



OUR HOME CIRCLE

BEAUTY IN DUTY, I said, I can not work to-day, I am tired of hourly duty; O, had I wings to flee away...

JOSPHINE MEEKER.

Many Clemmer gives in the New York Independent, a touching sketch of one of those lives which reveal angelic fortitude, and perfect saintly virtues.

Not many weeks ago I told you of the funeral of a young and beautiful woman, the daughter of a justice of the Supreme Court, whose little mission-school scholars gathered around her coffin and heaped it with flowers.

What a world of tragedy can sometimes be concentrated in the history of a single family. The father of Josephine Meeker was an old friend and worshiper of Horace Greeley, who during the latter's life was long engaged on the New York Tribune.

The country knows the result of this self-abnegation. "She was always thinking of what she could do for others, never of herself," said her bereaved brother, yesterday, his eyes full of tears.

When "a brave" held a pistol to her face, declaring he would kill her if she did not do his bidding, she looked him in the eyes and said: "Kill away!"

Secretary Teller, of the Interior Department, was an old friend of her father, and when he came to be the chief of this department, Miss Meeker was promoted to his own office. She was an accom-

plished stenographer, and the little remnant of her days was filled with satisfactory and honorable employment. From behind a great screen, in a small office of the secretary and assistant secretary passed by heard the quick click of a type-writing machine.

Tue-day, the day after Christmas, was her last day at her post. On Saturday morning she by death entered into life.

The brother who loved the "little sister" came on from New York in season to see her die. He, also, Ralph Meeker, of the New York Herald, has lived through a sad, eventful history on his own behalf.

THE BEST AND ONLY SUBSTITUTE.

A friend asked us recently: What substitute can the Church offer young people who desire to enter its Communion for the ball-room, the theatre, and other worldly pleasures they are called upon to renounce?

THE POWER OF MOTHERS.

I was in the company of a talented Christian lady when a friend said to her, "Why have you never written a book?"

"I am writing two," was the quiet reply. "Have been engaged on one for ten years, the other five."

"You surprise me," cried the friend. "What profound works they must be!"

"Your children?" I said. "Yes, my two children; they are my life-work."

I rejoiced to hear this Christian mother's out-poken words of love and faith, and said in my heart, if all mothers builded over against their own house in this manner what would there be for reformers?

ever I am or ever hope to be, or if I enter heaven, I owe it all to my mother.

Another, with streaming eyes, said, "I am an unfaithful mother; pray for me!"

Another fell on her knees and begged God's mercy on her children. Prayer followed prayer, and a mighty outpouring of God's Spirit in that church, in which scores of the young were gathered in, was the result.

THE WAYS OF SIN.

How pleasant it seems when we enter in, The very first time, the ways of sin; How bright the prospect, how fair the flowers, How quickly fly the enchanted hours!

How dark and narrow the way we've left, Of joy and gladness and ease bereft; How proud we feel of our wiser choice, And o'er our happy escape rejoice!

The prayers we said, and the hymns we sang, In the dear home-circle when we were young; The books we read, and the games we played, Seem dull and tame to the renegade.

The laugh and the song, and the ribald joke Our mirth and madness alike provoke; And with eager haste to our lips we press The glass that adds to our foolishness.

Through light and fragrance we enter in The dazzling and dizzying ways of sin; So much in love with the path we tread, We see no danger that lurks ahead.

But, in a moment of sad surprise, The scales drop off of our blinded eyes; The voice of Conscience is heard within, Urging us out of the way of sin.

Then sweet and precious the past appears, The peaceful haunts of our earlier years; And oh! we long to be free once more, And pure of heart as we were before.

Oh, pleasant it seems when we first begin To follow the crowd in the ways of sin; But dreadful the day when we wake and know The beginning of sin leads to endless woe!

THE HODMAN'S ROPE. He felt the ladder swaying under him, and as he turned to descend, he found that the cord which bound in its centre the spliced ends of the two pieces of which it was composed was slowly unwrapping.

NO MORE GROG FOR CUNARD SAILORS.

The antiquated practice of serving out stater portions of grog to seamen on ocean vessels has almost entirely gone out of fashion on the large passenger steamships which traverse the seas.

But at this moment he saw a rope tossed out to him from a window above. There was nothing behind that he could see, because the window was high and the descent almost vertical.

So, reader, it is with you. God's hand, it is true, is unseen in the tender of salvation made to you from the pulpit, in the reading of the Word, in the working of affliction; but it is unseen because it is past our vision, not because it is beyond our reach.

Why should I fear? Nobody has spoken more justly on the subject of dress than Sydney Smith, who was as wise as he was witty.

SEBASTIAN CABOT.

Sebastian Cabot was certainly in one sense the discoverer of America; it was he who first made sure that it was a wholly new and unknown continent.

At this time of year you will always see all the above-named stars in the places they now occupy. Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, now add greatly to the evening

ter appreciated fifty years later than in his own day. His truth-ful accounts for the time dis-couraged further enterprise in that direction.

"Do you not dread to die?" we asked, suddenly giving words to the thought which had possessed us.

"No; I dread more lest I should live too long, and wear out the body that clothes my soul. I dread that, just as I should dislike to wear these clothes till they are shabby," and she touch-ed the soft, dove colored draperies that fell about her.

"What should I fear?" she answered, "since, here or there, I must always be in my Father's world; for I love him, and I believe that he loves me."

The glory of a hope so strong as to be certainty lit up her serene eyes, and we saw that to her, indeed, the life was more than the raiment; and that a girl might blossom like a flower and be as a flower, unconscious of her beauty, and ready for whatever wind from heaven might sweep away the outward adorning from the loving and waiting soul.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

Watching for somebody, wide brown eyes, Waiting to give him a rare surprise? Oh, is it father, whose horse's feet Fall in the distance smooth and fleet—

Flowers for father, and looks of joy, Sweetest words shall their tongues employ, Somebody's coming—the dear, the wise: Shine out to greet him, your bright brown eyes.

MID-WINTER HEAVENS.

Children and young people, do you look often at the skies when you are out at evening?

Taurus, the Bull, is now on clear evenings to be seen plunging head foremost at Orion, in the southeast. You understand of course, that the shapes of the constellation—the Bull, Orion, Auriga, the Waggoner with the Goat in his arms, the Twins, the Dogs, large and small, and all the rest of them—are but imaginary.

The Pleiades, or the seven sisters, are in the shoulders of Taurus, and on a line with these stars, which you can easily find, is Aldebaran, in the Hyades, in the head of Taurus.

Now strike a line in a south-easterly direction, and you hit Sirius, "the king of stars" in the nose of Canis Major, the greater dog. How glorious are his beams!

Now another line, leaning north-east, and you come to Procyon, in Canis Minor, the lesser dog. This also is a star of the first magnitude, as is Capella, far in the north-west, looking from Procyon.

Capella is in the side of the Goat, which is held in the form of the Waggoner. Between Capella and Procyon, about the middle of a line curving north-west, are the Twins, Castor and Pollux, or Apollo and Hercules.

The two bright stars, always at the same distance from each other, are in them. In the north is the Great Bear or Dipper, always pointing to the Polar Star. In the Pleiades, one star—Atheyone—is said by astronomers to be the hinge of the universe.

At this time of year you will always see all the above-named stars in the places they now occupy. Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, now add greatly to the evening

heavens: Venus, queen of beauty, will soon be evening star. The more you study the heavens, young friends, and become acquainted with the stars, the less will you be influenced by small and base thoughts, and the more likely will you be to revere and worship Him who made the host of heaven, who orders their sublime march, and who calleth them all by their names.—N. Y. Ecologist.

When I was a boy, my father one day called me to him, that he might teach me to know what o'clock it was. He told me the use of the hands, and described to me the figures on the dial plate until I could tell the time quite readily.

No sooner had I gained this additional knowledge, than I scampered off to rejoin my companions, but my father called me back again. "Stop, Humphrey," said he, "I have something else to say to you."

Back I went, wondering what else I had yet to learn, for it seemed to me that I knew all about the clock, quite as well as my father did.

"Humphrey," said he, "I have taught you to know the time of day; I will now teach you to find out the time of your life."

Here was a mystery; so I waited rather impatiently to hear how he would explain it, for I wished sadly to go to my marbles.

"The Bible," says he, "describes the years of man to be threescore and ten or fourscore years. If we divide the threescore years of an old man's life into twelve parts, like the dial of the clock, it will allow almost seven years for every figure. When a boy is seven years old, then it is one o'clock of his life, and this is the case with you; when you are fourteen years old, it will be two o'clock with you; and then at twenty-one years it will be three o'clock, should it please God thus to spare your life; in this manner you may know the time of your life; and your looking at the clock may perhaps remind you of it. My great-grandfather, according to this calculation, died at twelve o'clock, my grandfather at eleven, and my father at ten. At what hour you or I shall die, Humphrey, is known only to him to whom all things are known."

Never since have I heard the inquiry, "What o'clock is it?" without being reminded of the words of my father.

I know not what o'clock it may be with you, but I know very well what time it is with myself; and that if I mean to do anything in this world which hitherto I have neglected, it is high time to set about it. The words of my father gave a solemnity to the dial-plate of a clock which perhaps it never would have possessed to me if those words had not been spoken. "What o'clock is it with you?"—SCL.

THE HEATHEN TO HAVE THEM TOO.

The spirit and aim of those who are sending the Bible to the heathen is beautifully illustrated by an incident narrated of little Miller Bissell of Norwalk, a dear child of seven years of age, whose early death occurred a few months since. He belonged to a "Sunbeam Circle," a company of little children who gathered up in "mission boxes" such gifts as they could, and who in this way during the last year raised sixty-five dollars for the foreign field.

Often during the week that Miller was so ill did he ask to have his "Box" opened, that he might see how much he had for the "poor heathen children." Once in opening it his mother's attention was attracted by a little piece of new paper among the pennies. "Why, what is this?" she said, "you don't want this in." "Oh yes," he said in his quick bright way, "yes I do, mamma, why they are beautiful verses about God. I want the heathen to have them too, they are beautiful. I know they will like them." And so the precious little paper was put back to be sent with his other treasure for the Lord.

He admired the verses and wanted the heathen to have them too. This was genuine benevolence, and it illustrates the nature of true love which seeks to give the heathen that gospel which is to us as the pearl of great price.—Bible Society Record.





right that we should have our own paper quoted perhaps against our own opinion, when the value attached to such a motion is not the name of an individual but the authority of the Church...

DOCTORS DIFFER.

DEAR EDITOR:—Doctors sometimes differ. Dr. Pickard appears to be supremely hopeful of the financial advantages of the proposed Union...

THE "OPEN AIR" MISSION.

Since Mr. Raitton's visit to Halifax two years ago, open air meetings during six months of the year were held on Albert and South Brunswick Streets...

A NOTE ON UNION.

Rev. Robert Wilson writes: Anent the Union question allow me to say that having been an ardent advocate of Canadian Confederation and a warm supporter of the Union of 1874...

to and respect the ancient landmark. I for one want no bishop in the Church to which I belong, and full-fledged bishops we are sure to have if this scheme carries.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Toronto, 2nd March, 1883. The Transfer Committee of the Eastern Conference will meet in Sackville, N.B., on Wednesday, April 25th, 1883, at 7 p. m.

The following arrangements have been made for holding the Educational Meetings in the Sackville District.

Table with columns: CIRCUIT, TIME, DEPUTATION. Lists names like Sackville, Tipton, Point de Bute, Bas Verte, Bayfield, Moncton, Shediac, Dorchester, Hopewell, and Alma.

PERSONAL.

News reaches us from various quarters of the departure of friends to join the "majority." On Saturday Mrs. DeWolf, for so many years the true companion and helper of the excellent T. A. S. DeWolf...

LITERARY, &c.

The Russell Publishing Co., Boston, send Our Little Ones and the Nursery for March. It is, as usual, filled with fine illustrations and choice stories for the "little ones."

The most noteworthy article in the March number of the Canadian Methodist Magazine is by Principal Dawson, of McGill University, on "Points of Contact between Science and Religion."

ABROAD.

Statistics of Methodism in the Southern States show an increase in the Sunday-school department of 20,602 scholars. President Garrett's watchword—a revival in every circuit—is calling forth noble responses in many parts of English and American Methodism.

GLEANNINGS, Etc.

THE DOMINION. The Manitoba Local Legislature has been summoned for April 19th. In New Mexico 30,000 head of sheep were lost during the past Winter.

NEW ZEALAND.

On Saturday a boat was driven out to sea. When overtaken the next morning by assistance from the shore its crew were found frozen to death.

METHODIST NOTES.

Some interesting domestic intelligence appears on our sixth page.

The Halifax North Branch of the Women's Missionary Society acknowledges with thanks the receipt of twenty-five dollars from Mrs. L. A. Wilnot for the Crosby Girls' Home.

Alexander Black, Esq., of Dorchester, is about to make the new Methodist church of that town the handsome donation of a pipe organ, which is now rapidly approaching completion.

A pleasant concert was held in the Exmouth St. Church St. John, last week. A series of socials is being held in leading Methodist homes in Fairville.

Two tea-meetings, one for the junior and the other for the elder scholars, were held in the Charles Street Church this week. Both passed off pleasantly.

On Saturday evening, the 3rd inst. at the Greenfield appointment on the Gagetown circuit, the ordinance of baptism was administered to two adults, and on Sabbath, the 4th, twelve were publicly received into the Church at Burton, by the Rev. W. Harrison, pastor.

Kaye St. congregation intends holding a tea and fancy sale on Tuesday, March 20th, the object being to raise funds for repairing and painting the church. Money or articles for the sale will be thankfully received by the committee.

GENERAL RELIGIOUS NOTES.

Tokio, Japan, has its Twelfth Presbyterian church. The Presbytery is almost made up of native ministers.

In 1882 the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists are said to include one-fifth of the entire population of the principality.

While Mr. Spurgeon was in Mentone, France, he regularly worshipped with the Scotch Presbyterian Church, and at the communion made a most admirable address.

Mrs. Isana Leland Chamberlain, of Brooklyn, has given \$50,000 to Leland University, a Baptist institution at New Orleans for the education of colored men and women.

The Livingstonia Mission of the Free Church of Scotland has already stopped the slave trade about Lake Nyansa, whence 19,000 slaves were annually carried off.

The Irish Presbyterian Missionary Herald announces the public abjuration of Romanism in the Free Italian Church of Rome, of Catalano, the Professor of Physical Science in the Roman University, and the opening for evangelical worship of the splendid old church of Santa Margherita in Venice.

The Japanese Christians of San Francisco have a Japanese Gospel Society, whose aim is to extend the gospel among the Japanese who are not Christians. They have also provided a temporary residence, at a cheap rate, for those of their countrymen who are out of employment, or are poor or sick.

There are now between fifty and sixty European ladies working in the zenanas in India, under the auspices of the Church of England Zenanas Mission. Besides these there are a number of Hindoo ladies, themselves converted by zenana work, who are very effective in carrying the message of Christ among the Hindoo women.

Jacob Bradshaw, of St. Martin's, N. B., has presented to "The New Brunswick Baptist Ministers' Life Association" ten thousand dollars, to be used under certain conditions to aid infirm Baptist ministers, their widows and children.

A few years since a Bible could only be carried into Italy by stealth, but the other day Signor Pellegrino Strobel, Professor in the University, and a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, was elected to represent Parma in the Italian Parliament.

The officers and teachers of Irish Methodist Sunday-schools number 2,787, and the scholars 24,709. Of the latter nearly one-half attend public worship in Methodist churches, and 10,862 are enrolled as members of the band of hope.

Wm. T. Hemmenway, of Brooklyn, N. Y., left by his will over \$50,000 to objects within Methodism. Of this amount \$20,000 goes to the New York Conference, \$20,000 to the New York East Conference, \$5,000 to the Missionary Society, and \$5,000 to the M. E. Church Home of New York City.

held for some weeks subsequently, and many conversions occurred.

During the last year the English Wesleyan Chapel Committee has sanctioned the erection of 122 chapels, 19 schoolrooms, 33 organs, and 19 ministers' houses. Of the chapels, 62 are to be built where there have hitherto been none, the remainder to supply improved and increased accommodation where premises previously occupied had been inadequate.

A remarkable service was held in the chapel of the Ohio Wesleyan University the 16th ult. The great revival had resulted thus far in the professed conversion of 200 students, besides the wonderful quickening of many others.

At the recent session of the Fiji District Meeting, a native minister, who had been on trial seven years, was refused full relations because of his unwholesome habits.

On Saturday evening, Rev. W. Lawson, Methodist, held service in a school house, about six miles from Havelock, N. B. A young man named Ja. Mann entered the room and before he could reach a seat fell to the floor dead.

A despatch to the Chronicle says that in all probability there is truth in the rumor that the Marquis of Lorne will be succeeded by the Right Hon. W. E. Forster as Governor-General. (Since discredited).

The refund to the P. E. I. delegation of \$125,000 expended since Confederation upon public works by the Local Government is likely to lead other Provincial Governments to press claims upon the Dominion Government.

The produce of the Dominion fisheries for the past year is valued at \$16,088,672, an increase over last year of \$271,510. The value of fish exported from Canada for the fiscal year was \$6,898,884, an excess over the previous year of \$245,537.

The total number of vessels of all kinds remaining on the register books of the Dominion on the 31st December, 1882, was 7,312. Assuming the average value to be \$30 per ton, the value of the registered tonnage of Canada on the 31st December last, would be \$37,823,310 or £7,564,662 sterling.

After much discussion, St. John's Presbyterian Church, Chatham, has voted the organ out of their service. Many votes have been taken, sometimes resulting in a majority for and sometimes against the organ.

Unless navigation opens early, there will be almost a flour famine in many sections of Cape Breton next spring. The country merchants last fall imported the usual stock, but the wheat crop on the Island turned out much worse than was first expected, thereby causing a greater demand for flour.

The Grand Division S. of T. of N. B. held the first meeting of their semi-annual session in the Temperance Hall, Fredericton, on the evening of the 7th inst. Some thirty delegates from the several Divisions in the Province were present.

On Friday the Lieutenant Governor attended and gave his assent to the Eastern Extension Railway Bill and ten or twelve other bills that were ready.

The Saskatchewan Coal Mining Co. have now 23 men engaged in projecting a drift into the Cyprus Hills, where the mine is, and large quantities of coal are being taken from the mine.

Last week Sir S. L. Tilley stated that the Estimates would be brought down this week. The budget may be expected two weeks later.

On the morning of the 6th ult, the thermometer at Woodstock stood 40 degrees below zero.

Two special through freight trains are now run weekly between Montreal and Winnipeg by the Canada Pacific Railway.

The City of Chester steamer, with broken propeller, was brought in on Monday by the steamer Missouri, of the Warren line. Both are magnificent ships.

The N. S. Steamship Company were to commence their weekly trips from Yarmouth to Boston on Saturday last, 10th inst.

The remains of the late Captain Leander S. Swaine, who was drowned at Cienfuegos, arrived home on Monday in the brigantine Emma.

Baptist missionaries published the first newspaper in India in 1838. Two hundred and forty are now published there.

The Acadia Steamship Co. have let the contract for a new steamship to ply between Annapolis and Boston to Messrs. Wm. Hamilton & Co., of Glasgow.

Mormonism is reported to be gaining ground in the Western counties of this Province. A man named Burton, son of a deceased Baptist minister, is its apostle.

It is understood that the new Postal Act now in preparation, will contain stringent provisions for the suppression of obscene and immoral literature.

It is stated that there is within a circuit of ten miles from the Boston City Hall a population of between 40,000 and 50,000 natives of the Maritime Provinces.

On Saturday evening, Rev. W. Lawson, Methodist, held service in a school house, about six miles from Havelock, N. B. A young man named Ja. Mann entered the room and before he could reach a seat fell to the floor dead.

The Rev. Osborne Ingle, a Protestant Episcopal clergyman of Frederick, Md., has lost his wife and seven children, mostly by diphtheria, within a brief year.

Not only do armed sentries patrol before the tomb of President Garfield day and night, but whenever the officers of the guard are exchanged they open the coffin, identify the corpse, and exchange receipts for it.

Dr. J. R. Green, author of the "Short History of the English People," died a week ago at Mentone. Mr. Green was an examiner in modern history at Oxford, which University gave him the degree of Doctor of Laws.

Little more than one-tenth of the available food-producing area of this continent is yet occupied, and much more of what is cultivated is very imperfectly worked. The mighty giant, American agriculture, is yet in its infancy.

As one result of the Blue-Ribbon movement in England it is stated that 7,000 less barrels of beer were brewed in Chester in 1882 than in 1881, which means that \$70,000 less money was spent for beer.

Mr. Ross Winans, the American inventor and millionaire, now holds in the counties Ross and Inverness, Scotland, 750 square miles of land exclusively devoted to deer, and desires to extend his preserve.

There is a movement on foot to establish a ladies' medical school in Toronto. Several influential ladies are interesting themselves in it, and hope to have it started in October. It will require not less than twenty students to cover the necessary expenses.

The London Jewish community supports not less than 47 charitable institutions, at a cost of \$37,000 per annum. As contributors to the Hospital Sunday Fund the Jews rank next after the Church of England and Congregationalists.

Owing to suspicion of poison the body of Prince Gortschakoff will be subjected to an autopsy and judicial enquiry. The remains will be placed in the Greek chapel, Baden-Baden, where they will lie in state, awaiting conveyance to St. Petersburg.

In the bore of the Channel tunnel made on the French side, engineers have shown, by experiment, that they can proceed to Dover at the rate of 32 feet daily. This would complete a gallery 18 feet wide, the whole way across, in a little over eighteen months.

Patrick Egan, the former Treasurer of the Irish Land League, arrived in New York yesterday. He denies the rumor that Land League funds were contributed towards the conspiracy and asserts that there is now on hand between \$25,000 and \$26,000 of which is invested in American securities in the name of five trustees.

More than 4,000 Boral crowns were heaped around Gambetta's coffin in the Palais Bourbon, and a writer in *Feuilles* estimates their value at \$100,000. Paris and its environs produced them all, natural as well as artificial. It is reckoned that the daily sale of natural flowers in Paris realizes about \$20,000.

Captain Mayet and an assistant ascended in a balloon in Madrid, before an immense concourse of people, in January. At a height of about 1,000 feet Captain Mayet got out on a trapeze. The trapeze broke and the performer struck the ground on an unpropitious point.

On Saturday a boat was driven out to sea. When overtaken the next morning by assistance from the shore its crew were found frozen to death.





