

## THE RELIGIOUS

### Poetry.

#### The Mechanic.

BY MRS. DENNISON.

There he goes with sturdy tread,  
Toiling for his honest bread—  
Sleeves uprolled and cheek high flushed,  
While the city yet is hushed.

O, the strong mechanic!

The sinewy-armed mechanic!  
With his broad chest swelling to the stroke  
Of the hammer against the lusty oak,  
Driving the nail with a hearty will,  
Whistling or carolling—never still,  
But ever in labor doing his will.

Who loves the noble mechanic.

Etna smoke and Vesuvius flame  
O'er are the allies of earth-born fame;  
But to hew the rock from the vaunting cone,  
And to change to blessings the flinty stone,

These do the mechanic,

The sinewy-armed mechanic;  
Giving his bates what God gave him,  
Force of muscle and vigor of limb;  
Scorning the fear that his boys shall be  
The pampered weaklings of luxury,  
Or his girls fair puppets for men to see,

The brawny-backed mechanic.

But, mind, I speak of the real thing—  
Not of the kind who shout and sing,  
And smoke at the tavern, and curse abroad,  
And who care for neither themselves nor God;

But the true, the earnest mechanic!

The clean, white-souled mechanic!  
The man who polishes heart and mind  
While he frames the window and shapes the blind,  
And utters his thought with an honest tongue,  
That is set as true as his hinges are hung—  
This is the nobleman among

The noble band of mechanics.

God the Maker, I reverent say,  
He is the worker by night and day,  
Frame of skies and builder of hills,  
Measuring worlds by the space which he fills,

He is the Master Mechanic.

Making a palace of every star,  
Fashioning out of the air a car  
For the sun to speed on his royal way  
Over the fire-white track of the day—  
Yes, God has labored—labor alway;

Take cheer, then, noble mechanic!

### Miscellaneous.

#### How to make the Sabbath Pleasant.

It was one of my trials that our Sabbath's were so unpleasant. The day was looked forward to as a weariness, and we were always glad when it was over. Now I wished to make the day one of pleasant rest and enjoyment; but where should I begin? I did not know. I was sure, if any one knew, it must be Aunt Margaret; so I asked her. Her first inquiry was, "whether I allowed my children to look at flowers Sabbath day." She smiled when I expressed surprise at her question, and added, "I suspected as much; I do not believe you have any thing pretty for them to look at. That is the secret of a deal of trouble. I will explain what I mean."

"It was a beautiful bright morning in June that the incident took place to which I refer. A refreshing shower had fallen the night before, and bathed every tree and flower and blade of green, so that they seemed to have put on their best attire to help swell the chorus of praise which would arise from holy, happy hearts, for the blessed day of rest. So we walked on, while neighbors and friends talked with each other, and exchanged kindly greetings by the way.

"We passed a house almost hid among climbing roses; a garden was before it bordered with sweet double pinks, with the blue and white iris, the sweet-williams, with here and there a late tulip, and clusters of ladies' delights were sprinkled all over it, and I could not but think it was a rich gift from God to Adam, when he gave the flowers to cheer him in his banishment. As I was thinking thus, a little girl interrupted my meditations by calling out, O mother! mother! do look at those flowers!" Turning upon her a look of mingled mortification and reproach, she only said, "Hush, my child! you must not look at flowers Sabbath day."

"If she had struck her, I do not think I should have been more surprised; and I am certain it would have hurt her less. I could not get over the impression for long time. You must not look at flowers Sabbath day," I repeated over and over again, trying to make it appear that I had misunderstood.

"It is strange to me that what God has joined together any one should try to put asunder. Why, what a lesson Christian parents might learn from the example of Jesus. Their want of success is not to be wondered at when the means used are taken into consideration. The cares and employments of every-day life—the birds and the flowers, the flocks and the trees, were all used as illustrations of divine truth, and made to shadow forth the relations which we sustain to our heavenly Father. Now this is not the common method. Our religion, and its duties, we take entirely out of our usual experience, and hold it so high that we hardly see it ourselves, much less our children. We have one tone of voice to speak about the great love of God to us, and another, much more joyous and pleasant, that is called up when our earthly friends are the themes upon which we grow eloquent. We can talk about the flowers and nature generally, and become warm about their beauties, but we must not take the fragrant bouquet on the Sabbath, and, examining petal after petal, tell our children how God has made them so beautiful, so fragrant, because he loved us, and wished us to love him and be happy."

"I knew a young man who was studying theology; and on just such a Sabbath morning as I have described, he was walking out with a friend, and when his attention was directed to the scene, fair as Eden, he looked a moment, and then, with a sigh, raised the prayer, 'Lord, turn off mine eyes from beholding vanity.' I am certain

he grew up in one of those families where they did not look at flowers on the Sabbath day. A child who can understand very little of the Bible can read whole sentences in the Book of Nature, which was God's first book.

"But let us now come back to our subject of the Sabbath. There is such a thing as having a home without silver spoons or carpeted floors; but there is no such a thing as a HOME, a happy home, without a Bible and a Sabbath; a Bible whose principles shall be the controlling power in the family, and a Sabbath which shall be a day of sacred rest—a blessed antitype of that rest which shall be the Christian's portion hereafter, when all the powers which Infinite Wisdom has given him in delightful union, shall joyfully and forever praise and love God.

"Now how, and where shall we begin? Not in the sanctuary, but in the family. The regeneration of the world is to be accomplished by the influence of Christian homes. When each family shall be a church, the millennium will begin to dawn; and thus family piety is to be brought about by the intelligent study and love for the Word of God, and a proper observance of the Sabbath. To aid, I would ever have a Bible—yes, a family Bible—and one with engravings, too. You smile, but I am in earnest. If the parents have not owned one, before they came into this relation, the first care should be to furnish themselves with one, so that it can be used when the intelligence of the child will allow it to be done.

"This Bible is to be the Sabbath book. Its engravings are not to be shown on other days, but to be held in special reserve, so that they and the facts which they illustrate shall be among the earliest and most pleasant recollections of childhood. The parents ought to be so familiar with them that they can fill out in detail many a story, the outlines of which are only given there. Then I would have pictured cards illustrating moral and religious truth, which should be among the employments of the Sabbath; and these should be designed to call out the higher feelings of the child's nature. If this is done until they become strengthened by exercise, a great work has been accomplished toward making children what they ought to be. The records of the church show that children can be so trained that, as among the Waldenses, they shall not be able to remember the time when they did not love God.

"Another instrumentality which may help to make the Sabbath pleasant, is to have a day of preparation for it. All the cooking may be done beforehand, so that no more time will be taken than one would wish to spare if they had visitors. My best room is always open on that day, adorned with flowers when possible, and all have free access to it. You may think this a small matter but it has an influence. Singing and reading, suitable books and pictures, with the company and conversation of parents, is treat enough for any well-regulated family. Neither husband or myself ever left at liberty to devote hour after hour reading, when our children were too small to interest themselves. We could take, and often have taken the care of them separately, but our time for reading and conversation was usually after they had gone to bed."

"But, Aunt Margaret, allow me to interrupt you. You have not planned work enough at home for all day? Do you give up public worship and the Sabbath school?"

"Not at all. I only make them subservient to a higher claim. But if you mean to ask if I attend church three times, and the Sabbath school besides, I should say, 'No,' at once. The day was given for rest, and my conviction is, those persons who go to church three times, attend the Sabbath school, and perhaps the morning prayer meeting, do not improve the Sabbath to the best advantage. I have talked with many persons on this subject, and they confessed, that instead of being refreshed and invigorated, they were conscious of a stupor which is the result of extreme weariness. You see now, I think, what my ideas and plans are. I do not know but you will think me sadly egotistical.

"My endeavor is, to give a child as much employment as is pleasant,—to surround it with positively agreeable associations,—to use its eyes and ears as mediums of instruction. In order to do this, I begin on the day of preparation. The family Bible is waiting. Then we have our cards, our maps, and sacred geography, by which they become familiar with the travels of the Saviour in the land of Palestine; our singing, devotional exercises, and recitations, which leave no time to hang heavily."

#### "And when am I to Die?"

During the last two or three years of Rowland Hill's life, he very frequently repeated the following lines:—

"And when I'm to die,  
Receive me, I'll cry;

For Jesus has loved me,—I cannot tell why;

But this I do find—

We two are so joined,

That he'll not live in glory and leave me behind."

"The last time he occupied my pulpit, writes his friend and neighbor, the Rev. George Clayton, 'when he preached excellently in behalf of a charitable institution, he retired to the vestry after service, undressed, and lay down on the floor, exhausted with fatigue. He remained until all but ourselves had left the place. At length he seemed with some reluctance to summon energy to take his departure, intimating that it was probably the last time he should preach in W. I offered my arm, which he declined, and then followed him, as he passed down the aisle of the chapel. The lights were nearly extinguished, the silence was profound; nothing, in lead, was heard but the slow, majestic tread of his own footsteps, when, in an undertone, he thus soliloquized:—

"And when I'm to die, &c."

To my heart this was a scene of unequalled solemnity; nor can I ever recur to it without a revival of that hallowed, sacred, shuddering sympathy which it at first awakened."

When the good old saint lay literally dying and apparently unconscious, a friend put his mouth to his ear, and slowly repeated his favorite lines:—

"And when I'm to die,

Receive me, I'll cry," &c.

The light came back to his fast-fading eye, a

## INTELLIGENCER.

**PARRAFINE and Fluid Lamps.**—Ex-  
Franklin from Boston, a general assortment of  
the above, chap.

april 27 THOS. CLERKE.

**STEAM BOILER FOR SALE.**—  
SECOND Hand Steam Boiler about 18 feet long.  
A and 42 inches in diameter, with two 14 inch  
Flues, can be had from the Subscribers at a reason-  
able rate and easy terms.

WM. PETERS, 139 Union Street

**R S STAPLES** has much pleasure in calling  
the attention to a nice lot of boy and  
youths caps, in military and other styles, step in and  
see them, at 83 King street.

**S C A P & C A N D L E S .**—  
The Subscribers continues to manufacture the above  
articles, and will endeavour to give to its customers  
an article in quality, second to none in the city.

WM. PETERS,  
135 Union Street.

**PRICE'S INTEREST TABLES.**—Just received  
at the Phoenix Book Store.—Price's Interest  
Tables for 5, 6, 7 and ten per cent.

J. & A. MCMILLAN.

**S K E L E T O N SKIRTS !** FURTHER SUPPLIES.

ENNIS GARDNER have received this week  
from the manufacturers of Birmingham, etc., several cases' SKELTONS  
and imroved styles now in use. The stock is now  
complete in all numbers, and will be found larger  
than that of all other houses in the city combined.

2100 Pair MUSSES tied Skirts \$4d to 2s 9d each

89 do do woven 2s 6d to 2s 9d do.

298 do Ladies' tied do's 3d to 6s 9d do.

347 do clasped do's 6d to 7s 6d do.

46 do woven do's 2s to 9s do.

23 do do Sardago do's 6s to 10s do.

30 do do Promenade 6s to 9s 9d do.

20 do do Union do's 10s to 12s do.

7 do Claude do's 12s 6d to 20s do.

THOS. CLERKE'S.

**N E W G O O D S .**

APRIL, 1861.

**EDWIN FROST.**

HAS just received per Canadian Mail Steamers

from Great Britain, and Steamer New Brun-

swick from the United States, a large portion of his

Spring supply of

**B GOTS AND SHOES.**

Comprising, Ladies and Misses Spring Walking

Boots, various laces &c., Black, Morals, Elas-

tic Silk, M. H. single and double souls, in Kid,

Serge, Cashmere, Goat and Enamel.

Ladies and Misses Strong Boots and Shoes in great

variety.

Gentlemen's Walking and Dress Boots and Shoes,

Children's Walking and Fancy Boots and Shoes,

every description of pattern.

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