive work, and, ceasing entirely to perform its office, death ensues.

FLANNELS.

No one who has a reasonable claim to intelligence and personal neatness will wear the same flannels at night that are worn by day. The body is either throwing off the waste semi-purified, poisonous matters of the

decaying tissues, more than one-half of all taken as food and drink passing off through seven millions of pores, which act as sewers. These poisons appear on the surface as sensible perspiration, or are passing so imperceptibly as not to be seen, in the latter form particularly when warm in bed.

They become lodged on the skin, or in the meshes of the clothing, and will become absorbed if not removed. Hence the necessity for a regular wash or cleansing of the whole surface daily, in the warm weather more especially, while the use of the crash towel or the flesh-brush may well be substituted in the cold weather. The flesh-brush is excellent in the winter, as a means of cleanliness and for the circulation of the blood, one half of which should be kept in the small vessels of the skin. If not thus kept, the extremities, particularly the feet, will be too cold for comfort and health, since no one can be really healthy who uniformly has cold feet and a hot head.

A bath may be injudicious in cold weather, but not the use of the brush.—Selected.

THE WEEK.

JOHN RALSTON, the foreman of a candle and soap factory in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has fallen heir to half an estate of three millions in Scotland.

THREE HUNDRED PEOPLE are reported sick at Waterbury, Connecticut, of winter cholera, supposed to be caused by the mixture of snow with the city water.

WILLIAM LEWIS, who had been an author, lecturer, politician and judge, died recently in alijet poverty, in a hospital to which he had been taken from a miserable hovel, in Dallas, Texas.

A BANKER has written to the Treasurer of New York, saying he had seen one of the new five-cent nickel coins so perfectly gold-washed as to deceive ignorant persons, and pass easily among them for a new five-dollar gold piece.

MR. PETER COOPER, the famous philanthropist and founder of the Cooper Institute, where thousands of young people are educated free, in the city of New York, has lately passed his ninety-third birthday, on the occasion of which he received visits from many friends, and many sent him bouquets.

MR. COBB, late Governor of Alabama, has the reputation of granting over two hundred pardons in a little over a week. Such a straining of the quality of mercy to evil-disposed people is simply criminal injustice to the law-abiding portion of the community.

JIM CHANG, a Chinaman, attempted to start in the laundry business at Waynesboro, Georgia, but a party of white people destroyed his property and drove him away. If that is a specimen of the vaunted chivalry of the South, the nation could well afford to have it exchanged for a quality less pretentious in name and more manly in kind.

THE GOVERNOR OF TEXAS, in a message to the Legislature of that State, recommends compulsory vaccination, saying that, although as a rule he was opposed to paternal government, yet upon this subject he was firmly fixed. He is right, for there is no questioning the fact that the average people are far from knowing enough to take care of themselves in the matter of health.

A MAN CLAIMING THE UNKNOWN TITLE of "Lord Cantyre" last fall met a wealthy young lady of Perth, Ontario, on a steamship coming out from Great Britain, and after an acquaintance of some months privately married her in Montreal during the recent Winter Carnival. Her guardian did not know the marriage had taken place until he went to Montreal to make enquiries about the assumed lord upon behalf of his ward. It is not yet publicly known whether the man has any means of his own or respectable antecedents, but it is a fact that he gave false accounts of himself in other ways than the pretension of nobility.

THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR are said to desire national laws to prohibit gambling by speculation in the necessities of life, and to make eight hours a day's labor for others as well as for Government workmen. As for the first matter all classes will second the Knights' wishes, provided legal ingenuity can devise a law, as it has hitherto failed to do, which can be enforced. With regard to the hours of labor, their shortening must be brought about gradually, if at all, through the progress of labor-saving machinery and the educational and social elevation of the working classes. In any event, however, it would be wrong to make a law forbidding a man to sell ten, or even twelve hours for a day's labor, if he chooses to do so.

MR. HULETT, an American who narrowly escaped massacre in Madagascar, will lay his case before the Government of the United States, and claim damages against Madagascar.

A SENSATION in Toronto is the revelation of a practice of whipping young girls in factories for disobedience and neglect of work, and a society of ladies has been formed to protect them.

JOHN BARNES, of Moore County, North Carolina, was poor a few weeks ago and owned only twenty-three acres of barren land, but gold has been discovered on his property and he is now the wealthiest man in that region, being worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

MUCH INCONVENIENCE and damage has been caused in parts of the Province of New Brunswick by the recent drouth, wells having been dried up, and even springs that have scarcely ever failed before, the results being suffering among the animals and the closing of mills.

THE COLORED PEOPLE in Salisbury, New York, are much excited over the throwing up of a live snake by Hugh Leonard. The serpent is eighteen inches long, and the man says there are more where it came from. It is said a discarded sweetheart gave him a cake to eat containing snake eggs.

THE POLICE OF MONTREAL have begun a campaign against gambling houses, of which it is believed there are many in the city. In the first one raided fifteen young men and a quantity of gambling instruments were seized. The offenders were afterward convicted and condemned to pay heavy fines.

STANISLAUS KULINSKI, who has been a jeweller and watchmaker in Charleston, South Carolina, several years, claims he is the son of a Russian nobleman of high rank, and that he left Russia in 1848 against the laws of the country, but was pardoned for so doing by the late Czar. He has prepared a petition, asking the Czar to grant him the right to sue in the Russian courts for his ancestral estates, which are very valuable. Kulinski has become a citizen of the United States.

A BILL is making progress in Congress to provide for the execution of the provisions of the treaty of 1880, between America and China, prohibiting the opium trade. Chinese subjects cannot import opium into the United States under penalty of fine not exceeding five hundred dollars and forfeiture of the package. A similar penalty is prescribed in the bill for the importation of the article into any open ports of China, or its transportation from one open port to another, by American citizens.

CHARLES GAVIN was married in 1845 at Detroit, Michigan, and afterward served three years in penitentiary at Auburn, New York, for grand larceny, and again in the Ohio penitentiary a term for counterfeiting. Disappearing in 1853, he was believed to be dead by his wife, who married again. Her second husband was wealthy, but becoming dissatisfied with her reputation, he left her, and for twenty years sent her a hundred dollars a month. Lately he discovered that her first husband was still living, and began a suit for divorce. When the wife was confronted with her long-lost husband she threw up her hands and cried, "Charles, Charles, Charles," then fainted, and on recovering whispered, "I thought he was dead." A much sadder result came from the identification of the man by his aged mother at Detroit. She recognized her long-missing son, screamed his name, and dropped dead.

WAR VESSELS of England, the United States and France have gone to Ecuador to protect foreign residents in a revolution now raging in that republic, in which the city of Guayaquil is threatened with destruction.

JAMES ATWELL, a leper, landed from a vessel of Lewes, Delaware, and was ordered out of town by the authorities. He had come from Cuba, where the disease had developed, and was going to Toronto to enter a hospital, hoping a cold climate would check the malady. In this he seems to be acting under erroneous advice, for the cold of Canada will not last him long at this date, and besides there has for many years been a colony of lepers confined at Tracadie, New Brunswick, for whom the cold has not proved a cure. That place will probably be his final hospital if he reaches Canada.

UNDER POPULAR GOVERNMENT a remedy can be found for the most flagrant abuses provided it is only sought. What is known as lobbying has grown to be one of the greatest dangers to good government in the United States. Lobbying means the interference for selfish ends with legislators while attending to their public duties, to induce them to support measures that, as guardians of the public welfare, they should oppose. It has come to such a pass that both national and State Congresses are infested every session with the principals and agents of monopolies and private speculations, who hang about the lobbies and dog the steps of members wherever they go, buying votes where they can and have to, and begging them everywhere. The Senate of North Carolina has invented a remedy for the abuse mentioned which ought to be effective, being imprisonment for not less than one year of persons convicted of lobbying.

THE OCCUPATION OF COAL-MINING is easily imagined to be one of the hardest species of labor. Many do not enjoy a week-day's sun-light for months, and far under ground they ply their tools, often without space to stand up in, exposed to dangers from foul air, falls of earth or coal, floods of water and other contingencies. It is not generally known, however, that the workmen in many coal mines are subjected to various exactions and oppressions that are almost, if not altogether, as hard to bear as their toils and perils. A witness before the Congressional committee on labor recently said the coal miners were compelled by their employers or operators, on penalty of discharge, to deal altogether at their employers' stores—which they call "pluck-me" stores—and to pay ten to twenty-five percent more for everything they bought than was charged elsewhere. They also had to buy all tools, lamps, oil, powder, etc., out of wages not averaging over six hundred and fifty dollars a year. The men did not seek other vocations because they were brought up to mining, and it is strange, in this connection, that men who know by experience the whole hard lot of a miner's life, yet send their children into the mine to be brought up to the same bondage as young as the law of the country will allow them. Relief will probably be long in coming from legislation, for mining requires such large capital that great monopolies have grown up, which control the principal fields and have the public so much in their power that attempts to force them in any direction may cause them to raise prices to famine figures, or suspend production altogether until they are allowed full freedom in managing their affairs. The right cure for the hardships of the miners is to make their services more valuable by making their numbers fewer, and if the old ones cannot get out of the business let them keep their own children out of it by all means.

UP TO A RECENT DATE there had been sent from New York sixty-four thousand dollars for the relief of sufferers from floods in Germany.

A BILL has been introduced into the New York Assembly to establish a whipping post for the punishment of men who beat their wives and children.

LABORERS ARE ARRIVING in Panama in large numbers to work on the interoceanic canal. The first of a lot of twenty-four engines bought in the United States has been put together and has commenced work. Mr. Charles de Lesseps, son of the venerable engineer, is probably on the ground by this time, and his father Count de Lesseps, will be there in July.

A NEW THEORY of the terrible Newhall House fire in Milwaukee is now given, which will be a welcome one to the bar-keeper hitherto suspected of setting fire to the place. The body of a man has been found under the sidewalk, burned beyond recognition. Tramps are said to have frequently infested the basement and one was once caught smoking near the base of the elevator, and it is believed that the fire might have been caused by tramps.

GOVERNOR HOYTE, of Wyoming Territory, gives the following high recommendation of woman suffrage in his annual message to the Legislature:—"The new Territory of Wyoming is the only spot on the earth where the political privileges of women are equal and identical with those of men. It was a bold and gallant stroke on the side of reason, and of justice long delayed, the act of our first Legislative Assembly. Elsewhere objectors persist in calling this honorable statute of ours an experiment. We know that it is not—that under it we have better laws, better officers, better institutions, better morals, and a higher social condition in general than could otherwise exist—that no one of the predicted evils, such as loss of native delicacy and disturbance of home relations, has followed in its train—that the great body of our women and the best of them have accepted the elective franchise as a precious boon, and exercise it as a patriotic duty—in a word, that after twelve years of happy experience, woman suffrage is so thoroughly rooted and established in the hearts and minds of this people that among them all no voice is ever uplifted in protest against or in question of it."

GOVERNOR LUTLER, of Massachusetts, is figuring prominently as the friend of the oppressed. He recently issued an order that all convicts should be allowed to send him sealed communications, and a large number made use of the rare privilege. Their letters told of terrible brutality of men strung up by the wrists until they fainted, of others kept in over-heated cells until they were almost mad, and of protests being answered with confinement in a dungeon. In consequence of these letters one warden was summarily dismissed and others were expected to follow. Although criminals have often too easy times and good fare in confinement, yet any attempt to over-reach the penalty of the law against them, on the part of keepers or overseers, should be severely dealt with. The same Governor was expected to send a message to the Legislature requesting a law to make employers liable for accidents to employees when the same result from the carelessness of other employees. The effect of such a law would be to make employers very particular about whom they employed in responsible positions, but it is easy to imagine cases when it would operate unjustly against employers.

My husband writes G. (ist, and w time, no large col amoyance daily w in our a young l in a large w there wa ter. My "I've her in writin to any of and I will find collent co fore us a letter to long fav pointed o a large, fi ored with ily, and v ters and read the had a gre sthation, s it into th found by few days house ag claiming rats!" had hear- ter gone. V over the hearing t fore, in t rats run was the r have nev but I ha the ho rected.

THE AL scarted a where it weeks to pitation intended large, di turn is washing, of first diamond has to k ers in co penalty act of se rife, and Kathr pe giance. gravely as well of the r disappes has been three ti stream c instrum broad ki nute sea jewel is and shay on whic ful eye. gravel to su weede thirty di so perfe pearance hands.— Florence

This means t that the frequent symptom is sufferi dangerou a serious the pree fact whi Vertig

A RAT STORY.

My home is supposed to be rat-proof, writes Gen. Neal Dow in the *Congregationalist*, and was so when quite new; but at one time, more than twenty years ago, we had a large colony of the rodents, greatly to our annoyance, and it was with us a matter of daily wonder where they found a weak spot in our defences against them. One evening a young lady from a friend's family, living in a large, fine house nearly a mile away, was with us, and the talk turned on rats, as we heard ours galloping in the ceiling and scampering up and down the walls. The young lady said that none had ever been in their house, and she did not think that there was any point at which they could enter. My eldest daughter, a great wit, said: "I've heard that, if politely invited to do so in writing, rats will leave any house, and go to any other to which they may be directed, and I will tell ours that at your house they will find some spacious quarters and an excellent commissariat." At the moment, before us all, she wrote a most grandiloquent letter to the large family of rats that had so long favored us with their presence, and pointed out to them that No. 65 Pearl St. was a large, fine house, which had never been favored with the residence of any of their family, and where they would find ample quarters and a fat larder. When finished she read the missive to the company, and we had a great laugh over it. As an old superstition, she then put larid upon it and carried it into the attic, where it would probably be found by those to whom it was directed. A few days after the young lady was at our house again, and burst into a laugh, exclaiming: "Our house is overrun with rats!" That recalled to us the fact that we had heard none in our walls. My daughter went to the attic, and the letter was gone. While we were talking and laughing over the curious affair, a friend came in and, hearing the talk, said that two evenings before, in the bright moonlight, he saw several rats running down Congress street, which was the straight road to Pearl street. We have never been troubled with them since, but I have not heard how it has been with the house to which our beneficiaries were directed.

THE AFRICAN DIAMOND COUNTRY.

The soil, when brought to the summit, is carted away and strewn on the ground, where it is left for a fortnight or three weeks to pulverize in the sun. At the expiration of this time gangs of Kafirs, superintended by a white overseer, break the large, dry lumps into powder, and this in turn is carted away to be placed in the washing-machine. It is during the process of first breaking that some of the largest diamonds are discovered, and the overseer has to keep a sharp look-out on the workers in consequence. In spite of the terrible penalty incurred by any one detected in the act of secreting a good find, thefts are very rife, and many a diamond finds its way into Kafir possession in spite of the sharpest vigilance. During the process of washing, the gravelly substance, which is full of garnets as well as the diamonds, sinks to the bottom of the machine, while the earthen substance disappears in another channel. When it has been thoroughly washed through two or three times, this gravel is collected and strewn on tables, where searchers, with steel instruments, somewhat resembling very broad knives, carefully turn it over in minute search. Then it is that the precious jewel is discovered in all manner of sizes and shapes, when it is placed in a small tray, on which another overseer keeps his watchful eye. I was given several little heaps of gravel to dissect, and in half an hour I succeeded in discovering about twenty or thirty diamonds of a very fair size, and some so perfectly shaped that they had every appearance of having just left the cutter's hands.—*In the Land of Misfortune—Lady Florence Dixie.*

VERTIGO.

This name is from a Latin word that means to turn, and marks the dizzy feeling that characterizes the disease. Vertigo is frequently thought to be a very dangerous symptom, especially if the person falls who is suffering from it. It is true, it may be a dangerous symptom. It may be caused by a serious affection of the brain, and prove the precursor of a fatal paralysis. It is this fact which excites alarm in particular cases. Vertigo, however, is far from being ne-

cessarily an alarming symptom, and this should be generally known. Where there is one case in which it is a grave indication of serious disturbance, there are many in which it indicates only a slight and temporary derangement of some of the organs of the body.

A violent attack of coughing may bring it on in a weak person. Tobacco may cause it by its action on the nerve centres. The staggering of the tipsy man is due to it. It comes to some persons when they are in elevated positions. The imagination alone can give rise to it.

Some very nervous people suffer greatly, being unable to raise their heads from their pillows for days at a time without extreme dizziness, and yet they neither have nor are threatened with any organic disease or any ailment that may shorten their life.

Vertigo may be caused by loss of blood, and it is often felt by persons whose blood is thin and watery. Strong and healthy people suffer from it sometimes because they use improper diet, either too much in quantity or too bad in quality; or they eat when they are exhausted by work or worry. It may also be caused by a disturbed condition of the digestive organs generally.

It is plain that the treatment should be in the less grave cases—attention to diet, and such medicines or tonics as a judicious physician would prescribe for each individual case.—*Youth's Companion.*

HUMAN MAGNETISM.

"Sir, you should wear an open-faced watch, if you desire to be accurate in your time," said a watch-maker on Chestnut street, Philadelphia, to the stout man; "you are too magnetic."

"Why, what has the case got to do with it?" was the interrogative reply.

"Everything. Your watch has a hunting-case, necessitating steel springs for opening and shutting. By constant association with your body those springs become magnetized, and they generate their condition to other necessarily steel portions of the watch works, and thus render their movements imperfect."

"Then, if I were not so fat my watch would not lose two minutes, more or less, a day," said the puzzled stout man.

"Exactly," returned the watch-maker. "I have worn your watch for over a week and it has neither gained nor lost a dozen seconds; but then I am, from a corporeal point of view, your antithesis, I am exceptionally thin and slender."

"The stout man mused. "Accordingly," said he, "open-faced tickers for fat men, closed cases for thin, eh?"

"Not at all," replied the other. "Thin men have at times more magnetism in their systems than fat men. Everybody is more or less magnetic; you happen to be particularly so; I happen to be quite the reverse; hence my remarks and advice. For the rest, open-faced watches are always more accurate than hunters. They are more air-tight for one thing. As for the steel springs in hunting-cases, mechanical science has not yet discovered anything else to replace them; the public like double cases, and there the matter remains for the present. There are, however, many ill-contrived portions in watches, and while the demand continues for watches of a certain price it is impossible, from a commercial point of view, to think of improvements. Long-used methods and ingenious machines have been specially provided to fashion and cut out every one of the minute parts which go to compose the existing instrument. Every watch consists of over 200 pieces employing over 200 persons, distributed among 40 trades, to say nothing of the tool-makers for the artisans. If the construction of the watch were materially altered all the trades would have to be re-learned, new tools and wheel-cutting engines would have to be devised, and the majority of working watchmakers become useless. The consequence would be that the watch would become enormously enhanced in value, and its possession a token of wealth. You see in our complicated state of society even machines in the process of time come to surround themselves with a circle of 'vested interests' which embarrass attempts at improvements."

"You are interesting me," remarked the stout customer as he placed his watch in his pocket. "You have been many years, I suppose, in the business. Of course there must have been some improvements in your time?"

"Of course. Watches during the last ten years have grown much in thickness. Old-fashioned watches are thin and flat. I have had a watch in my charge as flat as a trade dollar. It is impossible to properly adjust the works for heat, cold, and position under such circumstances. I should have to give you a long explanation of the packing of mechanism to explain to you why."

"Well, has the increased thickness raised the value?"

"No. On the contrary watches are now worth 25 percent less than what they were ten years ago. That fact, you will say, bears against my previous remarks. I am referring to the cheaper grade of watches worn by the majority of people. There are watches which bring \$1,500 and watches which can be purchased for \$18 a dozen. If you are willing to pay for costly work almost anything can be accomplished."

OVER-WORK AMONG WOMEN.

In about nine cases out of every ten, the woman who is in poor health attributes her sufferings to over-work. Many times this is a valid excuse, but frequently it is not the real cause of the ill-health. Lookers-on cannot always understand the situation, and the comparisons made between one woman's work and another's are often incorrectly drawn. Molly, sometimes suffers from over-work, but she avers that no part of the work to be done for her household is really beyond her strength. She says that as regular house maid she could do all of the so-called housework and the plain sewing which she now does, and maintain her health. But to do these things well would leave no time for the "nothings," and every mother whose heart is in that work knows that it takes a good deal of time. I believe, and here is one more chance to bear-witness to this truth, that the mother-work should have the first chance. A woman whose ideals are low can sometimes carry on all of these departments successfully (in her own opinion), and in that case her health is not likely to suffer from too much work. It is the worry, the sense of incompleteness or of falling short in what is required of one, more than all the fatigue of her work, that wears Molly out.

It is well to know how to do everything in the best way possible, but when a woman finds that she cannot do everything that it seems to be her duty to do in the best manner possible, she had better stop and consider what are the most essential things to be done, and study the easiest way of getting along without positive neglect. Wholesome food the family must have, but most of the fancy cooking is done in vain as respects health and strength. This same fancy cooking (which includes cake and pie—these being quite unnecessary articles of diet, doing more harm than good in most cases) is one of the chief causes of ill-health among women. Nearly all of these invalids are more or less dyspeptic. I have watched this a good deal among my neighbors in different places. Few of them give the right name to their disease, and I think the doctors are sometimes careful not to tell them the whole truth, but those who make any permanent improvement under medical treatment usually make some change in their habits of diet. One woman told me, during an hour's visit, these two facts, which did not seem to have any connection in her own mind: 1. "I used to be a great sufferer from sick headache, but I seldom have it in late years." 2. "No, I rarely eat a crumb of cake now, no matter how much I make; I haven't cared for it for a few years back, though I once was very fond of nice cake." Another, in praising her doctor's success in the treatment of her nerves, after detailing the medicines and the rest and rides prescribed, remarked incidentally that the doctor told her to eat rather lightly of plain, nourishing food, and to give up her tea and coffee if she could. Many years ago I heard a physician of fine education and large experience ridiculing the idea that prevailed among women that their sickness came generally from overwork. "They over-work their jaws," said he, "manching confectionery, and eating all sorts of unwholesome food, and they often eat too much anyhow for persons who exercise so little." At the time I thought this criticism too severe, but I have often since seen cases to which it applied.

Another way in which women are over-worked by their own fault—a sin of ignorance frequently—is in the use of foolish

clothing. We are all more or less in bondage here, for woman's dress is radically wrong. It is a weight and a hindrance everywhere. Clothing devised to suit the needs of the human body would be much more easily made and taken care of, and it would give woman freer movement, greater ease and comfort about her work and play, and would be an aid to good health rather than, as now, a drag upon her strength. But a genuine reform cannot be made by any one woman, for it awaits the development of public opinion. But cannot we all lend a hand here, and say on all proper occasions, that woman's dress is absurd, and inconvenient, and unhealthful, and that we wish for something better? Most of us can put less work and care upon our trimmings and none of us need wear a trained skirt, or one that touches the floor. We may all wear loose and warm clothing, and bear the weight upon our shoulders rather than over the hips. Various female weaknesses are supposed to be caused by active labor, by much standing upon the feet, by much climbing of stairs in the pursuit of one's daily industry. They may be aggravated by these causes after they have been once induced, but I have serious doubts whether these weaknesses are often really attributable to the causes above named. Corsets and heavy skirts are the real offenders. It is usually the case that the same work might have been done—the standing and the climbing—had the muscles of the body, both external and internal, been left free and unweighted by the clothing. How many feathers' weight are added to her burden of toil and worry by a woman's long skirts as she goes about her work in-doors and out, upstairs and down, around the kitchen fire, or cleaning the floors in an unsuitable dress?

It is not the hardness of the work, or the difficulty of the tasks taken in detail, that tires out the women as a general thing, if we except the family washings, which usually require a good deal of strength. But these tasks crowd upon each other, and become complicated and wearisome when the care of children interferes with them. These are genuine cases of over-work, where the labor is too hard and too steady for the strength of the worker; but care and worry are harder to bear than physical toil, and social burdens do their part to over tax the vital powers.—*American Agriculturist.*

THE TREE PLANTING ACT of the Ontario

Government is generally commended abroad. The New York *Scotsman* says that such a measure is most opportune, and should be supported by the people at large. It estimates that the fund of \$50,000 set apart for the purpose of the Act will not be exhausted until 500,000 trees are planted. No farmer having a row of such trees would look at an offer of a dollar apiece for them. So that, apart from all aesthetic considerations—if we may venture to enjoy a hard-worked and much abused word in its legitimate sense—the practical benefits resulting will be very considerable. "The example set by Ontario," says the *Scotsman*, "is worthy of all praise and should be imitated by other Governments."

HOW TO DEAL WITH DOG BITES.—An

absurd superstition prevails that the bites of all dogs should be either cut out and cauterized, and the poor animal destroyed. It is not necessary to adopt either of these serious courses, provided the dog is healthy. In fact, they are simply ridiculous, and are calculated to produce groundless fear in the person bitten. Of course, in severe cases erysipelas may supervene, but, with ordinary care, the wound being cleaned by a disinfecting lotion, no serious consequences will follow. In all cases, however, a doctor should be consulted.—*London Lancet.*

MRS. RYAN, of Philadelphia, has brought up her sons in the correct knowledge of pronouns, and so, upon hearing somebody open the window in the night, and replying to the question, "Who's there?" "It's me, mother," she knew that the intruder was none of her offspring. She gave an alarm, and the ungrammatical burglar was captured.

AMONG THE TREES which grow in Alaska is one called the yellow cedar, which has a fragrance somewhat like that of sandal wood and nearly as marked. It is a grainless wood, of straw color, and the Russians built many ships of it, for which purpose it is admirably adapted.

SOME EXPERIMENTS WITH ALCOHOL.

BY JULIA COLMAN.

Charlie Kenson was much interested in the accounts he had heard from his cousin Sophia of the experiments with alcohol in the Temperance school. So he made an engagement to go with her as soon as possible; but in spite of their plans they were late in arriving. When they went in Charlie saw how much it looked like a Sunday-school. There were all the classes with their teachers, and they were reading a scripture exercise. He looked, expecting to see Bibles in their hands; but no, it was a little paper-covered book with responsive exercises in the back of it. Sophia had one of her own, and he looked over and read with her, and when they were through he looked at the book. It was the "Catechism on Alcohol," and in the main part of the book were questions and answers on that subject. He did not think much of catechisms anyway, and he did not suppose he would care for this, but he soon saw the boys in the class near him resting and listening very eagerly. They seemed trying who could say it the best, and when the superintendent began to talk he saw why, for he talked about what was in the catechism and explained it. The catechism said:

"What is alcohol? "A liquid poison," &c. The superintendent asked: "How many of you have seen alcohol?" and a few hands went up. "What does it look like?" "Water." "Yes, and they look so nearly alike that you cannot easily tell them apart, can you?" and he held up two vials, each nearly filled with a clear-looking fluid. "One of these is alcohol, and one is water. Which is alcohol?"

"The one in the left hand," "The one in the right," the answers came, but it was plain enough they could not tell, and the next question was, "How can we find out?" "Taste it," "Smell it," "Burn it," said a few of the scholars.

"You must excuse me from tasting. We ought to know it by the smell, but there is a quicker way to show it to you all."

Then he took the corks from the wide-mouthed vials, and, folding a strip of paper he dipped one end in one vial and the other in the other. "Now," said he, "one end of this paper is wet with water, and the other with alcohol; which will burn quickest?"

"The one with alcohol," said a bright little girl quickly.

"Let us try," said the superintendent, as he lighted a match and tried one end of the paper which did not burn. "Water, water!" came from the eager children. "Yes, that is wet with water. Now we will try the other," and in an instant the blaze shot up several inches. It was easy enough for all to say "Alcohol" to this, and then they watched to see it burn across till it came to the part wet with water, and some one called out: "Burn your fingers!" But the fingers held the wet part, and in the water was safety. When the fire came to that it went out entirely, and then there was a small shout.

"Keep to the water and you are safe from the alcohol. We expect the water-drinkers to put alcohol out entirely as a drink. Alcohol is good to burn, but water is the safe thing to drink. We can make alcohol do us good service in the burning line, because it burns without smoke. It is very convenient for the jewellers, for it heats their work without blackening it. Here is an alcohol lamp such as jewellers use"; and he lighted the lamp and passed a plate through the blaze to show that it did not blacken. Then he poured some alcohol into a silver spoon and burned it, and it did not blacken the spoon. Then he explained that this alcohol was strong, that it was only about one-fourth water, that gin and brandy would also burn, but that we could not prove that there was alcohol in cider and wine and beer in this way, because there was too much water with it, and it would not burn. Some other things he said in his fifteen minutes talk, and then he asked questions to see if it was remembered, and after some singing and speaking pieces the school closed. But those experiments—oh! the boys did like them so much, and the girls too. Sophia declared she was going to study chemistry so that she could know all about it. She meant to be a superintendent herself some day. As for Charlie, he made up his mind to see more of that temperance school and of the experiments, if they had them.

ONE IN THREE.

It happened to me in early life to be in company, in the island of St. Vincent, West Indies, with a gentleman from Tobago, an island which had an evil notoriety for unhealthiness. I learned that it was the ordinary habit of the young men who constituted its principal white population to begin with drinking gangree (madeira and water) in the morning; to proceed to madeira at lunch time; to take brandy and water in the afternoon; and to finish off with neat brandy at night. It did not surprise me to learn that on this system one in every three died annually; and that if a party met to dine (and drink) together, it was often summoned a few days afterward to meet at the funeral of one of the number. On the other hand, my late friend, Dr. Edmund Parkes—a man held in the highest esteem among us for the services he rendered to the hygiene of our army—formed me that having served in early life as Assistant Surgeon in India in a European regiment, of which about one-half were total abstainers and the other half very temperate men, this regiment enjoyed a remarkable immunity from cholera and fever when marching through a very pestilential country; whilst the regiment they were on their way to replace, while marching through the same country in the opposite direction, had a large number of men struck down. I was so impressed with this fact, that I traced out the medical reports of Dr. Parkes' regiment for several consecutive years; and found that its average of sickness and mortality was only about half of that of the other regiments in the Madras command, which was at that time the lowest of the three presidencies. (A great reduction has since been made in the mortality of the Bombay and Cutcheta European troops, by the abolition of the allowance of arrack.)

The mode in which the habitual "moderate" use of alcoholics exerts its injurious effects, I believe to be by obstructing the removal of the effete matter of the tissues; so that they tend, in advancing life, to become the subjects of fatty "degeneration." This is especially the case in the heart, liver, kidneys, and walls of the arteries; and the foundation is thus laid of a variety of diseases that are well known to be those specially of "advanced life."—Dr. Carpenter.

THE BLUE RIBBON.

The Rev. Charles Garrett, President of the British Wesleyan Conference, says of the Blue Ribbon movement in England: "It is making marvellous progress. I can but wonder whereunto this thing will grow. Many of the foremost men in all the churches are wearing the ribbon. I meet it everywhere." William Noble, who is the founder of the Gospel Temperance work in England, indicated by this "ribbon of blue," and Francis Murphy who first tied it on ragged, dirty coats in America, are reaping rich harvests for God and home and native land. A Blue Ribbon Army has been formed in Switzerland to oppose the rapid increase of brandy-drinking. This habit has spread to an alarming extent of late years, and at the recent Health Congress at Geneva, a melancholy picture was drawn of the evil effects on the population. Owing to the scanty food the Swiss peasantry have recourse more and more to cheap and common brandy to supply the lack of strengthening nourishment, and where formerly bread and milk were the staple diet, potatoes and a weak solution of chickory, styled by courtesy coffee, are now consumed, and washed down by potato brandy. Many laborers take their brandy-basks into the field, and the habit is gradually adopted even by the young children, who fade and grow weary-looking through constant use of the stimulant.

HINTS TO TEACHERS ON THE CURRENT LESSONS.

(From Pelobets Select Notes.)

March 4.—Acts 5: 17-32.

ILLUSTRATIVE.

I. "Keeping on, though in a minority." When one of the early meetings of the American Board of Foreign Missions was held at Bradford, Mass., says Prof. Phelps, less than twenty persons were in attendance, and they were hooted at by the boys on the piazza of the hotel where they were in session. Now their annual meetings are the largest, most popular, and enthusiastic of their denomination.

II. When the first American missionaries reached India, the English government refused them a landing. "Go back," was the imperious order; "go back in the ship in which you came." In the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, when it was first proposed to send the Gospel to the heathen, reverend gentlemen declared against the scheme. Not a century has passed since that time; yet now all Christendom rings with gratulation over the achievement of Christ's "an missions" and no other class of men are so reverently canonized in the affections of the Church as her missionaries to the heathen world.—Prof. Austin Phelps.

III. "The world honors Christian Courage." In 1843 the Free Church of Scotland left the shelter of the State establishment, and 475 clergymen gave up their stipends, the principal of which amounted to two millions of pounds sterling. They left their parishes, their churches, their homes, their livings, rather than surrender one principle of religious faith. As they filed out of the hall of the General Assembly with the venerable Chalmers—the foremost man of all Scotland at their head—and marched down High street, a friend came to Judge Jeffrey and cried, "They are out, they are out!"—"Who are out?"—"The Evangelicals. Don't you hear the cheers of the crowd?" Then the judge, who had written against them, ridiculed them, and predicted that not one would dare to go, sprang to his feet, swung his hat, and with a huzzza as hearty as the loudest cried out, "Three cheers for Old Scotland! Nowhere out of Scotland could so grand a thing have happened."—From Prof. Phelps.

PRACTICAL.

- 1. Verse 17. Note the two effects of all good influences, hardening some, saving others; as the same sun melts wax and hardens clay.
2. Verse 19. God has many other servants beside the human race.
3. Nature and Providence confute bad doctrines, as angels defied the Sadducees who did not believe in angels.
4. Dr. Payson once said, "I am immortal till my work is done." God will deliver those whom he needs in his service.
5. Verse 20. The Gospel brings life—life for all the people.
6. God delivers us from trouble in order that we may serve him more faithfully.
7. Verse 26. Many people fear the people, who forget to fear God.
8. Verse 29. The religion of principle consists pre-eminently, in obedience to the sense of duty, without regard to consequences, Phelps.
9. The religion of principle is the only type of religious character, which commands the confidence of the world.—Phelps.
10. If a man will take care of the right, God will take care of him.—Phelps.
11. Verse 31. There is no having Christ to be our Saviour, unless we are willing to take him for our Prince.—Henry.
12. Where there is repentance, there is sure to be also forgiveness.
13. Verse 32. The business of Christians is to be witnesses for Christ of what he has done in and for them.

SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.

We have to-day another example of vain efforts to oppose the Gospel. (1) First there was an attempt to put an end to the Gospel, by imprisoning the leaders, verses 17, 18. The whole Jewish authority was placed in the path of the Gospel. (2) The effort was vain because God was on the side of the Gospel, verses 19-24, sending his angel to release, and infusing courage. "If God be for us who can be against us?" (3) It was vain because the people wanted and needed the Gospel, see vers. 20, 21, 25-28. The rulers were fighting against the deepest needs of the human soul. The Gospel is for the people. (4) It was vain because Christ is a Prince as well as a Saviour, verses 29-32. A large part of the practical truth of the lesson is found in these verses.

DO NOT WAIT till near the close before you begin to show the practical bearing of the lesson. Sometimes indeed, for a special reason, you will find it best to carry the minds of the class along a considerable distance before letting them see the application. Thus Nathan brought David to a decision of the question concerning the ewe lamb, and then brought it home—"Thou art the man!" But, ordinarily, you are to "rake with the teeth downward."—Ex. change.

PUZZLES.

ENIGMA.

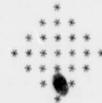
(From the German.)

Above a dull gray sea behold
A bridge of opal gleaming bright;
Ere one swift moment could be told
It sprung up to its giddy height.

The mightiest ship, with tallest mast,
Beneath its arch could issue free.
No foot across it'er hath passed
Approach it, and it seems to flee.

It rises where the streams abound,
And falls where'er the floods are laid.
Now tell me where that bridge is found,
And who its mighty arch has made.

DIAMOND.



- 1. A letter.
2. A resinous substance.
3. A town in the north of France famous for its thread and cotton manufactures.
4. A city in the Arabian desert whose ruins still excite the wonder of modern travellers.
5. A river in Scotland.
6. Before.
7. A letter.

HIDDEN AUTHORS.

- 1. At Geneva we took a row on the lake at sunset.
2. It is computed that Virginia, at the very least, owes thirty millions.
3. Beware of a moonlight stroll, O pensive and susceptible youth!
4. In travelling, do not burden yourself with things you never need.
5. A swallow does not make a summer, nor a single verse a poet.

SUBTRACTION PUZZLE.

- Drop every other letter, beginning with the second.—Example: heavy-hay.
Subtract from like a chorus and leave a mineral.
Subtract from sword-shaped and leave a walk.
Subtract from a fruit and leave one who laces.
Subtract from a Northern animal and leave an excursion on horseback.
Subtract from justice and leave parts of a fish.

ENIGMA.

My first is in gain, but not in loss;
My second is in she, but not in rock;
My third is in throw but not in toss;
My fourth is in trap, but not in knock;
My fifth is in man, but not in boy;
My sixth is in right but not in wrong;
My seventh is in drum, but not in toy;
My eighth is in many but not in throng;
My whole is a flower well worth a song.

WELL-KNOWN NOVELS.

- 1. A pronoun, a large covered waggon, and a garden-tool. 2. An inclosure and a familiar hymn tune. 3. A cold and cheerless dwelling. 4. Equally distant from the extremities and a month of the year. 5. Reluctant and to ventilate. 6. A number of a certain kind of tree.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

CHARADE.—Cur-rant—Currant.
BEEHADING.—Flower, lower, Acorn, corn, Scamp, camp, Grave, r.v., Hearth, earth.
RIDDLE.—The letter M.
HIDDEN PLACES IN ONTARIO.—1. Pembroke, 2. Owen Sound, 3. Coburg, 4. Hamilton, 5. Goodwood, 6. Listowel, 7. Newmarket, 8. Moore.
ANAGRAMS.—1, Eva grin—vinegar; 2, train me—rainment; 3, mother—hot Tobi; 4, ray come—mycomer; 5, apocryphic—cost rips; 6, courage—our cage; 7, na lost—almost; 8, we sat—waste.

WORD-SQUARES.—

BRAD EDEN
RACE DATE
ACRE FETA
DEER NEAR

DROP-LETTER PUZZLE.—1. Orange-otang, 2. Rhinoceros, 3. Kangaroo, 4. Flamingo, 5. Pussant, 6. Mastodon, 7. Hippopotamus, 8. Dromedary, 9. Deer, 10. Giraffe, 11. Racoon, 12. Hyena.

A PRAYER in its simplest definition is merely a wish turned God-ward.—Phillips Brooks.

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THE DISCOVERY OF THE MAMMOTH.

BY C. F. HOLDER.

At the close of the last century, a poor fisherman named Shumarhoff lived near the mouth of the Lena River, which flows through the cold Siberian country and is lost in the icy waters of the Arctic Sea. In the summer, he plied his vocation on the sea-coast, and during the long winter lived far up the river, where it was, perhaps, a little warmer. It is safe to say that Shumarhoff would never have made a great noise in the world—in fact, would never have been heard of—had it not been for a wonderful discovery he made while coming down the river one spring. The river-banks of this cold country are quite peculiar. Those on the western side are generally low and marshy, while those on the eastern are often from sixty to one hundred feet in height. In the extreme north, this high elevation is cut into numerous pyramidal-shaped mounds, which, viewed from the sea or river, look exactly as if they had been built by man. In the summer, these strange formations are free from snow, and to a depth of ten feet are soft; but below this they are continually frozen, and have been for untold ages. They are formed of layers of earth and ice—sometimes a clear stratum of the latter many feet in thickness.

It was before such a mound that our fisherman stopped, dumb with astonishment, one spring morning, so many years ago. About thirty feet above him, half-way up the face of the mound, appeared the section of a great ice-layer from which the water was flowing in numberless streams; while protruding from it, and partly hanging over, was an animal of such huge proportions that the simple fisherman could hardly believe his eyes. Two gigantic horns or tusks were visible, and a great woolly body was faintly outlined in the blue, icy mass. In the fall, he related the story to his comrades up the river, and in the ensuing spring, with a party of his fellow-fishermen, he again visited the spot. A year had worked wonders. The great mass had thawed out sufficiently to show its nature, and on close inspection proved to be a well-preserved specimen of one of those gigantic extinct hairy elephants that roamed over the northern parts of Europe and America in the earlier ages of the

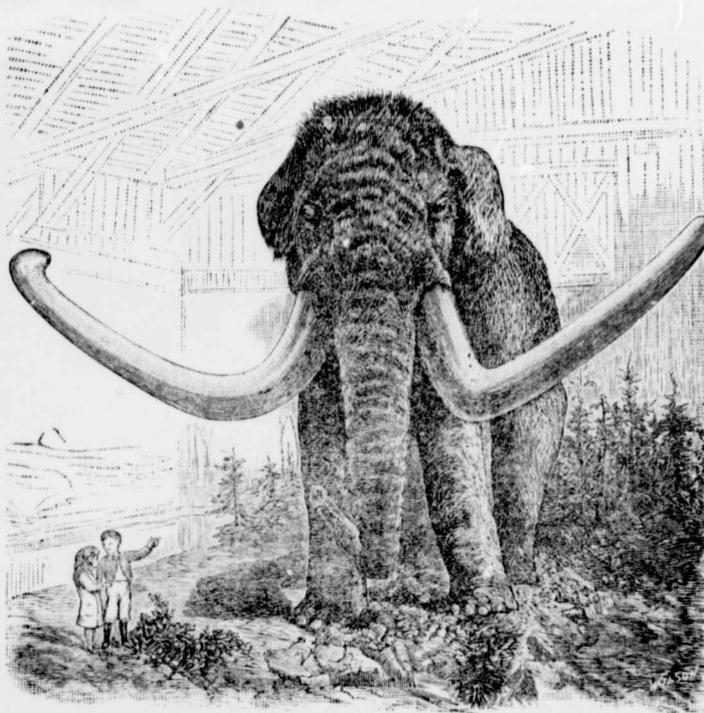
world. The body was still too firmly attached and frozen to permit of removal. For four successive years the fishermen visited it, until finally, in March, 1804, five years after its original discovery it broke away from its icy bed and came thundering down upon the sands below. The discoverers first detached the tusks, that were nine feet six inches in length, and together weighed three hundred and sixty pounds. The hide, covered with wool and hair, was more than twenty men could lift. Part of this with the tusks, were taken to Jakutsk and sold for fifty rubles, while the rest of the animal was left where it fell, and cut up at various times by the Jakoutes, who fed their dogs with its flesh.

with the exception of one fore leg, while all the other bones were still held together by the ligaments and flesh, as if the animal had been dead only a few weeks. The neck was still covered by a long mane of reddish wool, and over thirty pounds more of the same colored wool or hair were collected by the scientist from the adjacent sand, into which it had been trodden by bears and other animals of prey. In this condition the mammoth with the tusks, which were repurchased in Jakutsk, was taken to St. Petersburg and there mounted.

Our illustration depicts this very specimen, representing it as it appeared when alive and moving along with ponderous tread through the scanty woodland of

giants of the north, and everything must have given way before them.

Tusks of this animal had been discovered previous to Shumarhoff's find, and have been found since in such great quantities that vessels go out for the sole purpose of collecting them. Eschscholtz Bay, near Behring Strait, is a famous place for them, and numbers have also been found in England. It is stated that the fishermen of Happsiburgh have dredged up over two thousand mammoth teeth during the past twelve years—a fact showing that a once favorite resort, or perhaps burying-ground, of these great creatures, is now covered by the ocean. In the cliffs of Northern Alaska remains of the mammoth are often seen, and the New Siberian Islands recently visited by the Arctic explorer, Baron Nordenskjöld, are liberally supplied with these, as well as remains of other and equally interesting extinct and fossil animals. The mammoth was so called from a curious belief among the Siberians that this enormous animal lived in caverns under the ground, much after the fashion of a mole. Many of the tusks and bones were found buried in the frozen earth, and it was the natural conclusion that the animal lived there when alive. They believed it could not bear the light of day; and so dug out with its tusks great tunnels in the earth.—*St. Nicholas.*



THE MAMMOTH OF ST. PETERSBURG.

A strange feast this, truly—meat that had been frozen solid in the ice-house of Nature perhaps fifty thousand years,* more or less; but so well was it preserved, that when the brain was afterward compared with that of a recently killed animal, no difference in the tissues could be detected.

Two years after the animal had fallen from the cliff, the news reached St. Petersburg, and the Museum of Natural History sent a scientist to secure the specimen and purchase it for the Emperor. He found the mammoth where it originally fell, but much torn by animals, especially by the white bears and foxes. The massive skeleton, however, was entire,

* According to Sir William Logan, from five hundred thousand to one million years ago.

the northern countries. Its length is twenty-six feet, including the curve of the tusks; it stands sixteen feet high, and when alive it probably weighed more than twice as much as the largest living elephant. And, as some tusks have been found over fifteen feet in length, we may reasonably conclude that Shumarhoff's mammoth is only an average specimen, and that many of its companions were considerably larger.

Imagine the spectacle of a large herd of these mighty creatures rushing along over the frozen ground, the reverberation of their tread sounding like thunder. When enraged, their wild, headlong course must have been one of terrible devastation. Large trees were but twigs to these

THREE BLACK RATS.

The Rev. J. Yeames tells an anecdote of a drunkard reclaimed by the curious means of a dream. The dream was of three black rats; one was a fat one, the second a blind one, and the third a poor lean one. The man could not get the dream out of his head, and at length his son gave him the interpretation of it in this wise:—The fat rat was the publican, the blind one was the father, the victim of drink, and the poor one was the family, the prey of misery and want.—*The Freeman.*

WHOEVER searches the biographies of our most eminent and useful men and women, will be surprised to find how many of them got their best start in life in the way in which, early in life, they were moved to spend their winter evenings.—*Congregationalist.*

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COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Feb. 21st, 1883.

The local grain market is utterly stagnant. An advance has taken place but it is almost purely a nominal one, no sales having taken place at increased prices. Holders are slightly firmer, however. We quote: Canada White Winter \$1.12 to \$1.15; Canada Red \$1.15 to \$1.17; Canada Spring \$1.10 to \$1.12. Peas, 90c per 60 lbs. Barley, 55c to 65c per bushel. Oats, 36c to 37c. Rye 65c to 67c per bush.

Flour.—The first three days of the week showed a decided rise in price, sales continuing good. This however has not continued, as but little has been done for the past two days and a slight decrease in prices noticeable. Quotations are as follows:—Superior Extra, \$3.15 to \$3.20; Extra Superfine, \$4.90 to \$5; Fancy, nominal; Spring Extra, \$4.95 to \$5.00; Superfine, \$4.60 to \$4.65; Strong Bakers', Canadian, \$5.15 to \$5.40; Strong Bakers', American, \$6.25 to \$6.75; Fine, \$4.15; Middlings, \$3.90 to \$4.00; Pollards, \$3.60; Ontario bags, medium, \$2.35 to \$2.40; do. Spring Extra, \$2.25 to \$2.30; do. Superfine, \$2.15 to \$2.25; City Bags, delivered, \$3.10 to \$3.15.

MEALS.—Unchanged. Oatmeal, \$4.95 to \$5.00. Cornmeal nominally \$3.90 to \$4.00.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter.—Is extremely quiet without a change in quotations. The sales are of a decidedly jolting character and do not fix the market firmly. Quotations:—Creamery, fresh made, fine flavored, extra, 25c to 27c; do. good to fine, 23c to 25c; Eastern Townships, 20c to 22c; Morrisburg, 19c to 22c; Brockville, 17c to 20c; Western, 15c to 18c. Add 2c per lb. to all of the above for the jobbing trade. Cheese firm, but small business—10c to 11c for August, and 13c to 14c for choice September and October; 14c for grades, 7c to 9c.

HOG PRODUCE.—The market this week has been extremely quiet with no change in quotations:—Canada, short cut, \$22.00 to \$22.50; Western, \$21.20 to 21.75; Lard, in packs, 14c to 14c; Hams, city cured, 14c; Bacon, 13c to 14c; Dressed Hogs, \$8.40 to \$8.60 in car lots; \$8.50 to \$8.75 in small batches.

EGGS.—Scarce at higher prices. Fresh at 30c to 31c and lined 23c to 24c.

ASHES.—Pots rather scarce at \$5.15 to \$5.17.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

There is a better supply of beef cattle on the market this week and as there are prospects of more liberal supplies reaching here shortly the market is considerably lower than last week, although still much higher than was the case two weeks ago. The best cattle sold at from 5 1/2c to 5 3/4c per lb, with pretty good steers and large fat cows at about 5c per lb. Half-fatted steers and common dry cows sell at from 4c to 4 1/2c per lb, and leanish stock at 3 1/2c to 3 3/4c per lb. Very few sheep are being brought to the market and there is an active demand for them at from \$4 to \$9 each. Live hogs are sold at 7c per lb.

FARMERS' MARKET PRICES.

The farmers are improving the good sleighing which prevails since the snow got settled by the rain of Friday night, and are bringing large quantities of produce to the market, which meets with an active demand at about former rates. The feeling in the potato market is one of weakness, and it is probable that prices will continue to decline for some time, as they are much too high to induce the shipment of the surplus to American markets, where owing to liberal supplies the prices are declining. Butter and eggs are in active demand at firm rates, but fresh-laid eggs are still too scarce and high priced for general consumption, and this state of things is likely to continue until milder weather. The supply of beef quarters is very limited, and the quality remarkably poor, with unusually high prices prevailing. Hay is being marketed in large quantities, and prices are moderate. Oats are 80c to 90c per bag; peas, 85c to \$1 per bushel; buckwheat, 50c to 60c do; beans, \$1.50 to \$2 do; potatoes, 70c to 85c per bag; dressed hogs, \$8.50 to \$9 per 100 lbs; beef quarters, \$4.50 to \$6 do; hindquarters, \$6 to \$8 do; tub butter, 20c to 27c per lb; prints 25c to 40c do; old eggs, 25c to 30c per dozen; fresh laid eggs, 35c to 45c do, apples, \$3 to \$5 per barrel; oranges, \$5 to \$5.50 per case. Cabbages, \$3 to \$4 per

100 heads; American rhubarb, \$2 per bunch. Hay, \$7 to \$10 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs. straw, \$3 to \$5 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20th, 1883.

GRAIN.—Following are the closing prices for future delivery to-day:—Wheat, \$1.22 1/2 Feb., \$1.23 1/2 March, \$1.25 1/2 April, \$1.26 1/2 May. Corn 7 1/2c cash, 7 1/2c Feb., 7 1/4c March, 7 1/4c May. Oats, 48 1/2c cash, 48c Feb., 48 1/2c March, 49 1/2c May. Rye, sales, 24,000 State at 75c. We quote: Canada, in bond, 74c; State, 74c to 75c. Peas.—Canada field, 85c to 90c; green peas, \$1.30; black-eyed Southern, \$2.30 to \$3.00 per two bushel bag. Backwheat, 74c.

FLOUR.—Low Extra, \$3.40 to \$4.60; Superfine, \$3.10 to \$3.45; Spring, \$3.65 to \$3.90 for Winter; Western Spring Clear Extra, \$5.50 to \$6.05; Poor to Choice Fancy, held at \$6.85 to \$7.00; Inferior Clear Extra, \$1.65 to \$5.75; Straight Extra, \$5.50 to \$6.25, up to \$6.75 for Choice, and \$6.60 to \$7.50 for Choice to Fancy; Patent Extra, \$6.35 to \$8.00; Choice Family Extra, \$6.45 to \$6.80; Backwheat Flour, \$2.50 to \$2.65 per 100 lbs. Sales of 250 bags.

MEALS.—Oatmeal, Western fine, 25.50 to \$6.50; Coarse, \$7.75 to \$7.05 per brl. Cornmeal, Brandywine \$3.35 to \$3.90; City Sacked, coarse, per 100 lbs, \$1.25 to \$1.28; Fine white, and yellow, \$1.35 to \$1.45; no sales. Corn flour, \$3.65 to \$4.80. Grits \$4.25 to \$5.00.

FEEDS.—100 lbs. or sharps, \$22 to \$23; 100 lbs. or No. 1 middlings, \$20 to \$21; 60 lbs. or No. 1 feed, \$18.50 to \$19; 50 lbs. or medium feed \$18.50 to \$19; 40 lbs. or No. 2 feed, \$18.50 to \$19; rye at \$19 per ton; barley feed, \$22.

SEEDS.—Clover seed, per lb, prime, 13 1/2c; fancy, 14c to 14 1/2c; timothy, \$2.00 to \$2.25 per bushel; domestic flaxseed, \$1.28 to \$1.30; Calcutta linseed, \$1.80 to \$1.85.

BEES.—A fair average trade. We quote: \$12.50 for plain mess; \$12 to \$13.50 for extra mess; \$13 to \$13.50 for plate; \$14.50 for extra plate; \$27.00 to \$29.00 for extra India mess and \$15 to \$16.00 for packet.

BEEF HAMS.—Fair market at \$20.00 to \$21.

BACON.—The Chicago market prices are, loose long clear, \$9.10; short clear, \$9.45; short rib, \$9.20; shoulders, 6.65c; boxed clear, \$9.35; short clear, \$9.75; short rib, 9.45c; shoulders, \$6.90.

CUTMEATS.—Demand better than last week. We quote: 9c to 9 1/2c for pickled bellies; 8 1/2c for pickled shoulders; 11 1/2c to 12c for pickled hams; 9c for smoked shoulders; 13 1/2c to 13 3/4c for smoked hams.

DRESSED HOGS.—Hogs at 8 1/2c to 8 3/4c and market pigs at 9c.

PORK.—\$19.00 to \$19.25 for new mess; \$15 to \$15.50 for extra prime, \$19 to \$19.50 for family.

LARD.—Prices but little changed. Sale still small. We quote 11 1/2c for Western steam and 11c for city.

STEARINE.—We quote 11 1/2c to 11 3/4c. Oleo-margarine, 9 1/2c to 10c.

TALLOW.—We quote 8c to 8 1/2c for prime. Sales of 25,000 lbs reported.

MEAT AND STOCK.—Western heavy wethers, 6 1/2c to 6 3/4c per lb; Jersey and nearly 5c to 6c. Spring lambs, 6c to 7 1/2c. Live calves, State, fair to prime, 9 1/2c to 10c; Jersey, &c., 10c to 10 1/2c; butter-milk fed, 5c to 6c; grassers, 4c to 4 1/2c. Dressed veals, from 10c to 11c for poor to fair, to 13c to 14c for choice.

ABOUT GETTING UP IN THE MORNING.

There are two things that all the boys and girls are fully agreed upon. One is, that bed-time always comes too soon, and the other, that Bridget rings the rising-bell shamefully early. Getting up in the morning is a great trial to many of us. We feel so rested and comfortable, and yet so uncommonly sleepy. It seems as though our eyes would never come really wide open, and as for dressing, it is a labor that is appalling. Oh, for a good fairy to touch us with her wand, and set us, bright and resolute, right out into the middle of the morning!

The way to get up in the morning is just to do it promptly. The moment you are called, decide at once to rise. Do not wait until mother's gentle voice is tired, and sister Lucy has determined that she will not

call you again, and father comes to the foot of the stairs, and calls very seriously, "William!" "Ebenzer!" "Rebecca!" and you feel that you must rise in a hurry. Do not put 'off getting up until you can hardly take time to match buttons and hooks, and you cannot find which strings belong to each other, and suspender-snap, and buttons fly off boots, and things are generally crooked.

When first you rise, let your thoughts go to God in thankfulness that you are alive and well, and ready to begin another day. Then wash from head to foot, with a sponge and cold water, and dry yourself with a rough crash towel, or take a rub with a stiff flesh-brush. You will feel quite warm and glowing after this exercise, which is the better for being rapidly performed. Dress so neatly and entirely, to the last touch of shoe polish and the last flourish of the hair-brush, that you need think no more about your dress all day. Be sure to attend to your teeth. They are good servants, and have so much work to do that they deserve to be carefully looked after, not with irritating powders, but with a clean brush, pure water, and occasionally a dash of white Castile soap. —Harper's Young People.

MUTTON.—Some enthusiastic mutton eater contributes the following to a newspaper: The flesh of the sheep is the best meat in the world; it is also the poorest. A lean, thin sheep that has outgrown its usefulness as a wool-bearer, and has been cut down by the relentless knife of a cumberer of the pasture ground, and consigned to the pot in the vain hope of masquerading its toughened fibres, affords an unsavoury and unpalatable meat, which has taught many to loathe the name of mutton and abominate its very smell. On the contrary, not the aromatic flavors of venison, the juicy richness of wild fowl, or the sweet juices of a short-downed sirloin, can surpass the virtues of a Southdown mutton and fatness. It is sweeter to the palate, more digestible, and more nutritious than any other variety of meat food.

PARKER HOUSE ROLLS.—Two quarts of flour, one pint of milk, measured after boiling, butter the size of an egg, one tablespoonful of sugar, one teaspoonful of home-made yeast, and a little salt. Make a hole in the flour. Put in the other ingredients in the following order: Sugar, butter, milk and yeast. Do not stir them at all. Arrange this at ten o'clock at night. Set it in a cool place until ten o'clock the next morning, when mix all together and knead it fifteen minutes by the clock. Put it in a cool place again until four o'clock p.m., when cut out the rolls, and set each one apart from its neighbor in the pan. Set it for half an hour in a warm place. Bake fifteen minutes.

FALSE ECONOMY.—The Texas Siftings has a suggestive hint about saving money. "How much do you pay a load for firewood?" asked one Austin lady of another, who was much given to bragging over her economy in housekeeping. "I only pay four and a half," was the reply. "How do you manage to get it half a dollar cheaper than anybody else?" "I hire a hack, and go on the road and meet the wood wagons before they get to town." "How much do you pay for the hack?" "Only one dollar."

GRAHAM PUDDING.—Mix well together one half a coffee-cup of molasses, one-quarter of a cup of butter, one egg, one-half a cup of milk, one-half a teaspoonful of pure soda, one and a half cup of good Graham flour, one small teacup of raisins, spices to taste. Steam four hours and serve with any sauce that may be preferred. This makes a showy as well as light and wholesome dessert, and has the merit of simplicity and cheapness.

BEEF HASH.—Chop cold cooked meat rather fine; use half as much meat as boiled potatoes, chopped when cold. Put a little boiling water and butter into an iron sauce-pan; when it boils again put in the meat and potatoes, salted and peppered. Let it cook well, stirring it occasionally. Serve on buttered slices of toast, daintily arranged on a platter.

CREAM GRAVY FOR BAKED FISH.—Have ready in a sauce-pan one cup of cream, diluted with a few spoonfuls of hot water; stir in carefully two tablespoonfuls of melted butter and a little chopped parsley; heat this in a vessel filled with hot water. Pour in the gravy from the dripping pan of fish. Boil thick.

WHILE SAWING VENEER from a walnut knot an Indian discovered in the twisted fibres of the wood a perfect picture of a spaniel's head. The lines are as accurately drawn as if by the pencil of an artist, and when framed this natural curiosity has all the semblance of art.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON IX.

March 4, 1883. [Aets 5: 17-32.]

PERSECUTION RENEWED.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 27-29.

(Revised Version.)

But the high priest rose up, and all they 17 that were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees, and they were filled with jealousy, and laid hands on the apostles, and put them 18 in public ward. But an angel of the Lord by 19 night opened the prison doors, and brought them out, and said, Go ye, and stand and 20 speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life. And he said unto them, 21 Thus, they came into the temple on the day-break, and taught. But the high priest came, and they that were with him, and called the council together, and all the senate of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison-house to have them brought. But the officers 22 that came to find them, not in the prison, and they returned, and told, saying, The prison 23 house we found shut in all safety, and the keepers standing at the doors; but when we had opened, we found no man within. Now 24 when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were much perplexed concerning them whereunto this would grow. And there came one and told 25 them, Behold, the men whom ye sought, are here, and they feared the people, lest they should be stoned. And when they had 26 brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them, saying, 27 We straitly charged you not to teach in this name; and behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. But Peter and the 28 apostles answered and said, We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers 29 raised up Jesus, whom ye slew, hanging him on a tree. Him did God exalt with his right 30 hand to be a Prince and Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and remission of sins. And we are witnesses of these things; and so 32 is the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"We ought to obey God rather than men."—ACTS 5:29.

TOPIC.—We must obey God rather than men.

PLAN.—1. THE WEALTH OF MAN, VS. 17, 18. 2. THE POWER OF GOD, VS. 19-24. 3. THE CHARGE OF THE PRIESTS, VS. 25-28. 4. THE ANSWER OF FAITH, VS. 29-32.

Time.—A. B. 34, not long after the last lesson. Place.—Jerusalem.

INTRODUCTORY.

After the terrible judgment recorded in our last lesson the apostles continued their ministry with great zest. Many miracles were wrought by them, and multitudes were added to the number of believers. These things roused the Jewish rulers to arrest the apostles and cast them into prison. Our lesson tells us what followed the arrest.

LESSON NOTES.

V. 17 THE HIGH PRIEST—probably ANANAS. WITH HIM—in sympathy with him in this persecution. SADDUCEES—a Jewish sect which denied the resurrection and future life. It Christ had indeed risen, as the apostles declared, this doctrine of the Sadducees was false; hence the bitterness of their opposition. V. 19. OPENED THE PRISON DOORS—the eyes and ears of the keepers being supernaturally dulled. V. 20. GO—they were released, not for concealment and flight, but to go back to the very work they were arrested. THE WORDS OF THIS LIFE—salvation through the crucified and risen Christ—the very doctrine that had roused the wrath of the priests and Sadducees. V. 21. CAME—to the place of meeting. THE COUNCIL—the Sanhedrim. SENATED—the elders of the people, men of age and influence. V. 22. THE OFFICERS—the attendants who executed the orders of the Sanhedrim. V. 23. SAYING—these particulars showed that the prisoners had not escaped by the neglect of the guard. V. 24. CAPTAINS OF THE TEMPLE—of the temple guard. WOULD GROW—what the result would be. V. 25. BEHOLD—the apostles had not fled, nor were they skulking in silence; they were at their work. V. 26. WITHOUT FEARING—the people were now on the side of the apostles. V. 28. STRAITLY—strictly, expressly. IN THIS NAME—the name of Jesus. THIS MAN'S BLOOD—you mean to fix on us the crime of putting to death an innocent man. V. 29. OBEY GOD—God commanded them to preach Jesus, the rulers forbade it. Revised Version. "We must obey God rather than men," expressing not mere duty, but necessity. V. 30. EXALTED—lifted up to honor, as if lifted high up to shame. WITH HIS RIGHT HAND—by his power. PRINCE—as having authority, and so to be obeyed. SAVIOUR—as using his authority for "salvation"—able to save to the uttermost. Heb. 7:25.

TEACHINGS:

- 1. God can easily deliver his servants from any danger.
2. Angels are God's messengers to minister to his people.
3. What God commands we should do, even if it bring trouble or danger.
4. Christ gives penitence, as well as pardon to the penitent.
5. We should always be witnesses for Christ.

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