

The Orphans' Friend.

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 1883.

BLEST.

Blest be the tongue that speaks no ill,
Whose words are always true,
That keeps "the law of kindness" still,
Whatever others do.

Blest be the ears that will not hear
Detraction's envious tale;
'Tis only through the listening ear
That falsehood can prevail.

Blest be the heart that knows no guile,
That feels no wish unkind,
Forgetting provocation, while
Good deeds are kept in mind.

Blest be the hands that toil to aid
The great world's ceaseless need—
The hands that never are afraid
To do a kindly deed.

Blest be the thoughtful brain that schemes
A beautiful ideal;
Mankind grows great through noble dreams
And time will make them real.

Do good in thought. Some future day
'Twill ripen into speech;
And words are seeds that grow to deeds,
None know how far they reach.

Like thistle down upon the breeze,
Swift scattered here and there,
So war is will travel far, and these
A fruitful harvest bear.

Where goodness dwells in heart and mind
Both words and deeds will be
Like cords that closer draw mankind
In peace and charity.

—Selected.

WHERE TOM FOUND HIS MANNERS.

Tom's father was a rich man, and Tom lived in a large house in the country. He had a pony and many other pets, and wore fine clothes. Tom was very proud of all the fine things his father's money bought. He began to think that being rich was better than being good. He grew very rude, and was cross to the servants. Once he kicked Towser; but the dog growled, and Tom was afraid to kick him again.

One day, when Tom was playing in the yard, he saw a boy standing by the gate. He was ragged and dirty, his hat was torn, and his feet were bare. But he had a pleasant face. In one hand, he carried a pail half full of blackberries.

"Go away from here," said Tom, running to the gate. "We are rich, and don't want ragged boys around."

"Please give me a drink," said the boy. "If you are so rich, you can spare me a dipper of water."

"We can't spare you anything," said Tom. "If you don't go away, I will set the dogs on you."

The boy laughed and walked away, swinging the tin pail in his hand.

"I think I will get some blackberries too," said Tom to himself. He went out of the gate into a lane leading to a meadow where there were plenty of berries.

Tom saw some fine large ones growing just over a ditch. He thought he could leap over it very easily. He gave a run and a very big jump. The ditch was wider than he had thought; and instead of going over it, he came down in the middle of it.

The mud was very thick and soft, and Tom sank down in it up to his waist. He was very much frightened, and screamed for help. But he had not much hope that help

would come, for he was a long way from any house. He screamed until he was tired. He began to think he would have to spend the night in the ditch, when he heard steps on the grass. Looking up, he saw the ragged boy he had driven from the gate.

"Please help me out," said Tom, crying. "I will give you a dollar."

"I don't want the dollar," said the boy, lying down flat on the grass. He held out both his hands to Tom, and drew him out of the ditch.

Tom was covered with mud, his hat was gone, and one shoe was lost in the ditch. He looked very miserable.

"Who is dirty now," asked the boy.

"I am," said poor Tom; "but I thank you very much for helping me out of the mire. And I am sorry I sent you away from the gate."

"The next time I come, perhaps you will treat me better," said the boy. "I am not rich; but I am stronger than you are and I think I have better manners."

"I think so too," said Tom. The next day, when Tom saw the boy going by the gate he recalled him in, showed him his rabbits, doves, and little ducks and gave him a ride on his pony.

"You have good manners now," said the boy.

"Yes," said Tom, "I found them in the ditch."—Our Little Ones.

WHY BOYS SHOULD LEARN A TRADE.

Hardly a day passes by but we see evidence of the folly of our young men, both in the city and country. They are willing to work for about half the pay they should be receiving. If you ask them what is their trade, they will reply they have none, and in these days when skilled labor is in demand it is a shame and outrage for so many promising young men to be loitering their time away, either looking for work, or, if they have it, in a position where their pay is nothing.

We have seen too many such who expected to climb up the ladder of fame and fortune without working for it. They are looking around for pins to pick up, and then be folded to the embrace of some wealthy bank president or philanthropic merchant, made a partner, and finally marry into the family. Such cases are not to be found every day in the present time. We read Munchausen tales of years gone by, that had an ending like this. But to-day the merchant who wants a young man wants one of character and ability.

Learn a trade young man; first become proficient in some industry, so when you go forth to pastures new, you know within yourself that you have something to fall back on for a living.

If the young men of to-day would ask some of our old and successful merchants for the secret of their success in life, they would be much astonished at the stories of early hardships, trials and privations they endured. Fathers, mothers, is there not a lesson to be learned from this? Is it not your duty to see that your boys are educated to make their living, so that when they come to man's estate, they can bless you for it?

The best tonic medicine—one that is not composed mostly of alcohol or whiskey—is Brown's Iron Bitters. It is guaranteed to be non-intoxicating and will absolutely kill all desire for whiskey and other intoxicants. It has been thoroughly tested and proven itself in every instance a never-failing cure for dyspepsia, indigestion, biliousness, weakness, debility, overwork, rheumatism, neuralgia, consumptive disease, liver complaints, kidney troubles, etc.

"What brought you to prison, my colored friend?" said a Yankee to a darkey. "Two constables, sah." "Yes; but I mean had intemperance anything to do with it?" "Yes, sah; dey was bof of 'em druk."

THINK; AGAIN.

It is related that during the first few days of the reign of Queen Victoria, then a girl between nineteen and twenty years of age, some sentences of a court martial were presented for her signature. One was death for desertion.

A soldier was condemned to be shot, and his death-warrant was presented to the queen for her signature. She read it, paused, looked upon the officer who laid it before her, and said:

"Have you nothing to say in behalf of this man?"

"Nothing. He has deserted three times," said the officer.

"Think again, my lord," was her reply.

"And," said the veteran, as he related the circumstance to his friends (for it was no other than the Duke of Wellington), "seeing Her Majesty so earnest about it, I said:

"He is certainly a very bad soldier; but there was somebody who spoke as to his good character, and he may be a good man for aught I know to the contrary."

"I thank you a thousand times," exclaimed the youthful queen.

And hastily writing *Pardoned* in large letters on the fatal page, she sent it across the table with a hand trembling with emotion.

What a world of instruction, goodness and true philosophy is contained in these two words, *think; again!* Could we adopt their spirit as the rule of our lives, one and all, what a happy change would come over society!

In all our business concerns, in our social and moral relations, our political and religious duties, what important results might follow, if, on very many occasions, we would think again before deciding upon action!

G. B. G.

BUT ONE CRACK.

There is but one crack in the lantern, and the wind has found it out and blows out the candle. How great a mischief one unguarded point of character may cause! One spark blew up the magazine and shook the whole country for miles around. One leak sank the vessel and drowned all on board. One wound may kill the body. One sin destroy the soul. It little matters how carefully the rest of the lantern is protected, the one point which is damaged is quite sufficient to admit the wind, and so it little matters how zealous a man may be in a thousand things, if he tolerate one darling sin; Satan will find out the flaw and destroy all his hopes. The strength of a chain is to be measured, not by the strongest, but by its weakest links; for if the weakest snap what is the use of the rest? Satan is a close observer, and knows exactly where our weak points are; we have need of very much watchfulness, and we have great cause to bless our merciful Lord who prayed for us that our faith fail not. Either our pride or our sloth, our ignorance, our anger, or our lust would prove our ruin, unless grace interposed; any one of our senses or faculties might admit the foe, yea, our virtues and graces might be the gates of entrance to our enemies. O Jesus, if thou hast indeed bought me with thy blood, be pleased to keep me by thy power even unto the end.—*Spurgeon.*

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The Orphan Asylum

IS LOCATED AT OXFORD.

The County-seat of Granville, forty-five miles North of Raleigh; twelve miles from Henderson on the R. & G. R. R.

The Orphan Asylum belongs to (and, of course, is conducted according to the regulations adopted by) the Grand Lodge of Masons.

Its benefits are extended to the most needy orphans, without, ever asking whether their fathers were masons or not. Children are received between the ages of eight and twelve, and discharged between the ages of fourteen and sixteen.

The average cash expenses for each orphan is five dollars a month, but the sum required varies according to the seasons, and does not include what is spent for repairs, furniture and improvement of the premises. The Grand Lodge gives the building and grounds, and \$2000 a year. The State gives \$5000 a year. For the remainder of its support, and for enlargement, the Orphan Asylum is dependent on voluntary contributions from subordinate Lodges, churches of all denominations, benevolent societies, and charitable individuals; and their co-operation is earnestly solicited.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASONRY:

The design of the Orphan Asylum shall be to protect, train and educate indigent and promising orphan children, to be received between the ages of 8 and 12 years, who have no parents, nor property, nor near relations able to assist them. They shall not be received for a shorter time than two years. In extraordinary cases the Superintendent may receive children outside the ages specified.

The larger girls shall assist in the ordinary house work, and in making and mending the bed clothes, their own clothes and the clothes of the boys. The larger boys shall assist in the preparation of fuel, the care of the stock, and the cultivation of the soil.

At least four religious denominations shall be represented among the officers of the Asylum, and the representatives of all religious creeds and of all political parties shall be treated alike.

The Institution shall be conducted on the cash system, and its operations enlarged or curtailed according to the funds received.

Orphan children in the said Asylum shall be fed and clothed, and shall receive such preparatory training and education as will prepare them for useful occupations and for the usual business transactions of life.

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to many benevolent ladies and gentlemen, to the ministers of the Gospel, to churches of various denominations, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Good Templars, Friends of Temperance and other benevolent societies whose hearty co-operation and liberal contributions have rendered timely and valuable assistance in the great work of ameliorating the condition of the orphan children of the State.

Resolved, That all benevolent societies and individuals are hereby cordially invited and requested to co-operate with us in providing funds and supplies for feeding, clothing and educating indigent and promising orphan children at the Asylum in Oxford.

Resolved, That the Master of each subordinate Lodge appoint a Standing Committee upon raising funds for the Orphan Asylum, and require said committee to report in writing each month, and that said reports and the funds received be forwarded monthly to the Superintendent of the Asylum, and that the support of the Orphan Asylum be a regular order of business in each subordinate Lodge at each Communication.

"Should deserted children be admitted?" was decided in the negative.

"Should children having step-fathers be admitted?" was also decided in the negative.

"Should deformed children be admitted?" This was left to the discretion of the Superintendent. When the deformity is of such a character as to require extra attention, it was thought inadvisable to admit the parties in the present condition of the Asylum.

"Should boys learn trades at the Asylum?" Decided in the negative, it being impracticable at this time to employ skilled mechanics in the various trades, erect suitable work-shops and purchase necessary tools.

"Should collecting agents be appointed in different parts of the State; and if so, what wages should they receive?" This was left to the discretion of the Superintendent; but the meeting advised against employing and paying agents.

THE ADOPTION OF ORPHANS.

We are always glad to accommodate children's couples who wish to adopt children as their own; but greatly prefer that they should come and make their own selections.

APPLICATION FOR CHILDREN.

Correspondents are requested to read and regulate applications for children by the following resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Masons:

Resolved, That the Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum shall not consider any application for an orphan until the same has been approved and endorsed by the Orphan Asylum Committee of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction the applicant resides.

It shall be the duty of the said committee to make due inquiry into the desirableness of the situation offered before endorsing an application; and also

to inquire into the circumstances and treatment of children already discharged, and living in their jurisdiction, and use their best efforts to secure good treatment, or the return of the children.

It shall be the duty every secretary of a Lodge to send the names of the Committee of the Orphan Asylum to the ORPHANS' FRIEND for publication, in order that persons wishing to employ orphans may know the steps to be taken.

HOW CHILDREN ARE ADMITTED.

Very often the Superintendent hunts up poor and promising orphans, and informs them of the advantages offered at the Orphan House, and induces them to return with him. Generally it is best that he should meet them before they start. When this is impracticable, a formal application should be made by a friend. Here is one in proper form:

..... N. C. 18.....
This is to certify that is an orphan, without estate, sound in body and mind, and years of age. His father died in 18.....; his mother in 18..... I being hereby make application for his admission into the Asylum at Oxford, N. C. I also relinquish and convey to the officers of the Asylum the management and control of the said orphan till 16 years of age, in order that may be trained and educated according to the regulations prescribed by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. I also promise not to annoy the Orphan Asylum, and not to encourage the said orphan to leave without the approval of the Superintendent. Approved by

The application should be sent to the Superintendent, and he will either go for the children or provide for their transportation. In no case should a community take up a collection to send a man with the children, nor send the children before the Superintendent has been consulted.

ACTION OF EPISCOPAL CONVENTION.

Resolution adopted by the last annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, at Winston, May 13, 1881:

Resolved, That this Convention does heartily approve the efforts of the Oxford Asylum to alleviate the sufferings and to provide for the welfare of the helpless orphans of North Carolina; and that we commend to the imitation of all, the example of this spirit of active charity and beneficence on the part of the Masonic fraternity. It thus fulfilling the Apostolic injunction to remember the poor."

ACTION OF THE N. C. CONFERENCE.

On motion of Rev. J. R. Brooks, the following resolutions were adopted at the Annual Conference held at Durham, in 1881.

"The Committee to whom was referred the communication of His Excellency Gov. Jarvis, bringing to our notice and commending to our favor, the Oxford Orphan Asylum, recommended the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That we reiterate our oft-repeated expression of sympathy with this noble charity, and heartily commend it to the liberal support of all our people.

2. That our pastors are hereby requested to take a collection in all their congregations at such time during the ensuing Conference year as they may think most appropriate and best, and to forward the same to the Superintendent of the Asylum.

3. That the Recording Stewards of our several pastoral charges are requested to report to the next conference the amounts collected under the head of "For the Orphan Asylum."

J. R. BROOKS, J. E. A. YARBES, Committee.

ACTION OF PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD.

Resolutions adopted by the Synod of North Carolina in session at Raleigh, N. C., November 13th, 1880:

"Whereas the Oxford Orphan Asylum of North Carolina is a purely benevolent institution, and is doing great good for the needy Orphans of our State, therefore,

Resolved, That we approve of its purposes and suggest that the congregations within our bounds take up at their own convenience an annual collection in behalf of that institution and forward the same collected, in connection with any articles of food and raiment which may be contributed, to the Superintendent.

ACTION OF BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

At the Baptist State Convention, held in Goldsboro, November 17th, 1880, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, We feel a deep interest in the work of the Oxford Orphan Asylum, and believe it is doing an inestimable amount of good; and
WHEREAS, We believe that the Baptist people of the State will feel it to be not only a duty, but a privilege, to contribute regularly to its support; therefore

Resolved, That all our pastors are hereby earnestly requested to take up a collection at each of their churches at least once a year in behalf of this great and important work.

Elder F. H. Ivey submitted the following resolution, which was adopted at the Convention held in Winston in 1881:

"Resolved, That this Convention feels an undiminished interest in the work of the Orphan Asylum; and that we repeat, with earnestness and emphasis, the recommendation to all our pastors, to take up at least one collection during the year in aid of the Oxford Orphan Asylum,



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THE ORPHANS' FRIEND

Organ of the Orphan Asylum at Oxford, N. C., and of the Grand Lodge of Masons in North Carolina.

IS PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY AT

One Dollar a Year.

It is designed to promote the education, instruction and interests of THE YOUNG especially those deprived of the benefits of parental and scholastic training. It also seeks to increase the soul-growth of the prosperous by suggesting proper objects of charity and true channels of benevolence. In order that they may, by doing good to others, enlarge their own hearts and extend the influence of their human sympathies, as they ascend to a higher plane of christian observation. Address: ORPHANS' FRIEND, OXFORD, N. C.

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Only three thousand dollars written on one risk.

C. D. H. FORT, M. D. SURGEON DENTIST, OXFORD, N. C.

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