

said. "Jesus said, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me," (Matt. xxv. 40); and I mean to go with them to Mrs. Parkins' dying child, who never sees a strawberry, they are so poor.

Away went the children to give them to the dying child, and when they saw her put out her thin arms to take the ripe round fruit in her little shrivelled fingers, and when they saw her eyes glisten, and her little faded lips smile, they felt as if they had a far richer treat than if they had kept the ripe fruit for themselves: and something within them told them that God had accepted their little offering.

#### Mother Tucks me in.

When the sun calls home the day,  
When the light has almost gone,  
When there is an end of play,  
And the birds to rest have flown,  
Then my bed I climb within,  
And dear mother tucks me in.

Oh, how sweet it is to see  
Mother's face above my head!  
Watch her loving look on me,  
As she makes me snug in bed;  
Ere the shades of night begin,  
Gently thus she tucks me in.

Now I close my eyes to sleep,  
Comfortable, happy too;  
Safely, Lord, my spirit keep,  
Make me loving, gentle, true;  
May my prayers good blessings win  
On mother dear, who tucks me in.

#### God Speaking to Us.

Oliver Cameron—"my big brother Nolly," as little Bess called him—was at home from school for a few days, and the children were delighted at the stories he told them of his school life and studies. One evening, after some lively games, they clustered around Oliver's chair to listen to a story before bed-time.

"Well, what shall it be this time?" said he; "a Bible story?"

The children liked Noll's Bible stories, and so they settled quietly into their places, and with bright-eyed Charlie on one arm of his rocking chair, little Bess on the other, and sober Fred at his feet, he began.

He told them the story of little Samuel, the boy who was given to God by his good mother, and who when a little boy, went to live with Eli, the priest, to wait on him and help him in the work of the temple. He told how one night he was awakened from sleep by the voice of God calling him by name in the darkness, and how Samuel thought at first it was Eli who had called him, and it was not till the fourth time that he knew it was God who was speaking to him, and then how attentively he listened.

As he finished the beautiful story, Fred asked thoughtfully, "Why don't God speak to people now as He did in those days?"

"Do you want Him to speak to you? Would you listen if He should?"

"I guess we would listen and do just what He told us to do; wouldn't we, Charlie?" said little Bess.

"But He does speak to us all very often," said Oliver; "only perhaps we don't know it is He that is speaking."

"Samuel didn't know it was the Lord, at first," said Fred. "But how does he speak to us, Noll?"

"He speaks to us in writing. When we read in the Bible, we can hear Him calling to us, and saying, 'Give Me your heart; Follow Me; Love Me and work for Me.' Then He has appointed His ministers to speak His

## AT HAND

In a dangerous emergency, AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL is prompt to act and sure to cure. A dose taken on the first symptoms of Croup or Bronchitis, checks further progress of these complaints. It softens the phlegm, soothes the inflamed membrane, and induces sleep. As a remedy for colds, coughs, loss of voice, la grippe, pneumonia, and even consumption, in its early stages

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excels all similar preparations. It is endorsed by leading physicians, is agreeable to the taste, does not interfere with digestion, and needs to be taken usually in small doses.

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"For the last 25 years I have been taking Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for lung troubles, and am assured that its use has

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A MARVELLOUS FLESH PRODUCER  
It is indeed, and the little lads and lassies who take cold easily, may be fortified against a cough that might prove serious, by taking Scott's Emulsion after their meals during the winter season.  
Beware of substitutions and imitations.  
SCOTT & BOWNE, Belleville.

words to us, and the Sabbath-school teachers, and in many other ways He talks to us."

"But if we could hear His voice directly, as Samuel did, it would seem more real," said Fred; "or if we could have lived in Jesus' time, and seen and talked with Him."

"He comes to us Himself and speaks to us in another way just as real as if we could see Him. It is by His Spirit, who whispers to us words that nobody else can hear, and we must listen to it and always try to do as God tells us to do."

#### Lenten Collection for Missions.

We hope all our young readers will be interested in helping forward the children's Lenten collection for missions. Do not be ashamed to give because you can give but little. Nobody knows how great things that little may accomplish. A bundle of picture cards given by some children opened a town in China to preaching of the Gospel. The son of a chief in Birdwan, India,

got hold of a Christian tract. He travelled two hundred and fifty miles to find a missionary and his wife, who taught him to read and understand the little book. The young chief was a man of action and influence. When he returned home he carried a basket full of tracts, and preached the Gospel among his people. The result was that, in one year, one thousand five hundred people were baptized into the Christian Church. That little book cost only a few cents, perhaps not more than one, and yet it will go on doing good to all eternity.

We hope, too, that as many of you as are able will attend some, at least, of the week-day services, and will try to take others with you. Most churches have a short evening service held after school hours. Your pastor will be glad to see you at these services, and you will gain nothing but good from them. And do not be troubled if some silly people laugh at you for keeping Lent. You cannot learn too soon to hold your own in all matters where you know yourselves to be in the right. You stand and fall to your own Master, Jesus Christ.

#### The Canary Bird.

Christina begged her mother to buy her a canary-bird. Her mother said, "You shall have one when you become always obedient and industrious, but especially when you give up your curiosity, which prompts you to pry into useless, or even hurtful things."

Christina promised she would. One day she came home from school, when her mother said, "There is a little new box on the table; on no account whatever open it, and do not even once move it. If you obey me, I shall soon give you a great deal of pleasure."

Her mother then went to visit her little sick god-child, William; but scarcely was she out of the door ere the over-curious girl had the box in her hand. "How light it is!" she said; and there are some little holes in the lid! What can there be in it?"

She opened the little box, and, behold! there immediately hopped out a most beautiful yellow canary, and flew chirping merrily about the room. As she was vainly pursuing the brisk little bird about the room, till she was out of breath, and her cheeks glowed, in walked her mother, and said, "You disobedient, curious girl! this beautiful bird I wished to give to you, but I wished first to put you to the proof whether you deserved it. But now I shall give it to good little William, who is more obedient, and not so curious, as you."

## WOOLS AT FIRST HAND

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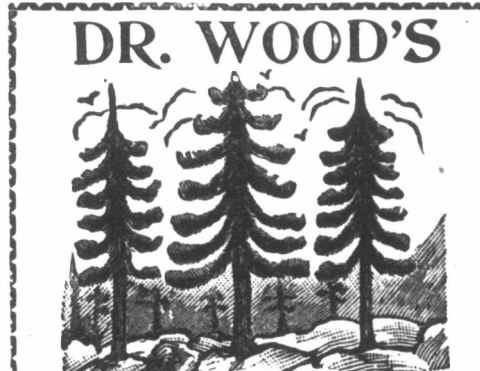
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#### Manners.

Emerson is credited with the following. There is always a best way of doing everything, if it be but to boil an egg. Manners are the happy ways of doing things; each one the stroke of genius or of love—now repeated and hardened into usage. Your manners are always under examination, and by committees little expected—a police in citizen's clothes—but are awarding or denying you very high prizes when you least think of it. Look on this woman. There is not beauty, not brilliant sayings, nor distinguished power to serve you; but all see her gladly; her whole air and impression are healthful. Manners require time, as nothing is more vulgar than haste.

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