

Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

VOL. III.

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No. 5.

PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

Through a press of business in the counting-room, we are sorry the prize list for the "December Competition" is not ready yet.

Notwithstanding a very large number of subscriptions expired at the end of the year, we are most happy in saying that the circulation is larger than ever. Although this paper is only two years and a month old, it has a circulation of little less than eight thousand. Remember our offer of a picture to every one getting a new subscriber as well as one to the recruit, made last week, and give us a list of ten thousand by the end of the month. You will not have as long a February to work for us again for four years.

The *Weekly Messenger* is only fifty cents a year, or five copies for two dollars. Who would be without so pleasant-faced a weekly visitor for the sake of less than a cent a week?

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EVIL COMMUNICATIONS.

Two boys aged thirteen lately ran away from Kingston, Ontario, and were arrested at Oswego, New York, for vagrancy. It is said that the reading of a book called "Peck's Bad Boy" was what led to their making fools of themselves by setting out on a tramp after fortune. This book is of a nature tending to destroy in its young readers respect for their elders and superiors, which is the beginning of ruin to many youth. Parents and guardians are undoubtedly greatly to blame for the bad choice young people make of the disposal of their time. Left to their own devices, without the means and material for useful pastime, no wonder boys satiate their hunger for information with reading more spicy than nourishing to their young minds. With nothing useful at which they can apply their strength and skill, it is inevitable that they will drift into the mischief always available to idle hands. Most boys, if not too long neglected, would naturally prefer useful work and wholesome reading to mischief and literary rubbish. Give them carpenter's tools, drawing or engraving outfits, naturalists' implements, or the means of training themselves in any useful direction for which they have a bent. Much attention is being given at present to the question of how to provide for the systematic training of the hand as well as the head in the public schools. Give the boys a chance to prove what they can do outside of schools, and perhaps experience will show that all the school teachers need do is to instruct in the theory of useful art and handicraft, and keep up the interest of the youth by intelligent conversation upon the results and the projects of his outside practice. As to reading, also, it has been proved upon trial in some prominent cases that young people are led to like good literature only a little less easily than they are allowed to acquire a fondness for pernicious trash. There is abundance of excellent and instruc-

tive reading to be got which gives a great deal more enjoyment than the sensational stuff that turns the heads of boys and makes them triflers for life. Perhaps the greatest cause of the evil is indifference on the part of parents and guardians as to what boys read.

IRISH AFFAIRS.

Nationalist meetings are being numerously held in Ireland, but wherever there is reason to anticipate disturbances at them they are proclaimed by the Government. This extreme course is only as a rule considered necessary when the Orangemen announce the intention to hold meetings, and then both are outlawed. Mr. Justin McCarthy, member of Parliament and the historian of "Our Own Times," said, at a meeting at Edgeworthstown, Irishmen were determined to have their own parliament. Some disorder occurred at this meeting and several obnoxious persons were bundled off the platform. In a speech at Kill-of-the-Grange Mr. Sexton, member of Parliament, said he recognized the Queen as the constitutional sovereign and that the Nationalists never reviled the Queen. Great efforts are being made, so far without success, to trace the destination of money believed to have been sent to England from the *Irish World* office's fund for executing vengeance for the hanging of O'Donnell, the murderer of the informer Carey.

AT THE CORONATION of the new Queen of Madagascar, the Premier vowed that he would never permit one inch of her territory to be yielded up to France. Mr. Robinson has been appointed United States consul at Atananarivo, and the United States man-of-war "Brooklyn" saluted the French flag on shore at Tamatave. The French bombarded the town of Mahanoro on the east coast, occupied largely by English residents. Two hundred shells were thrown, but only a pig was killed and another wounded. Another report says the captain of the "Brooklyn" intended to visit Tamatave, but was prevented from landing in his own boat and declined a French boat that was tendered. It is also denied in France that the town of Mahanoro was bombarded, as it was surrounded by houses flying the British and American flags.

ENGLISH MILITARY AUTHORITIES are reported as saying that the French forces cannot do any effective work in Tonquin until the end of February, and then, owing to the climate, operations will be limited to three weeks. They are finding that the defences of Bacinh, their chief objective point, are being greatly strengthened during their enforced delay in striking. Reports from China alternate between statements that the country is for war and that it is inclined toward peace.

ACCIDENTS IN THE ANTHRACITE MINES of Pennsylvania last year numbered 1,676, and produced 320 deaths, making 153 widows and leaving fatherless 512 children. How little we think of the perils of the miner as we sit by our glowing coal fires!

A COLLIERY EXPLOSION at Crested Butte mines, Colorado, on the 24th January, caused a loss of over fifty lives. It is believed the calamity was produced by one of the miners disobeying orders by carrying a naked light into the mine. Most of the bodies have been recovered. It was feared an outbreak of the "Molly Maguires" would occur over the event. The manager was threatened with lynching by them if the verdict of the coroner's jury went against him. All the evidence at the inquest, however, went to show that the management of the mine was perfect, and that if the miners had been careful the calamity would not have happened.

THE REMAINS OF LIEUTENANT DELONG and his ill-fated companions, of the Jeanette Arctic Expedition, have passed through St. Petersburg, Russia, on their way to the United States. All honor was paid by the Russian authorities to the gallant dead.

MR. APFLEJOHN, who acted as returning officer at Rat Portage during the Algoma election, has been fined in Toronto \$200 each for five votes improperly refused.

POVERTY HAS INDUCED the late king of Naples to sell his villa near Paris, noted in literature, and he now lives with the queen on the third floor of a house in Paris with a retinue of three servants. Naples was added to the Italian dominions in 1860 by Victor Emanuel.

IT TURNS OUT that a variety actress arrested in Nashville, Tennessee, and sent home to Detroit, Michigan, is a nun escaped from an Ontario convent.

AN EXPLOSION IN A COLLIERY in the Rhonda Valley, Wales, killed sixty-eight persons, including three men, one of them the manager of the mine, who went down to look for those first caught by the terrible fire blast. A thousand men are thrown out of work by the disaster.

MRS. STAPLETON BRETHERTON is the name of the Lancashire, England, lady, who has bequeathed two and a half million dollars to the Pope. His Holiness' favorite hymn will now perhaps be the popular old ballad, "A Lancashire lass whom none can surpass," etc.

COUNT LUBIENSKI, a Polish land owner, has been ordered to sell his property and leave Russia. He is accused of promoting Roman Catholicism and exciting the people against the Government.

MANY NIBBLISTS having been recruited from the female medical class in St. Petersburg, Russia, the students have been compelled to live in a house provided by the authorities and to be home before nine o'clock in the evening.

MONSIGNOR CESARE, the priest murdered in his bed in Rome lately, was slain by his servant, who in his confession has declared that he had no accomplices.

IN AN OFFICIAL DESPATCH the German Ambassador to Italy says the recruit pilgrimage to the tomb of Victor Emanuel has done as much to confirm the Italian monarchy as could otherwise be accomplished in fifty years.

ABOUT \$8,000 WORTH OF LIQUOR, masked in pork barrels, was lately seized near Bow River under the prohibitory liquor law of the North-West territories of Canada. Hunting equipments and supplies belonging to the unknown smugglers of the liquor also fell into the hands of the officers.

PROSPECTORS ARE SCOURING the Rocky Mountains in Canada, where gold has been found in fair quantities, and extensive deposits of silver, copper, iron and coal.

SETH WHITTEK, an Indiana lawyer, drew up a marriage contract that he and Maud McArthur signed and then lived together as man and wife. He was arrested at the instance of citizens for unlawful conduct. At his trial he ably defended himself, and the court charged the jury, if they found the contract was entered into good faith on the part of either or both the parties, to find a verdict for the defendant. After being out all night the jury disagreed.

A HUNDRED ITALIAN IMMIGRANTS in New Orleans have libelled the steamship "Prinz George" for \$30,000, for violation of the agreement to carry and properly provide for them.

THE MARQUIS OF HERTFORD, England, has died from the effects of a kick received from his horse while hunting. He was seventy-two years of age and a general in the British Army.

MANY OF OUR READERS are aware of the commotion raised in India lately over the Ilbert bill, that gave native magistrates jurisdiction over European prisoners. The bill has been amended by the Legislative Council in Calcutta, so that every European prisoner will have the option of choosing a native of European judge.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT of the American Iron and Steel Association, Philadelphia, last year was not a bad one for the American iron trade, although it had been sometimes so represented. It was one of low prices, but the production was little short of that of 1882. Over five million tons of pig iron was produced, and over one million six hundred thousand tons of Bessemer steel, a small decrease in both articles. It was the first year, however, in which a decrease occurred in the Bessemer steel industry. The prospects for the trade this year are becoming bright. Several mills are starting up again, some of them with orders to keep them busy for a year.

A GERMAN SCULPTOR has been given an order for a statue of General Garfield, over ten feet high, for San Francisco.

IN THE CITY OF ASTORIA, Spain, an Englishman and a native were selling Bibles on Sunday, when they were mobbed by a party of students led by priests, the police disregarding appeals for protection.

THE RE-OPENING OF THE LICENSE QUESTION in Ontario by the recent Privy Council decision affirming the Provincial authority in the matter will, it is believed, be made the occasion of a grand effort on the part of the temperance party, daily growing stronger, to secure more stringent laws against the traffic.

THE LITTLE HELPER.

BY MRS. G. ANDERSON.

I may not die for Jesus, As many children died, When those, who found their Saviour, Lost everything beside; But I can live for Jesus, With holy deed and word, And as a true confessor, May glorify the Lord.

I cannot be an angel, To wait before the throne, And at God's word fly swiftly. His mandates to make known; But God has noble errands A child can do aright, And I may gladly serve Him, A messenger of light.

I may not bear the gospel Across the ocean blue; But as a little helper, May succor those who do, Full 'nny a drooping banner Light breezes have unfurled, And pennies blast by Jesus, Oft help to move the world.

QUINCE, AND HOW THE LORD LED HIM.

(By Miss L. Bates.)

CHAPTER IX.

A TEMPERANCE SOCIETY FORMED.

Possibly the strain upon Esther's feelings would have settled into the old apathy, and the interest she had momentarily shown in the temperance cause never again have bubbled to the surface, had it not been for a serious affray a few nights later, when knives were resorted to and a pistol in the hands of a drunken brawler made an innocent child a cripple for life. This time not alone Esther, but Mr. Petties also, was aroused.

"It is time something was done. When men are not able to check themselves, they must be checked. I had no idea there was such a state of things in the village," said the old man, pacing the floor with his hands clasped behind him, as was his habit when he was greatly stirred.

"'Calm yourself, father,'" pleaded Esther, "depend upon it, the evil has culminated. The sight of poor little Grace crippled for life will call for speedy punishment upon the offenders."

"I never dreamed of it—never dreamed of it! Ballard ought to have known; I blame Ballard," still walking up and down with his hands behind him.

Before the day was ended, Mr. Petties suggested a walk to the village:

"It wants some one to lead the movement, and Ballard is the one, in my estimation. I am anxious to see it started. Public opinion is a strong force, but it must have a start."

Esther was afraid of the excitement, but she offered no remonstrance, only remarking in a quiet way that she would go with him. All day she had been thinking of going into the village.

The result of this interview was the organization of a temperance society, thus at once drawing a line between the advocate of strong drink and the total abstainer. Not alone this, but new rules were formulated and questions of license or no license were discussed in many households.

Mr. Ashburton had never taken a decided stand with regard to the liquor traffic; he now came out boldly on the side of total abstinence. Gracie Harris was one of his pupils, and the sweet, appealing look in her face as he lifted her in his arms on the night of the affray touched his heart. Not another glass would he raise to his lips; neither would he tolerate the sale of it, save as it was dealt out with the label "Poison."

The several pastors joined hands in this compact, while the saloon-keepers cried out that injustice was being done them. They sold liquor; it was their business; they had a legal right to pursue it. Of course, if any one came in with money to pay for it, he was entitled to his glass. The buyer himself must be the judge of what was best for him.

Never was a greater revolution of popular feeling. The poor took courage, and the victim of appetite vibrated between the infatuation that left him helpless and the de-

sire he felt when sane to be saved from the terrible power that left him with no will to change masters.

"If only they could have done this before!" said Isabel as she walked from school one day with Quince. "There was a time when father could have been helped; and often he has cried out for this very help—something to prevent his getting the accursed beverage. Jones was aware that he could not get by the place; the sight of the bottles made him tremble. There was no escape."

Quince understood just how Isabel was feeling, and how crushed and broken-hearted she would go home and talk it all over with her mother. He wanted to say something to comfort her; but what comfort can be found for the child whose father is a victim to the thirst for strong drink?

"I would do anything to help father; I know he wants to be helped. Mother and I talk it over every night; but, turn as we will, we cannot see the way out."

Quince had it on his tongue's end to say that he knew the hopeless, withering feeling; but no: that would do her no good. In all his mother's troubles she went to God; should he suggest this help to Bel? Was her mother a praying woman?

"When my mother was troubled, she used to go into a little room by herself and ask God to help her; I think he did help her; I think God is the only one who really can help us when we need help," he made bold to say.

"I have thought of that," said Isabel. "But God is such a great way off; and, Quince, we need help now," raising her earnest eyes to his face.

"But he is near us, mother said. If we whisper to him, he hears it, and answers at once. Mother also said that his answer might not always be just as we expected, but that he would answer, and in a way that would in the end be the very best thing for us."

"And she told you this? Then I wouldn't think you would ever feel bad, with God to hear your whispers and to answer every little thing. My mother never speaks of such matters, but, now you've told me, I'll ask him, and I'll keep asking till he does it."

Isabel's face was full of animation. There was something for her to do, and faith in God gave her courage:

"No; I will never have it to think of that I didn't try every way to help father. He is good—you cannot know how good—when he don't drink."

The small house that sheltered her mother was in sight. Bel did not make another remark, but she turned back to look at Quince, and her face was so bright, so full of hope, that he was glad he had told her of his mother.

"That night Quince sat longer than usual gazing into the dying embers. He had sent Bel to God, but could she ask as his mother had asked? Had he done what was right in this thing? Was it not a delusive hope? Was not Bel one, with himself, upon whom the iniquity of sin was to fall?

A deep flush covered his face. He was ashamed of himself, and sorry that in his attempt to comfort her he should have mentioned his mother. Of course, his mother could do it, and the answer came; but with Bel it was different. The bare suggestion rendered her so bright and happy that she would ask—he knew she would ask; and then would she not reproach him?

Nothing was heard save the ticking of the high, old-fashioned clock; the glow from the fire was growing less; ghostly shadows were creeping over the wall; but still Quince sat with his hands clasped over his face. He would give so much to know! But how was he to know? Whom could he ask? Why not ask as he told Bel to God? Yes, he would. He would try God and see if he would answer his asking as he had answered his mother's.

Esther came out of her father's room and set her lamp on the side-table. "I am afraid father is not so well to-night," she said, coming over to the hearth and resting her elbow on the mantel. "He has had too much excitement, and it has worn upon him."

Quince stirred the fire, giving the room a warm, cheerful glow. Then he drew up an arm chair.

"I think I will sit here a little while," Esther said as she took the proffered seat. "It is late for you, Quince—later than usual," looking kindly into the lad's face

"Would it not be well for me to remain here for the night? You may want something."

"No, Quince. If I need anything, I will call you." Then she added, after a pause, "Ballard was here for an hour or two. I don't think he does father any good."

"Does he do good to anybody?" Quince questioned as he went up to his room—"a man who believes in nothing, trusts in nothing, hopes for nothing?"

A moment he lingered at the window. Stars were twinkling; the light from the same stars was shining down upon his mother's grave in Scarborough, and likewise climbing over the casement and trailing along the floor in his own room. He did not feel like sleep. A strange awe overpowered him. He crouched down in the line of the star-beams and lived it all over. It comforted him; peace and quietness filled his heart. Still, he did not feel inclined to sleep. He remembered how he had watched the night through by his mother's bedside. How plainly it came up before him! How she clung to him as she talked of God and of the world to which she was going!

"God will see you in all your ways, my boy. Promise me," she whispered. And he had promised; he would keep his promise. He would honor his mother's God.

Lower fell his head upon the casement. The boy was dreaming of Grandmamma Evans and Rachel and Hugh Mercer. A door was opened below, and a light step ascended the stairs.

"Are you asleep, Quince?" It was Esther.

"Not asleep—no."

"Father is restless and a little wandering. Will you go for Dr. Falkner?"

"I will go;" and quickly Quince sped away upon his mission.

"Fortunate that I was at home," said the doctor as he came in a few minutes later.—"When did you observe the change?" turning to Esther.

"He was not so well yesterday, but he would not think of it as serious. 'A little tired.' That is all," he said.

Dr. Falkner remained during the night, and morning found his patient better. "He will live through this attack," he said to Esther. "But you must warn him against excitement; he has not strength to bear up under pressure."

As the days passed and the sick man vibrated between his chair by the parlor fire and the bed in his own room, there was a notable change in the house—fewer visitors and more quiet talks. Not infrequently now Quince saw that his Bible was not lying in the place where he had left it, but just within the door, as though placed there hastily. Was Esther reading it for herself, or did she read it to the invalid? Once she asked who marked the passages, and the next instant she added that one day in his room she had opened it and read several of the marked verses.

"It was my mother's Bible; she marked the passages that brought especial comfort to her heart," Quince answered.

"It must be beautiful; and what comfort such trust gives one who can feel it to be well founded! Your mother must have felt this. I wish I could have known your mother, Quince."

CHAPTER X.

DEATH OF MR. PETTIES.

The winter term of Mr. Ashburton's school was drawing near to its close, and Quince found his hands full. It was the custom to have a grand examination at the end of the term. Demonstrations on the blackboard, scientific studies, history, elocution and oratory,—all passed before the eyes of delighted parents; and woe to the teacher if his pupils did not show off to advantage! Natural ability was not to be taken into account; inherited tendencies had nothing to do in the estimate. If one excelled and another proved to be a lagger, it was often judged to be owing to the partiality of the instructor.

With a woman's tact, Esther slipped the burden of general work to other shoulders than Quince's.

"It is enough to break a man down," she said. "And father has so many calls upon him."

Ballard was in every day, and he brought books and papers; but Mr. Petties could not read them, or he had lost all interest in them—possibly the latter. Sometimes a frag-

ment of speech would float outward, Ballard saying on one occasion,

"When a tree falls, it lies there; life has gone out of it. Just so with a man; his breath goes out like the flickering of a candle, and he is gone, there is no reviving him again."

"It all hinges upon that one book. If it is true, then a man lives again. A tree does not, but a man has another principle of life," returned Mr. Petties.

"Come, come! you are not troubled?" said Ballard, lightly. "You do not mean that you are troubled?"

"When a man has lived in his house until he can see stars through the roof, he feels disposed to question, perhaps," came from the invalid.

"Why, man alive! you do not mean to say that sickness has weakened you?" exclaimed Ballard.

"Not that; and still the thought will come at night, you know: 'What if it is all true and we have made a mistake!'"

While Ballard continued to come in every day, the duration of his visits grew shorter. Sometimes he hardly stopped to sit down; at other times he merely dropped into a chair by the side of the invalid and ran over the news of the day. Evidently there was a change in his friend, and he did not care to know just what it was. Esther was always in the room now, and on several occasions he noticed that she must have been reading from a book that looked to him very much like a Bible.

To Esther it was a cold, cruel doctrine which Ballard held—that the dead rise not. Johnny had gone from her, but he was her boy still; dying she would go to him. Life would not be worth living without this hope. Farther than this Esther did not go; hence she was troubled.

When the examination came round, Quince went through with his duties in the same quiet manner, not outwardly disturbed, although keenly alive to praise and to censure. He had improved, and he felt that he had improved. As a teacher his classes were favorably spoken of in *The Barnston Weekly*, and his Latin exercise was pronounced to be something quite remarkable for so young a scholar.

Going home, Mr. Petties led him to talk of his studies and of his hopes for the future.

"Father is much better to-day," Esther said. "He has been talking of you, and I read to him from your book."

Esther did not say "the Bible," but Quince knew that the book she mentioned was no other. He wanted to ask how the change had been effected, but he wisely determined to wait for another opportunity.

"You have had a hard time this winter," Mr. Petties said. "I shall soon be up now, and then we'll study Latin together. As a lad I was fond of Latin, and I've studied it more or less since. A grand language, but not equal to the Greek. You'll be coming to that now. We'll study together. It shan't be all work when the spring opens."

With Quince sitting by the fire and talking of his school-life, the man was a boy again. It was in vain that Esther reminded him that he must be especially careful; he did not incline to keep silent, and at length Quince made his lessons for the next day an excuse for going to his room. Clapping hands with the invalid, he thanked him for his kindness, making that the base of any favorable mention that had been made of him.

With a tenderness he had never before shown, the white-haired man drew the brown boyish face down to his own, holding it there and saying tenderly,

"Good-night, Johnny. We will study together when the spring opens."

Esther was standing by the hearth. Was her father wandering, or did he find an expression in Quince's face that reminded him of Johnny, and thus purposely gave him the name that was so dear to both?

After Quince left the parlor, Mr. Petties persisted in sitting up.

"I feel so much stronger," he said to

Esther. "It is pleasant to think of it—I have not thought of it in a long time—the old house with the yard and the well-sweep and the elms. They were old trees when you were a little girl. Eat old trees when you are coming, and we will go back together. I think your mother will be pleased, and Johnny—yes, Johnny. I can see the boy's eyes dance. And no wonder; Johnny's eyes were always dancing. Oh, Esther, you are crying," lifting his hand to wipe tears

from her face.

Esther was not suffering; he is to talk of his friends he had had sadly neglected.

In the night Esther singing their hushes softly down the thing low; the bed; the music died away.

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from her face. Then he grew quiet, and was persuaded to go to bed.

Ether was anxious, but the patient did not suffer; he was only restless and inclined to talk of his boyhood's home and of the friends he had known—friends whom he had sadly neglected of late, he said.

In the night Quince was awakened by Esther singing her father to sleep as a mother hushes her restless child. He crept softly down the stairs. The lamp was burning low; the silvery-white hair on the pillow framed in a face strangely still. The music died away; the singer knelt by the bed. Was she asking God to take the weary man by the hand? Was she praying for light? Was she longing to know more? And, knowing more, would it be easier for her to trust? Quince left her kneeling by the bed; he could not let her know that he was there uncalled.

Before morning his name was spoken firmly.

"It is all over," Esther said. "Come and see how peacefully he sleeps."

Quince saw the white, still face and the silvery hair, just as they had looked to him when he had listened to the gentle singer; but the eyes were closed and the nervous hand gave lack of answering pressure. Just when the spirit fled they did not know, but it was gone; and in due season the tement which it had inhabited was laid to rest in the silent cemetery. In the quiet household there was a sad change which was felt alike by Esther and by Quince.

CHAPTER XI.

QUINCE'S NEW PLANS.

Quince still continued with Esther. He had not realized that he had any definite plans for the future; but when Ballard came a few weeks after the death of Mr. Petties and offered him a clerkship, he became painfully conscious how much the idea of study had taken hold of him. Something he must do, but the routine of Mr. Ballard's business did not offer a favorable partnership with study. He mentioned his objection to Esther.

"That is very true," was her reply. "Besides, he is not a man I would like you to be with."

This had given him additional strength to refuse. Ballard was not one, however, who relished interference.

"The boy is faithful, and I would have done something handsome by him, had he come," he said. "But he refused—utterly refused—and my offer, the snaprage I grew vehement." Petties made everything easy for him, and Esther would have spoiled an ordinary boy just because she saw a faint resemblance to her own boy. Let him see how he'll fare without 'em. He'll be glad enough to come back, I'll warrant."

But it was evident to Quince that he must come to some decision. His first thought was to go back to Scarborough. He longed to see his mother's grave, and he felt that it would strengthen him to grasp Hugh Mercer by the hand. And Grandmamma Evans would be sure to have some kind word for him, and with Rachel there were possibilities. Another consideration, and the one that had most weight with him was that Mr. Ashburton was going back to college. That gentleman had friends who acted as waiters in hotels during the summer and studied in winter. It would require time, but in the end these students would possibly come out ahead of those who had sufficient means to carry them straight through. This plan for getting an education impressed Quince greatly, and he talked it over with Esther, who also gave it her approval.

"Others have succeeded in this way," she said. "And, Quince, wherever you go, you shall have Johnny's books, and a little time spent in study every day will show at the end of the year."

Ether had given up the place, and was to leave Barnston for an indefinite period.

"But for this change," she said to Quince, "I should keep you with me. Johnny would have studied, I think, and I believe that you will get on, even if you do not follow out the prescribed College course. Some of our best educated men failed to graduate, but they studied and used their time profitably."

Homeless as Quince felt himself to be, he was comforted. Esther thought that he could carry out his plan, and Mr. Ashburton's course stimulated him. Quince knew that he had never had any one so help him.

And, with Mr. Ashburton's assistance, he was now so far advanced in his studies that he was sure he could complete his course. In any event, he would not be troubled. He was resolved to do as well as he could, and he would henceforth look steadily forward to study and to a college course.

Before the time came for Quince to leave, he had the happiness of knowing that the temperance reform was working a happy change in Barnston. Upon his meeting Isabel Hardon one day, the latter, with a glowing face, said:

"I believe father is leaving off drink. Oh, I'm happy, so happy! I hardly dare say it. But you are going away, and I want you to know. He is certainly changed—very much changed—if only it will last."

"I am glad, Bel, and I hope it will last. Wherever I may be, I shall be glad. You will think of me as being glad, won't you?"

"And sometime, perhaps, you will come back; I hope you will. You have helped father, Quince; he says you have helped him," she said.

"I tried to help him, Bel."

"He says you told him about God and how Christ died, and that for his sake God would help anybody who asked him. Did you tell him this, Quince? I know you told me, and I did ask for aid."

"I believe I did talk to him, Bel. And do you think that was the way he came to reform?"

"I do really think so." Then, hesitating, while a deep flush overspread her face, "I used to imagine that you must know just how we felt, or you couldn't always have said just the right thing to us."

"You were right, Bel; I did know how you felt. My father was a hard drinker; I knew how my mother suffered, and how badly I used to feel. I could put myself in your place. And on the nights when I helped him home I knew how you suffered, and how you disliked to have others know how low he had fallen; and I sheltered him as much as I could."

"I knew it was so, Quince; I told mother that you knew all about it, or you couldn't do just as you did."

"My father died, Bel; yours will live to make a good man, I trust."

Quince said this with a view to comfort Bel. He desired her to feel that his experience had been even sadder than hers. He knew how to drop words of kindness and encouragement, because he too had felt the smart. Bel's sorrow was bitter enough, but there was hope in her case. Wherever he was or whatever he was doing, there it was written out before him: "The iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation."

"You will say 'Good-bye' to mother, won't you, Quince? She's almost as much afraid to be happy as I am; but she is happy in thinking that father is so much stronger. It really seems that he is all the time supported by some strong arm."

"I will come in before I leave Barnston; I shall want to see you both before I go—perhaps never to return."

"I'm so glad, Quince; and the girl went her way, leaving Quince to think it all over. He did not in his heart doubt God's ability to save or his willingness to hear and answer; but if there was a law—and he knew there was—and he himself came under it, then, whatever hope there might be for one who was exempt from its workings, there could be none for him. However strange it may seem, this was a logical conclusion to Quince's mind; nevertheless, he read his Bible and prayed God to lead him aright. He did not forget that his mother had asked him to do this.

One evening, a week later, Quince called upon the Hardons. The first glance showed him that the house was brighter. And the pale-faced woman who came to receive him seemed a very different person from the one whom he remembered as outlined in the doorway the first night he gave assistance to Bel in getting her father home.

"We are so happy!" she began. "And we think it has all brought about by what you said to him and by his reading the Bible. We had a Bible, but he never read it; he never seemed to believe much in these things; but it's different now. And it's growing upon him, I think; and we are all reading it. And then there was Parke Force; you remember what he said in meeting one night? I think that helped my husband. He seemed to take hold with a firmer grasp of all that you had told him, and he said, when he

came home, 'Well, it does beat all about Parke Force! and if God helped him, I am sure he will help me.'—Of course, father, he will, if you ask him," said. And since that it has been different."

Isabel was sitting near, smiling occasionally by way of emphasis.

Quince had hoped to see Mr. Hardon, but the latter had left the village for a few days, and Quince felt that he must go before his return.

"Father is a builder, and a first-rate workman," Mrs. Hardon began, "You see the change here. Father has gone to find work, and it is work that will save him, he says. There are not many new buildings going up in Barnston, and when there's nothing to do it is easy to fall into the traps set by the saloons. You should see Jones; he's in a terrible fluster. He was here to see father, and asked him what he'd done that kept him away from his place; he said they missed him so much evenings, and all that. And father answered him a little proudly, I thought. Any way, he didn't seem a bit afraid that we should hear. He just said, 'I don't feel like going, Mr. Jones; and I hope I never will feel like it again.'—Well, well, if that's it, Mr. Force—"

and the man spoke as respectful as could be. But father didn't say any more, neither did Jones. All I could do was to run out and have a little cry, I was that glad."

It seemed as if there would be no end to Mrs. Hardon's speech. It was evident she was "so glad," as she said; and Quince could only listen and sympathize.

Before he left, Isabel spoke of her studies and of her hope of getting a place as teacher.

"Mr. Ashburton thinks I can teach," she said. "I can study at home, and then I can take higher classes. Oh, Quince, I cannot but think it is the beginning of a new life for all of us. And you helped to bring it about. When you are away, I want you to know that we thank you for it."

"I do know this; and I am glad to know it, Bel. I shall think of it always," was the reply.

"And now tell us of yourself and of your plans. You must feel like being all broken up. Esther does, I'm sure; and Esther was good to you, I've always heard. She thought, poor woman! that you looked like Johnny; and maybe you do, for that matter," glancing earnestly into the boy's face.

"As for my plans, Mrs. Hardon, I cannot say that I have any. Still, I am to leave Barnston, but where I am to go—or, rather, where I am to stop—I know not. I am to get work wherever I can, and I am to study in what little leisure-time I have," with touching pathos in his voice.

"I am sorry enough to have you go, but it seems to be the best thing. I heard say that Ballard offered you a place; but Ballard is not a man I'd like a boy of mine to be with. He's a wonderfully set man, and everybody in his employ has got to do just as he says," returned Mrs. Hardon.

"Yes, he offered me a place, but I could not accept it," Quince said, at the same time rising to leave.

"I hope we shall hear from you sometimes, Quince. We shall think of you."

Mrs. Hardon's voice was unsteady, and her eyes filled with tears. Bel did not attempt to speak; she knew that she would break down if she did.

The next instant Quince was springing down the narrow path and through the gate. He had not thought it would be so difficult to say "good-bye."

As Bel turned from the door she said to her mother,

"If God helps anybody, he will help Quince; don't you hope he will, mother?"

"I not only hope so, but I feel sure of it, child."

"I shall ask him to. Now, that, in answer to our prayers, he has wrought such a change in father, I don't think he'll deny us anything we ask for."

(To be Continued).

NOT A NATURAL FOOD.—Alcohol is not directly given to us. It has to be manufactured, and it creates an exceptional, unnatural, insatiable desire for itself. In these particulars it is excluded as a natural food or drink.—Dr. B. W. Richardson.

IT IS NOT until we have passed through the furnace that we are made to know how much dross there is in our composition.—Colton.

PUZZLES.

TWO CHARADES.

1. My first is a weapon used in war, My second lives in the sea, My whole is a species of fish found in a warm climate.
2. My first is a word meant to "hold" or "possess," 'Tis spelt with four letters I'm free to confess, My second's an instrument made to confine, To give you the key I politely decline, My whole when you find it, will give you the name Of a brave British hero distinguished in fame.

RIDDLE.

What every man prefers to life, Fears more than death or deadly strife; What the contented man deserves, The poor man has, the rich requires—The miser spends, the spendthrift saves, And all men carry to their graves.

BEHEADINGS.

1. Behead a grain and leave a pronoun.
2. Behead a strong wind and leave a liquor.
3. Behead a pronoun and leave something belonging to a fire-engine.
4. Behead a boat and leave a tool.
5. Behead money and leave a tree.
6. Behead a cry and leave a bird.

—JAMES ALLAN CLARK.

ENIGMA.

My first is in box but not in chest, My second is in seat, but not in desk, My third is in love but not in hate, My fourth is in Sarah but not in Kate, My fifth is in arbour but not in bower, My sixth is in misty but not in shower, My whole is the name of an annual flower.

—J. FORREST.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

RIDDLE.—A looking-glass.

WORD-SQUARE.—

V A L U E
A R E N A
L E W I S
U N T I E
K A S E L

INITIAL CHANGES.—Care, dare, fare, bare bare, late, mare, pure, rare, ware, war.

TWO ENIGMAS.—La Salle, Bryant.

QUEER QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.—1, Rye. 2, Selby. 3, Hartow. 4, Wick. 5, Shilb. 6, Maro. 7, Trees. 8, Heading. 9, Corves. 10, Man. 11, Hull. 12, Don. 13, Sybil. 14, The Wash. 15, Bath. 16, Ayr. 17, Cork. 18, Wrath. 19, Clear. 20, Skye. 21, Wharr. 22, Wells. 23, Eden. 24, Camd.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' TEMPERANCE TEXT-BOOK.

BY H. L. READE.

(National Temperance Society, New York.)

LESSON II.—ALCOHOL AND CRIME.

What is crime?

Crime is an act which violates a law of man or God. Are all those who violate the laws of men punished?

It is intended that they should be, and most are. What are some of the greater as well as more common crimes?

Murder, burglary, robbery, theft, assault, etc.

What proportion of these and all other crimes are directly or indirectly traceable to the use of alcoholic drinks?

At least eight-tenths—that is, of ten crimes committed eight are directly or indirectly chargeable to the use of alcoholic drinks, and two are not.

How many persons in the United States are annually arrested, tried, and imprisoned, or otherwise punished, because of the commission of crimes?

Between fifty and sixty thousand. What is the annual average cost of the arrest, trial, and punishment of these criminals?

In round numbers not less than sixty millions of dollars. How much of this expense is directly or indirectly caused by the use of alcoholic drinks?

The best estimates place it at fifty millions of dollars, leaving ten millions of dollars as the cost of all crimes resulting from all other pernicious influences.

How is this vast amount paid? By taxing directly or indirectly, the property of the people.

The Weekly Messenger.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2.

THE WEEK

A LETTER WAS SENT to the King of Sweden and Norway, threatening him with death if he went to Norway to attend the conclusion of the impeachment trials of the Ministry. The writer is a shoemaker lately returned from America, and he has been placed in the safe sleeping provided in all fairly regulated countries for such dangerous fools.

AT THE ANNUAL BANQUET of the Society for the Aid of Foreigners in Distress in London, General Merritt, United States Consul General and a majority of foreign consuls were present, and three thousand pounds was subscribed to the society's funds.

DIVERS EMPLOYED at the wreck of the "City of Columbus" at Gayhead, Massachusetts, have discovered the mysterious rock on which the steamer struck. This confirms Capt. Wright's account and theory of the disaster.

TWO VIENNA SOCIALISTS were tried and acquitted of charges of treason, inciting to murder and offences against the person of the Emperor. They were, however, sentenced to eight months' imprisonment for concealing a printing press.

THE LABOR CONVENTION of New York State, lately in session in Albany, adopted a resolution on child labor, recommending the passage of a bill prohibiting the employment of children under fourteen in factories where goods are made from the raw materials, requiring that children between fourteen and sixteen shall have attended school at least twenty weeks in the preceding year, limiting the day's work to ten hours and providing for the appointment of a factories inspector by the Government.

THE AUSTRIAN CONSUL and secretary attended the Economical Conference at Bucharest, Roumania, to which they had been invited by the president of the Commercial Club. On their arrival at the meeting about a hundred persons shouted, "Out with the Germans," and forced them to retire. This indicates that Russian emissaries have been successful in arousing the Slav feeling in the Balkan Provinces. A large proportion of the population of those provinces belong to the Slav race, which is the strongest element in Russia next to the Imperial family, in which German blood is, contrary to largely prevalent ideas, predominant.

A JUDICIAL DECISION in Bloomington, Illinois, is that the Pullman Car Company is not a common carrier of passengers. This seems to carry the inference that the railways hiring that Company's cars are responsible for the safe conduct of the passengers going in them.

IN A CHICAGO COURT the judge decided a telegram was no more privileged than any other communication, and must be produced in evidence when required in the interest of justice.

ELLIS COLLIER, an elderly man, left Milford, Ontario, one evening in an intoxicated state and next morning he was found frozen to death about five miles from the village.

CONFESSION HAS BEEN MADE in Cleveland, Ohio, by Dell Ashcroft, aged twenty-nine, that he and one Bidlake and wife thirteen years ago robbed Mrs. Robinson in her own house at Munson, Granger county, in the act producing injuries from which she died. Up to this time the authors of the outrage were unsuspected, and Ashcroft is in custody while officers are pursuing his accomplices.

IT WAS NOTICED, after the murder of A. J. Mead, a wealthy banker, at Wanpaco, Wisconsin, that Walter Vandecarr was spending money very lavishly, and he was arrested on suspicion. His wife made a confession describing how her husband committed the crime. A strong case was made against the prisoner, but it was urged in his defence that his wife wanted to be rid of him, and the jury disagreed.

MR. SANDERSON, superintendent of the work of capturing elephants in Bengal for the Indian Government, says he can supply scores of white elephants like that bought by Barnum and even superior to it, for considerably less than a thousand dollars each.

NUTT HAS BEEN ACQUITTED in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, of the murder of Dukes. He killed Dukes in revenge for having murdered his father while the latter remonstrated with him for wronging a daughter. Dukes was a lawyer and a member of the State Legislature. The elder Nutt was a highly respectable citizen, and his son's acquittal has caused popular satisfaction.

THE BANKER LATELY ATTACKED by robbers in his house in Vienna, Austria, died of his wound, and his son's death was hourly expected.

DR. JULIUS ROSENBERG, who killed Count Bathany in a duel in Austria, has been condemned to two years' imprisonment and to pay costs of his trial. Had the count killed the doctor probably the penalty would be only half as long a term without costs. Seriously, the country that does not look upon killing in duels as the most cold-blooded description of murder is a barbarous country, however much it may possess of the elements of refined civilization.

A CHANGE to a more conciliatory policy is to be made in the government of the French provinces of Alsace and Lorraine by Germany.

BURGLARS AT ATTERRELL, Texas, got under a building adjoining a bank by crawling under the sidewalk. They tunneled through three thick walls until they were under the bank vault, and then bored their way into the vault. At length they blew open the safe, but the explosion set fire to the papers within it, and the smoke pouring out of the windows of the building produced an alarm, and the burglars' patient efforts were foiled. In their burrow beneath the buildings were found burglars' tools, bedding, canned fruits and other food. There was an amount of \$150,000 in the safe.

J. G. FRASER, said to be a wealthy merchant of Liverpool, England, sixty-two years of age, was, on the morning after his arrival in New York, found frozen to death in a cellar-way. His money was missing, but his other valuables were untouched.

A SELECT COMMITTEE of Congress has reported a memorial setting forth the desirability of immediately enacting a national bankrupt law.

NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN in the factories of Lowell and of Lawrence, Massachusetts, of a reduction of ten percent in wages.

CHARLES F. DEWEY, who committed forgeries in many places in the United States and Canada, has been sentenced at Boston to eight years in the penitentiary. A comparatively large proportion of his ill-gotten gains was recovered.

THERE IS SOMETHING HOPEFUL in the liberality with which money is being devoted to education in America. It looks as if a generation were just arriving at maturity, which had been brought up to regard wealth as a sacred trust for the good of the race and the glory of God. A recent handsome gift is that of ten thousand dollars to Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to erect and equip an astronomical observatory. Mrs. James W. Hood, of Fredericksburg, Maryland, has given this queenly present.

A SON OF PRESIDENT TAYLOR of the Mormon Church has introduced a resolution into the Utah Legislature, that is almost if not entirely composed of Mormons, to memorialize Congress in relation to its inimical legislation and ask for a committee of disinterested persons to investigate the affairs of the territory. He claimed that the Mormons had been misrepresented.

OATS AND VEGETABLES have been killed by frosts in southern Georgia and Florida, but oranges and other fruits are not seriously damaged.

BY THE EXPLOSION of the gas works at Malone, New York, the buildings were demolished, a man and boy severely bruised and the village deprived of gas until warm weather returns.

TRACK-LAYING on the Napanee, Tamsworth & Quebec Railway in Ontario has been suspended on account of the deep snow.

MEMBERS of the New York Produce Exchange found guilty of trading after the hours of that institution were let off for it being their first offence.

HUGO SCHENCK is held in Vienna, Austria, for wholesale murder. He confessed at his arrest to the murder of three women, after having obtained their money under promise of marriage. It was ascertained, however, that he and his brother and another man murdered at least twenty persons. He excused himself by saying that he narcotized his victims, and that they died without pain. He was removed in the midst of the painful scene that occurred when relatives of the victims came to identify their effects at the police station. Among other murders planned by the wretches were those of the chambermaid of the Baroness Malfatti and even that lady and her family. Schenck induced the maid to steal pearls valued at two thousand pounds which the emperor of Austria had presented to Dr. Malfatti for attending the Duke of Reichstadt. The maid had prepared everything for the reception of Schenck and his accomplice on the night when the former was arrested.

ROBERT KETTLE & Co., cotton yarn merchants, Glasgow, Scotland, have failed, with liabilities of a million and a half of dollars.

ARTHUR BARKER, claiming to be one of nineteen evangelists sent out to America from Spurgeon's Tabernacle, London, has been proved in Toronto to be a fraud.

JOSEPH STEPHENS, a Toronto butcher, cleared out with \$1,000 given him by two drovers to buy cattle for them. The absconder took his wife and six children with him.

THE UNION PACIFIC RAILWAY has reduced its debt three millions, and the surplus for the year will be largely over a million after the payment of fixed charges and dividends.

THE QUEEN OF TAHITI and suite arrived in San Francisco a few days ago.

IN A SUIT to compel the Bishop of Manchester, England, to induct a ritualist clergyman into a living at Miles Platting, a decision was given upholding the bishop's course.

A FRENCHMAN AND A PORTUGUESE were arrested in public pleasure grounds in Madrid upon suspicion of designs upon the king, whose movements they had been constantly dogging.

A NEW LINE of steamers is to be established between New York and St. John's, Newfoundland, by way of Halifax. Service will be begun April 1st with chartered boats, awaiting the completion of new boats for the company.

MR. HENRY McDERMOTT, brother of James McDermott, accused of being a spy upon the Fenians, died in Brooklyn a few days ago, from congestion of the brain. He was stricken about a year ago while superintending work on a sewer, but the brain affection thus produced was greatly aggravated by the annoyance to which he was subjected by the Fenians in trying to get information from him about his suspected brother.

A LADIES' MASS MEETING, attended by Bishops Simpson, Andrews and Wilson, was held in Baltimore, Maryland, to promote the observance of the centennial of American Methodism. It was resolved to raise \$200,000 to found an institution for the higher education of women.

ALL THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS at Syracuse, New York, were closed the other day for want of funds, the Common Council having refused to grant another appropriation for this year.

MR. WILLIAM MEREDITH, son of the Secretary of the Treasury under President Zachary Taylor, in a trial in Philadelphia, recently, to determine his sanity, delivered a speech full of learning and wit, the peroration of which was so affecting that counsel, judge and many spectators wept.

LAST YEAR the publication of the debates of the Canadian House of Commons cost over twenty-six thousand dollars.

AT A MEETING of the Iron Workers' Society at Darlington, England, a cablegram was read from a similar organization in Pittsburg, giving warning of agents who were going to England to try and induce workmen to go to America. A resolution was promptly passed to notify fellow-workmen all over the country, in the hope that none of them would listen to the agents when they came. The like of that is a striking illustration of the marvellous convenience to all classes of the telegraph as existing these days. A few years ago the agents could easily be among the British workmen before the latter could learn the view of the case from the standpoint of their fellow-workmen in America. Now they must leave in great stealth or they will find themselves posted in every iron shop in the United Kingdom along with the nature of their mission as judged by workmen.

A TRAPPEE PERFORMER in a ten cent show in Quebec broke his leg at his occupation the other day. He had a brother in the same business, who was killed while performing last spring.

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LORD GROSVENOR, eldest son of the Duke of Westminster, has died of congestion of the lungs.

THE IRON DEPRESSION has caused a suspension of operations at ten of the largest blast furnaces in the vicinity of Glasgow, Scotland.

IN A SPEECH at Bradford, England, Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice, member of Parliament, said that the whole world would not fail to approve the preparations now making for opening up the Congo River region to civilization, and the extirpation of slavery in the heart of Africa.

THE PROPRIETOR of the London *Globe* has been committed for trial on a charge of libel brought by Mr. Colledge, British Vice-consul at Ketch, for publishing a despatch saying that Colledge was at the head of a company organized to procure the wrecking of vessels in the Black Sea in order to obtain the insurance.

PETER J. MEANY, a well known politician of Brooklyn, was given time to make good a shortage of two thousand dollars in his accounts as treasurer of the Iron Moulders' Union, but he cleared out.

MR. PECK, president of a bank that failed at Patoche, Long Island, shot himself but not fatally after reading a scathing criticism of his management and being threatened by depositors. Previous to the shooting he had, under the influence of threats, produced assets amounting to \$5,000 which he had concealed. Altogether \$20,000 worth of hidden assets have been unearthed.

A MEETING OF ANARCHISTS at Lyons, France, decided to make an armed attempt to rescue Leyvoet, the Anarchist under sentence of death for connection with an explosion in 1882.

GENERAL GRANT publicly denies having any pecuniary interest in improvements being effected in Mexico with American capital, but says he nevertheless feels a great interest in their success.

A THREE-YEAR OLD CHILD of John Cole, Toronto, sat down in a pan of boiling water carelessly left on the floor, and died after several days' great suffering.

A DETECTIVE WAS SHOT DEAD in Vienna by a workman, and there was found upon the assassin when arrested a dynamite bomb, a revolver and a poisoned dagger. The villain shot and seriously wounded one of the citizens who arrested him, and vainly tried to explode a dynamite cartridge to kill himself and his captors.

A DISCUSSION has been begun in the Austrian Legislature upon a proposition to make German the state language. A short time ago serious disturbances occurred in Croatia over the question of whether state papers should be issued in the Croatian or the Magyar dialects. Probably the measure now under discussion is an attempt to effect a compromise between the various tongues of the Empire by adopting German as the official language.

MR. MOODY began his mission at Stratford-le-Bow, London, on Wednesday evening of last week, and notwithstanding the prevalence of a terrific gale six thousand people attended his meeting.

THE VERDICT of \$20,000 damages for libel obtained by Professor Donald McLean, professor of anatomy in the State University of Michigan, against the publisher of the *Detroit Evening News*, has been confirmed by the Supreme Court upon appeal.

A FAMILY NAMED JONES lately came to Jamestown, New York, from Elmira, in destitute circumstances. They were about to depart when one of the sons tried to pass a counterfeit coin and was arrested. Thereupon search was made in the family effects and a counterfeiter's kit found. The whole family was held on suspicion.

SMALL-POX is reported very prevalent in Louisville, Kentucky, there being seventy cases in the hospitals and many scattered throughout the city.

GENERAL BENJAMIN F. BUTLER, retiring Governor of Massachusetts, in a letter to a friend in Pennsylvania, says he is out of politics forever.

RUSSIA IS PRESSING TURKEY to pay a million and a quarter dollars still owing of the war indemnity exacted by the latter in settling up at the close of the recent conflict between the two countries.

JOHN JOHNSON, an old resident, was struck by a falling beam and perished in the flames while saving furniture out of his burning house near Frankford, Ontario.

MR. EDISON, the famous electrical inventor, has won a lawsuit between him and a Mr. Swan, in Germany, over an electric lamp patent.

THE HON. FRED. DOUGLASS, the famous and somewhat aged colored orator and statesman, was married lately in Washington to Miss Ellen M. Pitts, a white woman.

DENIAL IS MADE authoritatively in Russia that any state reforms are contemplated. It would not be greatly to the Czar's credit, anyway, to grant reforms under threats of violence from the Nihilists. He has, however, neglected to do anything to ameliorate the condition of his subjects during the period of comparative quietness which lately closed. An equally favorable opportunity may yet be ardently longed for by him in vain.

TWELVE ITALIAN NAVVIES from the Canadian Pacific Railway works in Algoma, have been brought to hospital in Toronto, having acquired scurvy from eating pork constantly without vegetable diet.

SALT HAS BEEN STRUCK at Parkhill, Ontario, at a depth of eleven hundred feet, and a company has been organized to work it.

A GALE ALMOST WITHOUT PARALLEL blew over England on the night of January 26th. Damage to property is reported from all parts, together with considerable loss of life. France was also visited by the hurricane.

CASES IN WHICH FARMERS gave notes of hand to a fraudulent agricultural implements concern in Montreal, and received no value therefor, have been decided against a third party who held the notes and sued to recover their amount, by the Supreme Court of New Brunswick. The defendants had, however, a narrow escape from being heavily swindled, and the matter should be a warning to all farmers not to sign their names in books for strangers upon any consideration.

WAGES OF JOB HANDS in the Waltham Watch Works, Massachusetts, have been reduced 50 or 60 percent.

MRS. DR. THOMSON, New Haven, Connecticut, has died a victim of the morphine habit.

THE LEGISLATURE OF ONTARIO is in session, and there is no doubt of the Government having a good working majority.

ALL THE ELEVATORS in Chicago are full of grain, and several railways decline to carry grain there except for sale on the track.

A CREATURE CALLED Leroy Warner applied, but without success, to a court at Erie, Pennsylvania, to approve a document setting forth that for a certain sum he had sold his daughter to Peter Wild.

ELIZA BAILEY has secured a verdict for \$5,000 for her husband killed in the Hoosac Tunnel.

A DELEGATION FROM MANTOBA is in Ottawa with the object of arriving at a basis of settlement of the difficulties that have arisen between the people of that Province and the Dominion Government.

MRS. WILLIAM HALL, Elkton, Maryland, being destitute and too proud to beg, took the horrible course of administering poison to herself and her six children. Herself and two children were likely to die. The family was scantily clad and not a morsel of food was found in the house.

PADDY CLEARY, a homeless butcher lodging in a packing house in Chicago, tried to comfort himself by night with a smoke, but sparks from his pipe set fire to the place and he was suffocated.

FRANK S. HEATH, a clergyman and greenback politician, of Coity, Pennsylvania, is under arrest for sending through the mail instructions and instruments of an unlawful character.

A BOOK HAS BEEN PUBLISHED in Paris containing gross libels upon the Imperial family of Germany. It was seized immediately upon its appearance in Berlin, where it caused great irritation.

ONE OF SEVEN LADS belonging to the reformatory vessel "Clarence," arrested for firing her at Liverpool, has confessed, and it has been ascertained that twelve were concerned in the plot.

OLDHAM COTTON SPINNERS have been compelled to shorten hours on account of an excess of yarn on hand in consequence of the strike of weavers.

A COAL MINE at Maccan, Nova Scotia, has been rendered unworkable, by fire that has been working slowly through the seams for years.

A MAN PASSING for a French Roman Catholic clergyman, who was garrotted and robbed in Chicago, had on his person letters purporting to have been signed by Archbishop Lynch, of Ontario, appointing the bearer travelling missionary for the diocese of Marquette, Michigan. That prelate has, however, declared the man to be an impostor.

THE MINNESOTA STATE PRISON at Stillwater has been burned. All the prisoners were taken out and secured under a strong guard.

LORD DERBY, British Foreign Secretary, has rejected the proposals of the Boer delegates to London regarding the Transvaal boundary line in South Africa.

GENERAL LORD WOLSELEY declares the British army is more effective to-day than before the Crimean war, and England never had an army more worthy of her.

THE REV. J. S. BRUSH has resigned a pastorate held by him for twenty-eight years at Stapleton, Staten Island, New York, because at a Sunday-school fair articles were raffled off contrary to his wishes. That is the kind of moral metal that is needed to batter down evil in the world.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN are looking up since General Gordon went down into the interesting region. He has lots of money, about five million dollars, but his most valuable resources are his knowledge of human nature, his unequalled and successful experience in dealing with Oriental peoples, including the Arabs he is now among, and withal an inexhaustible store of Christian kindness toward all humanity. El Mahdi, the False Prophet, has a strong army with ample equipment, but if Gordon captures the hearts of the chieftains and their tribes ahead of him, his present strength will not be very hard to overcome.

GRAVE CHARGES have been made against the penitentiary in Richmond, Virginia, by a former employee. A case is given of an Italian convict, who was given improperly cooked food when he was sick. Then, being pronounced insane by the doctor, he was bound to an iron bedstead. While in that position the steward gave him a quieting medicine that threw him into a sleep from which he never woke. The poor convict died before ten o'clock the next day, and when his clothes were removed it was found that the cords tying him had cut deeply into his flesh. An investigation is to be held into the management of the institution.

LAUGHING GAS.

THE STATEMENT is made that American dentists use a ton of gold every year in filling teeth. There is something tooth in about it.

"MAN WANTS BUT little here below," wrote Oliver Goldsmith, but Oliver didn't stop to consider that the man who is going to build a house wants a lot.

JERROLD said to an ardent young gentleman, who burned with a desire to see himself in print: "Be advised by me, young man: don't take down the shutters before there is something in the window."

NEIGHBORS are very considerate in Norway. When a baby is born a placard is nailed upon the door informing the community of the fact. Those who wish to move out of the vicinity are thus enabled to do so in good season.

AS TWO LADIES were gazing at the large black bear brought into town yesterday, one remarked: "Oh, what a nice buffalo robe his skin would make!" The other replied: "Or such a splendid sealskin sacque.—*Oil City Derrick.*"

A LECTURER, discoursing on the subject of "Health," asked:—What use can a man make of his time while waiting for a doctor? Before he could begin his answer to his enquiry, some one in the audience cried out:—"He can make his will."

"WHAT ARE THESE CUPS for?" asked a well-dressed man of a jeweller, pointing to some elegant silver cups on the show case. "These are race cups, to be given as prizes to the best racer." "If that's so, suppose you and I race for one," and the stranger, with the cup in hand, started, the jeweller after him. The stranger won the cup.

THE GERMAN PHILOSOPHER Lessing was so absent-minded that he is said to have one day knocked at his own door and asked if himself were at home. A servant, who had engaged during his absence, opened it, and gravely informed him that his master was out. "Very well," was the reply, "I will call again another day."

A PROMPT REJOINER.—REV. DR. S—, who happens to possess a rather florid complexion, recently went into the shop of a barber—one of his parishioners—to be shaved. The barber was addicted to an occasional spree, after which his hand was apt to be somewhat unsteady. In shaving the minister on the occasion referred to he made a slit and brought the blood to the surface in a considerable quantity. The minister turned to the man and brother, and said in a tone of solemn severity:—"You see, Jackson, what comes from taking too much drink." "Yes, sah," replied Jackson, "it makes de skin very tendah, sah. It do for a fack, sah."

AUNT MARY'S SUGGESTION.

"John!" Thomas Belknap spoke in a firm rather authoritative voice. It was evident that he anticipated some reluctance on the boy's part.

John, a lad between twelve and thirteen years of age, was seated on the doorstep, reading. A slight movement of the body indicated that he heard; but he did not make any response.

"John!" This time the voice of Thomas Belknap was loud, sharp, and imperative. "Father," responded the boy, dropping the volume in his lap, and looking up with a slightly flushed but sullen face.

"Didn't you hear me when I first spoke?" said Thomas Belknap, angrily.

"Yes, father."

"Then why didn't you answer me? Always respond when you are spoken to. I'm tired of this ill-mannered, disrespectful way of yours."

The boy stood up, looking now dogged as well as sullen.

"Go and do what I tell you. Get your hat and jacket."

The boy moved slowly, and with a very reluctant air, from the room.

"Now don't be all day," Thomas Belknap called after him; "I'm in a hurry. Move briskly."

How powerless the father's words died upon the air! The motions of John were not in the least quickened. He passed out into the passage and up the stairs, while the impatient Thomas Belknap could with difficulty restrain an impulse to follow after and hasten the sulky boy's movements with blows. He controlled himself, however, and resumed the perusal of his newspaper.

Five, ten minutes passed, and John had not yet appeared to do the errand upon which his father designed to send him. Suddenly Thomas Belknap dropped his paper, and going hastily to the bottom of the stairs, called out—

"You John, John!"

"Father," replied John.

"Didn't I tell you to hurry?"

"I can't find my jacket."

"You don't want to find it. Where did you lay it when you took it off last night?"

"I don't know. I forgot."

"If you're not down here with your jacket on in one minute, I'll warm your shoulders well for you."

Thomas Belknap was quite in earnest in this threat, a fact plainly enough apparent to John in the tone of his father's voice. The boy opened a closet, and, singularly enough, there hung his jacket in full view. At the expiration of the minute, he was standing before his father with his jacket on, and buttoned up to the chin.

"Where's your hat?" asked Thomas Belknap.

"I don't know, father."

"Well, find it then."

"I've looked everywhere."

"Look again. There; what is that on the hat rack just under my coat?"

The boy answered not, but walked moodily to the rack and took his hat therefrom.

"Ready at last. I am out of all patience with your slow movements and sulky manner. What do you stand there for, knitting your brow and pouting your lips?"

The lad, thus angrily roused, made a feeble effort to throw a few rays of sunshine into his face. But the effort died fruitless. All was too dark, sullen, and rebellious within his bosom.

"See here," Thomas Belknap still spoke in that peculiar tone of command which always stifles self respect in the one to whom it is addressed.

"Do you go down to Leslie's and tell him to send me a good claw hammer and three pounds of eightpenny nails. And go quickly."

The boy turned off without a word, and was slowly moving away, when his father said sharply.

"Look here, sir."

John paused and looked back.

"Did you hear me?"

"Yes, father."

"What did I tell you to do?"

"Go get a claw hammer and three pounds of eightpenny nails."

"Very well. Why didn't you indicate in some way that you heard me? Haven't I already this morning read you a lecture about this very thing? Now go quickly; I'm in a hurry."

For all this impatience and authority on the part of Thomas Belknap, John

moved away at a snail's pace. And as the former, in a state of considerable irritability, gazed after the boy, he felt strongly tempted to call him back and give him a good flogging in order that he might clearly comprehend the fact of his being in earnest.

"If that stubborn and incorrigible boy returns in half an hour it will be a wonder," muttered Thomas Belknap, as he came back into the sitting room. "I wish I knew what to do with him. I never saw such a boy. He knows that I'm in a hurry, and yet he goes creeping along like a tortoise. What is to be done with him, Aunt Mary?"

Thomas Belknap turned as he spoke to an elderly lady with a mild, open face, and clear blue eyes. She was a valued relative, who was staying him a brief visit.

Aunt Mary let her knitting rest in her lap, and turned her eyes upon the speaker.

"What is to be done with that boy, Aunt Mary?" Thomas Belknap repeated his words. "I've tried everything with him."

"Have you tried—"

Aunt Mary paused, and seemed half in doubt whether it was best to give utterance to what was in her mind.

"Tried what?" asked Thomas Belknap.

"May I speak plainly?" said Aunt Mary.

"To me! why, yes! the plainer the better."

"Have you tried a kind, affectionate, unimpassioned manner with the boy? Since I have been here I notice that you speak to him in a cold, authoritative tone. Under such treatment, some natures that soften quickly in the sunshine of affection grow hard and stubborn."

The blood mounted to the cheeks and brow of Thomas Belknap.

"Forgive me if I've spoken too plainly," said Aunt Mary.

Thomas Belknap did not make any response for some time, but sat with his eyes upon the floor, in hurried self-examination.

"No, Aunt Mary, not too plainly," said he, as he looked at her with a sobered face. "I needed that suggestion, and thank you for it."

"Mrs. Howitt has a line which beautifully expresses what I mean," said Aunt Mary, in her gentle, earnest way. "It is—

'For love hath reader will than fear.'

Ah, if we could all comprehend the wonderful power of love! It is the fire that melts, while fear only smites, the strokes hardening or breaking its unsightly fragments. John has many good qualities, that ought to be made as active as possible. These, like goodly flowers growing in a carefully tilled garden, will absorb the latent vitality in his mind, and thus leave nothing from which inherent evil tendencies can draw nutrition."

Aunt Mary said no more, and Thomas Belknap's thoughts were soon busy with a new train of ideas.

Time moved steadily on. Nearly half an hour had elapsed, in which period John might have gone twice to Leslie's shop and returned, yet he was still absent. Thomas Belknap was particularly in want of the hammer and nails, and the delay chafed him very considerably; the more particularly as it evidenced the indifference of his son in respect to his wishes and commands. Sometimes he would yield to a momentary blinding flush of anger and resolve to punish the boy severely the moment he could get his hands on him. But quickly would come in Aunt Mary's suggestion, and he would again resolve to try the power of kind words. He was also a good deal strengthened in his purpose by the fact that Aunt Mary's eyes would be upon him at the return of John. After her suggestion and his acknowledgment of his value, it would hardly do for him to let passion so rule him as to act in open violation of what was right—to wrong his son by unwise treatment, when he professed to desire only his good.

The fact is, Thomas Belknap had already made the discovery that if he would govern his boy he must first govern himself. This was not an easy task. Yet he felt that it must be done.

"There comes that boy now," said he, as he glanced forth, and saw John coming homeward at a very deliberate pace. There was more of impatience in his tone of voice than he wished to betray to Aunt Mary, who let her beautiful eyes rest for a moment or two, penetratingly, upon him. The balancing power of that look was needed; and at performed its work.

Soon after, the loitering boy came in; he had a package of nails in his hand, which he reached, half indifferently, to his father.

"The hammer!" John started with a half-frightened air.

"Indeed, father, I forgot all about it!" said he looking up with a flushed countenance, in which genuine regret was plainly visible.

"I'm sorry," said Thomas Belknap, in a disappointed, but not angry or rebuking voice. "I've been waiting a long time for you to come back, and now I must go to the shop without nailing up that trellis for your mother's honeysuckle, as I promised her."

The boy looked at his father a moment or two with an air of bewilderment and surprise; then he said, earnestly, "Just wait a little, father; I'll run down to the shop and get it for you in a minute; I'm very sorry that I forgot it."

"Run then," said Thomas Belknap, kindly.

How fleetly the lad bounded away! His father gazed after him with an emotion of surprise not unmingled with pleasure.

"Yes, yes," he murmured, half aloud, "Mrs. Howitt never uttered a wiser saying. 'For love hath reader will than fear.'"

Quicker than even Aunt Mary, whose faith in kind words were very strong, had expected John came in with a hammer, a bright glow on his cheeks, and a sparkle in his eyes that strongly contrasted with the utter want of interest displayed in his manner a little while before.

"Thank you, my son," said Thomas Belknap, as he took the hammer; "I could not have asked a prompter service." He spoke very kindly, and in a voice of approval. "And now, John," he added with the manner of one who requests rather than commands, "if you will go to Frank Wilson's and tell him to come over and work for two or three days in our garden, you will oblige me. I was going to call there as I went to the shop this morning; but it is too late now."

"Oh, I'll go, father—I'll go," replied the boy, cheerfully. "I'll run right over at once."

"Do, if you please," said Thomas Belknap, now speaking from an impulse of real kindness, for a thorough change had come over his feelings. A grateful look was cast by John into his father's face, and then he was off to do his errand. Thomas Belknap saw and understood the meaning of that look.

"Yes, yes, yes"—thus he talked with himself as he took his way to the shop—"Aunt Mary and Mrs. Howitt are right. Love hath a reader will. I ought to have learned this lesson earlier. Ah! how much that is deformed in this self-willed boy might now be growing in beauty!"

British Workman.

HOW TO ENJOY YOUR CLASS.

"Can you tell me how I can better enjoy my class?"—Waldo Abbot says he never knew an unprepared teacher who enjoyed teaching, nor one who was well prepared who did not enjoy it. A deacon in Chicago, a few years ago, began a Bible class with thirty members. At the end of the second year, it numbered three hundred and fifty. Some one asked him:—

"What is your philosophy of teaching?"

"What is that? Oh, you mean how I do it. Well, as soon as one lesson is through, I read over the next and pray over it, then I think about it and pray over it some more, and by the end of the week I get so I must teach the lesson or I shall die."

Those who study the lesson in that way will enjoy their classes.—*Well-Spring.*

"ONLY."

From "only" one word many quarrels begin.

And "only this once" leads to many a sin;

"Only a penny" wastes many a pound;

"Only once more" and the diver was drowned;

"Only one drop" many drunkards hath made;

"Only a play," many gamblers have said;

"Only a cold" opens many a grave;

"Only resist" many evils will save.

—*Youth's Temperance Banner.*

HINTS TO TEACHERS ON THE CURRENT LESSONS.

(From Peloubet's Select Notes)

February 10.—Acts 15: 11-24.

ILLUSTRATIVE.

1. Refusing to open the heart. Dr. Arnold used to tell a story of a poor woman in his congregation who was unable to pay her rent, and her goods were about to be seized and taken from her. Hearing of it, the good pastor procured the money necessary to relieve her, and went to place it in her hand long, received no answer. He tried the door, but it was fastened. Unable to gain admittance, he went away. Next day he met the woman and told her of his visit and its object, and how he had knocked and knocked, but could not get in. With mingled astonishment and confusion she said, "Why? was that you? I heard the knocking, but I thought it was the officer coming to seize my goods, and I had fastened the doors and windows, and was bound I would not let him in." In like manner, Jesus comes to bring us blessings, riches, joys; comes to pay our debts for us, and take our burdens. But we misunderstand Him, and refuse to let him into our hearts. We close and bar the door against our best friend.—*Westminster Teacher.*

PRACTICAL.

1. Ver. 13. Although Lydia attended to her business, she did not allow it to occupy her whole heart and absorb all her time. She took advantage of the Sabbath to rest awhile from labor; and her time of rest she filled with the worship of God, and the society of the good. He who lays out one talent well will get it redoubled soon.—*Arnold.*

2. Note the usefulness and power of women in the Church. The great church at Philippi grew out of a little prayer-meeting of a few women.

3. The Gospel is to be preached not only in the pulpit, but by the wayside, in the street, the parlor, the workshop.

4. Ver. 14. By using well the religious light she had, Lydia was prepared for greater light and larger blessings.

5. God opens the heart (1) by leading us to receive and use even the smallest measure of grace; (2) by the direct influence of His spirit; (3) by His providence; (4) by sincere worship.

6. Ver. 15. Those who believe on Christ should publicly confess Christ.

7. Hospitality is one of the earliest Christian virtues.

8. Bad men are willing to make their gains out of the misfortunes and follies, and to the injury of others.

9. Ver. 17. Even bad men and demons must perceive that the Gospel is for the saving of men.

10. Ver. 18. But the Gospel is not aided by their testimony.

11. The Gospel interferes with the business and money-making schemes of bad men.

12. Ver. 19. Therefore bad men are opposed to the Gospel.

13. Ver. 21. But they cloak their opposition under false pretences.

14. Vers. 22-24. Good men often suffer for the sake of the Gospel, thus proving to the world their sincerity, and the value they put upon the Gospel they preach. If it is worth while for Christians to suffer in order to give the Gospel to men, it must be worth while for them to receive the Gospel.

SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.

We find in this lesson three effects of the Gospel. (1) The first effect was the conversion of the soul (vers. 11-15.) Show the steps of Lydia's conversion; the preparation for it; how God opened her heart, and the two results,—confession in baptism, and good works. Contrast her conversion with that of Paul, and show that conversion in this gentle and quiet way are as real and blessed as those that are more demonstrative. (2) The second effect was the helping of the distressed (vers. 16-18.) The Gospel ever helps and comforts in all diseases and distresses. (3) The third effect was the opposition of bad men (vers. 19-24.) The Gospel always interferes with bad business and dishonest gains, and hence men oppose it, but cloak their opposition under professions of peace, and "law and order."

THE GIANT HERON.

The giant heron (*Ardea Goliath gigantodes and nobilis*) is found in the central and southern part of Africa. The feathers of the upper part of the head and the tuft upon the top of the head, also the feathers on the curve of the wings and the under part of the body with the exception of the white throat, are chestnut brown. The remaining upper part of the body is ash gray. The loose hanging feathers on the fore part of the neck are white on the outside, and black inside. The eye is yellow, the upper part of the bill is black, the under part is greenish yellow at the point, and violet color at the root. The foot is black. The length of this heron is about one hundred and thirty-six centimeters, the breadth one hundred eighty-six; the length of the tail twenty-one centimetres, and the length of the wings fifty-five.

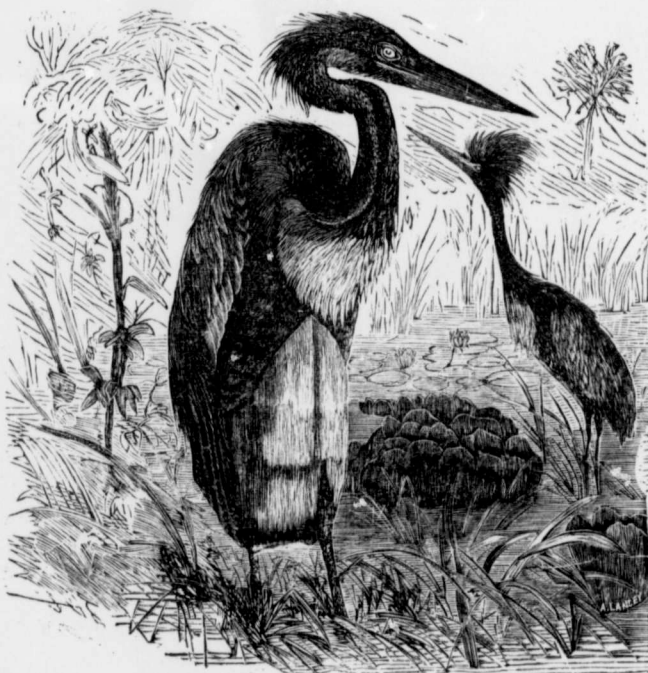
This bird is found near shallow water. It visits small ponds in the fields, water ditches, and pools, and in winter seeks shallow bays of the sea and waters about the coast, especially where there is a forest in the vicinity, or at least high trees, where it is accustomed to rest.

These giant herons are more timid than any other of the species. Every clap of thunder terrifies them, and they are afraid of men even when seen at a distance. It is a very difficult matter to surprise an old heron, for it seems conscious of every danger, and immediately takes to flight if frightened. They have a shrill voice.

Their food consists of fishes, frogs, serpents, especially adders, young swamp and water birds, mice, insects that live in the water, and earth worms. Naumann says that when a heron reaches the pond, if it does not suspect the presence of an observer, it generally goes immediately into the shallow water and begins to fish. Bending its neck, and lowering its bill, it fastens a keen look upon the water, and moves softly and with measured strides, but with such cautious steps that not the least splashing sound is heard. It circles round the whole pond in this way, seeking food, throwing its neck quickly forward, then suddenly drawing it back, holding a fish firmly in its bill. If the fish aimed at is in deep water, it moves with its whole neck under the water, and in order to preserve its balance opens its wings a little. It seldom misses its aim.

These herons form settlements, the nests sometimes numbering a

hundred. In April the old herons make their appearance at the nests, repair them if necessary, and then begin to lay. They are about a metre broad, shallow, and simply put together of sticks, twigs, reeds, or straw. They are lined in a very slovenly manner with hair, wool, or feathers. They lay three or four eggs, which average sixty millimetres in length and forty-three thick. The shells are smooth, the color is green. After three weeks of brooding the young birds are hatched. They are helpless, awkward, ugly creatures. They seem to be constantly hungry and eat an incredible amount. They remain in the nest about four weeks. After leaving the nest the parents care for them for a



GIANT HERON.—(One fifth Natural Size.)

few days and then leave them to their fate. Old and young then disperse, and the settlement is deserted.

Baldamus says that the fear which these herons have of all birds of prey, even crows and magpies, is really laughable. The robbers appear to know this, for they plunder the heron settlements with shameless impudence, and expect no greater revenge than a few feeble blows of the wings.

They are easily raised in captivity, their food consisting of fish, frogs, and mice.—*From Brehm's Animal Life.*

A WISE MAN will make more opportunities than he finds.—*Lord Bacon.*

A FEATHERED SHEPHERD.

In South America there is a very beautiful bird called the agami, or the golden-breasted trumpeter. It is about as large in the body as one of our common barn-yard fowl, but as it has longer legs and a longer neck it seems much larger. Its general color is black, but the plumage on the breast is beautiful beyond description, being what might be called iridescent, changing, as it continually does, from a steel-blue to a red-gold, and glittering with a metallic lustre.

In its wild state the agami is not peculiar for anything but its beauty, its extraordinary cry, which has given it the name of trumpeter, and for an odd habit of leaping with comical antics in-

faithful guardian drives its charge home again.

Sometimes it is given the care of a flock of sheep; and, though it may seem too puny for such a task, it is in fact quite equal to it. The misguided sheep that tries to trifle with an agami soon has cause to repent the experiment; for, with a swiftness unrivalled by any dog the feathered shepherd darts after the runaway, and with wings and beak drives it back to its place, not forgetting to impress upon the offender a sense of its errors by pecks with its beak.

Should a dog think to take advantage of the seemingly unguarded condition of the sheep and approach them with evil designs, the agami makes no hesitation about rushing at him and giving combat. And it must be a good dog that will overcome the brave bird. Indeed, most dogs are so awed by the fierce onset of the agami, accompanied by its strange cries, that they incontinently turn about and run, fortunate if they escape unscathed from the indignant creature.

At meal-times it walks into the house and takes its position near its master, seeming to ask for his caresses. It will not permit the presence of any other pet in the room, and even resents the intrusion of any servants not belonging there, driving out all others before it will be contented. Like a well-bred dog, it does not clamor for food, but waits with dignity until its wants have been satisfied.—*From "Benevolent Birds," by Will Woodman, in St. Nicholas.*

TRIMMING THE ELEPHANT'S FEET.

The whole of a day was spent recently at Bridgeport, Conn., by five men in trimming the feet of two elephants. The operation is performed, the *New Haven Register* says, once on the road, once in the fall, and again in the spring. The sole of an elephant's foot is covered with a thick, horny substance, which as it grows thicker, tends to contract and crack, often laming the animal. At the time of trimming the elephant stands on three legs and places the foot to be operated upon across a large tub. Two men hold the leg down, and one stands at the animal's head to prevent him from turning. Then with a two-foot drawing knife one man shaves off great pieces of bone from the sole of the foot. The elephant holds the foot high of his own accord, and after the operation he flourishes his trunk, trumpets, and expresses sincere thanks.—*Scientific American.*

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Jan. 30, 1884.

Chicago wheat is moderately steady and is quoted at 91c Feb. 92c March, 93c April, 94c May and 100c June. Corn is somewhat lower at 51c Feb. 52c March 57c May and 57c June. Liverpoll is slightly improved in tone but prices are unchanged. Spring wheat quoted at 8c to 8c and Red Winter 8c to 8c 9d. The local market is unchanged and values are nominal. We quote as follows:—Canada Red Winter, \$1.23 to \$1.23; Canada White, \$1.10 to \$1.15; Canada Spring, \$1.18 to \$1.20; Corn, 63c in bond; Peas, 90c; Oats, 35c; Barley, 55c to 65c; Rye 62c.

FLOUR.—Values are unchanged and quotations are almost nominal. We quote:—Superior Extra, \$5.55 to \$5.60; Extra Superfine, \$5.40 to \$5.45; Fancy, nom.; Spring Extra, \$4.90 to \$5.10; Superfine, \$4.50 to \$4.70. Strong Bakers', Can., \$5.25 to \$5.50; do., American, \$5.45 to \$5.85; Fine, \$3.60 to \$3.75; Milling, \$3.40 to \$3.50; Pollards, \$3.25 to \$3.50; Ontario bags, (medium), bags included, \$2.50 to \$2.60; do., Spring Extra, \$2.25 to \$2.25; do., Superfine, \$3.15 to \$3.25; City Bags, delivered, \$2.95 to \$3.

MEALS.—Coarse meal, \$3.20 to \$3.40; Oatmeal, ordinary, \$5.00 to \$5.25; granulated, \$3.20 to \$3.50.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter is without change. We quote:—Eastern Townships, 10c to 21c; Morrisburg and Brockville, 15c to 21c; Western, summer makes, 13c to 15c. Autumn makes, 17c to 18c. Add to the above prices a couple of cents per lb. for selections for the jobbing trade. Cheese is also quiet. Earlier makes, 10c to 12c as to quality; fall makes, 12c to 12c. The cable is at 69s.

EGGS.—A firm market at from 20c to 31c or fresh, and 26c to 27c for lined.

HOG PRODUCTS are quiet, but prices remain firm in sympathy with the rise in Chicago. We quote:—Western Mess Pork, \$18. to \$18.50; Canada Short Cut, \$18.50 to \$19; Hams, city cured, 13c to 15c; Bacon, 12c to 14c; Lard, in pairs, Western, 12c to 12c; do., Canadian, 11c to 11c; Tallow refined 7c to 9c as to quality. Dressed Hogs, per 100 lbs., 88 to \$8.25 as to quality.

POULTRY AND GAME are rather scarce. Turkeys, 12c to 13c; ducks, 10c to 12c; geese, 8c to 10c; chickens, 9c to 10c; venison, by the carcass, 4c to 5c; do., by the saddle, 6c to 8c.

ASHES show very little life at \$4.50 for Pots.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The country roads are improving somewhat, but are badly cut up with "pitch-holes" or "cabots," and very few farmers from a distance are bringing produce to the markets. Prices are generally pretty high and continue without material change, excepting hay and straw which are very plentiful and considerably lower in price. On some evenings when there is a glut on the hay-market, pretty good hay can be bought at from 85 to 86 per 100 bundles. Dressed poultry are scarce and advancing in price; eggs are also rather scarce and bring higher rates. Oats are 95c to \$1.05 per bag; peas, \$1.00 to \$1.10 per bushel; potatoes, 70c to 80c per bag; Swedish turnips, 50c to 60c; do.; dressed hogs are \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs; turkeys, 12c to 16c per lb; geese, 10c to 12c; do.; fowls, 10c to 14c; do.; ducks, 12c to 16c; do. Tub butter, 18c to 24c per lb; eggs, 25c to 30c per dozen. Apples, \$3.00 to \$6.00 per barrel; hay, \$5.00 to \$8.50 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

The supply of beef cattle continues about equal to the demand and prices are without material change. A noticeable feature of the cattle market here this winter is the generally improved condition of the animals offered, there being very few of the lean scallawag beef critters which were formerly so plentiful on this market. Choice steers and heifers bring from 5c to 5c per lb. and good fat cows, oxen and rough steers about 4c per lb. while common dry cows sell at about 4c per lb. Shippers have lately been buying all the suitable cattle they could get at from 5c to 6c per lb. and large fat steers would bring more. Very few good sheep are offered, but there is not much demand for mutton critters here yet, as the butchers have ample supplies of frozen mutton on

hand. A few live hogs are being sold at from 6c to 6c per lb., and dressed hogs bring 8c per lb. by the carload.

NEW YORK, Jan 29, 1884.

GRAIN.—The following are the closing prices for future delivery to-day:—Wheat, No. 2 Red, \$1.06 Jan., \$1.06c Feb.; \$1.08c March; \$1.11c April; \$1.13c May. Corn, 61c Jan.; 61c Feb.; 62c May. Oats, 39c Jan.; 39c Feb.; 42c May. Peas, Canada field 90c to 95c; green peas; \$1.38 to \$1.40. Rye, Western, 7c; State 7c. Barley not quoted.

FLOUR.—Quotations are: Spring Wheat Superfine, \$2.50 to \$3.00; Low Extra, \$3.25 to \$3.50; Clears \$4.35 to \$5.15; Straight, (full stock), \$5.10 to \$6.25; Patent, \$5.65 to \$6.90. Winter Wheat Superfine, \$2.75 to \$3.40; Low Extra, \$3.25 to \$3.50; Clears (R. and A.), \$4.15 to \$5.65; Straight (R. and A.), \$4.85 to \$5.85; Patent, \$5.25 to \$6.60; Straight (White Wheat) \$4.40 to \$5.75; Low Extra (City Mill), \$4.15 to \$4.20; West India, sacks, \$4.10 to \$4.95; barrels, West India, \$5.25 to \$5.30; Patent, \$5.25 to \$6.10; South America \$5.25 to \$5.75; Patent, \$5.25 to \$6.25. Southern Flour—Extra \$3.60 to \$5.00; Family, \$5.35 to \$6.25; Rye Flour, Fine to superfine \$2.65 to \$3.65. Buckwheat Flour, \$2.25 to \$3.10.

MEALS.—Oatmeal, Western fine, \$5.00 to \$5.40; Coarse, \$5.50 to \$6.00 per brl. Cornmeal, Brandywine, \$3.40 to \$3.45; Western Yellow, \$3.30 to \$3.30; Bag meal, Coarse City \$1.18 to \$1.20; Fine white, \$1.40; Fine yellow, \$1.50 per 100 lbs. Corn flour, \$3.00 to \$4.25; Hominy, \$3.25 to \$3.90 per barrel.

FEED.—100 lbs. or sharps, at \$21 to \$22 for 80 lbs. or No. 1 middlings, at \$19 to \$21 for 60 lbs. or No. 1 feed \$18 50 lbs or medium feed, \$18.00 to \$19.00; 40 lbs or No. 2 feed, \$18.00 to \$19.00. Rye feed, at 18.00 per ton.

SEEDS.—Clover seed, prime, nominal at 10c, choice, 10c; fancy, 10c; timothy, retail parcels \$1.55 to \$1.65; round lots nominal; domestic flaxseed, \$1.55 to \$1.65; Calcutta linseed, \$1.90 to \$1.95.

BUTTER.—The market is quiet, but a satisfactory business is being done. We quote:—Creamery, ordinary to fancy, 20c to 40c. State dairies, fair to fine, 22c to 28c; State firms, fair to best, 15c to 31c; State Welsh tubs, fair to choice, 18c to 28c; Western imitation creamery, 15c to 27c; Western dairy, ordinary to best, 15c to 22c; Western factory, ordinary to best, 15c, 20c to 20c. Rolls, 12c to 21c.

CHEESE.—The market is not materially stronger but holders are still confident. We quote as follows:—State factory skins to select, 6c to 13c; Pennsylvania skins, good to prime, 4c to 7c; Ohio flats ordinary, 5c to 12c.

BEEF.—We quote:—Extra mess, \$12.50 to \$13.50; Extra India mess \$24.00 to \$25.00; Plate, \$13.00 to \$13.50 in brls.

BEEF HAMS.—Sellers were firm at \$24.00 to \$24.50 spot lots, but only small lots sold.

PORK.—We quote:—\$11.50 to \$15.00 for old brands mess; \$14.00 to \$14.25 for extra prime, \$15.00 for prime mess, \$17.50 to \$18.00 to \$19.00 for clear back and \$16.25 to \$17.00 for family.

BACON.—A somewhat quiet market, purchasers buying for home market at 8c for short clear.

CUTMEATS.—Pickled bellies, 12 lb. average, 7c; to 7c; pickled shoulders, 7c; pickled hams, 10c to 11c; smoked shoulders, 6c; smoked hams, 12c to 12c.

LARD.—Prices are higher. City lard bringing 9c. Western 9.30c.

STEARINE.—Lard stearine is at 9c to 9c for choice city. Oleomargarine, weak at 8c.

TALLOW.—Demand more active at 7c to 7 1/4c for prime city.

BANKER C. entered his office one morning and greeted his bookkeeper who had been in his employ exactly 25 years that day, with the warmest words as he handed him a closed package, saying, "This is for you, in memory of the day." Gratefully the man received it, and with nervous hesitation opened it. It contained his employer's photograph! "Well," said the banker, "what do you say to that?" "It looks very much like you," murmured the bookkeeper.

EATING AT NIGHT.

BY A BOSTON PHYSICIAN.

Popularly, it is thought injurious, but unless dinner or supper have been late or the stomach disordered, it is harmless and beneficial, i. e., if one be hungry. Four to five hours having elapsed since the last meal, and the delicate stomach always eat at bedtime. This seems heretical, but is not. Food, of simple kind, will induce sleep. Animals after eating, instinctively sleep. Human beings become drowsy after a full meal. Why? Because blood is solicited toward the stomach to supply the juices needed in digestion. Hence the brain receives less blood than during fasting, becomes pale, and the powers go dormant. Sleep therefore ensues. This is physiological. The sinking sensation in sleeplessness is a call for food. Wakefulness often is merely a symptom of hunger. Gratify the desire and you fall asleep. The writer recently was called at two A. M., to a lady who was dying. The body was warm, the heart doing honest work. To her indignation, he ordered buttered bread (hot milk or beef-tea were better) to be eaten at once. Obeying, the moribund lady was soon surprised by a return of life and desire to sleep.

The feeble will be stronger at dawn if they eat on going to bed. Fourteen hours lie between supper and breakfast. By that time the fuel of the body has become expended. Consequently, the morning toilet fatigues many. Let such eat at bedtime, and take a glass of warm milk or beef tea before rising. Increased vigor will result. "But the stomach must rest." True. Yet when hungry we should eat. Does the infant stomach rest as long as the adult's? The latter rests less often merely because his food requires more time for digestion. Seldom can one remain awake until half-past ten or eleven P. M., without hunger. Satisfy it and sleep will be sounder.

During the night give wakeful children food. Sleep will follow. The sick should invariably eat during the night. This is imperative. At night the delicate and children may take, slowly, warm milk, beef tea, or oatmeal gruel. Vigorous adults may also eat bread and milk, cold beef, mutton, chicken and bread, raw oysters, all, of course, in moderation. Do not eat if not hungry. Eat if you are.—The Household.

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Some folks never touch a drop. Of whiskey, wine, or beer, Which is by far the better way For all assembled here.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON VI.

Feb. 10, 1884. [Acts 16: 11-24]

THE CONVERSION OF LYDIA.

COMMIT TO MEMORY vs. 19-21.

11. Therefore looking from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis;

12. And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony; and we were in that city abiding certain days.

13. And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a riverside, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

14. And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

15. And when she was baptized, and her household, she brought us to her house, and persuaded us to tarry several days.

16. And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying.

17. The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which show unto us the way of salvation.

18. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, said unto her, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

19. And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Sias, and drew them into the market-place unto the rulers,

20. And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city.

21. And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans.

22. And the multitude rose up together against them, and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.

23. And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely.

24. Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

GOLDEN TEXT.

"Whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul."—Acts 16: 14.

HOME READINGS.

M. Acts 16: 11-24. Conversion of Lydia. 2 Cor. 2: 14-15. A Beatified Saint. W. Luke 24: 36-47. The Gospel Among All Nations.

Th. Luke 4: 33-41. Demons in the Desert. F. 2 Cor. 11: 23-33. In Stripes and in Prison. S. 1 Pet. 4: 12-19. Suffering for Christ. S. Phil. 4: 1-23. Paul to the Philippians.

LESSON PLAN.

1. Lydia's Heart Opened. 2. The Soothsayer Healed. 3. The Oppressers Enraged. Time.—A. D. 51. Place.—Philippi.

INTRODUCTORY.

Our lesson to-day tells us how Paul and his associates, in obedience to the divine call, crossed the Aegean Sea into Macedonia and laid the foundations of the first European church in Philippi. Observe the different effects of the gospel in this city. Lydia's heart is opened to receive the truth. Wicked men are roused to opposition, but even their persecuting rage is in the end made to work for the furtherance of the gospel.

LESSON NOTES.

1.—V. 11. SAMOTHRACIA—An island in the Aegean Sea, about midway between Troas and the Macedonian coast. NEAPOLIS—a seaport on the Macedonian coast, between NEAPOLIS—about ten miles north-west from Neapolis. THE CHIEF CITY—Revised Version, "the first of the district, a Roman colony"; a city occupied by Roman citizens, with all the rights and privileges of Rome itself. V. 13. BY A RIVER-SIDE—the Gangas, a small stream close by the city. WHERE PRAYER WAS WONT TO BE MADE—whether an enclosure or not is uncertain; very likely it was simply a place for open-air meetings. They were probably few Jews and no synagogue in Philippi. UNTO THE WOMEN—no men, it seems, were present. V. 14. A SELLER OF PURPLE—either of the dye itself or of cloth purple-dyed. THYATIRA—a city of the province of Lydia in Asia Minor, between Sardis and Pergamos, celebrated for its costly purple dyes and fabrics. WORSHIPPED GOD—a gentile proselyte to the Jewish faith. WHOSE HEART THE LORD OPENED—God by His Spirit inclined her to listen to the truth. Prov. 2: 1.

11.—V. 16. A DAMSEL—a female slave of several joint owners. (See V. 18.) A SPIRIT OF DIVINATION—either a Python or supposed to have received from Apollo the gift of foretelling events. It was doubtless a case of demoniacal possession, but those recorded in the Gospels, SOOTHSAYING—telling fortunes by the aid of the demon which possessed her. V. 17. THESE MEN—A true testimony. THIS—the demon. IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST—by his authority.

11.—V. 19. THE HOPE OF THEIR GAIN—when the demon was cast out the damsel ceased to utter pretentious prophecies, and her owners could make no more money in this way. Full of rage on account of their loss, they caused the arrest of Paul and Sias. THE MARKET-PLACE—the agora, answering the Roman forum, where the courts were held. V. 20. BEING JEWS—despised and suspected by the Romans. The real cause of offence was not hinted at, but an accusation was so framed as to rouse the prejudice of the Romans. V. 22. THE MULTITUDE—not seeing that public interest had been made a cloak for a private grievance. THEIR CLOTHES—those of the prisoners. TO BEAT THEM—to beat them with rods." (See 2 Cor. 11: 25; 1 Thes. 2: 2.) V. 23. MANY STRIPES—the Jews never inflicted more than thirty-nine stripes (Deut. 25: 3); the Roman law had no such humane provision. V. 24. THE INNER PRISON—Roman prisons usually had three distinct parts: in the first the prisoners had light and air; the second, or inner prison, was shut off by strong iron gates with bars and locks, its cells damp and cold, without light or ventilation; the third, an underground dungeon, a place of execution or for one condemned to die. STRUCK—a block of wood with holes into which the feet were placed in such a manner that they were stretched widely apart, so as to cause great pain.

WHAT HAVE I LEARNED?

- 1. That teaching and preaching the truth are the means for saving souls.
2. That no heart opens to the truth till the Lord opens it.
3. That men sometimes hate and oppose the truth because it puts a stop to their wicked ways of making money.
4. That fidelity to the truth often brings trial and persecutions.

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