

(CONTINUED FROM TENTH PAGE.)

taught Italian, mother. There was one count who was desperately in love with me, but I could never understand a word he said, so all his pretty speeches were thrown away.

Mrs. Carson glanced at the knight, who seemed too much embarrassed with his dinner to pay attention to his wife's remarks. Then she thought that a little moral reproof would not be amiss.

'My dear Laura, I am sure you do not mean all you say,' she remarked. 'I have heard that most foreigners are very lax in their ideas, but I am sure you would not encourage one; so your want of knowledge of the count's language was an advantage to you.'

'Oh, mother, your ideas are so antiquated!' Laura laughed. 'What's the good of being pretty and nicely dressed if men do not pay you attention? Why, I had a score of lovers at Rome, hadn't I, Godfrey?' The knight smiled and nodded.

'She was much admired,' he said. 'Lovers is, perhaps, too strong a word; but she received much attention. I assure you, Mrs. Carson, it was universally admitted that she was belle of the Roman season.'

Dinner had by this time come to an end, and, as the servants had retired, Sarah thought it time she delivered the little poisoned shaft she had in her quiver.

'By the way, Laura dear,' she said sweetly, 'you remember poor Philip Lacy, who was reported missing, and whom we all thought dead? Well, I see in the papers that he has returned to his regiment after some wonderful adventures amongst the Arabs. Aren't you pleased to hear that he is safe?'

She had expected to see her sister turn pale, perhaps faint, but the color in Laura's cheek neither faded or deepened a shade.

'My dear Sarah,' she replied, 'you are dreadfully behind the times. Why, I read it myself in the papers, or else it was Major Fortescue told me—I forget which; but anyhow, I learnt of it weeks and weeks ago.'

Mrs. Carson heaved a sigh of relief. 'There is one trouble off my mind,' she thought. 'Laura does not care for that penniless soldier any more, but she is wonderfully changed. I would not have believed that anyone could have changed so much in so short a time.'

Sarah was more than disgusted. Her arrow had flown wide of its mark, but that was not all.

The simple little sister she had looked forward to governing and bullying had suddenly sprung up into a woman of the world—of the gay world into which Sarah—had never penetrated; and she felt, with deep chagrin, that the girl was quite a match for her in these new days.

'How dreadfully Laura has gone off!' she said to her mother, on their way home to their lodgings. 'She was really quite nice looking before she married, and now she has lines about her mouth, and looks quite five years older. Besides, she has become dreadfully fast. I wonder Sir Godfrey does not see it.'

To which Mrs. Carson replied snappishly, that certain people were very fond of picking notes out of other people's eyes, when they had better try and correct their own failings.

Sir Godfrey and his bride remained in their town house till the end of the London season, and then paid a visit to Holland, where the knight was happy in that paradise for artists and art critics; after which they returned to the Hall by the first of September.

Sir Godfrey was no shot, nor did he care for sport in any form, or sportsmen, but he considered it part of his duty as a country gentleman to entertain a shooting party; so, during the early part of September, half-a-dozen guns were out daily in the stubble fields; but as the month waned, the sporting element disappeared, and a number of artist celebrities took their place, and whilst the partridges had peace, the grand piano in the drawing room was awakened from its long sleep, and thumped by long-haired professors, who performed acrobatic feats over its keys with their slender fingers.

Amongst the new arrivals was Horace Salran, an artist of the modern French school of painting, who had just commenced to make a name, and of whom Sir Godfrey prophesied great things.

His father, French by nationality, had settled in London for some years as a miniature painter, and then married an Englishwoman.

However, Horace, although born in England, had been brought up and educated in Paris, and, having lost both his parents when young, was a typical Frenchman, with the advantage of speaking his mother's tongue fluently.

He was good looking, with the dark hair and clear olive complexion of the south, but he had his mother's dark grey eyes, and was tall, with a graceful, if slight, figure.

Sir Godfrey and his wife had met him first at Rome, and afterwards in Holland, when the knight had asked him to follow them to England and pass a few weeks at the Hall.

He had a certain winning grace of manner that was very captivating to women, and to men also, who took no pains to look beneath the surface.

Sir Godfrey liked him extremely, all the more, perhaps, because the young artist felt an educated interest in the art treasures of the Hall.

He was the only really young man among the guests, and, naturally, he and Laura were thrown much together.

On certain occasions Sir Godfrey, mounted on a steady white cob, rode to the most of the local hounds with his wife, as he considered this again as one of the duties he owed to his position as a county gentleman; but as a rule, it was Horace who accompanied her, for, although there were many who wished to go, Laura never attempted to disguise the fact that she preferred riding to driving.

To be continued.

Sunday Reading.

Poverty of Clergyman.

The lot of the clergy in the Church of England today is said to be so wretched that even younger sons have given up the career which for so many years was looked upon as their chief resource. It may easily be understood that this calling has ceased to appeal to them when the fact is known that out of about 14,000 benefices in the Church more than 7,000 are worth less than \$750 a year and that nearly all of them are decreasing in value.

About 1,500 benefices are worth only \$500 a year and less than \$250 annually is the return from 300 livings which have been recently described as more nearly 'starvings' to the unfortunates who are assigned to them. In the diocese of Peterborough there are sixty-one livings that are worth no more than \$225 a year and this is not yet the worst as there are in Newcastle benefices that are valued at only \$125 a year.

The wives of the clergymen in these parishes are of course unable to employ servants and all the drudgery of housework falls on their shoulders. The luxury of meat is denied to them except on alternate days and their children—of whom the number is nearly always in inverse ratio to the amount of the living—are prepared by education in the elementary schools, or by the teaching their parents can give them at odd times for their descent to a lower social sphere. These clergymen as a rule come from good county families. Their wives are from the same class and are in few cases fitted by their training for a life of drudgery and hard work.

The actual return from these livings is frequently much less than the figures quoted here since their value is dependent on the price of corn and this has declined until in many cases what used to be a living worth \$500 is now in reality not worth more than two thirds of that sum.

Various exactions make life hard for the rector who is trying to struggle along on the meagre income mentioned here. If his predecessor happened to be a man of private means and chose to enlarge the rectory by the addition of wings or drawing rooms, the poor incumbent must keep all this up; and the Bishop's chapter, who receive fees from the rector and not from the Bishop for their work, are careful to see that the church and the rectory are kept in condition. There is thought to be no hope of improvement in the lot of the priest so long as the representation of this body is so small in the synods of the church in which the Bishops are represented by eight out of ten delegates. It is to this injustice that most of the present evil is attributed and the remedy is expected to come from the lack of candidates for holy orders. They are decreasing so rapidly in number that it will soon be a problem to find enough to fill the vacancies made by death. No greater evidence of the present miseries could be found than the fact that the over supply of clergy of a few years ago threatens to become a memory and be followed by an absolute scarcity.

No Policies to Christian Scientists.

The papers report almost daily the deaths of Christian Scientists or their children, who received no medical attendance during sickness. Recently the seven-year-old daughter of Christian Scientist parents died of diphtheria in Marion, Ind., after a week's illness. The city physician examined the child and notified the parents that it must have medical treatment. No heed was paid the notice and the child died. It is not surprising that insurance companies are beginning to refuse to insure Christian Scientists. The following is from the 'Editor's Table' of the 'Sanitarian':

'The Knights of Honor have ruled that persons believing in the doctrines of so-called "Christian Science" will not hereafter be received into membership. This action has been taken because it was seen to be reasonable not to take any risks upon the lives of persons who refused to avail themselves of the accumulated knowledge of medical science when they are ill. It is now learned that one of the greatest and most conservative life insurance companies in the world, the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, without making any parade of the matter, refuses to issue policies upon the lives of "Christian Scientists." These facts are not noted to give these organizations credit for doing that which common sense and good business

policy suggests, but to show the very fact that viewed from the commercial standpoint, the 'Christain Scientist' and faith curist are recognized as persons who do not take average care of their lives. Hence they are being classed with drunkards and with those who follow hazardous occupations.

Religious News.

Under the auspices of the C. E. T. S. 1,000 members of Bands of Hope marched to Bristol Cathedral on a recent Saturday. An address was delivered by the bishop.

The Home Office has given the Salvation Army agents permission to visit the prisoners in His Majesty's prisons with a view to assisting them on their discharge.

The anti-alcoholic congress held in Vienna, Austria, in April, was clear, positive and unanimous that every drop of alcohol administered to children is poisonous.

Some saloonkeepers in the larger cities of the United States have fitted up a back room with small furniture, toys and picture books such as would delight children, and give to those who visit the room tastes of liquor.

A little wooden mission hall in south wark, in connection with the Rev. B. Meyer's church, is believed to have been preached in more than once by John Bunyan. In the sloping roof of the chapel is a little room, connected by a secret door with the next house. No doubt in times of persecution this was used as a hiding place by the congregation or the preacher, in case their services were disturbed.

In the Religious World.

The Epworth League convention to be held in San Francisco July 18th to 21st, promises to be the most successful yet held.

The Protestant Bible Society of Paris is publishing an edition of the Old Testament in which the books follow the order of the Hebrew canon.

At White Plains, N. Y., a follower of Dr. Dowie, of Chicago, has been fined \$500 for neglecting to call a doctor to attend his sick child.

At the suggestion of the Baptist Convention of Georgia an interdenominational committee has been organized to promote temperance legislation.

A carriage way is in process of construction between Jerusalem and Nazareth. Hitherto a stoney path for horses and camels has connected these two places.

At the spiritualist gathering held recently in New York under the auspices of the National Spiritualists' Association, it was noted that for some years spiritualism has been in a decline. There are now less than sixty spiritualist societies and lyceums, where several years ago there were from five to seven hundred. The membership is steadily decreasing in twenty one states.

The National Women's Christian Temperance Union of Cuba, affiliated with the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union, has just been organized at Havana by Mrs. J. K. Barney, a round the world missionary of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Delegates from local unions from different cities and towns, representing over hundred members were present.

Dr. Arthur J. Brown, of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in the United States, announced recently that a friend of the board had made a gift of five thousand dollars for the extension of the mission work in the Casmeroon district German West Africa. This sum will support three missionaries and their wives. Another friend has supplemented this gift with enough money to furnish homes for the families.

Rev. O. C. White, of the Christian church of Parkersburg, W. Va., announced recently that on warm summer evenings the church services would be held on the roof of the church.

The church bell cast by Paul Revere in Boston, in 1792, which formerly hung in the belfry of the Second Congregational church, Boston, has become the property of St James Episcopal church, Cambridge.

The Y. M. C. A. of St. Petersburg organized by Mr James Stokes, of New York, celebrated on May 5 its first semi-annual festival. Prince Alexander, of Oldenburg presided. The society has already 800 members, and its meetings are largely attended.

Seal Brand Coffee

(1 lb. and 2 lb. cans.)

Every bean effuses fragrant Coffee of absolute purity.

It is largely imitated. Examine your purchase closely.

CHASE & SANBORN,

MONTREAL AND BOSTON.

A Bible conference will be held at Lake Orion, Mich., July 12th to 23rd. The conference will stand for the supreme authority of the Scriptures, the development of the spiritual life by the study of the Word of God, and the speedy evangelization of the world.

Dr. Ingram, the new Bishop of London, says that from the time he left home for school to the present time, a period of thirty-two years, there has never been a week in which he did not receive a letter from his mother, and every one was promptly answered.

The Rev. W. H. Murray reports the resumption of his bible work in Pekin, the first day's sales amounting to a value of seven thousand cash. Almost all his blind pupils were murdered by the Boxers, who destroyed all his possessions save his family bible, which a Chinaman had brought in.

A new feature in the work of the Moody bible institute, Chicago, is a free summer course for the study of the bible and practical methods of Christian work. This course is intended for pastors, evangelists, missionaries and Christian workers generally, men and women alike.

'The American Baptist Year Book for 1901' gives the number of regular baptists in the United States as 4,233,226, showing a gain of 51,540 over last year. The number of churches is 43,259, and that of ordained ministers 29,810. Georgia still the state having the largest number of baptists, 410,812.

At the recent Hebrew Messianic conference in Boston, Rev. Louis E. Meyer, of Hopkinton, Ia., startled his Jewish co-religionists by affirming his belief that during the nineteenth century 204,650 Jews had embraced christianity. He said that the average number of baptisms of Jews in a year was more than 1500.

The great gathering of the Y. M. C. A. in Boston calls to mind the fact that, during the past fifty years, 6,192 branches have been established, with 521,000 members, among fifty nations, speaking thirty-five different languages. Fourteen hundred secretaries are employed, two schools for training officers conducted and \$40,000 per year contributed for Association work in foreign lands, where twenty secretaries are stationed. A building has been erected every nine days for the past year and the total valuation of property exceeds \$24,000,000.

The organ of the Paris Missionary Society, reviewing the century which has expired, dwells on the marvellous expansion of the society's work, especially during the last ten years of the century. It notes that through this development of missionary work the whole of French Protestantism has been quickened with new life, has felt a new appeal to energy and sacrifice, a new source of healthy emotion, of duty, and of blessing. No less remarkable has been the constant growth of the society's resources, the miracle, six times repeated, of a large deficit cancelled almost as soon as it became known.

Christianity is making rapid progress in the kingdom of Toro, west of Uganda. Only four and a half years ago the first baptism took place in Toro. Last year 292 persons were baptized, and 356 persons were baptized, and 356 men and women confirmed. There are already 126 native teachers, who receive no salary from foreign source; 1,000 people meet daily for instruction.

A unique plan, says the 'Union Signal,' for raising funds for temperance and missions is that devised and successfully carried on by Mrs. J. L. McLean, a white ribboner of Friend, Neb. By selling choice flower seeds—ten packages for ten cents—she secured last year the sum of \$300, out of which she supported twelve tame children of India and helped to maintain a native preacher and bible reader, besides giving to home missions, including temperance work.

By the will of Mrs. Horace Fairbanks of St. Johnsbury, Vermont, North church receives \$5,000, the income of which is to

be used for supplying gift books to the children who have been regular in church attendance through the year. This perpetuates the beneficence founded by her late husband about twenty years ago. Mrs. Fairbank's will also includes a bequest of \$600 to the Vermont branch of the Women's Board of Missions.

A Bible student calls attention to the fact that one of Issiah's prophecies has been fulfilled in our time. He predicted a time when men should cross the Nile dry-shod (Issiah's ii., 15). Sir John Aird, the contractor of the dam at Assouan, was the first man to fulfill this prophecy by walking the river bed.

The American Board has received another recognition at the hands of British royalty since that granted to Dr. R. A. Hume, of Bombay. The British Minister at Pekin has formally bestowed the Royal Red Cross on Miss Abbie G. Chapin, of the North China Mission, in recognition of hospital work during the siege of Pekin.

The Tablet, an English Roman Catholic journal, announces the discovery at Muggara, Greece, of a fragment of pottery containing a portion of the Lord's Prayer, which was scratched off it before the clay was baked. From the style of the characters it is believed to be exceedingly old, certainly not later than 400 A. D.

Ten Thousand Books for India.

Ten thousand Colportage books were shipped to India last month in order to help meet what the 'Indian Witness' pronounces the most urgent need of the missionary enterprise in that land at the present time, namely, a steady supply of suitable Christian literature.

The funds necessary to make this shipment possible were given in contributions to what is known as Mr. Moody's India Book Fund. This was started by Mr. Moody in 1888, and by its means about forty four thousand books have been put into service up to date.

All authorities agree that unless aggressive steps are taken to capture the press of India, they will find themselves in even worse condition than ourselves, swamped by impure and anti-Christian literature. Mr. Meyer reported, as the result of observation during his visit to India two years ago, that the ancient religions, mighty as they are, are crumbling away before the progress of education, and that many students lose all their religious belief when passing through college. Then, when the soil should be ready for the Christian missionary, the infidel steps in and sows tares.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY!

Genuine

Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of

W. D. Wood

See Fac-Simile Wrapper Below.

Very small and as easy to take as sugar.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

FOR HEADACHE. FOR DIZZINESS. FOR BILIOUSNESS. FOR TORPID LIVER. FOR CONSTIPATION. FOR SALLOW SKIN. FOR THE COMPLEXION.

Price 25 Cents. PURELY VEGETABLE. *W. D. Wood*

CURE SICK HEADACHE.