

IN MISCHIEF.

(See 1st page.)



HIS little lassie has a somewhat guilty look, as if she felt she was doing something that was not exactly right. Bless her little heart! Let us hope it is not a valuable book she is tearing. We think, however, that any mamma would forgive a little girl who locks up in such a wistful, appealing way as this one. Blessings on the man who invented the untearable linen books with bright pictures, which so gladden the hours of the little folks, and make learning to read a perpetual delight instead of a tearful task. Children should learn, however, to take care of books, papers, their clothes, and every thing they have. We hope the readers of the S. S. GUARDIAN will preserve it, as the numbers for a year will make a beautiful book.

A CHILD'S THOUGHTS.

WHEN silent sinks the sun in the west,
And Nature's children go to rest,
Each beast and bird into its nest;—
I sit and watch the rising moon,
And with the shining stars commune.

Why are the countless stars so bright?
What makes the moon so silvery white—
Lighting up the darksome night?
I ask the air—the trees—the sod;
They answer low,—“ALMIGHTY GOD!”

He made the deep, deep sea—the land—
The glorious sun that shines so grand!
All—all made He, with mighty hand.
Thus saith the soil, the air, the trees,
The brook, and softly-blowing breeze.

Thou art the everlasting King,
Who madest me and everything:
And unto Thee my soul doth sing
Praises, jubilant and high,
Of love and peace and lasting joy!

c. t.

JAPANESE LETTERS.

WE promised a short time ago to give in the S. S. GUARDIAN extracts from letters written by Japanese converts to our missionaries in that country. Through the kindness of the Rev. Dr. WOOD, Senior Missionary Secretary, we are now enabled to do so. The following letters were written to Mr. and Mrs. Cochran, who left Toronto about six years ago for Japan, by native Christians, who, through God's blessing on their labours, had been brought to a knowledge of the Christian religion. You will observe some little peculiarities of expression, but you must remember that the writers had only very lately learned the English language. Indeed the wonder is that they had so soon learned it so well. The writing in every case is very good. You will observe how exceedingly polite the writers are.

The first is a long and interesting letter by a young convert, who writes from Tokio, March 13th, 1878, to Mrs. Cochran, in Canada. He addresses her as “My dear Mother in Christ,” and signs his name, “Truly your Son in Jesus Christ.” After kind greetings and good wishes he says: “Dear mother, since you left here, I feel that something is wanted. Oh! I and the Church miss you a great deal. We appreciate more and more your work which you had done here for the Church. I remember that you had contributed a great deal to the joyfulness among our Church members, by singing hymns. We felt just as if we were holding happy family meetings.”

He speaks with regret of the removal of the Rev. Mr. Eby to Kofu, but says: “The command to proclaim the glad tidings of salvation to all people of every nation, every province, and every village, is before us. The souls of the people in Kofu are equally precious as ours. I hope and will pray that many souls may be won to Jesus through their instrumentality.”

He speaks of a memorial dinner given on the anniversary of the death of another convert, and says that the next day the mother of the young man who had died was baptized, although she had long been a zealous Buddhist.