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THE CHRISTIAN.

"What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

It is not here supposed, that it is in the power of any man to conquer or possess the whole world. No man ever yet saw all the world, and life would be too short for that purpose. But it is to gain all the riches, honours, delights, and pleasures, that a man can possibly enjoy. It is to have every idea accomplished, every sense gratified. It is to have the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life indulged in the highest perfection. All that can please the palate; the luxuries of all countries collected on the table of the epicure; all the delightful charms of music; all the elegancies and conveniences of a noble palace; all that can gratify the smell and the touch; all the pleasures of imagination, arising from grandeur, beauty, and novelty;—and, supposing all this obtained—Solomon obtained it all. And what a poor all it proved—"Vanity and vexation of spirit" was the total amount.

And is this the whole of that for which men risk their souls? Foolish barter! Wretched exchange! Was Esau wise, who sold his birth-right for a mess of pottage? Was Judas wise, who sold his master, and his own soul too, for thirty pieces of silver? Just as wise is the worldly man, who parts with heaven for the sordid and short-lived pleasures of earth. I remember reading of a woman, whose house was on fire. She was very active in removing her goods, but forgot her child, who was sleeping in the cradle. At length she remembered the babe, and ran with earnest desire to save it. But it is now too late. The flames forbade her entrance. Judge of her agony of mind, when she exclaimed, "O my child, my child! I have saved my goods, but lost my child!" Just so it will be with many a poor sinner, who [illegible] life "[illegible] troubled [illegible] Dunne[illegible] the one [illegible] needful" [illegible] will it [illegible] avail for a man [illegible] day—I got a good place, or a good trade, but lost my soul. I got a large fortune, but lost my soul. I got many friends, but God is my enemy. I lived in pleasure, but now pain is my everlasting portion. I clothed my body gaily, but my soul is naked before God." Our Lord exposed this folly in the parable of the worldly rich man, Luke xii. 16, &c. His wealth increased abundantly. He was about to enlarge his barns. And then he promised himself a long life of idleness, luxury, and mirth. "But God said to him, Thou fool, this night shall thy soul be required of thee: then whose shall those things be which thou hast provided?" Here, for the sake of the body, the soul was forgot. While he was dreaming of years to come, death was at the door; and little did he think, "that the next hour his friends would be scrambling for his estate, the worms for his body, and the devil for his soul."—[Village Sermons.]

The late report of the Maine Missionary Society, presents several facts of a most interesting character. Among them it is mentioned by one of [illegible] missionaries, that "A man about [illegible] of age, came to hear me preach [illegible] time, several weeks since, [illegible] and prejudiced mind. I hear[illegible] to me recently, that a missiona[illegible]ome from the West, and was to[illegible] a certain evening; but I th[illegible]uld not go to hear him; that w[illegible]isters enough already. Afte[illegible]rable struggle, however, he c[illegible] to attend the meeting. The [illegible]s from this passage; 'they hat[illegible] out a cause.' And before th[illegible] the services, the man, to us[illegible] phrase, had lost all his hard[illegible] has since given good evidence o[illegible] change, and united himself with[illegible] gregational church in Madison."

THE GOLDEN RULE.

This is none other than the c[illegible] rule. A man of policy is court[illegible] proud man is haughty, a superficia[illegible] is ceremonious, but a true Christ[illegible] frank, sincere and unaffected. H[illegible] only does to others what he might [illegible]sonably expect that they would [illegible] him, but thinks candidly and justly, puts a candid construction upon hi[illegible] conduct.

THE WREATH.

[From the Illinois Gazette.]

ADDRESS TO A MOSCHETO.

Ye impudent, ye blasted wight,
That breaks my slumber ev'ry night,
Driving your bill for very spite,
Into my breast.
And still, when it is dawn of light,
I cannot rest.

Did e'er I do ye any ill,
That thus ye drive your sharpen'd bill,
And poison, though ye [illegible]
My 'fenceless head?
But all of you, by my good will,
Should soon be dead.

Now take thy little self away—
What, art thou here in midst of day,
And as thou fly'st thou seems to say,
'Twill soon be night,
Then all my debts to thee I'll pay,
In very spite.

Thus do I pray, ye torturing thing,
That I may catch thee on the wing,
Then quick I'd teach thee how to sing
Another tune,
And make the very welkin ring
With thy dread doom.

A. Z.

[From the Village Register.]

I LIKE NOT ALL THE WORLD SHOULD KNOW IT.

There is a little sprightly dame,
I'd praise her,—but she does not need it;
Here would you have me write her name?
I like not all the world should read it.

She dwells—Oh 'tis a lovely place,
In front are woods—waves roll behind it:
Where do you ask?—I crave your grace
I like not that the world should find it.

There is a pathway to her heart;
'Tis plain, yet only I can show it—
Now would you learn my simple art?
I like not all the world should know it.

Yet I have trod it oft and oft,
Sweetest remembrances endear it:
And I could speak of joys—but soft
[illegible] should hear it.

THE REPOSITORY.

A SOLDIER'S REVENGE.

[Concluded.]

Without noticing his speech, La Croix said to St. Maur, "I should indeed prove myself insensible to honour were I to commit a base action; but I defy the world to prove me guilty of one."

"What, do you not think it base to suffer yourself to be called a coward?"

"No; for if abuse dishonoured a man, whose name would be sustained? The most illustrious patriots, the greatest heroes might then be dishonoured by the folly of the drunkard, or the infamous language of the blackguard."

"Ah! pshaw! all this cant of abstract reasoning does very well in the discussions of philosophers, or the musings of moralists; but we learn a different lesson in the school of honour. In a word, our creed is, that an insult leaves a stain which can only be effaced by the blood of the insulter. Such has always been the custom of the army, and he who enters it must conform to its usages."

"I beg pardon, this custom is not so ancient as you suppose: the Greeks and Romans——"

"What have we to do with them?—The customs of France are the only customs that Frenchmen ought to follow; it is clear enough that you must fight, your antagonist, or be thout [illegible]

"I apologize," cried Valmont, "never!"

"You must fight either La Croix or quit the regiment."

"I hope to settle the affair without doing one or the other, by bringing back my comrade to sentiments more just to me, and more favourable to himself."

He turned to the door; but Valmont called to him in an impetuous tone, "Before you go, sir, I expect that you will meet me tomorrow to decide our difference!"

"M. Valmont, I know you to be a brave, and I would willingly think you an honourable man; take then I request three days to reflect on this subject; think yourself coolly and dispassionately, how far this thirst for the blood of a man who never injured you is consistent with honour. I hope at the end of that time to find you in a more just way of thinking, and that you will assist me to convince these gentlemen, that it is not necessary to shed blood [illegible] has been dropped incon[illegible] these words cries of ind[illegible]ed from all present, [illegible] the room, while they w[illegible] La Croix left swearing he should fight or quit the [illegible]iment.

The slights with which [illegible]y had before treated him were nothing to the insolent contempt they showed [illegible]m during the three following days, [illegible] the patience with which he support[illegible] appeared in their eyes a meanness [illegible]othing could justify. The general h[illegible]een immediately informed of what [illegible] passed, and full of the prejudices of [illegible] military profession, he remonstrated [illegible]h him in the strongest terms upon h[illegible]nduct, and ended by forbidding him [illegible]o house till he had wiped out the stain [illegible]pon his honour. Eugenie was forbidden [illegible]e or to write to him; but for the [illegible]st time and only time the gentle girl disobeyed the will of her parent, by conveying a line to La Croix expressive of her approbation of his conduct, and of her hope that Heaven would give him strength of mind to persevere in it. His heart swelled with a mingled sensation of pleasure and pain as he read this letter. "Yes dearest Eugenie," cried he, "you and you alone understand me, and in your approbation of my conduct, I could find a balm for the unjust scorn with which I am treated; but alas! how long shall I be able to preserve that approbation so precious to my heart, how long shall I be able to defend myself against the accusation of a crime at which I shudder!"

When three days were expired, he entered the coffee-house at the moment all the officers were assembled. "M. Valmont," said he, addressing his antagonist, "I hope that I now find you in a disposition to appreciate more justly the motives of my conduct. I am satisfied that in your heart you acquit me of cowardice; but I frankly avow, that a duel inspires me with horror, and never will I willingly raise my arm [illegible]ut against the enemies of my country. I do not ask you for any apology. I am willing to bury the past in oblivion [illegible]ccept my hand and let us be friends."

"I shall never be [illegible]friends with a man who acts like a poltroon."

"Then I must fi[illegible]"

"To be sure you [illegible]" cried all the officers at once.

"Very well then, [illegible]our difference be decided to-morrow [illegible]ning at 6 o'clock, in presence of three [illegible]cers of our corps and three of the be[illegible]ce. As the party challenged, I ought [illegible] have choice of the weapons; but I wai[illegible]t."

"If I am to nam[illegible]nent I say swords."

Valmont smiled [illegible]e peculiar expres[illegible] and retired with[illegible]ut making any ch[illegible]ason.

"So then," cri[illegible] at last provoked th[illegible]n the chance of [illegible] think," said Mont[illegible] is doubtful after all [illegible]mont, "whatever [illegible]low has got in his [illegible] believe he is no cow[illegible] voice, the firmn[illegible]ss of his courage [illegible] most sorry to have [illegible] done. I did not c[illegible] will have an equa[illegible] for his life."

"The officers drily, [illegible] man." Valmont [illegible] no reply.

The following [illegible] and the officers [illegible]ently at the appo[illegible]

When two [illegible] La Croix, [illegible] pocket, and pre[illegible]questing that [illegible] to General Bell[illegible]man began; Val[illegible] swordsman, but [illegible] had to do with [illegible] fought with great [illegible] doned himself to [illegible] ment, he made t[illegible] and left himself [illegible] that La Croix m[illegible]ken his life; but [illegible] merely on the de[illegible] wounding him.

"Let us have [illegible]one with this child's play," said the [illegible] Valmont at last, "you knew what [illegible] were about when you agreed to f[illegible]th swords: but if you are not de[illegible] every sentiment of [illegible] honour, [illegible] me a fair chance, and let us take [illegible]s."

La Croix loo[illegible]d at him with horror. "O my God!" [illegible]r at her, how much more barbarou[illegible]sion, under the influence of blind rage, than the most savage [illegible] of cannibals! Yes, still thirst for my blood. Well then, unjust man, satisfy yourself if you can."

Pistols were produced; they tossed up for the first fire; the chance fell to Valmont; he fired and missed. La Croix turned round, and taking direct aim at a tree thirty paces distant, lodged the bullet in it breast high.

A cry of mingled astonishment and admiration burst forth from all the officers. —"Sdeath," cried Valmont, "this is not to be borne; I will not receive my life at your hands; I insist upon [illegible]ther."

"Be satisfied M. Valmont; you have succeeded in bringing me into the field, heaven knows against my will; but I entered it with firm determination not to raise my hand against your life; insult me as you please, you shall not provoke me to break my resolution."

Overcome by these words, Valmont stammered out, "I am to blame." "But I am more so," cried La Croix, interrupting him; "I ought not to have suffered any provocation to draw me into an action so contrary to my principles. Thus you have lowered me in my own eyes, and I am determined to have my revenge, for I swear to you that from this moment, I shall not cease to seek your friendship till I compel you to grant it to me."

"It is yours already," said the subdued Valmont; "yes La Croix, the promise of your friendship is the only thing that could reconcile me to myself, that could give me courage to avow the justice, the barbarity of my conduct to you—conduct which I now publicly declare to have been unworthy of a gentleman and a soldier, and for which I sincerely ask your pardon."

It was granted with a fervency shake of the hand. The other officers flocked around La Croix, eager to solicit his friendship, and to prevail on him to be present at an entertainment which they determined to give in his honour. He would have declined this public acknowledgement of the superiority of his conduct, but they were too pressing to be refused; he agreed to accept it, and they all returned amicably to the parade together.

The subsequent conduct of Valmont proved that he was not unworthy of the generous forgiveness he had received. He published every where the particulars of the rencontre, and gave to his antagonist all the merit which was so justly his due. The old general was delighted: he declared that the nuptials of his daughter and La Croix should be celebrated the moment the consent of his father was obtained. "Ah!" cried Eugenie, extending her hand to La Croix, "Heaven be praised that thou art safe! I will not reproach thee, but yet——." "But yet I should have done better not to have met him; is not that what my Eugenie meant to say?" "Yes." "Foolish girl!" said the general, frowning. "No," cried La Croix, "she is right. I have but half acquitted myself to my conscience; it is only in refusing a challenge altogether, that a man can prove himself possessed of true courage."

OH! THAT MY FRIEND WOULD—TAKE A NEWSPAPER.

"John! Oh, John!—do you hear? Run to neighbour Liberal's and ask him if he will oblige me by the loan of this morning's paper a few moments, just to look at the ship news and the advertisements."

"That's just what I said yesterday morning, daddy, when I went to borrow the paper, and you know you kept it two hours and he was obliged to send for it."

"Well, then say something else to him, John, do you hear, John? and give my compliments, John, do you hear?

"Yes daddy." (exit and returns.)

"Well, John, have you got the paper!

"No daddy, neighbour Liberal is walking about the room waiting for Mr. Newsmonger to finish reading the Louisiana Advertiser, or Mr. Longwind to drop the Gazette; which he has got almost asleep over"

"But is not the Argus and Mercantile Advertiser come?"

"Yes daddy, but Mr. Neitherside is reading one, and Mr. Scribelerus is laughing over that funny piece he told you he was going to have published in the 'Mirror,' and I believe he has read it twenty times over."

"This is provoking; I wonder why they don't take the papers themselves, and not be troubling their neighbours."

"Why dont you take a [illegible] daddy?"

"Why—why—if I did [illegible] never could get a chance to see it. An impertinent set of spongers! go again, John, [illegible] must be one out of four liberated, and I know it will give neighbour Liberal pleasure, to gratify me only for a moment."

"Well John, what success?"

"Can't get a paper, daddy, Mr. Liberal has set the Mercantile Advertiser away from Mr. Scribelerus, and Mr. Doolittle is looking over his shoulder while he reads it, and he'll want it next."

"This is beyond all bearing; it is now seven o'clock, and I [illegible]ore must wait 'till after breakfast before I can get the news, and who would give a sumarkee to read a newspaper after breakfast. Do you hear, John, go again John, and wait till one or the other of the papers is out of the hands of those gormandizing monopolizers, and be sure to catch it, John, and then tell Mr. Liberal that I will [illegible] turn it instantly—do you hear John? cure

"Yes, daddy." (Exit) (Enter [illegible]m you are daily re-
low.)

"Good morning neighbour. [illegible] I am able [illegible]—any thing noo? [illegible]m able

"Neet! fire and faggots, I have [illegible] a me-
dozen times to Liberal there, to re[illegible]ism the loan of his paper, only for a mon[illegible]m in and he has the impertinence to re[illegible]dis-
me."

"Refuse you?" [illegible]as

"Not exactly refuse me, but he per[illegible]mits such fellows as Longwind, Neitherside, Scribelerus, and Newsmonger, to pore over them for hours not only (thro' a mistaken courtesy) depriving himself, but his neighbours, from getting early intelligence of what is passing in the world."

"My goodness! be they reading 'em now?"

"Yes." (sighing.)

"Well, that's abominable! Why dont you take a noospaper yourself?"

"Why don't you take one? you are always inquiring after Noos, as you call it."

"Why I did take one, but the printer don't leave it at my house any more, 'cause I hackelled about the price, and wood'nt pay him."

"That's a good reason for the printer, if it is none for you. Well, John, did you get the paper?"

No, daddy, just as that Mr. Neitherside was done, in come Mr. Hookit and Mister Nabit, and I come back."

"Confound my ill luck;—go back, do you hear? and ask Mr. Liberal if he will be kind enough—do you hear? kind enough to lend me, any northern paper he may have, or if he has not one, ask him to lend me yesterday's paper again, or the day before, or the day before that or last Saturday's or, do you hear? any of the last week's papers, do you hear?"

"Yes, daddy."

"I am determined on going right away to subscribe for a noospaper: I will not be so pestered with the trouble of borrowing from unaccommodating neighbours."

"You are right, Mr. Eagernoos, the printers only ask five dollars right down, and then you have a whole year to pay t'other five dollars in, and then you can dispute the bill, and they will send the noospaper three months after that afore it is settled—them folks what brings the paper always throws it where it was taken, never thinking that the subscriber is done over."

"Here comes John—well John, have you got the paper?"

"No daddy, the neighbours borrowed all the old papers, and Mrs. Parrot sent to get the morning papers as soon as they were done with."

"The deuce she did—then I may hang up my fiddle 'till sundown, for when she begins to read 'tis from Alpha to Omega. Give me my hat John. Never mind breakfast; Mr. Swallow, will you accompany me to the printing office? I will subscribe immediately: five dollars did you say? I will give twenty-five before I would suffer such impertinence. If I lend MY PAPER I wish I may be hanged."
—[Louisiana Advertiser.]

A sailor meeting a friend in the street, was asked how he liked being on shore—not at all—why so—oh, nothing but this—I was put in limbo for helping myself to a pair of shoes.—You stole 'em—no, not I, for the fellow had wrote underneath them, selling off less than cost—so I concluded he was robbing his creditors, and I thought of coming in for some of the prize money.