

An Epitaph.

Within a country graveyard small, Where faded rose-leaves gently fall, There lies a low and narrow mound, Which children softly gather round, And strangers trace the well-worn path To read this sweetest epitaph:

"Below the body of a child we lay, Of whom her playmates often say, (A tender girl to heart and memory dear), 'Twas easier to be good when she was here."

I cannot tell how long has been her rest, Since first the rose-leaves fell upon her breast, Nor paint the picture of her form and face, Nor tell the name of this sweet child of grace;

I only read this witness quaint and rare: "Twas easier to be good when she was there."

As pilgrims in a strange and unknown way Pause at some holy shrine to kneel and pray, So here I bow, this prayer upon my lip, "Grant me this seal of Christ's discipleship, That for some soul the way was made less dear And easier to be good when I was here."

Oh! brother mine, with all thy wealth and power, Which after all but answer one brief hour, 'Twere better that thou rest without a name, Thy deeds unknown to all but household fame, If but a child shall whisper o'er thy bier, "Twas easier to be good when he was here."

-Selected.

A Story for Married People.

The ringing of the door-bell has a pleasant sound to me, especially in my idle moods. Like an unopened letter, there is a mystery about it, and one waits with a pleasurable excitement to see who or what is coming.

Returning home one day, earlier than usual, I found my wife had gone out; and while lounging idly over the paper, the bell rang.

I waited expectant till Bridget appeared with a note, containing a request from my old friend Dr. Stearns, to ride out to his residence in the country the next day, to transact some business that had been long pending, and an invitation to bring my wife and spend the day.

I was pleased; first, because I wanted the business completed; and secondly, because I thought I needed a day's recreation.

But the next morning everything seemed to go wrong. Alice could not accompany me, and I could not get off as early as I wished; and Alice reflected my humor, I suppose, as it appeared to me she had never been so unamiable.

At length, however, I drove away, though not in a very pleasant mood. It was a lovely October day, and as I rode along noting the tints of the landscape, memory went back to the golden autumn when I wooed and won my bride.

How lovely Alice was then! I thought. And how happy we were! But that was long ago. Yet nature is the same though we are changed. Let me see; we have been married three years; is it impossible it is no longer?

And I felt a pang as I contrasted the past with the present, to think that we could settle down into the common-place life we now led.

We had no serious trouble; we didn't quarrel; though when I felt cross, or other things didn't go to suit me, I took no pains to conceal it, and often spoke harshly to Alice, who sometimes replied in the same spirit, sometimes with tears. Yet we were generally good friends. But the charm, the tenderness of our early love had imperceptibly vanished.

I had become careless about my appearance at home, and Alice was equally negligent. Her beautiful brown hair, which she used to wear in the most becoming curls, was now usually brushed plainly behind her ears, unless she was going out or expected company. I dismissed the subject with a sigh at the doctor's gate, with the reflection that it was the same with all married people—must be so, in fact—for how could romance and sentiment find place among so many prosy realities? I suppose we were as happy as anybody; and yet, it was not the kind of life I had looked forward to with so many bright anticipations.

The doctor came out and greeted me cordially. In the hall we met Mrs. Stearns, looking fresh and lovely in her pink muslin wrapper, and her jetty hair in tasteful style. She scolded me playfully for not bringing my wife, chatted a few minutes, and flitted away, while the doctor remarking that his motto was business first and pleasure afterward, led the way to the library.

As we entered the room I noticed a vase of bright autumn flowers on the table, imparting an air of taste and cheerfulness to the apartment. I made some remark about it, to which the doctor responded:

"Yes, I am fond of flowers and

like to see them in the house; and as I spend most of my time here, my wife always keeps a vase of them on the table as long as they last."

Our business was finished before dinner, and we walked out in the grounds, which were quite extensive, and tastefully arranged.

There were a variety of flowers in bloom, and I noticed the doctor selected here and there the finest, until he had a handsome bouquet.

When we reached the house Mrs. Stearns was on the steps. The doctor, still continuing our conversation, gave her the flowers, with a slight bow and smile; and holding up a spray of crimson berries, which we had broken off, she bent her head, while he fastened it among the dark tresses of her hair.

It was a trifling incident, yet their manner arrested my attention. Had I been a stranger, I should have pronounced them lovers instead of sober married people. All through the day I noticed the same delicate attention and deference in their deportment to each other.

There was nothing of which the most fastidious guest could complain; yet while showing me the most cordial attention, they did not seem to ignore each other's existence, as married people so often do.

I had never visited the doctor before and was very much pleased with his tasteful home. I said so, after dinner, when we strolled out into the woods.

"Yes," he said, "I think it is pleasant;" and he added, "I believe I am a contented man. So far I am not disappointed in life."

"How long have you been married doctor?" I asked.

"Ten years."

"Well," I pursued, "can you tell me whence the bright atmosphere that surrounds your home? Tell me how you and Mrs. Stearns manage to retain the depth and freshness of your early love, as you seem to do? I would think the wear and tear of life would dim it somewhat. I never saw a home where my ideal of domestic happiness was realized before. It is what I have dreamed of."

The doctor smiled, and, pointing to a thrifty grape climbing over a neat lattice, and loaded with purple fruit, he said:

"That vine needs careful attention and if pruned and properly cared for, it is what you see it; but if neglected, how soon would it become a worthless thing. So the love which is to all, at some period, the most precious thing in life, and which needs so much care to keep it unimpaired is generally neglected. Ah! my friend, it is little acts—trifles—that so often estrange loving hearts. I have always made it a point to treat my wife with the same courtesy that characterized my deportment in the days of our courtship; and while I am careful not to offend her tastes and little prejudices, I am sure mine will be equally respected."

That night I rode homeward pondering the doctor's words, and reviewing the years of our married life. I was surprised at my own blindness, and determined to recall the early dream if possible.

The next morning at breakfast I astonished Alice by my careful toilet, chatted over the dinner, and, after tea, invited her to ride. When she came down in my favorite blue organde, with her hair neatly combed I thought she never looked lovelier.

I exerted myself, as of old, to entertain her, and was surprised to find how quickly and pleasantly the evening passed.

I resolved to test the doctor's theory perfectly, and the result exceeded my most sanguine expectations.

For all the little nameless attentions so gratifying to a woman's heart, and so universally accorded by the lover and neglected by the husband, I find myself paid a thousand fold; and I would advise all who are sighing over the non-fulfillment of early dreams, to go and do likewise, remembering that that which is worth winning is worth keeping.—Selected.

Items for the Youthful to Consider.

1. There is but one royal road to honorable success in life—patient, steady, honest work; faithful, uncomplaining, discreet application to business. Fortune never floats voluntarily to any one on a smooth sea. Culture of heart and brain will not fall unthought as a palladium like the rays of the sun. The price of all excellence in every sphere of life is persistent toil. The need of the age is not genius, but painstaking effort.

2. A life of "pleasure merely is only a mirage. It passes away like a vapor, and ends in disappointment and vexation. A life of useful activities will live for ages, benefiting not only the actor, but his fellow-men also; for "no one liveth to himself." Remember this important truth. Still, it is our duty, as well as privilege, to partake of and enjoy the good things of life,—

its comforts, its social pleasures, its recreations—but such only as tend to promote moral purity, and these always under judicious limitation, making enlightenment and sanctified reason your guide—never simply taste and inclination. Self-abnegation is a powerful factor in the molding of character. Obey the holy command. "Deny thyself."

3. Success in whatever is praiseworthy is a prize to be coveted, but can be gained only by the mastery of self, which despises ease and indulgence, and determines to win despite of discouragements and temptations to abandon effort. This mastery can not fail to secure an exalted destiny, if coupled with honesty, integrity, and purity of heart and life.

4. Whatever helps to keep the heart pure and the life virtuous ennobles character and strengthens the arm of the worker. Vice cheats humanity, and sin robs the heart of peace and quietude. Virtue, on the contrary, blesses humanity, and piety fills the soul with joy and tranquility. Which of these will you elect for companionship? Stop and meditate—choose wisely.

5. All along the journey of life carefully guard your health. Without health, life is a burden and success impossible. Be abstemious; do nothing that will weaken either bodily or mental vigor; practice amenity toward all; cultivate the spirit of charity; be obliging; do good to others when opportunity offers; make no debts that will oppress or even incommode you when due, and use your means with frugality and with reference to the future, remembering the axiom, "Many a nickle makes a mickle."

6. Bear with each other's weaknesses, remembering your own; strive to advance each other's welfare and happiness; deal openly and justly one with the other, and with all mankind; avoid giving offense to any one; keep your passions in subjection; let your moderation be known unto all; in all things be an example worthy of imitation; make and keep the friendship of the worthy; be discreet, avoiding all engagements and alliances, social and otherwise, the propriety of which is in the least doubtful; be wary and trust not to plausible representations. Treachery often lurks where least suspected; keep your head out of the halter.

7. Consecrate your heart to God and to his cause, love, fear, and obey him; sacredly observe the Christian Sabbath, and steadily attend religious services; make your soul's eternal welfare the first and ultimate aim of your whole life; improve your leisure hours; study God's word; read useful books; seek God's help and guidance in all things. Without his help life will be a failure. Recognize and be controlled by this sacred truth.—Selected.

"I am a Member of the Church; I Don't Play Cards."

Scene: A railway train. Enter two rather dashing young men. One said to the other, "Let us go into the smoker, and have a game of whist." The last few words are drawn out into a whisper. The other, in a loud voice, and with a grin on his face, draws out the reply at the head of this paragraph. Of course it was said in jest, and yet there is a chance for some serious reflection here. Joking as he was that gay young fellow acknowledged his idea of what a church member should not do. Would it not be well for us, who have classified ourselves with God's people, to realize that even in the sight of the world's people it would be better for us to stick to our profession? It is rather a sad comment on a Christian's character, when those who have no personal interest at all in religion condemn him for doing the very things they defend themselves in doing. By its very sneers at the inconsistencies of weak professors, the world not only condemns itself for its own course, but pays a high tribute to unimpeachable Christianity wherever found. The independent church-member who sees no harm in this amusement and that diversion, had better ask himself the question, "Do the very ones who indulge in forbidden pleasures and questionable practices mark me down as insincere because I, holding to better things follow their example?" The inference from this remark that forms our subject is, "If I were a member of the church I would not do this thing."

When will church-members as a whole, learn the wisdom of getting as far as possible away from the line that divides sin and saintliness, instead of seeing how near they can come to it without stepping over? Even the world, which is opposed to the spirit of Christianity, will hold them in higher esteem for conscientiously keeping up the high standard of life they have chosen in imitation of their Master. A little serious thought over this

matter would lessen the number of stumbling-blocks in the churches.—Golden Rule.

Pay Ready Money.

Because, first, it suits both buyer and seller best to do so. The tradesman, if he be an honest one, will be glad of your money; for ready cash never comes amiss to a man in business. And you will, of course, get the article you purchase at less cost than if the payment were deferred. Self-protection compels the seller to add something to the price for uncertainty and delay. And this addition you escape, if you pay at once.

Because, second, the payment of ready money insures you the respect of those with whom you deal. If you have to run up an account with Mr. A., and it is not quite convenient for you to settle it, you must go to him for what you want, whether you wish to do so or not; otherwise he may come down upon you for settlement. Mr. A. is aware of this, and perhaps treats you accordingly. But if you are a ready-money man, Mr. A. knows you can carry your cash to Mr. B., the opposition shop, if you like, and get a welcome there. The knowledge of his fact makes you independent and him polite.

Because, third, the payment of ready money operates as a check upon the imagination. It is wonderful how many things we fancy we want when they are only to be "put down in the bill." We feel, perhaps, that we can not really afford them; still, the evil day of payment is far off, and something may turn up between now and then to make us richer. So we buy. But if we have to pay on the spot,—to bring the hard cash out of our purse and lay it down upon the counter,—the flight of imagination is checked by the process, and our wants reduce themselves to moderate dimensions. Then we purchase only what we really require.

Therefore, for our own sakes, and for the sakes of others with whom we deal, it is good to pay ready money.—The Home Visitor.

THERE is a man, abundantly supplied with worldly goods and with daughters, who believes that every woman should know how to do at least one thing well. Consequently, his five daughters know several things besides dancing and music and riding. One girl has learned stenography, and her fingers are as expert with the keys of a type writing machine as with the keys of a piano. Another is skilful with the needle, and two others could earn their living as practical school-teachers, no instruction in French or Italian, but every day school-teaching. "I hope says this father, "that no one of my daughters has ever to earn her own living. But I once had serious financial troubles in my younger days and who knows that I may not have them again. If I were to be penniless I think that all my daughters could take care of themselves. "Besides," he added, with a twinkle in his eye, "think of the gratitude some men will feel toward me when they find what good wives I have trained for them."—New York Tribune.

Religion can be maintained in any situation, business, trade, or profession, not essentially dishonest or knowingly necessarily evil in its effects. But no one is truly religious who knowingly sins or shuts his eyes to the character of his actions while receiving pecuniary or other profits from them.

Minard's Liniment, for Rheumatism.

If you wish to please your family flavor your Puddings, Pies, Jellies, &c with the "Royal" Extracts.

To prevent the hardening of subcutaneous tissues of the scalp and the obliteration of the hair follicles, which cause baldness, use Hall's Hair Renewer.

DUNNVILLE DOINGS.

GENTLEMEN,—I had a headache for a long time, and seeing Burdock Blood Bitters advertised, I got a bottle, and it not only relieved me at the time but I have not been bothered since with headache and think I have seen the last of it.

MINNIE HICKS, Dunnville, Ont.

A woman who is weak, nervous and sleepless, and who has cold hands and feet cannot feel and act like a well person. Carter's Iron Pills equalize the circulation, remove nervousness, and give strength and rest.

Messrs. Stott & Jury, Chemist, Bowmanville, write: "we would direct attention to Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery, which is giving perfect satisfaction to our numerous customers. All the preparations manufactured by this well-known house are among the most reliable in the market."

FACTS ABOUT DYSPEPSIA.

WRONG action of the stomach and liver occasions dyspepsia. Dyspepsia in turn gives rise to bad blood. Both these complaints are curable by B. B. B., which acts on the stomach, liver, bowels and blood, and tones and strengthens the entire system, thus positively curing dyspepsia, constipation, bad blood and similar troubles.

"August Flower" Lawn Tennis!

How does he feel?—He feels blue, a deep, dark, unfading, dyed-in-the-wool, eternal blue, and he makes everybody feel the same way—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels a violent hiccoughing or jumping of the stomach after a meal, raising bitter-tasting matter or what he has eaten or drunk—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels so full after eating a meal that he can hardly walk—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels so full after eating a meal that he can hardly walk—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels so full after eating a meal that he can hardly walk—August Flower the Remedy.

G. G. GREEN, Sole Manufacturer, Woodbury, New Jersey, U. S. A.

Racquets! Balls! Nets! Croquet Fishing Outfits!

Oiled Silk and Silk Lines for Salmon and Trout; Flies—best home make; Hooks of all kinds; Gut; Casting Lines; Reels; Bait Boxes; Fly Books; Landing Nets; Bamboo Poles; Good Poles.

Base Ball Goods. Bats, Balls, Masks, Belts, Gloves, Hammocks.

All of which will be sold low to close out stock.

HALL'S BOOK & NEWS STORE FREDERICTON.

BELYEA HOTEL 253, 255 and 257 Prince William St., Saint John, N. B.

JAS. L. BELYEA, Proprietor. ONE MINUTE'S WALK FROM STEAMBOAT LANDING.

Street Cars for and from all Railway Stations and Steamboat Landings pass this Hotel every five minutes.

Permanent and Transient Boarders Accommodated. Terms reasonable.

MARCH 23th.

TENNANT, DAVIES & Co.

We have received and are now opening over 50 packages

SPRING DRY GOODS

NEW DRESS GOODS, NEW PRINTS, NEW COTTONS, NEW CLOTHS, CARPETS, LINOLEUMS, OIL CLOTHS, RUGS, MATTS, LACE CURTAINS,

Portiers, &c., Curtain Poles. Window Shades, &c., &c.

INSPECTION RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

Tennant, Davies & Co

—March 9th.—

NEW GOODS

DRESS MATERIALS,

—IN—

BEDFORD CORDS, CREEPAW, FANCY HOMESPUNS, ALLIGATOR SUITINGS, FANCY CHEVIOTS, &c., &c., &c.

PRINTS AND SATEEN in Great Variety.

ENGLISH FLANNETTES.

JOHN J. WEDDALL'S.

Sun Life Assurance Company.

HEAD OFFICE--MONTREAL.

The rapid progress made by this Company may be seen from the following Statement:

Table with columns: INCOME, ASSETS, LIFE ASSURANCE IN FORCE. Rows list years from 1872 to 1890 with corresponding financial figures.

The SUN issues Absolutely Unconditional Life Policies.

R. MACAULAY, PRESIDENT MANAGING DIRECTOR

J. B. GUNTER, General Agent.

16 Prince William St., St. John, and Queen St. Fredericton, N. B.

The Great Church LIGHT.

FRANK'S Patent Reflectors give the Most Powerful, the Softest, Cheapest and the Most Light known for Churches, Stores, Show Windows, Parlors, Banks, Offices, Picture Galleries, Theatres, Depots, etc. New and elegant designs. Send size of room. Get circular and estimate. A liberal discount to churches and the trade. L. F. FRANK, 603 Pearl Street, N. Y.