

efforts for a considerable time. The only hope I had left was, that Raymond might hear the roaring of the bear, and come to my succour.

Alas, every minute seemed an hour! Night came on, and with its approach my courage gave way. I could no longer see my terrible enemy; his snorting respiration and the dull noise of his indefatigable labor reached my ears, mingled with the last faint evening sounds from the valley, whose inhabitants, happy and tranquil, were going to repose in peace, while I felt myself given up to a horrible and inevitable death. In my extremity I sought help where it is never asked in vain, and I passed that awful night in fervent prayer. Morning dawned, and the bear was still mining away. Presently the tree began to yield. I closed my eyes. But all at once he ceased to dig, and threw up his snout towards the wind. I thought I heard a distant sound amongst the fir trees; the bear heard it too, and listened, lowering his head. The noise approached, and I distinguished my own name shouted by many voices. Apparently my ferocious adversary perceived that efficient help was coming; for, after having once more snuffed the breeze, he looked up at me with an expression of profound regret, and then plunged into the forest.

Five minutes afterwards, Raymond was at the foot of the tree. It was quite time: it toppled over as I descended!

THE ENGLISH IN GREECE.

From Zante I sailed for Petras, in an English steamer; and have seldom been more amused than by the contrast between English manners and those of the Islanders among whom I have been lately sojourning. The unceremonious vivacity of the Greeks makes even a lively Frenchman look dull by comparison. Judge, then, of my astonishment when I found myself in the midst of Englishmen, and of Englishmen recently come from home. I could never sufficiently admire their sublime tranquillity, or rather that wonderful *vis inertia*, which seemed sufficient of itself to keep the ship steady in a storm, and which would, no doubt, have made sea-sickness a dignified condition. I gazed almost with awe, at their smooth brushed hats, which the Egean breezes hardly dared to ruffle—their unblemished coats, and immaculate boots, on which some of them gazed more attentively than they would have done at the Leucadian rock. Happen what might, their magnanimous indifference to all chances and changes, not connected with business or duty, preserved them from "all astonishment." Had a whale risen close beside us, and spouted its foam in their faces, they would, I believe, have contented themselves with observing that "it was not in good taste." To one of them I spoke, by way of experiment, of Sappho's leap and the Leucadian rock. "Yes," he replied, "I have heard that it was the scene of a distressing accident." I must say, however, in justice to my new acquaintances, that they appeared thorough gentlemen. In antiquities they were far indeed from being versed; but in the principles, ancient but ever young, of patriotic duty and honor, they had, probably, little to learn.—*De Vere's Sketches of Greece and Turkey.*

EARLY PIETY.

EARLY Piety, if persisted in, prepares for a comfortable old age. The condition of an old man without piety, is wretched indeed. He presents to the eye of Christian contemplation a melancholy spectacle. As to all the grand purposes of existence, he has passed through the world in vain. Life to him has been a lost adventure. Seventy years he has sojourned in the region of mercy, and is going out of it without salvation. Seventy years he has dwelt within reach of redemption, and yet is going to see lost souls in prison. If he is insensible to his case, he is going to ruin asleep; but if a little awakened how bitter are his reflections! If he looks back upon the past, he sees nothing but a wide and dreary waste where the eye is relieved by no monuments of piety, but scared by memorials of a life of sin; if he looks at his present circumstances, he sees nothing but a mere wreck of himself, driving upon the rocks of his destiny and destruction; but the future, oh! how can he look on that which presents to him death, for which he is not prepared; judgment from which he can expect nothing but condemnation; heaven, which he has bartered for pleasures, the remembrance of which is now painful or insipid; hell, which he has merited with its eternity of torments, by his iniquities. The ghosts of spent years and departed joys, sit before him, and point to those regions of woe, whither sinful delights conduct the sensualist and voluptuary. Miserable old man! the winter of life is upon him, and he has nothing to cheer his cold and dreary spirit, nor any spring to look forward to; the night of existence has come on—not a star twinkles from heaven upon his path, nor will any morning dawn upon the gloom which envelops him. Such is the old age of those who remember not God in their youth, and carry on their oblivion of religion, as such persons generally do, to the end of life.—*Rev. J. A. James.*

"Gentlemen of the jury," said a western lawyer, "you are met here on one of the most solemn occasions that ever happened since I had a brief. The defendant being a stout, able-bodied man rushed like an assassin upon my client, who is a frail young widow; and why did not the thunder of heaven blast him, when he stooped towards her, stretched forth his arms like the forked lightnings of Jupiter, and gave her a kiss on the mouth!"

From Hogg's Instructor.

MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD.

SING we of days that are gone, I say,
Of days that have pass'd their prime—
Of the sunny hours of infancy,
Fresh from the lap of Time.

Of days that swift, as on angel wings,
Have borne them out of sight—
Of the joy of a thousand memories things
That glitter in childhood's light—

Of the hands that patted our infant brow,
And cradled our infant years—
Of the forms of those that are sleeping now
Of the heart's young gushing tears.

Go, bid the Spirit of the Past
Yield up his treasured store
Of joys that have fled all too fast,
Joys that return no more!

Call up now of days that are gone
The sunshine and the sorrow,
Let the present awhile slip heedlessly on,
And banish the thought of to-morrow.

I see it before me, the hallowed spot
Where my boyhood loved to roam,
But the joyous forms of the past are not
That gladden'd my childhood's home.

Yet I see them—they come, each fair-haired
child—
Come as they came of yore,
With the merry laugh and the chorus wild
And the ancient pinafore.

Again they gambol on the green,
With the joyous heart and free;
Oh! are they things that have only been
Or are they things that be?

They are gone, those days are over now—
Those forms have pass'd away;
Yes, wither'd now is each sunny brow,
And I am changed as they.

Go, bid the Spirit of the Past
Reclaim his sacred store—
They are joys that have fled all too fast,
They are joys that return no more.

SPIRIT OF PUNCH.

Alarming State of the Crops.—To His Grace the Duke of R— Private and Confidential. My Lord Duke, I am just come back from a ride through the crops; and for I pull my boots off, saving your presence, I take up my pen to say they're dreadful. Nothin' but ruin and bankruptcy starin' in the face of the unprotected farmer. First for wheat—why, its heartbreakin'! The blessed Colonel hisself would stare to see such ears! Big as Indy cobs that's only fit to pison pigs with, and not to be thought on in the stomachs of a bould peasant. Try that I've heard your Grace at meetins talk so movin' about. Howsumever, there's the wheat—every ear on it bigger than ever was wheat since the seven big ears that eat of the seven little ones, and I only hope somethin' o' the sort isn't goin' to happen now, that's all, to bring about starvation prices. The wheat's in the most aggravatin' state I ever see it; and every step I've been, all the ears seemed waggin' their heads at me, sarcy like, as much as to say—'Old unprotected feller! Look at us! We shall be down at 20s. afore September! Then I don't know what's come to the fields, they're cleaner than ever I seed 'em. As for the like of poppies that used to flourish among the corn, like standin' armies in the time o' peace, why, whether it's the talk o' that chap Cobden or no, I can't say—but there's hardly a poppy or a weed to be seen. Wonderful! and the straw as thick as bulrushes! What will become of us? I've hardly the heart to go on—but only think of barley! Why, if strong beer isn't twopence a pot afore October, blame the brewers, that's all! Barleycorns mustn't no longer be a measure; for I'm blessed if every barleycorn of itself, in these parts, isn't an inch! And then the straw—like crowbars! And the beard (when its ripe) like any brass wire! What shall we do? Oats, there again! They won't be worth the reapin'—there'll be such a glut o' oats, the very barn door fowl will turn up their noses at 'em. As for osses—oats will be quite a drug to 'em! They'll be so cheap that—our xcise-men says—all Lunnon will be overrun with cabs and 'buses, drivin' people for nothin' and leavin' 'em with a bottle o' wine a piece at their own doors. If oats climb up to 8s. a quarter arter August, I'm not an injured British farmer, that's all. Only think on it, my Lord Duke! Oats at 8s. a quarter! Pretty gruel, eh, for John Bull! Well, your Grace, I'll try to go on—but beans drives me mad. They're not beans—but monsters—unnatural beans; for size more like sheep's kidneys than honest English, properly pertected beans. Beasts must be made with bigger throats to swallow 'em, that's all I know. And then for clover! Why, I've seen a stalk of clover that savin' your Grace's presence as the farmer's friend, I could knock you down with. Howsumever, all I'll say is this—if this weather's goin' to go on, the sooner the sea rolls over old England the better. Nothin' can stand against the harvest that's likely to follow. My Lord Duke I shall close with turnips. As if every thing was to be a piece this harvest, the turnips is enormous. I hear that His Royal Highness Prince Albert is goin' to have a doom for the show booth of 1851, a doom as big as St. Paul's, of iron in sheets. Well, if I have'n't seen a turnip—a bit o' English Industry, as it's called—that 'ud do for that doom, I'm not your Grace's humble servant, A Ruined, Broken-Hearted, Unprotected Farmer.—

JOHN GAMMON. P. S. (And between ourselves, savin' your Grace.) I hear that Jim Stoebus is goin' to give up Pigs-cheek Farm. I hope your Grace will give the refusal on it. England is goin' to ruin, I know, but for that reason—as a man and a unpertected farmer—I think it's no more than my duty to stick by her.

Important Libel Case.

THE RAILWAY KING.

At the York assizes, before Mr Justice Wightman and a special jury, an action (Richardson vs. Wodson) was tried for a libel, brought by the plaintiff, an attorney at York, against the defendant, as the printer of the Yorkshireman newspaper, for publishing regarding the plaintiff, who, with his partners, were the attorneys and solicitors to the York Union Banking Company, the following paragraph in the Yorkshireman of February 9, 1850:—"The Union Bank.—Curious Exposures.—There were sundry curious and startling revelations made at the annual meeting of the proprietors of the Union Bank on Thursday last. It certainly would appear as if there existed a charter for mismanagement, artifice, and defalcations in every joint-stock company over which Messrs. George Hudson and James Richardson have had control. Everybody knows that the late manager of the Union Bank left that establishment, having overdrawn to the tune of £20,000 or thereabouts; circumstances reduced this sum to something like £16,000. It unfortunately happens, however, for the shareholders, that they must make up their minds to lose this money. Either by artifice or negligence, or fraud, or some other cause, the original bond given by the late manager as security for his integrity is *non est inventus*, while a second bond, intended to be substituted for the first, drawn up by Mr J. Richardson or his partner, may be considered as worth so much waste paper, if we are to accept as true all that transpired at the meeting. Nobody knows where the original bond has gone to. Everybody, directors and solicitors, profess entire ignorance of its whereabouts. Most probably it is destroyed, and it is for the shareholders to say whether, by dismissing the putative author or authors of this extraordinary and mysterious transaction, they may not fortify themselves against further mischief. Our own opinion is, that no man should be trusted in a responsible situation who was narrowly associated with Mr Hudson; that man is not only corrupt himself, but corrupted every one around him. We point out no particular culprit; that we leave to the shareholders. A committee of investigation into the affairs of the bank, prosperous though it be, might turn out advantageously to the shareholders."

To this declaration, setting out this paragraph as the libel complained of, the defendant pleaded "Not guilty," and a special plea, in justification of the libel, alleging, amongst other things, "that George Hudson, from the 1st of January, 1844, till the 12th of August, 1849, was chairman of the board of Directors for the management of the York Union Banking Company, and as such chairman had great weight and influence in the management of the said company, that the plaintiff during all that time was attorney and solicitor to the said company; and that in October, 1844, a certain other joint-stock company, called the Newcastle and Berwick Railway Company, was constituted, and that the said George Hudson and the plaintiff in this action, thence to the 10th of May, 1849, were shareholders and directors in the said last-mentioned company, and the said George Hudson was chairman, and as such chairman, bought of certain persons then trading as iron-manufacturers, under the name and firm of Thompson, Forman, and Co., 7000 tons of iron, after the rate of £6 10s per ton, and afterwards and whilst he was such director and chairman, and the plaintiff was such director as aforesaid, to wit, on the 5th of March, 1845, sold to the said Newcastle and Berwick Railway Company the said quantity of iron at a much greater price per ton than he had bought it at, to wit, at the rate of £12 per ton; and the said last-mentioned company paid to him for the same £84,000, whereby the said George Hudson unlawfully made and acquired great gains and profits, to wit, the sum of £38,500." The plea then went on to state further, "that on the 30th of October, 1845, while the said George Hudson was chairman of the said company, and the plaintiff was one of the said company, the directors of the said Newcastle and Berwick Railway Company then purchased from the Earl of Tankerville 100 acres of land for the purposes of the said company, and the said George Hudson, as such director and chairman, and one Robert Davies, then being one of the directors of the said company, drew their check for the payment of the purchase money of the said land, and directed the same to the said banking company, and required them thereby to pay to the Earl of Tankerville, or bearer, the sum of £4000; but they, the said George Hudson and Robert Davies, did not, nor did either of them, deliver to the said payee of the said check, or to any one on his behalf, the said draught or order; but the said George Hudson, without the authority either of the said payee or of the Newcastle and Berwick Railway Company, then retained the said draught in his possession, and caused the same to be presented to the said banking company for payment for and on his own account, and then from the last-mentioned company obtained payment thereof, and then appropriated to and for his own use and benefit the said sum of £4000, the amount of the said draught, and then retained the same for such his own use and benefit for the space

of three years and four months then next ensuing, when the said George Hudson was obliged to pay the same to the said Earl of Tankerville, together with interest thereon, amounting to £660." It was also further pleaded "that on the 30th of October, 1845, and while the said George Hudson was such director and chairman of the said companies respectively, and whilst the plaintiff was a director of the said companies respectively, the said directors of the said Newcastle and Berwick Railway Company purchased 250 acres of land in the county of Northumberland, the property of the Duke of Northumberland; and the said Robert Davies, whilst he and the plaintiff were directors of the said railway company, and the said George Hudson, whilst he was such director and chairman of the said companies respectively, to wit, on the 30th of December, 1845, drew their check on the Union Banking Company for the payment of the purchase money of the said land for £10,000, but the said George Hudson and Robert Davies did not, nor did either of them, deliver to the said payee, or to any person on his behalf, the said check, but the said George Hudson, without the authority of the said payee, retained the said check, and apportioned its amount to his own benefit, and in May, 1849, was obliged to pay the same with interest; that on the 13th of October, 1845, the directors contracted to purchase some land of Lady Mary Stanley, and on the 31st of December, 1845, the plaintiff and Mr Hudson drew their check for the purchase money, amounting to £2000, but Mr Hudson retained the check and appropriated the money, and did not pay it till 1849; that on the 28th of October, 1845, the directors of the York, Newcastle and Berwick Railway company contracted to purchase some land of Sir M. W. Ridley, and on the 31st of December the plaintiff and Mr Hudson drew their check for £3000, the price thereof, which Mr Hudson cashed, and retained the money to his own use until he was obliged to repay it in 1849, together with interest, to the railway company; that on the 30th of October, 1845, the directors contracted with the Earl of Carlisle for the purchase of land, and on the 31st of December the plaintiff and Mr Hudson drew a check for the purchase money for £7000, which Mr Hudson cashed, and appropriated to his own use until he was obliged to repay it in 1849; that on the 31st December, 1847, the York, Newcastle and Berwick railway company became indebted to Messrs. Rush and Norton, railway contractors, for work, &c.; that the plaintiff and Mr Hudson drew a check for the amount, £30,000, which Mr Hudson cashed, and appropriated to his own use until he was obliged to refund it to the railway company; that the railway company having become indebted to Messrs. Kaye & Co., railway contractors, the plaintiff and Mr Hudson drew a check for £5000, the debt due to them, which Mr Hudson cashed, and appropriated till obliged to refund it to the company; that the railway company became indebted to Messrs. Hattersley and Newell, railway contractors, in £2500, for which sum the plaintiff and Mr Hudson, as directors, drew their check, which Mr Hudson cashed, and appropriated, till he was obliged to repay the same with interest; that the Newcastle and Darlington Railway, of which Mr Hudson was the chairman, and of which the plaintiff was a director, had agreed to purchase the Branding Junction railway for £550,000, to pay for which the directors created 22,000 additional shares, 2,000 of which were appropriated to Mr Hudson by the directors, they being then at £21 premium per share; and the defendant averred that the said George Hudson, at the time last aforesaid, did corrupt the plaintiff, by inducing him to take 100 of these shares. The plea then went on to aver that Mr Hudson was chairman of the York and North Midland company, and the plaintiff a director, and that Mr Hudson, being the owner of 400 shares in the Hull and Selby railway company, sold them to the York and North Midland company at £100 per share, the market price then being but £90; that the York and North Midland company had obtained power to make three branches into East and West Yorkshire, and to create 50,000 shares in such branches, which were to be divided amongst the shareholders of the York and North Midland, at the rate of one for each original share; that Mr Hudson had 1,000 original shares, and unlawfully appropriated to himself 2,000 of the new shares with the knowledge of the plaintiff, whom the plea averred Mr Hudson had corrupted."

Mr Martin stated the case to the jury. Mr Hudson was to appear before them as a witness. He had been the founder of the York and North Midland Railway, and had been as they were aware connected with other Railways. While railways were prosperous, no man was ever more idolised; and when railway property became depreciated, no man perhaps was more assailed and vilified. The plaintiff and his partner had been the private solicitors of Mr Hudson, and the plaintiff became a director of the York and North Midland railway company, and also became a co-director with Mr Hudson in the Newcastle and Darlington railway. After adverting to the railway depreciation in 1847, the learned counsel alluded more particularly to the libel complained of. The transaction respecting Mr Wilkinson's bond was as unlike fraud as anything could be. Two of the former sureties of Mr Wilkinson were dead, and a lady worth double the amount secured had been substituted for the third surety. The article in the Yorkshireman transgressed the fair license of the press, and libelled Mr Richardson in his professional character.

Mr Sergeant Wilkins addressed the jury for the defendant. He said he could not help