If.

There are few words in our language more lightly, carelessly, and continually uttered than the little, seemingly insignificant word *if*, yet there are few, if any fraught with more weighty meaning, or entering more deeply into the constitution of all things. It expresses the conditionality of the universe with all its complicated relations; it is the link which unites cause and effect, the term which conveys the mutual dependence of all things one upon another. Certain it is that every event which transpires and every state of things that exists is the combined result of millions of events and states that preceded it, and that if any of them had been different, the whole of what we now call the present would then have taken an altered form.

Such reflections, however, do not usually attend our ordinary use of that little word. It is rather in the narrow circle of our own personal fortunes that we review contingencies and trace the workings of causes, and imagine other and different results that might have been, *if* certain things on which they depended had transpired differently. Especially when misfortunes and troubles have assailed us are we apt to indulge in such retrospects. If we had had more wisdom, or if we had exercised what we did possess, if we had yielded to the advice of some friend, or if we had resisted the persuasion of another, if other people had acted differently, or if some apparently unimportant event had not transpired we argue that this trial might never have come upon us. Few deaths take place when the surviving friends do not look back with self-reproach or displeasure at something that was done or left undone upon which they laid the blame of their affliction. So in other cases of trouble, the fortune need not have been lost, the friendship need not have been broken, the good name need not have been sullied, the hopes need not have been crushed, *if* only something else had or had not happened, or if some one had taken a different course. Generally speaking, these regrets are only productive of increased discontent and gloom. They are often greatly exaggerated from the morbid condition of mind which brings them forth; but even where they are well founded, they are not healthful subjects for contemplation. Could we go back far enough, and in imagination open up all the contingencies which might have been, and arrange them to bring about what we consider more favorable results, we should, in our fancy, subvert the whole order of nature. As it is, by drawing in our own minds the very limited pictures which our powers can furnish, we attribute far too great an influence to single causes, and the reality that rushes back upon us, with increased force, is all the harder to bear. Time has closed the record, and we only aggravate our own pain by striving to tear open the closed pages.

There is, however, one exception to this one way in which the thought of what *might* have transpired, under other circumstances, is a wholesome and desirable one. It is where the motive is to obtain a clearer light to guide the future. Then it is no indulgence in useless complaints or sickly repinings, but a searching investigation into the past, to obtain the lessons it holds for the future. If we have erred through wilfulness or ignorance, if we have acted hastily or foolishly, if we have weakly yielded up our judgment, or obstinately refused to listen to reason, it is well not to shrink from the knowledge. Especially where moral *ifs* are concerned; where our misdeeds and neglects have set in motion a train of evils; where if the outbreak of passion had been curbed, or the lawless desire controlled, or the loving counsel respected, or the inner voice of conscience obeyed, the present time might have been one of honor and happiness, instead of humiliation and distress; in such cases the pain of retrospect is salutary. Yet even these, to be useful, must combine energy, hope and resolution. To dwell morbidly upon our sins is as futile as to dwell morbidly upon our calamities. Only as they are made to give out their earnest lessons for the future are they a safe or wholesome subject for reflection or meditation.

It is not the past alone, however, that holds the *ifs* of human life and action; the future is as full of them and as dependent upon them as the past, and affords a far more cheerful and useful field for thought. Many of the issues which are yet to come depend upon our own character, will, and energy. Upon these it is always safe to dwell, and these are by far the most important. Take the possibilities of the youth just setting out in life, how rich and full they are, and yet how many are the contingencies! If he but follow the inner promptings of his conscience, if he but turn a deaf ear to the tempter, and put far from him the allurements of evil, if he but arm himself with firm principles, and obey the dictates of duty and the pleadings of love, what a valuable and happy life may he not, with good reason, look forward to! Many other contingencies are beyond his control, many plans and hopes may be realized or crushed, property, employment, health, life, friendship, love, may be his if unforseen circumstances do not interfere. The *ifs* that lie hidden from his view, in the years to come, are only for trust and faith to accept, as they come, one by one; but the great moral *ifs*, which he can guide and direct—the decisions which lie within his own power to make—the balances that, from time to time, he may turn for good or evil—these are the hinges of destiny, the true factors of life.

Thus may we obtain the key by which the real significance and value of this little word *if* may be discovered. Not as a discontented murmur of what the past might have brought us, not as a gloomy foreboding of troubles the future may have in store for us, not as a repining reverie on the uncertain vicissitudes of life, but as a means of ordering our conduct, of strengthening the foundations of truth and right living, of avoiding the pitfalls and snares that lead to destruction, of cultivating whatever is pure, and true, and noble, and generous and lovely in life and in character. This is the one *if* in all human existence, on which no uncertainty rests, and which will never disappoint even the brightest expectations.

Boys out after Night-fall.

"Is not this a serious evil which would commend itself for correction to parents and guardians?" asks a correspondent, who has long been an observer, and is a sympathizing lover of boys, who likes to see them happy, cheerful and gleesome, and is not willing that they should be cheated out of their share of the pleasures of youth. Really, it is difficult to understand how a high-toned, useful man can be the ripened fruit of a boy who has not enjoyed a fair share of the privileges of youth. But whilr the friend of the youth watches with a jealous eye all customs which entrench upon their rights and privileges, he is equally fearful lest parents permit their sons indulgencies which ruin their morals in almost all instances; and he knows of none more dangerous than that of allowing sons to be in the streets after night-fall. There they will learn many evil practices, such as theft, drunkenness and profanity. They acquire, under cover of night, an unhealthy and excited state of mind, bad practices, and criminal sentiments, which it will take years of the most judicious training to eradicate. Indeed it is in the streets after night-fall that boys principally acquire the education that fits them, in after years, for becoming dissolute, criminal men, and makes them fit subjects for the penitentiary.

Parents should adopt an inflexible rule never to permit their sons, under any circumstances, to go into the streets after night-fall, to engage in out-door sports, or to meet other boys for the purpose of lounging around groceries and saloons; but rather let them have some innocent amusement in-doors, with plenty of juvenile books and papers. Many a young man has been ruined in health, business, and character, who can trace the commencement of his ruin to the evenings spent in the street.

THE MILK OF THE COW TREE.—Alexander Humboldt remarks that among the many very wonderful natural phenomena which he had during his extensive travels witnessed none impressed him in a more remarkable degree than the sight of a tree yielding an abundant supply of milk, the properties of which seemed to be the same as the milk of a cow. The adult Indians would go each morning with their slaves from the village or station on the slope of the mountain-chain bordering on Venezuela, where Humboldt was stopping, to a forest where they grew, and, making some deep incisions into the trees, in less than two hours their vessels, placed under these incisions, would be full. All present would then partake of the milk, on which the slaves grew fat, and a quantity would be carried home to be given to the children and to be mixed with cassava and maize. The tree itself attains a height of from 45 to 60 feet, has long alternate leaves, and was described by Linden as *Brosinum galactodendron*. The milk which flows from any wound made in the trunk is white and somewhat viscid; the flavour is very agreeable. Some time ago on the occasion of M. Bossingault going to South America, Humboldt requested him to take every opportunity of investigating this subject. At Maracay the thee was first met with, and for more than a month its excellent qualities were daily tested in connection with coffee and chocolate; but there was no opportunity for a chemical analysis. Nor does such appear to have occurred till the other day, when, amid the many curious things exhibited by the Venezuelan Government, at the Paris Exhibition, there happened to be several flasks of this milk, and after a long period M. Bossingault has been enabled to complete his analysis of this substance, which is unique in the vegetable world. In a memoir laid before the Academy of France he gives a detailed analysis, and concludes by stating that this vegetable milk most certainly approaches in its composition to the milk of the cow; it contains not only fatty matter, but also sugar caseine, and phosphates. But the relative proportion of these substances is greatly in favour of the vegetable milk, and brings it up to the richness of cream, the amount of butter in cream being about the same proportion as the peculiar waxy material found in this vegetable milk, a fact that will readily account for its great nutritive powers.

TOO MUCH FOR THE ATTORNEY.—The following dialogue, which occurred years ago between a lawyer and a witness in a justice's court, is worth relating:—It seems that Mr. Jones loaned Mr. Smith a horse, which died while in his (Smith's) possession. Mr. Jones brought suit to recover the value of the horse, attributing his death to bad treatment. During the course of the trial a witness (Brown) was called to the stand as to how Mr. Smith treated horses. Lawyer, with a bland and confidence-invoking smile. "Well, sir, how does Mr. Smith generally ride a horse?" Witness, with a very merry twinkle in his eye, otherwise imperturbable, "Astraddle, I believe, sir." Lawyer, with scarcely a perceptible flush of vexation on his cheek, but still speaking in his blandest tones, "But, sir, what gait does he ride?" Witness, He never rides any gate, sir. His boys ride all the gates." Lawyer, his bland smile all gone and his voice sligtly husky, "But how does he ride when in company with others?" Witness, "Keeps up, if his horse is able; if not, he goes behind." Lawyer, triumphantly, and in a pertect fury, "How does he ride when alone?" Witness, "Don't know, never was with him when he was alone." Lawyer, "I have done with you, sir."

The Canada Southern Railway Company have been obliged to adopt severe measures to rid themselves of that growing evil, the tramp nuisance. Any members of that fraternity found on a train are handed over to the police authorities of the first town, and are sent to hard work for a week or two.

An Irishman having purchased an alarm clock, an acquaintance asked him what he intended to do with it. "Och," answered he, "sure I've nothing to do but pull the string and wake myself."

MONEY SAVED

BY BUYING A GOOD STPPLY OF

DRY GOODS and GROCERIES

At J. H. HUNTER'S.

I beg to inform the public that shortly before the increased duties were imposed under the "National Policy" tariff I purchased an

Immense stock of Staple Dry Goods. Groceries &c.,

And intend offering them at the old LOW Prices for 30 days.

As all kinds of goods must shortly go up in price, many lines having already advanced, all who require goods will save money by Buying now at

J. H. HUNTER'S.

NOW is the time to buy a CATTY of that Choice Japan Tea at 40c. put up in a neat Tin Caddy.

NOW is the time to buy a PIECE of GOOD CHEAP FACTORY COTTON.

PRINTS FROM 6c. PER YARD UP.

FACTORY COTTONS From 5c. per yard By the Piece.

TEA FROM 20c. PER POUND.

clover seed, Grass seed, Garden seeds & Turnip seed

Very Cheap.

DONT FORGET TO BUY EARLY AT

J. H. HUNTER'S.

Durham, April 2nd, 1879.

MONTHLY CATTLE FAIRS.

Durham—Third Tuesday in each month.
Priceville—Monday before Durham.
Hanover—Monday before Durham.
Mount Forest—Third Wednesday in each month.
Guelph—First Wednesday in each month.
Harriston—Friday before the Guelph Fair.
Drayton—Saturday before Guelph.
Elora—The day before Guelph.
Douglas—Monday before Elora Fair.
Hamilton—Cyrstal Palace Grounds, the day after Guelph.
Berlin—First Thursday in each month
Brampton—First Thursday in each month.
Listowel—First Friday in each month.
Fergus—Thursday following Mount Forest.
Rosemont—Fifteenth of February, April, June, August, October and December.
Primrose—Wednesday preceding the Orangeville Fair.
Orangeville—The 2nd Thursday in each month.
Flesherton—Monday before Orangeville.
Dundalk—Tuesday before Orangeville.
Shelburne—Wednesday before Orangeville.
Marsville—Second Wednesday in each month.
Walkerton—The last Wednesday in each month.
Mildmay—Last Wednesday of each month.

DURHAM DIRECTORY

TRINITY CHURCH.

Sabbath services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School at 2 p. m. Rev. H. B. Wray, B. A., pastor Church Wardens, H. J. Middaugh and Elias Edge.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Divine Service every Sabbath at 11 a. m. and 6:30 p. m. Sabbath School at 2:30 p. m. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening at 7:30. Bible Class every Thursday evening at 7:30. Rev. Wm. Park, pastor.

C. METHODIST CHURCH.

Services every Sabbath at 10:30 a. m. and 6:30 p.m. Sabbath School at 2:30 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7 o'clock, and Bible Class every Monday evening at 8 o'clock. Pastor Rev. R. Godfrey.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

W. Grant, pastor. Sunday Services—preaching at 11 a. m.; Sabbath School at 2:30 p. m.; Preaching at 7 p. m. Week evening Services—Monday evening, young peoples' prayer meeting at 8 p. m.; Wednesday evening, Bible class at 8 p. m Thursday evening, regular prayer meeting at 8 p.m

S. G. REGISTRY OFFICE.

Thomas Lawder, Registrar; John A. Munro, Deputy-Registrar. Office hours from 10 a. m. to 4 p.m.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

Town Hall—open every Friday evening from 7 to 9 o'clock. Shares $1, annual fee 50 cents. Alexander Robertson, Librarian.

POST OFFICE.

Office hours from 8 a. m. to 7 p. m. Arch. McKenzie, Postmaster.

DURHAM LODGE No. 306 OF A. F. & A. M.

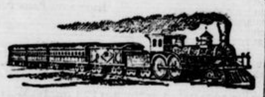
Night of meeting, Tuesday on or before full moon of each month. Visiting brethren welcome. A. Vollet W. M. H. W. Mockler, Secretary.

STEPHEN LODGE No. 169 I. O. O. F.

Night of meeting every Monday at 7:30 o'clock, in the Odd Fellows' Hall. Visiting brethren welcome. T. A. Harris, N. G. W. B. Vollet, Sec.

DURHAM L. O. L. No. 632.

Night of meeting, Thursday on or before u moon in each month. T. Carson, Sec.



TORONTO, GREY, AND BRUCE RAILWAY.

CHANGE OF TIME.

On and after **MONDAY, 5th May, 1879,** trains will run as follows:—

TORONTO (UNION STATION.

Depart, 7:30 a. m., 11:55 p. m., 5:40 p. m
Arrive, 10:30 a. m., 3:00 p. m., 9:40 p. m.

ORANGEVILLE.

South. Depart 7:15 a. m., 11:35 a. m., 5:40 p. m.
Arrive 10:40 a. m., 4:25 p. m., 8:20 p. m.
North. Depart, 11:30 a. m., 4:45 p. m.
Arrive, 11:15 a. m., 5:30 p. m.
West. Depart 11:45 a.m. Arrive 11:00 a. m.

OWEN SOUND.

Depart 6:30 a. m., 12:00 noon.
Arrive 4:00 p. m., 10:15 p. m.

TEESWATER

Depart 6:00 a. m.,
Arrive 4:30 p. m.,

For time at intermediate stationsee Time Tables

EDMUND WRAGGE.
General Manager

Toronto. April 29th, 1879

NO ARMISTICE

War, War!

With the Circular Saw against all kinds of Saw Logs during 1878.

Custom Sawing of Lumber

AND SHINGLES,

done at once, and cheap, to suit the times.

SHINGLES, LATH AND LUMBER

on hand and sold at down hill prices.

J. W. CRAWFORD,
Rockville Mills, Durham P. O.
Bentinck Feb. 14, 1878 y1

For Cheap Dry Goods, Clothing, Groceries, Boots, Shoes & Hardware, Call at GRANT'S.

Durham, May 5th, 1879. y-1

1879. ANNUAL 1879.

IMPORTATION

Of Seeds

PER STEAMER "SARDINIAN."

Including

Carter's Imperial Hardy, Bangholm's Improved and Sutton's Champion Swede.

Aberdeen, Green Top and Purple Top Yellow, Devonshire Grey Stone, and Carter's Purple Top Mammoth; Mengelwurzel, Globe and Large Mommoth, Beets, Cabbage, Carrots &c. &c.

Clover & Timothy

Seed. Millet, Hungarian Grass, Taros &c., at lowest Market rates. See Catalogue.

H. PARKER.

y-3 DURHAM.

THE

Thoroughbred Durham Bull "MAJOR"

WILL SERVE Cows this Season on Lot No. 47, 2nd Concession, Glenelg. Price $1. Pedigree shown if required.

COLIN C. McFAYDN. Owner.

Glenelg April 17, 1879 cm-41.

READY THIS WEEK:

Sulky Hay Rakes, Mowing Machines, Reaping Machines both single and combined, Lumber Waggons, Horse Powers and Separators,

At The DURHAM FOUNDRY.

A. COCHRANE.

WOOL! WOOL!

The Subscribers wishing to return thanks to their numerous friends and customers for their patronage in the past would remind them that they are as usual prepared to do

Carding, Spinning & Manufacturing,

in the best possible manner and on the shortest notice. We are also prepared to pay the

Highest Market Price in Cash, FOR WOOL!

As usual we have a large Stock of Feice and Canadian Tweeds, Eulicloths, Shirtings and Flannels which we will exchange for Wool or sell cheap for cash.

ADAMS & MESSENGER.

Hanover, May 22, 1879. cm66

LADIES

Before purchasing Elsewhere dont fail to see our Stock

—OF—

MILLINERY

—AND—

Fancy Dry Gooods.

E. & A. DAVIDSON.

Durham, May 15th, 1879.

JOHN CAMERON

WOULD NOW INVITE THE LADIES TO COME AND EXAMINE HIS NEW

—AND—

Fashionable **SUMMER STOCK**

Consisting in part of the following:

The Royalist Trimming especially shaped for collars & cuffs

PATENTED CHINELLA NECK TIES, MUSLIN TIES, NET TIES, LACE TIES. FRENCH FANS, FANCY FANS, DAMASK POCKET HANDKERCHIEFS, NEW METAL DRESS BUTTONS, & A LOT OF SUN SHADES, All of which will be sold at very low prices.

Durham, May, 15, 1879. JOHN CAMERON.

KIERNAN & HUGHSON,

HAVE IN STOCK:

NEW SEEDS, Comprising:

Timothy and Clover

OF THE DIFFERENT KINDS:

TURNIP SEEDS, of The Best Quality. of the different named SWEDES, YELLOW ABERDEEN, and WHITE TURNIP.

White Belgian Carrot Seed.

MANGEL WURTZEL. Also a full Stock of

Vegetable and Flower Seeds,

SUCH AS

Cauliflower, Cabbage, Celery, Tomato, Onion, Carrot, Parsnip, Beet, Cucumber, Melons &c, and the different FLOWER SEEDS.

STATIONERY.

A LARGE AND WELL ASSORTED STOCK OF STATIONERY and SCHOOL BOOKS, Always on Hand.

KIERNAN & HUGHSON.
MEDICAL HALL, LOWER TOWN.

Durham, April, 9, 1879. y-60.

STOVES AND TINWARE!

The subscriber begs to inform the public that he has a large Stock of STOVES and TIN WARE, which will be sold

CHEAP FOR CASH OR TRAE.

Cook, Parlor and Box Stoves,

Particular attention paid to Eavestroughing.

Cash for Sheepskins and Hides.

Agent for the Superior Broadcast Seeder and Drill. Also the Galloway Sulky Rake—the best Sulky rake in the Dominion.

Durham, Feb. 26th, 1878. T. A. HARRIS. y-3

WM. JOHNSTON, Jr.,

Agent for the sale of all kinds of

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

—SUCH AS—

Mowers, Reapers, Sulky Hay Rakes, Laidlaw & Stewart's Improved Gang Ploughs, &c

The Subcriber is agent for the sale of the celebrated MOWER manufactured by the TORONTO REAPER & MOWER COMPANY.

ALSO Note and Book Accounts collected on reasonable terms.

OFFICE: At Kiernan & Hughson's Store, Lower Town DURHAM.

Durham, April 4, 1878.

DURHAM

Carriage Works.

ROBERT McFARLANE,

Manufacturer of

Carriages, Buggies, Democrat Wagons, etc.,

OF THE VERY BEST MATERIAL good finish, and at prices as low as any other establishment in the county.

Those in need of Such Articles would do well to Call and Inspect My Stock.

The Subscriber is also Agent for All Kinds of FARM IMPLEMENTS

ROBERT McFARLANE,
Durham. y-1

Alexander Robertson,

TAILOR,

Residence at the Old Post Office, Lower Town,

• DURHAM.

THE subscriber is prepared to Receive and Make Up, on the shortest notice, and in the Latest Style, Men and Boy's Clothing. A good fit guarranteed.

Latest Fashions Regularly Received

A few first-class BARCLAY'S

Sewing Machines For Sale,

Cheap for Cash. These Machines are the best made, and give entire satisfaction to those using them.

ALEX. ROBERTSON

Durham, Nov. 4, 1878. y4

JOHN ROBERTSON

TAILOR AND CLOTHIER,

DURHAM ST., DURHAM.

Residence—Opposite the Canada Presbyterian Church.

Cutting done to Order.

Spring and Summer Fashions regularl received.

Durham, Feb. 14, 1878. y1

NEW GOODS

AT

W. F. DOLL'S,

Watchmaker,

&c., OF

Flesherton,

Compris **Iver and Electro Plated Goods.**

Gold and Siver Watches, Ladies and Gents' Wedding and Engagement Rings, Gold Lockets, Charms, Chains, Keys, Pencils, Pens, &c., &c.

A beautiful line of Clocks. A large line of Fancy Goods, Spectacles, Violins, Fife, Concertinas, &c.

Repairing a Specialty.

W. F. DOLL.

Flesherton, December 18 1878.

Purdy's Mills, Glenelg.

THE subscriber desires to inform the farming community of Glenelg, and surrounding Townships, that he has refitted the above Mills, and is now prepared to do

Gristing,

in First-Class Style. Having had twenty-five years experience in the business, he can guarantee satisfaction to those who may favour him with their custom.

Chopping Done every Day.

Flour and Feed for Sale. A comfortable Shed for the accommodation of Teams.

FREDERICK G. KNIGHT,
Pomona P. O.

Glenelg, Feb. 1, 1879. tf-51

CALL AND SEE

J. W. Bouldens'

Stock of

Light Harness, Trimmings, Whips, etc.

Durham, July 4, 1878. fmdi

CATARRH

CONSTITUTIONAL Catarrh Remedy CURES CATARRH

Thousands Applaud its Wonderful Cures.

Hear what a Reverend Gentleman says of the Constitutional Remedy.

T. J. B. HARDING, Esq.,
Brockville, Ont.

DEAR SIR.—It is now two years since your "Constitutional Catarrh Remedy" was introduced to me. I have waited this long to see if the cure would remain permanent before doing this, my duty, to you as at first the happy effects seemed to me to be "too good to be true."

I was afflicted in my head for years before I suspected it to be Catarrh. In reading in your Circular I saw my case described in many particulars. The inward "drop" from the head had become very disagreeable, and a choking sensation often preventing me from lying long. I would feel like smothering and be compelled to sit up in the bed. My health and spirits were seriously affected. When your Agent came to Walkerton in August, 1876, I secured three bottles. Before I had used a quarter of the contents of one bottle I found decided relief, and when I had used two bottles and a third, I quit taking it, feeling quite cured of that ailment, and have not used any since until of late I have taken some for a cold in my head.

A sense of duty to sufferers from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, prompts me to send you this Certificate, unsolicited, with leave to make what use of it you may see proper.

Yours truly,
W. TINDALL, Methodist Minister.

Port Elgin, Ont., Aug. 24, 1878.

Ask for Littlefield's Constitutional Catarrh Remedy and take No Other.

T. J. B. HARDING, Dominion Agent, Brockville, Ontario.

For Sale by all Druggists at only one Dollar per Bottle.

Buy It! Try It!