

Literature.

Barriers Burned Away

BY THE REV. EDWARD P. ROWE.

CHAPTER XVIII.

At the close of the day on which Dennis received his promotion, and his home was widened so unexpectedly, Mr. Ludolph in passing out, noticed him engaged as usual on one of Pat Murphy's old tasks. He stopped and spoke kindly.

"Well, Fleet, where am I going to find a man to fill your place made vacant to-day?"

"Would you be willing to listen to a suggestion from me?"

"Certainly."

"If a young boy was employed to black boots, run errands, and attend to minor matters, I think that by industry I might for a while fill both positions. In a short time the furnace will require no further attention. I am a very early riser, and think that by a little good management, I can keep the store orderly and still be on hand to attend to my counter when customers are about."

Mr. Ludolph was much pleased with the proposition, and said promptly.

"You may try it Fleet, and I will pay you accordingly. Do you know of a boy who will answer?"

"I think I do, sir. There is a German lad in my mission class, he has interested me very much. His father is really a superior artist, but is throwing himself away with drink, and his mother is engaged in an almost hopeless effort to support the family. They have seen much better days, and their life seems very hard in contrast with the past."

"Can we trust such a boy? Their very necessities may lead to theft?"

"They are not of the thieving sort, sir. I am satisfied that they would all start rather than touch a penny that did not belong to them."

"Very well, then, let him come and see me, but I will hold you responsible for him."

Mr. Ludolph being in a good humor was disposed to banter Dennis, so he said—

"Do you find time to be a missionary, also? Are you not in danger of becoming a 'jack of all trades'?"

"I am not entitled to the first character and hope to shin the latter. I merely teach a dozen boys in a mission school on Sundays."

"When you ought to be taking a good long nap, or out on the lake for fresh air and a change."

"I should be dishonest if I spent my Sabbaths in that way."

"I should give the lie to my profession and belief. I must drop the name of Christian when I live for myself."

"And if you would drop it, do you think you would be much the less?"

"Yes, sir," said Dennis with quiet emphasis.

"You are expecting great reward in some sort of a paradise, for your mission work, etc.?"

"Nothing done for God is forgotten or unrewarded."

"Believing that, it seems to me that you are looking after self-interest as much as the rest of us," said his employer with a shrewd smile.

Looking straight into Mr. Ludolph's eyes, Dennis said earnestly.

"Without boasting, I think that I can say that I try to serve you faithfully. If you could see my heart, I am sure you would find gratitude for your kindness, part of my motive, as well as my wages. In the same manner, while I do not lose sight of the rich rewards God promises and daily gives for his faithful servants, Him, I am certain that I can do much of simple gratitude and love, and ask no reward."

"Ignorance is certainly bliss in your case, young man. I stick to your charitable superstition as long as you can."

And he walked away muttering "Delusion, delusion! I have not said a word or done a thing for him in which I had not in view my interest only, and yet the poor young fool sees in the main disinterested kindness. Little trouble have the wily priests in imposing on such victims, and so they get their hands earned wages and set them propagating the delusion in mission schools, when mind and body need change and rest. Suppose there is a supreme being in the universe, what a monstrous absurdity to imagine that he would trouble himself to reward this Yankee youth for teaching a dozen ragamuffins in a tenement house mission school!"

Thus Mr. Ludolph's soliloquy proved that his own pride and selfishness had destroyed the faculty by which he could see God. The blind man was more oblivious to color, than he to those dire qualities which are designed to win and enchain the heart. A man may sadly mutilate his own soul.

At a dinner-table where coarse abundance was conspicuously absent, and a few delicate dishes of the choicest viands made the bill of fare, Mr. Ludolph and his daughter discussed the events of the day.

"I am so glad," said the latter, "that he is willing to fill Pat's place, for he keeps everything so clean. A steady, slowly store is my ambition. They are people that have no silly, uppish notions so common to these Americans. (Though born here, Miss Ludolph never thought herself outside of her own country, and she ranked.) But I do not wish to see him blacking boots again. Yet he is an odd genius. How comically he looked being to me with one of his long, pointed boots describing a graceful curve on a level with his head. Let old Schwarz black his own boots. He ought to be a punishment for clinging around so much leather. This Fleet must have been here ten days, for he is as different from Pat Murphy as bronze from cast iron. He is like all Yankees, however, sharp after the dollar, though he seems willing to work for it that much of them."

"Ph! wagger you a pair of gloves," said her father, "that get a good percentage of it down at the mission school. He is just the subject for cutting pieces because he sincerely believes in their foolery. He belongs to a tribe now nearly extinct, I imagine—the mystics, who in old-fashioned times, died for all sorts of delusions."

After dessert, Mr. Ludolph lighted a cigar and sat down to the evening paper, while his daughter went to the piano and evoked from it true after-dinner music—light, brilliant, mitis-inspiring. Then both adjourned to their private billiard room.

The scene of our story now changes from Mr. Ludolph's luxurious apartments in one of the most fashionable hotels in the city to a forlorn attic in De Koven street. It is a scene of a struggle as desperate, as heroic, against as tremendous odds as was ever carried on in the days of the Crusades. But as the foremost figure in this long, weary conflict, was not an armed and pampered knight, but merely a poor German woman, only God and angels took much interest in it. Still upon this evening she was almost vanquished. She seemed to have but one advantage left on her side. Her father, a wanderer, had been comparatively sober and sat brooding with head in his hands over the stove where a fire was slowly glowing. The last coal they had was fast turning to ashes. From a cradle came a low, wailing cry. It was that of hunger. On an old chest in a dusky corner sat a boy about thirteen. Though all alive was in shadow, his large eyes shone with unnatural brightness, and followed his mother's feeble efforts at the wab-tub with that expression of premature sadness, so pathetic in her mother's face, as if he were a child of another world. He was rickety, dabbled three other and smaller children were devouring some crusts of bread in a ravenous way like half-famished young animals. In a few moments they came out and snored for more, around—not their father; no intuitive turning to him for support—but the poor overcast mother. The boy came out of his corner, and drew them off and interest them in something else, but they were like a pack of hungry little wolves. The boy's face was almost as black and shaggy as his mother's, but he seemed to have lost all thought of himself in his sorrowful regard for her. As the younger children clamored and draged upon her, the point of endurance was passed, and the poor woman gave way. With a despairing cry she sank upon a chair and covered her face with her apron.

"O mine Gott, O mine Gott," she cried, "I can do not von more stroke if I ve all die."

In a moment her son had his arms around her, and she was sobbing. "O mother, don't cry, don't cry. Mr. Fleet said, God would surely help us in time of trouble if we would only ask Him."

"I've ask Him, and ask Him, but he help not come. I can do no more, and a tempest of despairing sobs shook her garment."

"The boy seemed to have got past tears, and just fixed his large eyes, full of reproach and sorrow, on his father. The man rose and turned his bloodshot eyes slowly around the room. The whole scene, with its meaning, seemed to dawn upon him. His mind was not so clouded by the fumes of liquor, but that he could comprehend the entire misery of the situation. He heard his children crying, fairly howling for bread. He saw the wife he had sworn to love and honor, with her head fallen in her unequal conflict, brave but overpowered. He remembered the wealthy lawyer's blushing, courted daughter, that he had led away to marry him, a poor wretch. He remembered how his father's commands and mother's tears, she had left home and luxury to follow him through out the world because of her faith in him, and love for him. He remembered that he had risen to great promise as an artist till fame and fortune became almost a certainty, and then under the debasing influence of his terrible appetite, he had dragged her down and down till now, prematurely old, broken in health, broken in heart, he saw her fall helplessly before the hard drudgery that she no longer had strength to perform. With a sickening horror he remembered that he had taken even from the pittance she had wrung from that wretched, not to feed his children, but his secured appetite for drink. Even his purple, bloated face grew livid as all the past rushed upon him, and despair laid its icy hand upon his heart.

"Turning to the wall where hung a noble picture, a lovely landscape, whose rich coloring, warm sunlight, and rural peace, formed a sharp contrast with the meagre, famine-stricken apartment, he was about to lift it down from its fastening when his hand was arrested by a word."

"Father!"

He turned, and saw his son looking at him with his great eyes full of horror and alarm, as if he were committing a murder.

"I tell you I must, and I will," said he savagely.

His wife looked up, sprang to his side, and with her hands before her arm, said, "No, Berthold, you must not, you shall not sell that picture!"

He silently pointed to his children crying, and she said, "Take the dress off my back to sell, but not that picture. We may as well die before him goes, for we certainly will after. It is the only thing left of the happy past, and in God's hands, it is the only hope for the future. That picture tells you what you was, what you might be still if you would only let drink alone. Many a de weary day, many a de long night, I've prayed for that picture would win you back to your former self, your tears and suffering were in vain. Leave him, and some day he will tell you a plain tale, and you will be able to do your best for the future. No more come back, and you're lost, and we all are lost."

The man hesitated. His good angel was pleading with him, but in vain. Stamping his foot with rage and despair, he shouted hoarsely, "It is too late, I am lost now!"

And he tore the picture from its fastening. His wife sank back against the wall with a groan as if her very soul was departing.

But before his rash steps could leave the desolation he had made, he was confronted by the tall form of Dennis Fleet. The man stared at him for a moment as if he had been struck by apparition, and then said in a hoarse tone,

"Let me pass!"

Dennis had knoeked for some time, but until now had been the excitement within, no one had regarded him. He had therefore, heard the wife's appeal and his answer, and from what he knew of the family from his mission scholar, the boy Ernest, comprehended the situation in the matter. When, therefore, matters reached the crisis, he opened the door and met the frustrated man as he was about to throw away the last relic of his former self and happier life. With great tact he appeared as if he knew nothing, and quietly taking a chair he sat down with his back against the door, thus barring ingress. In a pleasant, affable tone, he said—

"Mr. Bruder, I came to see you on a little business to-night; as I was in something of a hurry, and no one appearing to help me, I took the liberty of coming in."

The hungry little one looked at him with their round eyes of children's curiosity, and for a time ceased their clamors. The wife sank into a chair and her head lay in her hands with the indifference of despair. Hope had gone. A gleam of light shone upon Ernest's pale face at the sight of his beloved teacher, and he stepped over to his mother and commenced whispering in her ear, but she heeded him not. The man's face wore a sullen, dangerous, yet irresolute expression. It was evident that he half believed that Dennis was knowingly trying to thwart him, and such was his mad frenzy he was ready for any desperate deed.

(To be continued.)

IRON PIPE.

Just received from Montreal, 3000 FEET feet from Pipe, assorted, from 1 in. to 1 1/2 in., for sale at the lowest market rates. JAMES S. NEILL.

J. MACKAY, UNDER THE BRAYLEY HOUSE, QUEEN STREET.

Fredericton, Nov. 20, 1878.

FLOUR, FLOUR, Peas, Sugars, Molasses, &c.

In Store and on the Way: 500 BARRELS FLOUR, Haxall (Bridal); Superior; Crowns; Snowflake; White Flours; Galt Flour; Bran's Flour; Strong Flours; 100 ibns. Corn Meal, Mason Co; 50 White Beans; 50 Oatmeal; 50 Half-Cent and Boxes Choice Congou Tea; 50 Choice Antigua Molasses; 50 Choice Java Sugar; 50 Choice Molasses, Porto Rico and Havana; 50 Scotch Refined Sugar; 50 Boxes, Brits and Caddies Tobacco, Popular Brands. Also in Store: A full stock of Rice, Soda, Arrow, Pickles, Pick, Beans, Canned Goods, Raisins, Soap, Candles, Oil, Coffee, Pollock, Herring, Salt, etc., etc.

HARDING & BATHWAY, 17 and 18, SOUTH WHARF, St. John, N. B.

WANTED BY THE Fredericton Leather Company, 1000 CORDS HEMLOCK BARK,

To be delivered at their Factory, for which CASH and the highest Prices will be given. I. W. SIMMONS, Manager. March 1, 1880-3m

FOR SALE Valuable Freehold LOTS IN FREDERICTON.

THE subscribers have been authorized by Col. SEWELL to sell the following Lots of Land, viz: That well-situated Lot on Brunswick street, opposite the Catholic Church, between Mrs. Pennefather's property and the School-House. Also a fine site on Water-Street, between Dr. Harrison's and Mr. Stephen Whittaker's. And several other Choice and George sts. For further particulars apply to RAINSFORD & BLACK. Fredericton, Nov. 27, 1878.

WILEY'S DRUG STORE

Just received from the Agents in the Dominion of John Wyeth Bros. of Philadelphia—

1 gross Beef, Iron and Wine; 75 lbs. Fluid Extracts.

Also a supply of Wyeth's other preparations, Syrups, Elixirs, &c.

PAPOMA, the most nutritious food for Infants and Invalids.

TO LET. Dwelling House and Store TO LET. TO LET.

J. M. WILEY, Opp. Normal School. "Marble Hall."

J. R. HOWIE, daily expecting a large line of Seasonable Cloths,

Worsted Coatings, West of England, Canadian, Scotch, and German Tweeds, Black and Blue Broadcloths and Venetians, Black and Blue Does.

J. R. HOWIE, Merchant Tailor & Clothier, QUEEN STREET, NEXT DOOR TO BRAYLEY HOUSE.

APPLES. JUST RECEIVED, 250 BBL'S. APPLES—Winter Fruit, Greening, Baldwin, Bishop Pippin, Rosets, Patmore, Nonpareil, Graustein, Ben Davis, Northern Spy.

Also, 2 kegs Malaga Grapes, 5 boxes Oranges, 5 boxes Lemons, 2 barrels Cranberries, 20 boxes Valencia Raisins, 20 drums Figs, 3 fraills Dates, 2 sacks Peanuts, 2 kegs Mixed Pickles.

J. MACKAY, UNDER THE BRAYLEY HOUSE, QUEEN STREET.

Fredericton, Nov. 20, 1878.

LUMBERMEN AND RIVER DRIVERS.

Camp Blanketing, Grey Blankets, Socks and Mitts, Grey, Check, and White Homespun, Canadian Ribbed Shirts and Drawers, Homespun Shirts, Pants and Drawers.

PRICES MODERATE DEVER BROS.

Fredericton, March 15, 1880.

TO LET. DWELLING HOUSE AND STORE TO LET.

TO LET, that New House near the corner of George and Water Streets, next to a good town. Possession given 1st of March. WILLIAM MCKAY.

TO LET. THE STORE in the Brayley House now occupied is for next.

Also, the Store at present occupied by Miss C. O'Leary, Possession given 1st of March. Also, that large and commodious house situate on the corner of Queen and Regent Streets known as the Kirby House. Immediate possession given if required. Apply to J. A. & W. VANWART, Barristers. March 11-17

TO RENT. FROM the 1st day of May next, the corner of Regent and Brunswick Streets, at present occupied by Mr. R. S. Nicholson. For further particulars apply to JAS. PEPPERS. Feb. 12, 1878.

TO LET. THE subscriber will let for one or more years, that desirable residence over the Store of R. E. EVERT, Esq., Queen Street. Rent LOW to a good tenant. Apply to T. MCCARTY, Regent Street. Fredericton, Feb. 5, 1880-17

TO LET. THE HOUSE in the Brick Building in York Street, next adjoining the Corner of Queen Street. J. L. INCHES. Fredericton, Feb. 12, 1880

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Canadian Pacific Railway TENDERS FOR ROLLING STOCK.

TENDERS are invited for furnishing the Rolling Stock required to be delivered on the Canadian Pacific Railway, within the next four years, comprising: the delivery in each year of about the following, viz: 1st First-class Cars (in proportion being sleepers) 2 Second-class Cars. 3 Express and Luggage Cars. 4 Postal and Smoking Cars. 5 Flat Cars. 6 Locomotive Engines. 7 First-class Cars (in proportion being sleepers) 8 Second-class Cars. 9 Express and Luggage Cars. 10 Postal and Smoking Cars. 11 Flat Cars. 12 Locomotive Engines. 13 First-class Cars (in proportion being sleepers) 14 Second-class Cars. 15 Express and Luggage Cars. 16 Postal and Smoking Cars. 17 Flat Cars. 18 Locomotive Engines.

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SHOVELS, SHOVELS. Just Received from Boston. 10 DOZEN SHOVELS, For sale by JAMES S. NEILL.

PIANOS AND ORGANS Tuned and Repaired. E. CADWALLADER, SUNBURY STREET, DOOR 11-52, (between Charlotte and George Sts.)

H. RUTTER, SADDLER and HARNESSE MAKER, DEALER IN WHIPS, BRUSHES, CURRY COBS, BLANKETS, BITS, Etc., Etc. Repairing done with neatness and despatch. AT THE OLD STAND, Opposite the County Court House, Queen Street, Fredericton, N. B., From April, 20, 1878.

FREDERICTON LIVERY STABLE, Westmorland St., Cor. Queen. GUNTER & ATHERTON, PROP'S. FIRST-CLASS TURN OUTS! CHARGES MODERATE. Extras Furnished to all Points. GEO. L. GUNTER, HARRY B. ATHERTON. Fredericton, October 23, 1878.

BEGKWITH & SEELY, Attorneys-at-Law, Notaries Public, etc. Office in CITY HALL FREDERICTON. Attend at Oromocto and Fredericton Junction, alternate Saturdays. Accounts Collected, and Loans Negotiated.

NEW GOODS Solid Silver and Best Rolled Plate. RATTLE BRACELETS, Sets, Brooches, Ear Rings, Lace and Pearl Pins, Necklets, Lockets, Bro Pins, Scarf Rings, Band and Wedding Rings, and Agate Top Silver Trinkets, at S. F. SHUTE'S, Starkey's Block. March 8, 1880.

TO LET. THE SHOP at present occupied by ANDREW ANDERSON, Esq., opposite the New Post Office. Apply to P. McPEAKE. \*70n, Jan. 27.

1880. SPRING AND SUMMER 1880. GENTLEMEN: Examine your stock of WHITE DRESS SHIRTS, and see what you require for the coming season, and don't forget that you can get a PERFECT FITTING SHIRT MADE TO ORDER, OF THE BEST MATERIALS and WORKMANSHIP as LOW IN PRICE as can be got anywhere in the Dominion at C. H. THOMAS & CO.'S, Shirt Makers and Furnishers.

ALSO IN STOCK: A full line of WHITE DRESS SHIRTS, COLLARS, CUFFS, BRACES, NECKWEAR, UNDERCLOTHING, &c., &c. DON'T FAIL TO CALL AND GET A BARGAIN! C. H. THOMAS & CO