CHAPTER I.

How Thomas Dexter Made His Money. seven and a half. His H name was Thomas Dexter; hers Little Make-Believe. He was a crooked, ugly, pock-marked little man; she a crooked, ugly, pock-marked little girl. He was a general dealer; so was she.

His shop was situated in the heart of Clare Market, which some people with fastidious notions call Lincoln's Inn Fields.

The persons thus fastidiously inclined and who thus, metaphorically, turn up their noses at Clare Market, are dwellers therein, and being genteelly inclined to wish to disguise the fact, resembling in this respect other persons higher in the social scale who reside in Bayswater and call it Hyde Park, to the confusion of the simpleminded cabmen (if any such exist) and ansuspicious friends from the country.

principle. Thomas Dexter gave himself no such airs. Clare Market was good enough than Clare Market, where the cheapfor him, and his ambition, in a residential way, did not extend beyond it. ening process goes on unceasingly the

Thirty-three years had passed over his head since, with his own hands, he painted on his shop windows the words, "Dexter, General Dealer," there not being room for "Thomas."

Time and dust had eaten into this sign and quite obliterated it, as in due course they would eat into Thomas Dexter and quite obliterate him.

When the painted letters of the legend on his shop windows were fresh and bright Thomas Dexter, also fresh and bright, commenced business with exactly £14 in gold, which he found, on the evening of his father's funeral, tied up in an old nightcap, in a hard lump rlose to the tassel.

He had come home sad of face and at heart from the churchyard in which his old friend and relative lay buried.

the conclusion of such a bargain she He was not given to sentiment, but would run to some convenient windowhe and his father had been comrades sill, where with ar imaginary knife for many a long year, and it was natshe would cut away ail the imaginary ural that he should feel melancholy in fat from an imaginary piece of meat, his loneliness. and hand it to an imaginary poor wom-

There was another reason for sadheartedness; he had spent his last shilling on his father's funeral. Tom," his father had said to him in

his dying moments, "there's something weighing on my mind." "Out with it, father," said Thomas

Dexter, "if it'll ease yer." "I was born in this here neighbor-

bood," continued the old man, "and so was you, my boy. Lord, don't I remember the night you come into the world! And now I'm a-going out of it. It was a Saturday night, and I was two have fallen short of the extent of his mile away with my barrer in Tottenham Court road, where I had a pitch. The old woman was with me, looking arter the tin, and she sed to me about sition to count and gloat over his Do'clock: 'Father,' sed she, 'I feel a bit queerish; I think I'd best go home.' 'All right, old girl,' sed I, 'trot off; I'll manage without yer.' 'Don't worry about me,' she sed, smiling at me as she walked away; 'it's only a spasm.' That was you, Tom-you was the spasm. It was past 12 afore I got home, and I no sooner put my head in at the door than I knew I was a father in real earnest, for you salooted me with a squall which you kept up, on and off, for a matter of three months, I should say. You and the old woman was laying on this very bed, in this wery room. It's rum to think on, ain't it? It was sharp work, but your mother was sharp at anythink she set her mind on. She'd hardly time to throw herself on the bed afore you mas born. The room was dark, toealmost as dark as it is now."

"Why, father," said Thomas Dexter, "it's broad daylight and the sun's a-shining right into the winder!"

"You'll allow me to know," murmured the old man, with a fretful sigh. "I can see when it's dark and when it's light. I ain't dead yet, my boy. Tom, I've a sort of notion that I'm wandering. Where was I, my boy?"

"In this room, where mother was confined."

"No-afore that! Where was I afore I come home that night?"

"In Tottenham Court road, with the

"No, no, no! Afore that! Give a cove

a leg up. What was I saying fust of all?" "That you was born in this here

fiddles, in cobwebbed crevices, tied up in bits of old calico and canvas and neighborhood." chamois leather bags. "That's it-that's what's weighing on

my mind! I was born in Clare Market, and there ain't a man, woman or child hereabouts as don't know me, and as won't know presently that I'm a dead 'un. Tom! I shouldn't like to be taken out of the workshop in a shabby sort of way. Don't shove me under the turf as if I was a pauper. Do it in style, old pal, and bury me with

feathers!" The thing was done. The old man was buried with feathers, and Thomas was his father's nightcap, the tassel, as Dexter experienced a solemn satisfaction as he gazed at the sable plumes, emblems of trumphant woe, which nodded at him in approval of his dutiful regard to his father's last wish. ghost standing on his head in his night-

In the evening he looked over the old man's clothes to decide which to keep for personal wear and which to dispose of for a new start in life. Under the mattress was his father's nightcap, which, as he moved the bed, fell veh a thud upon the floor. Picking it up throwing an odd piece of gold or silver in the hotel, they find the number quickly and loosening the knot with his upon every occasion of his making a plates covered with a bag, which efteeth, fourteen pieces of bright gold good bargain, and it was now so heav- fectually thwarts their sinister decame into view; also a paper, upon lily weighted that, as he lay abed gaz- signs.-Providence Journal. which was written:

"For my boy, Tom. If he's buried the strings giving way and of its fallme with feathers, they'll bring him ing upon his crooked nose and making it crookeder.

Deliriously delighted at the discovery of the treasure. Thomas Dexter clapped the old-fashioned nightcap on garded his father's nightcap with suhis head and danced about the room perstitious reverence, and he had a fear to a tune of his own composing, the that if he shifted its position, even by music being the jingling of the sover- a hair's breadth, it might change his

eigns in the hollowed palms of his luck. He lived all alone, without chick or The next morning, being in a more child. He washed and cooked and did for the asking.

old man, without a soul in the world to love or take care of him. As for an occasional kiss from or upon a pair of fresh young lips, he had forgotten the taste of such a thing-assuming, of course, that he ever had enjoyed it. Kissing, indeed! What time did any composed frame of mind, he took the person suppose Thomas Dexter had for shop down stairs, which happened to kissing! be let, and set up as his own master.

He attended auctions and bought

odds and ends. Nothing in the regular

He knew a trick worth two of that.

He had a craze for the antique. Any-

thing in that line-chipped and cracked

china, never mind how chipped and

cracked; rickety old furniture, never

mind how rickety; miscellaneous lots,

the more miscellaneous the better-

these were his hobby. And some kind

of good luck or good judgment, or both

combined, stood always at his elbow,

These ugly, crooked, pock-marked

little men generally prosper, especially

bread and no butter, with an occa-

potatoes, with perhaps, at long inter-

sional herring ,and an ample supply of

vals, a little bit of meat; wisely select-

And what finer spot in all the wide

world for living economically is there

whole year through, from early in the

morning till late in the night, when the

Little Mage-Believe could have told

She was intimately acquainted with

all the entanglements and tortuous

windings of Clare Market, and, young

as she was, had grown in the habit of

lingering by the side of pale-faced

women who stood before the butcher's

board striving to coax the man in the

blue flannel apron to take a halfpenny

a pound less, or at least to cut off a

little of the superfluous fat with which

When Little Make-Believe witnessed

an, saying, with the air of a trader

who is doing a splendid stroke of busi-

"There! Will that suit yer at tup-

pence a pound? Never mind the money.

At the end of thirty-three years you

might have multiplied by fourteen the

fourteen sovereigns Thomas Dexter

found in his father's old-fashioned

nightcap, and have multipled that

again by fourteen, and you would still

Not that he had any idea how much

he was worth. That he had no dispo-

proof that the grain of his nature was

He was simply a man engrossed in

his business, and he attended to it

became crowded with the strangest

collection of odds and ends that were

He took premises at the back of his

shop, and almost before he could look

around they became crowded also. Old

armor, old brasses, old carvings, old

lace, old enamels, old furniture, filled

every nook and corner, and when a

certain erratic taste for anything an-

cient and hideous came into vogue i

was as good as a little fortune to him.

least. From a crooked, ugly, pock-

marked young man, he grew into a

crooked, ugly, pock-marked middle-

aged man, and further on into a

crooked, ugly, pock-marked old man.

from the day he set up as his own

master wore a new coat, a new hat, or

a new pair of boots. Anything second

hand in the way of clothing suited him

if it was large enough, and as it was

not the slightest consequence if it were

many sizes too large, his appearance

generally was that of a clumsily done-

As for the money he accumulated, he

kept it anywhere except in a bank-in

corners of his shop not accessible to

customers, under the flooring, in the

broken ceiling, in the walls, in old

Some of these packages looked like

diminutive legs of mutton; some like

fingers and thumbs with large bread

He had the greatest difficulty in

squeezing himself of a night into the

little room at the back of his shop in

which he slept, so packed was it with

Suspended over his head, in the shape

of a net, by means of pieces of string

tied to the bare rafters of the ceiling,

you looked up, being the first part of it

A man of imagination might have

conjured up the outlines of old Dexter's

cap in reversal of the laws of nature,

with his legs sticking upward through

ing at it, there was really a danger of

But he did not attempt to remove this

constant source of danger. He re-

up bundle.

poultices on them.

valuable oddments.

that met your eyes.

the roof.

Despising everything new, he never

Prosperity did not change him in the

ever gatherel under one roof.

icient

Pay me when yer like!"

money and possessions

not mercenary.

riches.

were very rarely successful.

you something about that.

wind?

ed, and bought on the political economy

invisibly guarding his interests.

way at regular prices.

CHAPTER II.

ahomas Dexter's Romance.

everything for himself. If Cupid had possessed a rusty antiquated arrow, he might have sent it in the direction of

Dexter's shop; but Cupid's arrows are

always new and brightly polished, and

such shining articles would have been

completely wasted upon this dealer in

odds and ends. One arrow, indeed, had

found its way to Thomas Dexter's

heart, but that was many years ago,

and he was now fast growing to be an

The slight reference to the arrow which many years ago had found its way to Thomas Dexter's heart furnishes material for detail-which shall

be brief as woman's love. Yes, Thomas Dexter had had his ro-

The scene was Clare Market, the time twelve years ago. He was treating himself to a cheap stroll through the busy thoroughfares when, stopping for a moment at, a vegetable stall, his eyes suddenly met the eyes of Polly if they live on bread and salt butter, or | Cleaver.

She was no stranger to him, being a native of the locality. He must have seen her thousands of times, and he had never given her a thought; certainly it never entered his mind to pay her the slightest attention.

But his time had now arrived-and the woman. A magnetic spark flashed from Polly's eyes into his. Thomas Dexter's heart was lost, and Polly Cleaver was the winner.

Love is blind; but to be blind is not necessarily to be foolish.

grease and tar lamps are flaring in the Mortals deprived of sight are, as a rule, shrewd enough. Some are cunning; some are cruel; few are thoroughly simple.

Love is an exception, however, being frequently foolish as well as blind. Of course it was Saturday night. If any prince in disguise wished to seek for adventure in London street, let him select Saturday night for the enterprise.

Then come out the toilers and moilers, the pleasure-seekers, the pain-

the meat was fringed-efforts which Girls who have been at work all the week flit about like butterflies, and enjoy blissful moments, meeting their lovers, and helping to fill the theatres and music halls.

The streets and public houses are thronged; the sky is lurid with the reflection of myriad gas jets.

From the garrets and the cellars creep strange figures into the light-the old, the decrepit, the solitary drinker, the stranger among millions, the man of Albert T. Patrick to enable his counwhom nobody knows, the child whom nobody owns, the wretch in hiding, the undiscovered murderer. It is the holiday hour of the week. Polly Cleaver was not alone. Her

father was by her side, with a glass or two, or more correctly speaking, the contents of a pewter pot or two in him. In which respect Polly was his match, and therefore, prudence might have suggested, no match for Thomas Dexter. But when was love prudent? The girl was not even pretty, and she at Chicago.

and her family were certainly not respectable. All sorts of queer stories of Polly's "goings on" were current. Thomas Cleaver did not think of this

when he went home on that Saturday patiently and shrewdly until his shop in his mind's eye.

Polly Cleaver-Polly Cleaver! He could think of nothing but Polly Cleaver. What eyes she had! What a com-

plexion! What a laughing mouth, what large white teeth. He idealized every feature in her face, every movement of her body. The man was possessed.

He passed a bad night, and he might have had a fever had he not found his following day, which in the natural the drill being perfect. order of time was Sunday.

Mr. Cleaver, who had been all his life a carpenter out of work, met Thomas Dexter on the stairs, as that love-lorn mortal was mounting to the second floor back, in which the Cleavers re-

"Hallo!" cried Mr. Cleaver. "What brings you here?"

What could Thomas Dexter reply to this straight thrust except, "I've come to see how Polly is."

(To be Continued.)

Host Conceals Automobile Numbers. The new proprietor of a popular roadhouse in Warwick has been greatly annoyed by the idle curiosity displayed by some automobilists as to the identity of others who patronize his place.

It is quite natural for a man who, being out for a turn in the evening ish Minister to Portugal. with his wife, drops into the resort in question for a cooling drink or a little lunch, to prefer to remaining incognito. But when the automobiles run under a shed from which the registry number shines forth for all to see, like a good deed in a naughty world, it is the easiest thing in the world for some other party to drive up. look over the numbers and when out on the road pull out a registry book. find out the names of the persons who owned the machines and cause them a good deal of discomfort over the tele-

phone the following day. This, according to the roadhouse keeper, has been a favorite pastime ever since he took hold of the place, and he gave a good deal of thought to meeting the difficulties. Finally he evolved a scheme. Nowadays, when Into this nightcap Thomas Dexter for inquisitive people seek to learn, by many years had been in the habit of looking at registry numbers, who is

> She Could Supply the Need. "I have a handsome home." he supgested.

"With all the modern conveniences? she asked. "No-o," he answered slowly; all. One is lacking."

"What is it?" she inquired. "A wife," he replied. Then she managed to convey the assurance to him that one was to be had overthrow of Spanish power in Cuba,

MINOR EVENTS OF THE WEEK THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

WASHINGTON.

In the Senate the bill for the govern ment of the Panama Canal zone, abolishing the present commission, was

Washington reports state that one of President Castro's political foes is ir New York getting the sinews of war for the revolt against Venezuela's President, long predicted. It is alleged that Government officials

have evidence to prove that the Western railroads entered into a conspiraacy with the Beef Trust to shut out competition. Representatives of the Department

Justice in American ports on the Gulf of Mexico have been instructed to closely guard against the clearance of any filibustering expeditions against Guatemala. This was done at the request of the Guatemalan Government. General Morteza Khan, who succeeds General Isaac Khan as Persian Minister to Washington, was formally received at the White House by President Roosevelt.

OUR ADOPTED ISLANDS.

The House of Delegates of Porto Rico, sitting at San Juan, has passed an eviction law which will bear very severely upon certain tenants. Several meetings have been held to denounce the bill, and other popular demonstrations have been made against it.

Major Carrington, who was convicted of falsifying vouchers of the Philippine civil government to the amount of \$1500, was sentenced at Manila to a total of sixty years and five days' imprisonment.

Lurid flames and dense volumes of thick smoke poured from the crater Bilauea, near Honolulu, H. I., and the inhabitants at the foot hills of the mountain were alarmed lest they be overwhelmed with a sea of molten lava.

The Porto Rico Legislature has passed a law, which Governor Winthrop will approve, for the maintenance of a permanent representative in the United States, with headquarters in New York, to promote the commercial interests of the island and, particularly, those of coffee growers.

DOMESTIC.

The bill intended to abolish the 'fake" Raines law hotels was favorably reported from the Senate Cities Committee at Albany, N. Y.

Amendments to the Metropolitan Election law were introduced in both houses at Albany, N. Y.

Russian naval officers who were paroled after their capture at Port Ar-thur arrived in New York City. The heavy ice gorge in the Ohio at

Maysville went out, doing serious damage. Seventeen young men arrived in New York City from Argentine Republic to

pursue studies in various coileges for four years. The Court of Appeals at Albany, N. granted a postponement in the case

sel to prepare new evidence, based on recent medico-legal investigation. Johann Hoch was held without bail by a coroner's jury in Chicago, Ill., on

a charge of murdering Marie Welker Hoch, his next to the last wife. For the purchase of a site for a municipal electric lighting plant, the New York Board of Estimate and Ap-

portionment authorized an appropriation of \$600.000. A new Grand Jury investigation of

About fifty cents on a dollar will paid creditors of the East End Savings Bank, at Columbus, Ohio.

the Iroquois Theatre fire, was started

The Federal Grand Jury, at Montgomery, Ala., returned a number of innight with the image of Polly Cleaver dictments for peonage and white cap-

With no reason known for the deed. Colonel Charles S. Arnol, one of the best known insurance men of the South, killed himself by shooting, at Atlanta, Ga.

Collector of Customs Leach announced in Cleveland that he had found \$50,000 in jewels belonging to Mrs. Chadwick upon which duty had not been paid. Twelve hundred children were taken

safely from the Juvenile Asylum in way to Polly Cleaver's lodgings on the New York City, when it caught fire,

Dr. William Osler, of Baltimore, repeated his declaration that men more than forty years old have passed the period of usefulness to the world.

FOREIGN.

The Russian Government has suspended the circulation of the newspaper Russ.

Iron workers renewed the strike in the Russian capital, and troops were called into action.

Warsaw and Lodz were cut off from Europe, all train service being suspended.

The crisis between Sweden and Norway was reported as daily coming nearer.

Emperor Nicholas has decided that the war must go on, and German court circles have been advised to that effect, A special Lisbon dispatch announced the death of Sir Martin Gosselin, Brit-

Sir Thomas Wemyss Reid, well known as an author, and editor of the London Speaker, died. One policeman was killed and two

were fatally injured by mobs at Warsaw. The employes of the gas works have quit work. Severs snowstorms prevailed in Northern Spain and railway traffic

was delayed. At an auction sale in London a rock crystal ewer and cover from the Anglesey collection brought \$21,000.

The Czar has held an important council at Tsarskoe-Selo, at which it is reported the possibilities of peace were discussed. The Dominion Government has en-

tered into a contract with the Allan Line for a steamship service between A supposed bomb was discovered at Canada and France. The ports of call in France will be Havre and Cherthe entrance of a hotel in Paris, France. It was examined at the mubourg. In Canada the summer ports nicipal laboratory and found to contain will be Montreal and Quebec and in only coal dust. What had been supwinter Halifax and St. John. N. B. posed to be a fuse was merely a piece The trial of thirty-one Christians acof blackened string.

agement of the lines, according to a

special dispatch from Rome.

cused of the murder of a Jewess named Spiwok in the anti-Semitic riots ended at Kishineff. Nine of the Peculiarities of Neapolitan Beggars. defendants were acquitted, while Charles Lever, the novelist, said that twenty-two were sentenced to a month when he threw out a handful of small coins to the Neapolitan beggars the Railway employes in Italy will put blind were the first to see it, the parevery obstacle in the way of the Govalyzed to run for it, the maimed to pick ernment's plan of taking over the manit up, the naked to put it in their pock-

The unveiling of the statue of Mar the Cuban patriot who organized Replaces Wooden Cellings. the revolution which ended with the Stamped sheet zinc is rapidly com ing into use for metal ceilings in place

ets and the dumb to blaspheme.

THE GREAT DESTROYER

FOR MARCH 26.

Lesson I. Topic: The wonderful divine Saviour. Place: Ephesus. John's gospel was written between 80 and 90 A. D. John

thanael was soon convinced that Jesus

pots with water; they were then told to draw out and bear to the governor of the feast; the governor praised the wine; in this miracle Christ showed forth His glory; the disciples believed that He was the

the disciples believed that He was the Messiah.

V. Topic: Gateways into the kingdom of God. Place: Jerusalem. Nicodemus came to Jesus by night; the subject of miracles was introduced; Jesus said, "Xe must be born again;" Nicodemus failed to understand; Christ brought an illustration of the wind; also referred to the serpent Moses made in the wilderness; said that the Son of Man must be lifted up that whosoever believeth in Him should have eternal life.

VI. Topic: Vital laws of spiritual work. Place: At Jacob's well; meets a woman; asks a drink; she expresses surprise; Jesus speaks of the gift

expresses surprise; Jesus speaks of the gift of God—living water; she desires it; Jesus asks her to call her husband; she says she has none; has had five; calls Jesus a pro-phet; asks about place of worship; true

worship must be in spirit and in truth.
VII. Topic: Christ's power to restor
to life. Place: Cana in Galilee. The Ga.

leans received Christ gladly. A nobleman of Capernaum heard that Jesus had come

into Galilee and hastens to Him to entreat Him to come and heal his son; Jesus told him to return and that his son was healed; the man believed Christ's words;

the son began to recover at the very hour Jesus had said, "Thy son liveth."

VIII. Topic: The Lordship of Jesus Christ. Place: Jesus went to Jerusalem to attend the feast of the Passover; Jesus

saw an infirm man at the pool of Bethesda, who had been sick thirty-eight years; asked him if he desired to be made whole;

disciples went into a desert place to be alone; great multitudes followed them; Jesus taught them and healed their sick;

in the aftenoon the disciples suggested that the multitude should be sent away to buy

food; Jesus decided to feed them there; a lad was found with five loaves and two fishes; five thousand men were fed besides

X. Topic: Jeaus proves Himself the God-Saviour. Place: Jerusalem. It was the last day of the feast of the Taberna-

gift of the Holy Spirit.

XI. Topic: Christ's teaching respecting

sin. Place: Jerusalem. Jesus delivered four discourses during His stay in Jerusalem at the time of the feast of the Taber-

lem at the time of the feast of the Tabernaeles; this discourse was delivered in the court of the women, and may be divided into two parts: 1. Christ is the Son of God. 2. He has supreme authority even above Abraham. Those who accept Jesus Christ will know the truth, and the truth will make them free. The world-Saviour's doctrine respecting sin. 1. Sin leads to hypocrisy, deceives men, is slavery, is contrary to God. 2. It is cured by the word of Christ. by the truth of Christ, by the blood of Christ.

XII. Topic: Jesus Christ the light of men. Place: Jerusalem. Jesus saw a blind

men. Place: Jerusalem. Jesus saw a blind man; the disciples asked Christ who had

sinned, this man or his parents; Jesus re-

ents had sinned: makes clay of spittle;

anoints the blind man's eyes; commands the man to go to the pool of Siloam and

wash; he obeys; comes back seeing; his neighbors are stirred; he gives an account of his healing; is taken to the Pharisees; Jesus accused of desecrating the Sabbath. The world-Saviour is the life and light of men. The lesson shows that light (1) is

needed. (2) is offered, (3) is received by some, (4) is rejected by some. (5) should

be clearly reflected by those who have it.

Prices For Old Chinaware.

Holland, the following prices were re-

alized for some ancient chinaware:

Two flower pots of the times of Em-

peror Ching-Hwa, \$1780 apiece; five

small vases, \$1140; two teapots (feuille

d'Artemisel), \$720 the piece; a poly-

chrome service (of the Kangshi pe-

riod). \$4750; a small enamled teapot.

\$980; a large vase, 231/2 inches in diam-

£20,000 For Servants.

William Edmond Roope, of Under Rock, Bonchurch, late of Wight, a

priest of the Roman Catholic Church.

munificent bequests of £10,000 each are

made to his two servants. Ruth Blaza

and Cecily Guy. To the latter he also

left a life interest in his freehold

house. Under Rock, and he appointed

This Bomb a Hoax.

both as executrices of his will.

Under the will of the late Rev. Dr.

eter, style "famille rose," \$1785, etc.

At a recent auction at Amsterdam,

plied that neither this man nor

women and children.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS SOME STARTLING FACTS ABOUT THE VICE OF INTEMPERANCE.

Review of the Twelve Preceding Lessons Poem: The Drunkard's Wife-Tragedy For the First Quarter-Read John vi. That Followed a New England Father's Vote For a "Change"-35-51 - Golden Text, John xx., 31-

His Swift Use of Another Chance. n a hospital ward a woman lav Painfully gasping her life away, So bruised and beaten you scarce could

trace trace
Womanhood's semblance in form or face.
Yet the Mair that over the pillow rolled
In a tangled mass was like threads of gold;
And never a sculptor in any land
Moded a daintier foot of hand.

Said one who ministered to her need: "Could none but a coward do this deed, And what bitter hate could have nerved the arm

That a helpless creature like this could Then the dim eyes, hazy with death's eclipse. Slowly unlock and the swollen lips

Saviour. Place: Ephesus. John's gospel was written between 80 and 90 A. D. John was the only apostle living at that time He refers to Christ as the Word of God; all things were made by Him; He was the life and the light of men; reference is made to John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ; He was "not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light;" Jesus was the true light.

II. Topic: The believer's true attitude toward his Lord. Place: Bethabara. A crisis had arisen in John's ministry; the Sanhedrin sent a deputation from Jerusa lem to ask John who he was; John said he was not the Christ, nor Elias, nor the prophet about whom Moses had written, but he was merely a voice crying from the wil derness, "Make straight the way of the Lord." John baptized with water; Christ would baptize with the Holy Spirit; John testified concerning Jesus and called Him the Lamb of God; John did not know Christ until the time of his baptism when the Holy Ghost in the form of a dove came upon him, and the Father said, "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."

III. Topic: Jesus wins His first disci-Murmured faintly: "He loves me wear-My husband—'twas drink—be sure and tall When he comes to himself—that I forgive: Poor fellow—for him I would like to live." A shudder, a moan as the words were said, And a drunkard's wife on the couch lay

well pleased."

III. Topic: Jesus wins His first disciples. Place: Bethabara. John pointed Jesus out to two disciples who followed Jesus; Jesus turned and said, "What seek ye?" They asked Christ where He dwelt; Jesus said, "Come and see;" Andrew found his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus; it is supposed also that John found his brother James; Jesus found Philip; Philip found Nathanael; when Philip told Nathanael that they had found the Messiah, Nathanael raised an objection; Nathanael was soon convinced that Jesus O fathers, who your daughters rear, So nebody's daughter is lying here!) brothers of sisters, come and see hat the fate of your precious one may be! Man! however you love your home, Be it palace or cottage 'heath Heaven's

blue dome. This demon of drink can enter in. For law strikes hands and bargains with thanael was soon convinced that Jesus was the Messiah.

IV. Topic: Christ's first miracle. Place: Cana of Galilee. A wedding feast was being held; Christ's mother had been invited, and Christ and His disciples were invited; they needed wine at the feast; Christ's mother called His attention to the fact; He instructed the servants to fill six water pots with water: they were then told to

You have legalized crime, you have the Now hand them over, the sons you sold— Keep pushing them forward. Drink, boys, drink! Your fathers are paid for your souls, they

think; And in the great mart where mammon,

strives
Cheapest of all things are human lives.
—Chicago Inter-Ocean,

Caught in the Trap.

In a certain New England city the license forces gained the victory by a a majority of thirteen. That overturn was an astonishment to the citizens of 'no mean city." From a majority of hundreds for no-license for a series of ten years the opposition had won by a very small margin. What did it mean?

Just this: The sense of security on the part of many who had helped win the victory for a decade. They failed to go to the polls, believing that the large annual majority could not, or, at least, would not, be overcome. And thus did they make their great mistake. They forgot that 'eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Then again, there were others who

ad voted year after year for no-license o thought they would change and vote the other way; for no good reason to be sure. Some tried to persuade themselves that it might be a good thing for the city; that the license fees would increase the city's revenue; that "improvements" certain desirable could thus be secured without additional taxes! And so the pendulum, lifted to a

high point on one side, swung far over to the opposite point, for there was a transfer of 574 votes that year from the no-license to the license column. When that saloon victory was an-

asked him if he desired to be made whole; the man replied that he had no one to put him into the pool; Jesus told him to rise, take up his bed and walk; the man did as he was commanded.

IX. Topic: Jesus supplying human need. Place: Near Bethsaida on the northeast shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus and His discipled went the advent when the sea of th nounced and the people came to realize what had happened, a gloom seemed to settle upon the city, and this was intensified when the saloon really arrived. One workman, who had secured a pleasant home, and pur \$1000 in the bank, got enamored of the saloon, and in twelve months his bank deposit was gone; it went into the rumseller's till. A president of a Christian Endeavor society went down in the general wreck during that year. One of the voters who thought a "change" might be decles; there was a great ceremony in connection with bringing water from the pool of Siloam; near the close of the ceremony Jesus cried. "If any man thirst, let him come unto Me and drink;" He spake of the sirable, at the opening of the saloon year, had two sober and promising sons. When his ballot was cast establishing the saloons he seemingly never took into consideration the possibility of danger coming to his own home.

But, alas! Those boys knew that father had "voted for license," and why should they not visit an "institution" which he had favored and helped to establish? And so they did visit it again and again, unbeknown to that

father! One night, or nearer morning, they were both brought home drunk. It would be quite impossible to picture the chagrin, the shame, the sorrow of that father. His boys, the pride of his life, had been caught in the saloon-trap, and he had helped to establish it! It was, to him, a grievous sorrow, and his distress and persistence came to be known generally. In the midst of his wretchedness he was heard to say. "Give me another chance, and I'll be swift to vote against the saloon." And he did, and many others with him, for the meager majority of thirteen for license was wiped out the following year by a no-license majority of 2130. It is the general conviction that the last triumph has come to stay!-The Rev. O. W. Scott, in Ram's Horn.

Life insurance companies of New York report that drinking men are bad risks. In the last thirty-six years, out of 104.847 deaths on which insurance was due, 57,891 were drinkers and 46,956 were teetotalers. The London Lancet, probably the leading medical journal of the world, recently reviewed the results of experimental research on the effects of alcohol, and illustrates it by this pithy comparison:

Sea water may be used in the boile: of a steam engine, and the steam from its evaporation will transmit the energy of the fuel to the revolving wheels, but its corrosive action on the steel forbids its use except i. emergencies.

For twenty-five dollars the United States Government will sell a tax-receipt, even in prohibition territory, which gives the purchaser permission of the United States Government to retail liquor-which he does so frequently in direct defiance of the State or county law. It is true that the United States tax-receipt does not pretect the holder from any action which the State or county may take; but it sanctions him as far as the nation is concerned.

A Canteen Straw. A writer in the Arena tells of the

saving effected by the abelishment of the canteen in the Leavenworth Soldiers' Home where in three years 1226 old soldiers were treated and 724 sent out to again support themselves, and in the case of nearly 200, their families also. Estimating their support at the cost to Kansas of those in the Home. it shows that \$93,655 is annually saved to that one commonwearth in the way,

On Temperance Sunday 124 Sundayschool scholars in one church in Omaha signed the temperance pledge,

Tunday Breakfast Lable

THE PRECEPTOR.

BY CLINTON SCOLLARD. I set my eyes on the face of duty;
"Master," I said, "let be! let be!
Life will lose all its golden beauty
If I must follow thee!"

Dreary the span of the sky, and errie The sound of every song.

Ah, but the ways that we trod were Ah. but the paths that we followed long!

And yet, as though through some chrismic wonder, After the lapsing of sunless days, The grim gray veil seemed to melt and

Like the rifted morning haze. Then I set my eyes on the face of duty; "Master," I said, "at last I see That life has gained a more hallowed

beauty Since I have followed thee!"
—Sunday-School Times.

A Forgotten Beginning.

A Forgotten Beginning.

The Chicago Association was holding its annual session with one of the churches which had grown to strength in a Gozen years, and were happy in the completion of its large new house of worship. In and out among the pastors and delegates of the hundred churches represented moved a little old lady in black. Every one knew her as the widow of a retired minister who had died a few months before. They two had regularly attended these gatherings together; a couple short in stature, and slender besides, whose active work lay so many years back that only the oldest of the delegates knew much of it. There had been some little mention in the papers of their golden wedding, and not long afterward there had been obituary notices not lacking in sincere cordiality, but the old couple had gone in and out among a generation who had small versonal knowledge of what their lives had been.

At the noon intermission the widow approached the moderator of the meeting and asked if there would be any time when she could read before the gathering a tribute to the memory of her husband. It was an unusual thing to ask, and the more fraught with uncertainty because she asked for fifteen minutes and the program was overloaded. There was a consultation, and it was arranged that in the interval between the afternoon and the evening sessions, immediately after supper, she should have the time she desired, and the reading was awaited not without some anxiety.

She rose when the time came, and read

sions, immediately after supper, she should have the time she desired, and the reading was awaited not without some anxiety. She rose when the time came, and read her paper in a voice that was not strong but did not tremble. There was no appeal for symnathy or thrusting of her sorrows upon others. She gave as the reason for asking the privilege the fact that the church where the meeting was held was in the district where she and her husbandhad spent six vears. beginning thirty-five years before. She said:

"This is counted a new district in the city, but it was both new and old even thirty-five years ago. An old stage route ran out Milwaukee avenue, and there was a small settlement here from early days. At that time there was a movement of population this way, and we came together to organize a church. Houses were widely scattered over the prairie, and from two miles east the parish extended far out westward across the fields."

She told how they succeeded in erecting a church building, which was speedily wrecked by a tornado, and how in the hottest of hot summers they walked through shadeless streets, soliciting money to rebuild it. After it was done the tide of population turned in another direction. The settlement languished and diminished, and after six years of faithful effort the work had to he given up. Now, after years

and after six years of faithful effort the work had to be given up. Now, after years of waiting, the tide had returned, and with it the beautiful church had come into

being.
Simply but touchingly she told the story of those early beginnings, and the picture which she gave of her husband, and uncon-sciously of herself, awoke a thrill of admirsciously of herself, awoke ation in all who heard her. She had brought to men the knowledge of six forgotten years of heroic service. Warm resolutions of thanks, of sympathy and of affectionate memory were adopted by the meeting, and the incident fastened itself upon the mind of every one present. Then it began to be whispered among the delegates that she had just given \$10,000 to various charities in memory of her husband, for although his salary had never been large, his habits had been careful and his years had been many, but all agreed that no other tribute could have been eo beautiful as that which she read, of the record of fifty years which they had spent together before the servant of the Master went to his reward.—Youth's Companion. tion in all who

How to Save Yourself.

In working to save others we do the most good to ourselves. An Englishman who was going to drown himself found two sovereigns in his pocket, and thinkin it was a pity to waste so much gave the it was a pity to waste so much gave then to a poor woman who was starving for bread. When he saw how happy the pieces made the mother and her children, he bethought himself of how much happiness he could occasion by all the hoards of gold and silver he had in his cellar. He gave up the idea of suicide and devoted the rest of his life to doing good. By saving others he saved himself! ing others he saved himself!

Like Produces Like.

All things develop according to their own nature under the operation of fixed own nature under the operation of fixed laws, yet in all things there is infinite variety of individual development. The acominvariably produces an oak; it cannot by any chance produce a pine or a willow yet no two oak trees are exactly alike, and it is even said that no two leaves on any tree are exactly alike. The invariability of nature's laws does not. therefore, prevent, but necessitates a large measure of free-dom of individual development, even in the lower forms of organic life.

God Looked at the Heart.

What a stress does the Bible lay everywhere upon the heart! If God would make His highest demand upon man it is this, "Give Me thy heart!" (Prov. 23: 26). If He asks our service—it is service from the heart in singleness and sincerify of the heart. (Eph. 6:6). If He world migh Him with our lips and honor with our mouth, but our hearts are for with our mouth, but our hearts are from Him. (Matt. 15:7, 8). And whe He programmes His greatest blessing, it is this: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." (Matt. 5:8).

Caterpillar as a Weather Prophet. An aged farmer, living near Colum-

bus, Ohio, has, for a number of years, watched the color of the caterpillar and the way it changes with the weather. The color of that insect, late in the fall, he claims, is a correct index of the weather for the coming winter. This year the caterpillar was dark at either end, but very light in the middle, showing, according to his theory, the fore part of the winter to be cold the middle warm, or mild, and the latter cold. Last year, he says, the caterpillar was dark all over, and, as proof of his theory, this aged farmer points to the severity of last winter's weather.

A Graduate at Seventy-three. Mrs. Jane Fans, a negro, seventythree years old, was graduated from

the elementary grade of the Hillhouse Evening School at New Haven, Conn., with honors. Mrs. Evans is an exslave. For many years she has been very anxious to learn to read, and recently applied at the evening school for instruction. She was a diligent student and faithful in attendance With a child's primer she made good progress, so that she now is very proud to be able to read her Bible and news paper,___