

Poetry

THE OLD CANON. From the House Journal. BY REV. J. W. BROWN.

Miscellaneous

LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION.

A Court Incident.

Law—though framed for the protection of society for the individual benefit of its members—often admits of a construction adverse to the designs of its legislators, and in its application, frequently defeats the object which it was intended to sustain.

We take pleasure in relating an incident which greatly excited our sympathies, and was equally so by its interest and finally made our hearts beat with joy at its happy termination.

In the spring of 1851 we chanced to be spending a few days in a beautiful inland country town in Pennsylvania. It was court week, and to achieve us from the somewhat monotonous and uninteresting life we stepped into the town where court had convened.

Among the witnesses in the box we saw a lad about ten years of age, whose sad and pensive countenance, his young and innocent appearance, seemed him to look almost out of place among the hardened by whom he was surrounded.

The progress of the case acquainted us with the circumstances of the loss, the extent of which was but a trifling sum.

The judge, a wealthy, miserly, and unprincipled individual, had made use of it for what he called testing the boy's honesty. It was a simple matter, from its very position, the most trivial offense, and it was a simple matter, from its very position, the most trivial offense, and it was a simple matter, from its very position, the most trivial offense.

The accused sat in a conspicuous place, smiling as if in fondled expectation, over that poor, but once happy family.

We felt that there was but little hope for the boy—and the youthful appearance of the attorney, who had volunteered his defence, gave no encouragement, as we learned that it was the young man's maiden plan, his first address. He appeared greatly confused and reached to a desk by him, from which he took the Bible that had been used to solemnize the testimony. This movement was received with general laughter and taunting remarks—among which we heard, "He forgets where he is. Thinking to take hold of some pious law book, he has made a mistake and got the Bible."

New Goods.

SPRING GOODS! SPRING GOODS! Daint and Brother have just opened one of the largest and most complete assortments of goods ever brought to this city.

They follow our heart, throbbing at the sound of those words. The audience looked at each other without speaking and the jurymen mutely exchanged glances as the appropriate quotation carried its moral to their hearts.

The little time that was necessary to transpire before the verdict of the jury could be learned was a period of great suspense. But when their whispering consultation ceased and as those happy words, "Not Guilty," came from the foreman they passed like a thrill of electricity from lip to lip.

One of the comic papers revives an old story that is better now than it was before these days of letter-seeing and hearing. It seems that an old sea-captain, who had retired from service and was living on a farm, had a will-humour-son, nephew living with him.

It might be the boy played until dusk before he went out the cows as usual. The captain took a sheet and followed him. Now the captain had a tame monkey, took a table cloth and followed the captain at a respectful distance.

"Hallo, what is that?" he shouted, "a monkey, I guess it is a fruit?" and then, spying the monkey, he swung out, "By Jerusalem, if there ain't two fruit—a big fruit and a little fruit!"

"How do you do?" he said, "How do you do?" said Mrs. Partington, smiling, shaking hands with Mr. Ruriblanche, in Doctor's office, as he held out his five digits, "How do you do?"

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PREPARE FOR WINTER. The subscribers of the "Merry Old Year," are invited to call on the publishers, at the office of the "Merry Old Year," at No. 100 North Second Street, Philadelphia.

NEW FIRM—NEW GOODS. PARIS & SONS, late of Philadelphia, have just opened one of the largest and most complete assortments of goods ever brought to this city.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR. The store of the publisher is now open, and is filled with a large assortment of goods, suitable for the season.

NEW BOOKS AT THE AVIOLLO. A large assortment of new books, including "The History of the United States," "The History of the World," and "The History of the Bible."

NEW GROCERIES. A large assortment of new groceries, including "The History of the United States," "The History of the World," and "The History of the Bible."

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