

Poetry.

WASTED!

"He had wasted his goods,"—Luke xvi. 1.
Wasted!
Precious pearl of time,
Moment rich as diamonds;
One by one they come unbidden;
One by one they pass unnoted;
One by one they melt away;
One by one they melt away;
Till that last life, shattered & broken,
Woe, no heaven-born light nor token—
Drifted to the fearful shore,
Helpless, hopeless, evermore!

Wasted!
Gifts of doubtless mind,
By the Hand Eternal given;
They had mounted to the skies,
Met and reverent sacrifice
To the Majesty of heaven;
But that spirit-lore, erst strong
To swell harmonious song,
Shriveled, and its deep chords broken,
Murmured but of songs unending;
Of rich melodies sung wildly,
Of fane's gorgeous altar fire;
One brief moment, in its brightness
Flashed, swiftly to expire;
On high purposes all blasted,
Talents hidden, treasures wasted!
Consecrate at Massacre's shrine,
Owning not the Hand Divine.

Wasted!
Founts of deepest love,
Gifts of mercy from above,
Lavish'd on a human breast,
Striving for an earthly rest;
On a human idol pouring
Treasures from affection's deep;
At a human shrine adoring,
Waking but to write and weep;
Starting from its dreams of rapture
At the touch of mortal care;
On its shiver'd idols gazing,
In the frenzy of despair.
Heart sore stricken! Love eternal
Woes thee from a heavenly throne;
He, the world's Redeemer, asks thee
Now to trust the unchanging One.

Wasted—youth's rich golden hours!
Wasted—effort, mightiest powers!
Wasted—manhood's glorious prime,
Hopes, and aims, and thoughts sublime!
Weepst thou? Ere life's setting sun,
Ere time's fleeting sands be run,
Rouse thee from ignoble rest,
To win the land more blest.
Swiftly are thy moments flying,
Up! ere hope be drooping, dying!
Ere high purpose all be blasted,
Speak thy life forever wasted.

INFLUENCE.

Deeds follow drops, and words
With rain the sweeping river;
Word follows word, and tells
A truth that lives forever.

Flake follows flake, like spirits
Whose wings the winds discover;
Thought follows thought, and lights
The realm of mind forever.

Beam follows beam, to cheer
The cloud the half-world shiver;
Thought follows thought, and lights
The realm of mind forever.

The drop, the flake, the beam,
Teach us a lesson ever;
The word, the thought, the dream,
Impress the soul forever.

Miscellany.

DIALOGUE.

BETWEEN A FATHER AND HIS TWO SONS, EDWARD AND WILLIAM.

Of France:

Father. Do you remember, my dear children,

what was the subject of our last conversation?

Eddie. Yes, dear Father: you told us a great

deal about the massacre of St. Bartholomew's

in France, which you said occurred in the year 1572.

Father. That is true. It was a dreadful affair,

and proved very disastrous to the cause of Protestantism

in France, and indeed throughout the central

parts of the Continent, as well as to the best interests

of the kingdom of France.

Willie. Will you tell us, Father, how this

could be?

Father. Yes, Willie. As to the cause of Pro-

testantism in France, you can readily believe that

it received a dreadful blow at the massacre of St.

Bartholomew, when I tell you that it lost seventy

thousand people, and among them many of its

great leaders. Admiral Coligny was one of the

wisest and best of them. He was in fact an able

statesman as well as a brave soldier. It was a long

time before, if ever, Protestantism recovered from

this great calamity.

Eddie. But how did this event affect the cause

of Protestantism on the Continent generally, and

especially in the central portions of it?

Father. I will tell you. Protestantism was on

the point of gaining the ascendancy in France

when this dreadful Massacre took place. The same

thing was true of Poland. The significant Admiral

Coligny saw the advantages which would result

from the promotion of their own interests and to resist

Austria (or the personal Dominions of the

House of Hapsburg) and Spain, which were then

the bulwarks of Romanism in Europe, and indeed

in the whole world. The death of Coligny defeated

this great scheme. The dismay of the Protestants

in Germany, as well as France, was great.

Eddie. But how did the Pope receive the intelligence

of this frightful and disgusting massacre?

Father. It is said he was highly delighted, and

ordered a medal to be struck in commemoration of

this grand event. The castle of St. Angelo, by

means of its cannon, spoke the delight of his Holiness.

There was great exultation, a real jubilation,

throughout the papal world on account of this bloody affair.

Eddie. What occurred in France, as the result

of this massacre?

Father. The Protestants took up arms again,

under the conduct of Henry of Navarre, and at the

end of four years the worthless House of Valois

was compelled to make another treaty (the fifth,

within the short period of fifteen years) with the

Huguenots, and give its pledged faith in behalf of

their protection in their civil and religious rights.

Alas, it was soon to be broken!

Willie. What became of the unhappy King of

France, Charles IXth, dear Father?

Father. He died in 1574, two years after the

Massacre of St. Bartholomew, of remorse it is be-

lieved, for the crimes which he perpetrated himself,

or allowed others to perpetrate, during his

reign of fourteen years. As he had no children,

he was succeeded by his brother, Henry III.

Eddie. I believe that Henry III. was not much

better as a man and a king than Charles IX.

Father. He certainly was not; he had much

more talent than his brother, and if possible was a

greater enemy to the Protestants. He became

very unpopular among his people. A "league"

was formed against him by a party around the

throne, headed by the "Guises" (the Duke and

Cardinal), who were powerful and ambitious men.

Both these men the king caused to be assassinated

at Blois in the year 1588. And he himself met a

similar end, the year following, at St. Cloud, from

the hand of Jacques Clement, a fanatical Domini-

can.

Willie. And who ascended the throne upon

the death of Henry III?

Father. Henry IV. often called Henry the

Great. He was the Henry, King of Navarre, of

whom I have spoken in a former conversation. He

was a great man, but a truly religious one. He

was, perhaps, the best king that France ever had,

for his great mind comprehended the true interests

of the kingdom, and throughout his entire reign of

twenty years, he was ever engaged in the prosecution

of some plan for their advancement. His

ambition led him to embrace the Roman Catholic

Faith, as he was about to ascend the throne, in order

to secure the favor of the Roman Catholic por-

tion of the nation. He was assassinated by a man

of the name of Ravallac, in the year 1610.

Eddie. Did not Henry IV. grant the Edict of

Nantes?

Father. Yes, dear Eddie, he did. This was a

Decree which he made in favor of the Protestants

in the year 1598, when he was at Nantes; which

as you will see, if you look on the map, stands on

the Loire, not very far from its mouth. This Edict

takes its name from the city where the king hap-

pened to be at the time it was issued. You must

not infer that there were many Protestants in Nantes,

that never was the case, nor are they many

there now, though the population of the city is well

nigh one hundred thousand.

Willie. Did this Edict secure much for the

Protestants?

Father. Yes, but not as much as they ought to

have had. It protected them in certain parts of the

kingdom. But it was sadly disregarded and

violated during the entire reign of Louis XIII. and

the early part of that of Louis XIV. At length the

latter monarch revoked this Edict in the year

1685, eighty-seven years after it had been granted.

Eddie. And then, as I have read, a great per-

secution broke out in France.

Father. Yes, Eddie, the worst that country

ever saw. It is computed that half a million of

Protestants were put to death, and seven hundred

thousand fled from the country in the course of a

few years!

Willie. This was dreadful. But how were

put to death?

Father. In many ways. In some cases they

were beheaded, and in other cases they were

burned or drowned. They were massacred in

great numbers by the troops who were sent against

them.

Eddie. I have read that they were pursued by

the dragons and cut to pieces by their sword. I

suppose that this is the reason why that form of

the persecution they endured, is called in French the

dragonnades.

Father. Just so. So also that by drowning

was called the *noyades*. It is impossible to de-

scribe the infamous and brutal conduct of their per-

secutors, who were almost invariably led on by the

Romish Priests.

Willie. Could the king and the people, who

were doing these cruel acts, think that they were

doing right?

Father. It is hard to believe it; and yet we

must suppose that some of them thought that the

Huguenots were heretics and ought to be exterminated.

It is impossible to say what men will not do,

when they are carried away with fanaticism.

Our Saviour told his disciples that they would see

the days in which those who put them to death

(because they were his followers) would think that

they were doing God service—that is, doing what

was well-pleasing to the infinite God.

Eddie. Whither did those fly who left the king-

dom of France?

Father. Many fled to Switzerland and Germany,

some to England, some to this country, which was

then under the government of England. But more

took refuge in Holland than in any other country,

because the Stadholder, or President of that Re-

public, (the celebrated Prince of Orange, who was

afterwards king of England, under the name of

William III.) was their great friend and protector,

and he invited them to come to Holland, and he

did much for them when they came. He was a

great and good man.

Willie. It must have been a great loss for

France to part with so many excellent people.

Father. It was, my son, a great loss. These

pious people did not care much money with them;

most of them could take nothing with them; but

they carried their industry, their virtuous habits,

their frugality, their knowledge, in many instances,

of the useful arts; and wherever they went, they

were a great blessing.

Eddie. Can you tell us where those settled

who came to this country?

Father. Yes, dear Eddie; it is well known that

many came to Boston, and settled in Massachusetts,

for the government gave them lands. Many came

to New York, and their descendants are to be found

in several parts of the State. Some settled in

Maryland and Virginia; and a great many in South

Carolina, especially in and about Charleston. You

will see several streets in that city which still bear

French names; and many of the best families there

as well as in the State of South Carolina, are de-

scended from these people.

Eddie. I have heard you say, dear Father, that

many of the most distinguished men that have lived

in our country were of Huguenot origin. Will you

mention some of them?

Father. I can only give you the names of a

few distinguished families that have retained their

French names. They are such as the Bayards,

the Jays, the Hingers, the Legares, the Gallaudets,

the Launreuses, and the Boudinots. There were

French Protestant Churches in Boston, New-York,

and Charleston for more than a hundred years. I

believe, after the revocation of the Edict of Nan-

tes. There is even now a "Church of the Hugue-

nots," in the last named city, attended by the de-

scendants of these excellent people; but the service

is in English.

Willie. I suppose that there were French

Churches in all the countries in Europe to which

the persecuted Huguenots fled.

Father. Yes, there were churches in London,

in Amsterdam and other cities in Holland, in Ger-

many, (there were five at one time in Berlin) and

many in Switzerland. But these churches have

nearly all disappeared, the descendants of the

Huguenots there, as with us, having become fused

or mixed up with the other Protestant population,

and belong to different Protestant denominations.

There is a church in London, fifteen or twenty in

Holland, one in Frankfort-on-the-Maine, and one

or two in Berlin, which are mainly composed of

descendants of the Huguenots, and in which the

service is in the French language.

Willie. But what occurred in France after the

Revocation of the Edict of Nantes?

Father. About that we must speak in our next

conversation, for we have not time now. But see

to it, my dear boys, that you do not forget what I

have now told you. You will learn that France

has had to endure many heavy judgments from

the hand of God for this cruel treatment of the

Protestants. God is just, and nations as well as

individuals must suffer when they do wrong.

PITCHING TOWARDS SODOM.

We often meet with individuals whose conduct

leads us to say within ourselves, they are pitched

towards Sodom. The man who in any way sacri-

fices moral good and spiritual ends, for spiritual