The Acton Free Press

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1920.

OPPORTUNITY

You,
I am Opportunity;
That nay, young man
Don't wait for me
To come to you;
You buckle down
To win your crown,
And work with head
And heart and hands,
As does the man
Who understands
That those who wait,
Expecting some reward from Fate—
Or Luck—to call it so—
Sit always in the 'way-back row.
And yet
You mind not he
Me get away when I show up.
The golden cup
Is not for him who stands
With folded hands,
Expecting me.
To serve his inactivity,
I serve the active mind,
The alert eye,
The ready hand
That grasps me passing by,
And takes from me
The good I hold
For every world
Strong and bold
Work on,
Watch on,
Good hands, good heart,
And some day you will see—
Out of your efforts rising
Opportunity.

—William J. Lampton.

THE OIL CAN

"It's not my fault."

"Who said it was? If you take things to yourself that were never meant for you, you'll just have to be uncomfortable. So there!".

The door across the hall banged and Cousin Molly looked up, somewhat startled, as the steps approached her room with a tread more like a stamp than anything less emphatic. "What's the matter?" asked the visitor politely as a flushed face looked in at her door. "Come in, do."

Pauline flung herself down into the nearest rocker with a very ill grace indeed. "It always gets rubbed the wrong way somehow. It's not my fault. I didn't do anything to make her flare up so. She always thinks I'm blaming her."

"Carries a chip on her shoulder, eh? That's unfortunate."

"I never meant to say that she was to blame because—"

"Never mind what. She has a chip on her shoulder ready to be knocked off and you've forgotten your oil can."

"My oil can!" Pauline sat bolt upright in surprise.

"You reminded me of a story I once read by Jacob Abbott by a wise woman absent a weekman she saw in a trolley car. He was a shabby, poor-looking man, and he sat near the door. It was winter, and every little a passenger boarded the car or left at the door had to be opened and then shut again to keep out the bitter cold. It was one of those sliding double doors that squeak. You know the kind in the old-fashioned cars?"

Pauline nodded.

"Well, the squeaking kept getting worse and worse, it seemed, until it was driving all the passengers nearly crazy, and they were getting more irritated and annoyed every minute. Finally the shabby workman rose deliberately and bent over the door frame—I don't know what you call it, but the metal part which the door slides on, you know. Well, before any one knew what he intended to do he had pulled out of his pocket a little tin oil can and began oiling that metal slide. When he sat down again the door had stopped squeaking, and everyone, including the conductor, drew a sigh of relief. 'How did you happen to have that with you?' somebody asked this public benefactor. 'Why, he drawled, 'I mostly always carry it around in my pocket. Seems as if I allus everywhere find so many things that squeak.'"

Cousin Molly stopped and looked steadily at Pauline. "See the point?" she asked. "It's a good thing to have some sort of oil can handy when people's tempers squeak. There are so many squeaky things in the world that it's best to carry your oil of kindness with you all the time."

Pauline was very sober. She sat a moment longer, then rose. Her step as she went back to the room across the hall was no longer a stamp.

"Kit," Cousin Molly heard her say gently, "it's wasn't your fault at all. I'm sorry you misunderstood me. Come, let's be friends."—Comrade.

GERMANY STILL SOME SCHEMER

According to the Weekly Bulletin, Germany is doing everything possible to maintain the value of the mark. The following is an example of one method resorted to. Germany is at the present time badly in need of boots and shoes, but has not the hides to make leather. It places a contract in the Netherlands for a number of untanned hides, take them to German tanneries and converts them into leather, giving them back to Holland with a certain number deducted to pay for the tanning. The German interests then make a further contract with the owners of the now tanned leathery to return them to Germany, where they will be converted into boots and shoes. This done, the manufactured product is then sent back to Holland, the process of deducting a certain quantity for payment having been repeated. The amount of boots and shoes thus received is practically of no importance, and to be able to return to Germany the whole of its manufactures it is necessary that an additional step be taken, which is done by bartering the stock in the hands of the Dutch merchants for some other German manufactured product, such as dyestuffs or medicines. By this method, Germany is able to sell its products and to interchange them of which it is in the most need without the exchange of a cent of money.

ICE CREAM INSTEAD OF BEER

The saloon, which, in by-gone days attracted and bred men to their ruin, is now a thing of the past, so far as Ontario is concerned. In its place there has arisen the brilliantly-lighted and well-heated ice-cream parlor, made cheerful by gramophones on the premises playing all the beautiful classics and the popular airs. In Toronto, in 1916, when the bar-rooms were in full swing there were 374 ice-cream parlors according to the figures supplied by the License Department of the City Hall, and in 1919, when prohibition had been in operation for two years, the ice-cream parlors had increased to 466.—Pioneer.

KNOWN BY HIS WALK

A tutor of one of the Oxford Colleges who limped in his walk was some years ago accosted by a well-known politician, who asked him if he was not the chaplain of the college at such-a time, naming the year. The doctor replied that he was. The interrogator observed: "I knew you by your limp." "Well," said the doctor, "it seems my limping made a deeper impression than my preaching." "Ah, doctor," was the reply, with ready wit, "it is the highest compliment we can pay a minister to say he is known by his walk rather than by his conversation."

Much has been achieved by attempting the impossible.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, January 11, 1900

Home cooks bake with cottolene.
Home cooks bake with lard.
Home cooks use no grease at all.
But their cards are mighty hard.
Home men put their ads. in papers
Home men put them on the fence,
Home men never advertise,
Who ought to have more sense.

Georgetown polled 283 votes in the municipal elections last week; Acton 208.

Sunday's rain removed almost entirely the snow which had lain for several weeks.

The meetings of the Halton Farmer's Institute were held in the Town Hall on Monday afternoon and evening and many points of value and profit to all farmers were presented and discussed. The evening session consisted of addresses and a splendid programme of music supplied by Miss Jessie Nicklin, a male quartette composed of Messrs. Gibbons, Mann, Henderson and Williams, and the Acton Orchestra.

On January 4, was announced a brilliant victory for the British troops in South Africa, A despatch from General White says: An attack was commenced on my position, but was chiefly against Russell's Camp and Waggon Hill. Some of our entrenchments on Waggon Hill were three times taken by the enemy and retaken by us.

The members elect of the Municipal Council of Acton met on Monday at eleven o'clock in the forenoon. After subscribing to the declaration of office and of qualification they attended to the necessary business. Standing committees were appointed and the by-law for the appointment of auditors was introduced, read the required number of times and passed. The auditors appointed being W. Stark and N. F. Moore.

OPPOSED TO SLANG

The "Reform Club" is the title of a society in the West End, organized by young ladies for the purpose of discouraging the use of "slang phrases" in conversation. At a recent meeting while a member was addressing the society, she inadvertently made use of the expression "awful nice," and was called to order by a sister member for transgressing the rules.

"In what way have I transgressed?" asked the speaker blushing deeply.

"You said it would be 'awful nice' to admit young gentlemen to our deliberations," replied the other.

"Well, wouldn't it be?" returned the speaker; "you know you said yourself no longer ago than yesterday that—"

"Yes, I know; but you said 'awful nice.' That's slang."

"Well," said the speaker tartly, "if you are going to be so awful nice about it, I believe it is; but I wouldn't say anything if I were you. Didn't you tell Sally Spriggins, this morning, to pull down her basque?"

"No, I didn't," retorted the other, her face growing crimson, "and Sally Spriggins will say I didn't. She won't go back on me."

"This is a nice rocket you are giving us," cried the President, after rapping both speakers to order. "Let us ask what is the object of this society?"

"To discourage slang!" cried a dozen voices.

"E-xact," said the President, "go on with the funeral."

A member rose to explain that she had been fined at the last meeting for saying "awful nice" herself, but she hadn't the stamps to pay it now—would settle, however, in the sweet by and by.

"That'll be all right," said the President; "pay when you have the ducats."

Another asked if a young lady could say "old splendid!" without subjecting herself to a fine.

"You bet you can't," said the President, who was the original founder of the society, and therefore appealed to when any nice question was to be decided.

"Then," said the speaker, "I move that Miranda Pew come down with the dust, for I heard her say that her beau was 'just old splendid.'"

Miranda's face was a blaze as she cried:

"Well, if my beau was such an old hair-pin as your fellow is I wouldn't say it."

"Shoot the chimney," cried the President. "Will you ever tumble?"

But the confusion was too great to be allayed. Miranda's blood was up; some sided with her and other against her, and amid the babel that followed could be heard such exclamations as "dry up," "nice blackberry you are," "wipe off your chin," "thro a hall," etc., when a motion to adjourn was carried "by a large majority."—From a forty-year-old Scrapbook.

MUSICAL TALKS

C. C. Laugher, Mus. Bac., Bowmanville

No. III.—The Violin.

The violin is the principal orchestral instrument. It is the soprano of the string quartette, the quartette of instruments being, violin (soprano), viola (alto), 'cello (tenor), contrabass viol (bass). The quartette more often used is 1st and 2nd violin, viola and cello.

The face value of the material in a violin may not exceed many cents, but that same little instrument may be valued at several thousand dollars. I quote from the catalogue of an American violin dealer of the better known makers as follows: Guarnerius $18,000; Bergonzi, $9,000; Guarnerius, $8,500; Stradivarius, $7,500, etc.

Everyone is familiar with the shape of the violin which is entirely hand made, its weight being 14 ounces, has 4 strings and is played with a bow. The tone of the violin resembles the human voice. It was formerly larger, but to "Gaspar da Salo" we owe its present shape. A well-made violin consists of 70 parts, and it is generally understood that the old Italian makers used much a delicacy in the making of violins, that it is often spoken of as a violin secret which died with the makers of that period. Violinists are familiar with such names as Stradivari, Bidner, Guarnerius, Cremona, Amati, etc. Mozart used to choose a violin by its looks like choosing a singing bird by its feathers.

Modern violin students smile to think of the great violinists playing with the chin on the right hand side of the tail-piece. Now we play with the chin on the left hand side of the tail-piece.

Violin compositions were in evidence around 1630. About that time the art of violin playing was generally understood.

Two notes at one time may be played on a violin and with a quick sweep of the bow four notes may be played almost simultaneously. The violin and its music hardly bears description. Hear the great violinists of to-day and the execution and interpretation forms will simply amaze one.

Let us review the career of the greatest violinist that ever lived, Niccolo Paganini, an Italian, born 1784, died 1840. Although Niccolo was very delicate his mother dreamed that he would become the greatest violinist. She inspired him for at 6 years he was a remarkable player and at 9 years he played at a concert, playing his own original variations. It must be remembered that the noted Paganini played only his own compositions. At eleven years of age his father took him to Parma to take lessons from the great teacher, Rolla. Rolla was sick in bed, and while Niccolo waited in an adjoining room, he saw a violin and a music composition laying on the table, and taking the violin he played the composition so perfectly that Rolla imagined some one was playing in the house. On seeing a mere boy he could hardly believe his own eyes and protested that he could teach him nothing.

Paganini played astonishing feats on one and two strings to imitate a conversation between two lovers. He took off the 3 middle strings D and A and played the duet on the remaining strings. So well was Paganini received and appreciated that Pope Leo XII decorated him with the Order of the Golden Spur. Reports were abroad that he was a child of Satan, whom one man declared he saw directing his bow at a concert. Paganini frightened by visited an old Florentine castle and people declared that he held intercourse with the Devil for they heard all manner of queer noises coming from the place. When he made his first appearance in London throngs followed him in the streets, even pinching him at times to see if he were real. In his playing he combined the arco and pizzicato together, plucking the string with his left hand and at the same time using his bow with his right, making most astonishing feats. He tuned his violin to produce different effects, his system being mostly his own, even though he had much training. Paganini was much opposed to the wife of society leaders. On one occasion they tried to secure from him $1,000 worth of violin music in return for the price of a dinner. On another, while concertising in Paris he received a pressing invitation to dine with notable company, and a postscript adding, "Do not fail to bring your violin." Paganini returned the invitation card with the following written on it, "My violin does not dine." Paganini wrought a revolution in the violin world. Vieutemp, the renowned violinist, who had heard the wonderful Virtuso said "He is the greatest of us all."

SEVEN POINTS FOR SOIL FERTILITY

The question of gaining and maintaining fertility may be summarized in the following instructions:

1—Give the soil thorough drainage.

2—See that the soil has sufficient vegetable matter or humus in it.

3—Correct the sourness of the soil by drainage, and by applying lime.

4—Give the soil proper preparation by deep plowing and surface tillage.

5—Cultivate the soil sufficiently to keep down the weeds and to prevent evaporation of soil moisture.

6—Supply plant food in the shape of barn manure and fertilizers.

7—See that the fertilizers contain the three important food elements in an available form in proper quantity for the best development of the crop.

BOTH LEARNED THEIR LESSONS

When Mr. George Roberts was president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, says the New York Times, he had an experience with a train conductor in which each learned a lesson.

The conductor, who knew Mr. Roberts, walked by him with a nod and without calling for his ticket.

"Here, conductor," said the president sharply, "you have not looked at my pass!"

"But I know who you are," said the conductor.

"What has nothing to do with it," replied the president. "I might be travelling without it. I am entitled to ride free only when I have the evidence of my identity."

He spoke sharply, thinking he was giving the conductor a fine lesson in duty.

"Ticket, please!" said the conductor, sharply, hattled at the chiding.

"That's right," said the president, and began to feel in his pockets for his pass. He went through pocket after pocket in a vain search, while the conductor stood looking grimly on.

"Come, come," said the conductor, "if you haven't a ticket you must pay your fare."

President Roberts made a last hasty examination, and then taking a five-dollar bill from his wallet, paid his fare from Philadelphia to New York, and the incident was closed. He had left his pass in his office.

Only the uninformed endure the agony of corns. Try knowing ones apply Holloway's Corn Cure and get relief.

THE HUMBLE MOTHER

A mother in a humble home is disposed, if she looks down, to fret and complain of her circumscribed position, and she wonders sometimes if any one has greater trials than herself; but when she realizes that she is where God would have her be, and that without her his plan would be incomplete, her difficulties become rungs in a ladder which slowly but surely enable her to climb into heaven, certainly into the heavenly places.—Dr. Chapman.

WELL WORTH IT

"Can you let me have some money this morning to purchase a new bonnet, my dear?"

"By and by, my love."

"That's what you always say, my love; but how can I buy and buy without money?"

And thus brought the money, just as one good turn deserves another. Her wit was so successful that she tried again the next week.

"I want money my dear to buy a new dress."

"Well you can't have it. You called me a bear last night," said her husband.

"Oh, well, dear you know it was only because you're so fond of hugging."

It hit him right again, and she got money, and some extra.

He left this pretty wife and hurried off to business, saying, "It takes a fortune to keep such a wife, but it's worth it."

ALMOST ENOUGH

A woman came into a photographer's studio in San Francisco the other day, says the Argonaut, and said to the proprietor:

"Do you take children's photos?"

"Yes, certainly, madam."

"How much do you charge?"

"Six dollars a dozen."

"Well," said the woman, sorrowfully, "I shall have to see you again. I've only got eleven."

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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 8th

BY J. W. THORNTON

PETER AND JOHN HEAL A LAME MAN.—Acts 3.

Golden Text.—Freely ye received, freely give." (Matt. 10: 8.)

Historical Setting

Time.—A. D. 30.
Place.—Jerusalem.

Lesson Comments

Verse 1.—These two were the chief apostles. They were probably the oldest and the youngest of the twelve. They were both with Christ at his transfiguration, and within the gates of Gethsemane.

Verse 2.—This beggar was a familiar figure (4: 22). It was the custom of these incurables to cluster about the temple to ask alms. There were no public hospitals. The Jews gave them alms as a sacred duty, and no effort was made to remove the cause of poverty.

Verse 4.—Before Peter's association with Jesus he might have passed this man by without noticing him.

Verse 6.—The beggar showed faith in the apostles, and Peter and John had faith enough in Christ to believe they could cure the man.

Verse 6.—The apostles did not try to make money with their powers of healing. They had not so learned Christ. What they did they did in His name.

Verse 7.—Christianity takes men by the right hand and raises them up. The original of the last phrase of this verse was in technical terms indicating the language of the physician.

Verse 8.—The beggar recognized God as the source of his recovery.

Verse 9.—There were many witnesses to the reality of the cure.

Verse 10.—Our Lord Himself may be called the "Beautiful Gate" to eternal life.

Verse 11.—One of the porches of the temple was named for Solomon. That the writer said, "is called" shows that he wrote before the fall of Jerusalem.

Verse 12.—Peter used the effect of the miracle as a basis for a sermon.

Verse 13.—Peter accuses the Jews of crucifying the very Messiah for whom they had been looking, and whom the God of Abraham had promised.

Verse 14.—They had asked for the release of Barabbas instead of Jesus.

Verse 15.—The word "prince" in the same sense as the word translated "author" (Heb. 12: 2).

Verse 16.—In Jewish literature great power was ascribed to the name of God; in the New Testament stress is laid upon the name of Christ.

Illustrated Truth

All of us have not money to give to a needy world, but it is within our power to give others something better than money (v. 6).

Illustration.—A young engineer was asked concerning the technical school where he obtained his education. He spoke enthusiastically concerning the school, modestly declaring that it gave him not only his skill, but also his ambition to do the things he was now doing. There was one man whose name he mentioned particularly. "No young fellow could come in contact with that man, without having his ideals raised," he said. "He endowed every one of his students with new views of life." A millionaire had given money to the school, but the other gave himself.

Topics for Research and Discussion

I.—The Lame Man (vs. 1-5). 1. In what way were Peter and John the chief apostles? 2. Describe the poverty of Palestine.

II.—The Healing (vs. 6-11). 3. Why did not the apostles seek profit through their miracles?

III.—The Source of Power (vs. 12-16). 4. Why does Peter accuse the Jews of Christ's death? 5. To whom does Peter give the glory?

Readings for Next Week

Monday, January 13—The arrest and Trial (Acts 4: 1-7).

Tuesday, January 13—The Boldness of Peter and John (Acts 4: 8-16).

Wednesday, January 14.—Hearkening unto God (Acts 4: 17-22, 29-31).

Thursday, January 15.—Help in the Lord (Ps. 124: 1-8).

Friday, January 16.—Delivered from Prison (Acts 5: 17-25).

Saturday, January 17.—The Good Fight (2 Tim. 4: 6-8, 16-18.)

Sunday, January 18.—The Triumphs of Faith (Heb. 11: 32-38.)

Recognized as the leading specific for the destruction of worms, Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator has proved a boon to suffering children everywhere. It seldom fails.

"ROUND ROBIN"

A "round robin" consists of a paper containing a petition, protest, complaint, or congratulations around which the names of the signers are written in a circle so as to avoid giving precedence to any single name, and so that no name heads the list. The term has been found in Coverdale's preface to his translation of Calvin's "tract on the Lord's Supper," dated 1548, but it is, there used by "scurrilious Protestants" as a term of reproach for the chorium or pyx. Brewer claimed the term to be a corruption of the French "rond" (round), "ruban" (ribbon). Applied to persons, the term designated "a religious or political brawler." It was used in this sense by Hacket in his "Life of Archbishop Williams" (1693): "Those Wat Tylers and Round Robins being driven or persuaded out of Whitehall." The modern round robin is said to have originated with sailors who used the method of trying to secure redress of their grievances, and a record of this is to be found in "The Gentleman's Magazine" (v., 336) dated 1731.

BUT

Mr. Binks was a commercial traveller, and only came home at long intervals. On one of his returns he was telling his five-year-old son all about his wanderings.

"And then I came, home," he finished.

"And did you come in a train, daddy?" asked Johnny.

"Yes, sonny."

"And did you see the cars of the engine?"

"Of course not!" laughed daddy; "engines don't have cars!"

"Oh, yes, they do!" persisted the small boy. "Haven't you ever heard of the engineers, daddy?"

A POSSIBLE REASON

One never knows what is the power behind the throne. The true motive often lies buried deep under a pile of plausibilities. Perhaps the clergyman in this skit pushed down to a true spring. The good parson was summoned for driving his automobile beyond the speed limit.

"Now, said the magistrate, "you say you were going at only eighteen miles an hour, but the constable still declares you were travelling at thirty. Now I don't like to doubt either of you. Can you think why he declares you were going at that rate? Is there any grudge he owes you?"

"No," replied the clergyman, "no, I can't think of anything—unless it is that I married him three years ago."

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No. 31	10.34 a.m.
No. 33	2.19 p.m.
No. 35	5.09 p.m.
No. 37	8.13 p.m.

Going East	
No. 24 Sunday	6.58 a.m.
No. 26	7.08 a.m.
No. 28	11.18 a.m.
No. 32	2.28 p.m.
No. 34	6.16 p.m.
No. 38	8.12 p.m.

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8.50 p.m.	Daily except Sunday
11.03 a.m.	Sunday only
6.32 p.m.	Sunday only
9.56 p.m.	Sunday only

Going East	
7.48 a.m.	Daily except Sunday
3.02 p.m.	Daily except Sunday
6.18 p.m.	Daily except Sunday
8.58 a.m.	Sunday only
5.42 p.m.	Sunday only
8.56 p.m.	Sunday only

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Mill Street, Acton

Happy New Year

Kenney Bros.

DESIRE TO THANK ALL THEIR CUSTOMERS FOR THEIR LIBERAL PATRONAGE DURING THE YEAR, AND WISH THEM ALL A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Kenney Bros.

SHOE MERCHANTS

Main Street - Acton, Ont.

The

ACTON BAKERY.

M. EDWARDS & CO.

Canada Food Board License No. 5-013

MILL STREET - ACTON

White Bread
Brown Bread
Boston Bread
Tea Biscuits - 15c doz.
Buns - - - 15c doz.
Scones - - 15c doz.
Cookies - - 15c doz.

Wedding Cakes A Specialty

M. EDWARDS & CO.

ACTON, ONTARIO

Store Closed Every Night Except Friday and Saturday, at 6.30 p.m.