MIRACLE.

Oh! not in strange portentous way Christ's miracles were wrought of old, The common thing, the common clay He touched and tinctured, and straightway It grew to glory manifold.

The barley loaves were daily bread Kneaded and mixed with usual skill; No care was given, no spell was said, But when the Lord had blessed, they fed The multitude upon the hill.

The hemp was sown 'neath common sun, Watered by common dews and rain, Of which the fisher's nets were spun; Nothing was prophe ied or dane To mark it fro n the other grain.

Coarse, brawny hands let down the net When the Lord spake and ordered so; They hauled the meshes, heavy-wet, Just as in other days, and set Their backs to labor, bending low;

But quivering, leaping from the lake The marvellous, shining burdens rise Until the laden meshes break And all amazed, no man spake But gazed with wonder in his eves

So still, dear Lord, in every place Thou standest by the toiling folk With love and pity in thy face, And givest of thy help and grace To those who meekly bear the yoke.

Not by strange sudden change and spell, Baffling and darkening nature's face : Thou takest the things we know so well And buildest on them thy miracle-The heavenly on the common-place.

The lives which seem so poor, so low,
The hearts which are so cramped and dull, The baffled hopes, the impulse slow, Thou takest, touchest all, and lo! They blossom to the beautiful,

We need not wait for thunder-peal Resounding from a mount of fire While round our daily paths we feel Thy sweet love and thy power to heal Working in us Thy full desire. -Susan Coolidge in Christian Union.

THE LITTLE WILSON BOY.

There were two or three reasons why I did not wish him placed in my Sunday school class. First, I had six boys already in my weekly care from the ages of six to eight years, and that means six irrepressible, presponsible, lively little beings, about as easily controlled as so many little monkeys would be, and not much more easily.

Then I had heard repeatedly, from one of the teachers in the infant department, what a "case" that Wilson boy was, frequently arresting the exercises with his mischievous pranks; and besides all this, there were smaller classes more room for him than in mine.

asking in an almost imploring tone it was the little tin box. if I couldn't take "just one boy

Then on seeing the child my heart relented. His clothes were old and ill-fitting; and his mat of golden curls, in their rich abundance, hung over and almost into his lovely blue eyes. Another of moment I was totally unable to re-Christ's poor little ones, I thought, ply, for one of the boys standing by raged at his assurance. and the child was admitted.

He behaved pretty well that Sunday, although once when my back was turned some sly piece of mischief caused a smile to circulate rather freely, I somehow felt at my expense.

But he was 'troublesome. In wain I coaxed and remonstrated, a little," the boy added. and roundly reproved the child for So, after all, the child did hear his misconduct; in vain I threaten what was said on that last Survay, ed I must go see the "Auntie" with and it sank into his precious little whom he lived, and tell her how heart, and little as I dreamed of such naughtily he behaved. Did the a result then, it comforted him, and child know. I wonder, that I the thought dimpled his cheeks at couldn't really have complained of those last moments; poor, dying to weigh things before they blame the top of his speed for any length him?—a little motherless boy!

and trained and pruned in a Chris- boy."-Illustrated Christian Weekly. tian home-and then I was so sorry for him because he was motherless. But alas! the next moment the equirming of some child at his side

One Sunday the lesson was about | years. Christ's love for little children, and asked the boy, who came forward to for brief periods the child would wait on her. "Awful sick, and pay something like attention. I ain't had anything to eat all day." spoke of how parents loved their The boy was just then called to wait plicity that to hear was to undershildren, and how Sunday-school upon some men who entered the stand. teachers loved their scholars—good saloon, and the girl sat down. scholars—yes, and the naughty Wearied out she fell asleep holding sked wonderingly ?

attitude vith one hand in his drew the nickel away, and whisper- During his last illness. Augustus save many a person from physical little rattle, and the next moment from her closed eyelid, but the face | ing eye, "O my dear sir, I cannot bilant smile,

"Teacher, want to see my fish-

hooks?" if I didn't love mackerel, and I ad- | this." mitted certainly that I did, and knew boys must like the sport of catching them, but urged the little fellow to lay aside all such considerations, and try to be good while in the Sunday-school class, and he said brightly on parting:

"Good by, teacher; I'll be awful good next Sunday!"

Next Sunday! Dear child! On Wednesday the "Auntie' sent for me to come as soon as I could to see her; that was all the boy said who brought the message, perhaps she thought I would not wish to go if I knew more. But on entering her lowly home, I saw it all at a glance.

There, on the low bed, lay the "little Wilson boy," all too quiet at

The mat of shining curls still shaded the snowy forehead, and clustered about the pulseless temples; the rare little circlets laid as ever about the babyish cheeks, and on one a dimple showed plainly -but the blue eyes were closed.

He was drowned. By the side of the bed, carelessly thrown on a small table, was a string in which there seemed to be far of fish-mackerel-and still clutched in one hand was a familiar ob-But here was the overtasked ject, at sight of which the rushing superintendent standing before me, tears blinded my eyes completely-

Groups of boys stood around the more," and I understood at once room, and the "Auntie"-I was that I was not the first teacher to glad now there was no mother to whom he had made application that gaze on this scene—the not unkindly day in behalf of "the little Wilson "Auntie" hastened to explain with a quick gesture toward the fish:

"He catched them for you, ma'am; he said as how you liked them, and he was a goin' to fetch them to you himself to night."

It was just as well that at that was eager to tell his story, so he began excitedly:

"Yes'm, and he wasn't quite dead either when we took him out, for he said in a funny weak-like voice you see he was almost gone-'Teacher said that Christ would forgive you?" lit'le boys, even naughty boys, and teacher knows!' and then he smiled

little boy!

Sometimes the dimples in his Well, it was years ago, but cheeks would cease their play for a from that time to this, I never have moment or two, while I told some shown reluctance at receiving one little story with just enough more child into my class; and when wholesome excitement in it to catch my boys whisper and play in Sunhis attention, while I illustrated day-school I never feel discouraged; some important point in the lesson, but if on Sertain occasions the boys and at such times the child was are specially trying and I need somerarely beautiful. The great blue thing to increase my faith and eyes were almost heavenly in their patience. I've only to go to a locked expression, and the mat of golden drawer of my bureau and look for hair rippled and fell in cunning an instant on a little tin box with circlets about temple, cheek and five fish hooks and a matted curl of brow. I used at such times to yellow hair inside, and I see it all vaguely imagine how sweet he over again as plainly as I saw it on would be were he my boy, apparel- that Wednesday afternoon, the still, led like other well dressed boys, sweet face of "the little Wilson

AN INCIDENT.

A touching story of a little girl's would attest to the accuracy with dream comes from San Francisco. which he could insert a pin point In one of the stores of the city there or direct a sly pinch, right in the is a bakery, grocery, and liquormidst of my exciting little illustra- business done. Into this store entered a poorly-clad child of ten "How's your mother?"

fixed intently on my face, and he spokesman carefully put the bill and the living hope exulting in every miller does when water gets low in was bending toward me in an eager | between two of the sleeper's fingers, | line. strangely tried, yet attracted me. ma won't hardly believe me that I remember perfectly that during you sent up to heaven and got an and part with me; for no mortal my talk he interrupted me to know | angel to come down and give me all

MOTHER'S BOYS.

Yes. I know there are stains on my carpet, The traces of small muddy boots: And I see your fair tapestry glowing, All spotless with blossoms and fruits

And I know that my walls are disfigured With prints of small fingers and hands; And that your own household most truly In immaculate purity stands.

And I know that my parlor is littered With many old treasures and toys; While your own is in daintiest order, Unharmed by the presence of boys

And I know that my room is invaded Quite boldly at all hours of the day; While you sit in yours unmolested And dream the soft quiet away ! Yes I know there are four little bedsides

While you go out in your carrage, And flash in your dresses so bright, Now, I think, I'm a neat little woman : I like my house orderly, too; And I'm fond of all dainty belongings;

Where I must stand watchful each night,

Yet I would not change places with you No! keep your fair home, with its order, Its freedom from bother and noise And keep your own fanciful leisure, But give me my four splendid boys.

STOP AND WEIGH.

One morning, an enraged countryman came into Mr. M.'s store with very angry looks. He left a team in the street, and had a good stick in his hand.

"Mr. M." said the angry countryman, "I bought a paper of nutmegs here in your store, and when I got home they were more than half walnuts; and that's the young villain that I bought 'em of, pointing to John.

"John," said Mr. M., "did you sell this man walnuts for nutmegs?" "No, sir," was the ready reply.

"You lie, you young villain!" said the countryman, still more en-

"Now, look here," said John. "If you had taken the trouble to weigh your nutmegs you would have found that I put in the wal. nuts gratis."

"Oh, you gave them me, did "Yes, sir, I threw in a handful for

the children to crack," said John, laughing at the same time. "Well, now, if you ain't a young scamp," said the countryman, his features relaxing into a grin as he

saw through the matter. Much hard talk and bad blood would be saved if people would stop others.

"ROCK OF AGES."

In the pleasant county of Devon. and in one of its sequestered passes, mused and sang Augustus Toplady. of his brilliant and active mind.

in his words there was such sim- and strength.

"Say, teacher, do you love us when we are naughty?"

I replied that I certainly did, and went on to ell how Christ, although grievel by the naughtiness of little children, loved them still, and wanted to indicate, loved them still, and wanted to indicate the origin early thought I was impressed him for once, for his great eyes were fixed intently on my face, and he spokesman carefully on my face, and the spokesman carefully on the spokesman carefully on my face, and the spokesman carefully on my face, and the spokesman carefully on the spokesman carefully

pocket-and I was just thinking ed to his comrades: "Jist look a Toplady seemed to lie in the very what a nice lesson he was learning, there the child's dreaming!" So vestibule of glory. To a friend's when all at once I heard an ominous she was. A big tear had rolled out enquiry he answered, with sparklhe suddenly jerked a little tin box | was covered with a smile. The men | tell the comforts I feel in my soul; O Lord and Master of us all, from his pocket, asking with a ju- tiptoed out, and the clerk walked they are past expression. The conover and touched the sleeping child. | solutions of God-are so abundant She awoke with a laugh, and cried that he leaves me nothing to pray out: "What a beautiful dream! for. My prayers are all converted Oh dear! it was discouraging to Ma wasn't sick any more, and we into praise. I enjoy a heaven alsee the whole seven of them all at had lots to eat and to wear, and my ready in my soul." And within an once scrambling and pulling to see | hand burns yet where an angel touch- | hour of dying he called his friends the contents of the little tin box. ed it !" When she discovered that and asked if they could give him Of course my stern protest caused her nickel had been replaced by a up; and when they said they could, its speedy disappearance, and after bill, a dollar of which loaded her tears of joy ran down his cheeks as the school was ended, I talked long down with all she could carry, she he added, "O what a blessing that and kindly with the child who so innocently said: "Well, now, but you are made willing to give meover into the hands of my dear Redeemer, can live after the glories which God has manifested to my soul!" And thus died the writer of the beautiful hymn, "Rock of Ages cleft for me."

THE HOURS OF FATE.

The room in which the enfeebled ing to bed has been warmed probably up to summer heat; a light light for more than an hour or two. The result is that in the early part of the morning, from three to four should warm the room has ceased. and the room is cold to an extreme in the air around him. Slowly and be fairly covered with bedclothes, he is receiving into his lungs this cold air by which the circulation through the lungs is materially mocal, and forewarn anxious friends in a city.' respect to them. From time immemorial those who have been accustomed to wait and attend on the sick have noted these hours most anx-

RESERVED POWER.

It is not wise to work constantly up to the highest rate of which we are capable. If the engineer of the railroad wereto keep the speed of his train up to the highest rate be could attain with his engine, it would soon be used up. If a horse is driven at of time, he is ruined. It is well "Think twice before you speak enough to try the power occasiononce" is an excellent motto.—Chris- ally of a horse or an engine, by putting on all the motion they will bear, but not continuously. All machinists construct their machines so that there shall be a reserve force. If the power required is four horse, serve his country, and how he then they make a six-horse power. with a few cottages sprinkled in it, In this case it works easily and lasts long. A man who has strength When a lad of sixteen, and on a enough to do twelve honest hours of visit to Ireland, he had strolled into labour in twenty-four, and no more, a barn where an illiterate layman should do but nine or ten hours' was preaching, but preaching recon- work. The reserve power keeps the ciliation to God through the death body in repair. It rounds out the of His Son. The homely sermon frame to full proportions. It keeps took effect, and from that moment the mind cheerful, hopeful, happy. the Gospel wielded all the powers | The person with no reserve force, is always incapable of taking on any Toplady became very learned, more responsibility than he already and at thir y-eight he died, more has. A little exertion puts him out widely read in the fathers and re- of breath. He cannot increase his formers than most dignitaries can work for an hour without danger boast when their heads are hoary, of an explosion. Such are general-His chief works are controversial, ly pale, dyspeptie, bloodless, nerand, in some respects, bear the im- vous, irritable, despondent, gloomy. press of his ever ardent spirit. In We all pity them. The great source the pulpit's milder agency nothing of power in the individual is the flowed but balm. In his tones there | blood. It runs the machinery of was a commanding solemnity, and life, and upon it depends our health

A mill on a stream where water is scanty, can be worked but a por-Both at Bread Henbury, and tion of the time. So a man with afterwards in London, the happiest little good blood can do but little ones, too; but here I was interrupt- her nickel in her hand. One of the results attended his ministry. Many work. The reserve power must be ed by the little Wilson boy, who men saw her as he came to the bar, sinners were converted; and the stored up in this fluid. It is an old and after asking who she was, said: doctrines which God blessed to the saying among stock-raisers, that

the pond. Such a course would bankruptcy.—Herald of Health.

"ONE LORD."

Whate er our name or sign, We own thy sway; we hear thy call, We test our lives by thine.

We faintly hear, we dimly see, In different phrase we pray : But dim or clear we own in thee The light, the truth, the way!

Apart from thee all gain is loss, And labor vainly done; The solemn shadow of thy cross Is better than the sun

Alone, O Love ineffable ! Thy saving name is given : To turn aside from thee is hell, To walk with thee is heaven.

THE CITY AND COUNTRY

The Rev. Robert Collyer made the remark on one occasion that during his twenty years' residence in Chicago he had not known of a single man who had come prominently to the front in any pursuit person has been sitting before go- who was born and bred in a large city. All the leading men in every calling-judges, lawyers, clergymeal has been taken before retiring men, editors, merchants, and so on, to rest, and then the bedroom is had been reared in the country, entered. The bedroom perchance away from the follies, the vices, and has no fire in it, or if a fire is light. the enervating influences that are ed provision is not made to keep it known to exist in all large towns, The New York Times takes up the

same subject, and says: "Fashion reduces all young men o'clock, when the temperature of and women to the same dull and the air in all parts is lowest, the uninteresting level. New York is glow from fire or stove, which an old city. It has produced generations of men. How few of them have ever made their mark here or degree. In country houses the wa- elsewhere? It cannot be said that ter will often be found frozen in they go into other parts of the the handbasins or ewers under country and there develop the these conditions. Meanwhile the higher forms of manhood. They sleeper lies unconscious of the are never heard of except in the aggreat change which is taking place gregate, concrete form of our 'fellow-citizens.' How much of a man surely there is a decline of tempe- is due to qualities torn in him, and rature to the extent, it may be, of how much to his early environment thirty or forty degrees on the Fah- no philosopher has been able to tell renheit scale, and though he may us; but it is impossible to conceive of a sagacious intellect like that of Lincoln, or a glorious mind like Webster's emerging from the false glitter and noisy commotion of the dified. The condition of the body it- city. We think of Washington, self is at this time very unfavorable the patrician sage, pacing among for meeting an emergency In the the stately oaks of old Virginia, of period between midnight and six Jefferson in his country seat, and o'clock in the morning, the animal of John Adams tilling his farm in on the lawn. They all wore white vital processes are at their lowest Massachusetts. These men, it is dresses, pink and blue sashes, and ebb. It is in these times that those true, flourished in a time when there pretty slippers. When they were who are enfeebled from any cause were no big cities in the United tired of playing games, Mary's most frequently die. Physicians States. Not one American Presi- mother called them to a table which often consider these hours as criti- dent, from first to last, was born in was spread under some shady trees.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT.

The distinguished and truly noble career of Admiral Farragut is well known to our readers, and any little girl looking through the gate good lesson from the history of his sof the yard. Her dress was old and life can hardly fait to be both interesting and profitable, especially feet. Mary had a kind heart and to the young men of our land. One of these lessons is particularly worthy of record and remembrance.

The summer after the late war was over, the admiral was spending the season with his family at Long Branch, in New Jersey. Sitting one morning on the portice of the hotel where he was staying, he was asked by a friend how it was that he had been able so successfully to had been led on, step by step, to his well-known position in the navy,

and before the world. "It was all owing," he replied, "to a resolution I formed when I was ten years of age. My father had been sent down to New Orleans, with the little navy we then had, to look after matters connected with was time for them to go home, the the supposed treason of Aaron Burr, little girls kissed Mary good by, I went with him as his cabin-boy. I had some qualities that I was then better party. When they were all silly enough to think were making a man of me. I could swear like an old salt, could drink as stiff a glass of grog as if I had doubled Cape Horn, and could smoke like a locomotive. I was great at cards, and fond of gambling in almost every shape. My father, who had long watched my course of conduct, at the close of dinner one day turned everybody out of the cabin, locked This has been such a happy day, the door, and ther. said to me,

have done."

"Follow the sea! Yes, be a poor, miserable, dranken sailor be-

the quarter deck who had such principles as you have, and such habita as you have formed and are form. ing. You'll have to change your whole course of life if you ever ex. pect to become a man.

"Saying this, my father left me and went on deck. I was stunned by the robuke and overwhelmed with mortification. A poor, mis. erable, drunken sailor before the mast, kicked and curied about the world, and te die at last in some fever hospital! That is my fate, is it? No! I'll change my life, and change it at once. I will never utter another oath, I will never drink another drop of intoxicating liquors. I will never gamble again.' And as God is my witness and help, I have kept those three vows to this hour. This decision led me to reflection; and shortly after I became a Christian, and that settled my temporal, and, blessed be God, it has settled my eternal destiny.

What a lesson to everyone, and especially to every young man in the land! How strikingly does it show the connection between early habits and subsequent character: and that to cease to do evil is the first step toward doing well; and that thoughtfulness may not only lead one to forsake evil courses and habits, but may be the means, as blessed by God, of leading to a faithful Christian life. How many a young man, who by false views of what is manly, and by allowing himself in evil indulgences, is now making shipwreck of character and of all that is honorable and successful in life, if he would butston and think of the tendency of his course, might be saved to himself and to his friends and his country.as Farragut was, and like him might become the exemplary and faithful Christian, an honor to himself, and a blessing to others.

"He that is faithful in that which is least, is faithful also in much." He that despiseth small things, shall fall by little and little." "He that is wise, is wise for himself; he that scorneth, he himself shall bear it,"-shall bear it alone and bear it for ever .- Am. Messenger.

MARYS HAPPY DAY.

Little Mary had a birthday party when she was eight years old. Ten little girls came to play with her There was plenty of cakes, candy, and fruit upon the table; but what pleased the children most was an old hen made of chocolate ice-cream. About her were a dozen little chickens made of pink, white and brown ice-cream. Each little girl was given a little chicken to eat. While they were at the table Mary saw a torn, and she had no shoes on her she felt sorry for the little girl. She ran down to the gate, and asked her if she would like to come to the party. The little girl, whose name was Fannie, said she did not know what a party was. Then Mary took her by the hand and led her to the table, and gave her one of the little ice cream chickens and told her to eat it.

'It must be cooked first,' said Fannie; 'I can't eat a little, raw chicken.' All the little girls laughed. They thought it very strange that Fannie had never eaten icecream. But they were very kind to her. They asked her to join in their games, and Fannie was 80 sweet-tempered and full of fun, that they were all glad that Mary had brought her to the party. When it and said they had never been to a gone Mary's mother brought out some nice, neat clothes of Mary's and dressed Fannie in them. She put shoes and stockings on the little girl's feet and a neat straw hat on her head. Then Mary gave her a doll and some other toys, and Fannie went away laughing with joy. That night when Mary lay down in bed, she said to her mother, mamma; I have telt glad in my "David, what do you mean to heart. That is because you have tried to make others happy,' said "I mean to follow the sea, as you her mother. 'Remember always, that in order to be happy ourselves we must try to make others so.'-Our Little Ones.

DEATI

This s telling u ple said most no teacher t en from workings Herod ha Our note most en quaint ar " Verse and inten Its sensat

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OVER-WOR

azine.

One way in worked by th ignorance freq foolish clothiu less in bondag is radically wr a hindrance ev vised to suit t body would be and taken care woman freer and comfort ab and would be rather than, as strength. But not be made by awaits the deve ion. But cann here, and say o that woman's d convenient, and we wish for sou of us can put le our trimmings, wear a trained s the floor. We i warm clothing, pon our should the bips. Vario are supposed t labor, by much by much climbin suit of one's d may be aggravat ter they have bee have serious de Weak nesses are of to the causes at