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ENLARGED SERIES .- VOL. IV.

TORONTO, MARCH 22, 1884.

No. 6.

THE ROMAN COLOSSEUM.

BY THE EDITOR.

The Niobe of nations! there she stands Childless and crownless in her voiceless woe; An empty urn within her withered hand, Whose holy dust was scattered long ago.

greatness.

More utterly desolate than aught else were the pleasure palaces of the

the lime-kilns for the monasteries and broken arches I saw fair English girls churches of the modern city, till little sketching the crumbling halls where is left save the shadow of their former ruled and revelled the lords of the world.

the Colosseum, stern monument of Rome's Christless creed. Tier above tier rise the circling seats, whence twice eighty thousand cruel eyes gloated Cypress and ivy, wind and wallflower grown upon the dying martyr's pangs, Matted and massed together, hillocks heap'd "butchered to make a Roman holiday."

Ten thousand Jewish captives were employed in its construction, and at its inauguration five thousand wild beasts were slain in bloody conflict with human antagonists. The dens in which the lions were confined, the gates through which the pards leaped upon their victims may still be seen; and before us stretches the broad arena where even Rome's proud dames, unsexed and slain in gladiatorial conflict, lay trampled in the sand.
As I clambered over

those time-defying walls, and plucked from their crannied niches the blue-bell and anemone, the soldiers of King Humbert were drilling in the meadow near its base, and the sharp words of command came softened by the distance. Save these, no sound of life was audible in this once humming hive of human passion and activity. The accompanying cuts give interior and exterior views of this world-famous ruin.

A ruin—yet what ruin! from its mass

Walls, palaces, half-cities have been rear'd;
Yet oft the enormous skeleton

we pass,

And marvel where the spoil
could have appear'd.

Hath it indeed been plundered
or been clear'd ?

"While stands the Colosseum, Romeshall stand," said an ancient legend, "when falls the Colosseum, Rome shall fall, and when Rome falls, with it shall fall the world."

The following is the account given by the Rev. Hugh Johnston, B.D., of

"Now we have reached the world-

The Goth, the Christian, Time, The Goth, the Christian, Time,
War, Flood, and Fire,
Have dealt upon the sevenhilled city's pride;
She saw her glories star by
star expire,
And up the steep barbarian
monarchs ride,
Where the car climbed the
Capitol; far and wide
Temple and tower went down,
nor left a site.

nor left a site.

Alas! the lofty city, and alas! The trebly hundred triumphs! and the day

When Brutus made the dagger's edge surpass
The conqueror's sword in
bearing fame away!
Alas! for Tully's voice, and
Virgil's lay,
And Livy's pictured page!—
but these shall be
Her resurrection: all beside

Her resurrection; all besidedecay.

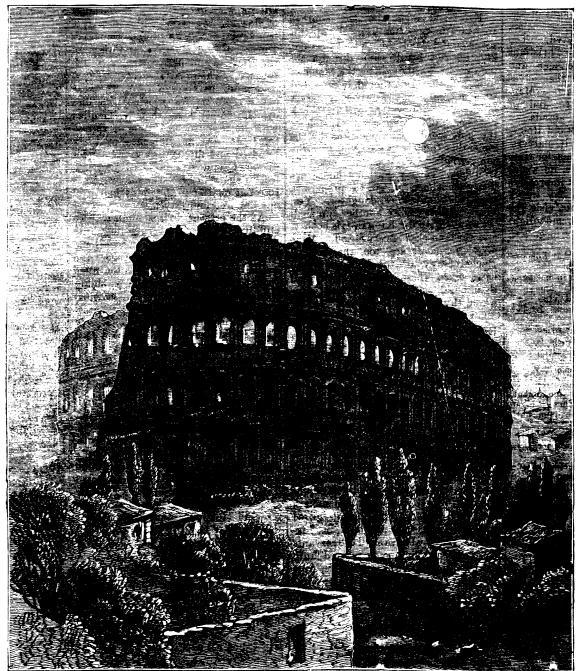
-Childe Harold.

OME at last! The goal of a thousand hopes-"the city of the soul" -"the Mecca of the mind" —"lone mother of dead Empires"—the city of the Cæsars and the Popes.

Nothing so struck me in my first drive through Rome-through the Forum to the Colosseum and the Palatine Hillsas the appalling desolation of those once proud abodes of imperial splendour. The scene of some of the most heroic achievements of the Republic and Empire is now a half buried chaos of broken arch and column. Here stood the rostrum where Tully fulmined against Cataline, and where, after death, his eloquent tongue was pierced through and through by the bodkin of a revengful woman. Here the Roman father slew his child to save her from dishonour. Here, "at the base of

Pompey's statue," the well-beloved Brutus stabbed the foremost man of Golden House of Nero, the palaces of In fragments, choked-up vaults, and frescoes fragments, choked-up vaults, and frescoes fragments. all this world. Here is the Via Sacra, through which passed the triumphal ments of the colossal vice which called In subterrance a damps, where the owl peep'd, ruinous perfection, alive and teeming of the gods. But for a thousand years these ruins have been the quarries and of splendid desolation, amid whose

In fragments, choked-up vaults, and frescoes



Colosseum-Exterior.

Titus after his return from the conquest of Jerusalem, and he is said to have employed twelve thousand captive Jews in its crection. What a structure it is! So vast, that one can hardly picture it in the imagination, or take in its height and sweep. Its circumference is more than sixteen hundred feet. It is an oval, 620 feet long, 573 in breadth, and 157 feet high. What splendid masonry! Now a mouldering ruin, scarce one-third of it remaining, stripped of its marble, and colored walls, and iron clamps; yet what remains has 'een computed to be worth over half a million pounds steeling.
As I climbed to the highest tiers, and looked over the empty space, the podium, containing the places of honour for the Emperor and his family, the senators, and the vestal virgins, once covered with costly marble, the arches glittering with gold and gems, I thought of the dedication festival, when 5,000 wild animals fought with gladiators, and the arena was red with the butchery, the galleries crowded with excited spectators, the Emperor, the senators, the vestal virgins, the knights, and common people; I thought of the after scenes, in the days of persecution, when 100,000 voices roared, "The Christians to the lions. The Christians to the lions!" and brave men and timid women surrendered themselves to the devouring wild beasts. Magnificent abode of pleasure and of wickedness! There it stands, a wickedness! monument of the cruelty of old Rome, and of the faith of the early martyrs. There it stands, built as if not for time but eternity, in its solitude, its awful beauty, its majesty, the most impressive sight conceivable. Not a day was I in Rome in which I did not visit the Colosseum, and tosee it by moonlight is a vision which can never be forgotten.

"Arches on arches" as it were that Rome, Callecting the chief trophies of her line, Would build apall her triumphs in one dome, Her Colosseum stands, the moonbeams shine As twer its natural torches, for Divine Should be the light which streams here to illume. illume

The long-explored, but still exhaustless mine Of contemplation, and the azure gloom Of an Italian might, where the deep skies

a-sume Hues which have words, and speak to ye of heaven.

Floats o'er this vast and wondrous monument, And shadows forth its glory. There is given Under the things of earth, which Time hath

bent, A spirit's feeling, and where he hath leant His hand, but broke his seythe, there is a

And magic in the ruined battlement,
For which the palace of the present hour
Must yield its pomp, and wait till ages are its
dower."

- Childe Harold.

The following extracts from the Editor's story, "Valeria, the Martyr of the Catacombs," * endeavours to reproduce a scene in this old crumbling, but still majestic Colosseum:

THE EVE OF MARTYRDOM.

In a vaulted chamber beneath the stone seats of the Colosseum, lay the destined Christian martyrs on the eve before the day of their triumph. As an act of grace, some coarse straw, the refuse of a lion's lair, had been given them, and the relief of their fettercramped limbs, stiffened with lying on a rough stone floor, was in itself an indescribable delight. But they had a

deeper cause of joy. They were found worthy to witness a good confession for Christ before Casar, like the beloved Apostle Paul; and even as their Lord Himself before Pontius Pilate. And now the day of their espousals to their Heavenly Bridegroom was at hand.

The silvery-haired Demetrius, a holy calm beaming in his eyes, uttered words of peace and comfort. The coarse black barley-bread and muddy wine which had been given them lest death should cheat the mob of their promised dolight on the morrow, the venerable priest had consecrated to the Supper of the Lord-the last viaticum to strengthen their souls on their journey to the spirit world. Sitting at his feet, faint and wan, but with a look of utter content upon her face, was his daughter Callirhoe, a heavenly smile flickering on her lips. With an undaunted courage, a heroic resolve beaming from his eyes, stood Adauctus, waiting like a valiant soldier at his post the welcome word of the great Captain of his salvation: "Well done! good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Ever and anon the deep-mouthed roar of a hungry lion rent the air, his tierce bound shook the walls of his cage, and his hot breath came through the bars as he keenly sniffed the smell of human flesh. But though it caused at times a tremor of the quivering nerves of the wan and wasted girl, it shook not her unfaltering soul. Listen to the holy words calmly spoken by the venerable Demetrius: "Non turbetur cor vestrum-Let not your heart be troubled. In my Father's house are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you.' Yes, daughter. Yes, brave friend; before another sun shall set we shall see the King in His beauty, and the land that is very far off. Mine aged eyes shall see, too, the beloved Rachel of my youth, to behold whom they have ached these many years. And thou, child, shalt see the mother after whom thy heart hath yearned."

"If only, dear father, my brother Ezrawere with us," whispered Callirhoe, we soon would be an unbroken family in the city of the great King."

"God's will be done, my child," answered the patriarch. "He doeth all things well. He could bid His angels fly swiftly, and shut the lions' mouths, or, better still, convoy our spirits to the marriage supper of the Lamb-to the repose of Abraham's bosom. Your brother is a child of the covenant, an heir to the promises, the son of many prayers. God will count him also in the day when He maketh up His jewels." Then as if gifted up His jewels." with the spirit of prophecy, he ex-claimed: "Not always shall the servants of the Most High be persecuted unto death. But this very structure, now dedicated to slaughter and cruelty, shall hereafter be consecrated to the worship of the true God "—a prediction which, after long centuries, has been literally fulfilled.

Thus in hely converse were the iours away. And then through the rocky vaults of the Colosseum stole the sweet accents of their last evening hymn before they thould sing the song of Moses and the Lamb on high :-

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High, shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

"I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in Him will I trust.

"He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

"Thou shall tread upon the lien and adder; the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under foot."

As this pean of triumph swelled into louder strain, the gladiators, awed by its strange power, paused amid their ribald jests, and even the lien hushed his hungry roar, and the tiger his angry growl.

A ROMAN HOLIDAY.

Early next morning the army of slaves who had charge of the Colosseum, under the direction of Fulvus, the freedman, were hard at work. Some at the very summit of the building, with much shouting and pulling of ropes, were stretching the great relarium or awning, as a protection from the rays of the sun. Others were sweeping the sand of the arena to a smooth and even surface. Many cartloads of fresh sand were heaped around the base of the podium, for the ghastly purpose of being spread upon the blood-stained surface after each act of the sanguinary drama of the day. Others were decorating with garlands of flowers, and with gold and purple bannerets, the seats of the Emperors Diocletian and Galerius, and those of the senators and other persons of distinction. The great structure seemed even more striking in its vastness, as a few score figures crawled like flies over its empty seats, than when filled with its tumultuous throng of specta-It was an immense oval six tors. hundred and fifteen feet in its longer diameter, and five hundred and ten feet in the shorter. The circling seats rose tier on tier to the giddy height of one hundred and fifty feet.

As the present writer climbed those cliff-like walls, now crumbling into ruin, he tried to re-people those longdeserted seats with the eager and excited throngs which had often filled them to overflowing, when twice eighty thousand cruel eyes were wont to gloat upon the dying martyr's pang, "butchered to make a Roman holiday."* Then he wandered through the vast vaulted corridors and stairways, eighty in number, and bearing still the old Roman numerals by which access was gained to the different galleries These were so capacious that the whole multitude could in a few minutes disperse, and were thence called vomitoria. He then explored the dens and caves for the wild beasts, and the rocky chambers in which the gladiators and martyr victims awaited the signal that called them to their doom. The row of seats just above the podium was reserved for the equestrian order; those higher still, for the populus, or common people; and the highest of all, for persons of the lowest rank. Early in the day, multitudes of spectators began to arrive, mostly arrayed in gala dress, and many wearing the colours of their favourito gladiatorial With a loud flourish of champion. trumpets the great gates of the imperial entrance opened, and the chariots of the Emperors and their respective suites entered and took their places in the grand tribune reserved for these

On this very arena perished the venerable Ignatius, linked by tradition with the Saviour Himself as one of the children whom He took in Himmarum and blessed. "Sufferne to be the food of wild beasts," he exclaimed, "by whom I shall attain unto claimed, "by whom I shall attain unto God. For I am the wheat of God, and I shall be ground by the teeth of wild beasts, that I may become the pure bread of Christ."

august occupants. It was noted with dissatisfaction by the multitude that unither of the Empresses Prisca or Valeria were present. But the withered old crone Fausta, mother of the Emperor Galerius, seemed to gloat like a foul harpy on the anticipated spectacle of blood, and near by was her sinister shadow, the black-browed priest of Ovbele.

Burdo, the butcher, was rubicund with joy at the approaching conflict, for which, he said, he long had hungered. "But why," he asked, "are not their majesties, the Empresses, in the state tribune. "Tis a contempt of a festival sacred to the gods."

"Our dainty Empress," jeered Samos, the "Flatnose," "has small stomach to see her friends, the Christians, given to the lions, and I suspect the old one is turred with the same stick."

"If I thought that I'd denounce her myeelt," growled Bruto, the gladiator; Empress or slave, the crime of being Christian levels all ranks."

"And lose your head for your pains," imed in Piso the barber. "Don't chimed in Piso the barber. you know that she winds the Emperor round her finger like a silken thread."

"Does she favour the accursed Nazarenes?" croaked Ephraim the Jew. "May the same fate overtake her."

"I thought they were friends of yours," said our old friend Max, who was one of the soldiers on guard. They say this Christus whom they worship was a Jew."

We dare not repeat the wicked imprecation which burst from the lips of the exasperated Israelite. But it is notorious that the Jews were far more malignant persecutors of the Christians than even the Pagans themselvesis apparent from the Acts of the Apostles and other records of the early Church.

The time for beginning the games having come, the priest of Neptune poured a libation to the god, and heaped incense on his altar, placed near the imperial tribune. In this near the imperial tribune. act of worship-for these old gods were worshipped with the blood of men slain as a holiday pageant—he was followed by the Emperors and their chief officers.

Then with another peal of trumpets a procession of gladiators in burnished armour entered the arena and marched around its vast circuit. Pausing before the tribune of the Emperors they chanted with a loud voice: "Casares Augusti, morituri salutamus vos-Great Cierar, we who are about to die salute you."

First there was a sort of sham battle pralusio, as it was called, in which the gladiators tought with wooden swords. But the multitude were speedily impatient of that, and demanded the combat a l'outrance-to the death.

"We came not here to witness such child's play as that," said Burdo, the butcher. "I want to see the blood butcher. flow as it does in my own shambles; a brutal sentiment which met with much favour from his neighbours.

Soon their desires were gratified. First there was a combat of Andabate, that is, men who were helmets without any aperture for the eyes, so that they were obliged to fight blindfolded, and thus excited the mirth of the spectators. Although they inflicted some ugly wounds upon each other, some of these were mortal, and the mob called loudly for the Hoplomachi, who were next on the play-but. These were men who

^{*}Toronto: William Briggs, and M-thodist Book Rooms, Montreal and Halifax. Price 75 cents, with special discount to Sundayschools.

fought in a complete suit of armour. They were as completely encased as crabs in their shells, but as they could see each other through the bars of their visors, they were able skilfully to direct their weapons at the joints of their antagonist's armour. the arena was red with blood, and more than one victim lay dead and trampled on the sands.
"Good! this is something like the

thing," cried Buildo. "But these fellows are so cased in their shells it is hard to get at them. Let us have the Retiarii."

"Yes, the Retiarii and Mirmillones." shouted the mob; and they soon marched upon the scene. . .

This conflict promised abundance of The Retiarii wore no excitement. The Retiarii wore no armour, and their only weapons were a net (rete, hence their name) and a trident or three-pronged spear. The Retiarius endeavoured to throw the net over his antagonist, and then to despatch him with the spear. If he missed his aim in throwing his net, he betook himself to flight, and endeavoured to prepare his net for a second cast. while his adversary followed him round the arena in order to kill him before he could make a second attempt. It was a cruel sport, and kindled to fury thefierce passions of the eagers pectators

Then came a conflict between skilled gladiators — the most accomplished swordsmen of the gladiatoral schools. The vast multitude watched with fevered interest the wary fencing, the skilful guard and rapid thrust and stroke of those trained butchers of their fellow-men. When a swordsman was wounded, the spectators rent the air with cries of "Habet! Habet!" and the one who was vanquished lowered his arms in token of submission. His fate, however, depended upon the will of the people, who sometimes, when a vanquished swordsman had exhibited especial dexterity and skill, gave the signal to spare him by stretching out their hands with the thumbs turned down. But if, as was more frequently the case, their bloodthirsty passions were roused to insatiable fury, they demanded his death by turning their thumbs upwards, and shouting, "Recipe Without a tremor the terrum t victim then bared his breast to the sword, and the victor thrust it home to the hilt, while the cruel mob shouted their huzzas over the bloody tragedy.

Such is the scene brought vividly before our minds by the matchless antique statue of the Dying Gladiator, found in the Gardens of Sallust, now in the museum of the Capitol. As one gazes with a strange fascination on that wondrous marble, instinct, it seems, with mortal agony, callous must be the heart that is unmoved by its touching pathos. The exquisite lines of Byron nobly express the emotions which it awakens in every breast :-

I see before me the Gladiator lie;
He leans upon his hand—his manly brow
Consents to death, but conquers agony,
And his drosped head sanks gradiedly low—
And through his side the last drope a bing slow
From the red gash fall heavy, one by one,
Like the first of a thunder shower; and now
The arena swims around him—he is gone,
Ere ceased the inhuman shout which haded
the wretch who won. ce before me the Gladiator lie;

He heard it, but he heeded not-his eyes Were with his heart, and that was far away. He recked not of the life he lost nor prize, But where his rude hut by the Danube lay, There were his young barbarians all at play, There was their Dacian mother—he, their sire, Butchered to make a Roman holiday.

An unwonted interest was given to this cruel scene in the Roman amphitheatre, by a novel and unheard-of incident which occurred. A brilliant young Roman officer, Ligurius Rufus, was announced to take part in these It was no uncommon thing for military fops, eager to win the appliance of the multitude, or to goad their jaded weariness of life into a momentary excitement by a spice of real danger, to enter the lists of the atena; and Ligurius was at once the most brilliant swordsman in the Twelfth Legion, and the most ennuyee and world-weary man in Rome.

Ho was pitted against a brawny Hercules, the strongest and hugest of the whole school of gladiators—a British prisoner of war, who had been long the pride and boast of the arena. they stood face to face, the young officer in burnished armour, inlaid with silver and gold, and the mighty thews of his pp ment encased in leather and bronze, the betting was heavy in favour of the British giant. Each felt that he had a forman worthy of his steel. They walked wearily around each other, each watching with eager eye every movement of his antagonist. Every thrust on either side was skilfully puried, and advantage of strength on the part of the British warrior being matched by the superior nimbleness of the Roman officer. At last a rapid thrust by Ligurius severed a tendon in the sword-arm of his foe, and it fell nerveless by his side. With a giant effort the disabled warrior sprang upon the Roman as if to crush him by sheer weight; but Ligarius nimbly sprang saide, and his antagonist, slipping in the gory sund, fell headlong to the ground. In an instant the Roman's foot was on his neck and his sword at his breast. With a courteous gesture, Ligarius raised his sword and waved it. towards the Emperors' tribune and to the crowded seats of the podium, as if asking the signal to spare the vanquished gladiator, while the despairing look of the latter seemed with eloquence to ask for life. "Habet! Habet!" rang round the Colosseum. rang round the Colosseum. but not a single sign of mercy was made, not a thumb was reversed. Recipe ferrum," roared the mob at the prostrate giant; and then shouted to Ligurius, "Occide! Occide!—Kill! Kill i

The gallant Roman heeded them as he would heed the howl of wolves. am not a butcher," he said, with a defiant sneer, and he sheathed his sword and, much to the surprise of his discomfitted foe, lent his hand to raise him from the ground.

"You are a brave man," he said; "I want you as a standard-bearer of the Twelfth Legion. That is better than making worm's meat of you. Rome may need such soldiers as you before loug."

The Emperors were not unwilling to grant this novel request of a favourite officer, and the grateful creature, in token of his fidelity, humbly kissed the hand of Ligurius, and followed him from the arena. The cruel mob, however, angered at being deprived of their anticipated spectacle of blood, howled with rage, and demanded the crowning scene of the day's sports—the conflict between the wild beasts and the Christian martyrs.

These listeful scenes had become the impassioned delight of all classes, from the Emperors to the "vile plebs" of also recorded in the Catacombs.

Rome. Even woman's pitiful nature forgot its tenderness, and maids and matrons gloated on the cruel spectacle, and the honour was reserved for the Vestal Virgin to give the signal for the mortal stroke. Such scenes created a ferocious thirst for blood throughout society. They overthrew the altar of pity, and impelled to every excess and refinement of barbarity. Even children imitated the cruel sport in their games, schools of gladiators were trained for the work of slaughter, women fought in the arena or lay dead and trampled in the sand.

It is to the eternal praise of Christianity that it suppressed these odious contests, and forever averted the sword of the gladiator from the throat of his victim. The Christian city of Constantinople was never polluted by the A Christian atrocious exhibition. poet eloquently denounced the bloody spectacle. A Christian monk, roused to indignation by the hateful scene, leaped over the barrier to separate the gladiators in the very frenzy of the conflict. The maddened mob, enraged at this interruption of their sport, stoned him to death. But his heroic martyrdom produced a moral revulsion against the practice, and the laws of Honorius, to use the language of Gibbon, "abolished forever the human sacrifices of the amphitheatre."

It remains to notice the last scene in the stern drama of this "Roman holiday.'

THE MARTYRS CROWNED.

At a flourish of trumpets the ironstudded doors of the cells in which the Ohristians were confined were thrown open, and the destined martyrs walked forth on the arena in the sight of assembled thousands. It was a spectacle to arrest the attention of even the most thoughtless, and to move the sympathy of even the most austere. At the head of the little company walked the good presbyter, Demetrius, his silvery hair and beard and benignant expression of countenance giving him a strikingly venerable aspect. Leaning heavily on his arm, evidently faint in frame but strong in spirit, was his daughter Callirhoe. white, she looked the embodiment of saintly purity, and in her eyes there beamed a heroic courage which inspired a wonder that so brave a soul should be shrined in so frail a body. Adauctus, Aurelius, and other Christian confessors condemned to death, made up the little contingent of the noble army of martyrs.

The prefect Naso, from his place in the tribune, near the Emperors, read the sentence of the court, that the accused having been proven by ample testimony to be the enemies of the Cresars and of the gods, had been condemned to death by exposure to wild beasts.

"Nay, not the enemies of the mars," exclaimed the aged Demo-Canars," exclaimed the aged Demetrius. "We are the friends of all, the enemies of none.* We pray for the

"Will you do homage to the gods?"
manded Diocletian. "Will you burn demanded Diocletian. incenso to Neptune? Here is his altar and here are his priests.'

"We worship the true God who made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that in them is," replied the venerable man, with uplifted and reverent countenance, "and Him only

will we serve. They be no gods which are made by man's device, and 'tis idolatry to serve them."

"Away with the Atheists," cried the priests of Neptune; "they blaspheme the hely gods."

"The Christians to the lions!" roared the mob, and at the signal from the Emperor to the master of the games, the dens of the wild beasts were thrown open, and the savage brutes, starved into madness, bounded into The defenceless martyrs the arena. fell upon their knees in prayer, and seemed conscious only of the presence of Him who stood with the three Hebrews in the fiery furnace, so rapt was the expression of faith and cour-

age on their upturned faces.
The fierce Numidian lions, and tigers from the Libyan desert, instead of bounding upon their prey, began to circle slowly around them, lashing their tawny flanks meanwhile, glaring at their victims from bloodshot fiery eyes, and uttering horrid growls.

At this moment a loud shout was heard, and a soldier, clad in burnished mail, and with his drawn sword in his hand, one of the body guards of the Emperors, leaped from the tribune and bounded with clashing armour into the arena. Striding across the sand, he hurled aside his iron helmet and his sword, and flung himself at the feet of the aged priest, with the words:-

"Father, your blessing; Callirhoe, your parting kiss. I, too, am a Christisn. Long time have I sought you, alas! only to find you thus. But gladly will I die with you, and, separated in life, we are united in death and forever."

" Nunc dimittis, Domine!" exclaimed the old man, raising his eyes to heaven. "'Now, Lord, lettest thou thy servant depart in peace."" And he laid his hands in blessing on

the head of his long-lost son.
"Ezra, my brother!" exclaimed
Callirhoe, folding him in her arms. "To think we were so near, yet knew not of each other. Thank God, we go to heaven together; and, long divided on earth, we shall soon, with our beloved mother, be a united family forever in the skies. 'And God shall wipe away all the tears from our eyes; and there shall be no more death. neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain.

"Amen! even so, come, Jesus!" spake the young soldier, as he enfolded, as if in a sheltering embrace, the gray-haired sire and the fair-faced girl.

The utmost consternation was exhibited on the countenance of the old Emperor Diocletian. "What! have we Christians and traitors even in our body guard? Our very life is at the mercy of those wretches!"

"I would feel safer with them," said the more stoical or more courageous Galerius, "than with the delators and informers who betray them," and he glanced with mingled contempt and aversion at Naso, the prefect, and Furca, the priest. "When a Christian gives his word, 'tis sacred as all the oaths of Hecate. I want no better soldiers than those of the Thundering Legion."*

Meanwhile the wild beasts, startled

The Legio Tonans, tradition affirms, was a legion composed wholly of Christians, whose prayers in a time of drought brought on a violent thunderstorm, which confounded the enemy and saved the army.

for a moment by the sudden apparition of the mail-clad soldier, seemed roused thereby to ten-fold fury. Crouching stealthily for the fatal spring, they bounded upon their prey, and in a moment crashing bones and streaming gore appeased the growing impatience of the cruel mob, who seemed, like the very wild beasts, to hunger and thirst for human flesh and blood.

We dwell not on the painful spectacle. The gallant young soldier was the first to die. The brave girl, with a gesture of maiden modesty, drew her dishevelled robe about her person, and with a queenly dignity awaited the wild beast's fatal spring. She was mercifully spared the spectacle of her father's dying agony. Her overstrung nerves gave way, and she fell in a swoon upon the sands. Demetrius met his fate praying upon his knees. Like Stephen, he gazed steadfastly up into heaven, and the fashion of his countenance was suddenly transfigured as he exclaimed: "Lord Jesus! Rachel, O my beloved! we come, we come." And above the roar of the ribald mob and the growl of the savage beasts fell sweetly on his inner ear the song of the redeemed, and burst upon his sight the bestific vision of the Lord he loved, and for whom he gladly died.

So, too, like brave men, victorious o'er their latest foe, Adauctus, Aurelius, and the others calmly met their fate. When all the rest were slain, a lordly lion approached the prostrate form of Callirhoe, but she was already dead. She had passed from her swoon, without a pang, to the marriage supper of the Lamb-to the presence of the Celestial Bridegroom—the fairest among ten thousand, the one altogether lovely-to whom the homage of her young heart had been fully given. She was spared, too, the indignity of being mangled by the lion's When the king of beasts found that she was already dead, he raised his massy head, gave a mournful howl, and strode haughtily away.

In the great gallery of Dore paintings at London, is one of this Flavian Amphitheatre after a human sacrifice such as we have described. There lies the mangled forms upon the gory and trampled sands. The sated wild beasts prowl listlessly over the arens. The circling seats rise tier above tier, empty and desolate. But poised in the air, with outspread wings, above the slain, with a countenance of light and a palm of victory, is a majestic angel; and sweeping upward in serried ranks, amid the shining stars, is a cloud of bright-winged angels, the convoy of the martyrs' spirits to the skies. So, doubtless, God sent a cohort of sworded seraphim to bear the martyrs of our story blessed company, and to sweep with them through the gates into the city.

FRESH-WATER fish are reared in every Japanese farm where there is a pool or brook, with as much care as poultry are in French cottage-yards. Girls in the evening go with long wands to drive the lish into roofed tanks, where they are locked in for the night to keep them from birds of prey.

A GENTLEMAN remarked that he had eight arguments in favor of the prohibitory amendment, and when asked what they were, replied, "My eight children.

AN APRIL JOKE.

ASTER Ned on the door-step sat, Busily thinking away.

Busily thinking away.

'Now what shall I plan for a clever trick
For an April-fool to play I
There's Tom, he's mean as a boy can be,
And he never can pass me by
Without a word that is rude and cross, And maybe a punch on the sly.

Some trick I'll find that'll pay him off, And teach him a lesson, too."
So Master Ned he pondered awhile,
Till the dimples grew and grew,
And he laughed at last as away he ran,
"I'll make him sorry," thought he,
"For the many times he has done his best
To tease and to trouble me."

On April first with the early dawn.

On April first with the early dawn,
Was found at Tommy's door
A package tied, and "Master Tom"
Was the only address it bore.
"Tis only a trick of Ned's," said Tom;
"He owes me many a one;
But I'll match him yet—he'd better beware—
Before the day is done."

Then Tom looked in at his package. Oh, What a shameful fellow was be A handsome book and a line which read,
"Accept this, Tom, from me."
And this was the way in which Tom was
"fooled;"

And afterward, meeting Ned, Your trick has beaten all mine for good-Forgive me, old fellow," he said. -Harper's Young Folks.

OUR PERIODICALS.

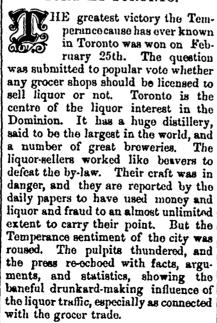
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Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLES Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, MARCH 22, 1884.

GREAT TEMPERANCE VIC-TORY AT TORONTO.



"The polling upon the question whether the sale of liquors and groceries should be separated, resulted," says the Globe, "in the largest vote ever polled in the city. From the opening of the polls it was evident from the keenness and complete organization of both sides that the fight would be a hard one. The voters, dead and alive, were brought up in every available vehicle. Indeed, it is asserted by those who watched the

course of events during the day, that dog should be destroyed. The liquor more dead men recorded their votes traffic was more dangerous than all than at any election preivously held in the mad dogs in the world. He asked

fraudulent voters personated the dead. by-law.

For the by-law..... 5,573 Against the by-law..... 5,211 ·

Total...... 10.179 Majority for the by-law...

But this vote must be weighed as well as counted. On the side of prorality and temperance, and the restriction of the rum traffic, were the Christian workers, the superior intelligence, the unselfish philanthropy of the city, its solid men, the bone and sinew of its prosperity. On the other side was the organized selfishness of the liquor-dealers, with all their hangerson and myrmidons, the degraded patrons and the dead. Many a mother will thank God that there will be nearly one hundred places less in our city where the death-dealing draught shall be sold.

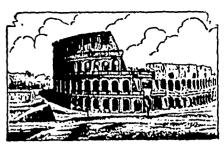
The temperance tide is rising all the deep," was the answer. "Can you swim?" as wide as the continent and a mile

hard work alone, but by faith and prayer to God. This is the pledge of our final success. God is with us, and will give us the victory.

JOHN MACDONALD ON THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

Church are so pronounced in their hestility to the liquor At a meeting in Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, called to protest against the sale of liquor by grocers,

among the liquor-selling grocers many fusely illustrated number. We again personal friends, men princely in their express our belief that all Canadian characters, get he felt compelled to speak against the traffic in which they were engaged. At first sight there might be some reason in the complaint that it was none of the speaker's business, but if his neighbour had a mad dog, which endangered life he had a right to demand that his neighbour's liberal in great ones.



EXTRRIOR OF THE COLOSSEUM.

in the interests of the home every Of course the writer means that citizen to vote and work hard for the

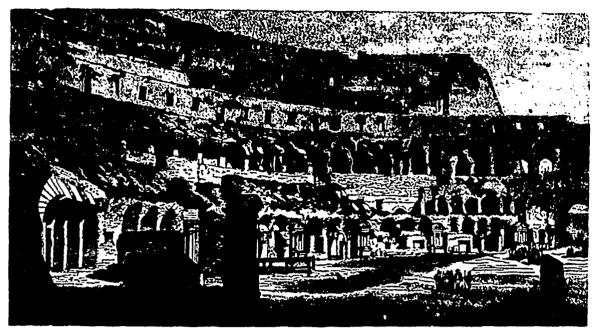
AN EDUCATION THE BEST FORTUNE.

meet the father of a boy
was very fond of books.
"What," said I, "are you going
to make of your boy?" "Well," he
answered, "I shall soon put him out
learn a trade." "But why don't
"I asked. "He is wrapt up in study and will make a good scholar." "Yes, yes," responded "Yes, yes," responded the father, "but what good will that do him? I do not wish him to have the hard time in life that I had. I was obliged to struggle and economize of the rum shops, the fraudulent votors, and work like a dog to get on, and I repeaters, and personators of the absent am not going to throw away my and the dead. Many a mother will savings by sending him to the academy thank God that there will be nearly and to college. The \$2,000 that it and to college. The \$2,000 that it would cost to educate him, I intend to give him in a bulk after awhile, when it will help him to set up for himself and do him some good." Here were world over. A rum-seller in Iowa paternal affection and the best of in-asked what it all meant, how high the tentions. But were they guided by temperance ocean would rise. "It is wisdom? No, indeed. The best forsked what it all meant, how high the tentions. But were they guided by emperance ocean would rise. "It is wide as the continent and a mile tentions. But were they guided by wisdom? No, indeed. The best fortune as father can give his son is a superior education. If he can coin his wim?"

Let temperance workers throughout into brain and the best of infections and the best of infection and the best of infections. But were they guided by wisdom? No, indeed. The best fortune as father can give his son is a money into brain and the best of infection and the best of infections. But were they guided by support of the best fortune as father can give his son is a money into brain and the best of infections. the land take courage. Let us go on intelligence, with well-developed facul-from victory to victory till, by God's ties, widely informed and thoroughly help, the last rum shop shall be closed, trained, and then endow his son with and our land be free from its greatest | these enviable attainments, what better curse and bane. It was most gratifying thing can he do? The title-deed to a to observe how earnestly the ministers piece of property may be bartered and members of the Christian Churches away, the investment in railroad or
—Methodist, Presbyterian, Church of other bonds may be lost by fire or
England—threw themselves into the thettor somebody's bad management; work, and how devoutly they acknow-thut what a man knows and what he ledged that the victory was won not by has become by education can never be taken from him. It is a part of himself, and will go with him through every vicissitude of this world and all the cycles of eternity beyond the grave. Teach your offspring, then, not to covet money, but to covet, as Paul directs, the best things, and most earnestly. Not the material favours with which you load him, but the great E rejoice that the leaders of our qualities of soul with which you inspire him, will prove his lasting blessings.

THOUGHTFUL readers of various ne sale of liquor by grocers, classes will find interesting reading in Mr. John Macdonald, Missionary the Canadian Methodist Magazine for Treasurer of our Church, said he had February, which is a bright and pro-Methodists should have this publication, not merely because of their duty to patronize our publications, but because of a wish for personal benefit.-The Wesleyan.

He who saves in little things can be



INTERIOR OF THE COLOSSEUM. Specimen of " Italian Pictures" in Methodist Magazine for 1884.

DID I GUIDE YOU STRAIGHT? HARD TO BE A CHRISTIAN.

or ill id y

0

HEN Gen. Wolseley was about to undertake his march over the plains of gagement with Arabi he secured the eral could only acknowledge that he did. Is this not a most appropriate souls committed to our trust? By our example have we led our followers warmly, earnestly, plainly, affection-ately? Have our warnings been faithful, and tender, and loving? In our Christian has it, you would.—Congreexhortations have we plead with them gationalist. "as dying men with dying men?" our supplications for them at the throne of grace have we wrestled for them as did he whose heart's desire and prayer for Israel was that they

"He watched and wept, he prayed and felt for all; As a bird each fond endearment tries

might be saved? Can it be said of

To tempt its new-fledged offspring to the

skies,
He tried each art, reproved each dull delay,
Allured to brighter worlds and led the
way!"

Can we say, as we will want to say

ELDERLY philanthropist to a small

ARD to be a Christian! Of course it is. But whether you will believe it or not, it the Nile for his last cn. is a great deal harder not to be one. That is to say, you have a harder time services of an uneducated young than if you were. You have at least Scotchman who was familiar with the as many cares and trifles as if you course to guide the movements of his were a Christian, and as many tempta-army. Before they took up their tions. Every sad and trying element march the general said to him: "Now, of human life is manifested in your I want you to guide me straight; experience as often and as signally as guide me by the star." During the battle that followed the young man collections of the star of the st experience as often and as signally as was mortally wounded. Hearing of ably upon many sharp points of evil this, Gen. Wolseley found him in his habits which you might in that case tent. As he entered, the dying soldier raised his eyes and said: "Didn't I guide you straight, general? Didn't I guide you straight?" And the gen-And the genpossesses—the consciousness that his
Creator and he are no longer working at cross put purposes; that he is in question for parents, pastors, and harmony with God's will and plan for teachers to ask as the old year is him; that omniscience and omnipodying out and as we look upon the tence and infinite love are occupied in shaping his circumstances, so that however painful they may be to-day, they are sure to be full of blessing in only in the paths of safety? In our they are sure to be run or processed instructions have we declared the truth the end. You may not think this instructions have we declared the truth the end. You may not think this consciousness a very solid advantage, but if you had it in the sense that a

BOOK NOTICES.

and since his departure, the Marquis Many of the writers are our own of Lorne has shown himself a true Canadian preachers—Dewart, Stafford, friend and well-wisher of Canada. Of Brethour, Seymour, Pearson, Creighthis we have a pleasing testimony in ton, Rice, Galbraith, McDonagh, Antthe graceful verses on Canadian sub-liff, McClung—tried temperance sol-Over a hundred pages are given chiefly till the victory is won. to Highland stories. The rest of the boy, who is vainly striving to pull a volume contains a selection from the door bell above his reach: "Let me many graceful and judicious public glect of self. Let the thought of self bell.) Small Boy—"Now you had given by the versatile Governor-Genbetter run, or we'll both get a licking!"

The essence of true nobility is neglect of self. Let the thought of self pass in, and the beauty of a great given by the versatile Governor-Genbetter run, or we'll both get a licking!"

which this volume-with the blended maple leaf and thistle on the rover-is a pleasing souvenir. The following is the opening stanza of a noble national hymn:

From our Dominion never Take thy protecting hand, United, Lord, for ever Keep thou our fathers' land! From where Atlantic terrors Our hardy scamen train,
To where the salt sca mirrors
The vast Pacific chain.
Aye one with her whose thunder
Keeps world-watch with the hours,
Gnard Freedom's home and wonder,
This "Camada of Ours."

Shot and Shell for the Temperance Conflict. By the Rev. D. ROGERS, with an introduction by the Rev. E. H. Dewart, D.D. Pp. 183. Methodist Book Rooms, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax. Price 55cts.

This book is just what its name implies—a supply of ammunition for the war against rum and the rum traffic. And red-hot shot and shrapnel shell much of it is. There is a fight before us. The forces are marshalling. It must be fought in every town and township in Canada. A great battle is waging in Toronto over the grocers' license question. We hope to report victory. But the battle must be renewed over and over again. The Methodist church and Methodist people must bear their part bravely in Memories of Canada and Scotland, this fight. No church in the land is Specches and Verses. By the Right so pledged to intense and uncom-Hon, the Marquis of Lorne, K.T., promising hostility to the liquor G.C.M.G., etc. Pp. 360. Mon-traffic. This book will be of service in G.C.M.G., etc. Pp. 360. Mon-traffic. This book will be of service in treal: Dawson Bros., and Methodist the fight. It is packed full of facts Book Rooms, Toronto, Montreal, and arguments in favour of the total and Halifax. Price \$1.50.

abolition of the deadly trade. It will and Halifax. Price \$1.50. abolition of the deadly trade. It will Both during his sojourn among us be a good book for Sunday-schools.

when we look up from our dying beds, jects contained in this volume. Others diers all. Others are of world-wide "Didn't I guide you straight?"— embalm in verse the quaint and often fame as Gough, Hall, Cuyler, Talmage, —Evangelical Repository.

pathetic Indian legends which are fast and Garrett. Buy and read and land embalm in verse the quaint and often fame as Gough, Hall, Cuyler, Talmage, pathetic Indian legends which are fast and Garrett. Buy and read and lend fading out of the memory of man. and give this book; and fight and pray

HOW'S MY BOY?

"110, sailor of the sea! How's my hoy my hoy!"
"What's your hoy's name, good wife, And in what ship sailed he!"

" My boy John-He that went to sea— What care I for the ship, sailor? My boy's my boy to me.

" You come back from sea, And not know my John? I might as well have asked some landsman, Yonder down in the town. There's not an ass in all the parish But knows my John.

"How's my boy-my boy? And anless you let me know, I'll swear you are no sailor, Blue jacket or no, — Brass buttons or no, sailor, Anchor and crown or no,— Sure his ship was the 'Jolly Briton—'" "Speak low, woman, speak low!"

"And why should I speak low, sailor, About my own boy John? If I was loud as I am proud I'd sing him over the town! Why should I speak low, sailor?" "That good ship went down."

"How's my boy—my boy?
What care I for the ship, sailor?
I was never aboard her.
Be she affoat, or be she aground,
Sinking or swimming. I'll be bound
Her owners can afford her!
I say, how's my John?"
"Every man on board went down,
Every man aboard her." Every man aboard her.'

"How's my boy—my boy? What care I for the men, sailor! I'm not their mother—How's my boy—my boy! Tell me of him and no other! How's my boy-my boy!

-Sydney Dobell.

One of the grandest sights which modern history has afforded is Gordon Pasha entering the fiery and fanatical Soudan with only a companion or two, and with no armor but a walking cane, to proclaim peace to an ocean of strife. Whether he fail or succeed, the fact that Great Britain trusted more to him than to her armies, that the fanatical Mussulmans believed in his success, that he himself feels equal to the task, puts him outside of every category on this side of the era of mythological tules. If Gordon succeeds after the defeats of Hicks and Baker, it will be such a victory as will put the career of Napoleon in the shade.—

Montreal Witness.

THE Rev. C. H. Spurgeon's paper, Sword and Trowel, thus notices the English edition of Withrow's "Valeria, the Martyr of the Catacombs :" We wanted to read more when we left off; and a sentence from its pages is its best recommendation; for to us, "it taught the sanctity of suffering and of weakness, and the supreme majesty of gentleness and truth."

The New Connexion Magazine says: We welcome this charming production. It presents a most vivid picture of the Church of the Catacombs in the form of a story. An immense quantity of accurate information is pressed into small space, but the interest of the tale never flags. The book is admirably got up; it abounds in excellent illustrations, and old and young alike will be pleased with it.

PRONUNCIATION .- Many of us say, A bone was tawst to the dawg.' we go to the dictionaries, however, we find that a bone was tabst to the dahg.

FARMER JOHN.

". FI'd nothing todo," said Farmer John,
" To fret and hother me West I but rid of this mountain of work, What a good man I could be!

Where they have no right to be; And the words in the garden and the corn Why, they fauly fighten me.

It worries me out of my temper quite, And well-migh out of my head What a carse it is that a man must toil lake this for his daily bread "

But Farmer John he broke his leg, And was kept for many n week A he'pless and an idle man Was be therefore mild and meek!

Nage what with the pain and what with the

tret
Of sitting with nothing to do—
And the farm work botched by a shiftlesss hand -

He got very cross and blue.

He scolded the children and cuffed the dog That fawher about his knee; And snarfed at his write, though she was kind And patient as wife could be.

He grumbled, and whited, and fretted, and

tuned,
The whole of the long day through.
Twill ruin me quite, "cried Farmer John,
"To sit here with nothing to do!"

His hart got well, and he went to work, And busier man than he, A happier man or a pleasanter man, You never would wish to see.

The pigs got out, and he drove them back, Whistling right merrily; He mended the fence and kept the cows dust where they ought to be.

Weeding the garden was first-rate fun, And ditto horing the corn.
"The happier far," said Farmer John,
"Than I've been since I was born."

He learned a lesson that lasts him well-'i will last him his whole life through. He frets but seldom, and never because He has plenty of work to do.

"I'll tell you what," said Farmer John, "They are either knaves or fools Who long to be idle--for idle hands Are the Devil's chosen tools."

ONLY ONE GLASS.



E sure and come home early, Richard, when you get your wages, for I am very poorly, and shall want you to go to market."

So said Mary

Carter, a decent-looking woman, to her husband, as he, after kissing her and the children, went forth to his day's labour.

"I will be sure," was his reply.

Now Richard had more than once made such promises only to break them; and yet the wife hoped that, under the peculiar circumstances of her condition, he would this time keep his word. And so the day passed away, amid hope and fear; but about five o'clock Richard's steps were heard, much to the joy of Mary, whose situation was even more critical than he

expected.
"I have kept my word, you see," said Richard, "this time, and right glad I am, seeing how you are."
"I am so glad you are come," said

Mary. "Well, what can I do for you?"

运

"You must go and pay the weekly bills at Harris," said Mary, "and

want for the coming week, and perhaps you had better bring a little tea and sugar, and also some outmeal, for we are quite out of every-

thing."
"Very well;" and off started Richard on his errand of housekeeping.

While he is on his way, we must just remark that, owing to his rather free disposition, as it was called, he often spent in sprees, like many others of his class, more than sufficient to have kept his cupboards well supplied, instead of which, however, the stock was always low, while the credit at the shop was only maintained by regularly paying for one week's goods as another was taken away.

With quick steps ho was making his way to the shop, when, just as he was passing the "Lion," who should he meet but an old shopmate, and after the usual salutations were passed, he was about to say, "I must go," when his companion said, "You'll not go without having one glass, for old acquaintance sake, will you!

"I cannot really stay, said Richard, "my wife is ill and will want me back again, besides it is now getting dark."
"Well, but," said Jim, "it won't

take a minute, and I'll stand treat. Come along."

After a deal of persuasion, and much against his real wishes, Richard went into (shall we say the jaws of) the "Lion." Over the glass they talked about matters of interest-the state of trade, old times-from one thing to another they passed on, for-getting both the time and the wife. Of course, Richard must return the compliment to his companion, as he would not for the world be thought shabby, so another glass was ordered; other persons in the meantime dropped in to do the same; and, sad to say, though it is repeating the old story over again, other glasses quickly tollowed; and thus the evening and the money quickly passed away. All at once Richard thought of home, and looking up at the clock found it was nearly midnight.

"I must go," he said, "or I shall be too late for the shep, and have a row in the bargain at my house."

"Don't go yet, said several voices; "let's have another glass, and then Harry Harper will sing us a song.

"I tell you, I must go," he said "Who would be a lady's maid?" said one.

"Catch me turning housekeeper," said another.

"Oh, he is tied to apron strings," called out a third.

Stung by these remarks, he felt inclined to punish his taunters, but, instead of doing so, he made a movement to depart, when a ring of jeers saluted him; this aroused his blood, but pushing forward, he cleared a way through them, and soon found himself in the street. On the pathway he stumbled against some one, a.d, supposing it to be one of his late companions, simed a blow which felled the person to the ground; while, owing to the force of the movement, he also himself staggered over, and lay beside him in the road. The stranger arose first, and after making a few inquiries, passed on his way, leaving Richard saying he wished he had hit him a harder blow; after which he also started on his journey again; but upon feeling in his pockets, and finding all his money gone, he muttered to then he will put you up the things I himself something about he supposed

he had better go home, and bent his steps in that direction.

While Richard was thus spending his time at the "Lion," another scene was taking place at his home. delicate wife in her loneliness taken ill. As she lay there in her weakness, she kept asking whether her husband had come back; and as hour after hour passed away, her heart was ready to break, thinking that surely some evil had befallen him; and when, after midnight, he came in, swearing and grumbling at everybody he met, she hid her face and wept like a child. They put him to bed, where he soon fell asleop; and in the morning when he awoke, and found himself at home, he tried to recall the events of the previous night. After a while he collected his thoughts, and bitterly lamented his weakness, but vowed never again thus to be led astray.

How the Sunday was spent under such circumstances can be better imagined than described. What with a guilty conscience, empty cupboards, and no money-who can wonder that discord and misery reigned in that home? As the day were away, a resolution was formed in Richard's mind, that with the new morning a new life should begin; and after another night's rest, he started with a determination to make a good week thus hoping to learn wisdom and profit by the past. Just as he was entering the place where the workshop stood, he encountered a shopmate, who said to him:

"Hallo, Dick, you are in for it."
"In for what 1" said Richard.

"What, don't you know what you did on Saturday at the ' Lion '!'"

"Yes, but what of that; I only had a drop too much; and am going to make a good week, as my wife has given me another child."

"Well, I hope you may, but I doubt it; don't you know who you knocked down outside the 'Lion?"

"No; I don't recollect anything about it."

"If you don't, somebody else does; for it was our young master whom you struck, and he has gone to the magistrates to take out a summons scainst you; for he says he'll see whether he cannot put an end to this sort of thing."

This was quite an unexpected blow to Richard's cherished plan; for a moment he stood fixed to the spot, afraid to move either one way or the other. To advance would be to face the magistrates, and then perhaps the prison, as he had no money to pay any fine; to go back he dare not, for his guilty conscience told him of his poor, neglected, starving wife and children. With a feeling of desperation coming over him, he resolved to fly from both. In a moment he was gone, no one ever could tell where.

If you would be free from a similar danger, your only safe course is to abstain from all appearance of evil. The germ is hidden in the one glass; if that be taken, who shall tell where it may end !

A few weeks after, if you had been staying at the house of another working-man in that neighbourhood, on a cold afternoon in March, you might have seen Mary Carter, with the babe in her arms, begging bread for herself and five children—with no other pros-

pect than the workhouse before her fo the remainder of her days.

Would to God we could give to suc woman, and all other ill-used wiver the power to enter an action agains the man who should thus tempt and ruin the families of our land.

Methinks I see the court and the magistrate, with the publican and the poor wife all face to face; the evidence is conclusive, the verdict is given and, amid the thanks of many a heart, the magistrate shall say: "Mr. Landlord, as you have been the cause of this woman losing her husband, and the only means of supporting herself and family, I shall make an order that you keep them in food and home, until the husband comes back again." And all the people shall say, "Amen and Amen.

AN ENIGMA.

Five men in conversation sat : Five men in conversation sat;
The first one said anodst their chat
"Were I to cease my lengthened teign
There never could be with again."
The second said, "If my breath cease
The world will never more have PFACK."
The third continued "SIS would die
Were I amongst the dead to lie."
The fourth exclaimed "If I should go The earth would no more somow know, While from the lifth the statement fell, "If I among you cease to dwell, Mankind will then forever be From Nautsu and from suffering free."
Say, if you can, who are these men,
You've seen them oft, and will again.

ANSWER.

The five important men I mean, That you and I so oft have seen, Are all companions, good and true, Their names are A. E. I. O. U.

WHAT WHISKEY WILL DO.

OME years ago, in one of the counties of New York, a worthy man was tempted to drink until drunk. In the

delirium of drunkenness he went home and murdered his wife in the most brutal manner. He was carried to jail while drunk. Awakening in the morning, and looking around upon the bare walls, and seeing the bars upon the windows, he exclaimed:

"Is this a jail?"

"Yes, you are in jail," answered some one.

"What am I here for?" was the carnest inquiry.
"For murder," was the answer.

"Does my wife know it?"

"Your wife know it?" said some "Why, it was your wife you one. murdered."

On this announcement he dropped suddenly, as if he had been struck dead. Let it be remembered that the constable who carried him to jail sold the liquor which caused his drunkenness; the justice who issued the warrant was one of those who signed his license; the sheriff who hanged him also sold liquor and kept a ten-pin alley.

A DELIVERER -People of Khartoum have hailed General Gordon us their deliverer. On his arrival thousands crowded to kiss his hands and feet, calling him "Sultan of the Soudan." Addrssing the people, Gen. Gordon said:—"I came without soldiers, but with God on my side, to redress your weapons, but will mete out justice." evils.

A coquerre is a woman thout any heart that makes a fool of a man that ain't got any head.

THE BRAVEST BOY IN TOWN.

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TE lived in the Cumberland Valley,
And his name was Jamie Brown And his name was Jamie Brown; But it changed one day, so the neighbours say, To the "Bravest Boy in Town"

was the time when the Southern soldiers, Under Early's mad command, for the border made their dashing raid From the North of Maryland.

And Chambershorg unransomed, In smoutdering ruin slept, While up the vale, like a fiery gale The Rebel raiders swept.

And a squal of gray-clad horsemen Came thundering over the bridge, Where peaceful cows in the meadows browse, At the fect of the great Blue Ridge;

That ian in the valley bay, Defenceless then, for its loval men, At the front, were far away.

Pillage and spoil and plunder!" This was the tearful word That the Widow Brown, in gazing down From her latticed window, heard.

Neath the boughs of the sheltering oak tree, The leader bared his head, As left and right, until out of sight, His dusty gray-coats sped.

Then he called: "Halloo! within there!" A gentle, fair-haired dame Across the floor to the open door In gracious answer came.

"Here! stable my horse, you woman!" The soldier's tones were inde—
"Then bestir yourself and from yonder shelf
Set out your store of food!"

For her gu at she spread the table; She motioned him to his place With a gesture proud; then the widow bowed, And gently—asked a grace.

"If thine enemy hunger, feed him!
I obey, dear Christ!" she said;
A creeping blush, with its scarlet flush,
O'er the face of the soldier spread.

He rose: "You have said it, madam! Standing within your doors the telet foe; but as forth they go They shall trouble not you nor yours!"

Alas, for the word of the leader! Alas, for the soldier's yow!.

When the captain's men rode down the glen,
They carried the widow's cow.

It was then the fewless damie Sprang up with flashing eyes, And in spite of tears and his mother's fears, On the gray-mate, off he flies.

Like a wild young Tam O'Shanter He plunged with piercing whoop, O'er field and brook till he overtook The straggling rebel troop,

Laden, with spoil and plunder, And laughing and shouting still, As with cattle and shoop they lazily creep Through the dust o'er the winding hill.

Oh ' the coward crowd!" cried Jamie; There's Brindle! I'll teach them now!" And with headlong stride, at the captain's side,
He called for his mother's cow.

"Who are you, and who is your mother?"
I promised she should not miss?
Well! upon my word, have I never heard
Of assurance like to this!"

"Is your word the word of a soldier?"—And the young lad faced his foes,
As a jeering laugh, in anger half
And half in sport, arose.

But the captain drew his sabre, And spoke, with lowering brow: "Fall back into line! The joke is mine! Surrender the widow's cow!"

And a capital joke they thought it,
That a barefoot lad of ten
Should demand his due—and get it too—
In the face of forty men.

And the rollicking Robel raiders Forgot themselves semelow,
And three cheers brave for the hero gave,
And three for the brindle cow. He lived in the Cumberland vaney,
And his nare was Jamie Brown;
But it changed at day, so the neighbours say,
To the "Bravest Boy in Town."
—Wide Awake.

MORE ABOUT THE QUEEN.

UEEN VIOTORIA: Her Girlhood and Womanhood," by Grace Greenwood, a well known writer, is published in Canada by Dawson Bros. Of it the writer says: "I sined to make a pleasant, simple, fireside story of the life and reign of Queen Victoria—and I hope I have not altogether failed. I have done my work, if lightly, with entire respect, though always as an American and a Republican." These words exactly describe the character of the book, which is a delightful collection of incidents from the works of many writers, connected by a thread of history, mingled with respectful comments, and manifesting throughout a genuine admiration for the Queen, Prince Albert and their royal children. We quote one passage out of many that it would be pleasant to lay before

our readers. It follows the descrip-

tion of the coronation :-The Queen was certainly a very valiant little woman, but there would have been something unnatural, almost uncanny, about her had the regal calm and religious seriousness which marked her mich during those imposing rites continued indefinitely, and it is right pleasant to read in the reminiscences of Leslie, how the child in her broke out when all the magnificent but tiresome parade, all the grand stage business with those heavy actors, was over. The painter says: "She is very fond of dogs, and has one favourite little spaniel, who is always on the look-out for her return when she is from home. She had, of course, been separated from him on that day longer than usual, and when the state-coach drove up to the palace steps she heard him barking joyously in the hall, and ex-claimed, 'There's Dash,' and was in a hurry to doff her crown and royal robe, and lay down the sceptre and the orb, which she carried in her hands, and go and give Dash his bath."

BRING OUT THE ROPE.

HE Swiss guides are heroic men. Tremendous exploits of strength and courage are the scones which in old age they review. Mountain climbers are dependent on their skill and experience; but no matter what their knowledge of Alpine safeguards or perils may be,

they cannot secure even the hope of safety to those who ask their help, except on one condition, and that is, their willingness to be bound together in

difficult passes.

The party sets out in union, with kindly intentions to be helpful to each other. They have a book-knowledge of the way, but every step is new to their feet, and they must trust to their guide. For awhile a common bond of personal welfare is enough. But see, the guide has halted and waits-for the company to listen. They hear his voice in that clear Alpine air, ringing in stirring tones, "Courage, gentlemen, there is danger hear; we must tie the rope around each man, and protect each other!" It is a deceitful snowbridge over an abyssmal cleft in the blue ice! If one man ventures to cross

alone, he may drop between those frozen walls. Bring out the rope and bind these adventurers so firmly that if a man falls, the strength and steadiness of his fellows may hold him securely. Woe betide the man who goes over the horrible glacier regions of Switzerland

The experienced guides, who know the dangers of this life journey, tell us that union is strength, that ties of mutual faith and common interest are not all we need, and they bid us bring out the rope of true-hearted association, to double the force of each man's weight. We have done it in faith, trusting in the Lord—because we know there are dangerous passes in the narrow way to the heavenly heights.—Nashville Christian Advocate.

A NEW KIND OF HAPPINESS.

ANY boys have tender con-sciences and a great reverence for religion, but shrink

from becoming Christians lest the change make them sober and sedate like men, and take away their boyish cheerfulness and love of sports. They forget that if a great joy fills the heart from peace with God and the forgiveness of sins, this joy will make all life pleasanter to them in study and work and play. Dr. Nebemiah Adams, long settled as pastor in Boston, gives an account of a boy who became Christian without quite knowing what the change meant, or why he felt so happy. Dr. Adams says: "A lad was on his way from school, with other lads in playful conversation. When he entered his home, he laid down his books in the entry, went to his chamber, locked the door, kneeled down, and heedless whether anyone was in the room adjoining, prayed in childlike language nearly as follows:
'O God, my heavenly Father, I have come to pray to thee. I don't want anything in particular; but I love Thee. I have come just to say that I do not know what has made me feel as I have felt this forenoon, but I haven't been able to think of much beside God. I never loved anything so. Whom have I in heaven but Thee, and there is none upon earth I desire beside Thee. Yes, there is one thing I do desire, and that is, that all scholars may feel so toward Thee.' After a few words more, he joined his brothers and sisters in their play."

This boy was happier than ever before in his life. He didn't know the reason, but it was because he had come to love God, and that made him love parents and brothers and sisters and schoolmates better, and all beautiful things in nature better. He was much happier than his schoolmates who did not love God, and this new joy entered into his talk and play, and attracted their notice. Religion helps children to better study and more faithful work. A little girl of twelve was telling, in a simple way, the evidence that she was a Christian: "I did not like to study, but to play. I was idle at school, and often missed my lessons. Now I try to learn every lesson well to please God. I was mischievous at school when the teachers were not looking at me; making fun for the scholars to laugh at. Now I wish to please Gcd by behaving well and keeping the school laws. I was selfish at ing the school laws. I was selfish at home; didn't like to run errands, and was sulky when mother called me from to be killed by a railway accident.—En.

play to help her in work. Now it is a real joy for me to help mother in any way, and to show that I love her." Such a religion is essential to the best interests and moral growth of youth, and will make life sunny and cheerful.

SAFETY OF RAILWAY TRAVEL

HEN we think of the vast railroad system of this country, and that this country, and that this moment, and every moment, on all the tracks north, south, east and west the long trains are rolling and rushing and thundering on, it is a marvel that every morning and every evening newspaper does not present us a long roll of the dead. Let the reprehension of the faithless always be accompanied with applaudits for that multitude of men who on small wages keep the railroading of this country and Great Britain moving in such perfection that an accident is exceptional.* One can go from New York to Toronto or Chicago with no more exposure to danger than he meets in crossing our slippery streets on cold nights. The least The least dangerous mode of travel is the railtrain. More dangerous is it to go in carriage, and in some conditions of street most perilous to go sfoot. While we are again and again called to denounce the sacrifice of human life, we ought to take every opportunity to praise the fidelity of those who get no recognition of brave work conscientiously performed. There are in our time no grander instances of vicarious suffering than that shown by railroad engineers. I often ride with them on their locomotives, and I am always impressed with their intelligence, their gentlemanliness and their heroism. You get but little idea of them as you see the train coming in, and with faces and hands and garments smutched of the coal-dust and soiled with the oil of machinery, they lean out of the window of the hissing engine looking for a telegram from the superintendent giving orders about the next run. Tow much of the life, the wealth and the happiness of the world depends upon their promptness, and how few betray the trust.—Dr. Talmage.

THE WORK OF A MOMENT.

ID you never write a letter, and just as you were finishing it let your pen fall on it or a drop of ink blot the fair page? ණබ It was the work of a moment, but the evil could not be entirely effaced. Did you never cut yourself, unexpectedly and quickly? It took days or weeks to heal the wound, and even then a scar remained. It is related of Lord Brougham, that one day he occupied a conspicuous place in a group to have his daguerreotype taken. But at an unfortunate moment he moved. The picture was taken, but his face was blurred.

Do you ask what application we would make of these facts? Just this: "It takes a lifetime to build a character; it only takes one moment to destroy it." "Watch and pray," therefore, "that ye enter not into temptation." "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

"VALUATION."

HE old Squire said, as he stood by his

And his neighbour, the Deacon, went by:
"In spite of my bank stock and real estate,
You're better off, Deacon, than b.

"We're both growing old, and the end's

drawing near;
You have less of this world to resign;
But in heaven's appraisal your assets, I fear,
Will reckon up greater than mine.

¹⁰ They say 1 am tich, but I'm feeling so poor, I wish 1 coul 1 swop with you even, The pounds I have lived for and laid upin store, For the shillings and pence you have given."

"Well, 'Sonite," said the Deacon, with shrewd

common so use.
While his eye had a twinkle of fun; Let your pounds take the way of my shil-hings and pence.

And the thing can be easily done. - Whittier.

"THE PICKET GUARD."

T is composed of eight boys. It meets quarterly in the pastor's study. A map of the village, the population of which is four thousand and two hundred, is divided inte eight parts, one part being assigned to each boy. It is his business to know who lives in every house in his district and what church each family attends; at the meeting he reports changes of residences and any other facts which he may think the pastor would be glad to learn. The houses on the map are all numbered, and lists correspondingly numbered are made of the families.

This plan interests the boys in the work of the church. It saves the pastor much labour, and makes him well acquainted with his field. brings the boys to the study, where, suide from the work of the evening, they have a social visit and slight refreshments. The opportunity is afforded to give instruction upon some religious topic and to engage with them in prayer. The plan having been tested, it is confidently recommended to those in similar circumstances.—Presbyterian Journal.

PREVITIES.

A very slight error of fact or practice will sometimes result in a serious mistake. This was recently illustrated in a school in this city, where a pupil who had been impressed with the force and value of double letters, such as "double o" in "fool," "double o" in "heel," etc., was called upon to read that touching poem exhortatory to rising early, beginning: "Up, up, Lucy! the sun is in the sky!" Surprise, which soon gave way to hilarity, was occusioned when the pupil read the line: "Double up, Lucy! the sun is in the sky !" thus giving it a significance by no means contemplated by the poet.

"India, my boy," said an Irishman to a friend on his arrival at Calcutta, "is jist the finest climate under the sun; but a lot of young fellows come out here, and they dhrink and they ate, and ate and they dhrink, and they die; and thin they write home to their friends a pack o' lies, and says it's the climate as has killed 'em."

Mas. Smith, triumphantly-"The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world!" Mr. Smith, cynically—"Yes, indeed, my dear, and that's the way the world is so badly governed."

"CHILDREN," said a Boston schoolexaminer, after hearing some essays read, "Children, you should never use a preposition to end a sentence with 1" "Isn't 'with' a reposition?" asked the girl whose composition gave rise to the correction. The school-examiner withered.

A NAUGHTY boy said to his mother: "You see, ma, you're always telling me to behave as well to the family as I do to company, but why don't you behave the same to me as you do to company, and ask me to have another piece of pie?"

ARECESTLY propounded conundrum by a member of the Lower House of the British Parliament: "What is the difference between the House of Commons and the House of Lords? Answer: "One has a-bility, the other no bility."

A WATERLOO infant, who had been badly bitten by mosquitoes, happening to see a lightning-bug one evening, ran in to his mother declaring that one of the mosquitoes was looking for him with a lantern.

A nook, however valuable, purchased for the admiration of others, and consign d to its shelf, is the most lifeless piece of furniture to which we can give a place .- Rev. S. P. Herron.

Big Boy, a Wichita chief who was in Washington the other day, thus described Secretary Teller: " Big man, good heart, give Injun heap of maps, but no land."

Young Superintendent: "Children, what is an angel?" Little Johnny: "My sister says you told her she was one." Superintendent blushes like a Superintendent blushes like a boiled lobster and everybody snickers.

Ir a man has any brains at all, let him hold on to his calling, and in the grand sweep of things his turn will come at last.

THERE is not a more repulsive spectacle than an old man who will not forsake the world, which has already forsaken him.

FIRST QUARTERLY REVIEW.

March 30.

REVIEW SCHEME

Lesson I. The Conference at Jerusalem.—What was it about? Who took part in it? How does the Golden Text say that we shall be saved?

be saved?
Lesson 11. Hearing and Doing.—From whom does every good gift come? How should we hear and speak? What does the Golden Text tell us to be? How may we do this?

o this? Lesson III. The Power of the Tongue.—To hat is the tongue compared? What are what is the tongue compared? What are some dangers of the tongue? How is true wisdom shown t

wisdom shown?
Lesson IV. Living as in God's sight.—What is the promise to those who draw night to God? Why should we not speak evil of others? To what is our life compared? How should we act and speak?
Lesson V. Paul's Second Missionary Tour.
—Why did not Barnabas go with Paul? Who did go with him? What young man did he take from Lysta? How was he led to go to Macedonia?

Lesson VI. The Conversion of Lydin,— Who was shot What lea to her conversion?

Lesson 1X. Paul at Athens.—Where did Paul - peak ! What did ho say he had seen ! What did he tell the people about God! How

What did he tell the people about God! How was his teaching received!
Lesson X. Paul at Corinth.—Whom did Paul meet at Corinth! How long did he preach there! What was the result of his labor! How did he escape persecution! What is the promise of the Golden Text!
Lesson XI. The Coming of the Lord.—What shall take place at the Lord's coming! What is said of its time! How may we be teady for it!
Lesson XII. Christian Diligence.—In what should we had diligent! I Got the Text!

should we be diligent? [Golden Text.] How should those who are disorderly be treated ! How may we obtain peace!

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

LESSON L A.D 54.1 [April 6. PAUL'S TRIED MISSIONARY JOURNLY.

Act 18, 23.28, and 19, 1-7. Commit to memory vs. 24.26.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them. Acts 19. 6.

OUTLINE

1. Apollos at Ephesus, v. 23-28. 2. Paul at Ephesus, v. 1-7. Time.—A.D. 54. Placii.—Ephesus, in Asia Minor.

PLACE.—Ephesus, in Asia Minor.
EXPLANATIONS.—Some time there—At Antioch, where he had gone after his second journey. Went over all the country—This was in the interior provinces of Asia Minor.
Eloquent—The word also means "learned."
Mighty in the Scriptures—Familiar with them and able to instruct in them. Instructed—That is, he knew the teachings of the Old Testament and of John the Baptist. Biptism of John—Who taught that Christ was at hand, and people must prepare for his coming by of John—Who taught that Christ was at hand, and people must prepare for his coming by righteousness and tuning to God. Began to speak—It is well to speak for God as far as we know the truth. Took him unto them—To their home, where Paul had lived before. More perfectly—The Gospel of Christ. Helped them much—By his carnest and powerful words. Convinced the Jeus—showed by prominents which they could not answer. words. Convinced the Jeus—showed by arguments which they could not answer Issus reas Christ—That he came as the promised Messiah and Saviour. Upper coasts—The inland provinces. Have ye received—The privilege of disciples to enjoy the presence of the Spirit. Not so much as he red—They had learned only the teachings of John the Baptist like Apollos. John's baptism—With a promise of turning from sin to God. Hands apon them—This gift came with the laying on of apostles' hands. Spake with tongues—Praised God in a new and strange language.

TRACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson are we shown-1. The advantage of a knowledge of God's word?

2. The power of an earnest spirit;
3. The gift of the Holy Spirit through faith in Jesus?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What is said of Apollos? He was mighty in the Scriptures. 2. What did he do? Taught the things of the Lord. 3. What did Paul ask the disciples whom he met at Ephesus? "Have ye received the Holy Ghost?" 4. When Paul had spoken to these disciples in what were they then baptized? In the name of the Lord Jesus. 5. What followed the laying on of hands on those who were baptized? The Holy Ghost came on them. them.

Doctrinal Suggestion .- Christian bap-

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

29. Why is it called the Apostles' Creed ? Because it contains the substance of the apostles' testimony.

30. How did this Creed arise?

Who was sho? What led to her conversion? What led to the persecution of Paul and Silas? How were they treated?

Lesson VII. The Conversion of the Jailer.

—How did the apostles act under persecution? What led the jailer to ask for the way of salvation? What does the Golden Text state as the way to be saved?

Lesson VIII. These alonica? How was he treated there? How did the people of Berea receive the word? [Gulden Text]. How will the study of Scripture benefit us? If the an enlargement of the form used in baptism.

30. How did this Creed arise?

It is an enlargement of the form used in baptism.

31. How is the Creed an enlargement of that form?

Baptism is "into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Son and of the Creed speaks of the Father, who ereated us; the second of the Son, who redeemed us; and the third of the Holy Ghost, who sanctifies the Church, assuring us of forgiveness and fitting us for everlasting life.

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17. Guy Fawkes.

16 The Mutinies at Spithead and the Y
17. Guy Fawkes.
18 The Reign of Terror, 1792.
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20. What came of the Beggars' Revolt.
21. Hand in Hand for England.
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23. Out in the Forty-Five.
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25. Scotland's Sorrow.
26. Ludic's Agenty.

24. Pederats and Confederates.
25. Scotland's Sorrow.
26. India's Agony.
27. British Charters of Liberty.
28. Gallant King Harry.
29. The Sicilian Vespers.
30. Hampden and Ship-Money.
31. From the Black-hole to Plossey.
32. Through Slaughter to a Throne.
33. The Leformation in Singland.
34. From Torbay to St. James's.
35. A Dark Deed of Cruelty.
36. The Men of the "Maydower."
37. The Mensacre of Scio.
38. The Fight at Fontenoy.
39. The 9th of Thermidor.
40. The Arrest of the Fivo Members.
41. The Penny Newspaper.
42. Scotland's Great Victory.
43. The Penny Post.
44. "Long Live the Beggars."

The Penny Post.

"Long Live the Beggars."
Bible and Sword.
John of Leyden.
Rizzio and Parnley.

46.

Wyatt's Rebellion.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

28. Napoleon. 1. Gladstone.

29. Stephenson. 2. Beaconsheld.

30. Spurgeon. 3. Nelson.

4 Wellington. 31. Dickens.

5. Luther. 32. Garibaldi.

6. Chutham. 33. Cromwell. 7. Chaucer. 34. Fox.

35. Washington. 8 Humboldt.

36. Wallace. 9. Carlyle.

37 Gustavus Adol-10. Casar. 11. Wesley. phus.

12 Peter the Great, 38, Calvin.

13. Burns. 39. Alexander the

14. Thos. A'Becket. Great.

15. Scott. Confucius.

16. Columbus. 41. Altred the Great.

17 Shakespeare. 42. Kuox.

18 Bunyan. 43. Brace.

19. Dante. 44. Sociates.

45. Bright. 20. Goldsmith.

21. Frederick the 46. Homer.

Great. 47. Hugo.

22. DeMontfort. 48. Pitt.

23. Moliere. 49. Queen Victoria.

24. Johnson. 50. Joun of Arc. 25. Burke. 51. Queen Elizabeth.

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