

The Family.

THE LESSON OF PAIN.

O PAIN! mysterious guest,
Coming unbidden, unguessed,
To greatest and to least;

COMMON DUTIES.

It is a very prevalent mistake to suppose that great things are accomplished by neglecting little things. Most of us look too high at the outset of life.

HER SWEET SURPRISE.

No tender yet sad farewell
From her quivering lips was heard;
So softly she crossed that quiet stream,

"COALS OF FIRE."

Poor Bruno lay dying; his great brown eyes lifted up to his master's face in an almost human appeal for help, his burly, black form, that but a moment before was convulsed with agony, lying still and rigid, while Silas Merner's tears fell quickly amid the glossy curls of his pet.

said, uncovering his bundle. "He was most gone; but he'll come all right with plenty of blankets and hot water."
The hands had just been summoned from the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of Silas in such a condition, together with his burden and ominous words, caused a momentary panic, in which the company seemed unable to comprehend the situation.

with a certain gay cordiality of manner which had in it a rare charm.
" She had discovered some old coins in the village store; and had heard of others farther up the country. Who would go coin-hunting. Then followed an eager discussion of rare dollars, or pennies, or shillings, until the talk of even the old joker became not only decent, but interesting.

thing. And if He takes anything from you, you know you are better without it. You will not, indeed, at your age, have to give up houses, or lands, or boats, or nets, but you may, perhaps, break your favourite teacup or lose your favourite thimble, and might be vexed about it but for this second St. George's precept.

you would ever murmur because the day was rainy, or fret because you cannot have your way in little things. In what seems the darkest and dullest hour of your lives, you would compare your lot with hers and be thankful and contented and happy.

The Children's Corner.

TWO LITTLE MAIDS I KNOW.

I KNOW a little maiden,
Whom I always see arrayed in
Silks and ribbons, but she is a spoiled and petted little elf;

"EYES, BUT THEY SEE NOT."

CHILDREN, do you ever think to thank the heavenly Father for such common gifts as good eyes and ears and the power of speech? No doubt that most of you have heard of Laura Bridgman, the blind and deaf and dumb woman, who learned to see through her fingers and to speak and read and write through the same medium.

BOOKS WORTH READING.

ONE mischievous feature of most novels is that they present no serious and difficult tasks. To read them exclusively or chiefly produces an effect on the mind similar to the physical results of dawdling one's life away without exercising the muscles.

NEGLECTING THE PATTERN.

The colours that we had to weave
Were bright in our early years,
But we wore the tissue wrong, and stained
The woof with bitter tears.

WORDS.

WORDS ought to have the same meaning and the same force in the religious life as in the secular life. Thus, "serving" Christ means serving Him personally, just the same as "serving" is applied to a fellow-creature.

TEMPER.

RUSKIN, in a letter to young girls, says: Keep absolute calm of temper under all circumstances, receiving the thing that is provoking or disagreeable to you as coming directly from Christ's hand; and the more it is like to provoke you, thank Him for it the more, as a young soldier would his general for trusting him with a hard place to hold on the rampart.

CLEARING THE AIR.

"I WAS a guest last August," said a lady, "at a small summer boarding-house on the Maine coast. When I took my place at the table for the first time, I soon discovered that my fellow-boarders belonged to a class richer in money than in mind or manners."

"Here's your boy, Cobden!" he