

THE MISCELLANY.

THE BEST POPE.

Bridget, the servant-girl, is a very strong Catholic. Once she was doing some little thing for a small boy in the family where she lived. "That is not right," said the boy.

"Well, then, show me how to do it. If you instruct the ignorant," said she, laughingly, "you will have *absolution*."

"But, Bridget," said the mother, who was near, "how can you get absolution? Your Pope has run away!"

The poor girl looked confounded for a moment, and then said, "Well, ma'am, God is the *best* Pope: he hasn't run away."

Let us all remember that "God hasn't run away," and that God our Saviour *only* has power to "give absolution" or to forgive sin on earth.—*Wellspring*.

LYING IN BED.

No piece of indolence hurts the health more than the custom of lying in bed too long in the morning. This is the general practice in great towns. The inhabitants of cities seldom rise before eight or nine o'clock; but the morning is the best time for exercise, while the stomach is empty, and the body refreshed with sleep. Besides, the morning braces and strengthens the nerves, and in some measure answers the purpose of a cold bath.

LUTHER AND THE BIRDS.

With the birds of his native country Martin Luther had established a strict intimacy, watching, smiling, and thus sweetly moralizing over their habits: "That little fellow," he said of a bird going to roost,

"has chosen his shelter, and is quietly rocking himself to sleep, without a care for to-morrow's lodging, calmly holding by his little twig, and *leaving God to think for him*."

Children, in all your situations you must do the same. Discharge your duty, and leave God to think for you.

DENOMINATIONS—THEIR MUTUAL TREATMENT.

Rowland Hill once said, "That the wolves should bark at the sheep is very natural, but that the sheep should bark at each other is too bad." Someone replied to him, "It is only a constitutional cough that the sheep have got." To which he instantly retorted, "Then it's a proof they're rotten, sir."—*Alliance and Visitor*.

PROFANITY REBUKED.

Howard the philanthropist was seen significantly to button up his coat in the neighborhood of a printing office where he heard coarse profanity. "I always do this," he remarked, "when I hear swearing. One who can take God's name in vain, can also steal or do anything else bad."

BEAUTIFUL REPLY.

A deaf and dumb person being asked "What is forgiveness?" took a pencil and wrote a reply, containing a volume of the most exquisite poetry, as well as deep truth, in these few words:—"It is the odour which flowers yield when trampled upon."

MOCKING BIRD AND CROWS.

Some one has observed, that the mocking-bird is on the best terms with the nightingale and good singers, but is detested by crows, though he imitates the one as faithfully as the other. There is a moral here.