

more, in my life and conversation, somewhat of the meekness and lowliness which His precepts enjoin."

"God grant it may be so," said Adeline, "and we shall both have cause to thank Him that we ever met with dear old Mabel Graeme."

GOD'S WONDERS IN CREATION.

That any creature could be found to fabricate a net, not less ingenious than that of the fisherman, for the capture of its prey; that it should fix it in the right place, and then patiently await the result, is a proceeding so strange, that if we did not see it done daily before our eyes by the common house spider, and garden spider, it would seem wonderful. But how much is our wonder increased when we think of the complex fabric of each single thread; and then of the mathematical precision and rapidity with which, in certain cases, the net itself is constructed; and to add to all this, as an example of the wonders which the most common things exhibit when carefully examined, the net of the garden spider consists of two different kinds of silks. The threads forming the concentric circles are composed of a circle much more elastic than that of the rays, and are studded over with minute globules of a viscid gum, sufficiently adhesive to retain any unwary fly which comes in contact with it. A net of average dimensions is estimated by Mr. Blackwell to contain eighty-seven thousand three hundred and sixty, of these globules; and a large net of fourteen or sixteen inches in diameter, one hundred and twenty thousand: and yet, such a net will be completed by one species in about forty minutes on an average, if no interruption occurs.

ECHOES OF THE VALLEY OF LIFE.

Hear the story of the child that went forth into the mountain ravine. While the child wandered there he cried aloud to break the loneliness, and heard a voice which called to him in the same tone. He called again, and, as he thought, the voice again mocked him. Flushed with anger, he rushed to find no one. He then called out to him in anger, and with all abusive epithets, all of which were faithfully returned to him, Choking with rage, the child ran to his mother, and complained that a boy in the woods had insulted him with many vile words. But the mother took her child by the hand and said, "My child, those names were but the echoes of thine own voice. Send forth sunshine from thy spirit, and thou shalt never have a clouded day. Carry about a vindictive spirit, and even in the flowers shall lurk curses. Thou shalt receive even what thou givest, and that alone." "Always," said the speaker, "is that child in the mountain passes, and every man and woman is that child."

YOUTHFUL SINS.

The late Dr. Spencer said that when he was a lad, his father gave him a little tree that had just been grafted. One day, in his father's absence, he let the colt into the garden, and the young animal broke off the graft. It was mended, however, on the following day, and continued to grow finely. Years passed, and young Spencer became a man and a minister. Some time after he became a pastor, he made a visit to the old homestead where he spent his boyhood. His little sapling had become a large tree, and was loaded with apples. During the night after his arrival at the homestead, there was a violent thunder-shower, and the wind blew fearfully. He rose early in the morning, and on going out found his tree lying prostrate upon the ground. The wind had twisted it off *just where the colt broke it when it was a sapling*. Probably the storm would not have broken it at all, if it had not been broken when it was small.

It will usually be found that those who are grossly vicious in manhood dropped a seed of vice in the morning of life; that the fallen youth, who was religiously trained and has become corrupt, broke off his connection with virtuous ways *just where he did a very wicked thing in boyhood*. Here is a fact to be pondered. The oldest man in the prison could not say that childhood and youth had no connection with his present condition. Perhaps he could point to the very day and hour when he decided his present character.