#### The Family.

THE LESSON OF PAIN.

O Pain i mysterious guest, Coming unbilden, unguessed, To greatest and to least, Bithday and wedding feast; Standing where lovers' eyes Shine with love's prophecies,— Whence, wherefore art thou sent, Unwelcome visitant?

Not that our hearts may know To feel for other woe, And learn from their own sting To pity suffering.

That were too small and vain,
The loss outweighs the gain;
And God deals justly, who,
Rendereth to each his due.

Not that some favoured souls May reach the higher goals, And, hovering, shining high, Tempt other souls to fly; Nor that those bent on sin May find a curse therein, And, by His lifted 10d, Know an offended God.

No! Heaven sent, bitter-sweet, With swift and tireless feet. Thou comest unasked for, Pain, Again, and yet again, Bound on this errand blest, To make of us our best— That which we could not be Save for thy help and thee.

The gold ore grieveth not, Though fires are fierce and hot; Nor counts it wrong or loss, To lose its cumbering dross. Intent on being pure,
It can abide, endure,
However fierce the blast,
So it is gold at last.

So from thy crucible
Our souls, debased and dull,
Shall come, dear Pain, some day,
With their dross burned away.
Come with new name and sign To own thee all divine, And see in thy stern eyes All joyful promises.
—Susan Coolidge, in S.S. Times.

#### - \*\*\* COMMON DUTIES.

It is a very prevalent mistake to suppose that great things are accom-plished by neglecting little things. Most of us look too high at the outset of Most of us look too high at the outset of life. We are content with nothing but great opportunities, great enterprises, and he never said a word to Pete til a physician was found. whereas we are no more competent to begin with such things than Darius Hayes." Green was competent to fly before he became an angel.

Common duties furnish the safe and sure plane upon which every man may begin life, whether he believes himself dent of the United States. If there is the exception of his mother, it was the any fact attested by the history of great men it is the fact that the road to success opens out of the pathway of good deal different. Poor old fellow, humble duty.

Common duties are those that lie at hand. Every person is born into an environment, and his opportunities lie thought? close about him. The fairy times are past when people went seeking their fortunes. The man who " seeks" his fortune, in these days, instead of marrying a princess or finding a cave of gold, is quite likely to bring up in the penitentiary or the poor-house. It is ington to seek his fortune he would probably never have been President of the United States. But instead of that he staid at home and split rails, and the he staid at home and split rails, and the his thoughts. highest honour in the gift of the nation came to him unasked.

We go to school to common duties. A winter at the wood pile will teach a man very many of the things necessary to make him a good President. Ten years at any honest work is a liberal education There have been men who were excellent blacksmiths before they became emment preachers; and be sure they would never have become good preachers if they had not been good blacksmiths. The fundamental things are learned in the school of common duty. No quality that makes a man really great is foreign to the faithful discharge of any task, however hum-

The rewards of common duties are cumulative. Thus they endow a man for the greater responsibilities of life. The rewards of conscientious labour in any sphere are always the capital for greater achievements. First learn to do well what lies at hand, and increasingly you will find that other and greater things come to hand. The man who splits rails in a masterly way is the man whom the world will never suffer to remain always a rail-splitter.

If we could only appreciate our common duties as they deserve! Indeed, they are the best helps of every man and every women—not obstacles, not things to be jumped over or gotten around in the endeavour to reach greater things, but themselves the steppingstones to greater things. For, notice that the world does not often ask us what we can do, but what we have done. And no one of us has done anything until he has made a beginning. -Our

## HER SWEET SURPRISE,

No tender yet sad farewell From her quivering lips was heard; So sofily she crossed that quiet stream, That twas not by a ripple stirred.

She was spared the pain of parting tears, She was spared all mor'al strife; It was scarcely dying—she only passed In a moment to endless life.

Weep not for the swift release From earthly pain and care;
Nor grieve that she reached her home and rest,
Ere she knew that she was there.

But think of her sweet surpsise, The sudden and strange relight
She felt, as she met her Saviour's smile,
And walked with him in white. "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.

It is over; and now the man turns away with a hard look on his face and bitter words on his lips, "I'll pay him for this!" Silas Merner and Rick and hot water, quick!"

"The boy has been nearly drown-with her low, vivacious voice and ready wit, shunted the conversation one day it was a and hot water, quick!" Cobden had been playmates and schoolmates, and had been good friends generally for at least a quarter of a century; but lately, through this very dog, a little cloud had arisen on the hitherto clear horizon.

Bruno had an esp cial antipathy to fowls—probably the result of his early thanking him for rescuing his boy. training-and could never see a mat ronly "Biddy" industriously providing take our thanks to him," he said to his for a promising brood in his master's garden without evincing an unneighbourly degree of severity. Yea, he had been known to encroach on foreign the farmer passed the black-smith's shop at dusk on the above erterritory at times in nursuance of his and he make the farmer passed the black-smith's shop at dusk on the above erterritory at times in nursuance of his and he make the farmer passed the black-smith's shop at dusk on the above erterritory at times in nursuance of his and he make to him," he said to his They grow impure and foul simply from inaction. All they need is some wholesome subject of thought to keep them clean."

In go there in the evening and their minds are like stagnant pools. They grow impure and foul simply from inaction. All they need is some wholesome subject of thought to keep them clean." their dearest secrets, their hopes, ambitions, and diappointments; and none grieved more than Rick when a blight fell on his friend's affections—a blight ter?"
that seemed to have soured "the milk "Si that seemed to have soured "the milk of human kindness" in the bosom of Silas Merner. "I'll pay him for this," he said, for he suspected that Rick had was fast ebbing. poisoned his favourite, as complaint had been made the evening previous of Bruno's depredations, with a request to have him chained up-a request that

unfortunately had been unheeded.
"Merner's dog's dead, father," said little Ted Cobden, as he came in

times, and I as good as caught it at that last sheep-worrying. With wouldn't have killed his dog for a farm, though I expected it would get

because he believed Silas had taken 

> "If thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink; for by so

Strange that the preacher should Sunday, a text that filled two of his years. "Can you do it, Rick?" hearers with wonder as to how he could this, and was mean enough to blame have found out what they had never breathed to mortal man.

"'Coals of fire!' I never thought of that," said Rick to himself, in such a loud whisper that more than one in the scattering congregation turned

round to see who spoke.
"Coals of fire!" said Silas, as he passed through the village on his way home. "Great way that would be to

pay him back." "Coals of fire!" exclaimed Rick

he blew the forge until his iron was at a white heat. "Poor Bruno I I'll try it, though !"

smith wield his hammer with such from springs to beach, in search of will have no time left to be anything in less than two years, has not only by; but yet the horse stood still. giant force; and never before had that amusement, and were now tired and but a Christian.—S.S. Times. anvil rung out such mighty strokes The words he had just spoken seemed then discussed the fashions until one of to fill his already strong arm with her-culean power, and the iron was shaped ideas, apparently, told a story with a as if by magic. But, hark in spite of covert, immodest meaning. The men says: Keep absolute calm of temper models in clay very nicely, and is quite I can make him go, the deafening clang, that acream of smiled significantly; the women tried under all circumstances, receiving the original about it. For instance, when Then she went be terror has reached the striker's ear, to look unconscious; the young girls thing that is provoking or disagreeable told one day to make a stick of candy, held out the apple towards him, and he and, throwing down his hammer, he blushed painfully. rushes out to the mill-pond, where a

into the murky depths. "Ted Cobden's gettin' drowned I" hood of the logs.

figure is recovered and resuscitated, for position. figure is recovered and resuscitated, for position.

this is not the first time that the young blacksmith has brought back life's current to the stagnant heart. But took her seat at the table, and glanced warmth is needed now, so hastily quickly round at the circle of embar. This is exactly and completely true, ing, the greatest deprivations one bound at the circle of embar. The suite to give all you prossibly have is completely have is completed to give all you prossibly have is completely have is completely have in com fetching his coat, he folds it round the rassed faces. I saw that she under-meaning that you are to give all you possibly have, is something she knows The apple was a little thing, and child and hurries up the hill to the stood the situation, and that it was not have to Christ to take care of for you. far more about than you or I. O, chil-Polly was a little thing, but together

tion, together with his burden and ominous words, caused a momentary panic, in which the company seemed unable to comprehend the situation.

"At every meal this little woman, the bar hear meals down."

were applied, after which the child fell men, sometimes it was a stirring inci-into a quiet sleep; so, seeing that all dent of local history; again a question was well, Silas left as abruptly as he of politics or of religion.
had entered, and his absence was only discovered when the father thought of when I came to know her, 'mean well.

covered that the sufferer was a stran- are free from their faults. Censure

ger.
"Well, my man! What's the mat-

"How did you come by this?" in-

quired Rick, in tones of alarm. "Pistol went off in pocket," gasped the man.

"An accident, was it?"

The tramp nodded, and seeing there was no time to lose, Rick hurried away

come too late.

"Yes, He died for men, for bad ought to be superseded by a better men like you and me," said Silas, sol- class.—N. Y. Christian Advocate.

By the

pulseless breast. "Can you forgive me, old fellow?" he said, turning to doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on Rick: "I was mean enough to blame you for killing my dog—you who have stood by me good and true all these

"I believed you suspected me of you for ruining my mare out of revenge! Can you forgive, Silas?"

The men clasped hands in silent token of the words they could not utter in the presence of death, and of Him who forgives our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us .-N.Y. Observer.

### CLEARING THE AIR.

money than in mind or manners.

Never before did the lusty black- another, from mountain to springs, and ian. And one who does that faithfully blast. They chatted gossip for a while;

"There was a significant silence. I

rm-house.

a new one. She was greeted warmly Then, if He doesn't take care of it, of dren, if you could spend one day in the they did a good deed.— Youth's Com"Here's your boy, Cobden 1" he by the whole party, and began to talk course you know it wasn't worth anycompany of this child, I do not believe panion.

said, uncovering his bundle. "He with a certain gay cordiality of man-thing. And if He takes anything from you would ever murmur because the

and hot water, quick!"

The mother was the first to greep the truth, and soon the requisites next, some legend told her by the figher-

They have no wish to be wicked, but "I'll go there in the evening and their minds are like stagnant pools,

usually rouses opposition and ill-nature.

But when our own minds or those of others become turbid and foul, let us deal with them as with a chamber full of darkness and impure odors—open a window. The brain is cleansed by new and vigorous thoughts, just as the air of a closed room is cleansed by the sunlight and motion .- Youth's Companion.

novels is that they present no serious woman, who learned to see through her school for the blin J, and to the developfrom an alternoon's fishing. "I saw for help. In a few feeling words he him buryin' it down by the pond, and thanked Silas for the life of his child, clusively or chiefly produces an effect through the same medium. Doubtless have sat in darkness throughout a long clusively or chiefly produces an effect through the same medium. Doubtless have sat in darkness throughout a long I guess he thinks we killed it, for he said if I came there fishin' again he would have me 'rested for trespassin', and he never said a word to Pete Hayes."

If am sorry for Merner," said the father, "for he thought a sight of his dog, though I can't say I'm sorry it's dead; it was a mischievous brute at line of his child, clusively or chiefly produces an effect on the physical results of dawding one's life away without the physical results of dawding one's life away without effort on the part of the learner. Weeds and briars will all speed to "The Corners" on his reduced it was a mischievous brute at life, perhaps, is fast learning not only all the knowledge contained in books, and educated woman. Probably, too, many of you know that she recently died at the age of seventy, a happy and on the mind similar to the physical results of dawding one's life away without effort on the part of the learner. Weeds and briars will about little Helen Keller, the Southern of the learner. Weeds and briars will all speed to "The Corners" on his reduced woman. Probably, too, and the magazines better, far better, she is learning that the doctor was not at home, but the tiller's soil, but for a crop of corn one must plow, and plant, and rear and gather into harve with annuary many of you know that she recently life, perhaps, is fast learning not only all the knowledge contained in books, and educated woman. Probably, too, many of you know that she recently life, perhaps, is fast learning not only all the knowledge contained in books, and certain children's papers, so fast learning not only all the knowledge contained in books, and certain children's papers, so fast learning not only all the knowledge contained in books, and certain children's papers, so fast learning not only all the knowledge contained in books, and certain children's papers, is fast learning too, many of you know that she recently all the knowledge contained in books.

On arriving in the v dead; it was a mischievous brute at turn; so, with apparent disappoint- and reap, and gather into barns with times, and I as good as caught ment, the messenger retraced his steps, no little effort. No labour-saving management of stell the that between problems of stell the that between problems and painting of stell the that between problems and painting of stell the that between problems are the steps of stell the that between problems are the steps of stell the stell the stell the stell the stell the fearing that the aid he sought would chines of modern invention can elude markable intellect. But it is of still ties, that between right and wrong in the law: "In the sweat of thy face another blind and deaf and dumb girl our own natures. As he stumbled in the darkness over shalt thou eat bread." A similar law that I want to tell you. the threshold of the shop, a prolonged exists in the intellectual and spiritual "Sh!" came from the watcher, whom realm. The fascination of modern the watcher, whom realm. The fascination of modern the state of the shop and the shop are defined something.

As some of you know, there is a which you ought to have, remember this blind and deaf and dumb he discerned, by the dim light of a lan- literature may facilitate culture, but such unfortunates develop into good child. When your will is crossed, or tern, bending over the dying man, so can never make the path of wisdom scholars, trained workers and line you are urged by your parents or

### NEGLECTING THE PATTERN.

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

We wove a web of doubt and fear, Not faith, and hope, and love, Because we looked at our work, and not At our Pattern up above. -Phabe Cary.

### WORDS.

Words ought to have the same meaning and the same force in the re-ligious life as in the secular life. Thus, "serving" Christ means serving Him hear you, speak or see what you do, personally, just the same as "serving" learn anything?" you ask. is applied to a fellow-creature. No one presumes to serve another by keeping shut up in impenetrable darkness, at a distance and vaguely thinking nice thoughts about him. Yet that is what thoughts about him. Yet that is what sense of feeling, however. You know came to the hill near the house, the "I was a guest last August," said a field under the burning rays of a July sun. "It was the Master's way, and it must be right. Give me grace to do it, Lord I"

"I coals of fire!" exclaimed Rick next morning, as he toiled in the hay-field under the burning rays of a July sun. "I was a guest last August," said a lady, "at a small summer boarding. Christian service, virtually comes to. Serving Christ means to go right in with nerve and muscle, with voice, and house on the Maine coast. When I took my place at the table for the first with nerve and muscle, with voice, and than up and at it ime, I soon discovered that my fellowing tired, and then up and at it is to give perform until his iron was at more than in mind or manner.

again. That is what it is to give per- of all things within her reach. Laura to beat and scold him, but still he

### TEMPER.

things should vex you. \* \* \* Say many things.

said, uncovering his bundle. "He with a certain gay cordinity of man, thing. And if He takes anything from you would ever murmur because the was most gone; but he'll come all ner which had in it a rare charm, right with plenty of blankets and hot water."

"She had discovered some old coins in the village store; and had heard of others farther up the country. Who den entrance of Silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of Silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of Silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of Silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of Silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in such a condident of the field to dinner, and the sudden entrance of silas in the sudden entrance of silas in the sud

# The Children's Corner.

vexed about it but for this second St.

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;

For she never helps her mother, or her sister, or her brother, But forgetting all around her, lives entirely for herself.

So she simpers and she sighs, And she mopes and she cries, And knows not where the happy hours flee. Now, let me tell you privately, my darling little

friends, She's as miserable as miserable can be, And I fear she's not the little maid for me. But I know another little maiden,

tlee. Now, need I tell you privately, my darling

little friends, She's as happy as a little maid can be? This is surely the little maid for me. -Harper's Young People.

EYES, BUT THEY SEE NOT."

BOOKS WORTH READING. that most of you have heard of Laura good and noble Dr. Howe had not One mischievous feature of most Bridgman, the blind and deaf and dumb given his life to the establishment of a

farm, though I expected it would get him into trouble if he didn't tie it up, and so sent him word in time—as I thought."

A night or two after this a valuable mare belonging to Cobden was hopelessly lamed by being cut in the fetlock joints while grazing in the pasture field. Rick was grieved to the heart about it, not only on account of his loss, but because he believed Silas had taken

ferm, though I expected it would get tern, bending over the dying man, so can never make the path of wisdom practicable to the idle. Dickens says:

"No, never killed nobody; goin' to shoot dog if the poison is give improve the multitude of opportunities for study on every side of view of attention." The one serviceable, safe, certain, it is the quality in didn't work; bit me, so he did poorty improve the multitude of opportunities for study on every side of the child who is patiently beginnings of knowledge, has been started. There are thirty-one such children are placed to be taught the beginnings of knowledge, has been started. There are thirty-one such children there now, taken for the most of attention." Books which do not require close, attention contain little opportunities for study on every side of the healt work; bit me, so he did poorty improve the multitude of opportunities for study on every side of the healt work; bit me, so he did poorty improve the multitude of opportunities for study on every side of the healt work. The one serviceable, safe, certain, thought in the poison. Within three years a kintercher of the blind, where the little opportunities for study on every side of the children are placed to be taught the beginnings of knowledge, has been started. There are thirty-one such children are placed to be taught the beginnings of knowledge, has been striving to close, attention. The one serviceable, safe, certain, the internation is the poort beautiful to the children are placed to be taught the beautiful to the children are placed to be taught the bottlen are placed to be taught the beautiful to the childre

contribute any money to help these terior. kindergarten children to become educated, you can send it to the editor of this paper, who. I am sure, would gladly send it either directly to the school or to me for them.

Among the thirty-one sightless kindergartners is little Edith Thomas. She is now nine years old, and can neither see, hear nor speak. Edith was born in chairs of their own. with eye-sight and "ear sight," but, On the table was a when she was four years' old, suffered and two cookies and some "pop-corn." an attack of malignant scarlet sever and diphtheria, which left her totally blind cause, with a little help, they could and deaf. Since she could neither hear really be made to hold it in their hands. nor see, she soon lost the ability to

"But how can a person who cannot

It does seem as if such an one were learned the alphabet, but talks rapidly, In a moment Polly had a bright spells easily the common words, and thought. She caught up the red apple RUSKIN, in a letter to young girls, ond, or even the third, reader. She little form has just slipped from a log line of thought in a still broader anecinto the murky depths.

| dote. | voke you, thank Him for it the more, expressing the fact that it takes a penny lowed Polly, and quickly drew the
| dote. | dote. | dote. | |

for trusting him with a hard place to Many of the scholars have learned, eyes of my neighbours. All that was it does not in the least matter what phabet, so that they can talk with her. without it at my picnic eyes of my neignbours. All that was it does not in the least matter what phabet, so that they can talk with her. Indelicate in thought had been stirred happens to you—whether a clumsy clinched his fist, and hesitated a mount after repeating the name. "Coals of fire," Silas; but see, he is already to to protest, to utter a sharp rebuke; but the rescue I and soon the slimy little. I was a woman, poor, and of no social one thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is the sound none thing needful is that none of those the sound none thing needful is the sound none t

Edith has to have a special teacher; one who teaches ner, and no one else; as she has, of course, to be taught everything through her finger-tips instead of by spoken words, as her school-mates are taught. But she finds her way about the building without any trouble, dresses herself, and makes her own bed. She even shows the incompetent girls how to make their beds properly, and she will stand before a mirror and arrange her hair, just as if she could see herself in it. It would be interesting to know what sort of a picture of herself she has formed in her own mind. She is a pretty child, al-though her eyes are imperfect. But she has not the joyous, happy expression that one likes to see on a little girl's face. It seems as if the shadow of her great deprivation had settled it-self there. Besides, she suffers a great been known to encroach on foreign territory at times in pursuance of his besetting sin; and it had even been hinted that he was guilty of graver of fences, but of this we cannot speak with certainty. As boys, Rick and Silas had fought shoulder to shoulder in many a hard battle; in early manhood they had confided to each other hones. Ame the fences are free from the interior of the building, and, on push-interior of the building are are are are all the time.

There is scarcely a day, even in the push of ribons, but not a and does the right thing in the end.
She is full of fun and likes to frolic,

or to play jokes on the other children. When she entered the kindergarten she had no means of expressing herself, except by natural signs which she had established for herself. At the end of ten weeks she had learned forty-three CHILDREN, do you ever think to words, and at the close of the first year thank the heavenly Father for such she knew 400 words. This was a school common gifts as good eyes and ears year of eight months, not a whole year.

and the power of speech? No doubt | So, you see, this child, who, if the

When you are denied something who battles against herself and gains the By the way, if any of you want to victory .- Helen M. Winslow, in In-

# POLLY'S PICNIC.

Polly was having a picnic all by herself one day, out on the lawn under the big maple tree. She had carried out her table and chair, and her two dolls sat by her side

On the table was a nice red apple The popped corn was for the dolls, be-

Rover was stretched out on the grass, sound asleep. He was to have one of the cookies. "I forget what they do first at picnics," said Polly to herself. "I don't

think they begin by eating things."

The man who was driving him began

sonal service to a personal Saviour. Bridgman was three years learning the would not move. Then the man beat "They were gay, well-meaning peo- Sonal service to a personal Saviour. Bridgman was three years learning the would not move. Then the man beat ple, who had flitted from one hotel to the sona who does that faithfulled deaf and dumb alphabet and to spell and kicked him the harder, and Rover the simplest words; but Edith Thomas, woke from his nap and barked furious-

reads quite as well as those children in and ran out at the gate followed closely the public schools who are in the sec- by Rover, and she said to the man: "Please don't whip him any more.

Then she went before the horse, and o look unconscious; the young girls to you as coming directly from Christ's she obeyed, and then went on to make instantly forgot all his other plans, and, "An old man continued the same hand; and the more it is like to pro- a penny and spell money; her way of thinking only of getting the apple, followed the same hand; and the more it is like to pro-

heavy load to the top of the hill. "Now you shall have it," said Polly, cried a shrill voice from the neighbour- dared not look up lest I should meet the hold on the rampart. And remember, or are learning, the deaf and dumb al- as she gave him the apple, "I can do

and ate one cooky, and gave the other