

"I was thinking, if the angels rejoice, how much more would he!"

At this utterance Mrs. Hammond gave way to weeping, which seemed to come from the depths of an agonized heart. Words and caresses from the anxious daughters had no power to quell the tempest. Great waves of disappointed schemes and remorseless convictions of duty beat against the quivering heart-strings, drifting her helplessly out into the sea of doubt and rebellion and darkness. Vain were the reminders of reason and conscience, for that mother's heart had its idol too, which could not be broken without blood and agony; and yet, reader, Mrs. Hammond was a Christian; and the great High Priest of humanity would show himself of tenderness in succoring this tried heart from her temptation.

"Mamma," said Hattie, "this is too much excitement for Fleda; let me get her to rest for the night, then I will order you a cup of tea and stay with you until you can sleep;" and the thoughtful girl moved efficiently about, gathering up the disordered papers and giving little orderly, graceful touches here and there before leaving the room. "Take care of your sister, my dear, and leave me to myself to-night; I prefer to be alone," replied the unhappy mother.

Unused to remonstrance, the two daughters retired to their chamber, where in mutual sympathy they could talk of and pray for their loved ones. What the night was to that mother those who are mothers can only tell, if ever called of God to yield one who is more than a right eye or hand. The "north wind" of trouble is blowing his fierce blast against her trembling form. Now is her trial time, such as sooner or later comes to every human soul, when the question arises, "Shall it be Christ or my own will?" Which shall it be? Can she sacrifice her idol? Will she? Does she? Pity her now, you of mother-hearts, and whisper a prayer for support in your own trial-hour.

On the morrow Mrs. Hammond seemed disinclined for conversation, and, as is often the case when hearts are fullest, every thing was talked of in the little circle but that which was uppermost in their minds. But on the next day she placed in Hattie's hands a letter saying, "You can read it to Fleda. I cannot talk about it yet." In this, which was written to Alice, was strong evidence of the conflict through which she had passed, shown by the arguments used to prove her fitness for a different line of duty, pointed out to her the large fields for usefulness at home, her ability to adorn and influence social life, the loss of her music, and her accountability for that talent, her own claims, which, as Fleda was an invalid and Hattie already pledged to the far West, were neither few nor small, and at last a vivid picture of the losses, crosses, and perils of the missionary's life.

Does my reader ask "Had Mrs. Hammond forgotten her own early experience when passing through a like period and the after years of disappointed hopes?" Do you not know that there is no blind selfishness to equal that which a mother feels when an idolized child is at stake? How eagerly she cries, "I pray thee, Lord, have me excused!" "Not this, my Father!" Ah, the "holdbacks" mothers use when their children in eager zeal would outstrip them in the race!

Thus Mrs. Hammond had braced herself to forget the past, and had reasoned with conscience until she had made herself believe that she was not called upon for this sacrifice: The missionary work was clearly a duty, but not for her child. But a softer reproving voice was still whispering in that heart, "He that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me," and made her afraid to face Fleda's tearful eyes and Hattie's sorrowful gaze, so that she kept her room for many days.

The sisters were not slow in sending loving words of approval and interest to the absent one which called forth a speedy reply from Alice, in which she expressed her sorrowful surprise at her mother's determination, but confident expectation that God would bring her to a different mind.

If a shirt bosom, or any other article, has been scorched in ironing, lay it where bright sunlight will fall directly on it. It will take it out at once.

Halifax Infants' Home.

At the request of the Lady Managers of the Home we make a few further extracts from their annual report, and doubt not they will interest many of our readers:—

"A larger number of our babies have been adopted this year than in any previous year. We have spared no pains to insure for our little proteges respectable, comfortable, Christian homes, where there is every prospect of their being brought up to be useful members of society. Some have adopted our dear little ones to fill up blanks made in the family circle by the hand of death. Some, who never had children of their own, wisely gladdened their hearts and homes by taking one out of our large family. Some again who have raised families of their own have, from the purest philanthropy, welcomed one of ours, as they would a younger child, or a grandchild.

We have yet to hear the first murmur, or complaint, or regret, from any one who has adopted a baby from our Home.

Letters from those who have adopted our babies are very interesting: in some cases pathetic. 'A.' writes: "Ours is a different house since you gave us our beautiful boy: God bless you for the gift." 'B.' writes: "She is the sunbeam of the house. She calls me father, and clings to me as lovingly as ever a child did to a parent. She takes a lively interest in all my affairs. I cannot refuse her all my love." 'C.' writes: "She is a fine, large girl, and has not been a day sick these two years. I would not part with her except at God's command." We have much else to the same effect.

We solicit applications for children from those who feel that they have a place in their hearts and homes for a young immortal, to be saved from a life of misery and degradation, or from a cruel death. We know of no surer way of doing good and preventing untold evil, than taking the babe in its very infancy and training it in the atmosphere of a pure and christian home. Outcast children become acquainted with evil at an incredibly early age. And what can be more heartrending than vicious, degraded childhood! It is a work of well-doing which is sure of its reward, to take babes that are orphans, or perhaps worse than orphans, and to bring them up in the paths of virtue and industry, and in the principles of Christianity.

The death rate for the year was a fraction over 18 per cent. This will be regarded as low, considering the deplorable condition in which some of the children were received into the Home. In our first year the rate was 33 per cent; in our second year 21 per cent; in our third year 19 per cent; and in our fourth year 18 per cent.

The house we occupy is far too small for such a large family as ours; and its arrangements are not the most suitable for our purposes. We believe that our death rate would be very much lower, had we a hospital,—had we the means of isolating the sick. Who will pity us? Who will help us? Our plight was simply terrible, when we had to battle day and night with an epidemic which struck down at once nurses and babies. It was a marvel of mercy that half of our little ones were not carried away by the disease. We place these facts before the public; and we pray God to put it in the heart of some one to furnish us with the means we need for saving life.

During the months of June, July, August and September, usually so fatal to infants, not one of our babies died! The fact is wonderful, and probably unprecedented in any similar institution.

Our expenditures for the year amounted to \$2,646.17. Our receipts (including a balance at the beginning of the year of \$91.08) were \$2,755.33. Expenditure has been kept down to the lowest figure, consistent with the proper care of the children. We received a grant of \$200 from the Legislature; and a handsome legacy of \$500 from the late W. L. Black, Esq. The subscriptions and donations were \$1422,—more than \$200 short of the previous year. There is also a falling off of about \$30 in the item of board paid for babies. The late Hon. W. O. Heffernan left the Home a legacy of \$40, which however, owing to a dispute about the will, has not yet been paid in.

Donations of clothing, provisions, &c., have been received in unusual abund-

ance from town and country. These donations have been of very essential service.

Churches in various parts of the country have kindly remembered us, especially on Thanksgiving Day. Sabbath Schools also have sent their contributions. Support of this kind encourages and strengthens us to proceed in the work to which God has manifestly called us.

Our institution is now nearly four years old. It has met a most urgent need in the community, and rendered precious service to the most helpless and the worst used of God's creatures. It has saved scores of babies from death, or from a fate more appalling than death. None but those who are eye witnesses can realize what "Baby Farming" in a city means: we know it well, for we have seen it, and to a large extent checked it. We have taken babes a few weeks old out of damp cellars, and from the tender mercies of drunken women, to whose care wicked mothers had consigned them. We have taken babes nearly two years old out of heaps of indescribable filth, the poor things covered from head to feet with every proof of cruel neglect, and so weak as to be unable to move a limb. We have taken them from rooms where they had been locked up whole winter days without fire or attendance of any sort. Some have been literally snatched from the grasp of the murderer. Babes thus rescued are now in happy homes in various parts of the country, loving and beloved.

In four years we have cared for more than 200 babes. Many poor, helpless (often hopeless) mothers have been greatly and permanently benefited by the Home.—The staff of nurses required averages fifteen. Our expenses are necessarily heavy, and we have no endowment. We have no building of our own, and the one we occupy is felt to be inadequate to our requirements. What shall we do? Has the christian charity of Halifax ever failed hitherto when a deserving object was properly presented? Must the Committee continue to labour on under present difficulties and disadvantages? When epidemic diseases invade the Home, must ladies of the Committee in order to save the lives of the children, endanger their own lives and the lives of their families?

The Committee feel that special thanks are due to Dr. T. R. Almon for his unwearied attention to the health of children and nurses. Dr. Wickwire has very kindly given his aid in Dr. Almon's absence. The Matron, Mrs. Chase, has proved herself most devoted in her care for these who are under her charge.

WANTS.

We want a large, airy, well-drained building. We need especially the means for a separate ward or little Hospital for the sick. We cannot consider present arrangements as otherwise than temporary: they are the best we can secure with the means at our disposal, but we most earnestly solicit the means to do better.

A RESPECTFUL REQUEST.

Subscribers to the Funds of the Home will confer a very great favour on the Committee by sending contributions to the Treasurer, without waiting to be called upon.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.
Letter from Germany.

(From our correspondent.)

THE EXPULSION OF AN AMERICAN CITIZEN. VEXATIONS AND ANNOYANCES TO FOREIGNERS TRAVELLING IN GERMANY. HOW A SWEDISH GENTLEMAN WAS COLLARED. AN AMERICAN LADY AND HER SON UNDER POLICE SURVEILLANCE. DUTIES ON IMPORTED GOODS TO GERMANY TO BE RAISED.

BERLIN, Dec. 31, 1879.

A part of the Berlin press is much offended at what it calls the false or exaggerated reports that are spread abroad about the vexations and difficulties of travelling in Germany. I have not seen many of the reports in question; but those which I have seen were not exaggerated. In regard to Berlin in particular, my advice to foreigners would certainly be to stay away, unless they have urgent business, or have provided themselves with abundant papers, and are not ruffled by daily, not to say hourly, police visits. No appearance of

respectability, no probabilities of good character and lawful business, take the place of the most formal and exact papers of identification and legitimation when travellers have to deal with the police under the new system. The rigor even extends to the provinces, although the obligation of passports had not been formally introduced except in Berlin; and only about a week ago a Swedish gentleman of faultless demeanor and excellent antecedents had to send to the Embassy here in great haste to get a passport and escape the threatened expulsion. If this sort of thing is possible in the interior, what must be the severity of the officials here at Berlin! A capital case has come to my knowledge; and as it illustrates not only the petty rigor, but also the amazing stupidity, of some of the under officials, it deserves to be recorded. An elderly lady, the widow of one of the first scholars of America, is living here with her son, who is pursuing his studies at the University, and learning authorized socialism of Professor Wagner. As she came to Berlin before the re-introduction of the passport system, she is legally and strictly not affected by it. Nevertheless the police have utterly ignored that fact, and have pursued the poor woman as remorselessly as if they suspected in her the possibility of a Charlotte Corday or a Lucrezia Borgia. One sergeant of police has made himself particularly active in probing the dark secrets of the lady's past career; but his learning and intelligence being inferior to his zeal, he one day became the hero of the following incident: The son of the lady possesses a passport, which, however, as a student, he is obliged to deposit with the authorities of the University, receiving in exchange a student's card as it is called. This he one day showed to the sergeant, who had been again urging upon the mother the expediency of her expending the required amount for a passport, if she wished to enjoy the advantage of living in Berlin. The card, as a scholastic document, was naturally in Latin, and certified that the bearer, Mr. So-and-So, was a student in the "Universitas Berolinensis." The grave official scrutinized the instrument with a puzzled and suspicious look. "What does that mean?" said he, pointing to the above words. The young American explained that they were Latin for "Berlin University." "What, that thing," continued the sergeant, "Berolinensis, that stands for Berlin; but what is that 'o' there?" I am afraid my young friend laughed directly in the face of the law. Whether the unfortunate lady has since got her passport, or has been expelled as a dangerous character, I cannot say; but her experience is such as may befall the most innocent person who comes to Berlin unprovided for the state of siege. At the same time there is something to be said on the other side. It is not only self-evident that the German authorities have a perfect right to impose such regulations as they please upon travellers; but it is also unhappily true that many Americans—peculiarly naturalized Americans—make themselves unnecessarily obnoxious by the ill-temper, the impatience, the rudeness, which they show under such restrictions. It is, of course, annoying enough to be stopped and catechised en route by illiterate and stupid policemen; but such officials are in general only carrying out their literal instructions, and nothing is gained by storming about it. Such demonstrations both surprise and irritate the most innocent official, and make him instead of a solicitous friend a troublesome enemy. It would undoubtedly be better for Germany, if America and England could make her laws for her, but since Germany herself is not yet ready for such an improvement, the Anglo-Saxon traveller can only submit to what he finds here. The better grace with which he does this, the better will it be for him.

Several commissions have been recently appointed to inquire into the condition of the principal kinds of industry and trade, with a view to obtaining in their reports a guide to future commercial policy. It is remarked that on these Commissions, without exception, the Protectionist party are in a majority; and it is apprehended that they will, in accordance with their known principles, report in favor of higher duties upon imported goods. The Commission appointed some time

ago to inquire into the state of the cotton and linen trade are understood to be in favor of higher duties than are at present levied upon the finer qualities, both of cotton and linen goods imported into Germany. They have not yet presented their report, but it is understood that it will be to that effect.

LOUIS.

For the Christian Messenger.
From Colorado.

DENVER, Jan'y 8, 1879.

Time is ever on the move. I see it in over a year since I wrote you last. During that time many things have occurred to mark the advance. Your valuable paper, that is always a welcome Messenger, has to a certain extent kept me advised, though more especially in your locality. A good friend in your city has kept me well posted by sending the daily papers of Halifax, especially during the reception of the Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise. The good people of Halifax and the Dominion have not had so royal a feast for a long period.

The late Governor-General Dufferin stands high in the estimation of the people in this country. We hope the Marquis of Lorne may be as fortunate in the administration of the Dominion Government and secure a like popularity. We believe he will.

The people of this country have lately passed over successfully the period of time fixed by the nation for a return to specie payment, though for the last few years it has been anxiously looked forward to and clearly commented on by the different political parties, and watched with no little anxiety by the officers of the Government. The careful and wise management of the Secretary of the Treasury has enabled him to accomplish the matter so well, and with hardly a ripple to disturb the national currency. This will have a great and good effect on the trade and commerce of the country in restoring a healthy action generally.

The young State of Colorado has not been idle for the last year, and is advancing with rapid strides to her future destiny. She is comparatively out of debt, with a rapidly increasing population. Her mining interest is being more and more developed and farther extended. Some locations are having a good deal of excitement over the fine prospect exhibited. Seadville, but little over one year old, about one hundred miles south-west of Denver, has now a population of six thousand or more. Silon Cliff and San Juan are also growing rapidly over the mineral wealth being developed. The best informed persons say that the amount of mineral produced this year will not be less than twelve million dollars in this state.

Denver being the capital of the State is getting a good trade from this source, and is fast becoming a railroad centre. The city increased in the last year some five thousand, having now about thirty thousand population. There has been a good deal of building, generally of brick, and a good class of buildings, all of which are occupied, and but few, if any, houses to rent.

The Colorado and Boston Smelting Works, that has been located at Black Hawk for the last ten or twelve years, last summer moved to Denver, and have put up extensive buildings near the city. This company are preparing to do a heavy business; they are wealthy and employ a good many men.

Last year an eastern company established a rolling mill in the suburbs of Denver, and are now doing an active business in re-rolling worn-out rails. They design eventually to manufacture the rails from the iron ore that is found in the mountains south-west of Denver, and said to be rich, yielding over 80 per cent. We have had for the last three or four weeks an unusually cold spell of weather, the thermometer at night ranging from zero to 14° below. While this stroke of cold has been general all over the Continent, we feel thankful that we have not had the deep snow to contend with that many localities east of us have.

The Legislature of this State are now in session, convened on the first of January. The Senate have 21 members and House of Representatives 48. They meet bi-annually. Last night the Republican members met in Caucus and nominated Prof. Hill, of the Colorado