

THE SETTLER.

KIPLING'S LATEST POEM.

"I leave this shore more convinced than ever that the forces—the natural forces—that are drawing you together are more potent than those evil influences which would tend to separate you. . . . Above all, South Africa needs the best capacities of all its children."—Mr. Chamberlain, February 24.

Here where my fresh-turned furrows run and the deep soil glistens red,  
I will repair the wrong that was done to the living and the dead;  
Here where the senseless bullet fell, and the barren shrapnel burst,  
I will plant a tree, I will dig a well against the heat and the thirst.

Here in a large and sunlit land, where no wrong bites to the bone,  
I will lay my hand in my neighbor's hand, and together we will atone  
For the set folly and the red breach and the black waste of it all;  
Giving and taking counsel each over the cattle-kraal.

Here will we league against our foes—the hail-stroke and the storm—  
And the red and rustling cloud that blows the locusts' mile-deep swarm;  
Frost and murrain and floods let loose shall launch us side by side  
In the holy wars that have no truce 'twixt seed and harvest-tide.

Earth where we rode to slay or be slain our love shall redeem unto life;  
We will gather and lead to her lips again the waters of another strife.  
From the far and the fiercely-guarded streams and the pools where we lay in-wait,  
Till the corn cover our evil dreams, and the young corn our hate.

And when we bring old fights to mind we will not remember the sin—  
If there be blood on his head of my kind, or blood on my head of his kin—  
For the ungrazed upland, the untilled sea cry, and the fields forlorn:  
"The dead must bury their dead, but yet, ye serve an host unborn."

Bless, then, our God, the new-yoked plow, and the good beasts that draw,  
And the bread we eat in the sweat of our brow according to thy law:  
After us cometh a multitude—prosper the work of our hands  
That we may feed with our land's food the folk of all our lands!

Here in the wastes and the troughs of the plains where the healing stillness lies,  
And the vast benignant sky restrains, and the long days make wise—  
Bless to our use the rain and the sun and the blind seed in its bed,  
That we may repair the wrong that was done to the living and the dead!

—London Times.

Great Reforms Effected by Novels.

The "novel with a purpose" is rarely met with in modern fiction, for, strangely enough, there exists nowadays a popular prejudice against such works, yet some of our greatest reformers have been novelists, who have effected reforms by their books. The chief of them was, of course, Charles Reade, and it is a striking fact that his four most successful novels were written solely with the idea of educating the people into a proper frame of mind as to four "crying shames"; and in each case he was successful to a remarkable degree.

It will readily be understood that any wide-sweeping reform needs the support of popular opinion; and "It is Never Too Late to Mend" not only suggested the reforms of which our prison system was in need, but

EDUCATED THE PEOPLE TO APPRECIATE how immediate and essential was the need.

Charles Reade wrote with such a convincing pen that no one could peruse that famous story and doubt that much of it which dealt with prison life was founded upon fact; that Hawes was a type of prison governor (he was, indeed, an actual person) at whose merciless hands our convicts suffered as no law in the land prescribed they should.

The book appealed to the heart and stirred the soul as no number of newspaper editorials could have done. The subject was not new; it had been brought up again and again in the Press and in Parliament, but it had never commanded popular interest until Charles Reade took it in hand. Then the people read for amusement and were taught a horrible truth, and it came to them so convincingly that they, whose apathy had precluded proper reform, rose at once and demanded it.

In "Hard Cash," probably the most dramatic novel ever written, the author-reformer attacked another very grave state of things; it struck a

TERRIBLE BLOW AT PRIVATE LUNATIC ASYLUMS, which at that time were not only to a great extent free from State control, but were often used as private prisons for perfectly sane people. "Hard Cash" drew public attention to the way in which some of these places were conducted, and demonstrated two truths which alarmed everyone because they menaced everyone: that not only could a sane person be incarcerated in an asylum, but once there, stood small chance of ever being able to prove his sanity.

The fact that it was possible for sober citizens to be immured for life in prison where they were at the mercy of unqualified keepers and nurses who might slowly do them to death, or drive them by sheer brutality to the madness with which they were alleged to be afflicted, awoke the nation up with a start; and Parliament was compelled to look into the matter and frame laws for the proper control and supervision of such establishments. The abuses of trade-unionism were attacked by Charles Read in "Put Yourself in His Place," in writing which the author drew largely upon actual occurrences. Trade-unionism was at the time of the publication of this novel simply

A SYSTEM OF TYRANNICAL SELFISHNESS

and narrow-mindedness, which threatened to ruin British commerce. The book was written in such a way that it appealed to every man and woman who could read. Employers and employed read it, and were convinced of the justice of the arguments, so entertainingly advanced and so skilfully cloaked that there was nothing canting in the book.

As a direct consequence of this story trade-unionism was taken in hand by the Press, the public, and last by Parliament, and changed what has been a tyrannical power into a system of really useful protection for labour.

"Foul Play" was less than any of the other three books mentioned a novel with a purpose. Its chief aim was to entertain. But incidentally it aimed a blow at ship scuttling for the purpose of robbing Lloyd's—a species of crime very common and profitable about the time this work was first published. It led to some important reforms in shipbroking, which practically put an end to an alarming state of affairs, up to that time either unknown or unappreciated.

A well-known case of reform by fiction was the effect of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." It was this famous story which

STARTED THE GREAT ANTI-SLAVERY MOVEMENT by the Northern States of America against the Southern States, which had the consequence of some millions of slaves being freed.

Mrs. Stowe's little dreamt, however, that her work would provoke such a terrible conflict, or she would have consigned it to the fire rather than to the printers' hands; indeed, she scarcely thought that it would have more than a slight moral effect. But no work of fiction ever had such a widespread influence as "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Dickens and Thackeray both also effected important reforms by their novels. The latter was instrumental in putting an end to public executions by demonstrating in one of his best-drawn characters their brutalizing influence over morbid-minded people. And, extraordinary though it may seem, there is no doubt that in promoting this reform

THACKERAY DETERRED MANY FROM CRIME, for in the days of public executions it was considered rather dignifying to die in the hangman's hands—that is, of course, by vulgar people. The extreme penalty was not then, as now, a mere end to life, but it had the glamour of public martyrdom, which in the vain—and vanity is an offshoot of criminality—reduced the horror of it to a great extent.

By "Oliver Twist" Dickens did much to promote reforms in the administration of workhouses. He evidenced the many weak points of the Poor Laws as they then stood, and stirred up public feeling against the state of things which condemned the poor to very much the same sort of life that the convicted criminal led.

"Nicholas Nickleby," too, had considerable effect in reforming many private schools by suggesting to parents the greater care they should exercise in selecting schools for their sons. And "Martin Chuzzlewit" was very effective in checking reckless emigration.

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A Detective Story.

From Richmond, Va., comes a detective story, every detail of which is pleasant to dwell on, because it has none of the coarse, sordid, brutal, and demoralizing atmosphere which usually surrounds the perpetration and detection of crime. A young woman rushed into the police station one evening in great distress of spirit. She had left home, she said, carrying a small hand satchel in which were some of her most precious belongings, including a \$2 bill and five \$1 bills. As she tripped along, unconscious of danger,

a gigantic ruffian had seized her by the wrist, wrenched the satchel away, and disappeared in the gloom. What she wanted the police to do was to discover who the ruffian was, put him in prison, and at the same time recover her property. The sergeant asked her for clues and a description of the property. She mentioned one article after another. At last she came to violets. She was fond of violets, and kept pressed violets in her satchel to perfume its contents. The detective's nose in fiction is always long and pointed, but he very rarely uses it for its proper function of smelling. The two detectives assigned to this case had noses for use rather than ornament. From barroom to barroom they went, and asked to inspect the \$1 and \$2 bills received since early evening. Their savor for the most part was of stale beer, of onions, or of kerosene. But at last, in the Klondike saloon, there came to the detective's nostrils the faint, sweet odor of violets.

"Who brought in this bill?" he asked.  
"Billy Burke?" said the bartender.  
So the two sleuths started on the trail of Billy Burke, and when they had found him, they found the young woman's satchel, too. The evidence was so conclusive, in fact, that the man is now serving a six months' sentence in jail.

An Appeal to Honor.

Treat a man as if he were a gentleman, and he will rarely disappoint you. In illustration of this truth Mr. Croese, author of "Round About the Carpathians," tells a good story of a robber chief in Hungary. A few years ago the Carpathian Mountains were infested with organized bands of robbers, and neither life nor property was safe. At this time a lady of great wealth, the Countess Z., who lived not far from the main highway between Budapest and Vienna, received a polite note one morning, informing her that twelve gentlemen would dine with her at midnight. She understood what it meant.

It was impossible to summon help, and well she knew that every approach to the castle would be guarded, to prevent communication. In this dilemma she made ready for her uninvited guests.

At midnight up rode an armed band, twelve men in all. Immediately the gate of the outer court and the entrance door were thrown wide, as if for the most honored and welcome guests. The countess stood at the entrance to receive them, richly dressed. She bade the chief and his men a gracious welcome, gave orders that their horses be cared for, and then, taking the arm of her guest, led the way to the dining-hall. Here a goodly feast was spread, and all the gold and silver plate of the castle was lavishly displayed.

The leader of the robber band started back in surprise; but recovering his self-possession, he seated himself beside his charming hostess, who engaged him in merry talk of the gay world at Vienna, with which they were both familiar. At length, when the feast was nearly ended, the chief took out his watch and said:

"Countess, the happiest moments of my life have always been the shortest. I have another engagement this night. Bad as I am, none ever appealed to my honor in vain. You have received me as a gentleman, and I shall take my departure as one. As for you, my men," he said, looking sternly round with hand on his pistol, "I charge you to take nothing from this house. He who disobeys me dies that instant."

The chief then asked for pen and paper, and wrote some words upon a sheet, which he handed to his hostess. "This, madam, will serve to protect you in future. You have but to show it, and it will save you from any molestation or loss."

The name of the robber chief was afterward known. He was an impoverished cadet of one of the noblest families in Hungary. His fate was sad enough; he was captured a few months after the incident which has been related here, and ended his life at the hands of the common hangman.

A Magisterial Punster.

At a London police court sitting a man was fined forty shillings and costs for assaulting a policeman. Considering himself a much-injured man, on reaching the door he began abusing the magistrate in very violent language. The magistrate sent an officer after him, and the delinquent found himself once more in the dock, and fined again for contempt of court.

"My man, if you had been more chaste and refined in your language," said the magistrate, "you would not have been chased and fined."

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By its timely use thousands of apparently hopeless cases have been permanently cured.

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Full instructions with each set of four free remedies illustrated here. Our readers are urged to take advantage of Dr. Slocum's generous offer.



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His Free System of Treatment has arrested the hand of death in the cases of thousands of consumptives and has prevented the disease in countless instances.

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WASHING MACHINES.

Time works wonderful changes in all fields—methods that were considered the best a decade ago are obsolete today. Ideas that prevailed a quarter of a century ago are long since exploded. That which appeared impossible of accomplishment in 1898 is rendered easy in 1903. Progress is the watchword all along the line, and he who does not recognize this fact is soon out of the running.

In no department of the home, we feel safe in saying, has there been a greater transformation brought about in recent years by the introduction of up to date appliances than in the case with respect to the day generally termed WASH DAY.

This day of all days in the week is the one hitherto mostly dreaded; but in the home where proper appliances are used it is not less bright and free from onerous routine than any other of the working days.

The fact is, that in the ideal home wash day is not considered at all in the light of a day of exceptionally heavy and unpleasant work, because it is not by any means a day to be abhorred if a really good WASHING MACHINE is brought into requisition.

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