LAST OCCASIONAL PAPER.

The season of Lent is drawing to a close. Its lessons for us will soon be over. God grant that we may take them all to heart. This week is known to the Christian Church as Holy Week. To-morrow will be Good Friday. The season suggests to us very solemn thoughts. It bids us think upon that week of sorrow and suffering which ended in the crucifixion of the blessed Jesus. It carries us back in imagination to that awful day on which the Saviour of the world gave up His precious life that we might live through Him—that awful day, and yet by His victory over Satan, sin and death most blessed for us. It leads us to Mount Calvary. What are these tender, loving words which issue from the lips of Him who hangs upon the middle cross? Father forgive them for they know not what they do. At that suppreme moment of bitter anguish His thoughts are for others, His prayers for others, even for His murderers.

It is finished. The earthly life of sorrow and suffering, of trial and temptation, of poverty and distress, of hunger and weariness, of bitter mockings and cruel persecutions, endured for the sake of others, is over. The great act of self-sacrifice is complete. It is finished. Think how great it was. That the Eternal Son of God, the Lord of heaven and earth, should lay aside the glory which He had with the Father before the foundation of the world, and take our nature upon Him and become a little babe, and live a man's life on the earth—a life of poverty and hardship, a life of sorrow and suffering and pain and anguish, followed by a cruel death, fills us with amazement, but that He should do so on behalf of sinners and rebels against His authority is an example of self sacrifice and love which passeth all understanding. No wonder the angels desire to look into these things (I Peter i. 12).

As we think upon these marvels of Redeeming love, we should each hear the gentle voice of Jesus speaking to the heart and saying, "I endured all these things for thee, what doest thou for Me? Let My example lead thee on to the practice of self denial and self sacrifice for the sake of others." Ah friends, when we think upon that noble life of self sacrifice we should learn not to insist too rigidly on the exercise of our rights and liberties. Rather, we should be ever ready to make a self surrender of them for the sake of others. We do well indeed to claim those rights and liberties and to refuse to allow other men to take them from us by law, for in so doing we are defending the rights and liberties of our brethren. No man ever contended more earnestly for his rights than St. Paul did, but while vindicating his personal independence, he was ever ready to made a self sacrifice of them for his brethren's sake. So also should we, while insisting on the legal recognition or our rights and liberties, be ever willing and ready by acts of voluntary self sacrifice, to forego them, as far as they are not necessary for our health and happiness, if by so doing we can help a weaker brother a step forward on the path of life, or turn a sinner from the errors of his way to serve the living and true God.

What is it that makes the sacrifice of Christ appear so great to us? It is the fact that *to the last moment it was a sacrifice.* He did not deprive Himself of his liberty or power at the moment when He took our nature upon Him. But He did forbear to use them for personal gratification. Far from it. More than twelve legions of angels would have attended Him even at the cross had He prayed to the Father for them. He had but to will in the spirit's strength and His enemies would have gone backward and fallen powerless to the ground as the did at first when they came to take Him. He exercised His almighty power to save His disciples, but He would not use it on His own behalf. From first to last there was no want of power; it was all self sacrifice.

And he took care to assert His full liberty in this respect. "Therefore," He says, "doth My Father love Me because I lay down My life, that I might take it again. *No man taketh it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself.* I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again." On the cross at the last moment He showed that it was still an act of self-sacrifice by saying, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit." Christians, of every name, your Saviour bids you take up your cross and follow Him. That cross is not to die for others. His self sacrifice is all sufficient. But if by the exercise of a little self denial you can promote the happiness of your fellow men, if by refusing to gratify your appetites you can help a fellow sinner to overcome the lusts of the flesh, if by discontinuing the use of wines and spirituous liquors as a beverage, you can, without injury to your own health, lead a weaker brother through your example to turn from the error of his way, then your Saviour by His life of self sacrifice bids you do it, and in this noble aim you will find far truer enjoyment than in the gratification of self indulgence. Moreover, in this exercise of self sacrifice you will be reaching out unto that higher and nobler freedom, the glorious liberty of the sons of God, and you shall have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. If the Son make you free you shall be free indeed. Stand fast, therefore, in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free.

To each of us God gives a holly calling,
Wherever his lot be cast;
Sweet bands of love the willing soul enthralling,
To labor to the last.

We live not to ourselves—Oh, awful warning!
We shall not pass away,
Like clouds of mist on sun-bright summer morning;
Some trace of us will stay.

There must be some to follow up our leading,
However small our sphere;
Some hungry souls, our crumbs of comfort needing,
Are ever waiting near.

Canst thou not work for these, thy fellow-mortals?
Thou hast the power of prayer;
Thy pleadings may burst open heaven's portals,
And find blest answers there.

Be patient then, be brave, and true, and holy,
To all around a light;
And grieve not that thy task is poor and lowly,
Thou workest out of sight. —Selected.

THE END.

A Novel Temperance Law.

A law having for its object the suppression of drunkeness, is in force in some parts of Belgium, and which possesses such unique features that it is worthy of mention here. It is thus described:—"When a drunkard appears on the street a policeman takes him politely home. Next morning he goes to the houses of all those whom he had found drunk the night before, and presents to each a broom for sweeping streets. The drunkard is allowed to choose between working for the commune one day, and being prosecuted for drunkeness. He invariably selects to sweep streets. The village streets are, in consequence, marvellously clean, and the sweepers, after swallowing more than their natural share of dust, past mental resolutions of sobriety, and keep them.

He Does'nt Work at the Bouncer's Plea.

Guelph Mercury.

Inspector McDonald will have eight parties in Mount Forest up on Tuesday for violating the Scott Act. They are principally shebeens.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

LESSON FOR APRIL 1ST.

THE MARRIAGE FEAST.—MATT. XXII, 1-14.

NOTES.—"*And Jesus Answered.*"—Not any immediate question, but the inmost thought of those listening to him.——This parable sets forth the relation of the heavenly Father to the Jews and Gentiles. The details of the story give the brilliant coloring. The prophets and John the Baptist gave the first invitation to the feast. Christ and all true followers are giving and urging the final invitation. What the the Jews refused the Gentiles are enjoying——"*Other servants.*"—Corresponding to the apostolic preachers. A chance is given to these stubborn Jews to change their mind and come.——"*My dinner.*"—A noon meal, at which the marriage festivites begin. It precedes the marriage ceremony.——"*And he sent his armies.*"—A reference is made here undoubtedly to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans which preceeded the *formal* offer of the Gospel to the Gentiles; tho' the Gentiles had the offer many years before.——"*Not worthy.*"—Because they refused, and that with hatred, violence and contemptuousness.——"*Partings of the highways.*"—When two roads in a city meet, there naturally would be a large crowd of people. ——"*As many.*"—This implies, with the following, a universal invitation to all who were not first bidden to come.——"*Both bad and good.*"—By their very acceptance of the invitation, and by their presence at the feast, under the king's conditions, their past, however evil it might have been, was wiped out. A new life had begun for those wedding guests.——"*Not in a wedding garment.*"—He might have had it if he had wished it. It was essential to him and fit that he should have it. None could approach the marriage feast without one. It was the garment of true holiness that comes only by faith, and those who accept Christ's invitation. It is freely offered to all.——"*He was speechless.*"—He had no excuse. His punishment was severe, and the man admitted his wrong. The awful contrast between the joy of the feast and the darkness of despair was his punishment. The details of it are again the artistic coloring. The man is punished for neglect, that is the lesson. The parable does not pretend to teach *how.*

Instruction.—This lesson is all a parable. It is a picture deftly flashed before the minds of the listeners. It is a looking-glass in which each could see himself and start. Appropriate stories, helpful parables narrated by the Christian teacher are demanded by listeners to enchain attention and to clinch a great truth. But let these be true to their purpose. We desire more story-telling in the pulpit for dramatic effect. Such means should be used, in Christ's way, simply to fix the truth and save souls.

The treatment of the "other servants" by the invited guests is characteristic of some to-day. There are those who hear the good word of life and pass it by carelessly. They are too much absorbed in merchandise. They have no time for pleasures of the soul. "Business! Business!" is all their cry. Dollars and cents will become hateful in their eyes some day. They shall perish with a wail on their lips and moan unsaved. God help them!

And some make violent opposition open or secret. They have no excuses. They despise the King and his feast. They mutilate and kill. More there are of this class than we dream of. A pistol brandished in the hand is not their emblem; but their lying tongue and their pestilential and malignant lives are. God shield us from their touch and contamination. Their lot is destruction complete and final.

Then there are those that gladly come, eager for their unlooked-for opportunity. They believe the messenger and at a feast is prepared for them and that they shall see the King face to face. What a happy lot is theirs! How can any one choose otherwise than to serve in the joy of the Lord?

The fourth class is perhaps the saddest of them all. They are the sneaks who creep into the fold under the guise of holiness, but the King sees that they have not that true heart-righteousness that those must have who are to sit in the King's house. They willingly accept God's pardon for past sins, but refuse to live holy lives. They temporize with life and decay. They throw a sop to Christ and to the Devil. They would unite faith and sin. They would persuade themselves and others that they are Christians, but they know that they have not taken astop to moral union with Christ. Everlasting lamentation for their consummate hypocrisy is not too great a price for them to pay.

The message discloses a great opportunity. The responsibility is cast upon us as soon as the word is delivered. If we fail, what can save us? Excuses are the worst means to obtain forgiveness.

To be called is not equivalent to being chosen.

State Rights and Prohibition.

A highly important limitation on the power of a State to prohibit or regulate the liquor traffic was imposed by the United States Supreme Court in an opinion handed down a few days ago. The liquor law of Iowa prohibited any railroad company from carrying liquor or in bringing it into that State unless armed with a certificate from the auditor of the county to which the consignment was destined to the effect that the consignee had a lawful right to sell it. The Chicago and Northwestern refused to accept five thousand barrels of beer unless the shipper would furnish such certificate. The latter sued for damages and the company pleaded the Iowa statute in defence. The Supreme Court declares the statute unconstitutional, and holds the company liable. It decides that a State has no power to prohibit the importation from another State of liquor or any other article of commerce. That, it says, is an interference with interstate commerce, the control of which is vested by the constitution in Congress. The New York *Herald*, commenting on the facts above given, remarks that the Supreme Court has recently made some radical inroads in to the domain of State sovereignty, curtailing that sovereignty and enlarging the centralized power in Congress, but none more so than in this opinion.

Baby Bunting Again.

One of the greatest literary hits of the season is the story of "Baby Bunting, or, the Alphabet of Love," by Laura Jean Libbey, which is at present being published in the columns of THE NEW YORK FAMILY STORY PAPER. The paper containing the opening chapters of this wonderfully popular romance appeared on the news stands this morning. The tremendous rush for that number by the young ladies of the town shows clearly that the publishers have struck a bonanza. THE FAMILY STORY PAPER is for sale by all news dealers, or will be sent to any address four months, postage free, for $1.00. Norman L. Munro, Publisher, 24 and 26 Vandewater Street, New York.

To Newspaper Contributors.

Boil down what you have to say. Don't drown a little struggling idea in an ocean of desultory words. Write on but one side of the paper and don't try to see how many words you can get on a sheet of paper. Write plainly and use care in giving names of persons and places. Always send your real name whether you wish it published or not. Above all things steer clear of poetry. Jacksonville Times-Union.

Stop It.

Continual hawking and spitting caused by Catarrh are permanently removed by Nasal Balm.

They are Better Separated.

Acton Free Press.

Nova Scotia Prohibitionists have taken a new departure and separated themselves from both political parties. A convention of delegates from all the counties in the Province is to be held in Truro on the 27th of March for the purpose of organizing a Prohibition party, pledged to vote only for those who will vote against the liquor traffic.

Tamarac

Is an Elixir carefully prepared by an experienced chemist, with the well-known Tamarac as the fundamental principle, and all the other ingredients in its composition are of the purest, and best calculated to relieve all cases of Coughs, Colds and Lung troubles.

Where They Went.

Jinks—You believe St. Patrick drove the snakes from Ireland?

Mike—Yis, sor.

Jinks—Now, just look at it a moment. Where could he have driven them to?

Mike—Bedad, it's meself that bees thinkin' he drove thim into the Scott Act Whiskey.

Scott act Drunks and Disorderlies.

Guelph Mercury.

For the three months ending February 29, there has been at the Police Court 96 convictions as follows:—Scott Act cases 12; disorderlies 11; drunks 9; vagrants 2; malicious injury 1; leaving horse untied 1.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for April is not only full of interesting and instructive matter in type and illustrations, as usual, but its tone has a note of lightness in it most proper for a spring-time number. The opening article is about Algiers, its people, its climate, and its customs, and was written by F. A. Bridgman, the artist. It is profusely illustrated with engravings and facsimile reproductions from Mr. Bridgman's own paintings. Many of these are full-page pictures, and are most artistic from every point of view. The poetry of the number includes two reprints: Wordsworth's "The Shepherd, looking Eastward, softly Eastward, softly said," and the old English song, "Sweet Nelly, my Heart's Delight." The former is illustrated by Alfred Parsons, in a drawing used as the frontispiece; the latter blossoms into two full-page sketches in E A. Abrey's best style. Other poems are by Andrew Lang, Elizabeth Stoddard, Richard E. Burton, and Dora Read Goodale. There are two complete stories in Harper's Magazine for April: "Ananias," a dialect sketch, by Joel Chandler Harris, and "Chita; a Memory of Lost Island," by Lafcadio Hearn—a powerful novelette of thirty-four pages in length. Will Black also continues "Far Lochaber," the interest of which constantly grows. C. Coquelin discusses "Actors and Authors" from the point of view of the practical, successful player as well as of the great artist, and his comments on the "business" of the stage are vastly entertaining. The article is in a measure supplementary to the one, written also by M. Coquelin, which appeared in Harper's Magazine for May, 1887, called "Actors and Acting." It is profusely illustrated with portraits, as well as several sketches representing Sardou and Sarah Bernhardt at a rehearsal. "Japanese Ivory Carvings," by William Elliot Griffis, contains a full description of art expressed in ivory by clever Japanese artists. Ivory carving had its rise in the demand of the tobacco smoker for delicate instruments to minister to his vice. The meaning of the curious figures which the Japanese carve in this substance is also given. The article is illustrated by seven pictures. The City of Columbus, Ohio, is fully described by Deshler Welch. Its good points are brought into prominence, and its natural and architectural beauties are pointed out. The letter-press is supplemented by numerous illustrations of new buildings and natural scenery in and about the place. In "The Humors of a Minor Theatre" will be found an account of the kind of amusement which the inhabitants of poor districts in London enjoy. It is the melo-drama, of course, and of a rare kind, too. This article is written by F. Anstey, and illustrated most cleverly by Frederick Barnard. Charles Dudley Warner gives his impressions of Minnesota and Wisconsin in his second article on the Great West. The beauties of St. Paul, Milwaukee, and Madison receive due notice, and the intelligent progress in the science of farming in Wisconsin especially, is dwelt upon at length. Names are mentioned occasionally, and credit is given where credit is due. Mr. Warner's observations in regard to the tendency of "practical" education will doubtless be widely objected to.

Captain Charles King, U.S.A., describes, under the title of "The Leavenworth School," the efforts of the United States Government to give to infantry and cavalry officers of the army the benefits of advanced education similar to those enjoyed now by the engineers and artillery in institutions at Willet's Point and Old Point Comfort. The success of the Leavenworth School, after many trials, is fully described. R. F. Zogbaum has contributed numerous illustrations for the article, some of them full-page. There is much martial spirit in them.

In the *Easy Chair* George William Curtis points out the meaning of the Sharp trial, so far as the legal profession is concerned; William Dean Howells reviews some recent books, with reflections by the way; and Charles Dudley Warner in the *Drawer* has something to say about stupid dinners, and how to prevent such misfortunes. In addition to this article, there is much other interesting and amusing matter in the *Drawer*. Clever originality is shown in "The Musical Conceit." Reinhart and Barnard contribute sketches.

From Berlin comes a report that Mr. Schuyder, a German doctor, has now issue a remedy for diphtheria which in a year's practice, has not been known to fail. He uses topical applications of flowers of sulphur, combined with internal administration of chloride of potassium. The sulphur should be blown into the hinder part of the throat by goose quill tubes, filled one within the other, and if necessary, into the interior of the nose, four times a day in benign cases and every two hours in grave cases. The remedy is simple enough.

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Scribner's Magazine for April, 1888.—Published March 24th.

Contents: "A Street in Gibraltar." From a drawing by F. C. Jones. Engraved by Hoskin. "The Campaign of Waterloo."—II. *(Conclusion.)* By John C. Ropes. With illustrations by R. F. Zogbaum, W. T. Smedley, C. Durand Chapman, H C. Edwards, Margaret Landers, E. J. Meeker, and others. Also with reproductions of old prints and a map furnished by the author. "The Swoning of the Pines." by Thomas Wentworth Higginson. "The Centre of the Republic." *First Paper.* By James Baldwin. (To be concluded in the May number.) "The Greek Vase." By William P. P. Longfellow. With illustrations by Sidney L Smith and others, from vases owned by the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and Mr. T. B. Clarke, and in the Englefield Collection. "The Shadow Chaser." By Henrietta Christian Wright. "The Town of the Holy Children." By Thomas A. Janvier. "A Dream." By Ellen Burroughs. "Gibraltar." By Henry M. Field. With illustrations by J. D. Woodward. Harry Fenn, F. C. Jones, R. Eichelberger, Harold Warren, and E. J. Meeker. "A Happy Accident." By Sophie Radford de Meissner. With illustrations by W. L. Taylor. "Toward Spring. By Edith M. Thomas. "Where shall We spend Our Summer?" By A. W. Greely, Chief Signal Officer, with two charts furnished by the author. "The Star to its Light," by George Parsons Lathrop. "First Harvests."—Chapters XI.-XV. By F. J. Stimson. (To be continued.) "Two Sonnets."——To-day——To-night. By Granam R. Tomson. "Pulvis et Umbra," by Robert Louis Stevenson.

At Evansville, Ind., a whole family of six persons were killed by eating meat that had been poisoned to destroy wolves.

Sixty-six bodies and 53 heaps of unrecognizable remains were taken from the burnt Oporto theatre.

The Irish Times says the Government will introduce a bill dealing with arrears of rent in Ireland.

The Grand Cross of Bath was the honor offered to and refused by Mr. Chamberlain.

Five men were killed and as many injured in a collision on the Northern railway, near Seven Bridge, on Thursday.

A decree is to be issued empowering the Crown Prince William to transact public business in the event of the Emperor becoming disabled.

The coroner's jury at Gravenhurst have found the conductor and engineer of the snow plough responsible for Thursday's disaster on the Northern.

A short time ago a subscription was taken up in and around Galt for the wife and children of the late John Currie, the murderer of Main, the banker, and enough has been collected to purchase a nice farm, which will be given to the widow in such a way that it cannot be disposed of during her life or those of her children.

Bishop Spaulding has an article in the last number of the Forum on the prohibition question. The bishop strongly opposes the principle of prohibition. He thinks that "the less we bring the government into our private, personal and domestic affairs the freer and the happier shall we be," and points out that "it is a law of human nature that excessive pressure brought to bear on any special form of moral evil results in other evils." Bishop Spaulding also denies that the vice of intemperance is increasing in the United States; he maintains that intemperance was much greater in the early part of the century than at present, and that the wave continues to subside.

The new game law absolutely prohibits the hunting of moose for seven years from April 1st next. The open season for hunting deer is limited from October 15th to November 20th. No one person is allowed to kill more than five deer; no two persons from the same camp more than eight, and no three or more persons from the same camp more than twelve, under penalty of $20. One clause especially affects American sportsmen, it being alleged that they come over in large parties and slaughter great numbers of deer, frequently leaving the carcasses on the ground only to decay. This clause enacts that no person not a bona fide resident of Ontario for at least three months previous to the opening of the season shall be allowed to hunt deer at all, under a penalty of $20.

NOTICE.

The Bank of Hamilton will allow 4 per cent. per annum on money deposited since the 1st November inst., and the same rate for new deposits.

Credit Sales.

Parties requiring my services as auctioneer will please call at the CHRONICLE office, Milton, where all particulars can be had. Sales, &c., can be given to C. CHAPMAN, Licensed Auctioneer for Halton, Wentworth and Wellington.

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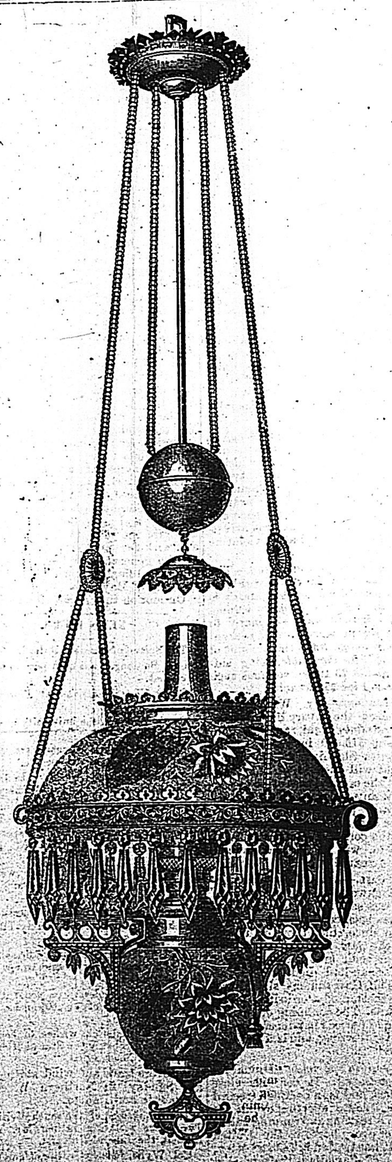

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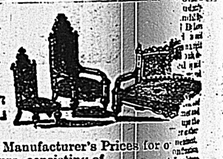

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