

Weekly Messenger

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THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

The subscribers to the *Weekly Messenger* now number six thousand two hundred and twenty-three and the list continues to increase each week. The renewals are coming in remarkably well, showing that such a paper as this meets a decided want in the community. We ask every subscriber whose subscription ended with the year to renew before another week, as in a few days we will begin cutting off the names of those who have not renewed, a very disagreeable duty, but one absolutely necessary if the price of the paper is to be kept as low as it is at present. The large, beautiful type of the *Weekly Messenger*, its concise and complete summary of news, its valuable general reading and other features make it one of the most attractive papers of the times. The price is fifty cents a year, or five subscriptions sent in the one envelope for two dollars, or forty cents each. All communications should be addressed, JOHN DOUGALL & SONS, Montreal, Que.

BUSINESS NOTES.

The workmen in the manufacture of iron and steel, and the mining of iron and coal, in the Middle States, anticipate a great many strikes this year, to meet or prevent reductions of wages almost certain to be attempted. A suspension of nail factories on account of the low price of nails is announced from Chicago to shortly take place, which will deprive twenty thousand men of employment. The stove moulders and mounters in Gurney's and Copp's foundries, Hamilton, Ontario, are on strike against a threatened reduction. Eight hundred men are on strike at the coal mines near Des Moines, Iowa, on account of an attempt to reduce wages. Ten thousand looms and two hundred thousand spindles are estimated as being idle in Philadelphia, causing the idleness of five to six thousand operatives and shortened time and lowered wages to ten times as many. A proprietor says the mills will remain closed until either the price of labor decreases or that of products advances. A movement is on foot among the hundred and seventy thousand bituminous coal miners of the United States to organize under one head for mutual protection. At the same time the Miners' Union of the Belleville district, Missouri, has been dissolved and its members are free to make each the best terms he can with the employers. Mr. Howard, the Secretary of the Spinners' Association, has issued a circular from Fall River, in which the events of the year are reviewed. He says capital has arisen as a great power in the country, and clothing itself with an iron mail, has with a hard hand crushed labor down to starvation wages. After a reference to the dormant spinning industry in Lawrence, Massachusetts, and Cohoes, New York, the circular prophesies as follows:—"We are steering rapidly toward a crisis in human events, and if employers are wise the first, the most important point they should consider is the advisability of paying such wages as will enable their employees to live in comfort and decency and accumulate something for an emergency." So long, however, as employers find no difficulty in filling their mills with people who cannot get any better employment than spinning and weaving, it

is useless for the leaders of the operatives to try to either coerce or frighten employers into raising wages. The woollen mills in the neighborhood of Newburg, New York, are much affected by the dulness of business. Two mills employing two-hundred hands are closed, and of three still running one has reduced wages and the others are expected to do likewise. The owners attribute the depression to merchants holding off from buying in expectation of Congress altering the tariff. The failure of Messrs. Cotton, Connall & Co., of Glasgow, Scotland, has embarrassed the Canadian branch of the firm in Montreal. Messrs Morgan & Wood, of Newtown, England, have failed for three hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Charles A. Schad, postmaster at Wolcottsville, New York, has assigned with liabilities of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and only fifty thousand of assets. It is the gravest failure in Niagara county for ten years, and was caused by doing too heavy a business on borrowed money. Messrs. William Miller & Sons, turkey red dyers, Glasgow, Scotland, have failed with debts of six hundred thousand dollars. Palatial new law courts were lately opened by the Queen in London with great pomp. The failure is just announced of the builders, Messrs. Bull & Son, with liabilities of nearly a million dollars, which would indicate that the contract was a disastrous one for them. Mr. R. Nagle, lumberman, has sold a timber limit of a hundred and fifty miles on South River, Lake Nipissing, Ontario, to Mr. Alexander Fraser, of Westmeath, for over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The most consummate bank failure, perhaps, ever heard of is that of the municipal bank of Sapojok, Russia. There are only three thousand persons in the municipality, but the bank's liabilities are supposed to be millions of roubles, while the assets are twenty-nine roubles and the bank furniture. An increase of one-half in the rates for fire insurance will go into effect in the city of Quebec on the fifteenth instant, on account of the recent heavy losses there. Six firms with eight hundred men are cutting ice on the Hudson River, at Castleton, New York, where about a million dollars is invested in the business and a harvest of two hundred and forty thousand tons of ice is expected to be secured. General trade throughout North America for last week is reported by a mercantile agency to have been fair, though the dulness incident to the close of the year was felt. Dry goods show marked inactivity, while the iron business is looking up. The record of failures in the United States is, however, not a pleasant one, there having been two hundred and fifty-seven during the week, fifteen more than the preceding week, one hundred and five more than the corresponding week of last year, and the largest number in any single week in two years.

CRIME.

Sarah Murphy, an unmarried woman long resident at Hillsburg, Ontario, was lately found dead in her house under circumstances that indicated murder. Augustus Berringer died at Syracuse, New York, within a week after beginning to take pink root and mandrake prescribed by a quack doctor to kill tape worm. Mrs. Stillwell of Mount Vernon, Ohio, mentioned last week as having confessed on her deathbed to three murders, in which her mother had part, has since confessed to having murdered her mother after she was injured in a railway accident at Ottumawa, Indiana. She also says she is guilty of other crimes that she will not divulge. A father and son named Chabot and two other men named Orr and Blanchet have been declared guilty by a coroner's jury of a recent murder in Arthabaska, Quebec. Five thousand dollars were stolen from a package in transit by express from Indianapolis to Muncie, Indiana, by an unknown thief. John, Annie and Louisa Kodisch are held at Watouan, Wisconsin for the murder of their mother in December. Jeff Walker, a mail carrier, was arrested at Petersburg, Virginia, for robbing the mails, and confessed to having carried on the dishonest work for the past three years. J. L. Smith, a Mormon, while being taken to penitentiary to serve a life sentence for the murder of his little son, leaped from the train and fell in such a way that one of his legs was taken off by the wheels, and his recovery was doubtful. A bank in Lucan, Ontario, has been entered by a burglar, who wrecked the safe but failed to open the burglar-proof steel chest inside, which contained some money. A colored man named George Seymour was arrested in Philadelphia while trying to pawn a diamond breastpin valued at three thousand dollars, and the culprit was recognized as a waiter at a hotel at Long Branch, where a lady was robbed of thirty thousand dollars' worth of diamonds. Russell Lester, in Indian Territory, set out to kill a man against whom he had a grudge, but was himself killed by his intended victim, who discharged a double-barreled gun into him. Polk, the State Treasurer of Tennessee, absconded, a defaulter to the amount of about half a million dollars. He is believed to have taken the money to speculate in stocks, and lost heavily, but is supposed to have carried much away with him. The defaulter was arrested at San Antonio, Texas, but released on a writ of *habeas corpus*, it is thought aided by the stolen money, and the last heard of him was that he was over the line into Mexico. He was a nephew of the late President of the United States, and Mrs. Polk, his venerable aunt, together with other relatives, feel deeply his disgrace. Daniel Taylor and Aaron Rhoades have been arrested in Reading, Pennsylvania, upon a charge of the abominable crime of selling the meat of three hogs that had been bitten by mad dogs and died of rabies. A triple homicide is reported from Panola, Texas, where Sheriff Ross, George McDonald and George Caricken quarrelled and fired at the same moment. They all fell, Ross dead and the others mortally wounded. Maro Kay, a clerk in the County Office of Alameda, California, is a defaulter for fifteen thousand dollars, and has been arrested in San Francisco. A valise stolen from a member of an opera company in Philadelphia contained fifty thousand dollars' worth of jewels belonging to Madame Albini, one of the performers, and it is said the jewels were smuggled past the customs officials of New York by the owner of the valise without paying duty. Frederick Mann the murderer of the father,

mother, a son and a daughter of the Cooke family at Little Rideau, Ontario, was caught before he had gone very far and is now in the county gaol of Prescott at L'Original. Though but a mere lad, his conduct since placed in custody, as well as his crime, stamps him as a hardened villain such as the annals of crime have seldom produced.

FIRES.

The knitting factory of Messrs. Barber & Co., Merriton, Ontario, which employed forty hands and was running day and night, was burned on the third instant, causing a loss of about eighteen thousand dollars. A fire at the Montreal Rolling Mills on the third instant destroyed the main building and much valuable plant, the loss being about fifty thousand and insurance thirty thousand dollars. On the following day a fire broke out in a rolling mill at Cohoes, New York, and destroyed it and other factories, entailing a loss of from a half to three quarters of a million dollars. The two burnt rolling mills mentioned above were both closed for repairs when overtaken by fire. A flour mill and adjacent buildings, with several thousand feet of lumber, the property of Messrs. Wheeler Bros., at Stouffville, Ontario, were burned on the third. The butcher house and barn of Mr. Louis Duhamel, near Ottawa, were burned on the third instant, together with over a hundred carcasses of beef and mutton, and large quantities of hay and grain, farming and butcher implements, the loss being eight thousand and insurance five thousand dollars. A fire in Brooklyn, New York, gutted the wholesale china store of Messrs. Ovington Bros., damaged the New Jerusalem Church, the Clinton House and many other establishments, and burned out the Vandom photograph gallery. The loss is about a quarter of a million dollars, but it is said to be a fortunate circumstance that the hundred and fifty clerks employed in the china store had not begun work when the fire broke out, else the loss of life might have been dreadful. Several manufacturing establishments at South Bend, Indiana, were burned on the fourth of the month, the loss being eighty thousand dollars. The tannery of the Wisconsin Hide and Leather Company in Milwaukee was damaged on the seventh to the extent of thirty thousand dollars, and there are suspicious hints as to the origin of the fire. The firm had been in trouble, and all its books and papers are burned.

THE MARQUIS OF LORNE and Princess Louise have been met at Los Angeles, California, by Lieutenant Tate and eight men, of the United States army, who will escort the representatives of royalty through the country. The party were to have left Santa Barbara, California, for San Pedro on the sixth of this month, and at the latter place would start by special train for the East. The Princess has changed her mind about going to Bermuda, and in answer to a letter of enquiry from the Marquis as to the desirability of her remaining the rest of the winter in Charleston, South Carolina, General Sherman has written that, in his opinion, there was no safer or more pleasant place in the United States for the Princess than Charleston.

LOOK NOT ON THE WINE WHEN IT IS RED!

Beware! oh! beware!
Young stranger, take care,
When it sparkles before thee so brilliant and fair;
And away turn thine eye
To yon pure azure sky,
And think of His word who is Sovereign there.
Thought at first it delight thee,
Like a serpent 'twould bite thee,
And sting like an adder! Beware! oh! beware!

A BAND OF THREE.

BY L. T. MEADE,
Author of "Mother Henning's Chickens,"
"Water Gipsies," Etc.

CHAPTER XVI.—(Continued.)

Yes, he had secured the children's money. He felt the little bag lying heavy against his breast as he returned to where Skeggs was impatiently waiting for him.
"The girl's away," said Skeggs. "I see her cross the road. We hain't a minute to lose. Let's come up at once and get the little 'un."

"We can't," replied Harper. "I ha' jest bin h'up, and the door's locked as firm as possible. We can't get into the room no-how."
"Let's break open the lock," said Skeggs, with an oath.
"You don't want the nippers down on us, man," said Harper. "Why, if you and me went up in broad daylight, and tried to force the lock, why the child 'ud scream and the neighbor's 'ud run up. The whole game 'ud be at an end of we did seech a foolish trick as that."

Skeggs was forced to see the truth of these words. So, rumping his rough head and considerably grumbling, he sat down.
"I 's'pose as yer right," he said; "but the fact is, I must know when I am to leave the kid. There's a new piece to come on the week after Easter. We want to advertise it for Easter Monday, and we want the young 'un in two different 'acts. We must have her at once to train. So when can I have her, Harper? I have the five pounds all tucked away safe in my pocket yere, to give yer the werry moment as you hands me over the kid."

"I dare say," replied Harper. "But I may as well be plain at once, and say as I won't do the job fur no dirty five pounds. I know what you'll say, as I promised as I would yesterday; but since that I ha' bin turning the matter h'over, and I jest won't, and that's flat. I could get you the child this minute if I wished; but it won't be fur that paltry sum. 'Tis a nasty trick, and I don't like it; and I won't do it if I'm not well paid. You say plain as can be as you'll make a fortin out of the little kid. Now, wot I'd like to know is this—why should I help you, Skeggs, to make a fortin?"

"'Twas you first told me of the kid. 'Twas you first put the thought in my head," said Skeggs.
"I know I did. But why shouldn't I have the liberty to change my mind? The little gals played me a dirty mean trick on Sunday, and I wor rare and angered against 'em; but they're well-meaning children, and I don't want to keep up malice forever. I don't see why the little kid as must be a whole fund of money to 'em should be taken away."

"And yet you said as you'd give her to me of you had a big enough price fur her."
"I keeps to wot I said. A dirty little sum like you first spoke on ain't worth troubling the gals about. But a big and proper supply is a different matter."

Angel to this place. Her sisters would find her; the police would force him to give up the stolen child. No; Harper must be his friend in the matter. With Harper against him he could do nothing. Well, should he give it up? He could get many another little child whose parents, for a far less sum than five pounds, would allow it to come to him to take its place on the tight-rope, and to perform its child's part in the plays.

Skeggs almost felt inclined to give up Angel, and to look for some other child. He almost resolved; and then again the greatness of the chance he was throwing away came over him. He saw through Angel a glimpse of making both fortune and renown, and he really could not give it up. Had he ever in all his life seen such a pretty, graceful child as little Angel? Had he ever beheld such dancing, such time, such grace? No; he must secure this little child, cost him what it would. At present, even in the very low place where his company acted, they were looked down upon. He had not one actor of any talent on his boards; but, with a little treasure like Angel, how soon would his house fill; how envious would the managers who despised and looked down on him now become. He had a vision of getting some one to write a little play in which Angel should have the principal part, and already he saw in imagination the applause with which the lovely baby creature would be received.

"You're rare and 'ard on a feller," he said at last, raising his head and looking at Harper. "You know as I wants the little kid; but I can get plenty more, plenty more. Wot's yer terms? Ef they're much more nor five pound I can't have nothink to say to 'em."

"My terms are simple enough," said Harper. "and I make no change in 'em. You shall have the child fur what I say—not a penny less—ten pounds down in ready money, and half the profits ever after."

Skeggs uttered a scream of mingled disappointment and fury. Harper smiled.
"You can take a week to think on it," he said. "There's no manner of hurry; and I don't want to have the child kidnapped."

In the end Skeggs did go away, vowing aloud that nothing would induce him to be cheated like that. But Harper knew well that he would yield, and yield quickly. He felt that the ten pounds, and half the profits afterward, were as safe as though he had them already in his possession; and now that Skeggs had gone, he could reckon up the money in the children's canvas bag.

CHAPTER XVII.—THE STOLEN TREASURE.
When Peachy came in, half an hour afterward, she found Angel awake, and much better. Peachy's own stolen pleasure had evicted her spirits, and she and Angel were enjoying a regular game of play when Dulcie returned. Dulcie's day had been fatiguing, and not very successful. Dulcie, during her whole day's weary pilgrimage, had not secured sixpence, and she came in very dispirited in consequence. "Ain't bought wot we want fur to-morrow," she says; "I ain't the money. No one seemed to care to hear me play alone; 'tis us three as makes the money, more particularly little Angel."

"Angel will dance to get money for 'ou, Dulcie," said the little child.
"Yer, darlin'; and now that you're better I don't care fur nothink else. Only I did feel low when every 'un turned agen me to-day."

"But we can go to France to-morrow, can't we?" asked Peachy.
"O! yes, Peach. I'm beginning to see as we three little children really do need our father werry, werry much; and ef we can get to him it 'ud be the best thing as can happen to us. Yes, we'll go to-morrow; only I'm feared I'll have to do wot I don't want ter do, and that is, to take a little of the money out of our bag, to buy the few things as we'll want."

"Well, let's," said Peachy; "there's heaps and heaps in the bag. We really are quite rich little children. You take the bag out sid you, Dulcie, and buy wot you'll want; there'll be plenty left to find our father with."

"I'll go out and buy 'em now," said Dulcie, "fur I think we'd better start quite early in the morning. I'd better lose no more time now, fur I must see old Harper, as well as buy the little bits o' duds; and perhaps Mrs. Martin down stairs 'ud keep our bedding and little table, and the round pot, t'ill we comes back wif father."

"Yes, there's deal to be done," said Peachy. "I'll fetch the bag out. It do seem a pity to touch it, now it's growing so beautiful and heavy. But, there, it can't be helped."

Peachy removed the board, and went down on her knees to take out the hidden treasure. How very far that bag had got in! She lay flat down on her hands and face, and stretched in her short arms as far as she could go.

"Here's a rum state of things," she exclaimed. "I can't feel it nowhere. You're taller nor me, Dulcie; you lie down and stretch in yer hand. It must ha' got a great push in, fur I can't feel a sign of it."

"But it couldn't have got fur in," said Dulcie, "fur I laid it in jest near the edge last night."

She took her sister's place, and felt eagerly all round for the bag, but with the same fruitless result. A candle was brought, and as well as they could they peered into the hole. But neither sight nor feel could bring them back the stolen bag.

"It must be there," said Peachy, vehemently hopeful, in spite of a slight, dull ache in her heart, which was gradually coming up into her head. "I'll get the long broom and poke fur it, Dulcie. It's ha' jest got slipped very far bac. It never played us such a shabby trick afore."

The long broom was brought, which soon reached the limit of the division under this portion of the floor. But, alas! it came against no hard substance. Nothing impeded its progress round the dirty hole, and it came out empty as it went in.

"Some one ha' come and stole our Lost Father Fund," said Dulcie. She sat up on the floor, the long broom in her hand, and Peachy and Angel gazing at her. Angel's little face expressed nothing but wonder, but Peachy was white as a sheet, and her large black eyes were full of tears.

"The bag must be in the hole," she said at last. "No one knew of it; no one 'ud be wicked enough to steal it away."

"It ain't in the hole," said Dulcie, "it's quite gone; it wor here last night. Did you go away from this 'ere room to-day, Peachy?"

"Only fur an hour—only fur jest one hour to say good-bye to poor Letitia Jones," answered Peachy; "and I locked the door abint me, I did, indeed I did; and Angel wor yere. No one could come in through a locked door, and with'out Angel hearing of 'em. You didn't hear nobody a-coming 't' in, did you, Angel?"

"A man come, a big man, a kind, good man like the pictur', and he tuk me in his arms, and said I wor a lamb of his," said Angel.

"But darlin', darlin', that wor a dream; say as it wor a dream."

"Yes, Peachy; fur my h'eyes wor shut up tight. But I did hear rats under the bed, and I don't think as that wor h'any dream. You wor a long, long time away, Peachy, and I wor werry glad when you come back."

Peachy covered her face with her hands and burst into loud sobs, rocking herself to and fro. Angel crept up to try and comfort her, but Dulcimer, who was the universal comforter and refuge, did not stir. She sat perfectly motionless, gazing into the empty hole. Her hands were crossed in her lap, her face was blank. Peachy sobbed until she was sick; Dulcie neither heeded nor heard. Suddenly her face seemed to wake up and she rose to her feet. "I'm a-going down-stairs; don't neither of you follow me," she said.

"Well, my little maid," he said, trying to speak jauntily and to be civil, "it ain't often as you favors old Harper wid a witt. You're not an o'er-eevil little lass, nor o'er-obliging when you ha' wissiters of yer h'own; but there, I ain't the man to bear malice. I wor a bit angered on Sunday; but it ha' passed, it ha' passed, we'll say nothing more about it, and I don't mean to rize the rent on you three, for another little while."

It is to be doubted whether Dulcie heard a word of this speech. She waited until old Harper had quite finished, then holding out her hand, she said in a quiet voice, "Will you please to give me back h'our money, Mr. Harper, the money as you were reckoning h'up when I knocked at the door."

The directness and absolute fearlessness of these words nearly took old Harper's breath away. He gazed for a moment in almost terror at the child, then raised his hand as if to strike her. "Your baggage!" he said, "wot do you mean?"

"That's h'our little canvas bag a-lying at yer feet," continued Dulcie. "I know h'our little bag quite well, for mother made it her own self—it wor the last piece of work as mother ever did do. Will you please give it back to me, Mr. Harper? You tuk it away to-day when Peachy wor out, and little Angel as 'seq. The door wor locked, but you found a key as opened it. Yes, I see a key same as h'our key hanging up on that bunch on the wall. Please, Mr. Harper, give me back h'our money."

Old Harper stooped down to pick up the fallen bag. "This is my h'own, my h'own," he gasped. "Yer rare and impudent. I've a good mind ter kick yer h'out. How dare you say as I stole yer money? This is my h'own. I wor a-counting of it h'up. I'm a werry, werry poor man. Perhaps you'd like to steal it! I think as ye're a werry wicked gal. I'll lock the bag h'up."

He rose from his seat and flung the canvas bag into the cupboard, and putting the key into his pocket, sat down again. Yes, he must brave it out; but he was horribly frightened. He believed either that Dulcie was a witch, or that she had really witnessed the whole theft. He must, however, brave it out. So he said, in as menacing a tone as his shaking old voice could muster, "Ef yer don't want me to strike yer, you'd better get out of this."

"No, I don't think as you'll strike me," said Dulcie; "you ha' tuk our money, but I don't think even such a werry wicked man 'ud strike a poor orphan gal like me. I ain't a bit afeared, and I want afore I go to say a thing or two 'bout that 'ere little bag. Mr. Harper, I don't think it 'ud make you werry happy, and it means a deal to us little children. I can't force yer to give it back 'gainst yer will, and I can't go to the perlice, fur they would not believe the words of only poor little street children 'gainst yours; but, Mr. Harper, ef you'd give it back ter me I think as it 'ud be better fur yer by-and-by."

"Get away. Get away, or I'll strike yer," repeated Old Harper.

Dulcie did not stir a step; a faint, very faint smile just came round her lips. She continued—

"The reason I think as it 'ud be better for yer by-and-by, is something as mother once telled me. Mother and father (it wor afore I wor born), they wor passing a tall ladder put up against a house; there wor a man on the ladder doing some 'ut to the roof, and while father and mother were a-looking on, the man lost his hold on the ladder and fell to the ground. He died in half an hour afterward, and mother, she sat on the ground and held his head on her lap. He didn't know nothink at first, but jest afore the end come, he opened h'up his eyes and looked at mother and said—oh! so werry bitter, mother never forgot the words as long as ever she lived—'I stole a lot o' money, a lot o' money from them as wor poorer nor myself. I can't give it back now and the devil is coming fur me, the devil is coming fur me.' He never spoke another word, and when mother told us that 'ere story, she allers said to keep honest, for she said as not h'all the riches in h'all the world 'ud be worth the sound in that man's voice when he seed the devil coming fur him."

Old Harper sprang to his feet. He caught Dulcie by the shoulder and almost pushed her to the door. "I wonder I ha' patience wid yer," he said, "a-coming and a-talking to me like that. You get away this werry minute. I hain't yer bag. I hain't never stolen in my life. There! get you gone. Go, I say!"

CASUALTY.

A little daughter of Mr. Thomas Bland, London, Ontario, got a cent stuck in her throat a few days ago and the doctors could not remove it and she was reported to be suffering very much. A boy of eleven named Overholt, at Dunville, Ontario, jumped on a sleigh loaded with ice, but was pitched off in turning a corner, and a heavy piece of ice falling upon him crushed him to death. Captain Michael Wilson, of Nova Scotia, shot lately with a bullet from a gun "supposed not to be loaded," snapped at him in fun by a young friend, has died from the wound. A flat boat on Tuckaseegee River, North Carolina, was lately sunk and eighteen convicts, hired by railway contractors from the State Prison, were drowned. About thirty convicts were being ferried as usual in the morning across the narrow but deep stream, when a false alarm that the boat was sinking caused them to rush all to one side of the boat, sinking it. The survivors were saved by swimming ashore, and more might have been rescued had they not clung to each other in knots of twos and threes, and thus been carried down the rapids. The opening of the skating season on the bay at Toronto, Ontario, on Saturday last, was signalized by six accidents, one man being drowned, four others who broke through being rescued with difficulty and a child of seven driven away by the wind and froze to death. The steamship "City of Brussels," of the Inman line, was run into on Saturday morning last while anchored in a heavy fog in the estuary of the Mersey River, England, by a new steamship named the "Kirby Hall" on her trial trip from Glasgow to Liverpool. A huge gap was made in the hull of the "City of Brussels," and she sank in about twenty minutes, taking down ten of her crew and two Italian stowage passengers. By all accounts the accident was caused by incompetence and reckless navigation on board the "Kirby Hall," for bells and whistles were sounded on board the other vessel for forty minutes and the ordinary lookout was increased. Three children of Nathan Danzig, age, in McDuffie county, Georgia, were left home alone by their parents and after locking the door went to bed, and the house took fire and all perished in the flames. Henry Smith, aged thirteen, died in agony of hydrophobia in New York, having been bitten by a small terrier. The record of marine casualties kept in New York shows that two hundred and eighty-four steamships and large river steamboats met with disaster last year, and only a few have been floated and repaired again. The aggregate lost tonnage was three hundred and twenty thousand and the number of lives lost two thousand. A hotel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, called the New Hall House took fire at three o'clock on Wednesday morning, and the flames spread so rapidly as to cut off the escape of the inmates. The appalling result is that fifty to sixty persons, many being women, lost their lives, the majority being killed by jumping from the upper windows.

THE EXAMPLE OF MONTREAL, in holding a grand week's festival of Canadian winter sports, as relaxation and amusement for its own people and an attraction to visitors, was quickly followed by the sister city of Quebec, where a similar enterprise is in active preparation. The falls of Montmorency in the neighborhood of the city, which constitute one of the most striking natural beauties on the continent, are to be illuminated at night with the electric light. An ice palace, wherein refreshments are proposed to be served, is to be cut out of the natural cave formed by the frozen spray of the cataract.

THE WEEK.

THE TERRITORY of Utah last year produced over ten million dollars' worth of minerals.

ABOUT SEVENTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS have been given by citizens of Lyons, France, to the Garfield Memorial Hospital fund.

A KEEN BATTLE is expected in the current session of the Wisconsin Legislature upon the question of an amendment to the State constitution prohibiting the making or selling of intoxicating drink.

SMALL-POX is epidemic in Baltimore, Maryland, and in Salem, Virginia, and surrounding towns have established quarantine against the infected places, and in the latter business is stopped and the schools are closed.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION has been given by the Supreme Court of the United States, in the case of bonds issued in 1868 by the city of Parkersburg, West Virginia, for the purpose of lending to manufacturers. The bonds are declared void on the ground that the city exceeded its lawful powers in issuing bonds for such a purpose.

SOMEBODY IN ONTARIO sent through the mails to different persons post cards containing foul language and signed with false names. The post-office inspector for the division in which the offence was committed managed to fasten the guilt upon the offender. The latter, hearing that an officer was in search of him, escaped arrest by leaving the country.

PHILANTHROPY is apparently abounding in Philadelphia. Mr. Joseph M. Bennett some time ago gave two acres of land with a house to a Methodist Episcopal orphanage, and has now given to the same institution his farm of twenty-five acres beside the former gift. The land adjoins Fairmount Park, one of the finest and largest pleasure grounds in the world, and is valued at fifty thousand dollars.

A YOUNG MAN named Kavanagh, highly educated and who served in some recent British campaigns in the East, whose father was a famous British Civil Service officer in the East Indian mutiny of 1857, and whose friends had lately established him upon a coffee plantation in the island of Ceylon, is at present living in a destitute and degraded state through the mastery of strong drink.

THE RETIREMENT of Old Ocean from about three hundred feet of the land at Atlantic City, New Jersey, during the past twenty-seven years, has given rise to a lawsuit. The Camden & Atlantic Land Company brought action to eject the holder of the new strip of beach, Mr. Edward Lippincott, but the case was decided in the latter's favor. Had the Company won the suit, it was understood it had others of a similar kind to prosecute.

A REPORT prepared by the secretary of the Prisons and Asylums Ass. Association of Louisiana shows the majority of those institutions in that State to be kept in a most barbarous and inhuman manner, many of them being unfit for beings much less human beings. Some prisons are rattle log cabins, and one is described as having no door, the prisoners being hoisted in and out through a hole in the roof. Many goals are overcrowded and most are filthy, while the insane in some cases fare as badly as criminals.

A STRANGE DISEASE has appeared and become epidemic at Binghamton, New York taking down over two thousand persons, but happily not producing any deaths. The malady attacked travellers and visitors to the city almost as soon as they arrived. Bad water is thought by some to have caused the sickness.

CHICAGO CAPITALISTS have their eyes upon about two and a half million acres of land in the Indian Territory, which they want to lease from the Government for grazing purposes. The coveted ground belongs to the Cherokee and Cheyenne Indians, but the capitalists represent that these are willing to sell their claims.

THE STATEMENT made some weeks ago, to the effect that a Union of all the Methodist churches in Canada was all but accomplished, was a little premature. The Union Committee cordially agreed upon a basis of union, but it was subject to the acceptance of the various bodies interested, and the London (Ontario) District Meeting has rejected it as unsuitable, while expressing a desire for a scheme of union more acceptable in certain indicated points.

GENERAL LOGAN, the United States Minister to Chili, is coming in for sharp criticism for having, as it is alleged, over-ridden his commission. It appears he wrote a letter to Montero, the provisional governor of Peru, advising that the latter country should accept Chili's terms for closing the crucial gap that has now lasted about two years between the two countries. The Minister's interference is said to have deferred peace arrangements rather than forwarded them.

THERE ARE ABOUT forty-seven thousand post-offices in the United States, and last year's increase was only a few less than two thousand. Returns from eighty-nine letter-carrier post-offices show an increase of ten percent in the business of the past six months. If the business of the current year shows as satisfactory progress throughout, it is believed the postal receipts will exceed the estimates by over a million dollars. Bills have been introduced in the House of Representatives creating a postal telegraph for the United States.

MOST, THE SOCIALIST, who came from Europe to spread his doctrines of murder and plunder upon American soil, has, it is gratifying to say, not been able to do much more than the useful service of showing us just what a hideous thing is Socialism. Meeting with no enthusiasm in the North beyond the applause of the vilest herds of New York and Chicago, he has gone South, where it is to be hoped he will get a reception that will convince him that the ideal of liberty in America is not government by the mob, nor general prosperity dreamed of as a result of raising lazy loafers to a life of luxury through the despoilment of either earned or inherited wealth.

THE PROHIBITION of the Chinese has been defined by the Attorney-General of the United States to apply only to laborers and others intending to stay in the country. In other words, Chinese who come to spend a holiday or their money in the country may enter freely, but those who come to sell their labor have the door slammed in their faces. The people of China will henceforth teach their children concerning America what American children have always been taught regarding China—that it shuts itself out from the rest of the world by both material and moral walls, as if afraid to allow the learning, inventions, handicraft, manners, habits and religions of other nations to be brought into comparison and competition with its own possessions in those respects.

THE MESSAGE OF GENERAL BUTLER, the new Governor of Massachusetts, in opening the Legislature of that State, was a strong document and has attracted much attention and called forth much comment. He recommends a thorough inspection of prisons, asylums and poor-houses, and sweeping reforms in the civil service. At least one-third of the salaried State official he would dispense with, and reduce the pay of some of the remainder, and all vacancies occurring thereafter would be filled by competitive examination. Referring to the fact that the total amount of taxation for the year was between thirty and thirty-one millions, the Governor said a large amount of property owned by wealthy citizens unjustly escaped taxation. He professed to be bidding for no personal advantage in his recommendations of reform, as he would not again be a candidate for Governor. It is well understood, however, that the General is looked upon in influential quarters of the Democratic party as their next candidate for the presidency of the United States.

THE REIGNING KING of the Hawaiian Islands, Kalakaua, succeeded to the throne some years ago, but the ceremony of crowning him has not yet been performed. The coronation is, however, shortly to take place, and great preparations have for some time been making for the event. The king is very extravagant in his ideas of the pomp and circumstance befitting his position, and as his subjects have to pay for his expensive and semi-barbaric tastes there is reported to be a feeling of strong disapproval among them with regard to the heavy outlay for the coronation ceremony and celebration. It is expected that three United States war vessels will be in the port of Honolulu, the capital, on the occasion, and also that all the naval powers will have war vessels there, and although the ostensible object of so strong a naval muster is to pay proper deference to royalty, yet the real object is said to be the protection of foreign interests—which are by no means light on the Islands—in the event of a revolution that it is feared may break out owing to popular opposition to the monarch's costly display.

THE PEOPLE of the town of Niagara Falls, Ontario, have met together and agreed to condemn and resist the chartering of a company forming to make a park at the great cataract after which the town is called. They desire to have the park owned and managed by either the Dominion or Ontario Government. It is hard to see, however, why the Legislature that charters the company cannot make regulations to govern the management of the enterprise so that the rights of the public would be protected in all respects. The fruits of Government management under party rule are liable to be contract jobbery and the production of a park as much a paradise for political hacks as a pleasure ground for visitors to the Falls. If business men cannot be found who will engage to carry out the enterprise acceptably to the property owners of the locality as well as to the public, then it would seem to belong more appropriately to the town itself to carry out the very desirable project than to either Federal or Provincial Government. Were the Dominion of Canada and the State of New York to buy land on both sides of the river and present it to a company of United States and Canadian capitalists as a subsidy to create an international park, to which there would be free admittance and which would return sufficient revenues to the proprietors from amusements and refreshments furnished on the grounds, the best solution possible of the whole question would be obtained.

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IMPORTERS IN NEW YORK who were sued for seventy-five thousand dollars, for undervaluation of aniline dyes at the customs, managed to make a settlement with the District Attorney for ten thousand dollars. The solicitor of the Treasury, however, de- clares to such will be less compromising, and recommends a law forbidding such settle- ments before trial, as Government loses millions yearly by the practice.

THE BOARD OF EXPERTS of the American Agricultural Department, who investigated the diseases of cattle, have made a startling report. They find that entire herds of blooded and graded cattle in the Western and Eastern States have been swept away by Texan fever, brought among them by a single bullock from the Southern States. The disease is said by the experts to be only propagated in summer and early autumn, and hardly ever occurs after a heavy frost.

A PANIC occurred in a Roman Catholic church in New Haven, Connecticut, on Sat- urday, caused by some of the altar adorns taking fire from a candle. Accord- ing to report the audience of fifteen hun- dred people in their hurry to get out of the building wedged themselves in and increased their danger a thousand-fold, but the priest kept cool, put out the fire and restored calm to his flock. On the Sunday following, the priest, Father Fitzpatrick, denounced a local newspaper for having, as he alleged, exag- gerated the account of the occurrence, and advised the congregation not to have any dealings whatever with the offending sheet. It is said this action of the priest caused much excitement in the congregation, and it will not be surprising if the clergyman will have to pay substantial damages for using his position to destroy private property that had become obnoxious to him.

THE LEGISLATURE of New York State met last week, and was addressed by the Governor in a lengthy message. The finan- cial and numerous other matters under State jurisdiction were dealt with, and a recommendation was briefly made that the Legislature consider the subject of civil ser- vice reform and make a law to regulate ap- pointments to office and removals therefrom. Including above five and a half millions of a balance from the previous year, the re- cepts of the State Treasury for last year were nearly seventeen and three-quarter millions, and the expenditure amounted to nearly fourteen millions, leaving a balance not far short of four millions in funds. The increase in canal tolls collected was twenty- three and a half thousand over the previous year. Since the opening of the session the Judiciary Committee of the Senate has passed a resolution to amend the law so that no person can be confined in an insane asylum without the privilege of a trial by jury.

A MINER'S WATCH.

A watchman in one of the Comstock mines, having no watch, borrowed one for a night, and on returning it the next day told his friend that he was all right now, as he had a timekeeper of his own. He then unrolled a strip of paper four inches wide, from a stick, and exhibited it as his clock. He had marked on the paper, as they rose above the horizon, all the stars and con- stellations within a narrow belt. Opposite each star was the time of its making its appearance. The watchman says his watch is a fine timekeeper. He has recently im- proved it somewhat. The slip of paper now runs on two small rollers that are placed in a small box, which has a sliding lid of glass. As the night wears away and the stars pass over, he now turns the crank of his watch and looks at the time marked by the side of each.

MARRIED WOMEN IN THE ENGLISH MILLS.

Married women seldom think of forsaking the mill while their family is increasing, un- less, indeed, the number of little children—who must not be left altogether without some one to take care of them—should be so large as to make it as cheap to stay at home as to pay a substitute, and their only hope of release is from some of the elder children being able to supply their mother's place. I could name more than one case where the aggregate yearly earnings of the family are nearer three hundred pounds than two hundred pounds. Still, the mother trudges off to the mill daily along with her husband and her grown-up sons and daughters. The other day, in my pastoral rounds, I called on a woman who had lost her daughter from dyspepsia—a very common ailment among the families of the mill hands—and in the course of conversation it came out that her age was forty-eight (of which forty had been spent in the mill), and that the death of the girl had disappointed a long-cherished hope of release from her life-long drudgery, which was now indefinitely postponed until at least a little girl of ten had grown old enough to take her place. The mill is the unfailing resort for employment, and is preferred by the female section of the com- munity to domestic service, on account of the greater freedom and better pay, for a smart young weaver or spinner is worth an expert enough to earn eighteen or twenty-one shillings per week, besides having her evenings and Sundays all to herself. Talk of money-hunters in the better classes of society, the "lads" with the sturdy frame and the left hand to earn big wages, like the boy with the cake, will have many friends anxious to be placed on even a more familiar footing!—*Good Words.*

A RAT SHUTS OFF THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

A peculiar incident occurred on Saturday night last at the store of Willoughby, Hill & Co. The firm use a large number of electric lights in their building. At 11 o'clock, when the store was crowded with people, the light was suddenly turned off, and all were left in utter darkness. As rapidly as possible the gas jets were lighted and everybody looked surprised, none more so than the members of the firm. The en- gine was running as rapidly as usual, and the dynamos were working elegantly when an investigation was made, still no electric light was visible above. Under the dynamo there stood a rat, with one leg raised up as if about to take another step. The rat was dead and rooted to the spot. He had leaped on one of the copper conductors under the bush, and in stepping on the other closed the current so that it passed through his body, killing him instantly, the rat remain- ing nailed to the spot, while the entire cur- rent from a forty-light Brush machine passed through him and prevented it from ascending above. The machinery was stopped, the rat taken off, and then everything was all right again, for when the machinery was again started the lights burned as well as usual.—*Chicago Tribune.*

A CURE FOR PERJURY.

The increase of perjury in English court suggests to *The Spectator* a story of the way a Danish magistrate once suppressed per- jury under his jurisdiction: "One day an English friend seated beside him on the bench noticed that every witness jumped immediately after uttering a palpable lie. "He asked the reason, and the magistrate, after a caution, revealed his secret: "My orderly stands behind the witness, and whenever I put my left hand to my ear, that indicates that the evidence is false, and he runs a pin into him." The sting of con- science in this material form proved effec- tive, and the magistrate, who died honored throughout Denmark, in three years turned Albatra into one of the most orderly and law-abiding of communities. He could al- ways get to the truth.

A WRITER on the health of London re- commends that trees be thickly planted be- tween that city and the swamps of Essex and Kent. The idea is not merely to re- claim these marshes, but to make the trees a barrier against the winds which now drive malarious air into the city. The trees may be set out without danger, provided the work is not done at night.

THE PASSING AND COMING YEAR.

Never does the present time sink so much out of sight as at the point where the old year and the new seem to touch each other. The past, with its memories sweet and sad, the future, with its hopes and fears and hid- den mysteries, are enough to fill every mind and absorb every feeling. Of course the young are chiefly engrossed with what is in store for them in the future, and the aged love better to dwell in by-gone scenes, and to live over past experiences, but to the large majority of people both these tactics have at this time an attraction that they do not commonly exert.

It is well that this should be so. In a simply material point of view one day does not differ from another, and the mathemat- ical divisions of the calendar cannot invest either the last or the first day of the year with any intrinsic sacredness. But just as the mountaineer needs to pause at times in his ascent, not only for rest, but to look backward upon the expanded views which his past efforts have opened up to him, and forward with fresh hope to the regions be- yond, which await his approach, so do we all need occasional pauses in our life-long climb, where we can do the same; and certainly no time can be more fitting for this purpose than when we reach the milestone which tells us that one year is passing away and another entering into view. We have not too much, but too little poetry and sentiment in our busy everyday life, and we may safely accept the few breaks that occur from time to time as welcome seasons for exercising dormant faculties.

A mere reverie, however, upon the past and a curious wonder as to the future, will not avail us much. There are ways of re- viewing a past year that are simply enervat- ing and destructive to future welfare. To brood upon its misfortunes, to bewail its errors, to despair of ever retrieving its losses, to indulge in loud lamentations, or secret repinings over what can never be altered, is a folly which can only produce evil. Of course there are sorrows which may pale the cheek, and sad memories which may dim the eye; there are sins to be re- pented of and mistakes to be regretted; but their only mission to us, now they are past, is for the better guidance of our future. As far as they bring to us lessons of improve- ment we may welcome their recollection; but, beyond this, they should be laid sadly, perhaps even reverently, away. On the contrary, all that the past year has brought to us of pure happiness, of rich experience, of growing power, of tender affection, should be made prominent. Such memories will not only gladden our hearts and re- fresh our energies, but, when cherished in a spirit of thankfulness, will form germs of perpetually increasing good in the future. The coming year will be happier and better for every joyful memory and every added power we can carry it to.

And how shall we look upon the year which is just upon us? Not, as we have said, with mere curiosity as to the events it shall bring to us, but rather with earnest thankfulness as to what we are to bring into it. It is doubtless a natural desire to look into the future to see what is to befall us there. Few, if any, would be able to resist the temptation to do so, were it possible. Yet there is a prophetic power that we do possess, to some degree, and might have in larger measure, were it cultivated. We crave the knowledge of what is to come to us, and that we cannot by any magic discover, but we think little of what is to come from us, and yet that is the most important, and his- torical results a fairly good judgment can foretell. In our business, for example, we long to know whether we shall gain or lose; whether fortunate chances shall favor us, or unlooked-for disasters overwhelm us. The artist, perhaps, longs to know if his picture will be honored; the author, if his latest volume will be in demand; the clerk, if his salary will be raised; the physician, if his practice will increase. They long in vain, however. No prophetic voice answers these questions. But if, instead of this, they re- flect on the earnestness, fidelity and honest labor they are going to bestow upon their work—if the artist is chiefly interested in the character of his forthcoming picture, and the author in the value of his message to the world, and the physician in the fresh knowledge he hopes to gain and the increas- ing skill he hopes to exercise—then each one may fairly expect success in the best sense, in proportion to the measure of these quali- ties that he puts into his work.

So in our domestic and social life. We cannot predict what special events shall come to gladden or to grieve us, but we may safely prophesy that if we cultivate home affections, we shall reap home happiness, and if we are sympathetic and friendly, we shall enjoy the sweets of friendship. In our national affairs, the wisest statesman cannot predict the particular events that will check the coming year; but he may pro- phesy with accuracy that all the intelli- gence, fidelity, and ability that is brought to bear upon affairs of government from the weightiest decisions of Congress down to the smallest primary meeting, will issue forth in the form of national prosperity, while everything which sains the honor or degrades the moral character of the citi- zens will as surely contribute to national disgrace.

As we look backward, then, at the year just leaving us, and forward to that which is approaching, let us avoid both idle lamenta- tions of the past and idle wonder as to the future; let the thoughts of the one give us the guiding wisdom of experience, and of the other, the courage, hope and energy to put into the New Year those forces and qualities which shall render it a better, happier and more valuable one than any of its pre- decessors.—*Philadelphia Public Ledger, December 30th, 1882.*

COOKING BEEFSTEAK.

A member of my own family has brought the cooking of this article of food to what we consider perfection. The first require- ment is not so much a tender and juicy steak, though this is always to be devoutly desired, but a glowing bed of coals, a wire gridiron—a stout one with good-sized wires; a double one, so that you can turn the steak without touching it. The steak should not be pounded, only in extreme cases—when it is cut too thick and is "stringy." Attempt nothing else when cooking the steak; have everything else ready for the table; the potatoes and vegetables all in their respec- tive dishes in the warming-closet or oven, with the door left open a little way. From ten minutes onward is needed to cook the steak. The time must depend on the size, and you can easily tell by the color of the gravy which runs from the steak when gently pressed with a knife, as to its condi- tion. If the master of the house likes it "rare done," when there is a suspicion of brown gravy with the red, it will be safe to infer that it is done enough for him; if, as is generally the case, the next stage is the favorite one, remove the steak from the gridiron the instant the gravy is wholly of a light brown. Remove it to a hot platter, pepper and salt it to suit your taste, put on small lumps of butter, and then for two brief moments cover it with a hot plate, two mo- ments being sufficient to carry it to the table. One absolutely essential factor in the pre- paration of a good beefsteak is that it must be served at once. The steak should not be permitted to stand and steam whi's other work is being accomplished.—*Exchange.*

BE INDUSTRIOUS, daughter. Thus the best women have ever found the best of husbands at the post of duty. Rebecca went to the well to water the cattle, and caught Isaac's matrimonial agent. Rachel went out with sheep and found Jacob and a kiss waiting for her. Ruth wrought in the wheat field and married rich Boaz. Abigail hustled round and baked two hundred loaves of bread, and loaded up a whole com- missary train, which she personally led out to David, and got a second husband within a week after her first one was petrifed; and if you persistently buckle down to the wash- tub you may feel assured that no man will marry you for your money.—*Selected.*

IN ENGLAND very rich, heirless men are apt to leave "a lot to wife," absolutely. Thus Mr. Asheton Smith, the famous hunter, left two hundred thousand dollars a year to Mrs. Smith. She, in turn, left half to his nephew and half to her nephew. Mr. Meynel-Ingram, also a mighty hunter, left two grand seats with deer parks and two hundred thousand dollars a year absolutely to his widow, then twenty-six.

AN OLD MAN who had been badly hurt in a railway collision, being advised to sue the company for damages, said: "Well, no, not for damages, I've had enough of them, but I'll sue them for repairs."

QUITE TOO INNOCENT.

What is that boy who is standing with his back to the steps thinking about? He looks altogether too innocent for anything mischievous. Perhaps he is a budding Newton endeavoring to discover the answers to puzzling questions that have defied philosophers since the world began. Perhaps he is a young philanthropist studying how he can make the lot of his school fellows happier. Perhaps he is thinking over his last Sunday-school lesson, or wondering how he can help his mother in her daily work. Perhaps he is frozen solid to the stairway, he stands so stiff and so still, or he may be a carved figure, or perhaps he has been sent on an errand in a hurry and is thinking how long he can take to come back, as it is said boys do sometimes. Perhaps he is ransacking over his lesson in his mind so as to have it perfect when he goes to school, or perhaps he is playing triant.

But I think it is none of these. I think I see something like a snow-ball behind his back and an expression about his face as if that snow-ball would be thrown at the little boy who just now feels half safe on the less dangerous side of his sister—for it is quite evident that the little mischief with the snowball is not so unmanly as to throw a snowball at a girl. I think this is the explanation of it all and that the little girl and her brother understand all about it, too. But when they get past I am pretty sure that he will join the other boy who has just appeared from behind the post and that they will throw a couple of soft balls that will miss their mark and all will jog along together to school.

SAVING THE PRINCE.

The following extract is from an address attempting to make children understand the meaning of such expressions as "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!"—

In a dreadfully cold winter, many years ago, an army was flying from Moscow, a city in Russia. With this army there was a German Prince and a few German soldiers. The land was covered with snow. They tramped through bitterly cold days, with little food, rested through more bitterly cold nights without beds, often without even a roof for shelter. One by one the marching soldiers had fallen down by the way, and perished of cold and hunger. At length only a mere handful of them remained alive, the prince and a few common soldiers, and these were all nearly spent. The bitter day was ended, and the night winds had begun to blow, when they came up to the storm-rained remains of a hovel, once built to shelter cattle. But in the wild, snow-covered waste they did not despair; it is a deed which is in itself good, very good and which is done in the quietest, nicest possible way. When we see such deeds we cannot help admiring them, as we admire the motion of a swan or the form of a bluebell. As long as men do deeds as those soldiers did, there will arise toward a something by which we may rise toward an understanding of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ."—*W. Haugh.*

NELLIE TO AMY.

....Last Sunday it was so stormy that none of the boarders went off to the little church. We had, instead, a service in the house. A Presbyterian minister preached. In the afternoon papa got all the children

cold with these—perhaps he would live with their warmth. Then they threw themselves down to sleep. The night passed, and the prince awoke. "Where am I?" was his first thought. "Am I at home, in bed?" He was so warm, and he turned over and raised himself up to look about. He was not at home. All around was snow, and all was silent save the wind, which whistled through the planks of the broken shed. Where were his men? He stood up and looked, when lo! there they lay, huddled together to keep warm, not yet awake. He spoke, but they answered not. He advanced and touched them—they were dead! Without their cloaks, too! Where were their cloaks? A glance toward where he had lain, and all was plain. The prince burst into tears. His men were dead; they had died to save him. Those poor fellows had done easily, quietly, and naturally a

together in the parlor, and had a kind of a Sunday-school. We did not take the regular lesson. Among other things papa described Bible scenes, and made us guess them. Harry did the best of all. He reads the Bible a good deal, I know, though he can't bear to have people know that he ever does right things. I am going to send you some of the scenes to guess, as well as I can remember them. Of course some of them you will find very easily. Here they are:

A small circle of men and women are sitting in a room. In front of them is a man who is tying his feet together with a belt. Looking a few minutes later, we see his hands are tied also.

On the top of a mountain is a man looking out toward the sea. A little cloud is in the sky. Lower down is a roughly-dressed man

We see a great crowd of people. A number of oxen are standing near, and garlands are in the hands of some of the crowd. One man is standing in the midst, looking as if he were adorning the others near him, whose clothes are torn and who seem to be speaking with great excitement.

A short distance from the house is a company of young women, who are going out to meet a powerful-looking warrior. They are dancing to the sound of instruments. The soldier is tearing his clothes, and looks in great distress at a young girl in their midst. —*Christian Intelligencer.*

STRIVE TO BE THE BEST.

Seek after that place in life where you can be most useful, where your peculiar talents, if you have any, will find their most fruitful exercise. It is not certain that one of the professions is to be your calling because you have had what is called an education. You are not educated. You have only learned how to learn. Your education will go on day by day, as you find by experience how very little you know, and how much more there is to learn than you ever supposed.

Any pursuit is honorable that has usefulness as its main purpose, and you will dignify or disgrace the pursuit according to the measure of your ability to do good or evil. But the gist of what I want to tell you, my boy is this: If you decide to go into business or to be a lawyer, doctor, engineer, editor, or teacher, go in to be the best man in that business, or to be as good and as great a man as there is in it. The highest and best is no higher and better than you ought to be. God has given you no faculty which may not be wrought into active and efficient service in the life work now before you.

The great difference in men is the result of more or less energy. Given virtue and sense, your success or failure will come from energy or laziness. "The world owes me a living," says the lazy man. But, pray, what did you, lazy man, ever do for the world? It owes you nothing, and if you get anything you must work for it, and work hard too. There are always idle men in the marketplace, and if you do not work there are twenty men waiting for your place, and you can starve at your leisure.

Now go with faith in God and yourself. Place no dependence on patron, or parent, or influential friend, but keep steadily in mind that the best help you can get is in your own head and heart. There is great truth

and sound sense in the old adage of God helping those who help themselves. All the friends in the world cannot make a man of you. You can be a man without a friend to help you.—*Frederic, in N. Y. Observer.*

A RECEIPTED BILL.

O fling not this receipt away. Given by one, who trusted thee. Mistakes will happen every day. However honest folks may be. And sad it is, sure, twice to pay—So, cast not this receipt away.

Ah, yes; if, at some future day, When wethis bill have all forgot, They send it in again for pay. And say that we have paid it not, How sweet to know on such a day We've never cast receipts away.



HIDING HIS TIME.

sitting on the ground, with his head bowed very low.

We see a city surrounded by horses and chariots and a great company of men. Two men stand at a little distance. One, of much humbler appearance than the other, has a very strange look on his face—as if he were not looking at the city, but at something in the air.

A night scene. A man is knocking at the door of a house. If we should look through one of the windows we should see a company of men and women praying; that is, they look as if they had been having a religious service. And now, they are listening to a young girl who is standing by the door talking. Her face is full of joy. The faces of the rest are full of surprise.

WILLIE'S CARRIER-PIGEON.

Willie's father was a sea-captain, and sailed all over the world. When he came home from a long voyage one fall, among other things he brought Willie a carrier-pigeon. This is a bird that looks like the dove about our streets, only it has been taught to carry letters from place to place.

Willie was very fond of his pigeon, and loved it more than his dog or kitten. Often when he went to see his aunt, who lived a few miles away, he took the pigeon with him. Then he would send it back home with a letter for his mother.

Willie would tell his aunt what to write. Then he would tie the letter around the bird's neck, and away it would fly toward home.

One day the pigeon got lost in a storm.

Willie had sent his bird home with a letter, not seeing the great black clouds that were filling the sky. When his aunt came in from a neighbor's, she said, "Have you let the pigeon go, Willie!"

Willie told her it had just gone.

"I am afraid you have done wrong," said his aunt. "It sprinkles, and there will be a gale."

"Willie looked out and saw how dark it was. "I wish I could call him back," he said. "Oh, I'm so sorry!" But the bird was far away.

It flew over a large wood where there was a big boy hunting. The boy fired at the pigeon, but it flew on unhurt.

Then the wind and rain struck the bird, and drove it from its course. The poor little thing tried to keep on, but it was no use. It had to seek shelter among the limbs of a large tree.

The next day it cleared away, and Willie went home. The first words he said to his mother were, "Did my pigeon get home all safe?"

Then he saw by his mother's look that it had not come.

"Oh, dear, dear!" he said, "what made me send it? Perhaps it has been blown out to sea." For the sea was not far away.

All that day Willie would not be comforted. His eyes were red with crying for his pet.

Before night, as he was standing in the door, looking up into the sky, he saw a bird flying toward him.

Was it his?
"Yes, it's mine, it's mine!" he cried. "O mother, my birdie's coming back!"

Nearer and nearer it came, till at last, weary from its journey, it nestled, panting, in Willie's arms.

Back from the wind and rain!
Birdie, lost, is found again!

And Willie never let his pigeon go out into another storm.—*Our Little Ones.*

THE BLOODTHIRSTY hate the upright: but the just seek his soul.—*Prov. xxix, 10.*



INSTANT IN SEASON.

At one of the Friday night boys' meetings in the Tabernacle a lad of about sixteen years, an orphan boy, was the first to lead in prayer. His testimony, shortly afterwards, was noticed by all for its earnestness and words of encouragement to those just starting in Christian life, and seemed to come from one who was advanced in the way although it was but a year since he began. At the "after-meeting" he was observed to be busily engaged in leading the young inquirers to the Saviour, and in the last one to whom he spoke he showed an unusual interest. After the rest were gone we hastened to speak to one who seemed likely to make an excellent worker in the meetings, and with a heart full of interest he made plans for the next week's work. Sunday evening two boys came to one of the workers, and the elder said:

"Here's a boy that's found Jesus."

"I am glad to hear that; and where was it that you found him?"

"Right here, sir, in the room," said the little fellow, earnestly; and then, in a hushed voice, he added, "and the boy that talked and prayed with me, and led me to Jesus, was killed Saturday morning."

Inquiries were made, and it was learned that the lad was coming to his work Saturday morning as usual, and becoming confused in some way, stepped in front of an approaching railway train and was instantly crushed to death.

Monday morning, as we stood by the side of that coffin, and looked upon the bruised and mangled form of that young disciple, we gathered therefrom a lesson of instant service. By the side of the dead, with bowed



head, we prayed God that we might be faithful ever to the living, and withal came the thought, "It is well! His last night's work was for Christ, and it was well done. 'Go thou and do likewise.'"—*Little Christian.*

A PRAYER.

THE COMMAND.

"Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks."—1 Thess. v. 17, 18.

THE PROMISE.

"If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it."—*John xiv, 14.*

THE THREATENING.

"Pour out thy fury upon the families that call not on thy name."—*Jer. x, 25.*

Lord, teach me to pray. Send thy Holy Spirit to take away my heart of stone, and to give me a new heart; that I may feel myself a sinner, and my need of Christ to be my Saviour. Wash away my sins in his precious blood; clothe me in the spotless robe of his righteousness; and, O Lord, sanctify me, by thy blessed Spirit, that I may be enabled to serve thee spiritually on earth, and be fitted for thy presence in glory. O make all sin hateful to me. Deliver me from the temptations of Satan, and an ensnaring world, and teach me to watch and pray against them. As my blessed Saviour left me an example, that I should follow his steps, may I oftentimes ask myself during the day, if thinking, how he would have thought;—if speaking, what he would have said;—or when acting, what he would have done. O teach me to love prayer, and to love to read and obey thy holy word. Bless all my friends with every needful blessing, especially with the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. I thank thee for the blessings of health, and food, and clothing; but, above all, I desire to bless thee for the gift of a Saviour, whose precious blood cleanseth from all sin, and who ever liveth to make intercession for us. I ask every blessing in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who has taught us to pray,—Our Father which art in heaven, &c. &c.—*The Religious Tract Society.*

PRAY, AND HANG ON.

A venturesome six-year-old boy ran into the forest after the team, and rode home in triumph on the load.

When his exploit was related, his mother asked if he was not frightened when the team was coming down a very steep hill.

"Yes, a little," said he, "but I asked the Lord to help me, and hung on like a beaver!"

The boy's philosophy was good. Some pray but do not hang on; some hang on but do not pray. The safe way and right way is to join prayer and labor, faith and works, zeal and patience, and so give all diligence to make our calling and election sure.

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COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Jan. 10th, 1883.

Grain market is very quiet. Canada White Winter \$1.05 to \$1.06; Canada Red \$1.06 to \$1.08; Canada Spring, \$1.05 to \$1.07. Peas, 90c per 66 lbs. Barley, 60c to 70c per bushel. Oats, 34c to 35c. Rye 56c to 58c per bushel.

Flour.—The market is still quiet with small sales price the same as last week. Quotations are as follows:—Superior Extra, \$4.75; Extra Superior, \$4.60 to \$4.65; Fancy, nominal; Spring Extra, \$4.55 to \$4.60; Superfine, \$4.40; Strong Bakers', Canadian, \$5.00 to \$5.40; Strong Bakers', American, \$6.25 to \$6.75; Fine, \$3.90 to \$4.10; Middlings, \$3.70 to \$3.80; Pollards, \$3.50; Ontario bags, medium, \$2.25 to \$2.30; do. Spring Extra, \$2.15 to \$2.20; do. Superfine, \$2.10 to \$2.15; City Bags, delivered, \$3.15 to \$3.20.

MEALS.—Oatmeal, \$5.10 to \$5.40. Cornmeal nominal.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—Butter.—The market is quiet with slightly better demand than last week. Quotations:—Creamery, fresh made, fine flavored, extra, 26c to 27c; do., good to fine, 23c to 25c; Eastern Townships, 20c to 22c; Morrisburg, 18c to 21c; Brockville, 7c to 20c; Western, 10c to 18c. Add 2c per lb. to all of the above for the jobbing trade. Cheese firm, little doing.—10 1/2c to 11c for August, and 12 1/2c to 13c for grade September and October; common grades, 7c to 9c.

Eggs.—Quiet at 26c to 28c according to quality and freshness.

HOG PRODUCTS are slightly firmer but still quiet. We quote: Western Pork, \$21.00 to \$21.50; Canada short cut, \$22; Harris, city cured, 15c to 15 1/2c; do. canvased, 16c to 16 1/2c; Bacon, 14c to 15c; Lard, in pails, 13 1/2c to 14 1/2c; Hogs, \$8.60 to \$8.70 per 100 lbs.

DRESSED POULTRY AND GAME.—The market is slightly weaker, the demand having fallen off. We quote:—Turkeys, 10c to 12c; Geese, 8c to 10c; Ducks, 9c to 11c; Chickens, 8c to 10c per lb.; Partridges, 7c to 8c per brace; Hares, 25c per couple; Venison, carcasses, 8c to 9c; do. hind-quarters, 9c to 10c per lb.

ASHES.—Pots, firm at \$5 to \$5.05. Pearls nominal.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

There have been fewer beef cattle offered this week than for a long time past and as the butchers are pretty well through with their holiday supply of dressed beef, they have to pay advanced rates, or about one-fourth of a cent per lb live weight, all round. Superior steers and heifers bring from 5 1/2 to 5 3/4c per lb; pretty large fat cows and fair-conditioned steers bring about 5c and somewhat rough steers and ordinary dry cows about 4c per lb. Rough bulls in fair condition, 3 1/2 to 4c per lb and lean stock about 3c do. Very few sheep are brought to market now, as the butchers are pretty well supplied with frozen mutton. Milch cows are getting more plentiful and slightly lower priced, yet choice large cows bring from \$70 to \$80 each and pretty good milkers from \$50 to \$60 each, while ordinary-sized cows sell at about \$40 each. Live hogs sell at about 6 1/2c per lb and dressed hogs at 8 1/2c do.

FARMERS' MARKET.

There has been a rather slim attendance of farmers at the markets since the new year began and the only kinds of produce which are plentifully supplied are oats and hay, and prices of these are easy and hay is still declining, as the people from the south side of the St. Lawrence can now bring their hay across the ice to the market here. Dead poultry continue very high-priced and likely to continue so throughout the season. Geese and turkeys are at present from four to six cents per lb dearer than at this time last year. The weather has been rather cold for potatoes to be brought any distance to market and prices are firm. Cabbages are also advancing in value, owing to the demand for shipment to the United States. Oats and potatoes are 70c to 90c per bag; pease, 85c to \$1 per bushel; buckwheat, 60c do. Dressed hogs, \$8.75 to \$9.25 per cwt. Beef forequarters, 4c to 5c per lb and hind-quarters 5c to 7c do. Geese 11c to 13c per lb; turkeys 11c to 16c do; tub butter 18c to 23c do; print butter 25c to 40c do; packed eggs 28c to 35c per dozen; fresh-laid eggs 40c to 50c do. Hay, \$7 to \$10.50 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs; straw \$3.50 to \$5 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9th, 1883.

GRAIN.—Following are the closing prices for future delivery to-day:—Wheat, \$1.11 1/2 Jan., \$1.13 1/2 Feb., \$1.15 1/2 March, \$1.17 1/2 April, \$1.17 1/2 May. Corn 69 1/2c cash, 68 1/2c Jan., 66 1/2c Feb., 64 1/2c May. Oats, 46 1/2c cash, 46 1/2c Jan., 46 1/2c Feb., 46 1/2c March, 46 1/2c May.

Rye, Western, no sales. We quote: Canada, in bond, 70 1/2c to 71c; State, 71 1/2 to 72 1/2c. Peas—Canada field, 85c to 90c; green peas, \$1.35; black-eyed Southern, \$2.90 per two bushel bag. Buckwheat, 75c.

FLOUR.—Low Extra, \$3.75 to \$4.25; Superfine, no sales for Spring, \$3.40 to \$3.70 for Winter; Western Spring Clear Extra, \$5.25 to \$5.65; Poor to Choice Fancy, held at \$6.75 to \$7.25; Inferior Clear Extra, \$5.15 to \$5.40; Straight Extra, \$5.50 to \$6.00, up to \$6.25 for Choice, and \$7.25 to \$7.35 for Choice to Fancy; Patent Extra, \$6.25 to \$7.40; Choice Fancy Family Extra, \$6.40 to \$6.75; Buckwheat Flour, \$2.35 to \$2.75 per 100 lbs. Sales 175 bags.

MEALS.—Oatmeal, Western fine, \$5.50 to \$6.50; Coarse, \$5.75 to \$7.00 per lb. Cornmeal, Brandywine \$3.75 to \$3.90; City Sackd, coarse, per 100 lbs, \$1.20 to \$1.22; Fine white, \$1.40 to \$1.45; Fine Yellow, no sales. Corn flour, \$4.25 to \$4.75. Grits \$4.25 to \$4.75.

BEEF.—Market quiet but steady. We quote: \$12.00 for plain mess; \$13.00 for extra mess; \$12.50 for plate; \$14 for extra plate; \$25 to \$27.50 for city extra India mess and \$15 to \$15.50 for packet.

BEEF HAMS.—Steady market at \$18.00 to \$18.50.

BACON.—The Chicago market prices are, loose long clear, \$8.60; short clear, 9c; short rib, 8.75c; shoulders, 6.15c; boxed long clear, 8.85c; short clear, 9c; short rib, 8.95c; shoulders, 6.40c.

CUTMEATS.—Sales still reported small. We quote: 9c to 10c for pickled bellies; 8 to 8 1/2c for pickled shoulders; 11c to 11 1/2c for pickled hams; 9c for smoked shoulders; 13c to 13 1/2c for smoked hams.

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

PORK.—Improved demand, \$18.25 to \$18.50 for new mess; \$14.00 to \$14.50 for extra prime, \$18 to \$18.50 for family.

LARD.—Fair demand for home use. We quote 10 1/2c for Western stean, and 10 1/4c for city.

STEARINE.—Lard stearine, sales brisker at 11 to 11 1/4. Oleomargarine, 9 1/2c to 10c; no sales.

TALLOW.—Receipts large and improved sales at 8c to 8 1/2c for prime; not quoted for packages.

MEAT STOCK.—Western heavy wethers, 6 1/2c to 6 3/4c per lb; Jersey and near-by 5c to 5 1/2c. Spring lambs, 6c to 7 1/2c. Live calves, State, fair to prime, 7c to 10c; Jersey, 8c, 10c; butter-milk fed, 5c to 6 1/2c; grassers, 4 1/2c to 5c. Dressed veal, from 10c to 11c, for poor to fair, to 13c to 13 1/2c for choice.

FEED.—100 lbs. or sharps, \$22 to \$23; 100 lbs. or No. 1 middlings, \$18 to \$19; 80 lbs. or No. 2 middlings, \$18; 60 lbs. or No. 1 feed, \$17; 50 lbs. or medium feed, \$16.50 to \$17; 40 lbs. or No. 2 feed, \$16.50 to \$17; rye feed at \$20 per ton; barley feed, \$23.

SEEDS.—Clover seed, per lb., prime, 12 1/2c; fancy, 12 1/2 to 13c; timothy, \$1.85 to \$2.05 per bushel; domestic flaxseed, \$1.28 to \$1.30; Calcutta linseed, \$1.80 nominal.

A PROHIBITION KING.

The Rev. Mr. Doane writes from the island Ponape, to the *Missionary Herald*, of some energetic measures, which are sorely needed in many Western countries.

"It is a matter of joy we have so good a king in this tribe. Years since a very Saul, now he is a teachable, growing Christian. But almost all foreigners make a howl when he is spoken of as a Christian. They doubt his piety, and mainly because years since, when a pure heathen, he killed a native. Then he could drink and minister to the lusts of these foreigners, and do any other mean thing. He has thoroughly turned from this. He will not allow any liquor to be made by his tribe; a thorough-going 'Maine-law man' in this. He is willing, too, to apply the law to some who lead captive sly women. He wants good order in the tribe, and, I am glad to say, has largely

secured it. But they who think such a man cannot be a Christian, view all that he does as being done 'for a purpose.' But we think much of the man, and are free to say, if all the tribes of Ponape had such men as rulers, it would be a vastly better island than it is.

"A nest of rum makers and drinkers was recently attacked by this same king. The place for vents had been known as one of the hard dark places of this tribe. Recently these rum makers had a carouse, with some fighting. The king at once sent off his force—policemen—to break up the still. The owner showed fight. As he was being put into irons, his wife, too, drew the knife, but she was handcuffed. This nest of evil men thought themselves stronger than any king. But he captured them, set them at work on the highway, and they have learned that it is better to obey than resist, and are thoroughly cowed. Oh, for more of this power in and over other 'dark places in Ponape.'"

THOMAS CARLYLE'S SOW.

Carlyle told a story of two horses, illustrative of the sense of humor in animals. Carlyle had a vicious old sow, which was the terror and the tyrant of the barnyard. One day Carlyle was smoking his pipe outside his front door when he heard shrieks of rage and agony combined from the back of the house. He went round to see what was the matter. A deep drain had been opened across the yard, the bottom of which was stiff clay. Into this, by some unlucky curiosity, the sow had been tempted to descend, and being there found a difficulty in getting out. The horses were loose. The pony saw the opportunity—the sow was struggling to extricate herself. The pony stood over her, and at each effort cuffed her back again, with a stroke of the fore hoof. The sow was screaming now more from fury than pain. Larry, the horse, stood by watching the performance, and smiling approval, nodding his head every time the beast was knocked back into the clay, with the most obvious and exquisite perception of the nature of the situation.

WHEN A MAN doesn't want to do a good deed, it is very easy for him to find an excuse for not doing it. An Oriental story tells of a man who was asked to lend a rope to a neighbor. His reply was that he was in need of the rope just then to tie up some sand with. "To tie up some sand?" exclaimed the would-be borrower. "I don't see how you can tie up sand with a rope." "Oh! you can do almost anything with a rope when you don't want to lend it," was the witty response. And nowadays it is very common, and very easy, for a professedly Christian man to look up an excuse—and to find it, too—for not giving anything to the cause of missions, or to any other good cause.—S. S. Times.

PHILADELPHIA, not satisfied with her industrial showing in the last census report, has been taking a little census of her own and likes it better. From the figures already computed over ten thousand establishments are shown with two hundred and twenty-two thousand, six hundred and fifty-two operatives. This is an increase of two thousand establishments and fifty thousand persons employed. It is calculated that the completion of the revision will show twelve thousand establishments with two hundred and forty thousand persons employed.

THE WAY-MARKS of tipping are to be traced in many proverbial sayings. For example the *Licensed Victuallers' Guardian*, in reply to a correspondent, explains: "Mind your P's and Q's" undoubtedly originated in the tavern practice of chalking or scoring debts by customers, the P's signifying pints and the Q's quarts. It was this practice of obtaining credit for intoxicating liquor which led to the passing of the "Tipping Act" in the notorious reign of George II., when gin was sold in penny-worths at the corners of streets in London."

THE SOLES of boots may be made waterproof by melting a little bee's wax and mutton suet, and rubbing some slightly on the edges of the sole over the stitches.

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A GOOD PAPER.

The *Weekly Witness* we believe to be the best weekly newspaper and recommend it cordially to our readers who want such a paper. The price is \$1 a year, clubs of three \$3.00 cents each, clubs of four 75 cents each, clubs of ten 70 cents each.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON III.

Jan. 21, 1883.] [Acts 2: 37-47.]

THE BELIEVING PEOPLE.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 38-41.

(Revised Version.)

Now when they heard this, they were pricked in the heart, and said unto Peter and the rest of the apostles, Brethren, what shall we do? And Peter said unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ into the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For to you is the promise, and to your children, and to them that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call into him. And with many other words he testified, and exhorted them, saying, Save yourselves from this crooked generation. They then that received his word were baptized; and there were added unto them in that day about three thousand souls. And he continued stedfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers.

And fear came upon every soul; and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; and they sold their possessions and goods, and gave them up to the apostles as any man had need. And they day by day, continuing stedfastly with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread at home, they did take their food with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to them day by day those that were being saved.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized."—ACTS 2: 41.

TOPIC.—Belief in Christ gives joy.

LESSON PLAN.—1. ANXIOUS ENQUIRERS, VS. 37-9. 2. EARNEST CONFESSORS, V. 41. 3. FAITHFUL DISCIPLES, VS. 42-47.

Time.—A. B. 30. The day of Pentecost and the time onward. Place.—Jerusalem.

INTRODUCTION.

Peter had just shown his hearers that the wonders of Pentecost were the fulfillment of prophecy; that Jesus, the despised Nazarene who they had crucified, was their own Messiah; that God had raised him from the dead and exalted him to the heavens. Our lesson of today tells us the effect of this sermon.

LESSON NOTES.

V. 37. HEARD THIS.—Peter preaching the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. PRICKED IN THEIR HEARTS.—convicted of sin and deeply distressed. What shall we do?—how can we be saved? V. 38. BE BAPTIZED.—in profession of faith in Christ. Peter's direction was in accord with Christ's own teaching. John 3: 5; Mark 16: 16. EVERY ONE OF YOU—no one can be saved in any other way. GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST.—not only to enlighten and purify their hearts, and thus fit them to know and do the will of God. V. 39. THE PROMISE.—the promised inheritance of the Holy Spirit. AFFAR OFF.— Gentiles as well as Jews. V. 40. SAVE YOURSELVES.—by forsaking your sins and believing in Christ. EXHORTED.—Revised Version, "crocked;" perverse, wicked. V. 41. THEY THAT GLADLY RECEIVED THE WORD—who believed what he said and did what he counselled. WERE BAPTIZED.—the first administration of Christian baptism "in the name of Christ." The large number to be baptized, the limited time (THE SAME DAY), and the fact of every stream of water in Jerusalem, make it highly improbable that immersion was the mode. THREE THOUSAND SOULS.—the first addition to the infant church; a marked fulfillment of special promise. John 16: 8. V. 42. CONTINUED STEDFASTLY.—persevered. DOCTRINE.—instruction. FELLOWSHIP.—showing toward each other a spirit of love and helpfulness. BREAKING OF BREAD.—the Lord's Supper. V. 43. HAD ALL THINGS COMMON.—held them as not their own, but subject to the wants of the church. In the fulness of Christian love, the rich sold their possessions that might be given to those who needed it. V. 47. ADDED DAILY.—the growth was constant. SUCH AS WERE TO BE SAVED.—literally, "the saved;" the growth was genuine. Only those who were converted joined the church.

TEACHINGS.

1. There is no salvation from sin without repentance of sin.
2. God cares for the young as well as the old.
3. True religion makes people love the Bible, the church and prayer.
4. It leads to care for the comfort of others.
5. It produces singleness of heart and joy.
6. When Christians are earnest and holy, their number will be increased.

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