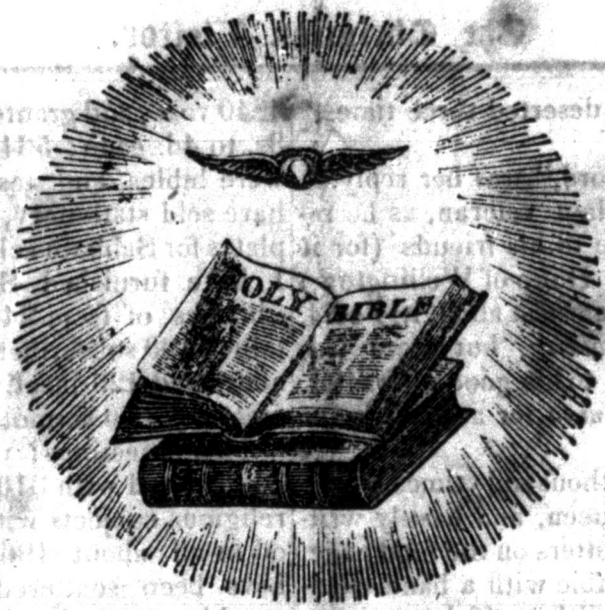


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REV. E. D. VEY,

"BY PURENESS, BY KNOWLEDGE—BY LOVE UNFEIGNED."—ST. PAUL.

EDITOR.

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Number 1.

THE BOY AT PLAY, MOTHER.

BY ELIA C. C.

And boy's been play mother,
And merry games we
led him on our way mother,
And every step was glad.
When we found a stry flower,
And praised its varie hue,
Or came trickling down his cheek,
St like a drop of dew.

Look him to the mill mother,
Here falling waters made
snow o'er the rill, mother,
Golden sun-rays played.
When we shouted at the scene,
And hailed the clear blue sky,
Food quite still upon the bank,
And breathed a long, long sigh.

Asked him why he wept mother,
When'er we found the lots
The periwinkles crept, mother,
Or wild forget-me-nots
me!" he said, while his ears ran down,
"Fast as summer shows,
Because I cannot see
the sunshine and the flowers."

That poor sightless boy mother,
He taught me I am blind;
Can look with joy, mother,
All I love the best.
When I see the dancin' stream,
Daisies red and white,
Feel upon the meadow,
Thank my God for sight.

immense resources of London contrasted with
immense amount of Poverty and Wretched-
ness of large masses of the population.

most valuable series of letters, entitled,
"The Poor," has been in course
publication in the columns of the "Morning
Star." We copy the following extracts
from the London City Mission Magazine for
the year 1849.

The city of London, with the walls, oc-
cupies a space of only 370 acres, and is but
dred and fortieth part of the extent cov-
ered by the whole metropolis. Nevertheless,
it is the seat of a mass of united and far-
flung elements, stretching from Ham-
m to Blackwall, from Holloway to
well. A century ago according to
d, the metropolis had drawn into its
city, 1 borough, and 13 villages.—
its vast extent, still it increases con-
so rapidly, that every year further
oom has to be provided for 20,000 per-
sons that London increases annually by
the addition of a town of considerable size.—
times there are 4,000 new houses in
erection. By the year 1850 the metropolis
is covered an extent nearly 45,000
acres and contained upwards of 10,000 houses
and by 1,820,000 souls, constituting not
the densest, but the busiest, the most
varied, and the richest bank in
the world.

NEW YORK. That it cites in the
city as the focus of modern civiliza-
tion, the hottest, the most restless activity
of the elements. Some, thinking of it
as a city of palaces, adorned with
noble and stately monuments; others, look-
ing east, see only narrow lanes and mus-
tard-houses, with tall chimneys vomit-
ing clouds, and huge masses of ware-
houses with doors and cranes engaged one
with another.

above another. Yet all think of it as a vast
bricken multitude, a strange incongruous
chaos of wealth and want—of ambition and
despair—of the brightest charity and the dark-
est crime, where there are more houses and
more houseless, where there is more feasting
and more starvation, than on any other spot
on earth—and all grouped round the one giant
centre, the huge black dome, with its ball of
gold looming through the smoke (an emblem
of the source of its riches!) and marking out
the capital, no matter from what quarter the
traveller may come.

"Those who have only seen London in the
day-time, with its flood of life pouring through
its arteries to its restless heart, know it not in
its grandest aspect. It is not in the noise and
roar of the cataract of commerce pouring
through its streets, nor in its forest of ships,
nor in its vast docks and warehouses, that its
true solemnity is to be seen. To behold it in
its greatest sublimity, it must be contemplated
by night, afar off, from an eminence. The
noblest prospect in the world, it has been well
said, is London viewed from the suburbs on a
clear winter's evening. The stars are shining
in the heavens, but there is another firmament
spread out below, with its millions of bright
lights glittering at our feet. Line after line
sparkles, like the trails left by meteors, cutting
and crossing one another till they are lost in
the haze of the distance. Over the whole there
hangs a lurid cloud, bright as if the monster
city were in flames, and looking afar off like
the sea by night, made phosphorescent by the
million creatures dwelling within it. At night
it is that the strange anomalies of London are
best seen. Then, as the hum of life ceases
and the shops darken, and the gaudy gin pal-
aces thrust out their ragged and squalid
crowds, to pace the streets, London puts on its
most solemn look of all. On the benches of
the parks, in the niches of the bridges, and in
the litter of the markets, are huddled together
the homeless and the destitute. The only
living things that haunt the streets are the poor
wretches who stand shivering in their finery,
waiting to catch the drunkard as he goes
shouting homewards. Here, on a door-step
crouches some shoe-less child, whose day's
begging has not brought it enough to purchase
it even the twopenny bed that its young com-
panions in beggary have gone to. There,
where the stones are taken up and piled high
in the road, and the gas streams from a tall
pipe in the centre of the street in a flag of
flame—there, round the red glowing coke fire,
are grouped a ragged crowd smoking or doz-
ing through the night beside it. Then as the
streets glow blue with the coming light, and
the church spires and chimney tops stand out
against the sky with a sharpness of outline
that is seen only in London before its million
fires cover the town with their pall of smoke
—then come sauntering forth the unwashed
poor, some with greasy wallets on their back,
to hunt over each dirt heap, and eke out life
by seeking refuse bones, or stray rags and
pieces of old iron. Others on their way to
their work, gathered at the corner of the street
round the breakfast stall, and blowing saucers
of steaming coffee drawn from tall tin cans,
with the fire shirring crimson through the holes
beneath; whilst already the little slattern girl,
with her basket slung before her, screams wa-
ter-carriers through the sleeping streets.

"Yet who, to see the squalor and wretch-
edness of London by night, would believe that
29 only of the London bankers have cleared
through their clearing house as much as nine
hundred and fifty-four million pounds sterling
in one year, the average being more than three
millions of money daily—or that the loans of
merely one house in the city throughout the
year exceed thirty millions? Who could have
visited the Rookery of St. Giles' as it existed

but a few months back, and have seen the un-
utterable abominations of this retreat of wretch-
edness, this nest of disease, at once the nurse-
ry and sanctuary of vice—where in one house
alone, Mr. Smirke tells us, were huddled to-
gether 11 men, 13 women and 30 children—
where as many as 60 of the foulest of the Lon-
don lazzaroni often sleep in the same abode—
who could witness this want and wretched-
ness, and yet believe that this country is 'the
bank of the whole world,' as the late Mr.
Rothschild called it in 1832; or that 'all
transactions in India, in China, in Russia,
and indeed every other empire, are guided
and settled in this country?'

"Is it possible to believe that any man
among us should want a roof to shelter his
head by night, or a crust to quell his hunger
by day, when we find that the amount of the
property insured against fire is valued at more
than £500,000,000, sterling, even though,
according to the returns made of the fires in
the metropolis during 1836 and 1837, 40 per
cent. of the houses, amounting to two-fifths
of the whole, were entirely uninsured? 'A very
short excursion into the worst part of St.
Giles,' says Mr. Smirke, 'will be enough to
convince any one, through the medium of
every sense, that it was built before the whole-
some regulations respecting building and
clearing were enforced. Indeed, there is
scarcely a single sewer in any part of it; so
that here, where there is the greatest accu-
mulation of filth, there is the least provision
made for its removal.' And yet, in the Hol-
born and Finsbury division alone—close
neighbors—the length of main covered sewers
is 83 miles; the length of smaller sewers to
carry off the surface-water from the roads and
streets, 16 miles; the length of drains leading
from houses to the main sewers, 264 miles, an
extent almost equal to the distance of London
from Edinburgh. The amount of money spent,
and the vastness of apparatus employed
solely in lighting London and the suburbs
with gas, would seem to dispel all thoughts of
poverty. According to the account of Mr.
Headly, the capital employed in pipes, tanks,
gas-holders, and apparatus of the London gas
works, amounts to £2,800,000, and the cost
of lighting averages close upon half a million
of money per year; no less than 1,460,000,000
feet of gas being annually consumed, and up-
wards of 9,000,000 being used on the longest
night, giving a light equal to half a million
pounds of tallow candles.

"The consumption of butchers' meat," says
an excellent authority, 'is nowhere so great in
proportion to the population as in London. The
population which obtains a supply of animal
food from the metropolitan market
amounts to 2,000,000. Now, calculating the
number of cattle and sheep sold in Smithfield
in 1839, with the number of pigs and calves,
from the returns of a previous year, and aver-
aging the dead weight of each according to
the judgment of an intelligent carcass-butcher
in Warwick-lane, the gross weight of animal
food which is furnished by the Smithfield Mar-
ket will amount to 270,880,000 pounds of meat
annually consumed in the metropolis alone.—
At the low price of sixpence per pound, the
above quantity amounts to £6,847,000; and
dividing this quantity among a population of
2,000,000, the consumption of each individual
will average 136 pounds of meat in the course
of the year; so that it seems almost impossible
to believe that any living soul within or without
the City walls should ever want a dinner.

"THE AMOUNT OF CRIME IN LONDON IS AL-
MOST AS AMAZING AS ITS WEALTH. About
36,000 criminals pass through the metropol-
itan gaols, bridewells, and penitentiaries every
year. In one year the number of persons taken
into custody by the metropolitan police for
various infractions of the law amounts to

65,000 and odd—equal to the whole population
of some of our largest towns. The criminal
districts of the metropolis are peculiar. Lar-
cencies in a dwelling-house were most nume-
rous in White-chapel in one year, and Saint
George's in the Borough in another. Larce-
nies on the person, on the other hand, were
most common in Covent-garden at one time,
and at another in Shadwell. Highway rob-
beries, burglaries, and shop-breaking occur
most frequently in the eastern and southern
districts, as Whitechapel, Southwark, Lam-
beth, Mile-end, and Poplar. The parish of
St. James usually furnishes the largest propor-
tionate number of cases under the head of
drunkenness, disorderly prostitutes, and va-
grancy. Clerkenwell is distinguished for the
greatest number of cases of horse-stealing, of
assaults with attempt to rescue, and wilful da-
mage. Common assaults are said to be most
frequent in Covent-garden and in St. George's-
in-the-East; coining and uttering counterfeit
coin, in Clerkenwell and Covent-garden; em-
bezzlement, in Whitechapel and Clerkenwell;
and pawning illegally in Mile-end and Lam-
beth. Murder has been found to be most
prevalent in Clerkenwell and Whitechapel,
manslaughter in Islington and Clerkenwell,
and arson in Marylebone and Westminster.
One thing is at least clear, that, judging from
the limited number of facts supplied to us,
Clerkenwell would seem to hold a bad pre-
eminence for the number and nature of the of-
fences committed within its limits. The
Constabulary Commissioners, who had access
to the best sources of information, made a re-
turn to the number of thieves and suspicious
characters within the boundaries of the metro-
politan police, and the following is the result
of their investigation:—They divided the whole
number into three classes, and they found, 1st,
that there were 10,444 persons who had no
visible means of subsistence, and who are be-
lieved to live by the violation of the law, as by
habitual depredations by fraud, by prostitution,
&c.; 2d, of persons following some ostensible
and legal occupation, but who are known to
have committed some offence, and are believ-
ed to augment their gains by habitual or occa-
sional violations of the law, there were 4,353;
and 3d, there were 2,104 persons not recog-
nised to have committed any offences, but
known as associates of the above classes, and
otherwise deemed to be suspicious characters.
Besides this return, the Constabulary Com-
missioners also obtained another, giving the
number of houses open for the accommodation
of delinquency and vice in the metropolitan
district—namely, houses for the reception of
stolen goods, 227; houses for the resort of
thieves, 276; number of brothels where pros-
titutes are kept, 933; number of houses of ill-
fame where prostitutes resort, 848; number
of houses where prostitutes lodge, 1,554; num-
ber of gambling-houses, 32; and number of
mendicants' lodging-houses, 221."

* We are happy to state that the Committee, have, since
the last Annual Meeting, appointed two new missionaries
in Clerkenwell, and that they appointed a third new mis-
sionary to that parish shortly before the Public Meeting.—
EDITOR.

Structure of Society in Scotland.

The noxious influences of the feudal system
were beautifully counteracted in old Scottish
society, partly by our civil legislation, partly
by circumstances which legislation could hard-
ly reach; and it were well that our legislators
in church and state, deeply pondering the na-
tural propensity of society as well as individual
man to evil, when left to itself, would suggest
and adopt in times some such remedial measures
as might effectually meet those novel corrup-
tions which the modern condition of society
threatens to produce. The tendency of the
feudal system was to an aristocracy, exclusive,