

mother came to the door in terror, and scolded Janet somewhat sharply for her neglect.

And so it came to pass that Janet, very much aggrieved, sat looking wistfully at the white house that glimmered cool and quiet under its big trees, and fancied it a Palace of Delight.

In the shaded corner of the low white porch of the great house this very afternoon, there sat a fair and graceful lady in a wicker chair.

If little Janet's eyes had not been full of tears she might have seen the flutter of her tinted muslin dress, have seen, too, the little carriage in front of the door, from which a gentleman alighted, and seated himself by the waiting lady.

But could she have guessed that they were speaking of the hopeless disease that was tearing her frame with horrible pain, which the kind doctor could only soothe in part? Could she guess at the words so sadly spoken by the pretty lady "over yonder?"

Pointing with her slender hand down to the little red cottage that glimmered like a great red rose beyond the grain-fields and green meadows, she said softly:

"Do you see that tiny red house yonder, doctor? There are hosts of merry little children there. At night the father comes home so quick of step I am sure he is happy. Through my field-glass I love to watch them. It cheers my loneliness and pain to know there is so much happiness there. A little maiden in a blue frock is the biggest, and a jolly baby like a great snowball is the smallest of the happy family.

"I remember that my Nellie would have been as large as the girl with bright hair who sits in the doorway, wouldn't she?"

And there was another gasp of painful breath, and a tightening of the slender hands together.

So this was the happy mansion little Janet watched so wistfully. Maybe she will never know its real sorrow, while the lovely lady, looking downward fancies happiness is surely in the ruddy cottage with its troops of children, and God alone knows the secret of all hearts in hall or cottage.—*Christian Weekly*.

PARENTAL AUTHORITY.

It ought never to be left to the choice of a child whether he will go to school or not, or how many years he shall spend in school. The whole question of education should be settled by the parent, and he is under obligation to his child to make his education as thorough and as general as his means will allow. Anything less than this is an injury inflicted upon his own child, for which God will hold him responsible.

Neither should it be left to the choice of the child whether he will attend Sunday-school or church, or where he shall sit when in the house of God. The parent is under solemn obligation to provide for the highest spiritual welfare of his child. To this end he should, from the earliest years of his child, enjoin upon him, *first*, reverence for himself and his will, and *secondly*, reverence for God and His holy religion. If the former is neglected, the latter will be impossible. A pious training on his knee, and by the knee of the mother, will be readily followed by an earnest desire to attend Sunday-school just as soon as the child's age will permit. If, from the Sunday-school, the mother takes her child into the church, and teaches it to take its seat by her side reverently, and perseveres in the exercise of such authority, the boy or girl of seventeen or twenty will always be found in Sunday-school, and in the family pew.—*The Methodist Recorder*.

ANYBODY GOOD ENOUGH.

For what? Why for a class of very little children to be sure. For the more advanced classes, we want the highest order of ability; but for the little toddlers, it does not make much matter who shall be entrusted with the care of them. In other words, when the nature is yet most tenderly susceptible, anybody may handle it, impress it, give it shape and fashion; when it has become comparatively solidified, then you must begin to be more careful. For incipient consumption, any quack will answer; for confirmed consumption call in the very best physician. For laying the foundation of a house or the keel of a ship, any tyro will do; but for the superstructure and