

The Family.

In the Barn.

BY ANNA ALDER. We sat in the barn, long eyes, sweet friend, While the amber sunbeams came and went;

Stirred, carelessly round us, the fragrant hay, Filling our hearts with a sweet content.

The swallows flew in through the broken roof, To their moss-lined nests 'neath the rafters old.

The apple-boughs leaned o'er the open door, Casting their pearly blossoms on the floor—

Into the wind-woven straw-sweaths of gold. Sweet thoughts surged up from our peaceful hearts.

Words, sweet with love, as the far-off chiming Of an organ's harp, our fond lips spoke—

And glorious dreams of the future awoke The still, pure air in that summer-time.

Ah! summer days! ye have flitted past! The mist lies dark on the purple hills!

The woods are with rusted and crimson o'er, Through the moaning trees sighs the autumn blast.

Whirling snow leaves in the nut-brown rills. There are swallows no more in the great old barn.

The harvest has hidden the rafters high; And the birding of joy from our souls have fled—

God's baptism of grief lieth on your young head— 'Twill grow sweet, though yet sad, as the years go by.

We sit, hands clasped, where we sat long ago. While the pulses throb, and the wild tears start;

Silent and saddened with hated breath, Knowing that into the garner of Death, The reaper hath gathered the loved of our heart—

—Pittsburgh Advertiser.

Spilled Children.

SCENE IN A BREAKFAST ROOM. "I think," said the lady to her children's governess, "it will be better for Charles and Louise to have their breakfast in the nursery, for I know that our friends from the town like a quiet meal."

"What do you think?" "It will perhaps be the more agreeable plan."

"Well then, my dears, go up stairs and you shall be attended to."

"O ma," cried two young voices at once; "O ma, we must stay in the breakfast room."

"No; I can not allow it. Be good children, and do as I wish."

Charles and his sister, like many young pets under similar circumstances, could easily see the firmity of purpose underneath the manner of a parent who turned her back on the instant, as if she had no further interest in the obedience of her children.

"Now then, dears," said the governess, "come with me into the nursery as your ma wishes you."

"No, no," repeated Louise; "ma will say nothing more about it. She will allow us to stay here, I am sure, when pa comes."

And Charlie twisted his case, and Louise threw herself on the sofa.

Poor governess! Thy difficulties thicken about thee; and the worn expression which, in spite of thy youth, is gathering on thy face, tells of many a vain struggle to keep thy sorry place consistently between fondlers and over-indulged fondlings.

The father came. The mother retired. The guests take their seats, and the young connoisseurs press their way to the table and choose their places without even a reproving look from the easy mother.

"Charles!" says the father, "how dare you come to the table with that case in your hand, sir? Put it down directly or leave the table!"

The head of the case slowly disappeared from above the cloth, but it was still laid firmly beneath; and neither Charles nor his case acknowledged the force of parental will or word.

"Ma, I want some fish," said the boy rudely stretching his hand across a visitor's plate and pointing to a dish of delicacies provided specially for a particular guest.

"No my boy, you must not have any. Please to wait till your friends are served."

"O pa! I do wish to have some fish; I must taste it."

"Charlie, I am ashamed of you. Please to wait, sir."

"No, pa, ma said I should have some!" cried the half-blubbering boy; "please, I should like to taste it."

"And if Charles has any I shall have some too," was Louise's cry.

"Well, be good; that's good children. Charles don't cry, my darling! Come here! Kiss me and be good! Don't be naughty; and if I give you a little fish you must be quiet, and not disturb the table. I am ashamed that you should behave so before our friends. Be good, that's a dear."

Charles had some fish, of course, and so had Louise; and the guests were allowed to feel that they were expected to sacrifice the honors of the most dainty dish to the youngest pets of the house.

Those were spoiled children. Their parents did the wretched work, and will eat the fruit of their doings in the evil time coming.

Enos and his Temptation.

A STORY FOR BOYS. Enos Roff was employed by a grocer in his neighborhood to help him in a store. Enos was glad of the chance to do something for himself, for he was fourteen years old, and his father was unable to keep him any longer at school. So he engaged with Mr. Thorpe, the grocer, at two dollars a week for the first six months, when, if he suited, he was to get three.

Enos was a boy of good principles. His parents were pious and had taken great pains to teach him to be upright, and his Sunday-school teacher also took a deep interest in him. When he commenced his work he was allowed to feel that he had a good opportunity of practicing what he had been taught at home and in school.

He was often left alone, yet he never thought of taking a single thing that he did not belong to him.

But he had yet to learn the great truth that temptation to do wrong does not always come in the way in which we look for it. Had the thought of actually taking money from his employer's drawer entered Enos' mind, he would have said at once and indignantly, "No! I won't!"

But temptation came in another way.

One night, after Enos had shut up the store, and while he was on his way home, he thought of the small sum which he had earned that day. Was there not some way by which he might have easily increased it? As he drew near his home a plan occurred to his mind which seemed honest, and which he determined to try. He did not feel entirely satisfied with it, yet he could not see anything wrong in it. The next morning when he was left alone in the store he put his hand

into the till. The first customer that entered was a woman who wanted a pound of cheese. The price of cheese was twelve cents, but Enos determined to charge fourteen, and while he put twelve cents into the drawer, he put two in his pocket. And he thought that by overcharging each customer a cent or two he could in a short time have some spending money. Poor boy! he did not see the snare that Satan had set for him. So when the woman said, "How much is it?" Enos replied, "Fourteen cents."

"Fourteen cents?" said the woman; "why, I only gave twelve cents here before yesterday. It must have risen in price."

"Yes, it has," answered Enos, while he felt his face burning. But something seemed to say to him, "Well, that's no lie. The price has risen. You raised it yourself." But it was the truth, what made Enos' cheek color, and what made him think it might be a lie?

The woman paid the money and left the store. Enos held the dime and four cents she gave him in his hand until she was gone, when he put the dime and two cents in the drawer and the remaining two cents in his pocket.

But the moment he drew his hand from his pocket and left the money there he was writhed around. He tried to sing, and to whistle, and to read, and to work; but it was of no use.

Through all his whistling, and reading, and working, the voice of conscience was saying to him, "You are a thief. You stole two cents." He tried in various ways to persuade himself that he had not done wrong. But conscience still troubled him, and he found no relief until he returned the two cents to the woman, whom he happened to know.

Enos never tried another experiment like that. He had learned from this to look out for temptations on every side, and to resist them when they came; and he had also learned that only true friends are true, just as his overcharging led him to tell a lie.

Impolite things.

1. Loud and boisterous laughter. 2. Reading when others are talking. 3. Reading aloud in company without being asked.

4. Talking when others are reading. 5. Spitting about the house, smoking or chewing. 6. Cutting finger nails in company.

7. Leaving a chair before public worship is closed. 8. Gazing rudely at strangers.

9. Leaving a stranger without a seat. 10. A want of respect and reverence for seniors.

11. Correcting older persons than yourselves, especially parents. 12. Receiving a present without an expression of gratitude.

13. Laughing yourself the hero of your own story. 14. Laughing at the mistakes of others.

15. Joking about others in company. 17. Commencing talking before others have finished speaking.

18. Answering questions that have been put to others. 19. Commencing to eat as soon as you get to the table; and

20. Not listening to what one is saying in company—unless you desire to show open contempt for the speaker.

21. Last, but not least, in reading letters and private papers that may come in your way, belonging to other parties. An unbearable liberty, which good manners will surely prevent.

The Soldier's Widow.

It was all over. One more heart was broken never more to be bound up on earth. The light had gone from the mother's eyes. One more victim to the cruel hand of rebellion had fallen.

The young widow sat alone with her grief. She had given up her heart's best treasure. Patriotism had triumphed over affection; now affliction was predominant. She had given him up as if many others, so noble, so promising, combining brave and soldierly qualities with the highest culture and refinement. The first days had been full of the music of war; the gay moonlight camp, the music and long walks, the dress parade, the easy life; then they grew more real and earnest. There were weary marches and exposure, yearnings for home; battles, wounds and death.

He had come home in his coffin, pale and ghastly, and she had buried him out of her sight. It was no longer "Why should he be of all others be dead? A sweet childish voice was heard in the next room singing:

"My Jesus, as Thou wilt, Though seen through many a tear, Let not my grief disappear. Grow dim or disappear."

Her tears started fresh. She might live wearily on, but what would her poor fatherless children do? She missed that protecting arm. She was weak and frail, and yet she must guide those young footsteps. Life seemed dreary and dark, but she must live for their sake. As she listened to the voice, she thought of the words it was singing. They seemed meant for her. She was a Christian. But the star of her hope had grown dim in all this great sorrow. She could not see through her blinding tears the glorious face of her loved one here. Oh, but it was there, that blessed face! He who had said, "I will be with you, tenderly—faithfully. Was it not that which led him here? Had she not said another way her love?"

And another wave of sorrow passed over her soul. She thought of her great loss, and the loneliness, the aching heart. If she might go, she could not bear the burden alone. Alas! Where was the widow's God? Had she not just had a glimpse heavenward? "Leave thy fatherless children; I will preserve them alive, and thy widows trust in me." She thought of this verse, and her faith grew stronger as she leaned on the Almighty arm.

There are widowed hearts all through this land. There are hours when all earthly consolation fails, and the bereaved one must bear the burden of gloom and faintness which only one voice could dispel; and that voice is hushed in death. The thought of the bright fatherless faces clustered around the empty chair, and of the new and heavy responsibility which the broken heart must sustain, sends a weary pang to the sufferer, and awakens unutterable longings to fly away and be at rest. God loves and pities these widowed ones; he will be their refuge, and strengthen and cheer them, and give them daily grace and consolation, if they trust him.—Christian Post.

The Question Answered.

Somebody—A woman, of course—inquires why, when Eve was manufactured from a special rib, a servant wasn't made at the same time to wait on her? Somebody else—a woman, we imagine—replies in the following strain:

"Because Adam never came whining to Eve with a 'ragged stocking to be darned, a collar strung to sew on, or a glove to mend.' 'right away, quick now!' Because he never read the newspaper until the sun got down behind the palm trees, and then stretching himself out, yawned out, 'Ain't supper most ready, my dear?'

Not he. He made the fire and hung the kettle over it himself, well venturing; and did everything else he ought to. He milked the cows, fed the chickens, and looked after the pigs. He was next day to have a half a dozen friends to dinner, and the mango season was over. He never stayed out till 11 o'clock to wait meeting, hurrying for an outfit and candidate, and then scolded because poor Eve was sitting up and crying inside the gates. He never played billiards, and rolled ten-pins, and drove fast horses, nor chucked Eve with a cigar. He never loafed round corner grocers while Eve was rocking little Cain's cradle at home. In short he didn't think she was especially created for the purpose of waiting on him, and wasn't under the impression that it disgraced a man to lighten a wife's care a little. That's the reason that Eve did not need a hired girl!"

Agriculture.

Hints on Gathering Fruit. The following useful hints are from the Gardener's Weekly Magazine.

"Most people are disposed to gather the autumn fruits too soon. They beat the trees cracking in the wind, and they find the ground strewn with windfalls; for these premises they jump to the conclusion that the fruit ought to be gathered. But a certain percentage of a crop may fall, from various causes, before the crop is ripe. The diseased portion will lose its hold, or the wind may dislodge what is sound, long before the portion which remains firm is fit to gather. A rule is generally adopted by gardeners, that the pips of apples or pears are turning brown, the crop may be taken; but we should rather say that a decidedly dark and settled hue of the seed is more certain. As to the objection that waiting late into the autumn causes a loss of the fruit by falling, it has little weight; because it is by this process that the weaker and less sound fruit is got rid of, while the best remains. Taking the crop too early will not only injure the good fruit, by causing it to shrivel, but will also render frequent removals necessary, in order to separate from the stock the rotten ones, which would of themselves have fallen from the tree if more time had been given. A most important matter is gathering the fruit without bruising it in the slightest degree. Apples and pears bought in the market are generally much spoiled, by which their beauty is spoiled; and most of this is occasioned by fruits received both in gathering and in rolling the fruit from one basket to another. This can scarcely be avoided when orcharding is carried on largely, but many of our gardeners cannot wait long to such attention to gathering their fruit. The trees should be pruned, and what does fall should be placed separately. A coat, with deep side-pockets, is better than a basket hung to the ladder; and such receptacles, being quiet under command, may be made to hold a good deal. The kind of weather during the gathering is of importance; it is a matter of importance that the trees should be thoroughly dry, and a windy day chosen if possible."

Gathering Potatoes.

There is a time which is the fittest and best in which to perform any kind of work where the elements and seasons have anything to do with it. Gathering potatoes is one of that kind. When should this be done? Manifestly as soon as they are ripe, and ordinarily this will be about four months and a half from the time the seed is covered in the ground. After the potato is ripe, there is no reason why it should remain in the ground; and certainly, since it does not increase in the ground, it is better to gather it, the sooner it is harvested the less danger will arise from heavy rains; and while the soil is dry, the more easy it can be taken from the earth. But there is an important consideration connected with this. The earlier the potato is dug, the better opportunity there is to cover the soil, and the more the soil is covered since the last digging. In digging care should be taken to destroy all the weeds; and in doing this an eye should be had for the next season. The potato tops and all weeds should be buried as you pass along in digging. Dig a hill of potatoes leaving the hill open to receive the top weeds; and then turn the hill from the east to the west, so that the tops and weeds thus deposited. In this way you destroy at least one half of the seeds of weeds before they mature, and are adding to your ground a valuable manure for the coming season. And when your lot is dug over in this way it looks clean and farm-like, and you have done a good service to the lot as one good ploughing would be, and better. This mode of harvesting would suggest the earliest practicable planing of the potato, that its harvesting may be made earlier. And the earlier it is harvested, we feel satisfied the better for the health and cleanliness of the soil, and the more profit to the farmer.—Granite State Farmer.

Cream in Cold Weather.

For some reason not yet known, cream skimmed from milk in cold weather does not come so butter, when churned, so quickly as that from the same cow in warm weather. Perhaps the pelicles, which form the little skeins of butter in the cream, are thicker and tougher.

There are two methods of obviating this trouble on the one or the other. One is, to set the pan of milk on the stove, or over a fire, as soon as strained, and let it remain until quite warm—say until a bubble or two rises, or until a skin of cream begins to form on the surface. Another mode is to add a teaspoonful of salt to a quart of cream when it is skimmed. Cream thus prepared will generally come to butter in a few minutes when churned. It is thought the salt acts upon the coating of the butter globules and makes them tender, so that they break rapidly when beaten by churning.

How to make Breachy Cattle.

We are too apt to undervalue the intelligence of the domestic animals under our charge, and at a moment's reflection should teach every farmer that cows, horses, sheep, and pigs, are very apt pupils; and most farmers or farmers' boys are quite proficient in teaching them to do mischief. Thus we find many persons, when turning stock into or out of pasture, instead of letting down the bars, leave two or three of the lower rails in their places; and then, by shouting or beating, perhaps, force the animals to leap which are seen in the after-disposition of animals to try their powers of jumping where a top rail happens to be off, and this accomplished, to set all fences at defiance, and make a descent upon the corn or grain fields, as their inclination, the corn, or hanger may prompt them. Another good lesson is to open the gate but a little way, and then, as in the case of the bars, force the cattle forward, and by threats and blows compel them to pass through. The result of this teaching is shown in the determined spirit manifested by some cattle to make a forcible entry into the stable, yard, and fields.

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Have received per Pacific, Boston, steamers Arabia, and Europa, a portion of their

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Nova Scotia Railway, HALIFAX, N. S., Oct. 12, 1863.

TENDERS will be received at this Office till Tuesday, the 10th day of November next, at 12 o'clock, noon, for framing and putting up

6 Miles New Fence From near St. Croix Bridge to Still Water. The whole to be finished on or before the 1st day of May next.

Plans and Specification of work to be seen at this Office.

Tenders to state price per Rod. Tenders will be received for One Mile and upwards.

Two good Sureties will be required for the performance of the Contract and payment will be made on Certificate of the Road Inspector.

JAS. McDONALD, Commissioner. Oct. 21 22.

Nova Scotia Railway, HALIFAX, N. S., Oct. 14, 1863.

SEPARATE TENDERS will be received at this Office till the 10th day of November next, at 12 o'clock, noon, for

LUMBER. of the following description and quantities, viz:—

120 pieces Oak, 8 feet long, 8 inches by 4 inches 80 do do 9 12 do 4 do 80 do do 10 12 do 4 do 20 do Oak Scantling, 6 do do 4 do 400 feet Board-measure Oak, 12 and 17 feet long, 8 inches by 2 1/2 inches

4000 feet Board-measure Oak Plank, 2 inches thick, 12 do do do 1 do 100 do do do do do 12 Pieces Oak, 8 feet long, 8 inches by 7 inches 8 do do 10 do 11 do 7 do 24 do do 10 do 14 do 4 do 12 do do 12 do 7 do 4 1/2 in. All the above to be square edged, to be of the very best quality, and perfectly free from knots, rot or shakes of any kind.

1000 Poplar No. 1 BRACK LOCKS Patterns to be seen at 200 Poplar No. 2 do do 140 do No. 3 do do 300 Oak No. 1 BRACK BARS Richmond 80 do No. 2 do do

1000 feet 1 inch Clear Pine LUMBER 4000 feet 1 inch No. 1 Merchantable Pine Lumber 1000 feet half inch Clear Pine Lumber

40 pieces Spruce, 20 feet long, 12 inches by 4 inches square edged 18000 feet Board-measure 2 1/2 inch Spruce Plank, 9 or 18 feet long, square edged 4000 feet Board-measure 2 1/2 inch Spruce Plank square edged

One half of each description to be delivered at Barrington, on or before 21st January, 1864, and the balance on or before 30th April, 1864. All to be of the best description, and subject to the inspection and approval of an Inspector appointed by the Department.

Contractors will be required to furnish two good Sureties for the fulfillment of their Contract, and Ten per Cent. will be retained till the due completion of the Contract.

JAS. McDONALD, Commr. Oct.

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Those who are looking for really GOOD AND CHEAP COFFEE. Will find that which is Roasted and Ground

WETHERBY & CO'S NEW AND IMPROVED APPARATUS, BY STEAM POWER.

Superior in quality to any in the Province. BEST JAMAICA COFFEE, is 3d, recommended to every family

Strong useful Coffee, is BEST OLD JAVA COFFEE, is 6d Just received, a fresh supply of SWEET ORANGES, APPLES, NUTS, Lemons, Dates, Table Raisins, BISCUITS, in great variety

TEAS, SPICES, SUGARS, MOLASSES, PICKLES, JAMS AND SAUCES, Ham, Bacon, Cheese, Lard, FAMILY AND PASTRY FLOUR, MEAL, Brooms, Buckets, Candles, Fish, Soap.

TEAS, TEAS. Strong Congo, 2s 6d Fine Congo, 2s 3d VERY BEST 7d TEA IN THE CITY BUTTER, retail, 10s, 1s and 1d SUGARS, 6d; best only 4d

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