

Youth's Department.

THE LITTLE LAD.

The people followed Christ one day
A long way from the town,
Till, tired and faint, He bade them stay
And on the grass sit down;
And then there came a little lad
With loaves and fishes small,
And gave to Jesus what he had,
Enough to feed them all.

For when the Master blessed and brake,
The loaves grew large and fair:
The food was sweet for his dear sake
To those who feasted there.
And as amid the crowd the boy
Beheld his gifts increase,
He had a new and deeper joy
In Christ's own smile of peace.

And when the thousands He had fed
Were going home again,
Twelve baskets full of fish and bread
Were gathered on the plain!
And surely at his mother's side,
That night the tale was told,
How Jesus blessed and multiplied
His gifts a thousandfold.

And still Christ takes the children's store
Of loving gift and deed,
And uses them for evermore
To help the great world's need;
And whoso makes one sad heart glad,
Or speaks one healing word,
Shall gather, like the little lad,
A wonderful reward.

—The Missionary Monthly.

A PUZZLING PAIR.



WONDER how many of the boys and girls who read this paper have ever read a book called "The Puzzling Pair?" It tells of two children, Guy and Berry, who were twins. Their mother was in Heaven, and their father was away from home much of the time. Two old servants took care of them after a fashion, but Guy wondered over many things he heard. Berry was too full of mischief to think as much as her brother did, but wanted to do right, too. Some one told them the great truth that Jesus Christ is coming back again to this earth to take all who are ready to be with Him forever. This boy and girl were trying to get themselves ready for

this great event, you would be both glad and sorry to read of their experiences. Guy thought he must cry over his sins a great deal before he could be ready for Jesus, and Berry thought that she would have to have a clean white dress on, for some one had told her that all would wear white robes up there. The minister was asked to explain these things and so he told the eager little people that their robes were to be made white by Jesus, that He alone could wash their sins away. Another truth he told them was that Jesus was waiting until the heathen had heard of Him, so that they might trust Him instead of asking their gods of wood and stone to save them. Then these little people began to save their money so that the heathen might sooner hear the Gospel of Jesus. Once when they had some money ready to send they wrote a letter addressed to "The heathen, the other side of the sea, the world," and inside, Guy had written:

"My dear Heathen, I hope you are quite well. I send you five shillings to buy some Bibles, and to get some missionaries to come to you. I hope you will get ready for Jesus as quick as you can, because I want Him to come down from Heaven again, and we think He is waiting for you. Berry sends her love, and I send mine. Your loving friend, Guy."

Some time afterwards Guy wrote another letter to the heathen, I will copy part of it for you:—

Our dear Heathen,—This is from Berry and me because Berry is quite ready now for Jesus' coming again, and we want Him to come quick. Have you heard about Him? He wants people who know about Him to go and tell you, but we cannot go yet. He lives in Heaven, and He came down and died to save you and let you go there too when you die. You had better ask Him to forgive your sins and make you good. Don't eat each other up any more, and you had better say prayers to God and burn your idle dolls in the fire. Berry says she thinks you will not be black heathen any more if you get good, for God makes our black hearts white, and He will make you white too. We send our love.

Guy and Berry.