

W O M E N AND S C H O O L

Do unto others
As ye would
that they
should
do unto
you.

ROLPH, SMITH & CO. TORONTO

TORONTO, JANUARY 29, 1887.

[No. 3.]

Vol. V.]

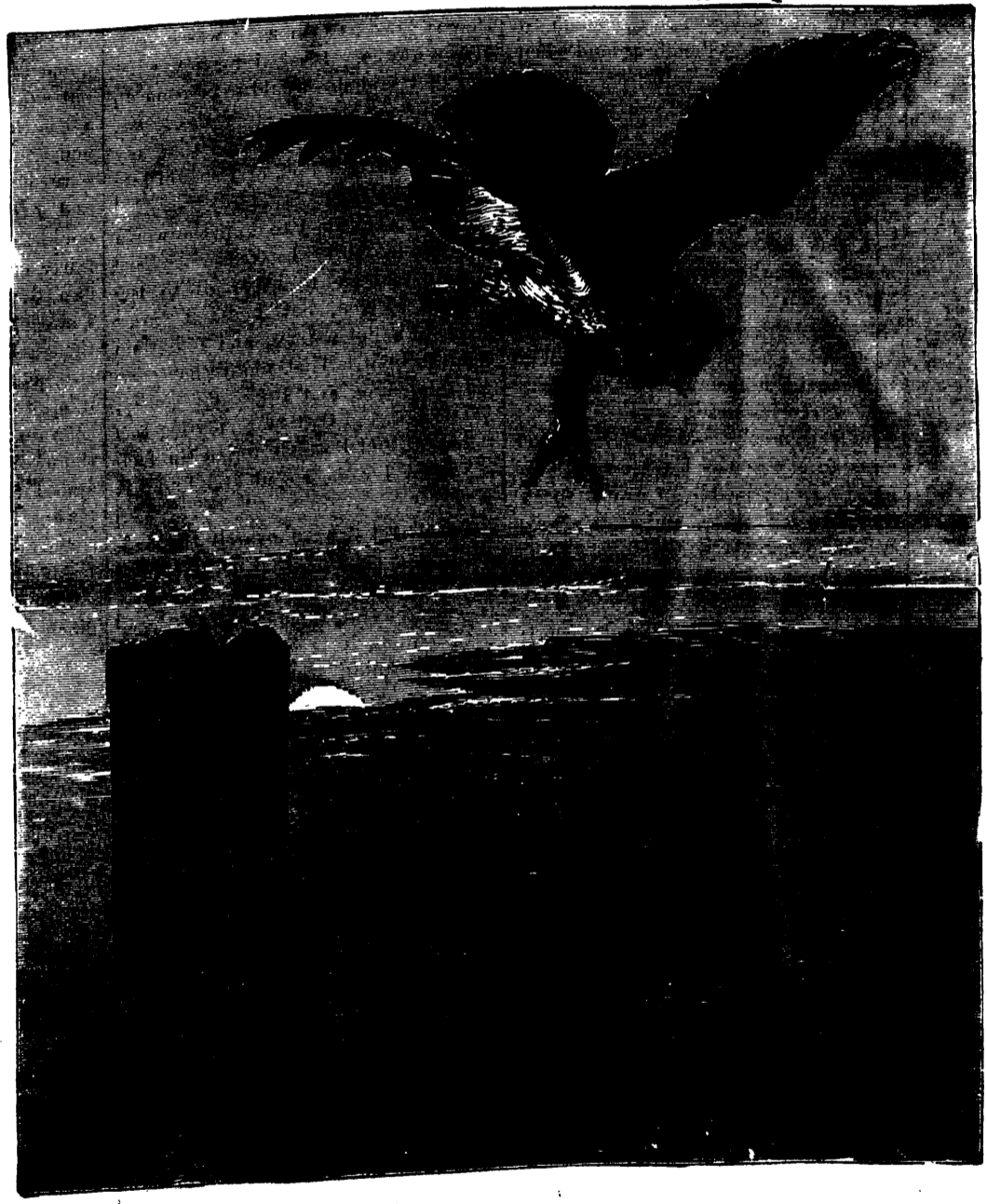
The Hawk-Owl and the Weasel.

THE owl has a large round head with enormous eyes. Its large eyes enable it to pursue its prey by night. It sleeps by day, thus protecting its eyes from the excessive light of the sun.

The owl has a dense covering of downy feathers, which enables it to fly so noiselessly through the air. Its prey is not startled by the movement of its wings.

There are a great many varieties of owls, as there are many kinds of chickens, and they differ in their habits. The hawk-owl has the habit of hunting by day. Its head is not so round or broad as are those of other owls. The large snowy-owl catches fish and also preys on hares and other small game. The burrowing-owl accompanies the prairie dog, and takes possession of his deserted burrow. It preys on mice and other small animals. The scops-eared-owl utters a monotonous cry as though it were repeating the letter Q. It feeds on beetles, grasshoppers, and other large insects. The great eared owl, or eagle-owl, is the largest. Being a powerful bird, it attacks young fawns, rabbits and birds. The barn-owl, when it can do so, resorts to the barn for rest and a hiding-place. It kills rats and mice, and many insects.

The weasel is very useful to farmers, as it destroys all the rats and mice about the barns and stacks. It has a sharp scent and tracks rats as a dog tracks rabbits. It is very brave and sometimes attacks men. It invariably aims at the throat; and having long sharp teeth, its wound is dangerous. It cuts a little hole into the throat of its prey and drinks its blood. The accompanying picture shows a



THE HAWK-OWL AND THE WEASEL.

hawk-owl flying with a weasel at its throat. It would seem that the owl has perched upon the weasel to take him as prey, but the weasel has fastened his teeth into the owl's throat and is drinking his blood. He will not let go until he has weakened the owl by the loss of blood and brought him to the earth again. Thus the owl in catching the weasel got caught himself.

The picture illustrates the result of doing evil for pleasure. Evil deeds repeated become habits. Habits once formed can never be broken. The boy who takes his first cigar or social glass for the fun of it has caught himself in a trap. Never take the first step in the way of any evil, and the evil habit will never fasten upon you to drink up your life.

Talking With God.

A LITTLE girl, whose father was an infidel, went to visit a friend of hers whose parents were both Christians. While they were reading the Word of God she listened very attentively, but when the father knelt reverently down and engaged in earnest prayer, she seemed amazed, and glanced all around the room to see with whom he was talking, and seeing no one looking at him she was puzzled. As soon as she had opportunity, after the service was over, she whispered to her friend and asked:—

“Who was your father talking with this morning?”
“Why, he was talking with God,” said her friend.

The little girl knew nothing about God, or his dealings with men, so they tried to explain to her who and what God was, and then told her the “old, old story” of the cross.

To all this she listened very eagerly, and when they had finished, she inquired earnestly, “Can't I talk with him too?”

“Certainly you can,” said they, “for he loves little children, and has said, ‘Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.’”

She seemed very happy, and when she got home that night she jumped into her father's lap, and told him about those good people

that talked with God, and what they had told her about him; and then, with her little face beaming with joy, she exclaimed: “Oh, father, they said I could talk with him too, and he would hear me!”

She did talk with him, until her father and all the family learned to love and commune with God.—*Rev. J. G. Merrill.*