

OUR HOME CIRCLE

AT NIGHTFALL

The day is done, dear Lord, the weary day; And I have tried so hard to do Thy will, And faithfully the tasks Thou gavest fulfill!

The little ones are sleeping; all the day The restless feet have hurried to and fro, The childish voices ceaseless in their play.

Thou knowest, dear Lord, Thy work I try to do, To train these treasures Thou has lent to me, Till Thine own image in their hearts may be.

I strive to guard from harm my garden fair; The sweet home garden with its tender blooms, Its promised fruitage, and love's rich perfume.

But spite of all my care, the hedge is poor; The crafty foxes creep in unawares, And little sins despoil my garden fair.

So all the day I've labored, watched, and prayed, To lead the little souls to Thy dear feet, And guard lest sin should dim their white-ness sweet.

Now they are nestled 'neath Thy wings to rest; But I am tired, so tired, dear Lord, to-night, Too spent and weary 'e'en to pray aright.

To-morrow's tasks arise before my sight; But oh, my Lord, they are so heavy grown, I faint, and fall; I cannot walk alone!

Bear Thou my burdens, be in weakness strong; Take in Thy arms the children of my care, So that Thy blessing all their lives may bring.

I lay me down to sleep with peaceful heart; Strength will be given for all the morrow's strife, Till, hand in hand, our earthly souls shall find their way to life!

"PUT YOURSELF IN MY PLACE."

"I cannot wait any longer. I must have my money, and if you cannot pay it I must foreclose the mortgage and sell the place," said Mr. Morton.

"In that case," said Mr. Bishop, "it will, of course, be sold at a great sacrifice, and after all the struggles I have made, my family will again be homeless. It is very hard; I only wish you had to earn your money as I do mine; you might then know something of the hard life of a poor man. If you could, only in imagination, put yourself in my place, I think you would have a little mercy on me."

"It is useless talking; I extended this one year, and I can do so no longer," replied Mr. Morton, as he turned to his desk and continued writing.

The poor man rose from his seat and walked sadly out of Mr. Morton's office. His last hope was gone. He had just recovered from a long illness, which had swallowed up the means with which he had intended to make the last payment on his house. True, Mr. Morton had waited one year, when he had failed to meet the demand, owing to illness in his family, and he felt very much obliged to him for doing so. This year he had been laid up for seven months, and during that time he could earn nothing, and all his savings were needed for the support of his family. Again he failed, and now he would again be homeless, and have to begin the world anew. Had Heaven forsaken him, and given him over to the tender mercies of the wicked?

After he had left the office, Mr. Morton could not drive away from his thoughts the remark to which the poor man in his grief gave utterance, "I wish you had to earn your money as I do mine." In the midst of a row of figures, "Put yourself in my place," intruded.

Once, after it had crossed his mind, he laid down his pen, saying, "Well, I think I should find it rather hard. I have a mind to drop in there this afternoon and see how it fares with his family; that man has roused my curiosity."

About five o'clock he put on a gray wig, and some old cast-off clothes, walked to the residence of Mr. Bishop and knocked at the door. Mrs. Bishop, a pale, weary-looking woman, opened it. The poor old man requested permission to enter and rest awhile, saying he was very tired of his long journey, for he had walked many miles that day.

Mrs. Bishop cordially invited him in, and gave him the best seat she could afford. She then began to make preparations for tea.

The old gentleman watched her attentively. He saw there was no elasticity in her step, no hope in her movements, and pity for her began to steal into his heart; when her husband entered, her features relaxed into a smile, and she forced a cheerfulness into her manner. The traveler noted it all, and he was forced to admit that the man who could force a cheerfulness she did not feel, for

her husband's sake. After the table was prepared, there was nothing on it but bread and butter and tea. They invited the stranger to eat with them, saying: "We have not much to offer you, but a cup of tea will refresh you after your long journey."

He accepted their hospitality, and as they discussed the frugal meal, led them, without seeming to do so, to talk of their affairs.

"I bought this piece of land," said Mr. Bishop, "at a very low price, and instead of waiting, as I ought to have done, until I saved the money to build, I thought I would borrow a few hundred dollars. The interest on the money would not be as much as the rent I was paying, and I would be saving something by it. I did not think there would be any difficulty in paying back the money; but the first year my wife and one of my children were ill, and the expenses led me without means to pay the debt. Mr. Morton agreed to wait another year if I would pay the interest, which I did. This year I was for seven months unable to work at my trade and earn anything, and, of course, when pay day comes round—and that will be very soon—I shall be unable to meet the demand."

"But," said the stranger, "will not Mr. Morton wait another year if you make all the circumstances known to him?"

"No, sir," replied Mr. Bishop, "I saw him this morning, and he said he must have the money, and should be obliged to foreclose."

"He must be very hard-hearted," remarked the traveler.

"Not necessarily so," remarked Mr. Bishop. "The fact is, these rich men know nothing of the struggles of the poor. They are men just like the rest of mankind, and I am sure if they had the faintest idea of what the poor have to pass through, their hearts and purses would be opened. You know it has passed into a proverb, 'When a poor man needs assistance he should apply to the poor.' The reason is obvious. Only the poor know the curse of poverty. They know how heavily it falls, crushing the heart of man, and (to use my favorite expression) they can at once place themselves in the unfortunate one's place and appreciate difficulties, and are, therefore, always ready to render assistance as far as they are able. If Mr. Morton had the least idea of what I and my family had to pass through, I think he would be willing to wait several years for his money rather than to distress us."

With what emotion the stranger listened may be imagined. A new world was being open to him. He was passing through an experience that had never been his before. Shortly after the conclusion of the meal he rose to take his leave, thanking Mr. and Mrs. Bishop for their kind hospitality. They invited him to stay all night, telling him he was welcome to what they had.

He thanked them and said, "I will trespass on your kindness no longer. I think I can reach the next village before dark, and be so much further on my journey."

Mr. Morton did not sleep much that night; he lay awake thinking. He had received a new revelation. The poor had always been associated in his mind with stupidity and ignorance, and the first poor family he had visited he had found far in advance in intelligent sympathy and real politeness, of the exquisite and fashionable butterflies of the day.

The next day a boy called at the cottage and left a package in a large blue envelope addressed to Mr. Bishop.

Mrs. Bishop was very much alarmed when she took it, for large envelopes were associated in her mind with law and lawyers, and she thought it boded no good. She put it away until her husband came home from his work, when she handed it to him.

He opened it in silence, and read its contents, and said, frequently, "Thank Heaven."

"What is it, John?" inquired his anxious wife.

"Good news, wife," replied John; "such news as I never hoped for, or ever dreamed of."

"What is it—what is it? Tell me quick! I want to hear it if it is anything good."

"Morton has cancelled the mortgage—released me from debt, both interest and principal—and says any time I need further assistance, if I will let him know, I shall have it."

"I am so glad; it puts new life into me," said the new happy wife. "But what could have come over Mr. Morton?"

"I do not know. It seems strange, after the way he talked to me yesterday morning. I will go right over to Mr. Morton's and tell him how happy he has made me!"

He found Mr. Morton in, and expressed his gratitude in glowing terms.

"What could have induced you," he asked, "to show so much kindness?"

"I followed your suggestion," replied Mr. Morton, "and put myself in your place. I expect that it would surprise you very much to learn that the strange traveler to whom you showed so much kindness yesterday was myself."

"Indeed," exclaimed Mr. Bishop, "can that be true? How did you disguise yourself so well?"

"I was not so much disguised, after all; but you could not very readily associate Mr. Morton, the lawyer, with a poor wayfaring man—hal hal hal!" laughed Mr. Morton.

"Well, it is a good joke," said Mr. Bishop; "good in more ways than one. It has terminated very pleasantly for me."

"I was surprised," Mr. Morton said, "at the broad and liberal views you expressed of men and their actions generally. I supposed I had greatly the advantage over you in means and education; yet, how cramped and narrow minded have been my views beside yours! That wife of yours is an estimable woman; and that boy of yours will be an honor to any man. I tell you Mr. Bishop, said the lawyer, becoming animated, "you are rich—rich beyond what money could make you; you have treasures that gold will not buy. I tell you, you owe me no thanks. Somehow I seem to have lived years since yesterday morning. I have got into a new world; what I learned at your house is worth more than all you owe me, and I am your debtor yet. Hereafter I shall take as my motto, 'put yourself in his place,' and try to regulate my motions by it."—*Christian Observer.*

A DRAPED LOCOMOTIVE.

"To me," the sad passenger said, "there is something inexpressibly mournful in a draped locomotive; and especially so when it is draped in mourning for a dead engineer. The president of a railway company stands a long way from the engine, and when he dies the engine mourns as we sorrow for a rich uncle whom we never saw and who left us nothing. But the man who was a part of the engine's life, who spurred her up the long steep, climbing mountain grades, and coaxed her around dizzy curves, and sent her down the long level stretches with the flight of an arrow; who knew how to humor all her caprices, and coaxed and petted and urged her through blinding storms and rayless nights, and blistering heat and stinging cold, until engine and engineer seemed to be body and soul of one existence—then, when this man at last gets his final orders, and crosses the dark river alone, with only the fadeless target lights of sure and eternal promise gleaming brightly on the other side; and when there is a new man on the right-hand side, and a new face looks out of the engineer's window, then I think I can see profound and sincere sorrow in the panting spirit of power standing in the station, draped with fluttering emblems of woe, waiting for the caressing touches of the dead hands that it will never feel again. And engineers tell me that for days and days the engine is fretful under the new hands; it is restless and moody, starts off nervously and impatiently sometimes, then drops into a sullen gait and loses time; that no man gets so much out of an engine as its own engineer."

"Do you remember only a year or two ago," the jester said, "only last summer, I believe it was, an engineer on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, running west from Chicago, died on his engine? Died right in his place, running between Galesburg and Monmouth, and sat there with his hand on the lever, and his sightless eyes staring glassily down the track, unnoticed, until the fireman looked up to see why he did not whistle for Monmouth station. And how many miles that the dead engineer looked out of the cab window into eternity; no one knew and no one knew—*Burlington Hawkeye.*

THEN AND NOW.

When first I heard of Jesus It seemed some mystic tale, A root of barren dyes, No fragrance could exhale; But as I came to know Him, His precious name grew sweet And like a perfumed rainbow Love-arched the Mercy Seat.

At first I saw no beauty, No captivating spell, Felt no Divine emotion In my cold bosom swell; But when through beams of glory God shone in Jesus' face, All other objects vanished Before His matchless grace.

I read that he was wounded, And bruised upon the tree, Yet felt no thrilling wonder, As though He died for me. But since—oh, since I knew it, And saw Him bear my load, I cannot cease from praising My great Redeeming God!

O Rose of rarest odor! O Lily white and pure! O chieftain of ten thousand, Whose glory needs no aid; The more I see Thy beauty, The more I know Thy grace, The more I long, unbidden, To gaze upon Thy face.—*Selected.*

CONSECRATED CHEERFULNESS.

Downright cheerfulness (not of the thoughtless, but of the consecrated kind) is a real element of missionary power. Languidness is only pardonable where the nerves are broken and out of joint by toil and disease. We quote below from a letter recently received from a young lady missionary in China. The letter was only thought of as private by the writer, but it is so fresh, and so full of "joy in the Lord," that we quote for the possible help of other missionaries, and as a rebuke to those Christians who look upon this work only as a stupid self-immolation.

"I was amused at what you said about my health and one way to keep it. I never felt as well as I have since I left America. And I will try to take very good care of myself, for I am desirous of spending many years here in China.

"And so you think I ought to be 'jolly and cheerful' and have some fun and recreation as a means of preserving health? I agree with you thoroughly, and have tried to put your recommendations in practice. I know I have succeeded to some extent, for by the time I had reached Shanghai the verdict of the missionaries was, 'that they had never seen anyone who enjoyed everything, and always looked on the bright as I did.' The natives speak of it often. One woman who lives outside of the city told Mrs. — that she had heard 'that a young lady who was cheerful' had come. Last evening the school girls informed me that I laughed a good share of the time. Naturally I have a cheerful disposition, and when I decided to come to China, I asked God to help me scatter sunshine constantly, and so lighten other persons' troubles. He has helped me; so all the honor is His, not mine."—*Foreign Missionary.*

THESE MOTHERS.

I think sometimes it is the mother's duty to lead in prayer. I say sometimes. She knows more of God, she knows more about family wants, she can read the Scripture with more tender enunciation. To put it in plain words, she prays better. I remember my father's praying morning by morning and night by night; but when he was absent from home and my mother prayed it was very different. Though sometimes when father prayed we were listless and indifferent, we were none of us listless and indifferent when mother prayed; for we remember just how she looked on the floor with her hands to her brow as she said, "I ask not for my children riches or honor or fame; but I ask that they all become subjects of Thy converting grace."

"Why," you say, "I never could forget that," neither could you. Good men have good mothers. There are exceptions to this rule; but they are only exceptions. The father and mother loving God, their children are almost certain to love God. The son may make a wide curve from the straight path; but he will almost be sure to curve back again after awhile. Got remembers the prayers, and brings the son back on the right road after awhile again, sometimes after the parents are gone. How often we hear it said, "Oh, he was a wild young man until his father's death; since that he has been very steady since his father's death; he has become a

Christian." The fact is that the lid of the father's casket is often the altar of repentance for a wandering boy. The marble pillar of the tomb is the point at which many a young man has been revolutionized.—*Frank Leslie's Sunday Mag.*

SLEEPY CONGREGATIONS.

In old times many pious individuals have considered it a good work to set apart of their worldly worth for keeping the congregation awake. On the 17th of April, 1725, John Rudge requested to the parish of Trysull, in Shropshire, twenty shillings a year, that a poor man might be employed to go about the church during the sermon and keep the people awake. A bequest of Richard Dovep, of Farmote, dated 1659, had in view the payment of 8s. annually to a poor man for the performance of the same duties in the church at Claverly, Shropshire. At Acton church, in Cheshire, about thirty years ago, one of the church wardens or the apparitor used to go round the church during the service with a large wand in his hand; and if any of the congregation were asleep they were instantly awake by a tap on the head. At Dunchurch, in Warwickshire, a similar custom existed; a person bearing a stout wand, shaped like a hay-fork at the end, stepped stealthily up and down the knave aisles, and whenever he saw an individual asleep he touched him so effectually that the apell was broken; this being sometimes done by fitting the fork to the nape of the neck. A more playful method is said to have been used in another church, where the beadle went round the edifice during service carrying a long staff, on the end of which was a fox's brush, and at the other a knob. With the former he gently tickled the faces of the female sleepers, while on the heads of their male compeers he bestowed with the knob a sensible rap.—*Exchange.*

SEARCHING QUESTIONS.

What right has a Christian lady to give herself away to a skeptical scoffer—a man that hates her Bible, her Christ and her God—a man that tramples the law of her God under his feet? What right has a Christian man to become linked with a scoffing, swearing woman that has no faith in God and the Bible? "Be ye not unequally yoked with unbelievers." Yet the moment you touch this question they throw up their heads and say, "I will marry whom I please." Well, we give you the word of God, and if you go against that you must reap what you sow. There are hundreds of men and women in this country weeping, and they are reaping bitter fruit. Oh how many times I have had a mother come to me with a broken heart and say, "I want you to pray for my drunken son." "How came your son to be a drunkard?" "Well, my husband set a bad example. He insisted upon having it upon the table." "How long have you been a Christian?" "Were you a Christian before you married him?" "Yes." "Did you know he was a scoffer before you married him?" "Yes, but I thought I might save him." You had better save him before you marry him, better see him converted before you marry him.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

THE SUNBEAM.

Children, you are household sunbeams; don't forget it, and when mother is tired and weary, or father comes home from his day's work feeling depressed, speak cheerfully to them, and do what you can to help them. Very often you can help them most by not doing something; for what you would do may only make more work for them. Therefore, think before you speak or act, and say to yourself, "Will this help mamma?" or "Will this please papa?" There is something inside of you that will always answer and tell you how to act. It won't take a minute, either, to decide, when you do this, and you will be repaid for waiting by the earnestness of the smile or the sincerity of the kiss which will then greet you. One thing remember always—the effect of what you do lingers after you are gone. Long after you have forgotten the smile or cheerful word which you gave your father or mother, or the little act which you did to make them happy, it is remembered by them, and after you are asleep they will talk about it, and thank God for your little household sunbeams.—*Anon.*

GOD IS THERE TOO.

Nurse came in and found Bessie wide awake, lying very still in her little bed.

"All alone in the dark," said nurse, "and not afraid at all, Bessie, are you?"

"No, indeed," answered Bessie, "for I ain't alone. God is here; and I look out of the window and see the stars, and God seems to me looking down with all his eyes, nurse."

"To be sure," said the nurse; "but God up in the sky is a great way off."

"No," spoke little Bessie, "God is here, too, because he seems sometimes bugging me to his heart; then I am so happy."

O, how sweet to feel God near—to be resting on his bosom, like a little child in its father's arm! This is the blessed privilege of a believing child.—*Youth's Delight.*

GOOD NEWS FROM LUCKNOW.

Do you know where that is? Away off in India. Rev. Mr. Craven, a missionary there, wrote a letter to a certain Sabbath-school in America, and among other good things in it, he paid a compliment to the boys in the mission school at Lucknow.

A rich heathen merchant told Mr. Craven one day that he liked to get his clerks from the mission school, because they were honest and truthful. And a railroad man told him there was one thing about Christian boys that he liked; you could trust them.

Ah! but it costs something to be a Christian boy in Lucknow. What would you think of seeing a crowd in the street following a young man, hooting at him, throwing stones, and among them his own mother? What! throwing stones? Yes; just that you might have seen in Lucknow one day last year. What had the young man been doing? Why he was on his way to be baptized, and to confess that he meant to love and serve the Lord Jesus.

It takes another kind of courage too. One day a boy came to Mr. Craven and said:—

"Here is a dollar and fifty cents: it is all the money I have. I stole two dollars and fifty cents from you once, but I am a Christian now, and I want to bring it back."—*Kind Words.*

A TRUE GENTLEMAN.

A few years ago a young man fashionably dressed took his seat at the table of the Girard House, in Philadelphia. There was an air of self-conscious superiority in the youth which attracted general attention. He read the menu with smothered disgust, gave his orders with a tone of lofty condescension, and when his neighbor civilly handed him the pepper-box stared at him for his presumption as though he had tendered him an insult. In short, a person of the blood could not have regarded a mob of serfs with more arrogant hauteur than did this lad the respectable travellers about him.

Presently a tall, powerfully built old man entered the room, and seated himself at one of the larger tables. He was plainly dressed, his language was markedly simple, he entered into conversation with his neighbor, who happened to be a poor tradesman, and occasionally during his dinner exchanged ideas with a little lady of five summers who sat beside him. The colored servants spoke to him as an old friend. "How is your rheumatism, John?" he said to one, and remembered that another had lately lost his son.

"Who is that old-fashioned gentleman?" asked a curious traveller of the steward.

"O, that is Judge Jere Black, the greatest jurist in the country!" was the enthusiastic reply. "And the young aristocrat?"

"He is surely somebody of note."

"He is a drummer who sells fancy soaps."

Judge Jeremiah Black, who has just died, was noted and feared in public life for the massive force of his intellect. "Every blow kills!" said a listener to one of his arguments. On the other side, an old farmer neighbor wrote of him, "We shall never have another man as pure, kindly, and simple among us."

The boys who will make up our next generation could find much to study in the massive nature of this old man, with his powerful brain, his simple, direct manner, and his unflinching, childlike faith in God. With his last breath he took his next wife by the hand, and saying, "Lord take care of Mary," so died.—*Youth's Companion.*

When accept champagne arm him vid culmba compat but wh was at use. It denson sword, dresse own v better well chose y by she ants of they or traordi merly splayed away t was, he in war ered st the fore of Beng handed stones, were a Egpit the lat double of lev slinger let hat seen stones. The from D stone a the arm sumed a tra would failure, ish that prepar icularly is better the sim own fa garb of prove for us t who can e commo would theolog lesser soldiers simple, many str all that come r David his sid wisdom dence c strong expert not in t strumer instrum of r-rac deliver Phillis that wa champio was zed but mor if he ve both vi preserve spire ev He ha personal his mind he would earth we God in once bet and a de consciou the spe Saul's b were afri faith; bu ous bec him. Th mission- ply by h with dead power— place wh and in an lay a bug sty at the W. M. S

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

NOV. 25, 1883.

DAVID AND GOLIATH.

1 SAMUEL XVII. 38-51.

When Saul, after some hesitation, accepted the offer of the youthful champion, he thought it necessary to arm him with his own armor. David submitted so far as to have the cumbersome coat of mail with all its accompaniments buckled on to him; but when he attempted to move he was at once convinced that it was no use attempting his task thus hampered. He quickly threw off the burdensome armor and laid down the sword, resuming his plain, shepherd's dress, and determining to fight the battle in his own way and with his own weapon. He felt it to be far better to trust to one in which he was well skilled. The weapon he chose was his own sling, much used by shepherds in repelling the assailants of flocks, and in the use of which they often, like David, possessed extraordinary expertness. It was formerly used, and is still much employed, by husbandmen in driving away birds from the corn-fields. It was, however, also largely employed in war; and in skilled hands delivered stones against the enemy with the force of a shot. Saul's own tribe of Benjamin was famous for its left-handed slingers, who could cast stones at a hair and not miss. Slings were also used in war both by the Egyptians and Assyrians. Among the latter, the sling consisted of a double rope with a thong, probably of leather, to receive the stone; it was swung round the head. The slinger held a second stone in his left hand; and at his feet is frequently seen, in the Scriptures, a heap of stones ready for use.

The practical lesson to be learned from David's choosing his sling and stone should not be lost sight of. In the armor of Saul, he would have assumed to be that which he was not—a trained Israelite warrior. That would have been the direct way to failure. There is nothing more foolish than to assume a part we are not prepared to carry out. This is particularly so in the Lord's service. It is better to attempt work for him in the simplest character, and in our own familiar way, than arrayed in a garb of office authority which may prove too heavy and cumbersome for us to carry. Many a young man who can do good service against the common foe with his sling, and stone would cut a very sorry figure in a theological controversy, or in a professor's chair. Our advice to young soldiers of Christ is, be humble, be simple, be natural; and if there is any fitness for higher service in you, all that you wish and hope for may come right in time.

David's piety lay at the root of all. His simplicity, his naturalness, his wisdom, his courage, and his confidence of success, all grew out of his strong faith in God. Though he was expert with his sling, his trust was not in that. It was to be only an instrument, and he was to be only an instrument in the hands of the God of Israel—the Lord. He will deliver me out of the hands of this Philistine. It was not only Israel that was defied by the Philistine champion, but Israel's God. David was zealous for the credit of Israel, but more so for the name of the Lord. If he ventured into this unequal combat, he felt sure that the Lord would both vindicate His own name and preserve him. His faith should inspire every one of us.

He had no thought of winning any personal renown by his prowess; but his mind was full of thought that if he could overcome the giant, all the earth would know that there was a God in Israel. We see the difference between a degenerate people and a devoted servant of the Lord conscious of all that was implied in the special covenant with Israel. Saul's bravest, hardest warriors were afraid because they had no true faith; but this stripping was courageous because he had the Lord with him. Thus David succeeded in his mission—his stone directed, not simply by his skillful hand, but armed with deadly force by the Almighty's power—struck the giant in the only place which his armor left exposed, and in an instant the formidable foe lay a huge mass of quivering humanity at the mercy of his antagonist.—W. M. S. S. Mac.

HURRIED EATING.

It is a mistake to eat quickly. Mastication performed in haste must be imperfect even with the best teeth, and due admixture of the salivary secretion with the food can not take place. When a crude mass of inadequately crushed muscular fiber, of undivided solid material of any description, is thrown into one stomach, it acts as a mechanical irritant, and causes a condition in the mucous membrane lining that organ which greatly impedes, if it does not altogether prevent the process of digestion. When the practice of eating quickly and filling the stomach with unprepared food is habitual, the digestive organs are rendered incapable of performing their proper function. Either a much larger quantity of food than would be necessary under natural conditions is required, or the system suffers from lack of nourishment. Those animals which are intended to feed hurriedly were either gifted with the power of rumination or provided with gizzards. Man is not so furnished, and it is fair to assume that he was intended to eat slowly.

DRESS AND WOMANHOOD.

Women who have control of sufficient means and the inclination to spend it on dress are few in number. While possessed of a larger liberty of choice, they are usually governed by a more refined and experienced taste, and by certain conventional ideas, which are scarcely known, much less fully recognized beyond the limits of a circle. There is another class possessing money and making a larger capital out of the absence of scruples and a restrictive delicacy, and of this are the women who usually stand as the representatives of fashion, whose extravagance and sensationalism, fed by a doubtful class of men, are made the synonyms of American womanhood. This false estimate is all the more hurtful and mischievous because it affects the minds of young girls and furnishes them with a bad example, when they need a high ideal, lowering their standard below the average when they should be inspired by every possible influence to raise it to a higher level. Notwithstanding all drawbacks, however, the actual science of dress is gaining; the survival of the fittest helps here as in what are considered more important matters. There are constant additions to the stock of permanent ideas, and the "revivals" which frequently take place are in the line of that which has adapted itself to the general requirements rather than of folly, eccentricity, and extravagance.

USEFUL HINTS.

A botanist says that by soaking the stems of cut flowers in a weak dye solution their colors can be altered at will without their perfume and freshness being destroyed. The evidence is accumulating that a thorough soaking with crude petroleum will preserve the common turpentine, used in summer houses, fences, etc., for almost as long a time as cedar will last. A lady writes that she never turns her window plants, and, as a consequence, gets a great many more blossoms than when she kept turning them, trying to keep them in pretty form. The heat of a room is made much more endurable by the vapor arising from a dish of water kept on the stove. Some stoves are constructed with a sort of ornamental urn for this purpose, but how many women see to it that it is kept filled? Suppose you go to the saloon-keeper and offer to license him to sell your son whisky for twenty-five dollars a year. Oh! you don't believe in that? You don't want it sold to your boy? Then be honest and don't vote to have it sold to somebody else's son.

Speaking of spatter work reminds us to say that the best mode of casting the spray is to put the ink in an atomizer, which will give a uniform misty spray that will not form blotches, mixed with discretion. "Lemon's aniline dyes" are admirable for this work.—Chicago Home Arts. A tastefully laid table, whether it be for breakfast, luncheon, or dinner, enhances the enjoyment of the meal about to be partaken of. Spotless table linen, shining glass and china, and gleaming silver, with every little requisite in its proper place, lend an air of grace and refinement to the humblest board. An English bull-terrier in a railway office in Cleveland is trained to carry notes from one room to another, and bring back receipts. If the receipt is not given to him at once, he howls till the remiss clerk is glad to appease him. For toothache, burns, cuts, rheumatism, use Perry Davis' Pain Killer. See adv.

Notice may be especially called to an advertisement headed Invigorating Syrup, which may be found in our columns this week. The proprietors, Gates & Co., do not hesitate in recommending them as perfectly safe and purely vegetable compounds. The No. 2 is especially adapted for delicate women, advanced stages of consumption, piles, and children of the most tender years. The No. 1 is particularly recommended for the ailments mentioned in the adv., and may be relied on as a perfectly safe preparation, and where persons are exposed to cold or wet will prevent them from taking cold. They say it should be kept in every household. GOT HIM OUT OF BED.—I was confined to my bed with Rheumatism, could not move hand or foot. A clergyman called to see me and advised me to use Minard's Liniment. I did so, and in 3 days was out of bed and resumed my work as well as ever. JAMES LANGILLE. Springfield, Annapolis Co., '82. Am 2 1y

REST AND COMFORT TO THE SUFFERING.—Brown's Household Panacea has no equal for relieving "six" both internal and external. It cures pain in the side, back or bowels, sore throat, rheumatism, toothache, lumbago, and any kind of pain or ache. It will most surely quicken the blood and heal, as its acting power is wonderful. "Brown's Household Panacea" being acknowledged as the great Pain Believer, and of double the strength of any other Kixir or Liniment in the world, should be in every family handy for use when wanted. "as it really is the best remedy in the world for cramps in the stomach, and pains and aches of all kinds," and is for sale by all druggists at 25 cts. a bottle. feb 10

Another fatal accident is reported from standing up to change places in a boat. When will people learn that the first thing to do on getting into a boat is to sit down in it and never to get up again till the shore is reached? If you must move in a boat, crawl along the bottom of it without rising. If you are sailing the boat, make everybody in it sit down, not on the thwarts or seats, but on the bottom of the boat. If you are being towed, keep the weight in the stern of the boat; otherwise with the slightest sheer the boat will fill and sink under you. In short, learn a little about boats before using them. When properly handled they are the safest, when improperly handled the unkindest, of all craft—not even excepting ironclads.—Irish Times.

Loss and Gain.

CHAPTER I. "I was taken sick a year ago With bilious fever." "My doctor pronounced me cured, but I got sick again, with terrible pains in my back and sides, and I got so bad I could not move!" From 228 lbs. to 120! I had been doctoring, for my liver, but it did me no good. I did not expect to live more than three months. I began to use Hop Bitters. Directly my appetite returned, my pains left me, my entire system seemed renewed as if by magic, and after using several bottles I am not only as sound as a sovereign but weigh more than I did before. To Hop Bitters I owe my life." Dublin, June 6, '81. E. FITZPATRICK. How to Get Sick.—Expose yourself day and night; eat too much without exercise; work too hard without rest; doctor all the time; take all the vile nostrums advertised, and then you will want to know how to GET WELL, which is answered in three words—Take Hop Bitters!

CHAPTER II. Malden, Mass., Feb. 1, 1880. Gentlemen—suffered with attacks of sick headache." Neuralgia, female trouble, for years in the most terrible and excruciating manner. No medicine or doctor could give me relief or cure until I used Hop Bitters. "The first bottle Nearly cured me." "The second made me as well and strong as when a child." "And I have been so to this day." My husband was an invalid for twenty years with a serious "Kidney, liver, and urinary complaint." "Pronounced by Boston's best physicians—"Incurable!" Seven bottles of your bitters cured him and I know of the result. "Lives of eight persons." "In my neighborhood that have been saved by your bitters, And many more are using them with great benefit." "They almost Do miracles!" —Mrs. E. D. Slack.

In 1816 Joseph Nicéphore Niepce invented photography. He succeeded in securing a picture printed by light in the camera. A view of Kew church taken by him in 1827 was the first photograph from nature taken in England. It is in the British museum.

MOTHERS! MOTHERS! MOTHERS! Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with the excruciating pain of cutting teeth? If so, go at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup." It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately, depend upon it; there is no mistake about it. There is not a mother on earth who has ever used it, who will tell you at once that it will regulate the bowels, and give rest to the mother, and relief and health to the child, operating like magic. It is perfectly safe to use in all cases, and pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States. Sold everywhere. 25 cts. a bottle. feb 1y

It is estimated that the Mississippi River carries 812,500,000,000 pounds of earth into the sea every year. All the habitable land of the globe is being continually ground and washed away.

A Good Introduction.—J. Kennedy, a merchant in Dixie, about three years ago introduced Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam to his customers by trying it in his own family for Coughs and Colds. Being pleased with results, large sales followed, and it is now the favorite remedy in that neighborhood.

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THE MONDAY EVENING MEETING.

In accordance with arrangements made by the Evangelical Alliance of this city, a meeting was held in the Brunswick St. Church on Monday evening, in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther. The evening proved pleasant, and a most enthusiastic meeting took place. On the platform were nearly all the Protestant ministers of the city, Episcopalians excepted; and in the choir were the usual singers under the leadership of E. G. Smith, Esq., with Miss Mackintosh at the organ, and a number of members of city Presbyterian choirs. In the body of the church and in the galleries every seat was occupied, and benches were placed in the aisles for those who could not otherwise be seated. The Hon. S. L. Shannon presided. The following we take, briefly abridged, from the very excellent report of the Morning Chronicle:

The meeting opened with the hymn, "All hail the power of Jesus' name," followed by reading of Scripture by Rev. J. T. Joadale and prayer by Rev. Dr. MacGregor. The chairman made a brief introductory address, referring to the good resulting from the Reformation, the condition of Europe at Luther's birth, the object of his life from a providential point of view, the coincidence that nine years after his birth one of the greatest events in the world's history occurred in discovery of America, and some of the more striking episodes of his life, as the Diet of Worms, the burning of the excommunication, etc. The hymn of the Reformation beginning:

"A safe stronghold our God is still, A trusty shield and weapon."

Carlyle's translation of Luther's own composition, was then sung to the original tune.

Rev. Dr. Burns then read and moved the following resolution: On the occasion of this the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther this meeting desires to record its profound admiration of the gifts and graces of that wonderful man, and fervent gratitude for the inestimable blessings secured by the great Reformation associated with his honored name.

He referred to the hymn, founded on the 145th Psalm, just sung, as the battle-cry of the whole reformation. Luther was very fond of music. One familiar picture of him was of being in the bosom of his family with a violin in his hands and a harmonium beside him. Satan is a bitter foe to music. The hymn is expressive of the robust vigor and rugged grandness of the author. In an old church in Leipzig about a year and a half ago was found another picture of the reformer, taken when he was 49 years old, and bearing the following inscription, "Dr. Martin Luther, restorer of liberty to his country," and another between two suns, "The voice of God, the true light." The speaker quoted the reputed prophecy of Luther's advent years previous by John Huss, in the words, "the Lord will send a swan you can neither roast nor boil."

The meaning of the word Huss was a swan, and the escutcheon of Luther's family was a swan. Savonarola also uttered words which might be regarded as prophetic, and in the same year he died Luther was born. He was a typical German. What a life! When will its glory fade! All the world wondered. He awoke the world from the sleep of centuries. It was not as a founder, creator or constructor of a new church he became famous, but as a reformer, removing the rubbish gathered around the one living rock that it might be revealed in all its beautiful solidity, giving fresh life to the church of protestantism, which is the most ancient church in the world, the Roman church of to day being a modern one and dating only from the time of Pius IV. He spoke of the intense Christianity of Martin Luther, his general courtesy and kindness in his family, and his courage. Leaving out Elijah and St. Paul, he knew of no one in history approaching the culmination of heroism more than Luther at the Diet of Worms. He concluded with an earnest appeal for intense protestantism in opposition to all forms of ritualism and superstition, urging that they be given no sympathy or countenance whatever. His speech was frequently interrupted with applause.

Rev. J. F. Avery could not always have endorsed the remarks of the last speaker in their entirety, having been brought up a Ritualist. As a young man he had not looked upon Martin Luther as the best of men and had hated Nonconformity and nonconformity. But there came a time when he passed through a period of self-reformation something similar to that of Luther's, and he had now a feeling of sympathy for him. He thought it was a good and right thing to give such a tribute to his memory, and trusted all might ever uphold the true doctrines of Christianity without shame.

After the hymn was sung commencing "There is a fountain filled with blood," Rev. B. C. Borden moved that this meeting would devoutly recognize the hand of God in the preparation for the glorious Reformation, in the period of its occurrence, in the persons who had to do with it, and in the grand results with which it was crowned.

Mr. Borden referred especially to the state of Europe at the time of the Reformation, and to the movements which under Providence had been

working in preparation for it. He quoted the names of illustrious Christians and martyrs who had lived before, including Savonarola, the principal article in the indictment against whom was Luther's strong point, "the history of justification by faith," and the life of Wicliffe in England with his translation of the Scriptures. He also spoke of another line of influences which were working towards this great event in the invention of printing, seventy years before Luther's birth, and the discovery of the new world by Columbus. The occurrences of these events he saw in the light of providential arrangements.

Rev. Allan Simpson seconded the resolution, speaking of the extent of the celebrations, and how much about Luther was everywhere being heard at present. He said the world had benefited educationally, politically and religiously by the Reformation, and expatiated on how it had so benefited. He contrasted the countries of to-day in which there are civil and religious liberty and a free Bible with those in which religious law is different, and in which especially the land of Luther, Germany, one of the leading countries to-day educationally, and to which students in arts all go instead of Spain, Austria or Russia. From the benefits of the Reformation we are wiser, richer and better in every way.

The hymn was sung commencing—"Let everlasting glory crown Thee, my Saviour and my Lord."

Rev. A. McArthur moved that this meeting desires with increasing firmness and fidelity, to hold fast the cardinal doctrines of the Reformation, especially the supreme authority of the Word of God, and justification by faith in Jesus Christ alone; and to transmit unimpeded to our latest posterity the priceless privileges it has conferred on us at such a cost, seeking to indoctrinate the minds of the rising generation with a due apprehension and appreciation of these and vigilantly guarding against every effort to deprive us of them.

He spoke particularly of the supremacy of God's word, its inspiration, and the idea it contains; the inspiration of the Protestant belief, reaching back to the Garden of Eden; and the doctrine of justification by faith. He closed with an earnest appeal for embracing the truths of the gospel.

Rev. H. H. McPherson seconded this resolution with an address expressive of the strongest Protestant belief. He spoke of the Reformation in its especially religious character, bringing back the church to its original purity and giving civil and religious liberty. He quoted extensively from Roman Catholic papers and books against which he contended as especially false and misleading. He considered a resurrection of the Lutheran spirit needed now to live in the men of the present.

After a thanksgiving prayer by Rev. H. H. Johnson (colored) the meeting closed with the "Hallelujah Chorus," finely sung by the choir, and the Benediction.

PERSONAL.

The Rev. James Dove, President of the Newfoundland Conference, is much better, but will not be able to return to his pulpit for a few weeks.

Mr. Clarence Smith, son of Dr. Gervase Smith, is now one of the Sheriffs of London. He has chosen Rev. Dr. Greaves as his chaplain.

Mr. A. N. Archibald, Secretary of the B. A. Book and Tract Society, is very seriously ill with fever. At present recovery seems doubtful, but we hope for early improvement.

Mr. Andrew Lovitt, of Yarmouth, and formerly an important shipowner, died on the 9th, aged about eighty. He was father of Capt. George Lovitt and Wm. D. Lovitt, Esq., of that town.

Rev. S. R. Ackman, of Baie Verte, returned last week from England in the Alaska for New York. Private business, following his mother's death, called him across the Atlantic. He has been absent less than two months.

The Rev. Dr. Pickard is President of the Westmoreland County Prohibition Alliance. Dr. Pickard's acceptance of office means work. Liquor dealers should remove, or, better, go out of the business.

The Rev. J. S. Inskip, one of the editors of the Christian Standard and a well-known Christian laborer, has had a severe attack of paralysis. It was feared that his work was done, but he is reported as being somewhat better.

The Truro Guardian says that the speaker in their entirety, having been brought up a Ritualist. As a young man he had not looked upon Martin Luther as the best of men and had hated Nonconformity and nonconformity. But there came a time when he passed through a period of self-reformation something similar to that of Luther's, and he had now a feeling of sympathy for him. He thought it was a good and right thing to give such a tribute to his memory, and trusted all might ever uphold the true doctrines of Christianity without shame.

The Editor of the Canada Christian Advocate says: "We notice the death of Rev. Matthew Richey, D. D. announced by the Wesleyan. Matthew Richey is a name well known throughout Ontario. We were charmed by his pulpit eloquence in the days of our youth, and now bear cheerful testimony to the devotedness of his spirit, and his usefulness as a Methodist minister in this country in the days of youth. His memory is fragrant."

Negotiations for union between the Waldensian Church and the Free Church of Italy have taken a hopeful turn. Both these churches are Presbyterian.

LITERARY, &c.

The American Sunday-School Union, Philadelphia, has already issued its fifth series of *Robert Rankes Libraries*, consisting of ten volumes in paper covers, at the low price of \$1.00. These volumes, with the imprint of the Union, may be relied upon as in all respects admirably adapted for the purpose intended.

Messrs. Oliver Ditson & Co's latest Musical Book is *The Singers' Welcome*, a collection of new music for singing classes, by L. O. Emerson. Price 75 cents. Why not have a wide-awake singing school this winter, with "The Singers' Welcome" for text-book? It is, when bought by the dozen, not at all expensive, has 150 good tunes, sacred and secular, and all of the best. The elementary course is good, and has plenty of interesting exercises, and for beauty of music we can trust Mr. L. O. Emerson at all times. J. & F. W. Harris, Halifax.

The articles in the *North American Review* for November are all upon topics of present interest. It is but natural that Dr. Norvin Green, President of the Western Union Company, in writing on "The Government and the Telegraph" should find objection to the transfer of the line to the Government, and present statistics to prove that the service in America is both cheaper and more efficient than in any of the countries of Europe where the governments own the lines. The Rev. David N. Utter brings from oblivion the record of certain alleged atrocious crimes of "John Brown of Ossawatimie." Other papers on science and public service are followed by reviews of "Dr. Hammond's Estimate of Women," by several ladies and gentlemen.

Several new volumes have been recently published by T. Woolmer, Methodist Book-room, London. *Va'eria, The Martyr of the Catacombs*, is an old friend in a new dress, from the pen of Dr. Withrow, of Toronto. It is a pains taking effort to reproduce the social and private life of the early Christians under the Roman Empire. Its publication by our English Book room is a compliment to its able author. *Tina and Beth, or The Night Pilgrims*, by Annie E. Courtney, is a story which young readers will finish, learning lessons of hope and faith as they find at its conclusion that "life's long shadows break in cloudless lore." *Left Take Care of Themselves*, by A. B., is a temperance story about London waifs. It is a pathetic repetition of the old story of the drunkard's children, and of kindly and successful efforts for their benefit.

EXPLANATION NEEDED.

DEAR EDITOR: I see by the last Wesleyan that the average deficiency in the Nova Scotia Conference is \$330.26, while in the N. B. and P. E. I. Conference it is three hundred and sixty-seven dollars. I know the Children's Fund in the N. B. and P. E. I. Conference (40 dollars for each child) nearly swallows up the whole of the grant, but I was not aware that it would make 47 dollars difference in the salaries of the two Conferences. Perhaps some of the officials will be able to explain.

[We presume that an explanation will be found in the mode of division. A note to the Chairman of the District should secure the information here asked for.] Ed.

NEARER HOME.

DEAR SIR.—In your last issue an item appeared regarding a certain Methodist minister who at the performance of a marriage service, "read the ceremony from a new Discipline, bought for the special purpose, and then presented it to the newly wedded pair to be kept by them as a souvenir." May I remark that a similar practice is not unknown in some quarters of Nova Scotia.

Several years ago it came to my knowledge that the rector of the Episcopal church in a certain shire-town was in the habit, under similar circumstances, of presenting a copy of the prayer-book to each couple he married, thus zealously forming, or adding to the links already formed of attachment to that body. My informant was the Methodist minister stationed there, who at once adopted the same course, substituting the hymn-book for the prayer-book. From that time to the present I have all but invariably presented each couple with a hymn-book, in this way scattering a few dozens, and what is better, developing and strengthening ties of attachment to the ministry. It might be objected—"If they are your own people they have hymn-books enough already." Sometimes they have, but sometimes they have not. Yet how often do strangers from a distance, perhaps neither party connected with Methodism or any other church, present themselves for our services! And may we not by this simple and friendly act encourage a respect or develop an esteem for that church the minister of which was thus associated with that well-remembered incident of their common life! Indeed were the fees paid of a higher average than has fallen to my lot, personally, I would like to go further and present many such parties with the Wesleyan for either six or twelve months, and start them right in the matter of home reading. In thus doing we ministers would benefit ourselves, not to speak of the higher bene-

fits likely to accrue to the persons themselves, and the Church at large. As it is, even a dollar fee may not be injured by the return of a cheap hymn-book, and higher sums should have costlier copies. "Scatter the books." Yours Respectfully, COUNTRY PARSON.

OUR FRENCH WORK.

Pastor Louis N. Beaudry, of Montreal, acknowledges, with cordial thankfulness, the following sums in aid of his mission work, received since March 16th, 1883:—

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Mrs L A Wilton, Halifax, N.S. 5 00
Mrs L L Smith, Philadelphia, Quebec 5 00
S B Clendenning, Montreal 4 00
Rev John Webster, Montreal Conf 10 00
Rev John Wilson, s. a. do 10 00
Hubbard Heman, W Fairfax, Vt 1 00
Wellington St. S., London, Ont 5 00
A Friend, London, Ontario 1 00
Mrs Rev M Holtby, Lyndecott, Ont 2 00
Lady Friend, Teapleton, Quebec 2 00
Rev G H New, Montreal Conference 5 00
A B Noble, Shelburne, Ontario 10 00
Miss May Wilkinson, Ottawa 10 00
R H Hamilton, Ottawa 10 00
A B Walker, Waterford, Ontario 5 00
I L McNeil, Carleton Place, Ont 1 00
Damon S Warner, Wilton, Ont 4 00
Mrs S Warner, do do 1 00
Henry Wilson, Selby do 1 00
J S Miller, Centreville do 5 00
Mrs J E Rose, Langworth do 1 80
Master H Clinton Rose do do 25
Master Sydney Rose do do 25
Master Catherine Fraser do do 5 00
J M Smith do do 2 00
Mrs S Collins, Switzererville do 1 00
Chester M. Neville, Newburgh, do 1 00

THE NORTHWEST.

The Rev. Dr. Young writes from Winnipeg, Oct. 24th, to the Mission Rooms:

I am glad to be able to report myself in good health and quite ready for any reasonable amount of work. My visit to the western missions was very satisfactory to myself, at least.

At Medicine Hat, where Bro. Bridgman has been less than three months, I opened a new church, 24x40, and preached to good congregations. He conducted service each Sabbath at the coal mines, eight miles distant, to upwards of eighty miners and clerks, and in the village at "The Hat" he is the only resident missionary.

At Broadview Bro. Joslyn has opened a very large mission. He goes one Sabbath in the month to Crescent City, forty-five miles distant, where he has a class of about fifteen members, and good congregations. Then along the railroad he has appointments about thirty miles, and south and south-west he has several others. He has built a parsonage and a church by aid of a loan of \$500. He has secured good lots, and is doing nobly—all in three months.

At Qu'Appelle Bro. Lawson has two new churches, aided by a loan of \$500, the last to be opened next Sabbath. At Virden a good building for parsonage, with hall for church purposes, is nearly completed. The brethren are doing nobly. But the reduced grants under such circumstances cause me great sadness.

The Rev. W. J. Hewitt writes from Regina, Oct. 30:

We here have got into our parsonage and expect to be much more comfortable than we were last year, as far as the house is concerned. Then our services are all seasons of refreshing of late. Our class-meetings are well attended, and the prayer-meetings are especially good. There is an anxiety manifesting itself among the members, and earnest prayer is being offered for a sweeping revival. This is a new feature in the Northwest. It is amazing what difficulties one has to contend with here. The sparseness of the population, the hurry and bustle of work, the giving time and talents—almost body and soul for wealth makes our work very hard.

There are scores here who in Ontario were active men, that in the North cannot be persuaded to do anything. It is the old story, "Leave their religion when they cross the Mississippi." I praise God most heartily for the influence of the hour and pray that they may increase continually till we have "floods upon the dry ground."

METHODIST NOTES.

At the Alma (Ladies') College of the M. E. Church, St. Thomas, Ont., there are 80 students in residence, and altogether 106 in attendance.

A bell has just been placed in the tower of the Methodist church at Hamilton, Bermuda. It is of steel amalgam, and weighs complete 740 pounds.

Repairs and improvements to the Methodist church at Woodstock, N. B., are going forward rapidly, and the congregation will occupy it again in a few weeks. In the meantime the services are held in the basement.

Rev. S. H. Rice reports to the B. C. Observer that "the trustee boards of the two Methodist churches in Charlottetown will shortly confer with the trustees of our church property, relative to the best method of carrying the Union negotiations into effect."

Rev. C. W. Hamilton wrote from Sheffield on the 5th inst.: "Bro. Currie as agent for the Centennial Memorial Fund executed his mission to this circuit yesterday with great success. The Fund is over \$100 better off for his visit here, and he has left a blessing behind. Everybody is more than pleased—great interest was taken in the three services he held."

The new Methodist church at Qu'Appelle, N. W. T., was opened and dedicated on Sabbath, Oct. 28th. The new church is a frame building, with a seating capacity of 200, and will cost about \$1,200. On the same day a new church was opened at Virden by the Rev. Charles Ladner, Chairman of the Brandon District, who preached two very thoughtful and instructive sermons. This mission was only organized last July. Our members are few and scattered, and most of them have reaped only one harvest as yet in this country. They have done nobly in erecting a building worth over \$1,000.

The Arkansas Methodist says: "The revival spirit is extending to all parts of the State. Hundreds are being converted and added to the Church."

In Fatsan, China, 10,000 persons have lately been treated in the Wesleyan hospital there, and 500 in-patients daily pointed to the Great Physician.

At the Pennington, N. J., Seminary 30 students have already sought and found Christ. The work promises to continue till all of them are brought to Jesus.

At the annual meeting of the Wesleyan Band of Hope Union of the Manchester District, the report stated that the total number of persons in the Union was 271,700, gathered into 2,664 Bands of Hope Societies.

Last Christmas boxes of cake were forwarded to Egypt from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Malta to the Methodists of the regiments and corps known there. Numerous acknowledgments were received from the men who thus learned that they were not forgotten.

The inquiry made at Shin Han, regarding the attempt on the life of Dr. Wenyon, Wesleyan medical missionary in China, has proved most beneficial. At no place are the missionaries so well received. The members there are few. One of them, however, walked forty miles to receive the sacrament. The commander of the fort, who refused to help Dr. Wenyon when he was shot at, is now very gracious, and most anxious for their safety.

The original offer of Hon. W. C. Depauw not having been met by the trustees of Indiana Asbury University, that gentleman has made a second offer. The new terms are that to the \$120,000 now being raised he will add the proportionate sum of \$240,000, and will further bequeath forty-five per cent of his estate to the university—all on condition that the name of the institution shall be changed to Depauw University. The terms have been accepted.

The Rev. Mr. Gibson has been obliged, from want of funds, to suppress two of his meeting-rooms in Paris, but his work will partly be continued by the pastors of the French Methodist Church, and he has just opened a new meeting at the Rue Roquepine chapel. News has arrived from the South that the trustees of Indiana Asbury University best has met with much success in the ports of Havre, Rouen, Trouville, Honfleur, Calais, and Dunkirk, and a number of soldiers, sailors and landmen have been converted. The Rev. J. P. Cook will visit the American General Conference next spring, and will appeal for aid to the French work.

GLEANINGS, &c.

Thirty-five students are registered at the High School in this city.

At Rome, on Sunday, the Dominican Father Barbery was consecrated Bishop of Hamilton, Canada.

Letters patent of incorporation have been issued to the Saskatchewan Coal and Railway Company with a capital of \$500,000.

Thirty-three new buildings have been erected in the town of Lunenburg this year, besides several having been repaired or altered.

The Dominion Parliament will be summoned for the transaction of business on Thursday, the 17th of January.

Mitchell, arrested as the person who attempted to murder Mrs. McCann at Pettoicadic recently, has been fully committed for trial at the County Court.

The Dominion Government has been requested by the United States authorities to furnish further information in relation to the operation of the Postal Savings Bank system in Canada.

Archdeacon Pinkham, retiring Superintendent of Education of Manitoba, has been presented with a gold watch by the Board of Education, a silver service from the citizens, and \$1,000 from the Government.

With the view of maintaining the active militia in a state of efficiency, lieutenant-colonels who attain the age of 60 years, majors the age of 55, captains the age of 60, and lieutenants the age of 45, may, be placed on the retired list.

In Ontario the produce of fall wheat is considerably under the estimate previously made. The spring wheat crop this year is 1,676,545 acres, and the produce 21,329,329 bushels. Last year the produce was 40,921,201 bushels. This year the produce of barley is 18,690,380 bushels, as compared with 24,284,407 bushels last year. The oat crop is large and fine. The total produce was 55,434,796 bushels, as compared with 50,097,997 bushels last year. Rye has been a fair crop. The yield of peas is 10,728,137 bushels, about the same as last year. Corn, buckwheat and beans were so generally destroyed by the frost of September that it is impossible to estimate their produce.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The St. John's Coffee House Co. have opened their first coffee house.

To Newfoundland oil was awarded the Gold Medal at the Fisheries Exhibition.

His Honor the Administrator of the Government, in Council, has been pleased to appoint Rev. George J. Bond, B. A., to be a member of the Methodist Board of Education for St. John's.

At the Court of Enquiry at St. John's into the loss of the steamer *Canima*, the certificate of Captain Farquhar was suspended for twelve months, but the Court did not disturb the chief officer, Mr. Vigua.

It is believed in Newfoundland that the French Government has ordered its men-of-war to enforce, at all hazards, the claims of the French to the exclusive possession of the fisheries which hitherto they have only enjoyed in part. If they should enforce the claim, Newfoundlanders will be permanently prohibited from fishing on more than half the shore of the island, and the loss to the colony will be enormous.

GENERAL.

The N. Y. Spirit of the Times says the logical result of the elections Tuesday is the re-nomination of President Arthur by the Republicans.

It is rumored that the police have discovered proofs that the recent explosion at the underground railway was the work of New York dynamiters.

By a fire on Monday in Shenandoah, Pa., over two hundred and fifty families are homeless. The loss is variously estimated, from three-quarters to a million dollars.

Terrific gales, beginning on Sunday night, generally prevailed during Monday in all sections of the Atlantic coast east of the lakes. The damage to shipping on the lakes was extensive.

Miss Alice Gardner, a distinguished student of Newnham-hall, Cambridge, has been elected out of twenty candidates professor of History in Bedford College, London.

Nine Cherokee Indians have organized themselves into a company for the purpose of establishing a national bank at Vinita, Indian Territory, with a capital of \$50,000.

Italy is fortifying its frontier in Piedmont at a cost of 6,000,000 to 7,000,000 francs. The work will, it is believed, render the Alps impassable to any army, even though led by a Hannibal or Napoleon.

The average salary of a singer in a New York church choir quartette, according to *Harper's Weekly*, is \$600 per annum, which would be a maximum salary in Philadelphia, except in special instances.

In Bellevue Hospital, N. Y., there are six cells on the ground floor in which patients suffering from the effects of strong drink are confined. These are always occupied, and so numerous are the patients that every day a transfer is made to other institutions.

Lord Mayor Fowler in refusing to allow Dr. Stocker, Chaplain of the Court of Germany, to lecture in the Mansion House, stated he could not disregard the feelings of the Jewish community of London, by giving prominence to Dr. Stocker, a man who excited hostility against the Jews.

Sir Patrick Grant, England's new Field Marshal, entered military service as long ago as 1819, and has done distinguished service in India. He has now been elevated to a military grade containing only three other members—the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge and Lord Strathnairn.

Two persons have obtained the exclusive right for ten years to gather the cactus from the government lands of Mexico. It can be put to highly profitable use in the manufacture of paper and textile fabrics. For each \$150,000 paper-mill the grantees erect they are to receive a premium of \$30,000 from the Mexican Government.

Among cases recently docketed in the United States Supreme Court is that of the City of New Orleans vs. Myra Clark Gaines. The record in the case is probably the largest ever submitted to any court. It is said to be one immense volume, which weighs over two hundred pounds and contains 3,200,000 words. It takes two men to open and shut the book.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

A BRIEF LIFE.

It was our sad duty to-day to lay in the grave the mortal remains of Bradford M. P., only son of Rev. W. and Mrs. Brown, of the Lunenburg circuit; a remarkably fine child of three years and five months. A more precocious and promising child of that age I have seldom seen, or ever met. It is not therefore, to be wondered at that his parents cherished high hopes in regard to him, that they found their affections clinging fast around him, and that their disappointment and sorrow are all but overwhelming. But we are glad to say our greatly afflicted brother and sister evidence no disposition to question the wisdom or goodness of God in this painful providence, but are exercising Christian submission to the Divine will. They are also comforted and sustained by the kindness and sympathy of the friends, who gladly minister to them in this time of great sorrow, as well as by the presence of the Holy Ghost, the Comforter. May He continue to be their support and comfort until life's work are ended, and they are permitted to go to him who cannot come to them.

C. LOCKHART.

Malone Bay, Nov. 6, 1883.

A HINT WORTH TAKING.

Before the shadows grow long behind me, let me say that many a pleasant many a weary day I spent at Mount Allison. The remembrance of lovely faces and genial smiles, many forms and sagely wise advice, many a "sound of revelry by night," many boyish tricks and foolish exploits, help to while away a shadowed hour. The other day, while I sat reading "Tom Sawyer," the remembrance of one of those weary days came upon me, and I purpose by your permission to quote to your readers Mark Twain's words on "Original Composition by Young Ladies," in the hope they may meet the eye and heart of the young ladies who shall write the compositions at the old Seminary this year, and be the means of making a revolution. If any word of mine could help to mould the minds of these ladies into a groove of independent characteristic expression, it would be willingly given, but the words of my author are so incisive, so earnest, and withal so in harmony with the thought of to-day, that I refrain from more than saying that I had a sister who was to be an essayist last year, and that I besought her to drop the sermon to redeem the day by being a woman, but whether my entreaties caused her to read in a voice that could be heard, or to drop the sermon, I cannot say. I did not hear her, I have not seen her since. Let me say before quoting that I have long held the opinions here expressed so elegantly by Mr. Clements, and hope they may at least help to an end earnestly longed for.

"Each in her turn stepped forward to the edge of the platform, cleared her throat, held up her manuscript, (tied with dainty ribbon), and proceeded to read with labored attention to 'expression' and punctuation. The theories were the same that had been illuminated upon similar occasions by their mothers before them, their grandmothers, and doubtless all their ancestors in the female line clear to the Crusades. 'Friendship' was one; 'Memories of other Days'; 'Religion in History'; 'Dream Land'; 'The Advantages of Culture'; 'Forms of Political Government Compared and Contrasted'; 'Melancholy'; 'Filial Love'; 'Heart Longings'; &c. &c.

"A prevalent feature in the compositions was a nursed and petted melancholy; another was a wasteful and opulent gush of fine language; another was a tendency to lug in by the ears particularly prized words and phrases, until they were worn entirely out, and a peculiarity that conspicuously marked and marred them, was the inveterate and intolerant sermon that wagged its crippled tail at the end of each and every one of them. No matter what the subject might be, a brain-racking effort was made to squirm it into some aspect or other that the moral and religious mind could contemplate with edification. The glaring insincerity of these sermons was not sufficient to compass banishment of the fashion from the schools, and it is not sufficient to day, it never will be sufficient while the world stands, perhaps. There is no school in all our land where the young ladies do not feel obliged to close their compositions with a sermon, and you will find that the sermon of the most frivolous and least religious girl in the school is always the longest and the most relentlessly pious."

ROMANISM AND DIVORCE.

The Romanists vaunt their immunity from divorce, as if the superior virtue of their adherents were proved by their compulsory observance of the marriage bond. Doubtless some degree of the prevalence of divorce, latterly, in this country, is due to the enlarged freedom of women, and to the agitation of the woman's rights movement. For such

degree of it, here and elsewhere, as is due to unbelief, or infidelity to religious belief, the Papists are more largely responsible than the Protestants; for infidelity is rankest and strongest in the countries longest ruled by papal superstition; witness France, papal Germany, Italy. Russia, where a church similarly superstitious and corrupt has borne sway for a thousand years, is second only to France in wide-spread and extreme infidelity. For one fundamental cause of divorce—infidelity to the conjugal bond—and for one prevailing social vice—licentiousness—papal countries bear the inevitable palm. The statistics of illegitimacy may be taken to represent one-half of the crimes included under the term licentiousness; and bearing this in mind the figures of the papal countries are appalling. In the intensely, universally papal country of Bavaria, the proportion of illegitimate births is 22.64 per cent.—the highest of any country in Christendom. In the intensely, universally papal capital, Vienna, it is nearly 55 per cent.—the highest per centage given in Christendom. More than every second citizen the traveler meets in the gay promenade of that city, is bastard. France, ruled for a thousand years by Romanism, and now divided between it and infidelity, returns 16 per cent. of illegitimate births; and Paris, with her 33 per cent., ranks next to Vienna in this social corruption. Papal Austria shows 13.5 per cent.; Italy 10.57 in her large towns, and 5.65 in her rural regions. Rome, the headquarters of the Papacy, returns 17 per cent. of bastards. More than 30,000 children yearly are abandoned by their parents in that priest-ridden, Pope-cursed country, Italy. The method of procuring similar statistics in Spain is untrustworthy; but of the most Catholic city of Madrid, about 15 per cent, is illegitimate. These, as compared with the statistics of illegitimacy in other countries, are fearfully high. In the rank next to these, we find Sweden, notably Stockholm, and Denmark; but we must remember that the State Churches in those countries are quite as dead as the Papal Church. They have no restraining power over the populace.

In this boast of the Romanists, no cognizance is taken of the rights of the various Reformed churches to expel those members who may have become divorced for insufficient or unjustifiable reasons. The truth of the whole matter may be stated thus: In Protestant countries divorce is permitted for conjugal infidelity. In papal countries conjugal infidelity and all other licentiousness are permitted with impunity. No notice is taken of this class of crimes. The adulteress and the libertine, not less than the brigand, are born in the church, numbered to their lives' end among the faithful, buy indulgences and receive absolution on equal terms with the most virtuous of their communion. Is it no time that this audacious boast of Romish social purity was silenced?—Zion's Herald.

THE TELEGRAPH IN CHINA.—Owing to the peculiarity of the Chinese characters, each of which represents a word, not a letter, as in our western tongues, the Danish Telegraph Company (the Great Northern) working the new Chinese lines have adopted the following device: There are from 5,000 to 6,000 characters or words in ordinary Chinese language, and the company have provided a wooden block of type for each of these. On one end of this block the character is cut or stamped out, and on the other end is a number representing the character. The clerk receives a message in numbers and takes the block of each number transmitted and stamps with the opposite end the proper Chinese character on the message form. Thus a Chinese message sent in figures is translated in Chinese characters again and forwarded to its destination. The sending clerk, of course, requires to know the numerical equivalent of the characters or have them found for him.

SINCE THEN.—Since Luther declared his freedom from the bondage of Rome and took his stand boldly on New Testament doctrines there has been a wonderful change in the religious condition of the world. The figures are significant. When the reformation began eighty of the one hundred millions who owed allegiance to Christian rulers were under papal rule. The remainder was chiefly under the patriarch of the Greek Church. In 1700 the Roman Catholic people had increased to 90,000,000, the Eastern Christians to 33,000,000 while those off Protestant faith numbered 32,000,000, or about one-fifth of the nominal Christian people. In 1890 there were under Protestant government 749,000,000; under papal, 134,000,000; under government, owning the Greek Church, 60,000,000. In 1876 the record stands as follows: Under governments professedly Roman Catholic, 181,000,000; Greek Church 96,000,000; and under rule professedly Protestant, 408,900,000.

TAKE CARE OF PARSONAGES.

Every pastoral charge ought to have a parsonage, and every parsonage ought to be furnished. A comfortable and well-furnished parsonage adds largely to the desirability of an appointment, and no appointment is complete until it is supplied with such a home for the pastor. A good charge is often deprived of the services of a good preacher and an efficient pastor by not having a home for the preacher and his family; and a second-class appointment often gets a first-class man by having a comfortable home for him. The watchword of every Conference should be, "a parsonage for every pastoral charge." And a word to those who occupy these parsonages we think is needed. Many of the preachers and their families do all they can to keep and leave the parsonage in good condition. They plant fruit and shade trees where they are needed, and then take care of those that have been planted by their predecessors. They see that the yard and garden fencing is kept in good condition. They also take as good, if not better, care of the furniture than they would do of their own. But there are some, we are sorry to say, who do not give much attention to the parsonage or to the furniture. This has had much to do with the indifference manifested by many of our members in reference to our parsonages. To see the house neglected and the furniture abused by the pastor and his family, not only discourages the members, but irritates them no little. Now, such conduct on the part of ministers and their families results in great inconvenience, and often neglect, on the part of the membership toward their successors.

A little time, and a very small outlay of means, would leave every parsonage in good condition.—Raigh Ad.

SEVERE, BUT JUST.—A druggist in Paris, having been convicted of adulterating sulphate of quinine, has been sentenced to a year's imprisonment at hard labor. In addition he is to pay a fine of a thousand francs, his name and crime are to be published in twelve political and twelve professional papers, and should he ever reopen his store, to the door thereof is to be affixed a sign: "Sentenced for adulterating sulphate of quinine." This is severe punishment; far more severe, probably, than would be regarded as just in this country. But the crime was an infamous one. It was stealing from the sick man his only hope of recovery. And the incident is one which druggists, law-makers, and the public here would do well to take to heart. Complaints are not unfrequently heard in this city of various drugs being poor in quality. Physicians are forced to direct their prescriptions to be filled at certain stores, that they may be sure of the strength of the ingredients. Some druggists seem to be running a race to see who can sell quinine pills at the lowest price per dozen, and they advertise each competing reduction with great flourish of trumpets. But while the price goes down, does the quality remain at proof? Or would universal and rigid examination of drugs of all kinds show that many dealers deserve to share the Frenchman's fate?—N. Y. Paper.

JAPANESE PATENT MEDICINES.—The Japanese have patent medicines analyzed at a public laboratory before they will allow them to be sold. A patent medicine man must submit samples for analysis, with the name of all the ingredients and the directions for use, and with explanations of the supposed effects of the remedy. During last year nearly 12,000 applications were made to sell over 148,000 patent and secret medicines, and only 58,638 of the remedies were allowed to be sold. The majority of this number were useless, but their sale was not prohibited as they were innocuous.

STEEL PENS.—Truly, "the pen is mightier than the sword." The number of steel pens manufactured weekly in this country and Europe is not less than 22,000,000. Of this number about two-thirds come from Birmingham, England. There are a few manufacturing in France, one in Germany and one in Austria. Besides these there are none other in Europe. The leading places in this country where pens are made are Philadelphia, Meriden, Ct., and Camden, N. J., and there are, at least, a thousand different styles. Steel pens have been in use a little more than half a century.—U. S. Paper.

A monument to Sir Francis Drake was on Sept. 7th unveiled at Tavistock, Devon, near to which place he was born. The monument was presented by the Duke of Bedford, who owns all Tavistock and a great deal around, the estate having formerly been abbey land given to his ancestor. The Drake family has long been extinct in the male line, but is represented in the female line, which holds the hereditary estates and heirlooms.

BREVITIES.

Young men should pattern after pianos—be square, upright, grand. You can't get anything out of nature's workshop at half-price.—Dr. Eaton. When a man has not got a good reason for doing a thing, he has one good reason for leaving it alone. Somebody once said that Gladstone was the only man in Parliament who could talk in italics.—Justin McCarthy. Longfellow said, "In the world a man must be either anvil or hammer." He was wrong, however. Lots of men are nothing but bells.

Oscar Wilde says that "dust is the bloom of time." Let Oscar come to our office, then, and we will show him a conservatory full of bloom. Not that which goes into the mouth desecrates a man, but that which comes out of it, such as sarcasms, bitter jests, mocks and taunts, and ill-natured observations.—Charles Lamb. A firm faith is the best divinity; a good life is the best philosophy; a clear conscience is the best law; honesty is the best policy; and temperance the best physic.

A book, however valuable, purchased for the admiration of others, and consigned to its shelf, is the most lifeless piece of furniture to which we can give a place.—Rev. S. P. Herron. Too many men, conscious of ability, look for success in the world without corresponding effort, and when they fail, as all such men do fail, they condemn the world for its lack of appreciation.

The boys and girls of to-day are no worse than the boys and girls of a century back of us; but the demands of society take from woman the time and strength which the old time mothers used in home-making. When a lady living in Chelsea sent to London for a doctor, she apologized for asking him to come such a distance. "Don't speak of it," answered the M.D. "I happen to have another patient in the neighborhood, and can thus kill two birds with one stone."

Pastor: "The resources of our church are all dried up." Deacon: "Yes, we've got a good dryer in the pulpit." We implore all our friends, who are pastors to be very guarded in their remarks when the deacons are about.—Religious Herald.

The Richmond State claimed that a colored man never took out a patent. The Critic says this is not a fact, and it gives a list of seven colored men who took out patents between the years 1875 and 1883. The inventions were a screw propeller, a ladder scaffold support, a printing press and other useful articles.

Herbert Spencer says Americans are so driven by business cares that they never stop to leisurely examine anything. Guess he never saw five or six hundred busy Americans standing around for two hours watching three men raising an office safe to a fourth-story window.—Philadelphia News.

Always pretend to great gentility yourself, and ridicule people who came up from a modest beginning. If you can't say that your ancestors belonged to some notable family, make a strong point of being acquainted with a great many distinguished people yourself, and constantly refer to the time when you were in college.

A successful strike occurred when the Richmond night express train struck a Negro walking on the track, who got a glimpse of the locomotive's headlights just before being landed in the woods a dozen or two yards from the road line. His first conscious words were: "Burr de deah sake, boss, who frow dat lantern at me?"

From various little scraps of intelligence, scattered through the ancient writings, it appears certain, as it was reasonable to conclude, that the notes now used by birds, and the voices of animals, are the same as uttered by their earliest progenitors. With civilized man everything is progressive; with animals, where there is no mind, all is stationary.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, weddings among persons of the lower classes were always published, and the bride and bridegroom were accompanied to the church by their friends and neighbors, a band of music playing before them, and a troop of young maidens following, crowned with flowers, and bearing large bride-cakes, to distribute among the crowd.

A bishop ordained a rather brilliant young gentleman as deacon, and the very next day sent for the excellent clergyman who had recommended him. "What may your lordship want with me?" "I wish, sir, to speak about that young man." "What young man, your lordship?" "The young man, sir, whom I ordained. I want you to keep him in check. I had great difficulty in keeping him from examining me."

A little boy in one of the city German schools, while engaged in the delightful exercise of defining words a few days since, made a mistake which was not all a mistake. He said: "A demagogue is a vessel that holds beer, wine, gin, whiskey, or any other kind of intoxicating liquor." He was probably thinking of "demijohn," but he hit the truth just the same.

The duties of the genuine dred-in-the-wool, simon-pure editor, are multifarious and multitudinous. His work is not only "to do a little writing" as is sometimes supposed, but to cull, to clean, to select, to discriminate, to decide, to force, to observe, to grasp, to explain, to elucidate, to imitate, to boil down, "to be, to do, and to suffer," and several hundred other verbs, with a large number of districts yet to heat from.

At some of the Western fairs a "great secret" is sold in sealed envelopes at ten cents apiece. Here is the secret: "Never buy an article before examining it. If you had known this before, you would not have paid ten cents for a worthless envelope when you could have had a dozen good ones for the same price."

Ayer's Sarsaparilla works directly and promptly, to purify and enrich the blood, improve the appetite, strengthen the nerves, and braces up the system. It is in the truest sense an alterative medicine. Every invalid should give it a trial.

Cremation is now compulsory in Portugal, though as a concession to popular prejudice the dead may be temporarily committed to the earth, but at the end of five years all bodies so buried will be exhumed and reduced to ashes.

If people troubled with colds, would take Ayer's Pectoral before going to church or places of entertainment, they would avoid coughing, greatly to the comfort of both speakers and hearers. Public speakers and singers find that the Pectoral wonderfully increases the power and flexibility of the voice.

Tom Edison quaintly remarks: "It requires just as much ingenuity to make money out of an invention as to make the invention."

No family in the broad land should undertake to keep house without Johnson's Anodyne Liniment, many have tried to but failed. It is worth more to a family than a whole medicine chest.

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