THE WESLEYAN, FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1881.

Cur Home Circle.

WORK AND A WORKER.

BY ADILINE SERGEANT. I toiled with hand and head, My feet ran to and fro; I tried to do the things they said The saints did long ago. My words were proud and free, The evil I saw I chid; But woe is me that I did not see How the Lord in His love had asked for me, And not for the things I did.

I thought my brothers around Might learn a lesson from me; I thought my sisters were bound With chains which I could flee. I thought of a life laid down In noble effort and pain: I spurned the wish for a world's renown-But I sighed and yearned for the golden

Which only a saint could gain!

O, the love and the pity of God! And His judgments past finding out ! For Ile spared not the chastening rod, Though I shrank in terror and doubt. The Lord came down in His might, Aud crippled me, hand and head, * I have no need of thy help to fight, No need of thy work,' He said.

Then my heart sank down aghast, Like a shot-spent bird to the sod; I had taken my work to my heart so fast, That I loved it better than God. "Have pity! give help!' I prayed, "I did it, O Lord, for Thee!" But still my force and my strength were stayed, Fill at last a word on my soul was laid-. Child, love not thy work, but Me.'

So I turn to my life again. With a blessed sense of loss; And I think, when I suffer fear and pain, Of my Lord upon the cross. And I let the work go by When He tells me to wait and rest; * I am not worthy to work,' I crv, * But I think that I love Him best." Christian Miscellany.

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THE COASTGUARDSMAN.

Charles G---- was about thirty years of age. He was a private in comforted. the Coastguards, and, so far as his duty was concerned, he was as exemplary as any man on the station. In a word, he was a loyal servant of Queen Victoria; but he was not as yet 'a good soldier of Jesus Christ.' His wife was young and comely, but fond of gaiety and dress. She dearly loved her husband; but being unconverted herself, saw no necessity for conversion in him. One day. however, a pious mate invited Charles to the church, and offered to accompany him. The two went and a genuine conversion. Having defeelings long dormant were awakened in Charles's heart. Memories of | ly prayer, and soon had the joy of early days, and childish prayers witnessing his wife's conversion, in the privation of life. came back to him, and he determin- answer to his earnest pleadings with ed henceforth to be regular in his God in her behalf. And, O, what a attendance upon Divine service. This was the first step towards better things. Good Richard Baxter cottage in the coastguard station, has said, 'Those who wilfully absent and talk with the young couple, themselves from the means of grace whose very faces told the gladness are their own persecutors.' That is, of their hearts. Charles would tell they are inflicting as great injury on themselves, as the most inveterate persecution could do. For several successive Sundays Charles regularly attended the church. His young wife accompanied him at his own request. As yet. neither was converted, though Charles was the more serious of the two. One Sunday evening, the truth of God took so firm a hold of the young sailor, that he found great difficulty in leaving the church without seeking an interview with the minister; even upon reaching the porch he turned to his wife and said: 'I feel I cannot leave without speaking to the minister.' Poor Charles ! the tears had already gathered in his eyes, and his face wore an expression of deep anxiety. It was a critical moment. His wife looked at him, and was surprised at his troubled appearance. She dreaded the results of this newly-awakened concern in her husband, without knowing why she did so, and felt something must be done to deter him, and therefore said :

Charles, though prevented from sent time. A traveller in Arabia lasting life! Is not a belief in the ing 3,221 pounds. Beside this, 1,seeking Christian counsel that night tells us that the men of that coun- resurrection the great reason why 203 cwt. of coals, in portions of 3 by his wife's words was too anxious try are silent in grief, but the wo- we should discontinue this prac- ewt. and 1 cwt., are delivered at the for his soul, and had too deep a sense men scream, tear their hair, hands tice? Black denotes the privation homes of the poor; and Her Majeof right, to let those words influence and face, and throw sand and earth of light, and shall we wear it in ty makes liberal contributions to "Let us never mind the scoffs nor the frowns him long. A few days after, he on their heads, the elderly women mourning for those whose Christian the Royal Clothing Club. She also spoke to a pious friend, and express- putting on a blue veil. In Egypt faith has borne them to the land sends presents of game to the Winded his desire to see the minister. not only Mahommedans but Chris- where there shall be no more night, sor Infirmary, University College, This was told to the minister, who tians hire wailing women to wail at where they need no candle, neither and other hospitals, and a great deal soon visited Charles's cottage. His stated times. Strange as it may light of the sun, for the Lord God of old linen from the palaces which, soon visited charles s cottage. This stated the seem, America is not entirely free giveth them light. "Such em- however, does not always arrive at on her warm hood, and took her parlor, which her own hands kept from similar ceremonies. Clarence blems of sorrow," says James Christmas time. as neat and clean as a palace. Her King relates the following incident Freeman Clarke, "at the birth into a husband having come off a long which came under his observation higher state of a Christian soul are night's watch on the coast, had gone during his travels in the Sierra Ne- soldom appropriate." If the Reto lie down; but her words, 'Charlie, vada mountains: "I was awaken- publican journals of Illinois had here's the minister,' soon roused ed before dawn by wild unearthly been draped in mourning when pared in the servants' hall, with him, and the tall, weather-beaten shricks ringing through the forest, Abraham Lincoln was chosen Prescoastguardsman entered the room. and coming back again in plaintive ident, because he was about to leave companied by the various members 'I understand you wish to see me,' echoes from the hills all about. Be- the State to reside in Washington,

youd description wild, these wails, it would not have been more inap-'Yes Sir. I want to speak with you about my soul; I am very unvellous regularity they recurred,

It was easy to talk to a man so never varying the simple refrain. honest and open; and the minister | The wife of an Indian chief had died. felt he would have gone through and the shouts came from the prostorms far worse, and suffered a fessional mourners or 'funeral hags' drenching far more searching than hired by her family. Old widows he had done that morning on such and superanuated wives who have outlived other forms of usefulness. an errand. The simple plan of salvation. through faith in Christ, gladly enter this singular professwas soon made known; and the ion. They cut their hair short and fifty-third chapter of Isaiah read and explained. Charles's wife was now evidently moved. She had a true woman's heart after all; and the sorrow of her husband affected her. al experts."

She felt, if he-a man- was so The colors worn in different counanxious and distressed, then how tries are various. Among the abocriminal was she to have been hithrigines of Australia, and also in Chierto hardened! All three were soon. na, white is worn, because that is on their knees, and prayer was made an emblem of purity. In Turkey in behalf of Charles and his wife. Both thanked the minister most earnestly when he left, and the husdead enjoy, and the violet Forrow band expressed himself somewhat on the one side, hope on the other, as being a mixture of black and

It was not, however, until the blue. Yellow is the national mournfollowing week, that those wonderful passages in Isaiah concerning the suffering of Christ for sinners, were seen in their true light, and Charles, on meeting the minister. could testify from heartfelt experience: 'He was wounded for our His stripes we are healed.' His was the dead return. In Europe and in other home where more kindly sureided for Christ, he established famihappy home it was then! It was truly pleasant to visit that little

said his visitor.

happy.'

At Osborne, on Christmas Eve, Her Majesty distributes gifts to all for whom a Christmas tree is prepresents of books, toys, etc. Acof her family, and the ladies and

of violent grief followed each other propriate than to drape ourselves with regular cadence, dying away in crape on the departure of a good in long despairing sobs. With mar- man from this to life immortal .-Central Advocate:

QUEEN VICTORIA'S HOLIDAYS.

During the reigns of our Queen's immediate predecessors the observances of Christmas degenerated but for some of the interest it now with each new death plaster on a assumes, we have to thank the fresh crop of pitch and ashes, daub Prince Consort, who held it a most the face with spots of tar, and in sacred time. Peculiarly happy in general array themselves as funer- his domestic life such anniversaries were to him the means of drawing

still closer the ties of family affection as he saw his happy boyhood reflected in the merry faces of his children. Writing to his grandmother, the Dowager Duchess of blue or violet, the blue expressing Coburg, with whom he spent most the happiness which it is hoped the of his early Christmases, he says : "These pleasant festivities always bring me doubly in contact in spirit with your loved ones in the homeland, where you were ever so dear ing color of Egypt, because death is to me." He it was who instituted the end of human hopes, as leaves that general interchange of gifts, continued now in any of the royal when they fall, and flowers when homes in which Her Majesty orthey fade become vellow. This color was once assigned to queens by dains to spend Christmas. It is the fashions of France, and when still her custom to give presents to Catherine of Arragon died Anne all her attendants, both ladies and transgressions, He was bruised for Boleyn put on yellow mourning. gentlemen, and also to the dressers our iniquities: the chastisement of The Ethiopians wear brown, as and maid servants. There is perour peace was upon Him; and with brown denotes the earth to which haps throughout Great Britain no

our own country the ordinary color prises are planned and more gentle for mourning is black, because black thought for others evinced, than in denotes the privation of light, hence the highest household in the land. The first Christmas of their mar-

ried life, just after the birth of the The propriety of following this Princess Royal, was spent by the prevalent custom has been seriously questioned during the last half Queen and her husband at Windsor century by Christians in our coun- Castle; and we read in "The Life of try, and if we look at it from an the Prince Consort" how Christmas unprejudiced standpoint it properly trees were set up in the Queen's belongs to heathen nations. The and Prince's rooms, a custom which promptings of the heart incline us was continued in future years, when o do everything which love, affec- they were also set up in another room for the young princes and our friends are taken from us, but princesses, and in the Oak Room the blackest crape and costliest for the household. The ladies and monuments are not the sea es upon gentlemen in waiting were sum-Shakespeare expressed this through | Eve, and the Queen and Prince, accompanied by the royal family, pointed out the presents intended for each, inviting them afterward to go through the different rooms to see what they themselves had mutually given and received. Present-giving has always been a special delight to our royal family. The interchange of gifts on birthreligious societies the most familiar | days, New Years and other anniverhave been that it is a useless cere (saries extends to a very large num-Since her bereavement Her Mathe bustle of preparing mourning jesty has generally spent Christmas their feet and hands, and to keep garments interferes with the moral at Osborne. Those seasons excep- themselves quiet. It is quite otheriness to the body caused by the iety, as when the Prince of Wales among their auditors, and drop great use of arsenic in the manu- was dangerously ill in 1571, and facture of crape, and to danger to the Princess Alice died in 1878. the mind by being a constant re- But the royal borough is not forminder of death and the grave, gotten in her absence. On New without the brightness beyond. We Year's Day some £200 is distribut- easy and not difficult to attend smile at the morbidness of Booth ed in gifts to 1,200 poor of the parwhich led him forty-six years ago, ishes of Windsor and Clewer, in the to ask of the clergyman, who gives form of coals, meat and bread, the the stand-point of the pulpit, like suffering for Christ, Who bore the us this incident, the privilege of amount varying according to the securing a lot in his church-yard size of the family of the recipients, for the burial of a friend. On re- who are recommended by the Dean

Our Young Folks.

MARY HERBERT'S CROSS.

For we've all got a cross to bear; It will only make the crown the brighter to shine When we have the crown to wear."

So sang Mary Herbert as she tied school-books from the table. Her good-morning kiss had been given, but she lingered to say another the children on the Osborne estates, parting word to her mother. "You know, mother, Kittie Cum-

mings and I are to stay all night at Tillie Scott's. I won't be home till to-morrow afternoon.' "Yes, dear-what is your text to-

day? You want to carry it with gentlemen of the household, she hands these to each child, and, after you to Tillie Scott's, for a talisman." "It is the verse which was our the distribution, they have all plumpastor's text last Sabbath morning : pudding. On the evening of New If any man will come after Me, let Year's Day she presents gifts to the upper servants of the household in him deny himself and take up his the steward's room, where is a cross and follow Me.' But, mother, I have not had a cross to bear yet. Christmas tree. The Queen and the Prince and Princesses with her at. I never felt so truly happy in my life as since I have been a Christian.' tend Divine service in Whippingham Church on Christmas morning. "You have received nothing but Neither plum pudding nor plum encouragement so far, my child. Trials of faith must come, however, porridge is omitted from the royal menu, and the baron of beef is cut Few Christians go through life withfrom a short-horn ox, bred on the out bearing a cross. Sometimes it Prince Consort's farm at Frogmore. is light, sometimes heavy, but our Master bent beneath the weight of The servants indoors all dine together, and the outdoor servants have His cross, and we too must bear it. an allowance of a few shillings each, The cross before the crown, Mary," Mary went thoughtfully to school. She was a young Christian, and had Christmas is kept at Sandring-

ham by the Prince and Princess of been but a little time a member of Wales in thoroughly national style. the Church. In the ardour of her On Christmas Eve beef is distribut- | first love, how should she look upon ed to the laborers and workmen on anything that her Saviour sent as a the royal estate-prime joints in cross?

proportion to the size of the family. After school she and Kittie acreckoning two pounds to each adult, | companied Tillie Scott to her beauand one pound for each child. It ful home. They spent a happy is given in the Royal Mews, in the afternoon and evening together, and presence of the Prince and Princess, after preparing their lessons for the next day, at Mrs. Scott's request they played in turn upon the piano, and sang some of their school metodies. When the clock struck ten, Tillie children receive new clothing and took her friends to their room, and school-girl like, hey sat down and had another long talk together. At last, Kittie proposed that they should retire, and she and Tillie. standing before the long mirror, began to unbraic their hair, and brush it. Mary, in the meantime, sat still. trying to decide a conflict which was going on within. At home she always read a chapter in the Bible before she went to bed. But her young friends evidently did not do this. Perhaps they would laugh at her. How hard it is to be laughed all "Never mind it for one night,"

whispered the tempter."

"Take up thy cross," said con-

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their children and their household. On Christmas morning the choristers assemble on the terrace to sing carols and anthems. The school a Christmas card.-The Queen. THE CHILDREN'S SABBATH. How beautifully the author of the following in the Sunday Magazine, has written about the child-

ren's Sabbath. Words that should find a response in every household in our land. You should encourage a great deal of song on the Sabbath day. Begin with a hymn. If you have a piano or a cabinet organ, or a violin in

according to their status.

the house, use it for sacred music only, on the Sabbath day. Let the daughter who is just beginning to play learn the 'tunes of these sacred songs, and the rest will delight in uniting with her, and your praise meeting in the morning will give you inspiration and tranquility for all day. Go to church, and take moned to the corridor on Christmas the children with you. You say, perhaps, that the children attend Sunday school, and that you think that enough; that they do not understand the words of the preacher, and disturb you; and you think upon the whole, they are better off

'Charlie, you are not going to be so foolish as to begin crying? I shall be ashamed of you, if you do. Come along, and let us go home at once.

He left the church, and went with his wife to their home. Yet his conduct was not the result of cowardice. It was not because he feared the laugh of the woman he loved. that he acted so; rather because he loved her so dearly that he hesitated to do anything she did not wish him to do. So she, to whom he had given his heart, was the means of delaying his salvation.

If these words should be read by an unconverted wife, we would sav to her. Whatever you do, do not hinder the salvation of your husband. No, not by a word, or even a look. Why should you? Will his conversion make your fireside less happy? Will it lessen your husband's love for you? No! It will increase home happiness, deepen your husband's love, and save from many evils. An old writer has said, 'All the evils in Church and State arises from prayerless homes.' And if this is true, what shall be said of the evils produced by prayerlessness in the homes themselves?' Again we say, Don't hinder the salvation of your husband. .

how, on the bleak coast, through the long dark nights, or under the starry sky, he paced backwards and forwards on his beat, occupied with thoughts of God, and lifting up his

heart in prayer and praise. In every new convert's experience there comes a testing-time. To this, Charles was no exception. At a certain period of the year each coastguardsman must go for a month's training on shipboard. Charles left home for this purpose. He was at once thrown amongst godless men, who ridiculed his religious scruples, and taunted him with reading his Bible; or assailed him when they found him kneeling for morning or evening prayer. But Charles was an Englishman as well as a Christian, and had a short and decisive method of dealing with his persecutors. As soon as he found To these may be added the unhealthof what character they were, he faced round upon them, and to their

face: 'Now look here, mates! I give you full leave to persecute me as much as you like, and promise you I'll never complain; because, to tell the truth, I'm proud to bear some pains of Calvary for me.'

From that moment all persecution ceased. It did not pay those godless men to persecute a man whom they only pleased by so doing. How true it is, that-' The brave suffer less than the cowardly.' Let a man shrink from openly professing Christ, and he will suffer infin itely more than those who manfully and openly 'acknowledge' God in all their 'ways.'-Methodist Tract.

MOURNING CUSTOMS.

Every nation has had its peculiar customs of mourning for the dead. Each generation has adopted the ancestral usages modified to suit the fashion of the times. The Jewish practice of giving expression to sorrow, consisted in excessive weep. ing and screaming, songs of lamentation, funeral feasts, beating the body, wearing sad-colored garments and hiring women to lament. Sim-

tion and respect can suggest, when which heart sorrows are weighed. his Hamlet:

"Tis not aloze my inky cloak, good mother, Nor customary suits of solemn black, That can denote me truly ; But I have that within which passeth show, These but the trappings and the suits of woe.'

Among the many objections to our mourning customs which have been discussed by individuals and mony, that it involves needless ex- (ber of relatives. pense, especially to the poor, that and religious purposes of affliction.

surprise said, with a smile on his

ceiving the note the preacher went | and Vicar of Windsor and the Recat once to the hotel to offer his assist-"if the death of his friend was sud-Would you like to look at the remains?" The clergyman then followed Booth into an adjoining room,

that seemed real.

Egyptians, and exist among many black because our loved ones have sented by court officials. Last year account, and God's benediction will give him 'the best themes and of the Oriental nations at the pre_ become immortal and gone to ever- 814 joints were giving away, weigh- rest upon you, to make you happy. thoughts .- Golden Rule.

tor of Holy Trinity. The distribuance and sympathy to the great ac- tion by the Lord High Almoner, tor. "I asked," said the preacher, the Dean of Windsor, in their presence and that of the Clerk of the den." "Very," was the reply. Kitchen, takes place at 9 o'clock in table. "Was he a relative?" "Distant. the morning in the Riding School

of Windsor Castle, the Queen's Purveyor having been busily employed in preparing the gifts some hours and looking toward the bed, saw before. It is a pretty sight, which nothing there, but in another cor- a few privileged visitors are perner of the room, spread upon a mitted to see. On the tan flooring, large sheet, were a bushel of wild all along the centre of the school, pigeons! We are told by the same are a row of white covered tables, white, and one should smile and be save a few great facts, that not half gentleman that Booth actually pur- with joints of beef varying from 7 full of cheer. chased a lot in the cemetery, had a pounds to 3 pounds, enlivened by coffin made, hired a hearse and car- sprigs of holly. The recipients, riage and observed all the solemn. young and old women and men, and ity of a regular funeral, and for a some young children, enter by tickfew weeks after, while he remained et, carrying neatly folded cloths in that city regularly visited the and bags, and pass out by the east ily want. Let everybody join in The daily press will keep a man

at home. In the old stern days of the Puritans, this plea of fatigue and restlessness might have been urged. but never was. Then, though the sermons were two hours long, the Loys and girls sat by their elders,

and at least learned to discipline tionally passed at Windson have wise now. Most ministers remembeen signalized by sorrow and anx- ber that they have young people them now and then a crumb.

By going in whole households to church, the habit is established. The child will grow up and find it church when he reaches manhood. Let your pew, after this, look from a bed of flowers in bloom, with all

the children but the baby there. Have a good dinner, not necessar-

On Sunday afternoon, see that dipper is a work for those only who

science, in louder tones. Mary decided rightly, "Tillie," said she, " will you lend me your Bible?"

Tillie stared a moment in surprise and Kittie laughed, and said : "Now Mary wants to show us

sinners how good she is! I wonder if you road your Bible at home.,' Mary's cheeks flushed, but she

said quietly. "Yes, Kittie, I read it and I love it."

Tillie now took from her drawer a beautifully bound Bible, which sha kept wrapped up in tissue paper. She had not learned how sweet it is to say, "Thy Word have I hidden in my heart.'

Mary read and prayed, and her soul was full of joy, for she had won a moral victory. One year after that, the girls again met at Tillie's home. But this time they read and prayed together. Tillie said, with tearful eyes, " Mary, we both, under God, owe our conversion to your faithfulness."

Dear readers, this trial of Mary Herbert's may seem little to you, but it was her first cross, and she bore it by the grace of God. Who among you will do likewise ?"

READING WITHOUT THINKING .- We quite understand the ambition of ily a hot one, but a good one on men engaged in intellectual pursuits Sunday. The Sanday meals should to "keep up with the world's always be more feasts than fasts, thought." But it is this effort that Have the nicest cake and the favor- fills all the professions with crammite preserves on the Sunday tea ed men, and leaves them scant of thinkers. Bailing the ocean with a

there is a supply of bright, interest- do not realize the shortness of the ing reading matter for the older | time and the greatness of the task. members of the family. Tell stor- There is so little ultimate truth in ies, or read them to the younger the world; science is pulling up her ones. Be never cross, morose, se- stakes and setting them forward so vere or stern, Sunday. It is the frequently; religion herself is changday which should be clothed in ing her lines so much on every thing, so much would be lost as the aver-End the day with praise, Bible age student, now pressed and puzzlreading and a family. Let the ed on all sides, would think, if he praver of the father be very direct, should intermit his baffling pursuit very simply worded, very earnest, of knowledge for a few years, and

asking God for the things the fam- go to using what wisdom he has. grave of his pigeons, and wept tears entrance, underneath the room the sweetest of all prayers, "Our from getting rusty. A few of the whence the Prince records he and Father in Heaven." And then, old classics-including first the chief If this incident strikes us as ab- the rest of the Royal family were when sleep folds its soft wings over classic of all, the Bible-will give ilar ceremonies prevailed among surd, how must it appear when we wont to witness the ceremony. In the household and the angels watch, him food and stimulant enough: the ancient Greeks, Romans and remember that we robe ourselves in the Queen's absence, she is repre you, they will bear to heaven a good and Nature and his own heart will

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