Begging thee to hold the light!

Look! upon thy right a brother Wanders blindly from the way And upon thy left a sister, Frail and erring, turns astrav One kind word, perchance, might save them-Guide their wayward steps aright; Canst thou, then, withhold thy counsel? No, but fly and hold the light!

Hark ! a feeble wail of sorrow Bursts from the advancing throng; And a little child is groping Through the darkness, deep and long, 'Tis a timid orphan, shivering 'Neath misfortune's withering blight ;

Friends, home, love are all denied her Oh! in pity hold the light.

Not alone from heathen darkness; Where the pagan bows the knee, Worshipping his brazen image With a blind idolatry-

Where no blessed gospel teachings E'er illume the soul's dark night. Comes the cry to fellow mortals. Wild and pleading, "Hold the light!"

Here as well, in life's broad highway, Are benighted wanderers found; And if all the strong would heed them, Lights would glimmer all around. Acts of love and deeds of kindness Then would make earth's pathway bright, And there'd be no need of calling,

TIME ENOUGH.

"Ho! thou traveller, hold the light!"

"Fred, you must clean your boots before you go to school," said Mrs. Lawrence to her

"I know it, mother, but it's time enough, said Fred, who sat reading a story book. Presently the lady spoke again.

"Fred, have you looked over your grammar lesson this morning? It is too difficult to learn in a hurry." Well, I almost learnt it last night; it's

time enough; I want to finish this chapter," answered Fred. "Oh, my son!" said Mrs. Lawrence, "I wish you would overcome that habit of putting off

necessary duties." Fred closed the story-book reluctantly, and took his grammar, wishing that his mother would not bother him so; he knew he had

time enough. Presently Mrs. Lawrence left the room, feeling very much troubled about Fred's bad habit, and wishing that he could be induced to break it off before he became a man. Knowing that God only could give him strength and a disposition to do so, she went to her own room, and, kneeling down, prayed to this

That day a gentleman visited the school, and after listening with apparent pleasure to various exercises by the scholars, the principal requested him to talk to the boysa little while. He did so, and interested them very much by relating some anecdotes of his own school-life. blessing, of curing Fred's habit. It seemed to Fred that the gentleman must have known what his bad habit was, or he could not have said anything so suited to his case. The gentleman said that one day he was stopped on the street by a very shabby-looking man, who, after calling him by name, and asking him if he did not remember Harry Brown, begged him to lend him some money.

"I remember Harry Brown very well," replied the gentleman. "Can it be possible you are he, wishing to borrow five dollars?" "Yes, I am," answered the man, in a despair-

ing sorrowful tone. "What has brought you to this condition? Your prospects on leaving school were as bright as mine?"

' Time enough has brought me here," replied he. "I was always putting off necessary business by saying that. Now I am old, the habit is fixed, and I cannot break myself of it. If you do not lend me five dollars, I shall have to go to the poor-house, or starve.'

"Boys," continued the gentleman, "time enough ruined that man's life. Take care that it does not ruin yours."

A LETTER ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

FROM AN UNCLE TO HIS NIECE.

My Dear Niece,-I am giad to find you are getting on so nicely in learning the accomplishments. Writing is one of them, and considering your age, I think you have got on pretty well in that. There are, however, many more for you to learn, if the Lord spare your life. I will name a few of them.

To clean a house well, every room of it, looking particularly into the corners, to see that all the dust is thoroughly removed from

2. To never let any dirty water remain in the pan, bowl, or basin, after having washed in it, but immediately throw it out. To always have a dry towel to wipe hands

it, and that it be not like a dish cloth. 4. To rout the ashes all out from the grate

keep the bottom of the grate clear of ashes a 19 irons. Elbow-grease is a fine article for cleaning such things, better than all the vain wishand he fell forward, bruised and bleeding. ing and talking in the world. 5 To keep the windows cleaned. Elbow-

grease is a capital thing for cleaning windows: the only greate that will do it. 6. To mop up all slops as soon as made.

. Never pall the cat's tail, but always be kind to poor pussy:

8. Never loave any bits of meat, etc., on the

plate at meals, if possible 9 To have a search occasionally after a small troublesome creature which is apt to lurk about the bed; your dear mother will tell you about it, if you ask her

10. Never allow holes to remain in your stockings or dress, but remember the old saying: "A stitch in time saves nine."

11. Never put clean water into a dirty glass

well cleaned, especially about the handles, and between the prongs.

13. Never be afraid of working till the hands

14. Never make a flower border of your head, but wear a becoming bonnet on it; some people judge of what is in the head by what

they see on it. 15. Never look behind you when you pass 16. To read the Bible, refrain from telling

lies, think much, talk little. 17. Not to make an idol of your little brother.

18. To rub your shoes well on the mat in wet weather, before you go into the hous.

19. Never be seen in bad company-if you can avoid it 20. To think on all these accomplishments

and seeAhat they are all carried out. Please give my love to your dear parents, to your dear sister Mary ; and with love to your-

I remain, my dear niese Your affectionate uncle,

"WHY AM I NOT A CHRISTIAN?"

1. Is it because I am afraid of ridicule, and of what others may say of me? "Whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of Man be

2. Is it because of the inconsistencies of professing Christians ? "Every man shall give an account of himself,

3. Is it because I am not willing to give up all to Christ ? "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain

the whole world, and lose his own soul? 4. Is it because I am afraid that I shall not be accepted? "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise

cast out." 5. Is it because I fear I am too great a sinner?

"The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all 6. Is it because I am afraid I will not "hold

to it?" "He that hath begun a good work in you shall perform it, unto the day of Christ Jesus." 7. Is it because I am thinking that I will do

as well as I can, and that God ought to be satisfied with that? "Whosoever shall keep she whole law, and only offend in one point, he is guilty of all."

8. Is it because I am postponing the matter,

without any definite reason? "Boast not thyself of to-morrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."-

In the August number of the Catholic World, is a translation, from Le Correspondant, of ancdotal memoirs of the Emperor Nicholas, of Russia, by a former page. We republish two anecdotes illustrating the capricious character of the Emperor, which led to the decision of important questions in obedience to a momentary impulse :-

IMPERIAL CAPRICE.

"To a desperate caprice is due the con-struction of the railroad f om St. Petersburg to Moscow, called the Nicholas Railroad. The Emperor hadin his cout a certain General ers, and have fully as good light as I had with suffering humanis Kleinmichel-a disagreeable person, exceedingly unpopular, and of equivocal fidelity, but recommend it to all who wish to econ who pleased by his reticence and promptness using gas, believing it will do fully as much as in executing orders. When the road was you promise .-- Very truly yours, decided upon by a council of ministers, and its erection condsiered u gent, a map of Russia was brought to the Czar, who was asked to One of these incidents was the means, by God's look over the course designated by the different engineers and give his preference. Nicholas, without saying a word, took the map, marked a straight line from Moscow to St. Petersburg, and , aid to the stupefied engineers

"This is the line of the railroad. "But, they all cried, 'impossible. Your Majesty will find no one to undertake such a ing less than 2000 feet per night, running wo k. It would be to hide treasures in a desert.'

" No one undertakes it when I command it to be done? said Nicholas we shall see. "And signalling Kleinmichel from a corner: Kleinmichel, 'you see this line ?'

" Yes, sire. " This a new railroad I propose constructing in my empire.

" 'Sire, it is magnificent.' " You think so? Will you charge yourself, then, with the execution of my orders? "With the greatest pleasure, sire, if your Majesty order it. But the funds, the funds?"

Don't be troubled about them. Ask for all the money you want.' And turning to the engineers:

" You see, said Nicholas to them, 'I can get alone without you. I will build my own

" And the construction of this road lasted ten years. It did not deviate an inch from the line marked out by the imperial finger and leaving on one side, at about a distance of ten leagues, the villages of Novgorod, Twer, and a host of others equally rich and important it traversed, in the midst of mashes and woods. nothing but immense solitudes."

"His jealous instincts, and implacable firmness in punishment, were not solely due to the character of the Emperor Nicholas, but also to the sad experiences which signalized the commencement of his reign. Conspiracies against the new Czar, revolts occasioned by the appearance of cholers, indeed all sorts of disorders, Nicholas had to suppress on his

Mouravieff Apostol, and the poet Relieff, were condemned to be nung. The Emperor signed and face with, taking care that grease is not on | the decree after the Russian formula : Byt pe siemau. (So be it.) They were then conducted to the place of execution. Relieff, a poet of the before lighting the fire in the morning, and high sterler, was the first one to be led to the 'scaffold. Just at the moment when the execuday; also to use plenty of elbow grease about the fire-place kaily, as well as about the fire- head, had raised him on his shoulders to launch They know not how to do anything in

Russia, said he, raising himself without even turning pale, 'not even to twist a rope. "As accidents of this kind, besides being very rare, were always considered occasians of

pardon, they sent there ore to the Winter Palace to know the will of the Emperor. "Ah! the cord has broken,' said Nic! olas.

" 'Yes, sire. "Then he was almost dead? What impresion has such close contact with eternity produced on the mind of the rebel?

He is a brave man, sire, The Czar frowned. "What did he say? he asked severely.
"Sire,' he said, 'They know not how even

o twist a rope in Russia.' or cup.

12. To always keep the knives and forks him the contrary. And he went out. "Well, replied Nicholas, let them prove to

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MONTREAL, 4th September, 1867. SIR,-- I take pleasure in certifying that I have one of Woodward's Patent Carbonizers in use in my house for some time, and am perfectly satisfied that it is a valuable improvement I believe that I am saving a large amount of gas, as I am using one-foot burners instead of three feet, which I used without the carbonizer, and the light is fully satisfactory. To R Alsop, Esq. A. J. Phu,
345 Notre Dame Street.

MONTREAL, 9th Sept., 1867. DEAR SIR, --- I have much pleasure in adding my testimony to the usefulness of Woodward's Carbonizer, both as regards increased illuminating power and also diminished consumption Having now had one on my premises for some time, which is working with undiminished vigour, I very confidently recommend it as being able to do all you promised for it.

I am, &c., D H. FERGUSON, 100 McGill Street. To R. Alsop, Esq.

MONTREAL, 9th Sept., 1867. DEAR SIR, --- In answer to your enquiry, it gives me much pleasure to say that Woodward's Patent Carbonizer, which you placed in my billiard-room in Victoria Square, has so far given entire satisfaction. I have no doubt of its econ.my, as I am now using two feet burnfour feet burners without it. I confidently

HENRY MCVITTIE. MONTREAL, 5th Nov., 1867. DEAR SIR,—In answer to your enquiry, we would say that your Carbonizer, placed in our billiard-room on Great St. James Street on the 4th September, has given us entire satisfaction. Before we had it introduced we were burning about 1200 feet of gas p r night, with 50 burners, running about 5 hours. We are now burnabout 64 hours, with 62 burners, and fully as much light. We therefore confidently recommend it to all who wish to economise in burn-

Jos. Dion & Bro. To Mr. Robt. Alsop. The Subscriber begs leave to call the attention of all who are using gas to the above real-

ing gas .--- Very truly yours,

ly valuable improvement. Do not suffer yourselves to be influenced by the prejudice produced by the numerous socalled improvements which have been offered within the last few years; but see and judge for yourselves.

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