The Middleburgh Post.

H. HARTER. He that will not reason is a bigot; he that cannot is a fool; he that dare not is a slave. EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

VOL. XXIII MIDDLEBURGH, SNYDER CO., PENN'A, APRIL 7, 1887 NO 17

—:POETRY:—

THE ROAD TO LEARNING.

Learning runs no loyal road,
No would this journey take
Travel in the common mode,
Could he his great thirst slake.

Carriage bears him swiftly o'er
The smooth and grassy way,
Pilgrims in the days of yore
Must his task essay.

Mind made up, he starts at length
With vigorous steps he goes;
Needs his long-time hoarded strength
To overcome his foes.

Path is narrow, oft and rough,
Fain would then turn back,
Thinks within his heart "enough,
Choose some other track."

On he goes, he nears the goal,
Dips from learning's stream,
Nectar filled he thinks the bowl,
Compliced in his dream.

Thankful is he that he went
Again the gift bestowed.
Down to learning's high ascent
There runs no royal road.

THE PRETTY ORPHAN.

'She's a great deal too pretty,' Mrs Black, energetically twitching her needle through the stocking was darning.

Mr. Black looked puzzled. He was an excellent business man, but did not understand the complications of domestic diplomacy.

'Well, my dear, that isn't her fault, is it?' said he

'Her fault? No! Who said it was?' snapped his wife. 'You don't understand, Black'

'No, I suppose I don't,' he replied, meekly. "But I must confess I think it's rather hard to turn the poor girl adrift, after you have actually adopted her out of the asylum And such a good girl too! I thought it would be so very nice to have a daughter,' sighed Mr. Black.

'And wasn't it nice?'

'Yes, but I never thought of her growing up so pretty, and Frank getting in love with her.'

'Wouldn't she make a good little wife for Frank?'

'Black, you talk like a child Our son must marry rich. And Lilla must go away.'

'Where?'

'I don't care; anywhere, so that she will not be a stumbling block in Frank's path, For I have set my heart on Frank marrying Priscilla Grant. She has property—she will make a suitable match."

'Yes, but my dear,' hesitated Mr Black, 'suppose your precautions are too late? Suppose she has already learned to care for Frank?'

'Then she must unlearn, that's all,' said Mrs. Black, sharply. 'Lilia is a nice girl enough, but she must be taught to know her place. I shall send her to Aunt Agnew—she has written to me for some sort of a companion, and I think it is likely that Lilia will meet her wishes and hers. At all events she will be shutten out of Frank's way. And Frank and Edward must be our first consideration, you know.'

So Lilia Redburn was called in—a dimpled, dark-eyed girl, with coral red lips and a shy, bewitching way of looking at you from under her long eyelashes and told without much unnecessary preamble that she was to be transferred to the care of Miss Abigail Agnew, her adopted father's aunt.

She listened quietly. Lilia was not one of those who wear their hearts and tongues upon their sleeves; but her poor little heart sank down, down, like a lump of lead, in her bosom. And that night she cried herself to sleep.

Miss Abigail Agnew was sitting in her curious little room that evening when Lilia Redburn was announced. It was a quaint room, and Mrs. Agnew was a quaint woman, shriveled, ancient and bowed over, with gold spectacles gleaming before her eyes, and priceless yellow lace, quilled after an antique fashion, around her neck.

'Come in, Lilia, come in,' said the old lady. "You see I know your name. Price,' she said to the maid, 'bring the tea and toast. You can't eat anything? Pshaw, you must eat! I'm not one to be trifled with, and I say you must eat. What made you pale, Mrs. Black, send you away? Naughty girl, eh?'

Lilia colored scarlet and dropped her lids before the sharp, jetty fire of the old lady's eyes.

'I hope not, ma'am. I tried to do my best. I—I don't know exactly why she sent me off?'

'I do, then,' said Miss Agnew, pouring the tea out of a chased silver teapot into a china set as delicate and transparent as gilded eggshells. 'You were too pretty, dear.'

'I ma'am?'

'But we won't discuss the question any further, my dear,' replied the old woman, 'drink your tea and go to bed. To-morrow we will commence our duties.'

Lilia Redburn was very happy in her new home. Miss Agnew was peculiar, but there was a kernel of real honest kindness beneath the dry and uninviting husk of her outward manner, and Lilia soon contrived to penetrate to it. Yet she sighed often, and Miss Agnew knew that she was not happy.

'Lilia,' she said one day, suddenly, 'do you want to go back to my Nephew Black's?'

Lilia burst into tears, and made her simple confession in one syllable.

'Yes'

'Why? Tell me honestly and truly, my darling,' patting the blooming cheek with her withered hand. 'Did you love Frank Black?'

'Frank? Oh, Miss Agnew, no! I wouldn't care—only for Ned'

'Ned, eh?' said the old lady, scratching her nose with the sticks of her pearl fan.

'Ned, I know, I ought not to think of him,' went on Lilia, hiding her face on Miss Abigail's lap, 'because I am only a poor orphan and his parents are proud and ambitious of him, as it is right and natural that they should be. I don't complain: pray, pray, my dear Miss Agnew, don't think I'm complaining, but it is hard,'

'Does he love you, my dear?'

'He never told me so,' faltered Lilia, taking refuge behind the long lashes.

'Does he love you I say?' reiterated the old lady.

'Yes, I think he does, confessed Lilia.

'Well, it's a queer world we live in,' said Miss Agnew, apparently addressing herself to the parrot. 'when love can't hold its own against money. Get your hat, Lilia, and we will go for a walk I can't stay in the house when I'm irritated in my mind,'

Three days afterwards Mrs. Black received a short note from Miss Abigail Agnew:

DEAR NIECE—You have not been to see Lilia since she came here. She is a good, affectionate girl, and I think she feels your neglect But I write particularly to say that I have concluded to adopt a daughter of my own and settle all my little property upon her. ('Little property,' ejaculated Mrs. Black, with a convulsive gasp, 'and she is worth a quarter of a million!') My lawyer thinks it is due to all my relatives to notify them of this fact, so no more at present from yours, very truly,

ANN ABIGAIL AGNEW.

One minute Mrs. Black sat twisting the note around and around in her fingers, while her husband drew a long, low whistle—and then she had resolved upon her tactics

'Ned must go and see his aunt,' she declared.

'There spoke the woman!' observed her husband. 'You want to make a match between Ned and this new whim of Aunt Agnew's. I dare say she's a little girl of 6."

'There is at least the chance,' said Mrs. Black decidedly. 'He can make an excuse of bringing Lilia home to visit us.'

'I'd like to see dear little Lilia again,' said the old gentleman. 'Nobody thinks about airing the newspaper and warming my slippers now that Lilia is gone.'

'She was a good girl enough,' said Mrs. Black, 'only a deal too pretty But now that Frank is away at the White mountains'—

And she bustled away to attend to the summons of Malvina, the cook, her head full of her youngest son and the fortunate damsel who was to inherit the golden showers of Aunt Agnew's wealth.

Ned showed no unwillingness whatsoever to go to Aunt Agnew's.

'Of course I'll go,' said he. 'And I'll bring Lilia back for a good visit. I say, mother, I've been intending to tell you for some time that I mean to marry Lilia Redburn!'

'Ned!'

'I do,' stoutly asserted the young man 'She's good, and she's pretty, and I love her, and I believe she loves me!'

'O, what an ungrateful, audacious, deceiving minx!' hysterically sobbed Mrs. Black. 'Have I: then been warming a viper in my bosom all these years!'

'Mother,' said Ned, 'Lilia is the sweetest girl in the world, and I won't hear a word against her. We shall be poor, but I am willing to work for her.'

And he walked out of the room with the dignity and resolution of one who is thoroughly in earnest. And Mrs. Black began to cry and wonder whether Frank, away in the White mountains, was too far committed to Miss Priscilla Grant to admit of his entering the lists for Aunt Agnes's heiress.

Failing any more satisfactory method of solving the problem, Mrs. Black resolved herself to accompany the rebel Ned to Aunt Agnew's.

'Dear Aunt Abigail,' she sighed, as Lilia ran upstairs with her shawl and bonnet, 'what am I to do? Here is Ned persisting that he will marry Lilia Redburn!'

'Well, I guess the best way is to let him marry her,' said Miss Agnew. 'You can't neither lock him up or bind him over to keep the peace, so far as I see. But you haven't asked to see my adopted daughter,'

'I came on purpose to be introduced to her,' said Mrs. Black. 'How old is she?'

'About 18.'

Mrs. Black heaved a spasmodic sigh.

'Oh, Ned! Ned! if only you had kept that rebellious heart of yours safe in your own possession!' she thought, adding aloud, 'And pretty?'

'Well, people say so. Here she comes now.'

Mrs. Black stretched her neck this way and that to see behind Lilia, who just then came into the room, blushing and lovely.

'Where? Pardon me—I may be blind, but I don't see,'

'I have adopted Lilia Redburn,' said Miss Agnew, dryly.

'Lillian Redburn has promised to be my wife,' said Ned Black, over the new heiress' shoulder. 'So I don't see but that Aunt Abigail will have to adopt us both!'

'I'll take the matter into consideration,' said the old lady. 'But I hope you are satisfied now, Niece Black!'

'Perfectly,' cried the maneuvering mother, 'perfectly!'

For luck had borne the little vessel of her hopes and fears safe into a golden port.

Useful to Know.

That salt should be eaten with nuts to aid digestion.

That milk which stands too long makes bitter butter.

That a little soda will relieve sick-headache caused by indigestion.

That rusty flat irons should be rubbed over with beeswax and lard.

That it rests you in sewing to change your position frequently

That a strong hot lemonade taken at bed time will break up a bad cold.

That tough beef is made tender by laying a few minutes in vinegar water.

That well ventilated bed-rooms will prevent morning headaches and lassitude.

That a strong cup of coffee will remove the odor of onions from the breath.

That a cup of hot water drunk before meals will prevent nausea and dyspepsia.

That to beat eggs quickly, add a pinch of salt. Salt cools, and cold eggs froth rapidly.

That consumptive night sweats may be arrested by sponging the body nightly in salt water.

That one in a faint should be laid on the flat of his back; then loosen his clothes and let him alone.

That a fever patient can be made cool and comfortable by frequently sponging off with soda water.

That the hair may be kept from falling out after sickness by a frequent application to the scalp of sage tea.

The white spots upon varnished furniture will disappear if you hold a hot plate over them.

That you can take out spots from wash goods by rubbing them with the yelk of eggs before washing.

LIKE IT VHAS IN SHERMAN.

A FEW WISE SAYINGS GIVEN US BY CARL DUNDER.

Dot some peoples who shpit oafer deir finger for luck vhen day see a white horse vhill loaf aroundt sooner dan work for twelf shilling a day.

Vhen I vhas content in my mind I vahs as rich ash Vanderbilt; vhea I vhas all proke oop der riches of Shay Gould would not make me happy.

Der friendship of a goodt man vhas like der interest on ten thousand dollars at sefen per cent.

Peoples who build der biggest castles in deir minds shenerally lif in der poorest houses in reality. I doan' give a bushel of turnips for dot ship which vhas to come in for somebody.

I tell my boy dot Truth vhas mighty und must prevail, but he hadt petter look a leedle oudt if he sees a man drunk und goes und tells his wife. Sometimes a lie vhas shust what makes people happy.

Der reason vhy we look back on our shildhood mit sooch fondness is pecause we can't remember der tears und heartaches.

Dot same man who doan' pelief in Heafen pecause he can't see him will accept of whiskey by der shmell.

One time vhen I goes mit der bolecce to see a deadt dog in my neighbor's yard, he comes oop und finds two deadt cats under my own woodshed.

It vhas a golden principle to be honest, but if all men lived oop to him der peesness of der country would fall off one-half in a week.

It vhas always my pelief dot guide-boards were put up at highway corners to make more miles for trafelers. If we doan' know how long der roadt vhas we come to some place all der sooner.

Some day vhen I shall come to pelieve all der worldt vhas badt, I shall shlip out to der and hang myself for fear dot I vhas der only good one left und would be lonesome.

Nature vhas mighty good to some folks, but you vhill most always see dot she ran short of brain material after making a handsome face.

I know vhat ails der times, und I can shpeak der needs of der country but I left him alone It vhas petter dot somesons who doan' pay taxes und goes oop py der workhouse for a loafer tells der peoples.

Maype it vhas true dot charity pegins at home Some husbands act dot vhay vhen dey vhas asked for money by der wives.

Nopody should be older dan he vhas, but it should be remembered dot some oldt folks can make fools of themselves on very short notice. —*Detroit Free Press.*

COUNTY BRIDGES.

It is not generally known that it is the duty of township supervisors to keep the county bridges in repair at the expense of the county, of course. Any repairs which the supervisors may see necessary, and which will not entail an expense of more than $25 can be made without application to the county commissioners for their authority to proceed with them. When the repairs will amount to more than twenty-five dollars the supervisors must represent to the commissioners and receive from them orders as to the quantity of repairing and the manner in which it shall be done. Heretofore these methods of proceedure have not generally been followed. *Altoona Tribune.*

What the Politician is Like.

The politician is an expert of assurance; or, at least, he believes in having a policy.

He is like a broken bank because he lacks principle.

He is like a pawnbroker, because his industry depends on his interest,

He is like St. Paul, because he "is all things to all men."

He is like a ball, because he lies on all sides.

He is like a circus performer, because he gains in the ring.

He is like a harp, because he is a modern specimen of a lyre.

He is like the Arctic and the Antartic circles, because he to be found about the polls,

He is like the iron man, because he finds profit in steal,

He is like a telegraphic lineman because he manipulates the wires.

He is like the dentist, because he often takes the stump.

New York Talk

Will Blaine consent to lead the next campaign? He alone can answer, and he cannot afford to answer yet. If he shall consent to be a candidate the contest is over, for it is a thing impossible, with the present temper, to convence a representative body of the Republican party that would not nominate him. At a moment when we may ask whether the last campaign developed Blaine's strength or weakness. Under our form of government it happens that there is no place left for a third party. The voters' real election is made in the nominating caucus. It's not wise to measure the success or defeat of political organizations by the result of an election. The advancement of a cause is greater than the securing of an office. A party may be strengthened by defeat or destroyed by defeat or destroyed by an unearned victory. The only real victory the Democratic party has won in twenty years was in the Tilden campaign. Mr Tilden was not elected, but if he had accepted the nomination in 1880 Garfield would not have been President. Blaine was never so strong as in his present retirement. It is not possible to call his name in a Republican gathering to-day, either in New Jersey, or Michigan, or Boston, without the answering cheer that no other name calls forth.

In estimating Blaine's strength we are not reminded of the proof of prophecy. Taking seven doubtful states and comparing the votes in 1882 1884, and 1886 we find the following results: In California the Democratic majority in 1882 was 22,519 but it went for Blaine in 1884 by 13,138, and was again Democratic in 1886, Colorado went Democratic 2345 in 1882, for Blaine, 8567, and Democratic again in 1886 Connecticut gave a Democratic majority in 1882 of 8161, while Cleveland's majority was only 1284 New Jersey gave a Democratic majority in 1882 of 20631 a Democratic majority in 1884, of 4412 largely caused by the Prohibition vote, and a Democratic majority in 1886, of 802. New York went Democratic in 1882 7310, and 1886 7818, while the majority over Blaine was only 1047. In Wisconsin the Democratic majority in 1872 was 9021, and the state was carried for Blaine by 14 698 West Virginia, which gave 11,148 majority for Hancock gave only 2477 against Blaine. The real cause of the Republican defeat was the candidacy of St. John. Although the Republican party had surrendered tens of thousands of votes in its advocacy of temperance, this movement drew away from the Republican candidate 20,000 votes in New York, 2000 in Connecticut and 6000 in New Jersey, and this movement was not aimed at the candidate, but at the party.

The newspapers tell, as a bit of surprising news, about President Cleveland's extraordinary energy in beginning the business of the day at 7 o'clock in the morning. The readers who are astonished over this extraordinary activity have forgotten how far Washington beat this record. The father of his country would have regarded a man who opened his business office at 7 o'clock as a hopeless sluggard. He was up daily at 4 o'clock, and had things fairly humming about the house a good while before 6. Life was a busy affair to him. He let no grass grow under his feet. He wasn't what we call a "rusher" in these degenerated days in one sense. He didn't fly around rapidly, and do things on the keen jump as many Americans do now, and kill themselves at the same time. He moved with dignified deliberation, but he kept right at work from 4 o'clock in the morning until 10 o'clock at night, and accomplished a great deal more than those who bang and slam through life, doing little except vetoing pension bills.

"A burglar who was doing a neat job on a large safe was horrified, on looking up, to see a man standing quietly beside him." He was about to retire, when the gentleman said: "Go ahead, I am interested in that job." "Why?" asked the astonished burglar. "Because I have forgotten the combination, and no living person knew it but myself. If you can get that safe open, I'll make it worth your while."

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