

CONFESSIONS OF A HOUSE-BREAKER.

House-breaking wants 'nerve' and a cool head. You can pick a pocket or 'lift' a watch in broad day; but you must creep through a house when the night is dark, sometimes doing everything by feeling, not daring to strike a light for fear of rousing up the dogs or the men. Certainly it is dangerous. It's no use to deny that there is a feeling about the business which often makes one grow scared and tremble more than those who may wake up and find us looking down upon them as they sleep.

Men expect to live; they do not anticipate bankruptcy. When times change, and the black comes, it is too late for them to make provision for the family. The wife, the children, the whole household are suddenly plunged into distress. Indeed, much as the business man suffers himself, his own parents are the least part of the suffering.

I have lived long enough to see the overthrow of a great many families because the father, believing that he should live and always keep them in comfortable circumstances, had neglected to make an independent provision for them. At the man's death the estate proves either insolvent, or is reduced to a minimum. The wife, not trained to business, is obliged to sell the estate for agents. What with unskillful management, carelessness, or even, sometimes, deliberate fraud, the residuum melts in her hands, and she is left with five or six young children to be clothed and fed, and she finds herself alone and penniless! Habits cannot be changed in a day. She has not been trained to business. She may have been a good house-keeper, but now she must turn to work, and she finds a different thing from ordering a household skillfully. Some, utterly overwhelmed, break down under the trial, and the children are scattered to the four winds.

Whittier's Tribute to Humboldt. (from the Boston Transcript of Sept. 18.) The following eloquent tribute to the genius and character of Alexander von Humboldt, by John G. Whittier, was sent to the Chairman of the Centennial Anniversary, and was laid before the delegates and invited guests at their evening reception: Amherst, 9th Mo. 6th, 1869. - To R. C. Waterston, Secretary of the Centennial Anniversary, and to the members of the Executive Committee. - GENTLEMEN: I fear I shall not be able to be present at the centennial celebration of the birth of Alexander von Humboldt, to which you invite me, but I cannot let the occasion pass without expressing my entire sympathy with the object of the society which you represent. There is little danger of overestimating the worth of such a man as Humboldt, whose reputation, outgrowing the limits of Nationality and breaking down distinctions of race and language, has become universally acclaimed. The common property of Science, Civilization and Human Progress, his name is never indifferent to the welfare of his fellow-men. He hated all slavery, mental, spiritual, physical. He was not intolerant of intolerance. His generous and hearty interest in the cause of freedom from our Fatherland can never be forgotten by those of us who in the dark and evil days, were cheered by his approval and sympathy.

SETTLING PROPERTY ON A WIFE.

When men are prosperous and are making money, and consider themselves rich, I wonder that it so seldom comes home to them that they are liable to reverses, which shall plunge their families into the utmost pecuniary distress. Men know that business is subject to fluctuations, and nothing is more frequent than that men should in one year have all the comforts and advantages of wealth, and the next year be stripped bare. But a vicious hopefulness prevents them from realizing that they shall ever be subject to this fate which befalls others.

Men expect to live; they do not anticipate bankruptcy. When times change, and the black comes, it is too late for them to make provision for the family. The wife, the children, the whole household are suddenly plunged into distress. Indeed, much as the business man suffers himself, his own parents are the least part of the suffering.

I believe it to be the duty of every man who is prosperous, out of debt, and making money to settle upon his wife a certain amount of property, which shall not be affected by either his bankruptcy or his death. This may be done by a life insurance—especially if it be a policy which is not forfeited by neglect of payment. But a still better way is to settle upon the wife a good house and the furniture. Then, if misfortune comes, the man will still have a home. He will be secure at the roof, and may begin again with some hope. If death takes away the father, the nest remains. The children do not need to be scattered.

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

PROCLAMATION. City of Pittsburgh, ss. I, JARED M. BRUSH, Mayor of the city of Pittsburgh, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the ordinance of the City of Pittsburgh, passed at a regular session of the City Council, held on the 15th day of September, 1899.

PROCLAMATION. City of Pittsburgh, ss. I, JARED M. BRUSH, Mayor of the city of Pittsburgh, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the ordinance of the City of Pittsburgh, passed at a regular session of the City Council, held on the 15th day of September, 1899.

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ORDINANCES.

AN ORDINANCE. Relating to Bill Posters and Providing for the Payment of the Same. The City Council of the City of Pittsburgh, do hereby enact and ordain, that any person who shall place or cause to be placed any bill poster or sign on any building, structure or premises in the City of Pittsburgh, without having obtained a license therefor, shall be liable to a fine of not more than fifty dollars for each offense.

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AMUSEMENTS.

NEW OPERA HOUSE. SATURDAY EVENING, Sept. 23rd, 1899. THE GUSMAKER OF WISCONSIN AND THE DANISH GIRL. MRS. EMMA WALLER. The performance will commence with CITY MANAGER.

PITTSBURGH THEATRE. SATURDAY EVENING, Sept. 23rd, 1899. THE GUSMAKER OF WISCONSIN AND THE DANISH GIRL. MRS. EMMA WALLER. The performance will commence with CITY MANAGER.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC. MONDAY EVENING, Sept. 20th, 1899. AND ALL THE WEEK, THE WONDERFUL GREGORIES. WITH THEIR MINIATURE CIRCUS, AERIAL ACROBATS, COMIC PANTOMIME.

MISS BESSIE. Also, first appearance here of the celebrated CLOCHEE TROUPE OF GROUPE DANCEURS from Paris, and many other attractions.

FOR SALE. 65 Fifth Avenue, opposite the Opera House, Pittsburgh, Pa., is the best and most desirable place of resort. Licenses can be had at this place. The Billiard Rooms are on the ground floor in the rear.

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VALUABLE PROPERTY

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