

Cotemporary Press.

PAPAL UNCERTAINTIES.

(From the New York Church Times.)

The Bishop of Rome lately declared himself to be infallible. That declaration embraces the assertion of infallibility for all his predecessors.

Now it is very clear that an infallible voice uttering itself on earth ought to be very careful that its utterances be properly certified. What is the use of infallibility at all if there is no certainty that what purports to be its declarations are not its declarations? And yet that is precisely the way in which, according to a Roman bishop, we are all situated at the present. It is utterly impossible to tell whether any bull, constitution, or rescript, claiming to be issued by a Pope, was ever so issued.

The Papal chancery, it seems, takes no care to register documents of this sort, and what is issued and accepted as "the voice of infallibility," even so accepted by infallibility itself, is to be subjected afterwards to the criticism of fallible men, and accepted or rejected on their arbitrary rules of historic evidence.

It appears, indeed, that there is not a religious sect in Christendom that takes so little care of the authentication and security of its official documents as the Court of Rome.

Dr. Moran, the Romanist Bishop of Ossory, in Ireland, has revealed to the world this quite surprising fact. He has shown that it is quite impossible to assert of any bull that it is genuine, and that the Roman See is exposed to the risk of having documents forged in its name, and to accepting the forgeries itself finally as its own genuine utterances.

The case illustrated is, indeed, one where no article of the faith is concerned. The "forgery," therefore, as he claims it to be, does not touch that function of the Papacy which exercises infallibility. But, nevertheless, it is a case that affects for ages, and affects still, the lives, fortunes, and hopes of millions of men, has occasioned wars, rebellions, confusions, and streams of blood.

If infallibility is so careless about matters of such consequence to men that it cannot tell a forged bull from a genuine, it is certainly not unfair to say that it is exposed to deception even in that function itself.

The occasion of Dr. Moran's exposition of Papal uncertainty is the bull of Pope Adrian (the only Englishman who ever was Pope), giving Ireland to the Normans, to whom some time before, another Pope had given England. It is, of course, largely to Dr. Moran's interest, being an Irish prelate, to show if he can, that the Pope he serves did not give Ireland to a power Roman Catholic Irishmen dislike, or perhaps even hate. The motive is very strong to bias his judgment, and render his conclusion suspect.

He carries too heavy a weight of personal interest to be quite unprejudiced. Otherwise, perhaps, it might have occurred to him that it was rather dangerous to take grounds which expose the Romanist Court to the view of the world as being the most easily deluded institution in existence, and as being unable to verify what claims to be its own deliberate acts.

The facts are these:—

There is a bull extant claiming to be issued by Adrian IV., in 1155, authorizing Henry II. of England to enter upon the possession of Ireland, and reduce its refractory people to obedience to the Papacy. The language of the bull is according to the usage of the time, and proceeds on the ground that the Pope being St. Peter's successor, and St. Peter having been a fisherman, all islands belong to the Pope. There is a *quid pro quo* demanded, the same that Hildebrand demanded of Norman William for England—a penny for each house. There is not a word in the bull which is at variance with well-known facts and claims of the Popes at the time in their dealing with princes. The state of Ireland, and the independent position of the Irish Church, were motives for the interference of the Normans under Papal sanction there, as they had been authorized to interfere in England and in other lands before. Indeed, they had been the Pope's soldiers since their conversion, and did more than any other people to establish his authority, always, of course, demanding and receiving pay.

This bull of Adrian is recorded in various contemporary histories. It is printed in the *Bullarium*, the collection of all the bulls, issued at Rome itself by authority in 1739. It is given by Cardinal Baronius, the great Church historian of the Roman Communion, under the reign of the Pope whose name it bears. Lastly, it is cited by the Irish chieftains in a remonstrance to Pope John XXII. against English rule without a doubt of its genuineness, and is confirmed by various bulls of Adrian's successor, Alexander III.

Nevertheless, Dr. Moran declares it to be a forgery, or as "Father Tom" Burke said eloquently, "a thumping English lie." And not only this, but Alexander's confirmatory bull, though published by authority in the *Bullarium* also, is declared to be a forgery as well.

We are not concerned to follow Dr. Moran in his criticisms. As a matter of fact they are worth nothing, and do not touch the point of the genuineness of these bulls at all. But to us it is a matter of no earthly consequence one way or the other.

What we are concerned about is to draw attention to the utter uncertainty which, in the mind of a Romanist bishop, attaches to all documents which in times past claim to be issued from the source of all spiritual authority on earth—the Bishop of Rome.

That such a document is published by a cardinal of that Church, resident in Rome, and writing, with all resources at his command, a history in defence of his church, his work looked on and waited for and praised by all the authorities of that Church, is no proof of its genuineness to a Roman bishop.

That it is published at Rome itself, in the *Bullarium*—the statute book of his Church—with the due imprimatur of authority in the shadow of the Vatican, and with the Vatican Library at hand, and not a word of criticism uttered, is no proof of genuineness to him either.

That it was cited in a formal document by the representatives of a whole people, complaining of it bitterly to a successor of the Pope who, it was said, issued it, and that they never doubted it, and that the Pope, with the means at hand, would suppose, of verifying it, never doubted it, is no proof either.

We are thrown back, it seems, on discussions about the trustworthiness of historians, the probabilities of this and the likelihood of that—all at sea, indeed, on the subject, and left to our own and Dr. Moran's unaided natural guesses.

We have never seen a better illustration of the uncertainties of Romanism, the fatal facility with which it can assert and deny, and the grossness of its pretence that it conveys assurance to anybody who thinks. And the illustration is furnished us by a Roman bishop. One asked in amazement, "How is your *Bullarium* edited? Is there neither scholarship among you, nor reverence for the voice of God on earth, that you publish in your authorized collection of official utterances the stupid forgeries of any Roman monk?"

What sort of functionary is your Pope that when a whole people solemnly cite a solemn act of one of his predecessors—only a century and a half removed, he accepts their forged documents as genuine?"

wickedly careless as this bishop represents his Popes to be. No earthly government is so stupidly imbecile as to have imposed upon it the forgeries of unknown scribblers as its own solemn utterances, and then stand helpless and staring, unable to verify the acts and documents recorded in its own statute books.

We have not seen in a long time so damaging an exposure as this by Dr. Moran. In his zeal to prove Adrian's bull a forgery for the comfort of his Irish flock, he has proved that any bull may be a forgery; that there is positively no regard for the genuineness of its utterances exercised by the Court of Rome; that we are left uncertain as to what it did say on any given occasion, and that itself cannot tell us; that, in short, "infallibility" has not so much regard for the verification of its own utterances as a retail dealer in groceries has for that of his accounts of the sale of soap and candles!

FORGERY.

FREQUENCY OF THE CRIME—A BOLD PROJECT IN THE PAST.

(From the London Review, March 8.)

Forgeries are not so rare as is supposed, and of late years, with the spread of elementary education, they are said to have been rather increasing, but they are seldom attempted on a large scale, or for great amounts. A clergyman at Middlesbrough is just now awaiting his trial for forging a joint-stock scrip to the amount of £20,000 or £30,000, but the common run of forgeries seldom go beyond petty sums. For a parallel to the case which has just excited so much alarm and uneasiness, we must go back some thirty years and more. In 1841 the *Times* brought to light a bold project of forgery, and its prompt and energetic action in the matter is commemorated by a tablet in the Royal Exchange. Four or five different persons, some in Florence, others in London, were engaged in the conspiracy. On this occasion the forged papers were not bills, but letters of credit. The conspirators produced one of Messrs. Glyn's letters of credit, and procured an imitation of it so perfect that one of the partners of the house said that for a time he was unable to distinguish between the original and the copy.

Two Scotchmen, father and son, resident in Florence, designed the *fac-similes*, and a couple of Frenchmen, one of them a marquis, took charge of the engraving of the plates in London. An English banker at Florence, named Bogie, superintended the distribution of the forgeries. They were presented for payment at Brussels, Ghent, Cologne, Turin, Bologna, and Florence, in rapid succession, and in a few days £20,000 had been obtained on them. Either seduced by their easy success, or afraid of prompt detection, and eager to make the most of their chances before an alarm was raised, the conspirators pressed the game too recklessly. Suspicion was aroused, and a communication was sent to Glyn's which led to a disclosure of the fraud. The *Times* was not afraid to publish an article showing up the swindle in all its ramifications, and Bogie, thinking he could brazen out the matter, took advantage of this to bring an action for libel. Owing to a technical rule of evidence which prevented the production of certain private letters, the jury were unable legally to identify the plaintiff with the conspiracy, but they gave him only a farthing damages. The *Times* refused to accept the subscription which was raised to defray its expenses at the trial, and the money was applied to the foundation of scholarships for the boys of Christ's Hospital and the City of London School, and to the erection of commemorative tablets.

If forgeries are not more common than they are, it is for other reasons than the difficulty of forging. The truth is that forgery is a very simple art, and a natural aptitude for it may be quickly developed by a little practice. Almost any engraver's or lithographer's apprentice might readily become more or less expert in it; and, considering the vast amount of business which is daily transacted in London through the medium of hasty signatures, it is at first sight almost amazing that forgeries should not be more frequent. Perhaps the greatest check upon offences of this kind is that, although a man might thus win a considerable sum of money by a lucky coup, the art cannot be continuously exercised. The actual forgery may be easy enough, but the passing of the forgery is another matter. Except at the counter of a bank, where checks are paid off-hand, no business is transacted between absolute strangers, and even at the bank-counter the system of crossed checks comes into play. Most men in the city either know or know about each other, and the great bulk of business is done through bankers, brokers, or other intermediaries, who may be taken as a sort of personal guarantee for the character of those for whom they act. In the present case Warren had to spend the best part of a year in building up a character which he must have been aware would be destroyed forever as soon as his practices became known. The game may be played once, but only once; it requires both daring and craft, and it is perilous; and, even if successful, can scarcely be expected to yield anything but a small fraction of what might be earned by the continuous exercise of the same ability in an honest way. It will be seen, therefore, that the chances of being imposed upon to a serious extent by forgeries are by no means so great as might be imagined. At the same time, it is a question whether so simple a pretence as a communication in the first instance with the persons whose names are attached to bills, when they exceed a certain amount, might not be adopted as a check upon fraud. With regard to bills of lading, the present system is almost a provocation to dishonesty.

IRISH-AMERICAN ROMANCE IN REAL LIFE.

About six weeks ago the police of Newark, N. J., made one of their periodical swoops on haunts of vice, and, in police parlance, "pulled" a low underground den of infamous repute on the corner of Broad and Bridge streets. Seated at the squeaking rattle-trap, dignified with the name of piano, was a young woman of striking personal appearance, about twenty-five years of age. On such occasions the police are not respectful of persons, and so the pianist was marched to the police station with the rest of the unfortunates found in the den. Next day she was liberated, but soon after was re-arrested as a vagrant. The kind-hearted young magistrate, who is also gifted with a penetrative mind, saw the woman was NOT IN HER PROPER SPHERE,

and by kind words induced her to disclose her identity and history. She stated that she was the daughter of a distinguished Irish scholar of the British army, Colonel John Hurst, son of Sir John, of the British army, and a native of Ireland. When quite young she married a wealthy young bank cashier of that neighborhood named Charles F. Howe, and for years lived happily. By and by dissipation and high living drove Howe to America. She followed with two children, but rued the day that she left Ireland. Howe continued his dissipation, until finally she led with him the life of a dog. All the money they received from opulent friends he drank, and then, as she avers, beat her because she could not get more. At last her children were taken sick, and

and, her children being taken sick, she was forced to place them on Ward's Island, in the Emigrant Hospital. She tried her best to earn an honest living; but to those who understand how utterly incapable of helping themselves Irish ladies are, owing to the ornamental character of their training and education, it will easily be understood why she failed, and why, finally, she drifted into a low den as a piano player. Justice Lambert took her case in hand and wrote her father the particulars as related. Meanwhile he took Mrs. Howe to his mother's house, where she has ever since been well cared for. It is pleasing to relate, especially in these days when so many confidence frauds, male and female, abound and sour the milk of human kindness, that within a day or so Judge Lambert received

that his faith in Mrs. Howe's word of honor was not misplaced. Her father and other friends in Canada wrote corroborating her story, and enclosing funds to pay all incurred expenses and the cost of forwarding Mrs. Howe and little ones to Lucknow, Canada, where Dr. Garner, her brother, lives. On Saturday the tickets for her journey were furnished, and Mrs. Howe will proceed as soon as the two children are obtained from Ward's Island. As is natural Mrs. Howe declares herself utterly incapable of expressing her appreciation of Judge Lambert's generosity and purely disinterested kindness.—*N. Y. Herald*, 28th inst.

THE ALLAN STEAMER "CIRCASSIAN."

A NEW PRINCIPLE OF ENGINE CONSTRUCTION.

This screw steamship, which has just been built on the Clyde for the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company (Messrs. Allan Brothers and Co.), arrived in the Mersey on Sunday night, April 13. She was to sail for Quebec on the 24th April, and will make the nineteenth of the fleet of steamers Messrs. Allan have now engaged in the trade between Great Britain and various ports of the Canadian Dominion and the United States. The building of the "Circassian," which is not quite so large a tonnage as the "Polynesian," was commenced some two years since in the shipbuilding yard of Messrs. Robert Steele & Co., of Greenock. She was launched some eight or nine months since.

The great interest attaching to the "Circassian" arises from the fact of the engines having been constructed upon an entirely new principle, of which we believe they are as yet the only examples to be found among the steam fleet of Liverpool. As regards the general use of marine engines, we have progressed from the low pressure engines to engines upon the compound principle. The engines of the "Circassian" are designed to effect by means of one cylinder all that the engines upon the compound principle attain with two, and to get a greater amount of steam-power or pressure with the same expenditure of fuel, which practically amounts to an economy of immense importance in the present state of our coal resources and the price of coal. The engines are the result of an improvement applied by Messrs. Spencer & Inglis, to the principle of reciprocating valve gear engine construction identified with the name of Mr. Corliss, an American gentleman. Up to the present time the invention of Mr. Corliss, taken by itself, has not been able to secure general adoption in this country. The improved Corliss valve gear of Spencer and Inglis—which can be applied to compound as well as to the one cylinder principle—has been adopted in England in upwards of three hundred engines working upon land chiefly for mill purposes. Working upon steam, this valve gear does in an effective way that which Watt accomplished in a rude fashion in his high pressure engine.

The "Circassian's" engines are constructed with inverted cylinders. Each of the two cylinders is complete in itself, possessing the cut off and expansion apparatus which the Spencer valve gear supplies. The great principle of the invention lies in the instantaneous manner in which the steam supplied to the cylinder is cut off, and any amount of expansion obtained. It is important in this place to mention that, while in the existing compound engines the slide valves employed are subject to great wear with very high pressure of steam, the Corliss valve is as safe and durable with 200 lbs. as with 20 lbs. to the square inch. The "Circassian's" cylinders are 68 in. diameter, with a 4 ft. stroke, and are steam jacketed throughout. The engines will work with steam of 65 lbs. pressure, expanding to about six times its volume, and they are capable of indicating from 2,200 to 2,800 horsepower. It is also claimed for them that they will be able, when in might otherwise be necessary to reduce the pressure by reason of the wear and tear of the boilers, still to develop their full power. It is further urged as an advantage that they possess the power of quick reversing in harbor, as they can almost work on the vacuum principle.

It was not, of course, possible upon a preliminary voyage to test the engines in all particulars; but as far as upon such an occasion they could be tried the engines gave fair promise that they will be capable of producing a high degree of speed with considerable economy in coal, combined with a moderate pressure of steam. If it is found in working across the Atlantic that the experiment is successful, then a great advance will have been made in the mechanical efficiency and economy of marine engines. From this point of view the early voyages of the "Circassian" will possess a more than ordinary interest, inasmuch as they will in effect decide, as regards its application to marine engineering, the fate of what appears to be a most valuable invention. In addition to this it will in effect practically settle the hotly disputed questions with regard to expansion in single or compound cylinders.

But the claim of the "Circassian" to special notice is not altogether founded upon the fact of her being the first Liverpool ship possessing these new engines. She is not so large as her predecessor, the "Polynesian," her gross tonnage being 3,211 against the 3,700 of the "Polynesian," and her registered tonnage 1,848 against 2,023 of the same ship. She is, however, about as fine a model of a ship as any which the Clyde has produced, possessing fine and graceful lines, and combining at the same time great strength with great beauty of outline. In her case the fashionable straight stem has been abandoned for the elegant cut-water, and viewed from every point she must be admitted to be a triumph of artistic shipbuilding. Her length is not excessive, being 375 feet between perpendiculars, and over all 395 feet, while she possesses a beam of 40.2 feet. Her nominal horse-power is 500, and she is built in eight water-tight compartments. It is, perhaps, a matter of not much importance; but at a time when so many different opinions have been expressed with reference to the relative safety of long ships it is worth while to notice, that a fine vessel has been placed among the Liverpool steam fleet which has claims to attention not founded at all upon the fact of her excessive length but simply upon her capability as a safe, swift, and comfortable ocean going steamer; she will carry 90 cabin and 1,000 steerage passengers. The saloon is fitted up in the most luxurious manner, and there is every convenience for the cabin passengers. The stateroom accommodations have been constructed in the light of the recent controversy in the press last autumn on the subject, and are of a superior description, affording in-

creased space and comfort. One feature is a female infirmary for patients of that sex who may be taken ill. The other arrangements for steering, &c., are of the most improved description.

THE DUTCH WAR IN ASIA.

ALARM AT THE HOLLANDERS' DEMONSTRATION IN ACHEN.

(From the Singapore (E. I.) Times, March 13.)

The merchants and traders of the Straits, after a year of most unprecedented losses, have now another source of annoyance in the expedition being sent by the Netherlands Indian government to Achen to coerce the Sultan into submission. Little or nothing can be positively ascertained with respect to the nature or the magnitude of the expedition, but it is said that a part of the plan of operations is to establish a blockade of all the Achenese ports. The right of the Dutch government to do this under the treaty recently made is unquestioned; but the peculiar nature of the trade between Penang and Achen would make this blockade at the present time a serious hardship upon the Penang merchants, and entail upon them severe losses. The merchants have advanced goods to the traders, to be sold on credit to the Achenese, the payment for which is to be made in pepper and produce. The pepper season is now about to open, and a sudden blockade will deprive the merchants of the produce to which they are entitled. The merchants here have addressed a letter on the subject to the government, urging in behalf of themselves and the Chinese British subjects mainly engaged in the trade that representations may be made to the proper authorities to endeavor to prevent a blockade of the ports before they withdraw their capital, and also that a British man-of-war be directed to accompany the expedition to protect British interests. The request is reasonable, but unless prompt action is taken it will be impossible to comply with it, the expedition being reported to have passed through the Straits yesterday.

THE SULTAN OF ACHEEN ON INDEPENDENCE.

(From the Samatra Courier, Feb. 5.)

A correspondent writes to us from Anah Labu that people there have received intelligence from the Sultan of Achen, that he, in reply to the letter sent him by the Netherlands India government, has made known to the Governor-General that he, the Sultan of Achen, &c., wishes to live in peace with the Government, but he cannot and will not suffer any interference in the affairs of his kingdom. His Majesty has furthermore urgently requested to be excused from receiving the announced visit of a Netherlands Commissioner.

The departure of the steamer "Djambi" to the capital of Achen with Messrs. Krayenhoff and Kockritz must be connected with the answers received.

FREE TRADE.

THE WESTERN FARMERS AND CHEAP FREIGHTS—THE GREAT POLITICAL ISSUE FOR 1873.

Whilst the leaders of the Democratic party have been and are discussing the important question whether this old organization and its "time-honored principles" shall still be maintained or abandoned for a new party, with a new name, and upon the "living issues of the day," the farmers of the North-West, for their own protection, have entered upon a new movement, in which we see looming into view the leading issues of our next Presidential campaign. This farmers' movement has been slowly gaining ground for several years. In the outset the farmers concerned undertook to band themselves together in secret societies, or "Granges of the Patrons of Husbandry," against railway monopolies and combinations, and against the existing high railway freights which eat up the farmer's profits in the transportation of his produce to market. These "Granges," first organized in Minnesota and next adopted generally by the farmers of Illinois, are rapidly spreading over all the Northwestern and Southwestern States. For examples twelve hundred of these Granges are reported for Iowa, with an aggregate membership of one hundred thousand men, which is half the population of the State already secured, while in Wisconsin, there are over a hundred Granges organized, with every promise of an increase that will control the vote of the State. And so this general movement is spreading throughout the corn, wheat, beef and pork producing communities of the North-West.

The direct object in view is cheaper transportation to the seaboard; but indirectly free trade will inevitably be blended by 1876 with cheap freights. The burning of Chicago has resulted in demonstrating to the people of the West that there is no protection for them in our existing protective tariff. After the Chicago fire, and as a life to that unfortunate community in the rebuilding of their city, Congress, for a limited time, removed the duty on their building materials. The consequence was the rebuilding of the waste places with a rapidity which astonished even themselves; but with the restoration of those suspended duties the mystery is solved. In this experiment they have discovered, to an extent they had not imagined could be possible, that their prosperity lies in free trade, or a purely revenue system of duties, and that what is called the protection of home industry is to them a tax, "a delusion and a snare." And from this demonstration of the fact at Chicago, among other things, this idea of free trade is destined to take possession of the Mississippi Valley within the next three years, in connection with the pressing necessity of cheaper transportation between that valley and our Atlantic seaports.—*N. Y. Herald*.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

ADDRESS OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR TO THE NEW LEGISLATURE—STRONG APPEAL IN FAVOR OF A CONFEDERATION.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I., via HALIFAX, N.S. April 21, 1873.—The new Legislature of Prince Edward Island is now fairly at work. It is strongly wedded to annexation with the Dominion of Canada, and such a union will be one of the consequences of the session, although not without furious proceedings and warm arguments in opposition. The Lieutenant-Governor of the island, in his opening address to the members of the Council and Assembly, remarked that, in response to the addresses of congratulation to Her Majesty and the Prince of Wales on the recovery of His Royal Highness, he had now to convey the gracious thanks of the Queen and the Prince for their kind expressions and also the warm appreciation of Her Majesty for the spirit of loyalty to the British crown and attachment to the person of the sovereign, which had been manifested.

Concerning the proposed union of the island with the Dominion of Canada the Lieutenant-Governor spoke as follows:—

Having dissolved the late House of Assembly in order that this important question might be submitted to the people at the polls, I now invite you to bestow upon it your careful and anxious consideration, expressing to you the earnest hope of the Imperial Government that Prince Edward Island will not lose this opportunity of union with her sister provinces. In commending the public interests

to your care at a time when questions of the gravest importance await the consideration of the Legislature, I fervently pray that, grateful for the numerous blessings which have been bestowed upon us during the past year, your deliberations on this occasion may conduce to the honor of the crown, the happiness of the people and the social and material advancement of all classes in the community.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

THE SENATE.

OTTAWA, April 30.

Hon. Mr. Campbell introduced an Act to amend the Act to more effectually prevent the desertion of seamen.

Hon. Mr. Skene presented two petitions against the sale and manufacture of liquor in the Province.

Hon. Mr. Christie moved that a Committee be appointed to enquire into and report from time to time on all matters relating to the contract for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, granted to Sir Hugh Allan and his associates, prior and subsequent to its being signed, with power to send for persons, papers, records and telegraphic despatches by Atlantic Cable or otherwise, including all communications between Sir Hugh Allan or any of his associates now in England and the Government or any member thereof, or any person on their behalf. The hon. gentleman, in proceeding to speak upon his motion, referred to the motion lately made by the hon. member for Toronto in reference to the Pacific question, and expressing his opinion that the Government had used an undue pressure in settling the debate upon that motion, and that the House had not had sufficient opportunity for discussing the question thoroughly. He then proceeded to state the grounds on which he considered this Committee necessary. After speaking at some length, the hon. gentleman concluded by moving the resolutions, seconded by Hon. Letellier de St. Just.

Hon. Mr. Aikens said the hon. gentleman who had just sat down had taken the ground that the House was not in possession of certain information which he desired, and that they had a right to procure that information. He (Mr. Aikens) would state on behalf of the Government that all the information in their possession in connection with the matter, and all that it was possible for them to procure had been brought down and was now in possession of the House. He was of opinion that there was some ulterior object behind the scenes in this motion, and he had no doubt, from the wording of it, that it was founded on the motion of Mr. Huntington, in another House, where it was regarded on all sides as a direct motion of want of confidence in the Ministry. The Government had no objection to such an investigation. But when a similar Committee for the very same object had been appointed in the other branch of the Legislature, what could be more untimely than to propose to have two Committees upon the same subject, and at the same time? The idea was absurd. Under the circumstances, the Government considered that the motion could not be considered other than as a want of confidence. In a better light could it be placed, and in that light the Government ought not, could not, and would not accede to it.

Hon. Mr. Wilmot condemned the whole scheme as one likely to throw the whole country into bankruptcy. How could a population of four millions build a railway 2,700 miles long through a country containing only 20,000 inhabitants? As for the Directors being men of wealth, he knew some of those credited to pay a large amount of money who could not possibly have the money.

Hon. Mr. Letellier de St. Just thought if the Government refused to grant the enquiry they would lay themselves open to still graver suspicions. As for the Directors of this company, he saw the names of Quebec members down for \$75,000, who he knew were not worth \$1,000.

After further discussion, the motion was put to vote, and defeated by 15 to 37.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OTTAWA, April 29.

DECK-LOADS.

Mr. Mitchell moved the House into Committee on the bill respecting deck-loads.

Mr. Palmer suggested the appointment of an inspector of ships. He pointed out the means there were of evading the provisions of the law, and suggested that the first step to be taken should be similar to that initiated by Mr. Pimms in England, viz, the appointment of a committee to enquire into the whole subject of the building, loading, and sailing of vessels. He thought it advisable that the Minister of Marine should allow this to stand over for three months.

Mr. Young (Montreal West) referred to the number of vessels sailing from Quebec in 1872 which had been lost. He favored the bill submitted by the Minister of Marine, but it did not go as far as he would have liked. He would like to have deck loads abolished altogether between the 1st September and 1st day of May.

Sir F. Hincks read from a recent Liverpool paper an account of how the seamen in England approved Mr. Pimms's measure. At a meeting of seamen they passed a number of resolutions approving the measure and condemning the old system of inspection as a sham.

Mr. Young moved that the bill be amended so as to prohibit vessels leaving the St. Lawrence with deck loads after the first of September.

After some discussion, the amendment was put and lost: Yeas, 31, nays, 60.

The Committee then rose and reported the bill.

KENT ELECTION.

Mr. McKay presented the report of the committee on the Kent, N.B., contested election, which concluded to dismiss the petition inasmuch as the recognitions were insufficient; but the petition was considered neither frivolous nor vexatious. After some discussion it was decided that the report was not framed according to law, and therefore it was referred back.

OCEAN MAIL SERVICE.

On the second reading of the Act respecting Ocean Mail Service,

Mr. Holton asked whether Government had considered the suggestions made when the bill was in committee, and whether it was proposed to adopt any of them.

Mr. Tupper replied that Government had carefully considered the suggestions made, and they proposed to adopt one of them, which seemed to be entirely reasonable, namely, that as the bill provided that Sir Hugh Allan had the right to terminate the contract at one year's notice, the Government should have similar power, and thus the parties to the contract would be placed on the same footing. He trusted the Opposition would be satisfied with the contract as amended.

Dr. Tupper, in reply to a question, said no subsidy was granted the Allan Company by the Imperial Government. He read a statement showing that during the summer months mails were delivered in Montreal at the same time whether coming by the St. Lawrence or by New York, and instanced the case of the

to your care at a time when questions of the gravest importance await the consideration of the Legislature, I fervently pray that, grateful for the numerous blessings which have been bestowed upon us during the past year, your deliberations on this occasion may conduce to the honor of the crown, the happiness of the people and the social and material advancement of all classes in the community.

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Hon. Mr. Skene presented two petitions against the sale and manufacture of liquor in the Province.

Hon. Mr. Christie moved that a Committee be appointed to enquire into and report from time to time on all matters relating to the contract for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, granted to Sir Hugh Allan and his associates, prior and subsequent to its being signed, with power to send for persons, papers, records and telegraphic despatches by Atlantic Cable or otherwise, including all communications between Sir Hugh Allan or any of his associates now in England and the Government or any member thereof, or any person on their behalf. The hon. gentleman, in proceeding to speak upon his motion, referred to the motion lately made by the hon. member for Toronto in reference to the Pacific question, and expressing his opinion that the Government had used an undue pressure in settling the debate upon that motion, and that the House had not had sufficient opportunity for discussing the question thoroughly. He then proceeded to state the grounds on which he considered this Committee necessary. After speaking at some length, the hon. gentleman concluded by moving the resolutions, seconded by Hon. Letellier de St. Just.

Hon. Mr. Aikens said the hon. gentleman who had just sat down had taken the ground that the House was not in possession of certain information which he desired, and that they had a right to procure that information. He (Mr. Aikens) would state on behalf of the Government that all the information in their possession in connection with the matter, and all that it was possible for them to procure had been brought down and was now in possession of the House. He was of opinion that there was some ulterior object behind the scenes in this motion, and he had no doubt, from the wording of it, that it was founded on the motion of Mr. Huntington, in another House, where it was regarded on all sides as a direct motion of want of confidence in the Ministry. The Government had no objection to such an investigation. But when a similar Committee for the very same object had been appointed in the other branch of the Legislature, what could be more untimely than to propose to have two Committees upon the same subject, and at the same time? The idea was absurd. Under the circumstances, the Government considered that the motion could not be considered other than as a want of confidence. In a better light could it be placed, and in that light the Government ought not, could not, and would not accede to it.

Hon. Mr. Wilmot condemned the whole scheme as one likely to throw the whole country into bankruptcy. How could a population of four millions build a railway 2,700 miles long through a country containing only 20,000 inhabitants? As for the Directors being men of wealth, he knew some of those credited to pay a large amount of money who could not possibly have the money.

Hon. Mr. Letellier de St. Just thought if the Government refused to grant the enquiry they would lay themselves open to still graver suspicions. As for the Directors of this company, he saw the names of Quebec members down for \$75,000, who he knew were not worth \$1,000.

After further discussion, the motion was put to vote, and defeated by 15 to 37.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OTTAWA, April 29.

DECK-LOADS.

Mr. Mitchell moved the House into Committee on the bill respecting deck-loads.

Mr. Palmer suggested the appointment of an inspector of ships. He pointed out the means there were of evading the provisions of the law, and suggested that the first step to be taken should be similar to that initiated by Mr. Pimms in England, viz, the appointment of a committee to enquire into the whole subject of the building, loading, and sailing of vessels. He thought it

RIAGES BETWEEN PROTESTANTS AND RO-
CATHOLICS.—The subject of mixed mar-
riages is beginning to obtain attention. A
rising change has been made in the discip-
les of the Roman Catholic Church on this
and the new law is carried out with un-
flinching severity. Some years ago, when a
distant married a Roman Catholic, the
only took place in the respective churches
parties. Now, the Roman Catholic clergy
to repeat the ceremony. That, how-
ever, is not all. They will not even marry
wives without a promise in writing that
children shall be all reared Catholics. A
condition is made that the party pro-
fessing Protestantism shall not by word or act
be against the religion of the other, or

war of imposts between Victoria and New South Wales has lately shown the need of a Zollverein; and, according to the *Spectator*, Lord Kimberley has introduced a short bill of thirty lines into the British Parliament which, if passed, will go a long way towards establishing an Australian Dominion, like that of Canada. It is entitled a "Bill to amend the law with regard to customs duties in Australian Colonies," and communicates to Australia and New Zealand the privilege of arranging duties between the different colonies as they please; whilst, as regards the outside world, they will remain bound by the commercial treaties of the Empire. Beyond this mere regulation of duties, the bill affords these colonies what is much more important, the opportunity of confederation, which would seem, as they have so many interests in common, their wisest policy, ere long, to adopt. There will, doubtless, be also at length a South African Dominion.

THE "TRUE WITNESS" ON MISSIONS.—The *True Witness* in its last number has a characteristic fling at Protestant missions. It takes as an example of their failure the case of the Sandwich Islands: *ab uno disce omnes*. After wading through two or three columns of mortal stuff, we find in the form of proof only some fooleries of Mark Twain, which it accepts in good faith, as if they were strong as texts of Holy Writ, and a description of the "Pagan Saturnalia" in which the heathen remnant of the natives indulged on the death of the late King. Our contemporary must be in a bad way to be brought to such a pass in its polemics. But it knows its readers better than we do; and it may be that they do not know Mark so well, but will confound him with the evangelist of the same name, and accept coarse jokes for pure Gospel. At any rate those stories of his "will do to tell the marines." If the *True Witness* has such a holy ardor to uproot impurity, it can find scope for all its abilities nearer home. Apply to Dr. Carpenter.

QUEEN'S COUNSEL.—From the correspondence between the Minister of Justice and the Colonial Office, it appears that both the Dominion and the Provincial Governments have the right of appointing Queen's Counsel; but legislation by the Provincial Legislature was necessary to authorize the latter to do so. As to the question of precedence in Court: in Provincial Courts the Local Legislature had the power of deciding that; but the appointments of the Provincial Cabinets would carry no weight in any Dominion Courts which may be formed. The concluding paragraph of the opinion of the Committee of the Privy Council is that "they think an arrangement might advantageously be made between the Governments of the Dominion and the several Provinces by which Queen's Counsel appointed by the Governor-General would receive proper status and position in the Provincial Courts, and commissions issued under statutory authority by the Lieutenant Governor would be recognized in the Courts of the Dominion."

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.—A recent case in Ireland of judicial assumption has caused considerable comment. An editor of a paper was committed to prison for contempt of court, because he published remarks concerning the sentence of a judge. His offence consisted chiefly in stating that the judge, in his charge to the jury, was influenced by difference of religious faith. It is generally thought that, as the trial had been completed, and the remarks could have no influence on its decision, it would have been better if the editor had been prosecuted for a libel. It is argued also that the criticism was personal, and what came within the province of the press. Such committal is deemed a dangerous precedent; and the London *News* quotes Blackstone's opinion of contempt cases as "not agreeable to the genius of the common law." The conclusion seems to be clearly established that in any such case where the rightful liberty of the press is exceeded, the proper way of proceeding is indictment for libel, and not for a judge to commit for contempt.

SIC TRANSIT.—The East India Company is finally extinct. It received its mortal blow in 1858, when an act "for the better government of India" was passed by the British Parliament, which not only declared that "all the territories heretofore under the government of the East India Company are vested in the British Queen, and all its powers are to be exercised in her name." Since then it has simply existed "as a piece of machinery for the distribution of a dividend," and now a favorable time having come for the stock on which that dividend is paid to be redeemed, it is to die. The rise and progress of this great company forms a noble page in history, and to it the British Empire undoubtedly owes the possession of India. Its responsibilities latterly became too great for it, and it had to call on the Crown to quell the Mutiny and take the rule of the country off its hands.

INTERVENTION ON BEHALF OF O'KELLY.—The captain of a British gunboat has demanded the immediate removal of O'Kelly, the N. Y. *Herald's* unlucky Cuban correspondent, to Havana for trial, and a relaxation of the rigors of his imprisonment. The despatch says this proceeding will only complicate matters without benefiting O'Kelly; but if the captain is acting under orders, as he doubtless is, the Cuban authorities will not be able to afford any arbitrary action. O'Kelly, it will be recollected, is claimed as a British subject, and Britain generally protects her subjects, and resents their violent treatment, except in cases where her authority is delegated—e.g. in Manitoba, under the Government of the Dominion of Canada.

DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF FRUIT TREES, &c.—We have just received from Mr. James Donnell, of Windsor, his catalogue of fruit, and ornamental trees, with valuable directions for planting, &c. It also contains a list

of prices which will be found very moderate. A copy of it may be seen at this office, and any person applying for one to Windsor Nurseries will be supplied. Mr. Donnell writes as follows:—"There is ample time to send orders yet, as vegetation is not so far advanced here now (1st May) as it usually is on 1st April. Trees planted this year from 15th to 20th May, when the ground is warm, will succeed better than if planted a fortnight or a month earlier in cold ground."

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AND CONFEDERATION.—With respect to the policy of the new Government on Confederation the P. E. I. *Argus* believes that the new Legislature, after transacting pressing routine business, will take a recess of several days, and in the meantime a delegation will be sent to Ottawa "for the purpose of remodelling and supplementing the terms obtained by Messrs. Laird and Haythorne. If the delegation succeeds in its mission, then the Legislature will immediately ratify the terms, and P. E. Island will become part of the great Dominion of Canada. If Mr. Pope (the leader of the new Government) succeeds in accomplishing all this, under the unfavorable circumstances with which he has been surrounded, he will deserve the thanks of the whole community." The defeat of the late Government it seems was due to their mismanagement of public affairs, apart from the Confederation question, which they took up as a desperate but unsuccessful expedient to save themselves.

INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDER SYSTEM.—A correspondent signing himself "American" calls attention to the propriety of measures being taken to have a money order system established between the Dominion and the United States. He was not aware but that such existed until, wishing to send some money to New York, he recently called at the Money Order Office and received information that there were no arrangements for remitting by this means. He remarks in conclusion:—"An extensive business is now being done with the money order system, its extension being all over the Dominion, Great Britain, Scotland and Ireland; and seeing that the system is now established between the United States and Great Britain, and also Switzerland, would it not be a great benefit to your Government to have the same established between the Dominion and the United States?"

QUEBEC WATER WORKS.—The Water Works Committee of the Quebec City Council have made a report recommending an increase of taxation in order to cover the deficit which occurs every year in the finances of the department. It is not proposed to tax the citizens in general, but only establishments and individuals that use more water than is required for domestic purposes—tanneries, for instance, which will be charged one dollar for a vat of ordinary size, and proportionately for others of a larger description. Engines using city water to be charged \$5 per horse power; water closets, hitherto exempt, to be included among the taxable subjects. The deficiency of revenue to meet working expenses and bonds is given at about \$15,000.

—Governor Hoffman has signed the New York charter lately passed by the State Legislature. A supplementary Bill is to be introduced to amend some inaccuracies in the measure.

—It is now positively affirmed by well-informed parties here that Sir Hugh Allan has entirely failed in raising the loan for the Canada Pacific Railway.

—Mr. Cauchon notices in his parliamentary correspondence to the *Journal de Quebec* that Sir John A. Macdonald, the other day, in speaking about the Province of Quebec changing its constitution, added, that "he hoped it would soon abolish its Legislative Council." Mr. Cauchon thinks there is as much reason for the abolition of the Dominion Senate which he says always votes as the Government desires, and has lost almost every feature of independence.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—The Jesuits, headed by the Archbishop of Pernambuco, Brazil, it is reported, are having a bitter controversy with the Freemasons. The Press have taken sides with the latter, and it is thought the dispute will end in the expulsion of the Jesuits.

—Considerable alarm has been excited among school teachers in New York by the announcement that the Board of Education intended to renege the expenses of the Department by a cutting down of salaries. It is not now thought that such a proceeding will be carried out, but there is a prevalent desire that existing salaries be readjusted on a more equitable basis.

—A bill before the House at Ottawa relating to Bills of Exchange and promissory notes provides that notice of protest shall be sufficiently given when posted at the place where the bill or note is dated unless otherwise specified; that any bills or notes falling due on Ash Wednesday or Easter Monday be due on the following day, and that no bill or note shall be invalid because it is not stamped or properly stamped if before recovery, verdict or judgment in court, stamps to the value of one quarter of one dollar upon every one hundred dollars are affixed and cancelled.

—The most hopeful sign of a new state of things in the South is that the Temperance cause is making astonishing progress there, as it is doing at the West. Mississippi has appended a "damages clause" to its license law similar to that of Illinois. A bill has just passed the Arkansas Senate making liquor sellers responsible for any one who may be made drunk by them. The Prohibitionists have carried Statesville, S. C. And even in Texas, there are indications that the Legislature will pass a bill which is before it similar to the Ohio law.

—The Pope, the first pontiff who attained to the years of Peter, is now nearly eighty-one, and like Lord Brougham, may have the satisfaction of reading his own obituary. Brigham Young, the pope of Utah, only seventy-two, has resigned a part of his official prerogatives. M. Thiers has just celebrated his seventy-sixth birthday. The Emperor William of Germany is a little older; so is his famous general, Von Moltke. In the New World they would say such a "old public functionary" on the shelf, and yet Governor Dix, against whose election the only objection raised, unlike that made to Pitt, was that he was an old man, has proved himself the best governor in the whole Union.

TRYING TO MAKE A PROTESTANT PAY R. C. TAXES.

We are informed that a French-Canadian Protestant named Louis Barrette, a laborer, is being annoyed by demands for payment of Roman Catholic school tax. It appears he owns five lots on the Delisle and Workman estates, said to be within the municipality of the Tannery de Rolland, and on these the tax is claimed. Mr. Barrette embraced the Protestant faith six years ago, and took all due legal steps to clear himself of further connection with, or claims by the Roman Catholic Church, as shown in the subjoined certificate from Rev. Theodore Laflair, his present minister:

"This is to certify that Louis Barrette has been well known as a Protestant for six years. In the year 1868 he made public profession to the church at Grande Ligne de Lacadie of his change of religious views, and joined the Church at that mission station. In the month of April following he notified Messrs. Narcisse Trudel, curé of the parish of St. Isidore, in which said lot Louis Barrette resided, of his decision as a member of the Roman Catholic Church. In presence of two witnesses, who still reside there. For two years Louis Barrette and family have attended meetings conducted by me very regularly, and participated in the sacraments of our worship."

"Given at Montreal this 30th day of April, 1873.

(Signed) "THEODORE LAFLAIR, Pastor."

Notwithstanding this and his having paid \$50 already of Protestant school tax, Mr. Barrette is now asked to pay \$80 of Roman Catholic school tax, although Mr. DeKosier, notary, who has the collection of the latter tax, has been notified that, being a Protestant, Mr. Barrette is no way liable for it. It is to be hoped that the authorities at the Tanneries will see the wisdom and decency of ceasing to persist in this attempt to collect a tax, in the face of the clearest evidence of its illegality.

REV. GEORGE MACDONALD.

THIS world-renowned writer delivered the first of his course of two lectures on Monday in the Queen's Hall, the subject being "Robert Burns." He began by pointing to the literary glory of the Elizabethan period, so great in thought and rich in expression; tracing its gradual degeneracy through the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries to the condition in which Burns found it. It was compared by the lecturer to a clear stream, gushing forth on the top of a hill, but becoming less clear and living as it descended, and ending at the bottom in a lifeless swamp. The force of the literature on the people had gone, and nothing was left but a set of mere imitations and versifiers. The effects of imitation were blighting, and in the countless forms of nature there was no repetition. But in the 18th century all in poetic literature was going to the bad, and it was time there was a change; and it was necessary that the man who should bring about this reformation should come out of Nazareth: the man who was to alter this was to be found at the plough-tail. Had Burns had a college education, he would have been injured for his great work. The tutors would have put him amongst the other eggs, have sat upon him, and almost, if not quite, added him. The lecturer then indicated the several qualifications requisite for the formation of the true poet; who, after all, had nothing but what other men had in common with him, though in a less degree. Amongst these gifts was that of getting at the secrets of nature, a faculty which Burns had in a high degree. It was in his favor to have been born in a humble position, for poetic language was not to be found in the schools, but in the speech of the peasantry. Burns was early put to labor, and made to do a man's work. Nevertheless, the acquaintance which this gave him with landscape and with nature, compelled him to be familiar with the very tool chest of poetry. His nature was, as it were, full of windows, at which entered the sound of "Eolian harps. Everything ministered to him, for his mind was in harmony with God's works. Burns, having found that his vocation was poetry, resolved to sing of home scenes, and to celebrate Scottish themes, and it was his adherence to this that made him so popular. He had a keen eye for the truth, and was quick at detecting sham, as was shown in "A man's a man for a' that"; whilst in his poems to a daisy and to a field mouse, he taught us the grand lesson of sympathy with all forms of life. The subject of the "Jolly Beggars" was rather low, something after the manner of a Dutch painting, but the strength and purity of the muse of Burns was shown when he came to real Scottish life, as in the "Cottar's Saturday Night." His sympathies were wide indeed, as witness the last stanza in his "Address to the Deil," which the lecturer quoted; adding, with grim humor, that "thus expressing sympathy might be going far, but those who have least pity for the devil are those who have most to do with him." What, then, he asked, did Burns do for Scotland? He increased the patriotism of Scotchmen, and their love for each other. Never was a finer national song than "Scots, wha hae." But it was the gentler songs that went furthest. Nothing else had the strength of a song for promoting national union. In the songs of Burns there was a fine combination of humor and pathos, and as an illustration of the former quality the lecturer recited the song of "Oh, whist! and I'll come to thee, my Lad," while of the latter he read, "My Nannie's awa." Burns was called by God to do a great work; and that work was to redeem English literature. He might have done it better, and the lecturer must be honest, speaking a word both for and against him. Burns had been hardly reflected upon because of "Holy Willie's Prayer," "The Holy Fair," the "Kirk's Alarm," &c., and it had been said that he was opposed to religion. The lecturer denied this. He would not say that Burns was a religious character; yet there was a strong religious feeling in him. In those so condemned poems he merely satirized hypocrisy; and if satire on such a subject was at all allowable, Burns was right. Neither was he a temperate or moderate man in the matter of drinking, but it could not be conceded that he was a drunkard. He left no debts behind him; a fact not to be expected from a drunkard; he had to ride 200 miles every week; and to keep accounts of the dearest of figures, yet he died, leaving them all right; and only a few months before his death, he wrote, "A man's a man for a' that," and one that could do these things could hardly be a drunkard. In the days of Burns, drunkenness was not the disgrace it now so justly is. All ranks were blindingly guilty of it. In Burns it was not love of drink but of company; and what greater things he might have done had he been temperate it was impossible to say. It was a sad thing, too, that he should have to bow his head for a yet worse thing than that; how too many others he had to confess and say: "I have not won my sister's kiss." This was a sad thing, and it was as true as said that none ever rose to the highest pinnacle of art except he was pure in heart and conduct. One great lesson to be learned from the life of Burns was that, he who never so gifted, we cannot stand erect, even in art

and literature, unless we aspire to grow morally better.

The lecture was heard with close attention and was frequently applauded. It was full of fine and generous thought, and replete with the earnest utterance of what was evidently sincere and strong conviction. The language was homely, eloquent, and often beautiful; and the illustrations were both apt and frequent, being the fit setting to many an intellectual gem. The audience, though large, was not so numerous as could have been wished, and as there is reason to believe

THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF YOUNG MEN.

SEEMED BY CANON BALDWIN.

Recently in the Cathedral, Rev. Canon Baldwin preached a sermon to young men, being the last of the *Weeks* delivered by him. His text was

Method in the fear of the Lord all the day long. For surely there is an end and time expectation shall not be cut off.—Proverbs xxiii, 18 and 19.

Sir Walter Raleigh had a golden vision ever in his mind. It was that south of the mighty Amazon there lay an enchanted land where gold and silver and precious stones were as common as rocks and pebbles are in other countries. He was so persuaded of the existence of this wonderful country that he fitted out several expeditions for the purpose of discovering and conquering it for England, and his last attempt ultimately led to his death on the scaffold. Raleigh and his El Dorado represent the hopes and expectations of the great mass of young men. Every one has a dreamland, a land of Elysian fields and peace, one where every pleasure of the mind of man can be conceived in Oriental prodigality. It too often happens the El Dorado of a young man leads him on, not indeed to temporal death, but to what is infinitely worse—to sin and shame and everlasting death, in the silent world beyond the grave. Sir Walter Raleigh's imaginings caused his death, and so the generality of the imaginations of young men are seized upon by the devil and the world through the tempting mass of debauched, degrading and

LICENTIOUS LITERATURE.

That there are very many pure and elevating novels, I am prepared to admit, and will even say that many may be influenced for good through this medium who might be inaccessible by any other process. All this is admitted, but I must draw your attention to the world of dark and terrible literature, degrading and corrupting the minds of the young. Under the plea of lifting the veil from the passions of the human heart, novelists have gathered their materials from the obscuring of iniquity and the exhibitions of unbridled passion, and thrown them broadcast on the world for the minds of the young to drink in. If we demur and say such publications are not fit for perusal, we are told, "The writers have only been true to nature; they show scenes in actual life." We answer, "Yes, true to nature, but nature in its most abandoned and licentious form; that exhibited by the basest criminals, by abandoned men and fallen women." Here and there some utterly reckless character is made interesting by the possession of some virtues which seem as appropriate as jewels of gold in a swine's snout, and then we are told that even honorable feelings are not incompatible with viciousness of life and libertinism in principle. "From England, France, and the United States comes rolling in wave after wave of this degrading literature, corrupting the moral atmosphere and creating in the minds of the young a false and vicious idea of the world in which they live. These novels pretend to be the teachers of morals, to throw off the veil from the face of nature and exhibit society as it really is; but the real object is to heat the readers' blood and corrupt their hearts by gazing upon the dark Stygian stream of vice and immorality that rolls unceasingly by on its way to the lake of fire. A powerful modern author says: 'The ten plagues of Egypt have visited our literature. In comparison with such states of things, it were a mercy to import lions from Africa and turn them loose in our streets, where they could rise up and slay these; but the vile offspring of rich minds and viler hearts, who can kill them?' The Rev. Canon next described imagination itself. No Turner with his genius for landscape, no Titian with his power over colors, could elaborate in a lifetime the scene of unexampled magnificence that the

VIVID IMAGINATION

can summon into existence in a flash of thought. After an eloquent description of this, man's most wonderful gift, the Rev. Canon gave some practical rules how to discipline and regulate its powers. First, see that your imagination has a foundation on which to build. You are not wish to succeed in life. Now success is not a random benefit, a lucky result of a hazardous enterprise, nor of unwarmed industry, but it is a largesse given by God to whom He will. If you can get rich and powerful, succeed you may not. You may die buried beneath your gold, but can it be called success when it ends in want, in misery, in death? Second, let your hopes and aspirations be after all that which is morally great and good. Great men are rare. Real greatness consists in a noble unselfishness; a man with great means and opportunities, neglecting or debasing them both, is a public calamity, and a warning to the rising generation. Men ask, What are we to do? I answer, try and evangelize or help. I take the case of intemperance alone. Something has been said lately of ministers speaking of the effects rather than the cause of drunkenness, charging them therefore, with being superficial. The Rev. Canon said, I answer that in my preceding sermons I have distinctly pointed out two great causes of drunkenness, namely, the "drinking habits of fashionable society," and, secondly, the vile and iniquitous system of "licensing to sell," a system that can not be defended by argument, justice or humanity—a cruel, murderous system creating in the corporate body cancerous sores that no surgery can remove or caustic obliterate. These, I say, are some of the causes, but not all. Another cause, especially among the laboring classes, is the misery and wretchedness of their situation. A man has been laboring hard all day, and when at last the night comes, he wends his way to what he calls his home. It is a den. The lordly lion of the plain would scorn to make it his lair, but there, none of our bone must dwell. The air within is dank and foul, the scene loathsome and disgusting. His food comes to him cold, uncooked, and repulsive, while some poor

wretched degraded creature shouts unceasingly her many wants in his ear. I ask, is it any wonder that man flies to drink, just to drown his misery? His better judgment perhaps tells him he is wrong, but his suffering nature demands redress, and though drink will not really improve him, it will make him forget his misery, and he dies to it as a man of cheap relief. Yes, it is cheap; the Corporation has licensed a man close by to poison him; it has built a jail to imprison him for being poisoned; and a little farther on the Government builds a gallows to hang him should he commit a capital

crime when he is poisoned. Here, then, is work worthy of our highest powers—to elevate such as these; to give them better homes; to raise them spiritually, mentally, morally. These people require the rich man's Gospel, the Christian's sympathy, the Evangelist's Gospel. They need all and more than you can do for them. Therefore, you should make this your aim—to be a blessing.

SUPERIOR COURT.

30th April, 1873.

Before —Mackay, J.

COMMERCIAL AGENCIES.

GUARDIAN OF BRADSTREET & Co.—The action is instituted by plaintiff to recover \$10,000 as damages for libel; the libel consisting in an alleged incorrect and false rating of plaintiff as a merchant in the books of the commercial agency of which Bradstreet & Son are the proprietors. At the time of the wrongful rating the agency were circulating to their subscribers in the Dominion several thousands of their books of information, and some three hundred in this city. The defendants, it is alleged, classified the plaintiff in these books in March, 1872, as having "failed," whereas he declares that he had not failed nor compounded with his creditors; and that this wrongful act of the defendants brought plaintiff into much difficulty and loss. The defendants plead that the classification made by them was correct and made honestly and without malice; that the communication of the same to their clients was confidential and of a privileged character, and for which, even if erroneous, they would not be responsible in damages; and, further, that defendant suffered no damage.

The first question, then, to be determined is this, Are the books and reports of the defendants, carrying on the business of a commercial agency, to collect information for the use of their employers, and disclosing the same in confidence, of the privileged character claimed by the defendants? Held that such a pretension cannot for a moment be allowed, and that the defendants would be liable in damages for any untrue statements therein contained, notwithstanding the agreement with their subscribers that the information is strictly confidential.—Dalloz, No. 65. Such reports are far more dangerous, from their secret character, than are newspaper reports.

On the merits—held, that in this case the evidence adduced goes to prove the truth and correctness of the classification or rating of plaintiff; that defendants and newspaper proprietors have a right to announce such facts as the failure or suspension of a commercial house, and that the report being true and defendants in the exercise of their rights, plaintiff's action must be dismissed with costs.

NEWS SUMMARY.

GAMBOLD is reported alarmingly ill.

TORONTO has got a "haunted" house.

THE PRINCE OF WALES is in Vienna.

MACREADY, the noted actor, is dead.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE has been defeated in the Imperial Commons.

THE PROSPECTS of the Claimant in his present trial are stated to be unpromising.

A FATAL ACCIDENT occurred to a train between London and Chester, England.

A MINISTERIAL CRISIS prevails in Italy, the Ministry having resigned.

THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT has ordered all Carlist refugees to leave its territory.

THE VIENNA EXHIBITION was formally opened by the Emperor of Austria on Thursday.

THE DUTCH forces were allowed to embark and leave Aceh without molestation.

THE BILL for the regulation and control of the Clergy has finally passed the Prussian Diet.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S visit to St. Petersburg is stated to be significant of a peaceful policy.

THE SULTAN OF ACHEN asks the Sultan of Turkey to act as arbitrator between him and the Dutch.

PARIS is reported to be still excited about M. Barodet's election and a serious conflict is feared.

THE STORIES of Indian troubles in the Northwest are discredited, and seem to be set at naught for sinister purposes.

THE DISPUTE between Jesuits and Freemasons rages in Brazil and has caused misunderstanding in the Ministry.

A WOMAN in the township of Gray, Ont., drowned her three children and tried to drown herself while temporarily insane.

THE FORTS have received 45 pilgrims from France and replied to their address. Was he in bed at the time?

THE WORKS of a bridge across Laramie River in the West, fell, killing two men and severely wounding eight others.

SHOCKS OF EARTHQUAKES have been continuing at San Salvador, destroying buildings and injuring people and driving them crazy.

REV. MR. ANCHUT, renowned in connection with the rescue of survivors from the "Atlantic," has received and accepted a call to Halifax.

FURTHER PARTICULARS add to the completeness of the success achieved by the Medocs in the late fight. It is said their whole strength is only 35.

A FORCE of MOUNTED POLICE, numbering 120 men, is to take the place of the present military force in Manitoba, and Government are to bring in measures for the purpose.

THE RUSSIAN troops marching to Khiva find the route difficult and the column from Orenburg makes only 20 versts, or about 13½ miles a day.

AT THE LATA BEDS affairs are in statu quo. The U. S. are sending up re-inforcements, and it is to be presumed the Indians are quietly preparing for further resistance.

THE SAN JUAN Boundary affair was up before the House of Commons on Friday, when several members severely criticised the way the Government laid the case before the Arbitrator.

THE MONROES have astonished Uncle Sam by the efficiency of their army and their skill in handling them. Gen. Sherman does not seem so confident about their speedy extermination.

A LARGO SHIPMENT OF DRESSES AND FUR COATS has been made by the Ottawa police in the hands of an auctioneer, on the ground that their distribution through the city might lead to dangerous consequences.

FIGUEROA, in replying to the congratulatory address of the U. S. Congress through Gen. Sickles, said that while willing to undertake the work of emancipation, Republican Spain would never surrender her colonies.

FREE HYACINTH said Mass last Sunday in Geneva in presence of a congregation of 1,200, all of whom have been excommunicated for attending. Probably this was what they expected, and so they won't care.

THE OFFICIALS made another attack on the Government policy in connection with the Washington Treaty, on resolution for the free navigation of the Columbia River, but Government was sustained, after debate, by a large majority.

THE IRON BUDGET at Dixon, Ill., fell with a terrible crash on Saturday afternoon while crowded with people to witness a baptism. Thirty-two bodies have been recovered and many more are supposed to be under the wreck.

THE WEST INDIA MAIL service discussion evolved confessions from Sir Francis Hincks that John Stuart Mill had converted him from Free-trade, and from the Hon. John Young that he was in favor of incidental protection.

SIR HASTINGS DOYLE, who is leaving the Lieutenant-Governorship of Nova Scotia, protracted the Legislature on Wednesday, and bade the members farewell. An address was presented to him from both Houses. The Halifaxians presented him with a magnificent and costly parting gift.

SENATOR CHRISTIE'S motion for a Committee of Enquiry into Pacific R.R. matters was resisted by the Government, partly on the ground that it was not necessary in view of a Committee in the other House sitting on the same subject, and partly because it looked like a vote of want of confidence. It was put to the vote and defeated.

NAPOLEON'S TRUE WILL is given in a New York despatch from London. His personality is sworn under £129,000, claims on which will reduce it one half. The will enjoins on his son to keep the Prisoner of St. Helena continually in his mind's eye, and study his works and deeds, and recommends the Emperor as Regent during his son's minority.

IN PARLIAMENT on Saturday a motion by Mr. Holton that provision be made for the continuance in force of the present Insolvent Act till further legislation may be had was carried on a vote and the Government will give effect to the wishes of the House in this matter. The Governor-General gave the Royal assent to a number of Bills.

THE PILOTAGE BILL now before Parliament is strongly opposed on account of the obnoxiousness of the Government in retaining in it the objectionable share and share alike principle of remunerating pilots, instead of encouraging competition by giving each man his earnings. There appears no ground for this but sheer political expediency. The second reading was postponed on account of the opposition.

THE VENTILATION of the Parliament Buildings at Ottawa is thoroughly condemned by competent authority, and it is recommended Parliament meet in the new Library, and the Library be removed to the present chamber. In connection with this the regret is expressed that the Parliament should ever have been removed from Montreal, which is the true de facto metropolis of Canada and the most conveniently situated for the Dominion Legislature to meet in.

THE HEADLAND AND THREE MILE LIMIT question in connection with the fisheries was before Parliament on a motion that steps should be taken to have it settled before the compensation due Canada under the reciprocity fishing clauses of the Washington Treaty is determined, on the ground that it is impossible righteously to fix said compensation before this is done. The Premier opposed the motion, maintaining that its passage would simply deprive Canada of any compensation whatever for the ten years the reciprocity was to last. The debate was not finished.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS OF MONTREAL NEWS.

—Men from the gaol are to be employed on the Colborne Avenue tunnel.

—There are at present 366 prisoners in the common gaol.

—The City and District Saving Banks have opened branches in the suburbs.

—The students of McGill College have started a paper.

—The Hon. A. A. Dorion has been elected *Batonnier* of the Montreal Bar.

—A jeweller named Meloche has been committed for trial charged with arson.

—The receipts at the Montreal Custom House in April, 1872, were \$466,286 and in the same month this year \$366,668.

—Fifteen drivers of the C. P. R. E. struck on Saturday and had their wages advanced to \$8 per week.

—Ninety-three servant girls sent by Miss Rye have sailed for Montreal in the "Sarmatian."

—The city mortality for the week ending with the 3rd inst was 94, one each being from small-pox and cerebro-spinal meningitis.

—The conductor of a G. T. R. train saved the life of a man who was on the track at Lachine on the 29th ult. by jumping at him and throwing him off.

—Mr. J. H. Molson and Miss Frothingham, who have been engaged 21 years, and whose combined fortunes are stated to be \$1,000,000, were married on the 30th ult.

—The Governors of the House of Industry and Refuge have decided to erect new buildings on Molson's Farm outside of the city for the permanent inmates.

—On the 2nd inst. a grocer, named Joseph Virtue, while riding on a cart fell off, and the wheel passing over injured him so much that he died 45 minutes after.

—A quack doctor who has been swindling people by sending out circulars that he would supply a hand-sawer for \$62, has fled from his creditors.

—Monsieur Fabre was consecrated with great ceremony by R. C. Coadjutor Bishop of Montreal on the 1st inst. at the Church of the Gesù. He took the title of bishop at Gratianopolis.

—A tunnel for a sewer 8 feet in diameter is being excavated from Ontario street to the river along Colborne Avenue, a distance of a quarter of a mile; 300 men are to be employed if it can be obtained.

Family Reading.

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM.

A cheer, a lusty cheer! Six-and-seventy millions cheer! boys.
Sore never such a revenue by State was raised before.
In face of such prosperity, a *neo* for the fear, boys,
Of days when Bull's black diamond-fields their funds shall yield no more!
In spite of strikes and struggles of Capital and Labor,
How hammers ring, and forges roar, looms whizz, and shuttles fly!
In Competition's social game of beggar-me-my-neighbor,
John Bull has never won so much and never played so high.

But what's this song that, sad and strong, I hear a blackbird sing—
How, more than loom and shuttle, and more than forge and mine,
'Tis the Tavern and the Gin-shop these millions are bringing—
That more in drink than wealth or work, John Bull may boast to shine;
That the *tap-root* of our revenue lies deep in sin and sorrow,
And feeds a fruit as fatal as Java's Upas-tree;
That the best of our surplus from our swinishness we borrow,
And pay some twenty millions into beasts transformed to be.

'Tis for burials and for brides Lowe his surplus-fee is craving,
That he may raise his balances beyond experience high,
By the millions paid to bury soul, sense, strength, speech, and saving,
And to wed a horse's labor to the pleasures of a sty!
Let parsons fight over vestments—ecclesiastical dressy men—
A fig for Churches! Bull proclaims his faith in spirits deep—
That national prosperity, like a museum specimen,
May most safely be committed to Alcohol to keep.

Our test's the spirit-level, the wittler, and Excise-man!
And if the one should mark John Bull low on the social scale,
And the other, having got John down, should keep him down, their prize, man,
As a set-off to the mischief, reckon up the money's tale.

And let's thank the British toper's "spontaneous taxation!"
Not only for the millions that o'erwell the Exchequer's due,
But for the superfluity, through this most favored nation,
Of sorrow, sin, and suffering—which have their surplus, too.

JOEL DABBY'S HERITAGE.

(By Mrs. J. D. Chaplin, in *Congregationalist*.)

At the extreme end of the long village street, where the town fades into the deep forest, there stands an old farm-house under the protecting branches of half a dozen elms of priceless value and unknown age. This homestead has not been "kept up" like most others in the thrifty old town. No painter's brush has ever cheated the passer-by as to its age, no new trees have been planted about it, and nothing done to fix the vision of youth on the place; the barn and the houses are moss-grown, the old "sweep" still hangs over the well, with its weather-stained curb. The single footpath, leading to the door over the grass-covered driveway where vanished horses and oxen once wore their own path from the road to the great barn, Hollyhocks and sunflowers bend their lofty stalks over the stone wall of the garden, where briar roses and lilac bushes screen the front windows, and hold their own over all the smart new dwellings which have taken their places in other gardens and front yards of the village.

Everything is silent about the place, save the sounds of nature; for the strong arms that swung the scythe and the dial there in bygone years have long been powerless in the grave, and except in haying time, when Bart Simons cuts the grass on shares, there is no more farm work done there than there were no fields and no mows lying out fresh and green in the sunlight.

And yet the place has no air of being "run down." There are no broken panes, no swinging shutters, no staring, uncurtained windows. Everything within and without speaks neatness, and a strange peace, charming to the spirit tired with the noise and hurry and bustle of life, seems to brood over and hallow the place.

Quieter and more quiet than even the old farm and homestead were its last occupants, "mother Dabby" and her charge, a gentle but imbecile son of some forty years, who lived for each other, and for the world at large, as far as their small knowledge of it went.

In the great square sitting-room, with its shining yellow floor graced with braided mats, sat mother Dabby at all seasons of the year, with those bright knitting needles which had wrought miracles in their small way, for the cold hands and feet of thousands of little neglected children in the adjacent city. She was always there to meet her guests, because her rougher work was done before others had left their pillows, and the lighter tasks of the daily toil fell to the willing hands of poor Joel, who could be made as willily happy at any moment by a smile from her and the assurance that he was a "good boy."

But it was this "good boy," and not of his noble, strong mother, that we began to write. He was born as bright as any boy, and was like every other baby, "the most wonderful one that ever was born," to the loving ones who received him as a gift directly from the hand of God. But an accident in early childhood had dimmed the light of intellect and stunted his mental growth; so that while he grew physically to a strong and vigorous manhood, he was still always a child, and always at his mother's side. When she became a widow she thanked God that he was spared, and always tried to bend her mind and her conversation to his level. This had given a childlike tone and manner to her low voice and saint-like presence.

The Scottish Highlanders have a superstition which makes such "innocents" as Joel holy in their esteem. They believe that God has veiled such minds from earthly ambitions and cares, that they may thus dwell in close and unbroken fellowship and communion with Himself. And well might they believe it, if all the weak-minded were like this poor man, whose thoughts—if they deserved the name—were so pure, whose spirit was so meek, and whose love was so strong!

Never in boyhood was Joel Dabby known to stone a fowl or tease a dog; and the sound of a gun always brought tears to his eyes, as he explained, "Killing God's birds!" He was always ready to run an errand or to carry a burden for any one who needed help, and wanted no payment but the assurance that he was a "good boy."

He had but one great fear, and that was of death. As he went to every gathering of the people, whatever the occasion, he had learned the awful and unwelcome lesson of man's

mortality; and with a strange fascination he stood to the last by every open grave, sometimes entreating the sexton in whispers not to bury them yet, but to wait and see if they wouldn't wake by and by.

Sometimes, in those early years, he would wake his mother in the dead hours of night with the entreaty that she would "never let old Boy bury him in the grave, but keep him himself when he couldn't talk any more." On one such occasion, he pleaded with her for this promise, till she was forced to tell him that all men must die and lie in the grave. Then he said:

"Yes, mother, all men but your good boy. God hears you. Ask Him, to let your good boy live, and live, and live, and never die."

"But you want to see God, don't you, Joel?"
"Yes, yes, He's beautiful. I want to see Him."

"But you cannot see Him till you die and go to Him."

"Oh, mother, yes!" replied the poor youth. "He can come to me without any dying first and I can see Him then. He can do anything!"

And he was right. God can manifest Himself by a sense stronger than the natural vision, till the dweller in the feeble clay beholds Him in His beauty and is fired with a holy desire to be like Him.

(To be Continued.)

FLOWER MISSIONS.

Last summer Flower Missions were started in Boston and New York for the purpose of supplying the poor and sick with weekly or semi-weekly bouquets of fresh cut flowers. The plan followed was very simple—On a certain day of the week all who wished to assist in the good work sent their flowers to an appointed place, where a number of ladies were met to make them up into bouquets. They were then distributed to hospitals and other institutions—and the universal testimony was that an immense amount of good was done in this way. Something of the same kind, though managed by private individuals, has been attempted in London, as will be seen from the following paper by Miss Stanley, which we copy from *Macmillan's Magazine*; and we are glad to learn that some have thoughts of starting a Flower Mission in Montreal. If such a work should be commenced we are sure that it will not fail to be well supported by a generous, flower-loving public:—

All those who have visited much among the London poor, whether in work-houses, hospitals, or in their own homes, have stories to tell of the softening influence of fresh flowers. We have heard of doors which were resolutely closed against the district visitor being first opened to receive a bunch of primroses—after which the visitor was always welcome. Of late years much has been done by the Window Gardening Societies. Few London districts are now without one; and, from the day when the plants are brought by the exhibitors to be registered, to the day fixed for the final show, a new life is imported into the family. The plant has to be cleaned, watered, trained, and sheltered alike from dust and rain and storms without. At last the great day comes; and with what honest pride the exhibitors carry their pots to the appointed spot, and with what intense anxiety do they await the decision of the judges as to the awarding of the prize!

Each class has its separate division in the tent or room where the show takes place. There is a Workhouse Class, an Hospital Class, a General Class, and a Children's Class. The morning is generally occupied in arranging the classes. Early in the afternoon the doors are open to strolling visitors; later on the public are admitted at a penny; and this is the pleasure which many and many of the working classes have been looking forward to through the spring. Flags are flying on the green grass, a band is playing and the rich and poor meet together—the one to admire what the other has cultivated under such manifold difficulties; children are seen dancing in one spot, playing at games in another; all ages are collected—even the very old creep in, to have one bright day in the year.

Then as the shades of evening set in, preparations are made for the distribution of prizes, and the mass of visitors congregates round the platform raised for the speakers. What a proud moment for the individuals whose names are called out to come forward to receive the medal or money awarded! Sometimes the successful candidate has been so small a child that it had to be lifted up on to the platform. The proceedings generally end by the singing of the Doxology, and then long trains of flower-bearers are seen winding their way home with their precious possessions.

It was seeing the delight given by these days, and knowing from experience what a love the poor have for the beauties of nature, that led to the consideration how far this wholesome and innocent taste could be extended, and whether it would not be possible to procure a weekly supply of cut flowers from country friends to distribute amongst the various classes to whom they would be such a boon.

First on this list would come the innumerable wards of our great workhouses, where are to be found men and women, many of whom have known better days, and who have had some, and may be gardens, of their own, who are now ending their lives on a narrow bed, their only view the cold whitewashed walls around them, their only companions fellow-sufferers on adjoining beds, their only change the release of one of these sufferers from his or her earthly bondage and the arrival of another to take the vacant place. Weeks, months, and years—yes, even ten or fifteen years—are spent in this cheerless atmosphere. Of late years much has been done to alleviate the state of things by the introduction of a staff of visitors to come in and formerly no break ever occurred in the monotonous round of workhouse life. Besides workhouses there are general hospitals, asylums, and other institutions, whose inmates would be cheered and gladdened by the sight of anything green.

Then there are the sick, the old, and the lonely in their own wretched homes in the back courts and alleys of our great metropolis. Great attempts are annually made to give school children and other country treats, and such days are in most cases the only slight they have of green fields and unsmoked trees. Surely if one day of country sights is such an enjoyment, will anyone grudge the little time and trouble it would take to organize some plan by which flowers and verdure could be brought each week to those who are deprived of them?

For two years the experiment was made by a lady in Belgrave. Miss—appealed to her country friends privately and through the daily papers, and many gladly responded. The sympathies of country children were enlisted in the cause—not that they should be asked to give that which cost them nothing but to give of that which God had bestowed so abundantly upon them, and which, though the daily enjoyment of their own lives, was never seen by their fellow-creatures in towns. To ensure a regular supply, country friends took different weeks. Some forwarded a hamper once a month, some once a fortnight. A request was made from the sixty or seventy selected recipients that the distribution

should be made on a Saturday. "You see, Miss, that then our neighbors can see them when they look in on the Sunday; and my boy, he do so love to have a flower in his button-hole when he goes to church."

Several ladies kindly came to assist in the unpacking of the hampers and arranging the flowers. Such of the poor as liked bright bouquets the day before, which were then filled ready for them to fetch away. But it was very touching to see that the majority always selected the bouquets made up by the country people themselves, especially the little bunches of field daisies, butter-cups, anemones, and blue bells, evidently tied up by children. "The little daisies! to think of the trouble they have taken for us old folk!" Many were the softer feelings awakened by the sight of these flowers. One old woman burst into tears on seeing one of these bunches of daisies: "It reminds me of the days when I was an innocent girl." Nothing ever came amiss. Innocent boxes of the choicest roses arrived, the like of which they had never seen before. But whether it was the produce of a well-kept garden, or the hedges and ditches in the fields, tresses of ivy, waving plumes of fern and grasses, or cushions of emerald green moss, all were welcome. "How sweet the country air do smell!" was a constant remark when large layers of moss were brought out. Not a scrap was ever left. When it seemed as if all that was worth carrying off was gone, a general glancing took place. The elder women collected all the fallen rose-leaves, "to put in our drawers and make our clothes smell sweet;" the children picked up every bright petal to make what they called a "poppet show," gumming them on to bits of broken glass to form a sort of kaleidoscope. These flower days were very happy ones to these poor people; and when the season was over and the distribution ended, nearly one hundred letters of thanks were received by Miss—, all expressing the pleasure the flowers had given.

An application for a share of these flowers was made by the chaplain of one of the large lunatic asylums in London—"To the sick in mind they will be a great boon," and he conveyed the opinion of the medical officer as to the result of the donations: "He places the highest value on the kind weekly gift of flowers to the patients of this hospital. The enquiries were endless as to when the flowers would come again. The pleasure of arranging them for the different wards and wings was great, and many a sad hour of depression has been cheered and lightened by the kind gift, and we shall be only too glad in due time to welcome the flowers again. The boon of them in one of the smokiest and dustiest parts of London is untold."

Such was the result of the experiment on a very small scale; why should it not be extended? Every lady visitor to a workhouse or hospital has a circle, more or less extensive, of country friends. Could it not be arranged that four of them should each engage to send up a hamper one week in a month? What an enrichment to a sick or incurable ward it would be to look forward to one day in the week when they would see what was bursting forth in the country, and so be able to follow the sun-essence seasons by their flowers! What a pleasure to the convalescent to unpack these hampers and carry the contents to the bedsides of those who cannot move!

For the poor in their own homes surely it would not be difficult to find in each locality some spare room (even the parish schoolroom on a Saturday afternoon, which is always a holiday), in which to receive and distribute such country contributions; a very little experience would prove what flowers lasted best and were therefore best worth sending.

How many energetic young ladies there must be who spend the whole year in the country, and who probably envy their town friends their opportunities of doing good, but have never thought of the pleasure they could give by sharing their country luxuries with Londoners; and unless there were some system it would be useless to send up flowers for the chance of their being made use of; but we feel sure many would gladly assist in this work if they were put in the way—and the flower packing in the country would give almost as much pleasure as the unpacking in town.

One of Miss—'s contributors assured her that it had awakened a new sense amongst his school children, and that he was obliged to make it a favor as to who should be allowed to bring a nosegay for the London basket. It would also call forth both the taste and ingenuity of country people in arranging and packing it.

What a pleasure a parish depot of flowers well supplied each week would be! District visitors would know where to send for nosegays for their sick, and it might benefit a higher class. How many an invalid in the middle and even upper ranks of life would rejoice in finding flowers within their reach—single ladies, reduced in circumstances, who never can afford in the lonely hours of their latter days the luxury of what they had in profusion in their youth, when all was bright. To carry it out thoroughly it ought to be kept up during the spring and autumn, not only in the summer months. Nothing answers better in London than snow-drops, daffodils, primroses, and violets. What baskets full of these might not be gathered by school children, and mixed with ferns and evergreens! Then in the autumn, when the overworked higher classes are all going out for change and rest, what is the only change that our poorer brethren experience? Less work, less help, and fewer kind faces to visit them and cheer them onward on their toilsome road. We have gone out to visit our friends in their country homes, and wandered through their well-kept pleasure grounds and brilliant flower gardens—a couple of flowers per week from each of those well-filled beds would fill a hamper, and gladden the hearts of many of those poor souls to whom change and rest are unknown.

The poor who were made so happy by the flowers last year are already beginning to ask, "When shall we have our posies again? They were a pleasure to us." And truly God's natural beauties preach sermons to the hearts of the poor. "I was walking in the park last Sunday," said an old woman, "and when I saw all the trees budding out, I could not but ask myself, Is there any good budding out in me?"

SEETA RAM THE TAUGHT OF GOD.
"The Bible, the Bible is the religion of Protestants," and they contend that the Word of God alone without note or comment, without church or tradition, is able to make men wise unto salvation. A late number of the *Bible Society Reporter* contains an interesting narrative confirming this view; which as slightly abridged we give our readers. It was presented by a missionary from Bellary, India, who with his colleagues travelled through the country around, circulating copies of the Bible. In a certain town, named Bokas, among them met with a Hindoo, who, on being asked to what caste he belonged, indignantly replied, "Well, to the caste called *man*." They found in this place numbers of persons who welcomed the Word of God, and seemed familiar with its truths. On Sunday they held a meeting for Christian worship in one of the houses. Many listeners

soon surrounded the missionary, and he gathered the following particulars concerning the individual who had first received the light of the Gospel in Bokas.

This man's name was Seeta Ram; he was a working goldsmith by trade, and had been the son and husband of the women just mentioned. He had died, aged about twenty-eight, some ten months before the visit now narrated, but ten or twelve years before it had received from some Christian man—a supposed collector from Bellary—a few Scripture portions, which he immediately gave himself up carefully to study. Ere long he put aside his former Telugu books, which he had been in the habit of reading and explaining, for the "New Book," he said, "cast them out."

He ere long desired some merchants who traded to Bellary, to promise him a larger Christian book than these, and for the purpose he gave them they brought him a Bible, which he proceeded to read from the beginning, and the Divine Word at once had power to make Seeta Ram strive to walk according to its holy precepts, and "reproduce in his own life the lives who walked with God" and were the "friends of God;" and he induced his friends to come to his house every evening "to hear what the new book said." To this his mother and his wife objected, and with tears they told how they had often refused to place the lamp for him in his room, by kind and gentle persuasions, however, never by angry commands; he not only went to the light of the Word, but to join the company, till the Word of God, they said, to them also became sweeter than the honey or honeycomb.

These Bible readers continued to meet for more than three years, often during the week and always on the Sunday; while Seeta Ram, for his holy life, his fervent prayers "to the one God whom his neighbors did not know," his steady opposition to idol-worship, and his faith in Jesus the Saviour, was revered by many and honored by most. None persecuted him. He never went more than a few miles from his native town, and had no inclination to do so; but he was weary of the idolatry and wickedness he saw around him, and was often heard to say, "I am ready to depart when God shall call for me."

The time came when he felt ailing in health, yet not so ill as to cause alarm. He was more earnest and devoted than ever in reading the Bible and explaining it to others, and also in prayer. One evening he appeared especially anxious to speak solemnly to all around him; and while reading the description of heaven from the Book of Revelation, he was himself much affected. He laid down the book, and asked his friends if they understood those beautiful words, and if they could see the beautiful city—if they did not even then behold the glorious light. Later, the same evening, without pain or struggle, he passed through the valley of the shadow into the blissful presence of the God who, by his own Word, had revealed himself to him.

Some time before he died he desired his relatives to distribute the few Scripture portions in his possession far and wide, but to keep the Bible he had so long read in their own home, and meet his friends to read it still. He had expressed a great hope that at some time he should see a Christian teacher and learn from him the best way of keeping the Sabbath, and the full meaning of baptism and the Lord's Supper. He appears not to have seen the need of baptism by water, and often said that he thought the true baptism was that of the Holy Ghost that purifies the soul. His memory was so revered that those who had been much with him speak of him as their "beloved teacher whom God had sent to them;" and many from surrounding villages who had only heard of him, but knew him not, brought coco-nuts and incense to offer worship at his grave, trusting in him as a saint who would intercede for them in heaven.

These facts and effects of a Christian life were related by persons who had never read any Christian memoir, and they were corroborated by the most disinterested witnesses. As to the effects of his teaching and the aptitude and force of it, the missionary was able to judge for himself. Seeta Ram's own family and those who still met with them for prayer every Sunday had a most correct knowledge of the Bible from beginning to end. They spoke of all Scripture doctrine always in Scripture language, and used its illustrations and reference as aptly, freely, and fully as could have been done by a Christian congregation carefully reading it for years. His wife had learned and repeated many portions, could compare the prophecies of the Old Testament with the histories of the New. With facts, miracles, and parables she was alike familiar, but asked many questions concerning passages in the Epistles the meaning of which she did not clearly understand.

LESS GLITTER.

The amount of misplaced gilding to which, from habit, we have so long submitted, is truly astonishing. Chandeliers, walls, window-cornices, mirror and picture frames, sometimes even tables and chairs, must all glitter in gilt.

Even in houses where good taste or fashion have substituted frames and cornices of the more tasteful, though rather sombre black walnut, it has seemed impossible to leave it enough to itself. Not content to light-n it up with a simple band or two of gilding, splashes of it must be scattered about; here a vibrant star, and there an upstart shoe-buckle must be attached to the wood.

But if solid gilding is often too glaring and pretensions, if plain dark woods are too sombre, and a combination of the two so frequently incongruous, what shall we use to form the cornices for our curtains, and the frames for our mirrors and pictures?

In a house we know of—a home full of beautiful pictures, and of quaint and graceful furniture and drapery—it has been found possible to secure beauty with a very little show of gold. It is not our purpose to describe the stately book-cases, the curious cabinets, the hospitable sideboards, and the elegantly carved tables and chairs of this charming home, but only to mention the effective and beautiful substitute for heavily and glaringly gilded ornamentation.

The mirror and picture frames and the window-cornices were all made of plain pine-wood, from designs furnished by one of the daughters of the family. Though without useless notches and hollows, such as workers in wood from the village carpenter to the most stylish cabinet-maker, delight in under the name of "mouldings"—these frames and cornices are sufficiently carved in outline to avoid any undue appearance of angularity. They were then smoothly covered with rich velvet, and finished on the straight or inner edge with a narrow gold band. The velvet chosen for each room is of the darkest shade of the color used in the other decorations of that apartment. Thus, where the hangings are crimson, the window-cornices and picture-frames are also of crimson, but of the very darkest hue that is possible without losing distinctness.

The shades of velvet used for the frames, being so dark, are often found to harmonize with the colors of paintings much better than gilding—and the general effect of the soft, dark-toned velvet, in a large and well-lighted room, is indescribably rich; while the sensation upon coming from a much-gilded parlor to an apartment thus chastely decorated, is like that of stepping from a hotel to a home.—*Home and Society, Scribner's for May.*

—In the *Bibliotheca Sacra* for January Dr. W. M. Thomson author of "The Land and the Book," gives some fresh explanations of the figurative language of Scripture. Thus the oft-repeated petition, "Lord, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us" is best understood and illustrated by picturing to one's self a royal sovereign and judge in his hall of audience, seated upon a low cushion rug, or mat, according to Oriental custom. In this position the accused or the suppliant, standing before him, could not see his face, especially when bent down in displeasure, as implied in the form of the petition. This relative attitude can be seen any day in the audience-room of Turkish pashas and judges. The petitioners are not allowed to sit down; but must stand, with hands humbly clasped together, and thus wait the pleasure of him whose face is law. If the petition is accepted, the favor granted, or the suppliant pardoned, the man of doom and destiny lifts up his head, and with a benignant smile dismisses the pleading suppliant. But to turn aside the face, look down, and thus hide the countenance has always been and still is in this Eastern world an alarming omen, forbidding rejection, imprisonment, or death, as the case may be. Moreover, these Orientals can and do, when they choose, wonderfully darken the countenance. I have seen it, says Dr. Thomson, gather absolute blackness, like a portentous cloud, ready to explode in death-defying thunderbolts. And, on the other hand, when greatly delighted, the whole face is overspread with a warm, brilliant glow, very beautiful and fascinating. This is what suggested the petitions so oft-repeated in the eighth Psalm: "Turn again, O God, and cause thy face to shine and we shall be saved." Imagine a suppliant for mercy, standing in an agony of doubt and fear before his offended sovereign, who hides his frowning face, and refuses to give one glance toward the trembling wretch, and you have the exact conditions which may have originated the peculiar costume of the prayer: "Lift thou up the light of thy countenance. Cause thy face to shine upon us."

"I SCARCELY"—What have my class done for Jesus since last we met? asked the teacher of a large infant-class one Sabbath morning. One said, "I have earned some money for the heathen by doing errands." Another, "I tend our sick baby." Another, "I fetch laughing Billy to school, with the boys a laughing at me." One after another told, in a half-bashful, half-exultant way, of the little activities and self-denials of the week, so pleasing to the teacher, and still more to him who said, "Suffer little children to come unto Me." At last a little four-year-old hand was stretched up, and moved hastily to and fro to attract the teacher's attention. "Well, my dear, what are you doing to please Jesus?" The little, eager face flushed with excitement as the unexpected reply came, "I scrub, scrub, scrub." Some of the older children giggled, but the teacher sobered them at once by saying: "Yes, little Molly's share in the work my class is doing for Jesus is as important as any. If she tries to help her mother by scrubbing a bench or table, even if it has to be done over after her, she earns the same smile of love as the older ones who can do errands and earn money for the missionary-box." She hath done what she could; is the highest praise that can be spoken of any one, and little Molly had done that.

A NEW-PAPER PHILANTHROPIST—Imagine a character like this:—A person of really kind and helpful disposition, who begins by doing good on the sly, and spending a large part of his time in keeping his doings secret; who is—much to his chagrin—accidentally found out; much more to his chagrin—praised privately by his friends; still more to his chagrin—praised anonymously in the newspapers; later, to his intense mortification, actually named in the newspapers as not altogether disconnected with a certain piece of philanthropy, which, if obscure and unpretentious, is all the more rare and praiseworthy in these days of self-honoring benevolence; and who at last acquires such an appetite for public recognition of his generous and unselfish life that the objects of his anxiety are altogether removed from the field of philanthropy to that of journalism: he lives on the applause of the press; he never suspects the utter change wrought in his once beautiful character, and dies triumphant in the sure prospect of a costly monument.—*The Old Cabinet, Scribner's for April.*

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

A HARD LESSON—FOR THE OLDER GIRLS.

BY ELEANOR KIRK.

Alice Herbert was tired and disappointed, and when this was the case she was very apt to be cross; and when cross, was exceedingly disagreeable, and hard to be managed. Sometimes Alice was cross without the least shadow of an excuse for it, but on this occasion she was a good deal fatigued, and correspondingly ill-tempered. Mrs. Herbert saw the frown on her daughter's face, and the ugly look round her pretty mouth, the moment she entered the house, and proceeded diligently, as was her custom, to dispel the shadows that encircled her. Her tender efforts were all thrown away. Neither word nor action had the slightest effect. Alice would sulk and pout, and persist in declaring that she was the most abused girl that ever was born.

"Have you failed in your lesson, Alice?" Mrs. Preston enquired kindly. Let us do Alice justice, and state that she was a most industrious scholar, and always ambitious of keeping at the head of her classes.

"Yes," she answered with a snap, "I lost a mark in algebra, and two more in history; and who do you think got ahead of me in both these, and took the composition prize away from me, too?"

Mrs. Preston hadn't the slightest idea. "That mean little Plessey Sinclair," replied Alice. "The mean, red-eyed creature! I hate her, that's what I do."

Mrs. Preston grew very sad as she listened to these miserable words. Her mother's heart ached to think that she could not enable this child she loved so well to understand the mischievous effect of such bitter thoughts and expressions. How would it be possible, she asked herself, with eyes full of tears, to arouse this child to a realizing sense of the misery she was accumulating for herself, and her friends, in the future.

"Is Plessey any better than she was when I last saw her?" Mrs. Preston enquired, in a tone so low and full of feeling that, at any other time, Alice would have immediately enquired into the cause; but now she took no notice.

"I don't know whether she is any better or not," she answered sharply. "She is always grunting, and her mother is forever coddling her. I hate Mrs. Sinclair, too."

"Alice!" interrupted Mrs. Preston, warningly. "She is a disagreeable, fault-finding thing, and this afternoon when she was giving me my music lesson, she did nothing but preach, preach, preach. I don't see why she's so set up for a minister at once. I'm quite sure that's her business."

"What did she preach about?"

"Oh, a little of everything. I told her, to begin with, that I didn't care to know anything about harmony, or thorough bass. All I wanted to know was to understand time and execution, so as to make a brilliant performer."

"Well?"
Mrs. Preston was evidently determined to touch the bottom of this conversation, if possible.
"Then she reminded me that my father and mother were not only amply able to have me instructed thoroughly in everything, but had desired her to take particular pains with the rudiments, and that she should obey orders or give up teaching me. Wasn't that fine in a woman who hasn't a dollar but what she earns giving music lessons?"

"What reply did you make, Alice?"
"Oh," said indifferently (I should like to have boxed her ears though), "just as you please, Mrs. Sinclair. I suppose there are other teachers to be found?"

"What answer did she make to that?"
"Oh, you know, she never answers back; I wish she would just once. She said that I had a good touch, and an excellent idea of time, and when at my best, a spirit that would not be satisfied with sham; that two-thirds of the professional musicians had no idea of the science of music; and that by and by when I wanted to compose? I should not have a single principle to help me; and a mess more stuff that I can't remember. Plessey, you know, has written a little march for the gymnastic class, and they are both as proud of it as two preachers. I suppose Plessey's mother did half of it. So I told Mrs. Sinclair that when I wanted to compose a march or a sonata, I'd send round and get Plessey to help me."

"Well?"
"That was about all; she turned away her head and commenced to sniff, and muttered something about Plessey's time on earth being short—I don't remember what it was. I don't see that anything else Plessey Sinclair, and the rest of the girls don't. The only difference between her and the rest of us is, that she takes notice of every pain and ache she has and we don't."

Mrs. Preston was wounded to the very depths of her heart. That her daughter, only a child, whom she had taken such infinite pains with, should find it possible to thus insult her teacher, was very hard to bear. Mrs. Preston's sympathies were quick and practical. She had become greatly interested in the Sinclair, and it was partly due to her strenuous efforts in their behalf that the mother had been able to support her family of four children by giving lessons in music. What should she do now? She understood Mrs. Sinclair's keen sensibilities and loving soul well enough to feel that Alice had deeply grieved her, and she knew too that Alice would hardly have entered into the full particulars of this most distressing interview, had she not suspected that the truth would ultimately have been brought to light.

"You can go to your room now, Alice, and remain until tea time," said Mrs. Herbert.

"I promised Sue Bingham I'd come down to her house and help her make some bows for her party dress," said Alice, ill-temper now giving way to disappointment.

"Remain in your room until tea time," repeated Mrs. Herbert, sadly, "and try and think over what you have done to-day, what pain you have inflicted; and see if you cannot devise some means to atone for your cruel conduct."

An hour afterwards one of Mrs. Sinclair's little boys came in hurriedly, and wanted to know if Mrs. Preston would please come over to his mother's house a little while. Plessey was very sick, and his mother was frightened.

Mrs. Preston determined that Alice should accompany her; and ten minutes afterward mother and daughter presented themselves at the residence of the Sinclairs—Alice entirely unaware of the reason for this sudden visit.

"I would rather not go, mother," was the only protest made by Alice, who had come down from her room a good deal subdued, and looking very much in earnest.

Poor Mrs. Sinclair was overwhelmed with grief. Plessey, who had been subjected to spasms caused by some spinal trouble, was now in the most terrible convulsions. The doctor had been and gone, evidently considering the case beyond his skill to reach. The girl was entirely unconscious, and as she clung her little hands in the agony that was fast separating the spirit from the casket that contained it, her mind went over the events of the past few hours with singular clearness.

"Oh, mamma," she cried, "I wish I hadn't taken that prize from Alice Herbert. She blames me, but I wanted to write my composition as well as I could. She wasn't thinking about her algebra when I got above her. Alice always knows her lessons, and she is angry with me now. Please tell her, mamma, that there is room enough for us both. Poor Alice! Poor Alice! Why did I hurt her so? Tell the girls, mamma, to play that march a little faster; don't you see it drags?"

"Oh dear! oh dear! oh dear!" sobbed Alice, burying her head in the pillow. "Plessey, Plessey, do say you forgive me, or my heart will break. Plessey dear, do open your eyes and tell me that you will never think of it again," continued the excited girl.

"Why, that is Alice's voice," said Plessey, stopping a moment to listen, coming back once more to a knowledge of her surroundings. "She told me this morning that she hated me."

"Oh, but Plessey, I didn't mean it. It was only because I was wicked enough to be disappointed about the prize. Do please forgive me."

Agricultural.

ADORNING THE HOMESTEAD.

Farming is hard, tollsome, slavish work indeed, when you cannot unite with it some pleasurable incentives. Working merely that you may earn money by it is tolerable, and often necessary; but the true, the noble way, is to have your work, in addition, return you a dividend of pleasure as you go along, with added dividends of the same sort day by day.

To illustrate: A man buys a homestead, as I did here, "in the rough"—a little farm of stumps, brushwood and timber. It must be cleared up and made tillable. There is hard work in it—the hardest kind. To be convinced of the fact, let the reader undertake to dig out a stump some fine morning. But when it is out, how glad you are—not merely because the work is over, but because it looks so much better. There is an instant reward; and there is the pleasure, too, of anticipation while digging. So you go from stump to stump, and from tree to tree, until the unfolding beauty of the change is a constant reward.

Then when you come to put out fruit trees and plants on this redeemed patch of wilderness, the same rewards attend your work. You want straight rows, and your trees to stand up straight, and to "range" well, if there is an orchard in every direction. It is a pleasure thus to arrange them. At first they are small, but they soon grow. Day by day, and year by year the branches extend. The landscape takes on a new form. You prune, and shape, and cultivate, and fight the weeds, and though it is toil, its harshness is softened by the thought that this change of landscape is the work of your hands, the reward of your toil—daily seconded of course by nature.

This for the fruit farm proper. It is the same about the house and lawn. There are walks to be planned and made, and carriage ways, trees to be planted, singly or in groups, and hedges both for ornament and use. A man of small means can only do a part each season; but the work does not tire, because of its ever-fresh rewards.

Here, too, we plant trees on the roadside—the law requires and enforces it. It is part of the system which has built up and peopled Vineland so rapidly. A whole community takes a lesson in rural aesthetics—that is the gain, or part of it. The rest is found in the adornments which are voluntarily planned and carried out. We have no fences—those costly, hideous nuisances—but it is pleasant to have something mark your boundary, and an evergreen hedge is cheap and beautiful. There are miles and miles of them here. No law requires them, only the law of good taste and the love of the beautiful. On about a ten-acre farm I have something over one hundred and fifty rods of such hedge—two, three and four years planted, the plants costing originally about two cents each. Others have more, and they constitute lines of beauty to gladden the eye and mitigate the toil going on about them, and grow more and more beautiful every year. Some of these hedges are to form screens, as wind-breakers for partial shelter to orchards, gardens and dwellings, and in that form, thirty or forty feet high (not extraordinary for the Norway spruce), will give added variety and attractiveness to the landscape, and to the homes of which they constitute a part.

Farmers miss more than they realize by neglect of these homestead adornments. They really cost little in money, while as a matter of business merely they add largely to the selling value. With some taste for the work, their care is little else than a recreation—almost a work of affection. Children can be, in many cases, inspired with a taste for such work which will have a powerful influence in attaching them to the place and the business when they grow up. Teach them how to plant a little ornamental tree or a flower-bed, how to prune and care for such things; point out their beauty, and invest them with the responsibility of bringing out their best qualities, give them books which treat on the subject, and tastes will be formed and attachments developed which the glitter of city attractions a few years later may not overcome. The desertion of farming by farmers' boys is probably due quite as much to the untidy dreariness which surrounds so many homes, as to other causes, although it may be a less apparent influence. Even if they do leave at manhood for financial reasons, the taste for rural adornments implanted by a judicious parent will have an influence in returning them to the country when business cares press heavily, or business success is achieved.—N. Y. Observer.

GROWING CELERY.—At a meeting of the Montgomery County (Ohio) Horticultural Society one of the members said that the present mode of culture differed materially from that practiced a few years ago. A deep trench was formerly considered the first requisite in the cultivation of celery. He has practiced plowing open a trench of only moderate depth, but from experience contemplates planting on the surface for the next season. The seeds should be planted as early as prudent in the spring, in beds out of doors. Plants grown in this way are much harder and more certain of success than when sown in boxes. The young plants should be cut back once or twice in the beds, and before transplanting, to induce a stocky, solid growth. They should be grown thinly in the beds. With proper care they will be ready to be transplanted into the garden rows from the 15th to the 31st day of July. Earlier planting than this is not desirable, as celery makes its principal growth after the nights become cool, and the greatest secret of success is in keeping the plants in good condition until this season arrives, which in our hot sun and dry atmosphere is a delicate matter. The hill-up process should be gradual, beginning when the plant is about ten inches high, and at first only sufficient earth should be drawn up to the plant to keep it from spreading out; the plants should be set six inches apart. Celery loves moisture, and irrigation is of great advantage in its cultivation; the water should not come in actual contact with the plants, but allowed to gather between the rows. The moisture is absorbed gradually in this way, conducing to a healthy, steady growth. The soil for the growth of celery should be cool, deep, and rich, of pure loam, free from gravel, and with but little sand.

HOBING POTATOES.—The Ohio Farmer says: "One of the secrets of success in potato growing is in giving them a hoeing at the proper stage of growth. One hoeing is sufficient, and this should be given when the vines are about six inches high. Previous to this use the cultivator freely, keep the earth loose on the surface and free from weeds. When at the stage of growth mentioned give a good hoeing, making the mound broad and flat on top and a little cupping. After this do no more than to cut out weeds. The hoeing is best done soon after a rain. Some advocate flat culture and others two billings; but we have never succeeded with either of those plans, nor do the most successful potato-growers advocate them. Two billings will make two settings, and result in a large number of small potatoes at harvest time. Flat culture may do on a deep loamy soil, where the roots can ramify and form tubers readily; but a clay soil hilling in the old-fashioned way is the one most certain to make good returns."

Miscellany.

GUILD'S SIGNAL.

Two low whistles, quaint and clear,
That was the signal the engineer—
That was the signal that Guild, 'tis said—
Gave to his wife at Providence,
As through the sleeping town, and thence,
Out in the night,
On to the light,
Down past the farms, lying white, he sped!

As a husband's greeting, scant no doubt,
Yet to the woman looking out,
Watching and waiting, no serenade,
Love song or midnight roundelay
Said what that whistle seemed to say:
"To my trust true
So love to you!"
Working or waiting, Good night!" it said.

Brisk young bagmen, tourists fine,
Old commuters along the line,
Brakemen and porters glancing ahead,
Smiled as the signal, sharp, intense,
Pierced through the shadows of Providence—
"Nothing amiss,
Nothing!—it is
Only Guild calling his wife," they said.

Summer and winter, the old refrain
Rang o'er the billows of ripening grain,
Pierced through the budding boughs o'er-
head,
Flew down the track when the red leaves
burned
Like living coals from the engine spurned:
Sang as it flew:
"To our trust true,
First of all Duty—Good night," it said.

And then, one night, it was heard no more,
From Stonington over Rhode Island shore,
And the folk in Providence smiled and said,
As they turned in their beds, "The engineer
Has once forgotten his midnight cheer."
One only knew
To his trust true
Guild lay under his engine, dead.
—N. Y. Tribune. BRET HARTE.

William Guild was engineer on the train that fell through a broken bridge on the Stonington and Providence RR., near Richmond switch, on the 19th April, when several persons were killed and many injured. Guild and the firemen died at their posts, their remains being found under the engine fearfully mutilated.—F. W. W.

SCHOOLS FOR WORKING CHILDREN.

BY JAMES RICHARDSON.

In his memorable address to the students of St. Andrews, our English visitor, James Anthony Froude, insisted on the need that every boy should be put in the way of maintaining himself in independence, with a sturdy regard for the realities of living that was quite refreshing in contrast with the sentimentalities customary on such occasions. "The practical necessities," he said, "must take precedence of the intellectual. A tree must be rooted in the soil before it can bear flowers and fruit. A man must learn to stand upright upon his feet, to respect himself, to be independent of charity and accident. It is on this basis only that any superstructure of intellectual cultivation worth having can possibly be built."

This principle is especially true in its application to the great and increasing number of children who must begin to earn their living early, who must make their own way and place in the world, and win by their own labor whatever competence they may hope to attain. For such as these—and there are some millions of them in the land—the means of early education now provided are not only inadequate but unavailable. Literary instruction alone is offered, and that at seasons which shut out its enjoyment from those who cannot subordinate the practical necessities, as Froude calls them.

We are not prepared to urge, as many do, the erection of a system of industrial schools supplementary to the schools already established. Even if the country were able and willing to undertake so gigantic and expensive an enterprise, we are not sure that it would be available. The best possible industrial schools are the farms and work-shops and markets of the land—the places where actual work is done. All that can be asked, is that the schools of letters work in harmony with these schools of labor, recognizing them as of equal importance, and shaping their requirements so as not to clash unduly with them. The ideal public school is not one that seeks to supply every sort of instruction, but one that is always open: a perpetual fountain, limited of necessity in the variety of its outflowings but unlimited in its time of flowing—a fountain at which any and all may draw for their thirst impels and their opportunities forbid. If the child's practical necessities forbid his giving six hours a day to schooling, the school ought to receive him for four hours, or two hours, or half an hour, if need be, and make the most of it.

This is the ideal, to be best but distantly approximated. It is possible, however, to take a long stride in the right direction, and that without adding a penny to the school-tax, simply by the introduction of half-time classes for such children as find it impossible or undesirable to give the whole day to schooling. This is an untried experiment. It has been most successfully tested in many parts of Germany and Switzerland, and also in England, where especially the condition of things found in our manufacturing towns is deplorably prevalent, where thousands of children of tender years are compelled to spend some portion of every day, if not the whole of it, in mechanical labor. To enable such children to obtain some intellectual training, special schools have been established on the half-time principle; that is, two distinct sets of children are taught every day, three or four hours each, the forenoon classes working in the mills in the forenoon, the afternoon classes working in the afternoon. The results of such alternation of work and study, as developed by the Schools Enquiry Commission, are so gratifying that the scheme adopted as a makeshift may ultimately supplant the old established plan of conducting elementary schools. The concurrent testimony of the multitude of school-masters and other witnesses examined, established, to the conviction of the Commissioners at least, the following points (besides others which have no bearing on our present subject):

1. That a master can completely exhaust the children's capacity of attention in less than three hours, even when intervals of repose are allowed.

2. That where the teaching is anything like equal, a manual and industrial occupation gives great advantage to the child in the acquisition of knowledge.

3. That the half-time system gives to factory children an education which they most certainly would not obtain if long school hours were required.

4. That as a general rule the working classes afford in the same time a much better education than the ordinary middle class (National) schools.

These results are so remarkable that the special testimony of some of the more important witnesses may be needed to make them

credible. The headmaster of a large school in Manchester testifies that he finds the half-timers more intelligent and capable of learning than the full-time scholars, and that they attain a higher standard in the various subjects taught. They are relatively more orderly and more easily managed, and coming from their work are more attentive. The admixture of industrial occupation tends, he says, to make the scholars more industrious in school; they do not waste their time so much, and they set about their work with greater earnestness and more business like qualities.

The head master of a Yorkshire factory school, of some five hundred boys and girls, testifies that the "half time scholars are more advanced, the others being equal, than full-time scholars." The alternation of work and study is beneficial to both. The owner of the works in which these children are employed says that his commercial interests are most decidedly advanced by the school, notwithstanding he spends a very large sum of money on it every year.

Another man, employing between five and six hundred workmen, finds the short-time scholars decidedly preferable to the full-timers, or those who have been exclusively occupied with books. "I find the boys who have had the half time industrial training, who have been engaged by us as clerks or otherwise, better and more apt to business than those who have had only the usual school training of the middle class."

The teacher of a school supported by a firm of extensive flannel manufacturers, testifies that fully three-fourths of his assistants (pupil teachers) were selected from the half-timers. The implied superiority of this class of his pupils he attributed chiefly to their better attention to what they set about, a habit inculcated by industrial occupations.

The head-master of the Liverpool Industrial School at Kirkdale, Yorkshire, a teacher of twenty-four years' experience, testifies that the attainments of the children in that half-time school were greater than any he had had charge of before—that is, full-time national scholars; boys and girls, the half-timers were better scholars than the full-timers. He compared his records, and showed that the marks proved the superiority of the working scholars. The figures stood thus:—

	Full-Timers.	Half-Timers.
Read and write well.....	53 per cent.	45 per cent.
Imperfectly.....	47	55
Read imperfectly.....	32	26
Cannot read.....	15	19

But it is needless to multiply further testimony. The experiment has been tried nearer home, less thoroughly it is true, but with correspondingly encouraging results. We have space to notice but one instance, the pioneer school of the sort, established in connection with the "Indian Orchard Mills," Springfield, Mass., December, 1868, by the treasurer of the mills, Edward Atkinson, Esq. It is one of the public schools of the city, but set apart for factory children between ten and fifteen years of age. At first, the children worked in the mills in the forenoon, left work for dinner at noon, attended school from 1—afterwards, 1½ to 4 p.m., then returned to their work in the mills. Those who worked by the day were allowed three-quarters pay; but their average pay for the month amounted to nearly as much as when they worked full time, the last time being greatly reduced.

Those who worked by the piece earned as much as when working full time. After six months' attendance in this way—to satisfy the legal requirement of three months' schooling—the school-children gave all their time to the mills, and another set took their place in the school. In December, 1870, it was decided to employ two sets of children, each set to go to school half of each day (one in the forenoon, the other in the afternoon), and to work half a day receiving pay for half-time. This plan reduced the children's pay so much that it did not work well, and the first plan was resumed, to the detriment of the children, since it increased their hours of labor, and allowed them no time for recreation. Still, it was far better than no schooling, which is the fate of the same class of children in most other mills. The managing agent of the mills, Mr. C. J. Goodwin, describes the effect of the school on the children as marvellous. "They acquire habits of neatness, their morals improve—in fact their whole being seems changed by their contact with the school-room. It is astonishing to see how readily they learn, and how much reading, writing, and arithmetic they acquire in one short term."

In reporting on the doings and prospects of this school to the State Bureau of Statistics of Labor, Mr. Atkinson says: "From the observations I have made while the half-time school has been in operation at our mill, I should think that the system might be applied with great benefit to the cash boys in our retail shops, to boys employed in printing offices, to boys who sell newspapers; and that very many girls would be much more usefully employed if occupied half the day in a clothing establishment, or some trade, and the other half in a suitably conducted school, rather than the all day idleness of a school more nearly on the English plan of alternate half-days of work and study, is sustained in connection with the Naumuck Cotton Mills at Salem, where the children get twenty-six weeks of half-time schooling a year, the equivalent of the thirteen weeks' tuition required by law. The results are rather better than those obtained at Indian Orchard, and very much better than those obtained where the required three months' schooling is taken at once, and the remaining nine months devoted exclusively to labor. Continuous teaching, even when the daily term is very short, is much more effective in the long run than longer sessions covering but three or four months of the year.—Christian Union.

"CONSTITUTIONS ARE NOT MADE, BUT GROW."

BY A JAPANESE STUDENT.

It is often said in this country that the present progress of Japan is entirely unnatural, and that the maxim, "Constitutions are not made, but grow," is utterly ignored by that nation.

For Japan has preserved an entire seclusion from the outer world for so long a time that we Japanese seemed as the critics say, to utterly ignore the golden maxim of Sir James Mackintosh; but, fortunately, as early as 283 A. D., we had diligently studied the book of the great philosopher, Moeshi, who told us that to improve a national affair too fast is as foolish as to pull out the stem of a plant to make it grow faster; and we admire his saying as much as you do Mackintosh's. Although the great changes going on at present in Japan are made by order of the Government, and seem to the critics artificial, yet if they are made peacefully and permanently, I think that they are not artificial, but a natural growth, for "the true sources of such changes lie deeper than the acts of legislators." What are the true sources of these changes, if not the acts of the legislators?

There are two sources, namely: the "Yamato-Damashi" (Japanese spirit), and our first attention to material progress above all others. I think nothing can characterize the Japanese more directly than the "Yamato-Damashi," which is nothing but their patriotic spirit. Those, and only those, who are familiar with Japanese literature, especially that of the modern time, can realize how much this feeling has influenced the national pro-

gress. It was this spirit that brought the first Japanese students to Europe, which was in their imagination at that time situated almost beyond this world. They undertook this expedition, not by the order of the Government or their parents, but for the ambition of wealth or fame, but under the guidance of patriotic spirit, to search something which could be brought back to promote their national affairs. It was also with this spirit that we accomplished the sudden but peaceful destruction of our feudal system. As soon as the Taicouan was overthrown in the year 1868, by the combined powers of the Daimios, four of them agreed among one another that to strengthen Japan the feudal system must be destroyed, and the powers, military and civil, must be concentrated into the central Government; and in the year 1869 they addressed to the Mikado a letter, offering to resign their extensive territories and enormous wealth (their revenues varied from £769,728 to £9,400), and before the end of the year all Daimios, without a single exception, followed the noble example of their colleagues.

There are a great many examples like these, but while I am boasting of this faithful national spirit, I am sorry to say that the ghost of liberty or freedom of the Western nations has already scattered many germs of faithlessness upon our loving country.

The second source is our first attention to the material progress above all others. Before the year 1854, when the American fleet under the command of Commodore Perry forced into the Bay of Yedo, the Western civilization was unknown to us, and our nation was then first attracted by the strong steam vessels and the good discipline of their marines and sailors; and the result was the introduction of steam power and the military and naval sciences of the West. These, of course, soon brought us into contact with other new facts, and these again excited our further curiosity, and each step demanding its next step we have arrived at the present state; and as when we first started there were only a few narrow passages, now these being branched again and again we are going in almost every direction. A reverend gentleman said in the pulpit lately that by this way Japan is actually becoming a nation of materialists or sophists. But I do deny this, because we are actually tracing down from the fruit to the branches, from the branches to the trunk, thence to the root. By this method we can reach, sooner or later, at the true root of human civilization, whatever it may be, without any great mistake. In conclusion, I say that although Japan commits many petty mistakes, the main road she takes is the safest and shortest, and her constitution has been growing peacefully, and will continue so forever.

Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J.

—Targum.

TONING UP THE SYSTEM.

"The doctor prescribed it," explains the reason for those beer casks being left at the door across the way. "The doctor prescribed it," accounts for the frequent sending of baskets full of bottles to the dwelling just down the street. Some one is taken sick and soon the doctor's carriage appears, and the man of pills and physic and stimulants enters the room with an air that seems to say, "your life is in my hands, and if you hope to recover you must do exactly what I say and ask no questions."

The patient is examined, and then a prescription is written. Off to the drug store flies the messenger to get the medicine. This is repeated for a few days, when, if it were not prescribed at first, the learned doctor says, "You must now take some ale or beer, or Bourbon to tone up your system; you must take a half tumbler full of ale or beer before each meal, and also before going to bed at night, gradually increasing the dose to a tumbler full." If it is Bourbon or some other strong drink, the dose is not so large.

Now look for the coming of the beer casks or Bourbon bottles. The patient gets up and goes about his business, but he still keeps toning up his system with the medicine the doctor prescribed. The invalid lady is about her house, goes out shopping, is seen at church and places of amusement, but she is in constant need of something to tone up her system, and her excellent physician has told her she must use these invigorating remedies. So she keeps on from month to month with them. If like some other medicines the effect is rather sickening at times, if they leave the head light and the body weak, she being an invalid and under the influence of medicine can retire to her room until she has recovered. If evil disposed persons should see her in this condition they might be led to say that she had been drinking too much. But as she has only been taking what her amiable doctor told her to take, such an allegation would be a vile slander. Yet in order that gossip should be avoided it is the better way for her to remain in her room when the medicine produces a bad effect.

What an easy method of practice this! It does not require much skill. It is very easy to say take ale or Bourbon, and then leave the patients to pour into their stomachs the vilest compounds to be found on earth, they imagining, because of the temporary stimulating effect, that they are being benefited. They are grossly humbugged by the men to whom they confide their dearest interests, and to whom they pay their money for skill and relief. How long shall society be victimized by this sort of medical quackery, this abominable malpractice?

We verily believe that an incalculable amount of drunkenness, among both men and women, and particularly the latter, is attributable to the doctors. It is important that the matter should receive more attention than it has heretofore received. A pressure should be brought to bear on the medical profession, which shall lead them to abandon this method of practice.

Once the lancet, the blister, the cathartic, and emetic, were the standard remedies. A suggestion as to the impropriety of their use was regarded as disrespectful to the profession; but now they are seldom resorted to. We should be glad to know how many times the lancet has been used in this city during the last year. We doubt if it has been used once. Instead of the lancet, blister and emetic, we now have alcohol, stimulants as the universal remedy.—Watchword.

DOMESTIC.

Wall paper may be readily cleaned by rubbing it with dry Indian meal on a cloth. Pieces of bread are commonly used for this purpose, but the Indian meal is obviously cheaper and easier.

STARCHING COLLARS AND CUFFS.—Let the collars be washed, bleached, and dried; then take two large tablespoonsful of ordinary starch, and blend in cold water till there is about a breakfastcupful on it. Dip your collars through it without going to the sediment; wring dry, and lay them in a clean towel for two or three hours; then draw them, and iron them, and they will be stiff and glazed.

THE HOUSEWIFE.—As spring approaches, employ all the care and ingenuity possible to preserve the health of your household during the most difficult and trying season. Grated horseradish, moistened with vinegar, is one of the most valuable table adjuncts, and should be always in use. Reduce the quantity of

meat, and place on your bill of fare instead, fresh eggs, hominy, crushed wheat, and fresh fish. Spring greens, dandelion and the like, are worth much, and should be had as frequently as possible. Mashed oranges cut up, and powdered, not too heavily, with sugar, are excellent for breakfast or dessert. Boiled oatmeal for breakfast, with milk, and cranberry sauce as an adjunct to Graham rolls, will assist to keep the body in excellent condition.

BEA STRINGS.—We really must decline to publish any of the thousand and one remedies for bee stings sent to us until we have more conclusive evidence that anything is of any avail. In the majority of instances the pain ceases in a few minutes whether any application be made or not, and when a remedy is applied it generally receives the credit it really follows, if not, something used in a former case receives the preference. We say, extract the sting in such a manner (with the point of a pen knife for instance) as to avoid pressing the contents of the poison bag into the wound, and then let it alone. Any irritation, such as rubbing the affected part, produces pain and swelling, so we repeat, "let it alone," and get your mind on something else as speedily as possible, and all will be well.—Exchange.

DEATH OF CHARLES KNIGHT.—Charles Knight died recently at Addlestone, Surrey, in his 82nd year. He was born in the March of 1791, at Windsor, in which borough his father, also Charles Knight, was a respectable bookseller, who rose to become an alderman, and eventually mayor. His mother, who was the daughter of a yeoman of Iwer, in Buckinghamshire, dying when he was only in his second year, young Charles Knight became the companion of his father's leisure hours, and from him he picked up the first scraps of that "store of information" which he subsequently garnered and utilised so well. For sixty years Charles Knight labored in the cause of popular progress, diffused, by means of varied and instructive works, information of the most useful character, at a time when philanthropy of this kind was both ridiculed and depreciated, while it seldom led to pecuniary reward. He was the leading spirit of the "Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge," it was he who by his "Library of Entertaining Knowledge," originated an entirely new channel for bringing information that had hitherto been a sealed book within the reach of all below the ranks of the rich, and so gave the first stimulus to the production of those popular "Cyclopaedias" and "Libraries" which followed in shoals; he published the "Penny Magazine," the "Penny Cyclopaedia," the "Pictorial Bible," the "Pictorial Shakespeare," and the "Pictorial History of England," works that even now stand out from the crowd, as noble specimens of intelligent and disinterested enterprise.

Readings on the Lessons.

These readings are based on the lessons of the International Series of Sunday-school lessons, which it is hoped will be adopted in every school in the country. They are meant for all readers, and will be rather calculated to excite an interest in the lesson than to relieve the teacher in any way from the work of studying. Nor are the views they may express to be adopted without that careful examination which is due to matters of such moment.

May 18.—Genesis xiv. 1-8.

JOSEPH MAKES HIMSELF KNOWN.

Nothing is more striking in these chapters than the change we observe in the tenors of Jacob. The narrative is more interesting as a history of Joseph's brethren even than as a history of Joseph. They stand every test to which Joseph puts them. He is anxious to know whether his father and brother are really alive, as they have told him, and in due course they return with Benjamin himself. He tests their honesty by putting back the price of the corn in their sacks; and the first thing they do when they arrive the second time is to tell of the discovery, and offer the money again. One of the most distinct signs of the change is seen when the steward overtakes them and charges them with stealing the cups; they evidently believe in one another's innocence—a thing you scarcely ever find in those who have been companions in sin, for it implies, not only that each one is conscious of the change in himself, but that each one is sure of the change in all the rest. Then we have Judah's most touching intercession; and on behalf of whom? Of the father whom in former days they deceived, and—still more remarkable—of the half-brother who represents that branch of the family to which belonged the "dreamer" they plotted against. This very man who himself suggested selling Joseph as a slave, (xxvii. 27,) now begs to be taken into bondage instead of Benjamin!

Thus we see the justification of Joseph's plans in their complete success. And now that the distress of the brethren at the thought of Benjamin's detention has removed every doubt, and rendered further concealment unnecessary, at once Joseph makes himself known. It is clear that it cost him much to restrain himself so long; twice he was obliged to restrain himself, lest his emotion should betray him (xlii. 24, xlii. 30), and before Judah's pleading he utterly breaks down. This of itself is enough to prove that his conduct was dictated only by a painful sense of duty.

Children are apt to think that Joseph's forgiveness of his brethren was perfectly natural and a matter of course; and it would be well to lay stress upon what he might have. When he saw them first, his memory must have leaped back twenty years, and recalled the scene at Dothan, when he had appealed in vain to their brotherly feelings. They remembered it, (xlii. 21,) and we may be sure he did. Now he has them completely in his power: how easy to punish them! and how just too! When a boy says of a companion who has wronged him, "I'll pay him off," he silences your remonstrance by the unanswerable plea, "But he deserves it." Now Joseph's brethren deserved to be "paid off," and Joseph did not "pay them off." Let us pray for grace to be like him, remembering the divine words, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

Once again we see here Joseph as the type of Christ. We, too, have a Brother, "bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh," who wept over apostate Jerusalem, who broke Peter's heart by one look of mingled sadness and love, who prayed for his murderers, whose "bowels of compassion" yearn still over sinners, and who, if they will but turn to him, is even in his exaltation, "not ashamed to call them brethren." (Heb. ii. 11.)

And a solemn but very practical thought comes in here. Does Christ appear in our eyes as the dreadful Judge who is coming in power and great glory to punish his enemies? If so, it is because our guilty consciences remind us of what our sins deserve. This is the feeling of the heathen about the terrible "Governor" of the world, whom they seek to propitiate by offerings of the fruits of the earth, such as Jacob's sons took with them for "Zaphnath-paneah." It is the feeling of the Romanist about the Saviour himself, when he approaches him through other mediators, just as Jacob's sons tried to make friends with the steward, (xlii. 19.) But to the broken and contrite heart, like that of Judah when he pleaded for Benjamin, Jesus at once "makes himself known," and though for the moment we may be "troubled at his presence," (xlv. 3,) he will say, "Come near unto me," (ver. 45.)

and lavish upon us the fullness of that love which passed through knowledge.

One small hint may here be given respecting the use of Joseph's Egyptian name (xli. 4) in these lessons. We always think of the governor of Egypt as "Joseph," and we might naturally ask our classes some such question as this, "When Jacob's sons got home, what did they tell their father about Joseph?" In reality they told him nothing at all about "Joseph." They would speak of "the great prince Zaphnath-paneah." Now it would add to the vividness of our picturing in this part of the history if we made a practice of using that name. Thus, "When Jacob's sons saw that Zaphnath-paneah was determined to detain one of them, what did they feel?" Nothing helps a Scripture lesson more than the identifying ourselves with one or other of the persons in the narrative, and trying to see as he saw.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

FATHER HYACINTHE AND JOHN CALVIN.—One Sunday last Father Hyacinthe, from his pulpit in Geneva, was pleased to recognize the patron saint of the city. In an eloquent discourse he eulogized the life and labors of John Calvin. Calvin, after Luther, and before John Knox, the Scotch Reformer, must be regarded as a powerful force in the religious revolution of the sixteenth century. Father Hyacinthe has found it hard to leave Rome. Now that he is able to pronounce a eulogy on John Calvin it is not unreasonable to conclude that, from some cause or other, he is discovering freedom of action and liberty of speech. In Geneva and Rome, the chair of St. Peter and the memory of John Calvin, there is a wide gulf. Has Hyacinthe bridged the gulf at last?—N. Y. Herald.

FATHER HYACINTHE has published the following, addressed to one of his friends:

PARIS, 3rd March, 1873.

My Dear Friend—You have been rightly informed. I am summoned to Geneva by the wish of three hundred Catholics, not to fulfill pastoral functions, but to preach the principles of true Catholicism. I know that this step will be misinterpreted by a certain press which will strive to connect it with the conflict of which Geneva has just been the theatre. To such interpretations the reply is easy: I have taken no part, and I have no advice to give in that matter; the purely religious mission I am about to undertake is, by its very nature, anterior, and I dare add superior, for it responds to a situation of the church which is becoming more and more affirmed throughout Europe. Without mixing myself up in any way in political questions which, by the fault of the clerical party and the Roman Curia, are everywhere complicated with religious ones, I only ask one thing from the governments of this world, the liberty to preach the Gospel, and I am going to Geneva as I went to Munich, to Cologne, to Rome; I shall go to every place to which I may be called by Catholics resolved not to abdicate the faith of their fathers either into the hands of Ultramontanism or incredulity.

H. LOVENS.

MR. BECHER PROVED.—One of the charms of the Friday night meeting is its social character. Whatever mood the pastor happens to be in he displays to his people. He treats his congregation as if it were a family. Sometimes he is very tender, and then the people cry. Sometimes he is very genial, and then they laugh. The weekly meeting of Plymouth Church unites the prayer meeting and lecture. But Mr. Becher does not lecture, he only talks. The talks are seldom over twenty minutes, and are always crisp, spirited and entertaining, and often in the highest degree emotional. The room is large, holding nearly a thousand persons. It is as plain as a pikestaff, and is a good type of puritan austerity—yet the meeting is anything but austere. Every seat is occupied; campstools are in demand, and the parlors are thrown open. Mr. Becher comes in a few minutes before service, disrobes himself of his overcoat and surplus clothing, pitches his hat on to the platform, rubs his hands, and warms himself over the register. His coat is of the clerical cut, yet in it he looks like a business man. His hair lies over his head in all directions. Promptly on the minute he seats himself in his chair, with nothing in front, and the audience get a good look at him from his boots to his hair. He puts on no devout airs; does not sit down and seem to be in private devotion, but takes his hymn-book as a mechanic would his chisel, and proceeds to business. The other night his talk was on honesty. When the meeting was thrown open, an awkward silence pervaded the assembly. In a tone indicating how provoked he was, the pastor said there had been talking about heaven, purity, faith, or any so-called religious themes there would have been plenty of people ready to occupy the time; but now that he had been talking about truth and honesty no one had anything to say. He was glad that there was so much honesty among his people, and that nobody had any doubts in that direction. This brought the senior Deacon to his feet, and his rising was greeted with laughter.—Boston Journal.

THE BIBLE IN FRANCE.—The report of M. Monod, the agent in France for the British and Foreign Bible Society, presents us with some interesting particulars—little bright specks of green amid the surrounding desert of infidelity and worldliness. Colportage in France, he admits, is difficult work, and some of the old agents have had to be parted with as not being in all respects equal to the work. In Paris it is particularly difficult; the police forbid sales in thoroughfares; private houses are guarded by porters, and shops are protected by the *genius loci*. To be a colporteur in such circumstances requires no common measure of earnestness, tact, and love of the work. Sometimes the colporteur gets help unexpectedly. At Meux, where there are a good many Protestants, a woman took him under her protection, and introduced him to a number of tradesmen, saying, "You Huguenots, here is a Huguenot—you must buy his book!" A man said to him, "This is a good book; the Prussians took the copy I had, and I am very pleased to have you to replace it." At another place, the Bible is at a great discount; a man is making a fortune by exhibiting a girl in one of whose eyes is to be seen a picture of Notre Dame de Lourdes. (The girl has a false eye of glass, and the picture is painted thereon.) At another place a man wishes a Bible, but he has no money; suddenly he remembers that he has money; he runs and sells it, and with the money buys a Bible—reminding one of the parable of the treasure in the field. In another district, an old man, when offered the Bible, glanced over it, and then called his children, and said with great emotion, "Children, here is at last the book of which you hear me constantly speaking, and from which are taken all the stories I tell you." In some parts of France, we

FINANCIAL.—There has been little to notice in the New York Market during the week. The demand for money has not been heavy, but rates of discount have not been reduced at the banks, \$ to 10 per cent being still the rate. Call loans on stocks are now payable at 5 to 8 per cent, and 9 is the highest rate obtainable on time loans. The New York market has been easier during the last few days, and has caused an ease or feeling here. Gold has fluctuated between 164 and 174. Sterling Exchange

JAMES HOWELL,
Agent Montreal R. T. & S. Society.

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1869,
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT—
CANADA,
Province of Quebec,
District of Terrebonne,
In the matter of ALLAN, McMASTER, as in-
debted to the Creditors,
on the FIFTEENTH day of May next the under-
signed will apply to the said Court for a discharge
for the said Act.
ALLAN D. McMASTER, per J. A. W. MACE & Y, his
Attorneys, Adams,
& Schoenbaum, 7th of April, 1873.

the Colleges. The College Year is divided into three terms. The students, particularly from Principals, who are prepared to spend their vacations with their Foreign Principals, are visiting historic homes in Britain, France, Germany, etc. The classes of College may be had of George Wilkes, Esq., T. M. Thomson, Esq. and Mr. Dr. Wilkes, Montreal, to whom reference is kindly permitted.

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