THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1867

Whe diamily Cinte.

## "TIS WIMTER."



Ti, wintor, wit mititionit hearto






A STORY OF THE END OF THE WORLD. In an out:of the way New England town, during the famous" "second advent" excite-
ment of $1842-3$, lived David and Molly ment of 1842-3, lived David and Moly
Crossman, a simple-hcarted old couple, with
their littie grandson : Jakey." They, were, fur from church, and rarely went to seryice even in fine weather, as they had no horse.
In the winter the blocked roads, and bitter In the winter to blocked roads, and bitier
winds, joined to the unusual severity of Di-
vid's rreumatism, kept them contined pretty vid's rheumatism, kep
closely to the honse. and consequently of the sort very religious, Iy any religious privation. Their inability
to go to meeting on the Sabbath only added to go to meeting on the Sabbath only added
to the fervor of their household devotion. They had, mach to their gratification, en-churct-worghip, in the evening meetings
which had been held ut various times in priwhich had been held at various cimes in pri-
vate dwellings near them, and once or twice in their own.
These moetings were led by preachers
aud exhorters of various denominations all nad exhorters or various denominations, alt
of them thoroughly, imbued with the doc-
trines of "Millerism," and "in trines of "Millerism," and 'in most instances
tir outdoing Mr. Miller in their sonsational firr outdoing Mr. Mifler in their sensational
syyle and extravagance of statement. The imimediate effect was startling. The
tremendous amnouncement of the near comtremendous announcement of the near com-
ing of the Lord Jesus, fortified by prophecy and described in the goryeous rhetoric of
the Revelation, was received by the lonest, the Revelation, was received by the honest,
Bible-goving population with silent, undis-
puting awe, and in many cases with implicit palting
faith.
Among these last were David and Molly
rossman. All the bungerings and thirst. iugs of their simple, derout spirits seemed
to bo met in this new Gospel of the coming to be met in this new Gospel of the coming
of the Lord. Now more than ever their
" No "conversation was in heaven," and thay yerent mention of the "great day"" Onc sung, or prayed, and trembled in every greet-
ing to those who crossed their threstold repare to meet thy on the !" 1lth of April. Prepare to meet thy God!"
David and his wife, who wever dis.
tinguished for being extensively "forebandDinguished for being extensively "foreband-
ed. in their earthly affairs, now easily
adopted the fanaticism of "casting thenin. alopted the fanaticiom of "casting thenl-
sulves on Providence," and iu their glowing,
, lope of a speedy inheritance for their souls,
inegan sady to neglect their bodies. Their登owing inattention to the comforts and
Teresty of this life oould not but, be notied
by little Jakey, who, though bound of course by little Jakey, who, though bound of course
to believe all his graudpa and grandma told
him about the second coming, retained yct him about the second coming, retained yct
a lively sensibility to good living and rousing fires.
About the middle of February cane on
the coldest suap " of the whole winter
and poor David's wood-pile was burnt the coldest suap of the whole wintert
aud poor David's woodpile was burnt down
tin the last small log. What was to be done? It was in vain that the family tried to make
a single billet send out the heat of a stout a single billet sund out the heat of a stout
arintul. In vain they strove to eke out their
itiminishing supply with "chips." In vain liminishing supply with "chips." In vain
Molly set the table nearer, had every day a
little nearer the fire place. In vain she thrust Titte nearor the fire-place. In vain she thrast
her ohair into the chimney-coner. In vain
"thed time" was moved up an hour earlier and rising time down an hour later into the day.
Iu vain Jakey was dispatched to neighbor A., and to neiggbor Q, and then to neiggibor
F, and then to neighbor P., and finally to neighbor W. The snow was too deep, and
the cold too sovere, and David's wood-lot. was too difficult to be got at ; nobody could was any thing then with team or ox.
Jakey froze his cars in his ex improve matters, and then gave it iup. Day
alter day went by, and still the cold did not materially abate, It crept into the house
mike a strong man armed, and left its icy like a strong man armed and left its icy
tracks upon the cellar-stars and window-
sills, and stood on the nail-heads in the floor tracks upon the cellar-stairs and window-
sills, and stood on the nail-heads in the floor
and wainscot. The "frosts of age" began to have more truth than poetry to the old
couple. How ardently they wished for spring couple. How ardentif they wished for spring
and the glorious 11 th of April
At lagt, driven to stir himself in spite of At last, driven to stir himself in spite of
his rheuinatism, David took his axe and hoobbled to his orchard, and after remenmanaged to cut down an apple-tree. What
did it matter? The Lord was coming, and they would never have any use for apple-
trees again. The new addition of fuel was trees again. The new addition of fuel was
Lrought in, handful by bandful, as the old man at intervalo carved it toilsomely out,-
the body and boughs of the fallen "streaked.sweating -and a respite of a few days
more was wrang from the tyranny of king
But now the larder began to show dis-
couraging signs of depletion. The flour-bar
rel gare unmistakable echoes of emptiness rel gare ungistakable echoes of emptiness
as Molly explored the bottom of her scoop.
The rye and "Indian" iu the meal-chest The rye and "Indian" in the meal-che
sank down to the portion of the widow of
Sarepta Sarepta. Unfortunately, it did not possess
the same quality of reproducing itself, and
inevitably the last johnny cake went to the inevitably the last johnny cake went to the
griddle. The grist mill was two miles off,
and going there was not to be thought of and going there was not to be thought on
in the present state of things. The little
domestic garrison was driven in upon its re domestic garrison was driven in upon its re
serves of potatoos and pork, and here, for a
while, they held their own. while, they beld their own.
One evening the thre
One evening the three satat supper, their
table drawn to the edge of the hearth,
where the green apple-tree wood smoked Where the green apple-tree wood sioked
and sizzlea, with a forlorn pretence of
warmth. They were tolking of what they had heard the night before at a moeting.
The inclemency of the season had suspend. ed the meetings for awhile, but one bad been
beld the nigbt before at the house nearest them, and a glowing time the brethren and
sisters had had of it there, eelebrating the approach of the millenium, add singing,
with an exultation of wild expectancy, the
popular advent hym "Don't you hear the Lord a-coming, don't you bear
the Eord decoming,
Don't you hear the Lord a-coining in the cluvit Done Lord arcoming, yon heaning the Lord the cliurch-
yard?" The hearts of the old couple had not come
down from the exaltation to which the meet ing and that rnde sotg had wrought them
Bat thoughts of certain uncomfortable phy Bat thoughts of certain uncomfortable phy
sical necessitios would cross their minds, as
they sat at their plain repast and their they sat at their plain repast, and their con-
versation was not very rapturous. The "wolf at the door" was growing larger, in
spite of the faith inside. Try as they might to absorb themselves in pions contemplations
of the coming of the Tiord, TOavid and Milly Crossman conld not wholly resist the very eartbly wish that He woul come just no or "ieithbor A.'s ox-team.
a visitor in your tea," as the old lady pour od out her third cup. :
Molly was not out of tea yet: She would
have borrowed have borrowed from place to place till "the
11th of April" rather than go without the 11th of April" rather than go without tha
In that particular at least, she meani to "ocapy particular, at least,
"You"ve got a tiord came.
have company." visitor, and you're going Grandma merely remarked that sh
couldn't have any idea who the "company would be.
"I gupss it's the millennium, and it's going
to bring us some wood," said the child. Tomorrow came- -old and stinging-all
the weathercocks frozen to the north-west and about noon a loud knock with a whip.
handle sounded on the door. It by Molly, and there who should she see but big, square-shouldered Captain Straight, in heary cap and surtout, and great woolle
mittens, conc all the way from his farm mittens, come. all the way from his farm
house, four miles off, to make them a call! Here was a visitor indeed-and the volu
ble old lady proceeded to tell him at once
as she invited him in to a the "sign" in her teacap, and the bon mot of
the boy Jakey about the "millennium." "Pooh, poob," said the biig nan , , aughing
hearcily, but declining to take the offered chair; ; :the millenninime ain't coming just yet ye
-but the boy was right about the wood Give us a shovel or two, Uncle David, an lend us a lift yourself, if you can, we're
stuck in a drift back. here at the corners
with a wolamping load." Capt. Straight bad been owing David a
mall amount, and the sererity of the small amount, and the severity of the seal
son had suggested to hin, knowing as he
did the somewhat behindhand habits of the good old man, that he might find a load of wood acceptable. Hence his present expedi-
tion through the drifts, and his unexpected call at the door.
Half an hour or more passed, and the loud "Get up! Gee-ee!" of the-captain wa
heard echoing round the house, and looking ont of the window the in mates saw-sure
enough-sich a load of wood as had not gladdened their eres for years. Eight fee
bigh upon the brond sled lay snugly packed
and fastened with log bigh upon the broad sled lay snugly packed
and ffistened with log chains, the two cords
of tiekory and oak, and drawn by two yoke of brarny oxen, and the farmer's great
arraught bull ahead for a leader.
The sight made Jakey's óses The sight made Jakey's eyes shine. Just
a twinkle of the same shine showed itself in
the corners of David's and Moll the corners of David's and Molly's eyes.
When the load was off and Capt. Straight
had come in the had come in, the old lady took him to tasks
for bis incredulity regarding the second coming. said the millennium ain't coming
"You yet! It can't be you could think that just yet! It can't be you could think that
after hearing Elder 1 I . and Elder C. the prophecies, and reading Mr. Miller's
book, and the 'Signs of the Times! ",
"Pook I've read the book and heard the elders, and I 'm dead set agin' the whole
thing:,Tain't the Lord's way $0^{\prime}$ doing things.
it He'd been
 great deal" "ourse, undertook to fasten upon
Molly, of cous,
him the words, "W Wero is the promise o
 condact of the antediluvians, but the blat
farmer put in his disclaimer at once.
"Now don't go mixing Seriptur', mother Them words hain't nothin' at all to do with it, as I see it. I expect to die, and don't
know how soon, and I bope I 'm read $\begin{aligned} & \text { when } \\ & \text { that comes, and I'd be the last man to try }\end{aligned}$ that comes, and arga be the last man to try
to ary .
Lord doell you, when the for me I intend He shall find me with my lamp trimmed and burnin' an
a good fire. Go to work and enjo a good ire. Go to work and enjoy your
wood-pile, for from all I can Bee I reckon it's
the hand o 0 ' Providence that the hand o' Providence that sent me to ye
with it, sure enough. You'll find enough
there to last you till the middle o
 There was no ressonin
"Now good day to ye," said the visitor,
as he turned to go, putting on his great mitas he turned to go, putting on his great mit-
tens. "I tell ye, (with a sly look) "mor'n
half o' these folks that sing, and talk, and
she shout so much about the great, day comin
have akind of a secret hope that twon't come
atterall Now you jest go and take the goo after all Now you jest go and take the good
$o^{\prime}$ your life so long as God givesit to ye and
Héll never think any worse of ye for lookin'a day or two ahead."
How oddly it sounded! Would God send
them wood enough to last till the middle of May when he intended all the lime to d
troy the world on the lith of April? Much staggered in mind were the good ol
people by his puzzling view of the cas
But. wid But wind that the comforts of body, they did
Providence contradiction of materially.
Again their hearthstone glowed and
crackled with the old merry blaze. Sonie
grain was sent to mill by a neighbor, who
toonk advantage of the path made by the
stont farmerwith his shovel and heavy.team.
The wolf wit drew from the door, and DaThe wolf wit drew from the door, and Da
vid and Molly began to appreciate the world
again. predicted day of doom came and
The passod, and they awoke from their foolish dreams of milleninial glory to see the earth,
as of old, opening her bosom to the labors
of the sower, and repeating the ancient promise that seed-time and harvest should
not fail.
The summer of 1843 went by, but pious, simple-bearted David Crossman as he expected, but the day found him a
glad and more intelligently ready than he
had been in the spring. Before the fall he departed in peace to ilie home. where he will
tever know the chill of winter, and never
be inistaken or disappointed in looking for
The boy Jakey is now a minister of the
Gospel, and holds the same belief that his arty experience taught bim, taat the whar for
way to wat for the Liord and prepare for
His coming, is to make the mostof His pro vidential gitits wh
man and Refector.
THE INFIDEL DROVER.


## OUREES BY SIMPLEE MEANS:

## LET THE INTERESTED READ.






 The Really Graat Plastes
Allcock' Porous

Dr. I. T. Hestárson's Lattor.



 Yours, very traly,
I. T. HENDERSON, M.D. sore Cheit and cough cared.
 place in the village in which be lived. One
after another of his associates left him, and
became members of the Church, till his own sons were the only professed infidels in the
place. As death drew near, he desired to
make arrangements for the distribution of his property after his decease. His chilidren
lie could not trust: They had adopted his
faitli, and illustrated it in their lives. He appointed as his executor, a member of $t$ church, one, to use his language, "o
striotest sort,", and delivered to him form keeping a large amount of hoarded gold.
no way could he have borne stronger t nony to his confidence in Christianitity.
Another incident: In a certain part Another incident: In a certain part of the
country, a drover had disposed of his cattle,
and was on his way home with a large sum
 the night at a tavern, in the morning the eertan place, about a day's jonriney distant
"Either go beyond or stop this side," said
the landlord ; for several drovers heve dis. appeared there."
The drover was an infidel; "out his noney and his life were riot the less dear to him o that account. He resolved to push on, an
pass beyond the point of danger befor nightfall. But it so bappened that he lost
his way, and at night found himself in the
very pace he had boen warned to avoid. He alighted at, log house, and asked if he
could stay over night . The woman told
him her husband would be home soon-that she had vo objection to his staying, if her
husband had none. Ho ontered the bonse and sat down.. The busband soon came
He was a very rough-looking, athletic man.
His huge beard end mation His huge beafd and matted locks gave smal
indications of gentlenes. A request to re-
main tor the night received e curt atfrion rain for the night received a cart affirm
tive reply. The horse was then taken car of with an alaerity wich the drover thought
was prompted "by the thonght that' the means of esicapeswere now removed. He
felt decidedly uneemfortable. He had run into the very jaws of the lion.
While food was preparing, his host sa apparently asleep; but the drover conld do
lect him watehing him from the corner his eyes. He had small appetite for bi
supper. He felt sure that he was in the
house of a robber. He resolved to retire early to his chamber, barricade the door as strongly as possible, put his pistols in order
and remain wakeful. Soon after supper he complained or fatigue, "and requested to b
sbown to his bed. "Stranger," said the host, rousing himself from his apparent
slumber, "I don't know how it may be wit Alamber, "L don't know how it may be with
you, but we worship God bere. We read
chapter in the Bible and pray before to bed in the Bible and pray before we go
go bean do as you please; but we "With ail my heart," jaid th
"Will host got his bible, read a cle drapterer. , kieted
down and prayed-among other thite downand prayed-among other thingey lor
the stranger that sojourneth for the nisult.


## Ayer's Cathartic Pills,



FURMITURE WARE-RODMS,
248 SOTTH SECOMD STREB



