

A MODERN BUNYAN.

J. N. Ervin, in Ram's Horn.)

DREAMED; and behold I saw a man clothed with rags standing in a certain place, with his face from his own house, a book in his hand, and a great burden upon his back. I looked, and saw him open the book, and read therein; and as he read he wept and trembled; and not being able longer to contain, he broke out with a lamentable cry, saying, "What shall I do?" And while he was standing in his plight there came to him a man named Evangelist and talked with him and gave him a parchment roll wherein was written the way of life from this world to that which is to come. Then the man took the roll and began to read in it, and as he read the way seemed plain before him and a voice said, "This is the way, walk ye in it."

Now, while he was still reading therein there came by a man with a huge book under his arm. But the man who was reading was so intent upon what he was reading that he did not see him. Then the visitor laid his hand on the roll in the man's hand and said, "What readest thou?" And the man said, "I am reading a roll which Evangelist gave me to show me the way from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City. For you must know unless I escape, I shall perish with this city." "This is an excellent book," replied the man, "and I have given a great deal of time to its study. I am able to tell you many things which Evangelist has never discovered and to make it plainer to you than any one else can. That roll is, in the main, a reliable guide, but I would advise you to read a book of mine on the explanation of the roll and the 'roll corrected.' Then the speaker gave the man with the roll a card whereon his name was written and disappeared. And the name written was "Higher Critic."

And then for the rest of those days which they called sacred days they found delight in social companies or in reading papers each of which contained a sermon that no one ever read.

Now, I saw that as they went on their way, they came to a place where a narrow way went up a steep hill to the road that Christian went of whom we have heard from Bunyan. And at the place where this way left the road that Pilgrim was going there was a house where Evangelist was trying to gather in those who were with Pilgrim and explain to them the roll so that they might go on the King's Highway to the Celestial city. And I heard Mr. Modern Thought speak with his company and tell them that while Evangelist might imagine he was doing good it were better to go on their easy way than to fall in with the fanatics who were trying to climb that hard hill and leave behind them all the delights they might enjoy. Then I saw that they passed by without stopping to hear what words Evangelist might speak to them. And so they escaped any pricks of conscience.

And I saw after this that they came to a place where the atmosphere from the Valley of Humiliation began to blow chill upon them. And their hearts began to sink and goblins began to appear to them. But Mr. Modern Thought belonged to a company who had built a railroad entirely around that valley, called Constant Amusement railroad. It is luxuriously furnished and its coaches are equipped with theatrical exhibitions and dancing pavilions till it takes away all thought of the discontents of the Valley of Humiliation. Pilgrim and all who were with him took this railroad and passed through the Valley of Humiliation where the old way used to go.

At the end of the C. A. R. R. was a station fitted up with telescopes labeled



WITH HIS FACE FROM HIS OWN HOUSE.

And I saw, and behold, there came another man to that place the man was still reading the roll. And he stopped and spoke with him and asked why he read so earnestly and why his face was so serious and troubled. And he replied that he was trying to learn the way to escape from Destruction. "I am so glad, then, that I have found you," said this man. "My name is Mr. Modern Thought, and I am setting right such people as you. I perceive that Evangelist has found you and that he has puzzled you with the roll which you have. That roll is all right, but Evangelist is narrow in his views and several centuries behind the times. He shows you the narrow way by the little Wicket Gate and over the Hill Difficulty and through the Valley of Humiliation which pilgrims used to go. That way is largely abandoned and we now find an easier road. We are never

for there is always a gay company with us to cheer the time, and we have no longer the sad faces pilgrims used to have. I have a company close here which is on their way and which I am guiding. If you will put that roll in your pocket and go along with me I will guide you without any farther fear on your part. We will follow the roll, but I will read and explain portions of it to you every seven days and relieve you of the vexation of reading it for yourself. And then I will give you that explanation which we accept and which makes our journey so happy. If you have ever read the account which John Bunyan gives of the journey of the Christian from this world to that which is to come you have found that he went through much tribulation, but I can show you another way." Then I saw that the man persuaded him to go and he gave to him the name of Pilgrim and added him to his company.

Then I saw that Mr. Modern Thought went on the way with his company, and as they went they laughed and sang and cheered each other by the way. Pilgrim kept the roll in his pocket and rarely touched it. On every seventh day Mr. Modern Thought would talk to them for half an hour about some theme pertaining to that roll, and would tell them how sadly the stern men of the past had tried in force all pilgrims through a narrow and difficult path with lions in the way and how fortunate they were in that they were not bound to any of those wild ways. The spirit of the modern times does not follow these old paths.

PORPOISE IN CAPTIVITY.

Apparently Contented in the Locks at Harvey's Canal, La.

The locks of Harvey's canal, while originally intended for the accommodation of vessels of various kinds and dimensions, but failed to operate for some reason or other, were permitted to fall into disuse, says a New Orleans paper. As a consequence of this it was considered necessary to construct a dam across the head of the canal and also below the inner gate. The basin formed by the two dams gradually filled with rain water, forming a pool about 250 feet in length, 50 feet wide and possessing a depth of about 15 feet. In the course of time this basin became filled with small fish, and, as it now turns out, this provision of nature will serve to prolong the life of a very remarkable inhabitant of the lock basin. The capture of a porpoise in itself is a very unusual occurrence, but when you couple to this capture the fact that it was kept alive for a period of ten hours, the occurrence becomes of more than ordinary interest. Yet this was the case in regard to the acquisition of a porpoise Wednesday by Captain H. A. Harvey of the steamer Louise Harvey, which vessel piles between the head of Harvey's canal, on the other side of the river, and the Gulf waters in the neighborhood of Barataria bay, engaged in transporting fish and oysters to this city. The fishermen employed by Captain Harvey on the day mentioned were hauling the seine in the shallow waters of the bay, when there was an unusual splashing and disturbance in the bag of the net. Upon the haul being completed it was found that a monster porpoise had permitted himself to become entangled in the seine, and being unable to get away was after considerable difficulty landed safe on the deck of the steamer. Remembering the condition of things relative to the lock of the canal, as noted above, Captain Harvey conceived the plan of transporting the fish to this location and dumping it into the basin, to be retained as a curiosity for the people of the city. The porpoise, which was eight feet long and weighed 500 pounds, was not injured in the struggle which took place upon reaching the side of the steamer, and being secured so it could not plunge about the deck, was covered with sacks and kept well wetted during the journey to the lock. This location was reached nearly ten hours later. At this time the fish appeared rather weakened by its long absence from the water and did not give any violent signs of life when thrown into the fresh water of the basin. Some ten minutes later, however, it began to swim slowly about the lock, and after an hour's duration it seemed to have regained its usual vigor and appeared to enjoy the novelty of being sole occupant of any size in its new domicile.

"BEWARE!" SAID WILLIAM.

But the 17-Year-Old Beauty Didn't Believe Worth a Cent.

A very funny young fellow named William Riggs thought it would be fun to scare four young women who were in the habit of riding by moonlight on their wheels in the smooth road in the vicinity of Delphi, N. Y.

He had made a long white costume and a hideous mask. Mounted on stilts he appeared twelve feet high, and he waved his ghastly arm and in a sepulchral tone shouted, "Beware!"

One of the young women fell off of her wheel in a faint, two of them broke all world's records for the distance, but Miss Grace Holden, a 17-year-old beauty from Jersey City, gracefully dismounted from her "bike," picked up a large stone, and, as she threw it, said: "If you are a ghost this will go through you, and if you are a foolish, masquerading boy it will hit you."

And that is how it happened that William Riggs has three broken ribs.

This CALF'S TAIL IS IN FRONT.

A Scarborough (Me.) man has a cow which recently brought an offspring into the world. The calf is said to be all right except as to the tail, and the tail is all right, only it is misplaced, being on the wrong end of the beast. It is said to grow from between the eyes. In fact, the animal looks more like a baby elephant than a cow. It was found that the calf was likely to starve to death from its inability to suck and wag its tail at the same time, so it was brought up by hand.

Cheap Traveling.

The cheapest railway traveling in Europe is from Budapest to Cracow, in Hungary, a distance of 45 miles, for which the fare, third class, is 6s. 6d. or at the rate of six miles a penny. Cheap as this is, it is further liable to a reduction of one-half in the case of agricultural laborers journeying in parties of ten, or workmen of other kinds in groups of thirty.

Raising Wild Beasts.

A well-known English writer on zoology says the rapid opening of Africa means the destruction of many wild animals, and man will not be able to hunt up on their stock unless they act promptly in the matter. He recommends that wild beast farms be established in civilized countries to preserve desirable species.

Bad Their Feet Washed.

The ceremony of foot-washing was performed in the Church of God, at Darien, Ill., recently. One hundred and twenty-five persons had their pedal extremities made clean.

If the Atlantic ocean could have a layer of water 4,000 feet deep, removed from its surface it would only raise the width of that great body of water one-half.

World's Wheat Production.

The Hungarian government has issued an amplification of its wheat report issued last week. According to these latest figures the production of importing countries for 1895 as compared with the production in 1894 is as follows:

	Bushels—	1895.	1894.
Great Britain	46,811,000	60,995,000	
France	301,573,000	354,625,000	
Germany	103,550,000	102,132,000	
Austria	45,392,000	45,490,000	
Italy	114,898,000	120,288,000	
Netherlands	3,404,000	6,241,000	
Switzerland	5,399,000	7,376,000	
Belgium	21,277,000	21,277,000	
Denmark	5,196,000	4,539,000	
Scandinavia	5,106,000	5,106,000	
Spain	86,528,000	97,876,000	
Portugal	7,376,000	9,978,000	
Greece	3,120,000	3,404,000	

"The production of the exporting countries for 1895 as compared with that of 1894 is as follows:

	Bushels—	1895.	1894.
Russia	415,053,000	363,126,000	
Hungary	150,361,000	151,098,000	
Roumania	62,414,000	51,966,000	
Bulgaria	52,482,000	31,207,000	
Serbia	8,511,000	9,929,000	
Turkey	42,555,000	29,792,000	
India	237,456,000	258,167,000	
Rest of Asia	70,950,000	58,158,000	
United States	400,017,000	408,528,000	
Canada	51,066,000	42,555,000	
Argentine Republic	He	60,995,000	117,508,000
Chile, etc.	18,440,000	24,114,000	
Australia	35,746,000	42,895,000	
Africa	47,094,000	43,379,000	

"The aggregate production of the importing countries for 1895 is placed at 522,608,000 bushels, against 575,911,000 bushels in 1894. The production of the rice-exporting countries for 1895 is estimated at 953,232,000 bushels, against 1,052,577,000 bushels in 1894."

Oxen or Horses.

At the Maine State Fair there are 65 entries of matched oxen and 80 pairs of work oxen. This beats electricity and bicycles, but Maine farmers will never make the progress they should in this enlightened day and age until they adopt good draft horses for the farm, good draft mares to work and raise a colt every year, as the French and English farmers do. These draft cattle always bring more money than oxen, and the mares and maturing colts will do more and better work than the oxen.—Western Live Stock Journal.

The editor of the above paper evidently does not know what he is talking about. He tries to judge Eastern conditions by Western methods. Oxen would be quite out of place on Western farms, but on most Maine farms they are essentially in place, and will always remain a prominent feature of Maine agriculture.

For labor on the stony hillsides of that state the slow-going ox is in his element. His cloven hoof takes naturally to the uneven ground. If he has a mishap that unfits him for future labor he is sent to the butcher, and loss is avoided. The retention of oxen on Maine farms is not a sign of stupidity on the part of Maine farmers. It is a question of the survival of the fittest.

There are both horses and oxen on those farms, and as the two are brought into close competition the farmer has a good opportunity to observe both, and in the course of a few years he decides that for general work oxen are the most valuable. A popular combination there, for small farms, is a yoke of oxen and one horse. When a large load is to be hauled, the oxen are hitched onto the wagon, and the horse put in ahead, the whiffletree being hooked into a ring on the end of the tongue of the ox-cart. This is a favorite method for use in the hay field and in the wood lot. For the West, "vive le cheval," but for Maine, "vive le boeuf."

And that is how it happened that William Riggs has three broken ribs.

Knock Calves' Tail in Front.

A Scarborough (Me.) man has a cow which recently brought an offspring into the world. The calf is said to be all right except as to the tail, and the tail is all right, only it is misplaced, being on the wrong end of the beast. It is said to grow from between the eyes. In fact, the animal looks more like a baby elephant than a cow. It was found that the calf was likely to starve to death from its inability to suck and wag its tail at the same time, so it was brought up by hand.

It is the oldest and best. It will break up a cold quickly than anything else. It is always reliable. Try it.

We can do more good by being good than in any other way.—Hill.

What destiny sends, bear! Whoever perishes will be crowned.—Hill.

Just how it does it is not the question. It is enough that Hindernox takes out the corns, and a very pleasing relief it is, to druggists.

Wisdom and goodness to the vile seem like.

Plato's Cure cured me of a Throat and Lung trouble of three year's standing.—E. GAY, Huntington, Ind., Nov. 1894.

Reckon any manner of trial to thee among thy gains.—T. Adam.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

Something to Paint.

Mme. d'Albertin, one of the lesser painters of France, was as conceited about her artistic ability as she was notorious for her use of cosmetics. On one occasion a certain count, who held her in much esteem, lost a bet to her. "And what will madame choose?" he asked with mock courtesy. "Something in my art," she simpered; "something I can paint." "Very well, madame," replied he, bowing himself out. A day later madame received a package from the count, which, upon being opened, revealed a life-size drawing of her own face in outline.—Argonaut.

A Brave Defender.

Mrs. Watts—It seems to me that you paid a good deal more attention to that hateful Mrs. Finns last night than was necessary. Every one in the room noticed it.

Mr. Watts—My dear, I saw that there were at least a dozen unmarried men in the assemblage, and I wanted to protect them.

A Silent Appeal for Help.

When your kidneys and bladder are inactive the making a silent appeal for help. Don't disregard it, but with Hostetter's Stomach Bitters safely impel them to activity. They are in immediate danger, and it is foolhardiness to shut one's eyes to the fact. Be wise in time, too, if you experience manifestations of dyspepsia, malarial, rheumatism, constipation or nerve trouble. The Bitters before a meal add zest to it.

Diamond Cut Diamond.

A New York rogue caught a Chinaman asleep in a hallway and stole his outer garments. Thus he donned and paraded Mott street, the Chinese quarter. One of the celestials pretended to be deceived and led the sham Chinaman to an opium joint, where he was despo