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ஆத்ம கச்சவடம்.

உலகத்திலே பிரசித்தமான விவாபாசங்கள் அனேகம் நடக்கின்றன. அவற்றுள் இந்நகர விவாபாசம் ஒன்றுண்டு. இதை நடப்பிக்கின்ற விவாபாசியோ மற்றொருவர்களையும்போலவே, தினந்தோறும் உரோக்களில், காசக்களைய, கம்மாலை, கமம், கல்யாணி, களரி, தாவளவை, பந்தயசாலை முதலான இடங்கள்தோறும் சவ்வையாழ்த்தியிருக்கும், பிரசித்தத்திலே வருகிறதில்லை. இவன் தொழிற்வியோ ஆத்ம விவாபாசியே. இவன்பண்ணும் கச்சவடமோ மிக பாதலத்துக்குட்பட்டது. இவன் விவாபாசியைச் சம்பந்தித்துக்கொண்டுக்கூட கிராமம் அல்லாத சமுதாயத்திற்கு சில ஆத்மமாவைக் கொண்டிருக்கிறான். பெரிய சரக்கு, பலவகையும் பல தனிசாமியிருக்கின்றது. ஒருமுறை முப்பது வெள்ளிக்காசுக்கு ஒரே ஆத்மமாவை வாங்கினான். இன்னும் குறைந்த சிலவற்றைக் குத்தி சில ஆத்மமாவைக் கொண்டிருக்கிறான். காசுக்குற்ற திறமையாகிய நகை நாயவத்துக்கும், பெரிய புகம், இன்பாறுபோகும் முதலியவற்றிற்குத் தங்கள் ஆத்மமாவை விற்கு நாசப்படுத்திவாங்குகுறையை தோகையையும் அற்ப சொற்பவலையே. இப்படியே மனிதரை மயக்கி அழிவற்றதும் கிரயத்துக்கு எட்டாததுமான ஆத்மமாவை அழிவென்ற சொற்ப கிரயங்களுக்கு மாற்றிக் கச்சவடத்தைச் செய்யும் விவாபாசியானவன் ஆத்ம சண்டாளனாகிய பசாக என்னப்பட்டவனே.

மேலேகாட்டிய விதம் ஒரு ஆத்மா கிரயமாய் மாற்றப்பட்ட சரித்திரமொன்றை இதற்குத் திட்டமிட்டதாய் இவ்விடம் எடுத்துக் காட்டவேண்டும். எப்படியென்கில், பென்ஸில்வேனியா என்னுள் தேசத்திற்குச் சிறப்புபெற்ற திசுவாலையொன்றில், தேவாணமுப்புலவிலே வேதசனன் கூடியிருக்கையில், அவர்கள்மேல் ஐயவியானவர் அந்நன் நிறுவல்கள்கொண்டிருந்தார். அச்சமயத்திலே கிறிஸ்தவர்கள் அப்பள்ளி அசாகுளை அற்புதமாக, ஆத்மாவிலைது முக்கியத்தைப்பற்றி மிகுந்த வேண்டுகோளையும் எழுப்பினார்கள் பிரச்சிக்கித்து, பன்னூற்றொல்லபட்டுத் திருட்டாந்ததையும் எடுத்துக்கொண்டார். கேட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்தவர்கள் இதையும் உருக்கி கண்ணீர் விட்டார்கள். அவர் சொல்லிய திருட்டாந்த மாமலது,

நமது பட்டினங்களில்லொன்றில், வேத திரவியும் உலக நாட்டமுமுள்ள பல குடும்பங்கள் இருந்தன. அவற்றுள்ளொன்றில், ஒரு தாய்க்கு ஏழெழுதனாகப் பிறந்த செல்லியான வாலிபப் பேண்டனோடு குத்தி சில வருடங்களுக்கு முன் இருந்தார். இவன் தனது பிரயத்துக்குத் தக்கவராய், நாளைகையான ஒழுக்கம் சம்பந்தித்துச் சிறிதன்புகள் பாலிலும் மயக்கிக் கொண்டு நடந்தவந்தான். வேதநூலைய சிறிது வாண மாந்த, வாலிபர், திசுவியும் கண்பவையெல்

லாம் மட்டற்றவாழ்ந்துவருகிற மாயிருந்தபடியினாலே, இதவே மெய், இதைவிட வேறே உலகம் இல்லையென்றபோலக் காலக் கழித்தவந்தான். இப்படியிருக்கையில் இவளுடைய தோழி ஒருத்தியின் கேட்கும்விடக்கொ ஒரு நாட் சாயந்தரம் அவ்விடத்திற்கு வரவொன்றுக்குப் போனார். பராபரனுடைய ஆய்வானவர் அவள் இருதயத்தில் உணர்ச்சியை உண்டாக்கினார் ஏனென்றாலே தன் பாவக் குற்றத்தைக் குறித்துக் கலக்கமும் விசமமும் அடைந்தார். அதுசெய்தி அவள் பெற்றிருக்குத் தெரியவந்தபோது அவர்கள் ஐயமையோ! எங்கள் அந்தபுவதியாகிய மகன் தேவதீயான சிந்தனையினாலே ஞான அறிவுகொண்டு உலகநிலைக்கேற்ற தனது ஓய்வாகிய கவன எல்லாம் வேறுபடுத்தி தள்ளிப்போடப் போகிறார் என்று ஏங்கிக் கலங்கி அவளை உலகமார்ச்சிக்கிலே திருப்பிக்கொள்ளும்படியாகக் கற்பித்தும், பின்பு வேண்டுகூலப்பண்ணியும் பார்த்தார்கள். மேலும் அவளுடைய முந்திக் கூட்டாளிப்பெண்களும் மற்றும் உறவுமும் வந்து அவளைத் தங்கள்போலிக்கிலே திருப்பிக்கொள்ள யோசனைபண்ணித் தென்படுத்தும் மனிதத்துவத்துக்குமேற்பட்ட தத்துவம் ஒன்று அவள் இருதயத்தில் நின்றது பல்படுத்தி விதினாலே அவளுடைய மனப்பேறு தளும்பினதில்லை. கடசியிலே அவளுடைய பெற்றார், அந்தப் பட்டினமெங்குத் தேடுதற்கரிய விவையுமிருந்த ஒருகாலே உருப்பைக் காட்டி, மகனே, நீ இன்னிடத்திலிருக்கிற உண்டட்டிலிருந்து வரவாயாகிய இதை உனக்கு வேதமதி பண்ணுவோம் என்று அவைக் கூலிபெருந்தி மயக்கினார்கள். அதற்கு அவள் எழுப்பிட்டு அந்த விருந்துக்குப்போய்த் திரும்பி வருகையில் முன்னணர்ச்சிகள் சற்றுதலக் இல்லாமல் அற்றுப்போயின. முழுமையும் உலகத்தவளாய் விட்டார். பெற்றுமும் மகிழ்ந்தார்கள். ஆகிலும் அவர்களையுடைய மகிழ்ச்சியும் களிப்பும் நொடானாகத் திருந்தவில்லை. அனென்சில் அடுத்தகிழமையிலே அவளுக்கு மரணத்தையுடைய வந்தது. கேட்புத்தனமுள்ள பல வயித்தியர்களை அழைத்துப் பார்ப்பித்த விடத்திலும் அவர்கள் எல்லாருமும் இவள் தாய்க்கொள்ளாமட்டார் என்றே அடுத்தகித்தார்கள்.

இதையே அந்தப் பெண்ணுக்கு அறியவந்தபோது அவள் வேசுகூழ்ச்சியைச் சிறிதநேரம் கிடந்தார். அவ்வேசுவையின் அளவுடைய ஆத்மா, சென்றுபோனவையென எண்ணிப் பாங்கற்ப்படுத்தக்கூறாமையையும் கவனித்துக் கொண்டிருந்ததாகத் தோன்றுகிறது. பின்பு அவள் அருண்டு உருண்டு தேன் பெற்றுத் தனக்குவேதமதிக்கொடுத்த அந்த உருப்பை எடுத்து வந்து தன் படுத்திலிருக்கி கட்டிலில் குற்றக்காலிலே தாக்கவிலக்கிச்சொல்லி வேசுவைக்கு எடுத்தியை ஏவ அவளும் அந்தப்பிரகாரத் செய்யார். அதன்பின் வந்தபெற்றாரையும் அழைப்பித்தார். அவர்கள் வந்து கண்ணீர்விட்டபடியினாலே இதுக்கசகரத்தில் அழுகித்தவர்களாய் பக்கத்திலே நின்றார்கள். அந்நேரம் அவள், இவ்வரையுள் தனித்தனியே உற்றுப்பார்த்து, தன் கையினாலே அந்த உருப்பையும் காட்டி என் தகம்பினாரே, என் தாயாரே, எனது ஆத்மாவின் விவாக்சீரமும், அந்நேர இருக்கின்றது கண்டுகொள்ளுங்கள். என்று மகாயுக்கரத்துடனேயுக் சலிப்புடனேயுக் சொன்னார்.

ஆ! இதெவ்வளவு அபவமான செயல்கள்! விவமதிப்பிக்கடக்காத ஆத்மமாவை அதின் தத்துவங்கள், மேன்மையை, நம்பிக்கையின், விருப்பங்களின், யாழ்ந்துடனேயும் கூட ஒர் உருப்புக்காகக் கிரயம் பண்ணிப்பெருகிறது மகா அபலந்தானே.

இத்ததை வாசிக்குத் சினேகித்தாரே, நீங்கள் ஆர்வத்தோடு எழுந்த சரி, நீங்கள் ஆத்மமாவை என்னென்றத்துக்காகக் கிரயம்பண்ணுகிறீர்களென்று யோசனைபண்ணியும் பாருகின்றீர். நீங்களின் சிலர் அழைப்பைப் பெரியோர் நடப்பிக்காவும், குலத்துக்காவும், சந்தனம், முதலசொக்தேடத்துக்காவும், அழகு, சந்தை, உத்தியோகம் என்பவற்றுக்காவும், குடிவெறி சிறிதன்பத்துக்காவும், சீரயப்பண்ணிப்போடுகிறீர்களே. இதெவ்வளவு அபவமன்றது உங்கள் சமயத்தியினும் மேலேகாட்டிய திருட்டாந்தத்தினும் கண்ணென்றது நல்லொன்றுவற்றது, நீங்கள் ஆத்மா கவனித்திலே சேரித்துச் சத்தியமாய்வு பெறும்படி நடவடிக்கை. அல்லாத இம்மைக்கும் மறுமைக்கும் தீராத மனிதர்ப்பம் வந்துசேருமென்று அறிவிக்கலாக.

வண்ணை நகர்மாணுக்கர்களுக்கோப்புத்தி.
தாரகையே, இதற்குத் தயவுசெய்வாராக.
வண்ணை நகரில் வசிக்கும் வாலிபரே, உங்களில் அனைகருடைய வாலிப சேட்டைகளையும் பெறல்வாப்பக்களையும் குறித்துக் கவலையுள்ளவரும் இருக்கிறேன். நீலர் யாழ்ப்பாணத்தின் மற்றுமே வைய துரிச்சிகளிலும் பார்க்கச் சீர்திருந்திய வண்ணை நகரில் வசிப்பீர்கள். அனைக நாட்டுப் பின்னர்கள் பெருகு நன்மைகள் உங்களுக்குண்டு. உங்கள் பெற்றார் தரித்திரானவர்களும் நாட்டுப்படுத்திய செல்வர்கள் தங்கள் பின்னர்களுக்காகச் செலவழிப்பதிலும் கட்சிச் செலவழித்து, உங்களை மென்மைப்படுத்த முயல்செய்க்கோ. உங்களில் அனைவர் வேதனைச்செலவோடு தழியும் இங்கிலாந்து கற்றுக்கொள்கோ. நீங்கள் வேதகாலம் கக்கத்திற்குப் போல்தகம் இடுக்கினவர்களாய் (கோபுரநாங்கிய பதமைபோர்) பள்ளிக்குப்போகிறதைக் கண்டு உங்கள் பின்னரே எப்படி இருக்குமென அபேட்சையோடுக் காத்திருந்தேன். சினேகித்தாரே, உங்கள் கூரியபுத்திரனுக்கு வேத நன்மைகளை உண்டாக்குகின்ற யோசித்தேன். ஐயோ! என் மயக்கிக் கேட்டேன். உங்களைத் தேசம் கேட்டுப்போயினே. உங்கள் சவுந்தரியோடு சங்கம்மங்கல வேட்டியுடைய நீர்க்காலியேறின் முன்னாலேயே நடைமும் உங்கள் நன்மையைக் காத்திருந்தவெம்போலிக் குத்தி தன்பத்தையும் தாசிகளுக்கு உற்பத்தையும் உண்டாக்கிறீர்; ஐயோ! நீலர் இத்த கல்லியும் பயின்ற எழுத்தும் தேர்ச்சிகாய்ச் சம்பாதித்த கடதாசிகளும் தாசிகள் சிறப்பையும் அறிக்கின்றார்! நீலர் பிற்காலங்களில் பிரசித்த சங்ககளைவையுத் அனைக காரியங்களைப் பேசுவதற்கென்று கற்றுத் தேறுவீர்களென்று காத்திருந்தேனே! நீலர் இப்போ கூடுக உண்டங்களில்லா தாசிகள் நன்மைக்காக உண்டாக்கின்றே! நீலர் பிரசித்தப் பத்திரிகைகளில் அறிவுக்கேதவானவைகளை எழுதிவீர்களென வெண்ணியிருக்கேன். நீங்களோ ஒருவரேமேலொருவர் அதுவானவைகளை எழுதிச் செலவழிக்கும் படிப்புகளாகிய நீங்கள் இங்கிலாந்துத்தால் சங்கமையான உத்தியோகங்களும் பாப்புகளென நினைந்தேன். உங்கள் உத்தியோகம் இப்போ தாசிகளால் நியமிக்கப்படுகின்றது. நீங்கள் கற்றுஅறிவால் தாசிகளுக்கு நல்ல இங்கிலாந்துப்பிரகாரக் கொடுக்கிறீர்கள். ஒருவருக்கொருவரும் குட்டுகிறீர்கள். பத்திரியாய் பரிந்து சண்டையெய்க்கிறீர்கள். காசுகொடுத்து அரசுக்களையாக்கி ஒருவனுக்குக்கொடுத்து மற்றவனை அடிக்கச் செய்கிறீர்கள். உங்கள் நாயங்கம் நீதவான் காதுகளில் எழிப் புகுக்கின் தாளியும் பதிப்படுகின்றது. உங்களின் சீலம் நியமப்பிரயோகம் பெற்று உத்தியோகங்கள் பற்றுகொடுத்துக்காட்சியில் முழுதும் தாசிகளோடுங்கப் போகிறீர்கள். ஐயோ சினேகித்தாரே! உங்களை நினைக்கும்போது என் இருதயம் கலங்குகின்றது. நீங்கள் இம்மையிலிருந்து சரித்திரக்கும் சங்கைக்கும் நல்லொன்றுயும் மாத்திரமே மறுமையில்மீழ்க்கப்போகிறீர் விலை உயர்ந்த ஆத்மத்துக்கமாய்க் கவலப்படுகிறீர்கள். இவைகள் எப்படியாயிற்றென்று பாருங்கள். உங்களோடு படித்தவர்களில் அனைகர் சிறிதென்பதுச் சற்றுத்தவராய் நல்லவர்களாய் யாராவும் மிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறீர்களே! உங்களுக்குவந்த தாட்சியினமே! நன்மைக்காய் பயிற்றுப்பட்ட நன்மைத்தின்மையில் அத்தகச்சிச் செய்கிறீர்! உங்களை வேதனையிற் பசாகே உலகத்தின் பிரபலர். நீங்கள் சிவக்கையிலும் கந்தகையிலேயேயுடைய பண்ணும் நகரவீடுகளையும் கொடுக்கோம் மதனநூல்முதலிய சைவநூல்களையும் பிராமணர் சைவநூல்களையும் சரி மக்களையும் பிரதானமாய் உங்கள் கேட்டமாய்ச் இச்சையையும் விட்டு விவிலியவைப்பற்றி வேதத்தைக் கற்று விசியோகாரிகள் மேயிலுக்குப் போய் அவர்கள் புத்தியைக் கேட்டு கோய்த்துவனை வழிபட்டு "இரட்சிக்கப்படுவதற்கு என்னென்று செய்வோம்" என்று கற்றுங்கள். சினேகித்தாரே, இப்படியோமாத்திரத் செய்தால் இயைக்கிறீர்களென்று சிலமாய் இடக்கப்படுகின்றீர்கள். உங்களுக்குச் சில மேன்மையும் ஆசிரியருமுமுண்டாகும். இல்லாவிடும் செருவீர்கள். சினேகித்தாரே, என் முடிக்கருத்தையும் மோக்கத்தையும் ஒன்றுலேழுகமுடியாத தாரகையே,

MORNING STAR.

Jaffna, March 13th, 1851.

THE FIRST REPORT OF THE VICARIATE APOSTOLIC OF JAFFNA, FOR THE YEAR 1850.

We have not room for a lengthened notice of this pamphlet in our little luminary. We think it probable, however, that it will shortly be reviewed by a more able hand. As our humble paper is noticed in the Report, we feel bound in courtesy to say a few words respecting this pamphlet. It is written with a very bad spirit—the old stereotyped spirit of Romanism whenever they write against protestants. The Bishop has seen fit to atomize our paper, and to forbid all the Roman Catholics of Jaffna from reading it. This is no more than we expected from such a quarter. We feel highly honored by this order of the Bishop. He has thus placed our paper under the same ban with the protestant Bible. We very much doubt however, whether he has power to prevent many of his people from reading both the Bible and the Morning Star. It is certainly possible also that the latter may continue to shine a little longer, notwithstanding this prohibition of the Bishop.

We are happy to be able to commend some parts of the Report. In the "conclusion," where they exhort their people to holiness of life—to imitate the perfect example of our Lord Jesus Christ, there are several pages that are truly excellent and worthy of an attentive perusal by all whether Catholics or protestants.

We wish that we could also commend the doctrines that are here advocated. We have only room however, for brief remarks upon a few.

1. They deny "holding the doctrine of exclusive salvation with which they are charged by protestants." But in the work of Dr. Milner entitled "the end of controversy," which we lately read, he distinctly asserts that there is no salvation out of the Catholic church, thus consigning all of us poor heretics to some thing worse than the purifying fires of the *auto da fe* or of purgatory.

2. The adoration of images.

We will only say on this point, that intelligent heathen use precisely the same mode of reasoning to justify the use of images in their temples that Roman Catholics do in their churches.

3. They would attempt to make us believe that they are friendly to the circulation and reading of the holy scriptures. But the history of their church in every age and in every country, down to the present time, abundantly proves that this is not so. They here say, page 95, "The Catholic church has never forbidden or discouraged the reading or the circulation of authentic copies of the sacred scriptures, in the original languages." We would like to ask the author of this Report, how the millions of China and Japan and India are to read the Bible in Hebrew and Greek? Who are to be their teachers? Is not this solemn mockery? The Roman Catholics have had extensive missions in all these countries for several hundred years. Why has not their church prepared an authorized version of the scriptures in the languages of the people? They have one in Latin, which is not one of the original languages of the Bible. Why have they not made them in other languages? To all men of common sense, the reason is obvious. They wish to keep the common people in ignorance, in darkness and in subjection to the priests.

4. They call the virgin Mary the *mother of God*, and pay her divine honors.

The virgin Mary is the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has neither father nor mother; and if common people were allowed to read their Bibles, they would understand this. They would also read and understand the truth of what St. Paul says to Timothy: "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." Understanding this, they would not feel the need of other intercessors.

If we have time, we may remark upon some other points in future numbers of the Star.

There are only three ways to get out of a quarrel; write out, fight out, or back out; but the best way is to keep out.

SECESSIONS FROM ROMANISM.

Roman Catholics are constantly boasting of the number of converts from Protestantism to Romanism. No doubt there have within a few years been a considerable number of such especially from the Puseyites in the English Church and some in America. But on the other hand they say little or nothing of the great numbers of converts among the common people from Romanism to Protestantism. These are very numerous especially in the United States. Some of the Irish, and great numbers of Germans, have seceded from Rome and joined the Protestants. Thus while they gain one convert, they lose twenty from their church. In Europe, by the aid of the inquisition and the civil power, they are able to retain most of their people in subjection to the Pope. But when they have immigrated to the United States, they soon learn that they are free men and not slaves. Their children especially attend school and read their Bibles and learn to think for themselves. The result is, that they cannot there long be kept in abject subjection to their priests. As they become better acquainted with Protestants and with their Bibles, we may reasonably expect that they will in still greater numbers, forsake the superstitions of Rome and become Bible Christians. We copy the following article from the New York Evangelist as illustrative of our meaning:

The Philadelphia papers contain a notice of the organization of a new German church in that city, composed of a number of Catholic Roman families, who have openly seceded from the Roman hierarchy. These instances of secession have become quite frequent, and as the influences of our free Protestantism are felt, will become very much the fashion of the emigrants, particularly the Germans. In Cincinnati, the Editor of the Louisville Herald states, there are already seven of these communions, some Reformed, others Evangelical, and all Independent. They receive the Scriptures as the rule of faith, and many have the appearance of truly converted persons. All the churches have pastors, four of whom are regarded as Rationalists, and the other three as Evangelical and highly exemplary. In other cities the same is true—probably in most of the larger cities, there is more or less of this distinctive secession from Rome. What with these refractory emigrants, and the universal tendency of the children of Catholics to think for themselves, the prospects of Popery in this land are not so bright as to discourage Protestant labor and prayer for their good. The field which is thus opening before the church, is exceeding broad and promising.

INTERPERANCE IN CEYLON.—This is the title of a very interesting and valuable tract sent us from Kandy. It discloses a vast body of facts upon this subject which ought to be attentively considered by all—especially by all in authority in this island. They will clearly see that they cannot innocently remain unconcerned spectators of the desolating evils of intemperance, especially of the evils arising from licensing taverns for the sale of arrack and toddy in every part of the island.

We are happy to learn that the efforts of our friends in the centre and south of the island are attended with encouraging success. They greatly need funds for the circulation of tracts on this subject, both in the English and native languages. We are authorized to state that the American missionaries in Jaffna will receive and transmit to their friends in the south any funds, that benevolent gentlemen may feel disposed to give for the promotion of this good cause. We sincerely wish every success.

NOT MUCH HARM IN IT.—Some years ago, in one of the Eastern States, two young men, belonging to fashionable circles, became seriously impressed with their condition as sinners, and of the importance of salvation. While in this state of mind, they were both invited to attend a ball, and being strongly importuned to go, one at last yielded, having persuaded himself that there was not much harm in it. The other, instead of going, repaired to the house of his pastor, where he spent the evening in a manner more befitting his state of mind. The result was as might be expected. The former, that night, lost all his impressions, returned to the world, and became more hardened and careless than ever; the other soon after found peace in believing, and continued an exemplary, happy Christian.

Dear young reader, when you have the strivings of God's Spirit, beware of turning aside to the pleasures of the world, under the impression that you can renew your serious reflections at a more convenient season. God is merciful and gracious; but there is infinite danger in trifling with the influences of his Spirit

If any of our readers fail of understanding this beautiful charade, we will enlighten them in our next issue. We think, however, nearly all will obtain the answer without our aid.

A CHARAD

Pronounced as one letter, and written with three
Two letters there are, and they are, I am weak
I'm double, I'm single, I'm black and grey
I am read from both ends, and the one either way,
I am restless and wandering, steady and fixed,
And you know not one hour what I may be the next,
I melt and I kindle, beseech and defy,
I am watery and moist, I am fiery and dry,
I am scornful and scolding, compassionate, meek,
I am light, I am dark, I am strong, I am weak,
I am piercing and clear, I am heavy and dull,
Expressive and languid contracted and full,
I'm a globe and a mirror, a window, a door,
An index, an organ, and fifty things more.
I belong to all animals under the sun,
And to those which were long understood to have none.
By some I am said to exist in the mind,
And am found in potatoes, and needles, and wind,
Three jackets I own, of glass, water, and horn,
And I wore them all three on the day I was born.
I am covered quite snug, have a lid and a fringe,
Yet I move every way, invisible hinge.
A pupil I have, a most whimsical sight,
Who is little by day, and grows big in the night,
Whom I cherish with care as a part of myself;
For in truth I depend on this delicate elf,
Who collects all my food, and with wonderful knack
Throws it into a net, which I keep at my back;
And though heels over head it arrives, in a trice
It is sent up to table all proper and nice.
I am spoken of sometimes, as if I were glass,
But then it is false, and the trick will not pass.
A blow makes me run, though I have not a limb;
Though I neither have fire, nor a bladder, I swim.
Like many more couples, my partner and I
At times will look cross at each other, and shy;
Yet still, though we differ in what we're about,
One will do all the work when the other is out.
I am least apt to cry, as they always remark,
When trimmed with good lashes, or kept in the dark
Should I fret and be heated, they put me to bed,
And leave me to cool upon water and bread.
But if hardened I grow they make use of the knife,
Lest an obstinate humor endanger my life.
Or you may, though the treatment appears to be rough,
Run a spit through my side, and with safety enough,
Like boys, who are fond of their fruit and their play,
I am seen with my ball and my apple all day.
My belt is a rainbow, I reel and I dance;
I am said to retire, though I never advance.
I am read by philosophers as one of their books,
And am used by the laity to fasten their hooks.
My language is plain, though it cannot be heard,
And I speak without ever pronouncing a word.
Some call me a diamond, some say I am jet,
Others talk of my water, or how I am set,
I'm a borough in England, in Scotland a stream.
And an isle of the sea in the Irishman's dream.
The earth without me would no loveliness wear,
And sun, moon, and stars, at my wish disappear.
Yet so frail is my tenure, a brittle my joy,
That a speck gives me pain, and a drop can destroy.

THE POPE'S CHIEF TROUBLE.—An important feature in the struggle now going on in Italy and especially in Rome, is the bitter and determined hostility of the Pope to the Bible. There is no enemy so much to be dreaded as the Bible. The Pope and the Cardinals, it would seem, cannot feel safe nor sleep sound so long as the Bible is allowed to remain in secret places. The Pope a short time since, in a circular to the Archbishop and Bishops of Italy, manifested his hatred towards the circulation of the Bible in these terms.

"Be careful to preserve the people not only from the reading of papers, but from reading the Bible, which the enemies of the church and of human society, availing themselves of the aid of Bible Societies, are not ashamed to circulate; and enjoin upon the faithful to shun with horror the reading of such deadly poison, inspiring them, at the same time, with veneration for the Holy See of St. Peter."

In this war against the Bible, the Pope will doubtless find it a hard matter to fight against this celestial weaponry. The little book has proved itself stronger than the Pope and Cardinals, and will ultimately triumph over all opposition, and sit in judgment upon the poor old man who would endeavor to exclude it.

THE MANNER OF MUNGO PARK'S DEATH.—The Rev. George Chapman, at Hamasi, met with an old Moor, from the interior, who declared that he was present at the scene of Mungo Park's death, and described it thus: Mr. Park was making his way down the Niger in his boat, and parties of the natives ran along the banks, watching his progress. They were approaching very dangerous shallows, and the natives cried out several times to warn them; but they were not understood, and at last, fearing the boat would perish, several rushed into the water to save them. This was mistaken for a hostile movement; they were fired on, and some killed or wounded; in return for which they murdered the whole party, and rifled their boat and persons.

When danger approaches, men are wont to acknowledge the presence of God more strongly than at other times. Many pray who never prayed before; and even the prayers of good men are more fervent than usual.

LAST WORDS OF DYING SINNERS.

"Millions of money for one minute of time!" exclaimed a dying lady of rank, of beauty, and of power; but not a minute was to be found for her in the world of time. She had spent her years in the pursuit of pleasure, and never had a moment to spare for the great concerns of the 5 to come.

"It is too late, my friend," was the dying cry of a young man, who, I passed through a revival of religion, and had been moved by the power of the Holy Spirit. Sudden sickness seized him, and death stared him in the face, and he was filled with anguish when he saw the danger of his precious soul. He was urged to fly to the Savior and trust him, as did the thief on the cross. But he felt that it was too late, and with the lamentation on his lips, "Too late, I am lost," he expired.

Mr. Hervey called to see a dying man, who thus gave utterance to the deep sorrows of his soul: "I see a horrible night approaching, bringing with it the blackness of darkness forever. Woe is me! When God called, I refused. Now I am in sore anguish, and yet this is but the beginning of sorrows. I shall be destroyed with an everlasting destruction."

"I won't die now," cried a young lady, when she felt the pangs of death getting hold upon her. But as they increased, and she saw there was no way of escape, and that whether willing or not, she must die, she cried out: "Lord, what must I do?" and fell back in death.

A rich man was dying, and when the physician had exhausted his skill in fruitless attempts to arrest the violence of his disease, the sufferer asked: "Shall I never recover?" "You are very sick," answered the doctor, "and should prepare for the worst." "Can not I live for a week?" "No; you will probably continue but a little while." "Say not so," said the dying man, "I will give you a hundred thousand dollars, if you will prolong my life three days." "I could not do it, my dear sir, for three hours," said the doctor, and the man was dead in less than an hour.

"There is no mercy for me now," said a youth, who had been careless and irreligious in health, and now in sickness, he felt that the atonement which he had despised, was not within his reach. He died without hope, protesting to the end that there was no mercy for such a sinner as he.

But this is not a pleasing theme. How distressing such reflections, as these facts awaken! Who would die as these sinners died? Who would not have the Christian's hope to die with, even if he would live as sinners live? It was a wicked man who said: "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

THE LOST BROTHER FOUND.

An American missionary, after a residence of several years in Syria, returned to the United States to visit his friends. His parents had gone to their long home, but his brothers still survived, of whom one was hopefully converted soon after his arrival, but another was in the far West, a gentleman of princely fortune and of high rank, but without God and without hope in the world. He resolved to visit him, and on his arrival at his habitation was welcomed with great fraternal tenderness.

"But," says the missionary, "I found my brother, as I had anticipated, averse to religious conversation, especially when it assumed a personal character. Day after day passed, and I began to fear lest I should be constrained to return to my foreign field, without having any religious interview with him. But, on the evening previous to my departure from his dwelling, after his family had retired, and when we were alone, I spoke to him of our dear departed mother, sang some of the hymns which she taught us, and repeated passage after passage from the Shorter Catechism. The tears streaming from his eyes assured me that I had at length found an open door to his heart. He inquired, 'where is that old Primer?' I would give more for a copy of it than for any book in my library." I drew from my pocket," continues the missionary, "the only one in my possession; and, while we both wept together, I presented it to him, saying, 'Take that, dear brother, and God grant that it may revive our mother's faith in your heart.' We had each other good-night and retired. Early in the morning I left his abode, expecting to see his face no more in the world. It was not many days before I received a letter from him, informing me of his hopeful conversion which he ascribed instrumentally to his recollection of his mother's instruction, awakened by that little book, the Shorter Catechism."

"Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days."—*Presbyterian Record.*

Hic, Hæc, Hoc.—When the Rev. Dr. Patton was in England, he dined with several gentlemen, who used a great variety of arguments to make him give up his cold water principles. "Now here," said one, "here, doctor, is some good old hock; surely you can't decline this." "Can't," replied the doctor; "why, sir, I learned to decline it when a boy. Hic, hæc, hoc." The table was in a roar, and the doctor came triumphant. Let all boys when they are young, decline hock; if they do, they will never know the drunkard's hic.

THE BIBLE IN MY TRUNK.

A few evenings ago I was present at a tea-table, where the conversation turned upon praying "before folk," some of the party contending that, where two travellers chanced to lodge in the same room for a night, it would look pharisaical for one or the other to kneel down and "say his prayers" in the presence of the other; while the other party defended the propriety of it, and asserted it to be a duty. As an illustration, an incident was related, where two members of one church—at home, good men enough—both got into bed prayerless, for fear of praying before the others' eyes. This conversion, which was very interesting, and in the course of which, many striking illustrations were brought up to prove the healthy example of never neglecting prayer, led a clergyman present to relate the following anecdote, which I think worthy of preservation, and perhaps may do some good.

When I was a young man, said the clergyman, I was a clerk in Boston. Two of my room-mates at my boarding-house, were also clerks about my own age, which was eighteen. The first Sunday morning, during the three or four long hours that elapsed, from getting up to bell-ringing for church, I felt a secret desire to get a Bible, which my mother had given me, out of my trunk, and read in it; for I had been so brought up by my parents, as to regard it as a duty at home to read a chapter or two in the Bible every Sunday. I was now very anxious to get my Bible and read, but I was afraid to do so before my room-mates, who were reading some miscellaneous books. At length, my conscience got the mastery, and I rose up, and went to my trunk. I had half-raised it, when the thought occurred to me that it might look like over sanctity and pharisaical, so I shut my trunk, and returned to the window. For twenty minutes I was miserably ill at ease; I felt I was doing wrong. I started a second time to my trunk, and had my head upon the little Bible, when the fear of being laughed at conquered the better emotion, and I again dropped the top of the trunk. As I turned away from it, one of my room-mates who observed my irresolute movements, said laughingly:

"I—, what's the matter? you seem as restless as a weather-cock."

I replied by laughing in my turn; and then, conceiving the truth to be the best, frankly told them both what was the matter.

To my surprise and delight they both spoke up and avowed that they both had Bibles in their trunks; and both had been secretly wishing to read in them, but were afraid to take them out lest I should laugh at them.

Then, said I, let us agree to read them every Sunday, and we shall have the laugh all on one side.

To this there was a hearty response; and the next morning the three Bibles were out; and I assure you, we all felt happier all that day for reading in them that morning.

The following Sunday, about ten o'clock, while we were each reading our chapters, two of our fellow-boarders from another room came in. When they saw how we were engaged, they stared and then exclaimed: "Bless us! what is all this? A conventicle?"

In reply, I, smiling, related to them exactly how the matter stood; my struggle to get my Bible from my trunk, and how we three, having found we had all been afraid of each other without cause, had now agreed to read every Sunday.

"Not a bad idea," answered one of them. "You have more courage than I have. I have a Bible, too, but I have not looked into it since I have been in Boston! But I'll read it after this, since you've broke the ice."

The other then asked one of us to read aloud, and both sat and quietly listened till the bell rang for the church.

That evening, we three in the same room agreed to have a chapter read every night by one or the other of us at nine o'clock, and we religiously adhered to our purpose. A few evenings after this resolution, four or five of the boarders (for there were sixteen clerks boarding in the house) happened to be in our room talking when the nine o'clock bell rang. One of my room-mates, looking at me, opened the Bible. The others looked inquiringly. I then explained our custom.

"We'll all stay and listen," they said almost unanimously. The result was, that, without an exception, every one of the sixteen clerks spent his Sabbath morning in reading the Bible, and the moral effect upon our household was of the highest character. I relate this incident, concluded the clergyman, to show what influence one person, even a youth, may exert for evil or good. No man should ever be afraid to do his duty. A hundred hearts may throbb at right act right that only await a leader. I forgot to add that we were all called the "Bible clerks!" All these youths are now settled and Christian men, and more than one is laboring in the ministry.—*American Paper.*

THE ROTHSCHILDS.—It is said that the fortune of the Rothschilds is not less than seven hundred and thirty-five millions of francs—about one hundred and fifty-five millions of dollars. They are the true money kings of the world, and control the policy of nations more, perhaps, than the real sovereigns do.

OVERLAND INTELLIGENCE.

The agitation on the subject of the Papal aggressions in England was gradually subsiding. The people have evidence in the Parliament that such measures will speedily be adopted as the case requires.

The number of deaths of eminent persons reported is unusually large. Among these are the Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis of Northampton, the Marquis of Hastings, Lord William Somerset, Field Marshal Thomas Grouvelor. Also Viscount Melncoro, the Minister from Portugal to London.

In France, the Ministry had resigned but a new Ministry had not been formed. The war in Holstein is at an end, and the difficulties between Denmark and Germany are settled. In Spain, the Minister Narvez had resigned and left the kingdom.

It is stated that General Ben had made a Musselman and was buried with Turkish rites, in the tomb of a Mohammedan saint. The prisoners in Turkey are about to be set at liberty.

The following article abridged from the Athenæum and copied from the Home News respecting America will be read with interest.

THE PROGRESS OF AMERICA.—We have just read a few returns of the new American census of great significance. The American census is not yet complete; but the returns already received, point to conclusions far beyond expectation. Look at New York, for instance. In 1820 it had a population of 1,230,000. The population is now said to have risen to 750,000. There are but two larger cities in Europe. In ten years more at the same rate of progress, it will be larger than Paris. In thirty years from this date, New York will, on the same terms be larger than London. In 1840 St. Louis had only 1600 inhabitants. Now it has 90,000. So far as the general nature of the return can be inferred from the data at hand, the population of the Union will be about 25,000,000. From the year 1800 when the number was little more than 5,000,000, to 1840 when it had advanced to 17,000,000, the decennial rate of increase was about 33 per cent. This rate would have given in 1850 a population of 22,000,000 only. This marvellous growth is deranging all the old traditions of "Balance of power." America is not only a first class nation—a few years if no internal disorder shall occur, she will be the greatest of all. Should this last rate of increase be maintained for 50 years, the population will then amount to 190,000,000, nearly equal to that of the whole of Continental Europe. Were it possible to conceive the same ratio maintained for the next 50 years, the census of 1850 would give the astounding number of 1,595,000,000. When the United States shook off the yoke of England, their people numbered no more than 5,000,000. Ten years hence, they will be equal to France or Austria. There hardly seems to be a limit to their growth. The valley of the Mississippi would alone support the whole population of Europe. In its vast bound nations are now growing up as if at the bidding of enchantment. The valley already contains about 13,000,000 of inhabitants. There is a moral as well as a material grandeur in this great movement of the Sixteen race less energetic stocks, and planting from ocean to ocean the finest institutions ever adopted by nations. America is destined for its sole inheritance. The Spaniard and the Portuguese will disappear as surely as the Gaul, the Dane and the Hollander have disappeared; and two centuries hence the English tongue will, no doubt, be spoken from the Cape of Storms to the frozen oceans of the North.

WHICH IS BEST?—Which is best? To build a light-house that shall save many vessels from being wrecked, or a life-boat that shall rescue a few wretches from the wrecks that occur for want of a light-house?

Which is best? To pay for the police-man or the schoolmaster?—for the prison or the school?

Which is best? To prevent crime, or to punish it?

Which is best? To train up the boy in the fear of God, or punish the man for breaking human laws?

Which is best? To feed, educate and save a heedless, neglected, hungry child, or to feed, educate and harden the same child when he becomes an old rogue?

These questions are settled, little by little, every day, in every community.—S. S. JOURNAL.

WHY DON'T THEY GET READY?—"Mamma," said a little child to her mother, "my Sunday-school teacher tells me that this world is only a place, in which God lets us live a while, that we may prepare for a better world. But, mother, I do not see anybody preparing. I see you are preparing to go into the country, and aunt Eliza is preparing to go with you! Why do not people try to get ready to go to another world?"

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

POINT EDRO.—ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURES.—*March 4, 1851.*—*Arrived* and *Sailed* the same day Schooner *Arthava*, Leitchim, M. Teromany, from Colombo and Jaffna, February 17 and March 1, bound for Trincomalee, cargo sundries, passengers Mr. Simon Gasperon and his family.

March 5.—*Arrived* Schooner *Caleanalechimy*, A. Rangopullay, from Madras February 27, bound for Jaffna and Colombo, cargo specie and sundries. *Sailed* the next day for Jaffna, cargo as above.

KAITES.—*Feb. 26, 1851.*—*Sailed* Brig *Leitchimy*, F. Saravimottoo, for Moya, cargo tobacco, passengers 5 natives.

Feb. 26.—*Arrived* Schooner *Arthava*, Leitchim, Teromany, from Colombo and Pamban Feb. 17 and 23, bound for Jaffna and Trincomalee, cargo sundries, passengers 8th Regiment Bombay N. I. *Sailed* March 1st, for Trincomalee, from Trincomalee, Feb. 27, bound for Colombo, cargo sundries, passengers 8 natives.

Arrived Schooner *Mahamadoo Maulin*, Saaboo box, Vessampilly, from Colombo and Pamban Feb. 24 and 28, bound for Topotoony, cargo 15 bundles gunnies, passengers 6 natives. *Sailed* the next day for Topotoony.

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