The ©Tintes, New Bloomfielo, 非a.


## The Peddler's Story

 1 Wenty years ago, when I was less of the world, I was traveling through pidered quite remote, but is wo then conheart of the country. I had then some hopes of preparing myself for a Hife of ube-fulness, though I may not have realized much as I then antioipated.
I had somemoney, but that my rather ex tended travels might not cost me too much,
I took a small trunk of jewelry, for whill
I I found tolerable demand, the profits of my Ios fally paying my expensen. Tho section of country through which
was passing was very sparsely settled. ieed, it would seem at times as though might be tending towards the abode of "Lo : the poor Indian !
But a few miles travel would bring me to the cabin of some lone settler, or, per-
chance, in the midst of the wilderness, a prosperous rilage would be found growing Upon the day of which I am about to
speak 1 was passing through such a reat of the widerness. I had made five miles
at least since leaving the last habitation, and was beginning to wonder what I should emerge upon next, if over I came out at
all, when my speculations were cut short by a rough looking person, who emerged
from the forest and joined me, proceeding along the trail by my side. He looked me over, eyed my trunk at-
tentively, and then began a random conversation. Ho informed me that I had about
two miles to walk before reaching any settwo mines to was he seemed a very agrecable
tlement; and
person, I rather congratulated myself upon having fallen in with him
Perhaps you may imagine the clange in
my feelings when he suddenly stopped my feelings when he suddenly stopped
front of me, and held a pistol to my face. "I'll thank yo for that little chest of about ye," he said,in tones which admitted of no misinterpretation.
I knew not what to do. I folt certain of
being immensely the superior of my anbeing immensely the superior of my an-
tagonist in strength and skill, having soldom met my match physically. I had two
tusty pistols in my possession, but before
I could produce one of them, it would be too late to use it. In this dilemma I under-
took to parley a few moments with the desperado, hoping to throw him off his "You would not take my all, and allow
me no means of paying my way or returnme no means of paying my way or return-
ing to my friends? 1 sald, feigning more
alarm than I really felt, and not quite at easo in my mind regarding the matter.
"Jest fork over," was the emplatic sponse, "or I'll put a streak of cold lead
through yer face." through yer face."
"Are you in earnest?" I ask
myself calm with some effort.
"See here", and villainous earnestnes
marked every syllable, "if you ask anothe question before you fork over, III blow question before you fork over, Ill blow
your brains out! Now, band along yer I drew from my vest pocket a quantity looso chaso thit there, and handed it to him. This was readily stowed
away, the pistol being presented all the while. "Now, the chist."
As I handed this toward him he made
the very move I had been no anxiously he very move I had been no anxiousaly
waiting for. His attention was distracted rrom the pistol and his aim momentarily
lost. Before he could recover it I gave bis arm a furious kick, which sent the weapon
whirling some twenty feet through the air. whirling some twenty feet through the air.
The fellow was surprised, but not defeated. With an agility and power for which I had
ot given him credit, the rnffian sprang not given him credit, the rnflian sprang
apon me, and $I$ received a blow in the forehead which sent me reeling two or three
paces from the spot where I stood. Nex paces instant he wan upon meagain with a furioue
kiok, which 1 avoided and grasp his foot. After a short struggle I succeeded in gettipg him upon his back, where I wa
to hold him with comparative ease. to hoid him with comparative eno. one of my bistols, which I pointed at the
desperado's head, remarking in tone desperado ss head, remarking in
which I suspect were rather forcible.
"Now, sir, III trouble you for "Now, sir, IIIt tr
loose piecos of silver,"
He produced them with a sullen scowl and when they wore safo within my pos
nesaion, I akked him if he would peaceably
leave the place, and never molest me again, ceave the place, and never molest me again,
if would apare his life. He semed quite willing to make those terma, and when
allowed him to rise, mado way at once int allowed him to rise, made way at once int the forcos, not even atopping to piok up hi
pistol, whioh was uselens at the time, havin exploded on aitriking the ground.
I rephaced my weapon, took my trunk, I replaced my woapon, took my trunk
and hurried along, as it was almost suaset,
and I wished to stop before dark, not put and I wished to stop before dark, not put
ting much fuith in tho promisea of my Aftor thiveling zomething like'a mile, uated in a cleariog of a few aeres, I hai learned to read the obaracter of tho aettlens
from the appearanos of their dwelling,
and from the
and I w
this. A

his was a go ahead, workmani, whater might be therwise.
As I approuched the placo I encou As I approciched the place 1 encountered
a middla nged man with a triflo of reokless. middin nged man with a tritco of reokless.
ness in his manner, but who nather im "presed me favorably Wronrked, as I came up. "Is it," was my res
e owner of thla place?" Just about that," was the reply. Can you give me a nop
sleep to-night 9 " I asked. "Jent like a book, ptovided ye kin pu
p with our kind of fair," was tho ready responso.
I followed him into tho house, where I found the evening meal, which was very
niecely prepared, smoking upon the table. Afer doing it ample justioe, wo gathere
about the door, and conversed for som time upon topics of general interest.
The family consisted of the man, his wife and two children. Three years prevous they liad moved to their present
home, looating upon a tract of land emlome, looating upon a tract of land cm icceeded in paying for, and were now ge
ing it under a tolerable cultivation. They expressed a great deal of satiufac-
tion in ease their obildren should in any manner become orphans they would not be
homeless. I congratulated them upon their success, and felt at times tempted to
relate my adventure in the forest. But never possessed a disposition to gossip
much of myself, and soon after twilgh faded away, akked that I
to my sleoping apartment. As they were unused to entertaining
visitors, I was shown to the children's bed, upon which fresh sheets had been placed,
presenting a very inviting appearance to my weary limbs. I aiked that the children
be allowed to occupy their own bods, whil I extemporized one upon the floor, but to
this mine host would this mine host would not listen. Placing
the candle upon a stand of his own manufacture, he retired leaving me to the med The apartment was a snug one, and opening from the principal room of the
cabin. I was speedily in bed, and in a few minutes had quite forgotten myself.
How long I How long I had slept I don't know, but
I was awakened by the opening of the outer door. Exclamations of surprise ee
caped the husband and wife, who had tired, and after the exchange of a fow
words, I heard the atriking of a light, and a moment later its rays penetrated the crevices of the partition.
Naturally enourt
Naturally enough, I looked to see the
cause of the commotion, which I could easily do through the aforementioned
cracks. Imagine my surprise when I rec. ognized in the newcomer the person whom
I had encountered in the forest, and heard him addreesed us brother by mine host ! I realized at once that I was in the ut-
most peril, not only during the night, but when I should attempt to leave the place,
be it soon or later. I considered the for a few minutes, and declided in my own Yor a fow minutes, and decided in my own
mind that I should be in the greatest
danger if I went forth into the darkness in anger in $I$ went forth into the darkness in
region where I was totally unnoquainted, so I resolved to remain quiet in my room,
and wait the progress of event.. There were no means of fastening the door of my room, no I could only make my pistols as I should reach mora promising quarters. The two brothers sat and conversed
some time in low tones, and as I could not avoid hearing some of their remarks, learn-
ed that they had not met for two years previous to the prosent time. They had
some things to say in regard to the past some things to say in regard to tho past
life of each, but it was only for a short
time, and then the ruffian made an ingury time, and then the ruffian made an inquiry
which I was assured related to myself. I became very attentive now, and was
soon convinced that the newcomer was soon convinced that the newcomer was
urging his brother to join him in my murdor and robbery, or allow him to do decidedly, but after a time his objections seemed to givo way, his brother continuing
to plead hiss caune most vehemently, though in words so carofully spoken that they did not reach my cani,
pretty anxiously.
Finally mine host seemed to consent, and The elder brother took a candle, white the youngor brother, took a pistol from his pocket and flouriabed it by the muzzle, an
though weighing the breech in his hand. Up to the moment whon they began mov-
ig toward my door, I had not determined ing toward my door, I had not determinec
on any mode of aetion. Seeing that the cri-
ais had arrived, t backed loto one corner of he littlo apartment, and held both of $m y$ pistols in readiness for action. At the doo
they atopped for a time, and I fancled the ounds of whispered conaltation, came my eare.
Soon th
the door pushed a little,
It croaked, and as they seemed to fear its noise might arouse me too soon, it wan hrown open, and tho would be asamasin unhed to the side of my bed, with the course they were nurprised to find the bed mpty.
Just as they discovered my whereaboutis
"Back I back I or I will shoot you."
The master villian did not move a
but ratsed his weapon, which had
shifted in his hand, and fired at bhifted in his havd, and fired at me
I was not bolind : though the I was not belind ; though the roports of
our pistols were almost simnltaneous. His our pistols were almost simnitaneous. His
bullet grazed my cheek, making its course felt for a couple of inches, and lodging in the wall. My own aim had been more deliberate, and the ruflian sank to the floor with a groan.
"Mercy, air, mercy" gasped the host, as I udvanced with the other pintol pres
"I would not have harmed you sir-
"Then why were you here?" I akked, assisted one who did !"
"But I was urged to do it, and I was
col enough to consent. 1 knew betteroh, spare me "'
Ho grovelled upon his knees, and dis. phyed signs of the most abject foar and ociation of human bloodahed; the first which I ever spilt, it was most ludiorous to see the effect upon him of a pistol muzzle.
I had intended to spare him unless be oo had shown fight, so I put up my pistol man upon the couch.
Wo ondeavored to raiso him, but the
fort seemed to give him great pain, and we desisted. The bullet had found a vital
spot, and he died before many minutes had pot, and
The horrified family made no effort to all the blame was attached to the fallen man and I lef them, taking my way back to
the settlement from which I came in the arernoon. Here I aroused a magistrate, made a de-
position of the facta, and was allowed to go my way npon my recognizance to ap-
pear on trial if summoned. Never having
 wandering.

UNDAT READING

## Speech by Mr. Spurgeon.

Rev. Mr. Spurgeon has been delivering nother oharaoteristio speech in Surry at he laying of the foundation-stone of a new
chapel. He said no money was to be placel in the cavity in the stone, only some of the Comination papers and a history of the Church. He thought it quite as well that ee the une of burying monet, could not no doubt they had pouse to spare for that purpose. He added, amid mighe laughter
that he had known momorinl stones to suddenly move during the night when monoy had been plaoed in them. He assured the people that if they hoped to prosper
they must cultivato generosity. He had sometimes been told that if he touched
upon the subject the less he said the better He obce heard a mau say, "is the better. touch my purse you must touch my heart" to which he (Mr. Spurgoon) replied, "I be-
lieve you, because there ia where you keep your heat,
Another man once nald to him, "I
thought you preached for souls, and not for money ${ }^{\text {" }}$ " and he replied, "So we do, but
we can't live upon souls, and if we could, It would take a large number such as yours
to make a single breakfaat." The fact was that kuch people had no religion at all.
When the chapel was built it would become question how was it to be flled? Ho had in his time sent a good many ministers out, and some time ago he many manisisters
for one that would "fill a chaphlied to he replied that he had not one of that size
hor the the on hand, and then the applicants told hime
that was not what they meant ister who could draw a congregation togother. But ho begged to remind them
that it was not for the minister to fill a chapel; it must be done by the congregation;
they must get the people to come nod hear they must get the people to come and hear
the minister, and there are many ways of doing this. There were some churches
in which there bad been no conversions for months, and even years, and yet if the
people were spoken to on the subject they people were spoken to on the subject they
would say they were very comfortable.That was the worst of it. Imagine a large
fire breaking out, and the engines being sent for, and on arriving somewhere near
sing the fre the men stopped, taking seats on
the engines and lighting up their pipes, and on being asked how they were getting
on with the fire they should reply, are not doing any thing toward putting the fire out, but we are uncommonly comforta-
ble V' All he could say was that if a church-member could be comfortable when
good was not being done he was no use to good was not being done he was no use to
any church, and the sooner he was packed
off to some other than the Lord's business off to some other than the Lord's business by handing to the pastor of the villago
chapel a cheok for $\$ 500$.

Evil Speaking.
Speaking evil of others. is one of the ost unamiable habits that can be acquirit is not always easy to avoid it, for there are a great many persons in the world who
are not what they ought to be, and who do many things they ought not to do. It is hard for a bluat, generous mind to refrain from expressing itself about mean people
and mean acts ; there is something in meanness and dishonesty that rouses the tho luxury of denouncing them in bold, un measured terms. But the practice, as a
practice, is a troublesome and dangerous

There are occasions when it is our duty o speak out in exponure of wrong; but in
eneral, it is best to abstain from evil speaking, even of evil personas. We are
not made judges of others action has the right to assume the oharactor of arblter and censor. Even the best of us
have our faults, and if every one should have ourr faults, and if every one ahould
presume to denounce the vices and misconuct of others, the
We may see and hear much that we do not admire and cannot like ; we may be-
come cognizant of many evil deeds done by vil perrons ; but it is the part of windom ind discretion to pass thom by without notionoly may be necessary as a warning to a Weall
without prevoagh enemies in this world, cmments. The enmity of evil ment is hing to be avoided, for while it can do ur oo good, it may do us much harm. Beeiden honest indignation, and speals ovil of good men for aota we do not underatand. Such a mistake is worne than the other; for while is imprudent to promisouously denounce evil men,
good one.


