Our Home Circle.

Never a word is said But it trembles in the air, And the truant voice has sped To vibrate every where; And rerhaps far off in eternal years The echo may ring upon our ears.

Never are kind acts done To wipe the weeping eyes, But like flashes of the sun They signal to the skies: And up above the angels read Liow we have helped the sorer need.

Never a day is given But it tones the after years, And it carries up to heaven Its sun-hine or its tears! While the to-morrows stand and wait, The silent mutes by the outer gate.

There is no end to the sky, And the stars are everywhere. And time is eternity. And the here is over there. For the common deeds of the common day Are ringing bells in the far-away.

At PRAYER HEARD.

On a pleasantly situated country- fall from our heads. seat not far from the little town of B- lived Herr L-, a very

ing had borne most blessed fruit. eyes toward the Lord. They were obedient to their parents, ed everywhere. The servants, ished to take great care over things, and to use their time, yet knew how to value a good service, and ing, still he does not let there be any lack of the needed strength. It was truly a happy family.

The father took upon himself the

Some Christian friends who lived only passed too quickly.

ed the door and saw standing on rattled. the door-steps two uncommonly tall men, who handed him a letter, and cried one of the servants. "See, the Brahmin religion as the evil wise and helpful companionship, said with an insolent air, "Give see, the hay-shed is-burning!" this writing to your master, and

missive.

from pleasant. But, my love, ban- in whom the house servant recog- forward, one by one, and give the ish all fear; for in this case, too, we nixed one of the strangers who had chips which they had drawn. can say, 'If God be for us, who can the evening before given him the He was obeyed; but scarcely had be against us?' Arm yourself with letter of which we have spoken. It a dozen men passed when the col- alone," continued the grave-digger; courage, and I will read the letter was in fact, the much feared robber onel suddenly sprang forward, "when he visits the wife's grave, to you:

thalers (£:000) at the the gate of lay, a corpse, torsaken by his com- knees. "I'll bring back the money down under his white hairs, and he your garden. In case of refusal, panions in evil, who had fled as soon |-I'll bear any punishment you took his way up by that ruined wall your beautiful house will this night as they saw their leader fall. be given up to the flames.—TIE

LEADER had finished reading. The children tonishment seized them all. wept in great alarm, and the serquite calm. After a little reflection hood insecure.

f it should be according to the ish Messenger.

counsel of God's will that my house should be a prev to the flames. I hope to be able to say, 'Lord, thy will be done!' only it is certain that you have to power to accomplish this; God is almighty; but what ever godless designs you may have determined on, he reigns.

Yours, L-At this moment there was again a loud knocking at the outer door, and the servant hastened to take his master's letter to the strangers. They read the writing by the aid of a dark lantern, and in a tone of the utmost menace called out to the servant, "A friendly greeting to your master; we shall soon present our thanks to him in person." With these words they hastened away.

When the servant returned to the sitting-room the master barred all in, and then said, "Let us kneel down and pray to that powerful One vithout whose will can no hair

All obeyed, and followed with deep devotion their master's words worthy Christian man. His wife of entrenty, as he commended himwas an estimable woman, who was self and his household to the care his true helper in training up their of his God of strength. They were little ones to the same throne of words that came from the depth of grace where they themselves sought his believing heart, and they could from the Lord wisdom and strength, not be unheard. All rose up Those who saw the dear children strengthened, and now awaited could not doubt that this up-bring- their time of severe trial, with their

"Now let us wait courageously, aimiable to each other and kindly and see what the Lord will bring and modest to strangers. The us," said Herr L-. "Whatever headed old Scotchman who had house, too, was quite a model house- he sen is us is good, and he will not spent the best part of his life in Inhold. Everything was in its right; let us want for strength; hashe not dia, and knew the Hindoos and place; order and cleanliness reign- said. I will never leave thee nor their ways by heart. He heard for sake thee?' so that we may bold- the story to an end, without any though they were strictly admon- ly say, 'The Lord is my helper; I sign of what he thought of it, will not fear what man shall do except a twinkle in the corner of

seldom left but under circumstances | could not go to the little town for morning parade. of absolute necessity. For those help, because it was too far off, and When the Colonel appeared on who loved and sought after worldly | they feared to meet the robbers on | the ground everybody expected that amusements did not suit in Herr | the way. The great bell, which | the first thing would be an enquiry L-'s house, and would indeed they generally use to call together about the stolen money; but this soon have had warning to leave. the neighbors in case of any unex- was not the Colonel's way. Every The whole family was daily gath- pected emergency that required thing went off the same as usual, ered to examine the word of God their help, had been sent to the and the thief probably cauckled to together; the morning's work was town a few days before to be repair- himself at the idea of getting off so begun by prayer, the evening was ed. In short, it was as if God would easily. But if so he chuckled a litclosed in the same way. These show them that from him alone help the too soon. Just as the parade were seasons of real refreshing and should come. The wind howled was over, and the men were about strengthening. In such a house from time to time with great vio- to "dismiss," the Colonel stepped the Lord lingers lovingly; and if lence around the solitary dwelling, forward and shouted "Hait!" would increase the coming terrors | The Colonel planted himself right of the night.

o'clock in the morning loud peals | ticed for the first time), and rung labor of instructing his children in announced a severe thunder-storm, ning his eye keenly over the total tion, while the mother took care companied with loud resounding nee. enough her daughters should be ac- observed the little family now, they among you who are not 'true to grave." peared more calm. One danger money of the Rannee of Inglistan I inquired. seemed to have chased the other (Queen of Englan I), steal from offiin the neighborhood came now and from their minds, and none of them | cers. But such misdeeds never go then to the house, and such visits thought any more of the robbers unpunished. Last night (here the this was the tombstone glorified by and their threats.

On a stormy harvest evening a Then suddenly a bright flash of and solemn) I had a dream. I tribute ever paid to wife or woman, loud knocking was heard at the out- lightning zigzagged through the dreamed that a black cloud hovered in which the illustrious literary er door of this peaceful house. The air; a fearful crack followed instan- over me, and out of it came a figure giantservant hurried to answer it, open- taneously, so that all the windows -the figure of Kali.'

It was true, and soon they saw bring us an answer as quickly as the building of which he spoke in possible; we will wait for it. But flames; it was a happy thing that it stood far enough off to prevent imperious manner, but promised to the last. With distant mutterings of your men a sprinter of bamboo, obey their orders, and come back the storm died away, and the wind and the thief, let him do what he as soon as possible. He hurried to calmed down. But still they did may, will be sure to get the longletter, but remained waiting in or- robbers. After a quarter of an dread my vengeance." der to read in his master's counte- hour had elapsed a sound was heard By this time every soldier on the nance what all this could mean, and outside, and soon they could dis- ground was looking so frightened, was a great man, the greatest man what might be the contents of the tinguish the well known voices of that had the Colonel expected to of the age in books; and that his and felt not a little anxious when extinguish the fire. Now Herr ment equally guity. But his plan other great men lying near at hand, the house became as he read the to the burning building. But ima- signal each man in turn drew a reach beyond the graveyard, and "We have a letter here," he be- consumed by the flames, there lay at the Colonel held; and when all were gan, "the contents of which are far a little distance the body of a man supplied, he ordered them to come band stands before your house with was approaching to execute his "You're the man!" the positive demand that you shall, eruel and desperate purpose of setbefore break of day, deposit 20,000 ting fire to the house. There he howled the culprit, falling on his a sight of him, and he was bowed

The fire was soon quenched by the vengeance of Kan." the help of kind neighbors, and "Oh, thou God in heaven!" sigh- Herr L- related the remarkable ed the mother, when her husband circumstance to them. Deep as- you're ever caught again, you know

When they went to carry away thered together, trembled as if they him which put them on the track

Thus had the Almighty God dream? "Sir: Your imperious command made evident that it is to him a eserves a decided answer. I will light matter to bring to nothing the "The fact is, those bamboo chips and wandered through the grave position and to escape merely mor- he would part with everything he

REUNION.

I think, sometimes, when sitting all alone, What would it be to see the faces blest Of those who long since entered into rest, Whose brows with light celestial long have

What would it be to hear again the tone Of voices that erst filled me through with love, Whose music long since joined the choir

above,
And left me silent in a worldless moan; What would it be to hear the light steps steal Over the threshold of my solitude? O vain, fond fancies of a yearning heart! Be patient; and in heaven thou yet shalt feel That chief among the joys of life renewed,

Are the reunions that can never part.

AN EAST INDIAN STORY.

The following story is perfectly true, and was told by the Colonel of the 91st Highlanders.

There was a terrible stir in the barracks of the -th Native Infantry at Sekunderland (Alexander's Town) one bright morning at the beginning of the "dry season." Some money had been stolen from the officers' quarters during the night, and all that could be made out about it was that the theft must have been committed by one of those inside the building, for nobody had got in from without.

The officers' native servants and the Sepoy soldiers, to a man, stoutly declared that they knew nothing about it; and the officer of the day, with very great disgust, went to make his report to the Colonel.

Now the Colonel was a hardhis small grey eye; and then he Midnight has just struck. They gave orders to turn out the men for

in front of the line (carrying a small But what happened? About two bag under his arm, as was now no-

would have seen that they all ap- their salt,' and after taking the

At the name of this terrible godone in our own) the swarthy faces says that, by her death, the light of turned perfectly livid, and more life is clean gone out. than one stalwart fellow was seen to shiver from head to foot.

"'There is a thief among your

" Mercy, mercy, Sahib" (master)

"Well," said the Colonel, sternly, " I'll forgive you this once; but if what to expect. Dismiss!

getting the longest, bit off the end of his, and so I knew him at once. Take my word for it, there'll be no more thieving in the regiment

And indeed there never was .-Harper's Young People.

while I'm its Colonel.

SOD HOUSES.

On the praries, far from the wools, where log cabins are impracticable, the sod house is made as a substitute. To build one, a man goes on to the prairie with his team and breaking plow, and turns a straight, smooth sod some three or four inches thick. This sod is very tough. When sufficient has been turned over, the sod is cut into squares and laid up in a wall as though it were flat stones. Door frames and window frames are set in as the wall rises. When the height of one story is reached a small timber is set up at each end and a ridge pole placed upon them, and the sod wall built up or into the gable. On this ridge there rest smaller poles for rafters, and on these sod is laid in courses, the courses overlapping each other like shingles, "so many inches to the weather." The only money outlay is caused by windows and doors. If well built, the house will stand for years. Inside, one may "sweeten to taste." In the ruder huts the walls are uncovered. In others some are covered with cheap cloth, some with building paper and wall paper pasted over it, while some are plastered and made as comfortable as any room need to be. Once inside you would not know but you were in a stone or brick house. Then you will sometimes find elegant furniture, the remains of better days; sometimes a piano and the skill to play it; choice books, which indicute literary tastes; the latest papers and magazines, which show that the inmates keep up with the times. Indeed, it is surprising to know how many families of refinement and cultured taste, being unfortunate, make a fresh start in life on the vast prairies.

MRS. CARLYLES GRAVE.

A New York editor, travelling in trials and provings are not want- and it appeared as if the storm The men wonderingly obeyed. England, made a visit to old Haddington cathedral, and with this interesting and pathetic result: With pride the sexton showed the efficies, showing also other titled names that all the various branches of know- Soon one flash of lightning follow- ranks of white frocks and dark said he, while moving along as he decorate the spot. "And there." ledge belonging to a good educa- ed another with great rapidity, ac- faces, spoke to them in Hiudoosta- pointed out a flagpost bearing two that as soon as they were old thunder. If any one could have "Soldiers! I find there are dogs years old, "there is Mrs. Carlyle's

"The wife of Thomas Carlyle?"

"Ay," said he, "ay av." And I saw that it was, and that Colonel's tone became very deep that immortal epitaph, the fuest

Mightlest Titan of ruggedest mind Frowning majestic on feeble mankind .-"The lightning has struck!" dess (who holds the same place in sfter referring to her long years of

"And Mr. Carlyle," "said the sexton, comes here from London now and then to see this grave. He is a sick-room was happier than theirs | wager. The disappointment was The servant was not a little amaz- any danger of the house catching soldiers, she said, and I will teach gaunt shaggy, weird kind of old in circles of more selfish amuse- almost too much for the little girl. ed at the big strangers and their fire. That clap of thunder was you how to detect him. Give each man, looking very old the last time ments and display. he was here.

"He is eighty six, now," said I. "Ay, he repeated, "eightysix, the sitting-room and delivered the not venture to go out for fear of the est; and when he is found let him and comes here to this grave all the it is said can, from their posts of way from London.'

And I told the sexton that Carlyle

brought here to be buried with his wife; ay."

"He comes here lonesome and chief, who had been struck by light | seized a tall Rajpoot by the throat, | his niece keeps him company to the 'SIR: The leader of a numerous ning at the very moment when he and shouted, in a voice of thunder, gate, but he leaves her there, and she stays there for him.

The last time he was here, I got please—only don't give me up to of the old cathedral, and around there, in here by the gateway, and tottered up here to this spot.

Softly spake the grave-ligger and paused. Softer still, in the broad dialect of the Lothians, he proceeded: "I say, C-, how on earth "And he stood here awhile in the vants, who all had by this time ga- the deadman they found a paper on did you manage that?" asked the grass, and then kneeled down and senior Major, as he and the Colonel staid on his knees at the grave; already heard the crackling of the of the other miscreants, who had walked away together; "I suppose then bent over and I saw him kiss flames; only the father was again for a long time made the neighbor- you don't want me to believe that the ground—ay he kissed it again you really did get that idea in a and again, and he kept kneeling, what supply there is grows shy, the bitterness of his sorrow was and it was a long time before he and wealth is tending to ally itself, past, he loved the little shovel for "Hardly," laughed the Colonel. rose and tottered out of the cathedral with wealth, both to strengthen its her sake. Lewis is a man now, and ot comply with your requisition. purposes of men.—Cer. of the Brit- were all exactly the same length; yard to the gate, where his niece cenary importunities. Where there owns rather than that; and many

SISTER DORA.

A woman died in England, a few

weeks ago, with a strange history:-Dorothy Patterson was the daughter of a clergyman, a delicate and even sickly girl in childhood, and a member of a family of high social position in a class where women are carefully sheltered from the world as are Easter lilies from the winter wind. When Dorothy reached womanhood, however, she became remarkably beautiful, and developed the strength and energy of a man. She followed the hounds, dressed and danced, and tried to find a field for her enormous vitality in ordinary out to clear a path to the street. ways, but in vain.

At last she resolved to devote her life to others. She gave up fashionable life, and took a village school to teach, to discipline herself.

Afterward, she joined a religious charitable society, nursed the sick, scrubbed the floors, cleaned grates, etc., but even this menial work did not satisfy her restless energies.

a small-pox hospital, in the Black she thought everything Lewis did Country of England, and there she | delightful. Lewis, in her eye, was found her proper work and place. a hero of heroes, and she never was

wonderful beauty, keen delight in a some service for him. Lewis knew laugh, and sound common sense, it, and though he didn't mean to do gained her a commanding influence any serious wrong, he sometimes over the rough miners. Her life used his power rather harshly, like was given wholly to their service, too many boys with their sisters, Her medical and surgical skill was I

On one occasion, when the doctors had decided that a patient's arm too. must come off, Sister Dora declared that she could save it. She was warned that the man would die, but her mother. she persisted, and for weeks never left his bedside. She succeeded.

Years afterward, when she lay ill, his man would walk ten miles on a help him." Sunday to ask for her "Tell her it | was 'her arm' that rang the bell," he would say, and go back again.

She knew no fear when nursing her patients, and often when a man | said, "Please do, mother." was sinking into the collapse which

would babien.

her tender sympathy that she main- skipped as happy as a snow-bird. tained her absolute control over men of this district. She influenced them to give up drinking and immorality.

When "Sister Dora" died, thousands of the miners came to follow | cried in loving tones, at the same

many women, nor is it desirable clean path. that it should be. Yet it is stirring to hear of as a trumpet-note in its noble purpose. We are glad, too, They are more plague than profit." to know that on her death-bed she said:

"If I had my life to live again, I should marry. It is better for a woman to love some one to whom she can be in subjection."

power of great energies absorbed for? and what business have you in good works, under a sense of re- with my whovel? Always getting ligious duty, and contrasts strongly | my things." with the lives of many of the fashionable friends of her youth. cannot doubt that her life in the vigorously on, as if working for a

The officers of the ocean steamers, observation on "the bridge," tell more of what is going on among the passengers-firtations and elopements-and better judge of their ominous letter. The mother, too, and neighbors whom the sight of the detect the thier by his looks, he name was known all over the world; character and characteristics, wheththe children surrounded the father, flames had called together to help might have thought the whole regicommercial travellers, clergymen, they saw how pale the master of L and his family hurried out was far deeper than that. At his though I told him their fame did not or grass widows, than the passengers learn below. One of these observing gine their astonishment-still un- bamboo chip from the bag which brought him back to talk of Carlyle, captains declares that he knows "Mr. Carlyle himself," said the whether a youg woman has left her grave-digger softly, "is to be lover at one port or expects to meet ings," said mother. him at the other, The explanation, amazing things is simple enough. With a small twinge in his con-If her lover is behind her, she cares science. Oh, if Lewis had only nothing for wind, rain, or fog, but known it was to be his last chance gets tanned, freckled, and roughers of being kind to his dear little sister ed in a highly healthful and inde- and making her happy! That night pendent fashion. But, if her lover is the scarlet fever set in, and after waiting for her, she takes infinite ten days Lewis saw her no more. trouble with veils and other com. A miserable boy was he. "If I plexion preservatives.

> MARRYING FOR MONEY.—There never was a time when heiresses were in so great demand, or when worldly mammas smiled more approvingly on the attentions of pros. perous young men to their daugh- upset him. Cince he took the axe ters. This fact has been very plain- to chop it up, and get it out of his ly shown at all the watering places | sight | but he could not do it, Mary this summer. In truth, the demand | held it last in her dear little hands; is so active and so manifest that and after a long, long while, when is money on both sides, it is feit a tear he still sheds over it.

that matrimony is safer; and perhaps it is. Young men who are on the hunt for heiresses do not deserve to be encouraged; and young women who put a money price on their affections may well be left among the ansold goods.

Our Young Folks.

THE LITTLE SNOW SHOTEL.

The front yard had a thick coat of snow on, when Lewis put on his greatcoat and comforter, shouldered the new big snow shovel, and went The storm was over, and as the bright morning sun shone on the snow-capped twigs, rails, and posts, they sparkled with a thousand brilliants.

"See him, mother," cried Mary who stood at the window watching Lewis, and enjoying his somersets in the snow before beginning the more serious business of shovelling. At last she became a manager of Mary thought it was delightful. Sister Dora's masculine strength, happier than when she could do

> The sun, the snow, and Lewis proved almost too tempting for the little girl. She wanted to go out

> "Is it not rather biting for a little girl who is not very well?" asked

"I won't play in the snow, mother," said Mary; "let me have Lewis's little shovel, and go out and "Perhaps he doesn't want you,"

said her mother, quite willing to throw a hindrance in the way. Mary did not believe that, so she

Mary had been sick, but she was precedes death from small-pox, she better; and her mother thought, would place her lips to his, and in- maybe if her little girl was well flate his lungs with her healthy wrapped up, the clear winter air breath, in hopes of restoring vitality. | might be good for her; shovelling, Her strength was so great that too, would help to keep her warm she lifted men and carried them from and glowing. So the mother put one ward to another, as other women on her little red hood, cloak, mittens, and tippet, and put into her hand Yet she never lost her womanli- the small wooden shovel which ness; and it was through this and | Lewis had outgrown, and out Mary

Lewis was well along with his path; he prided himself on his paths. Down she bounded to him, with the little shovel in both hands.

"I come to help you, Lewis," she their faithful friend to the grave. instant scooping up the light snow. Such a life is not possible to It scattered, and flew back on the "Get out!" cried Lewis, hastily.

"I don't want girls bothering me. "Shan't I help you?" asked Mary, "No," answered the boy, with a

boy's unthinking roughness. "You are a real bother. You are always in my way. Stand back, Dora Patterson's life shows the wont you? What are you out here

> Mary stood back. Lewis took no We notice of her, but kept shoveling She slowly backed into the house, and threw herself into her mother's

"Lewis doesn't want me," she sobbed, and the tears ran fast and thick down her little cheeks. Mother tried to comfort the little grieved

After a while Lowis came stampthe look of affectionate reproach which she cast on him, "Why what's the matter with Mary?" he

"I am afraid you hurt her feel-

"Our Mary is getting to be a real like the explanation of many other cry-baby," he said, marching off, but

had only been kind to Mary. If I'd only said, So you shall help me, Mary, and showed her how to shovel," he repeated to himself again, and again. 'If I only had; if I only had." This is remorse, conscience biting

back again. The sight of the little shovel quite

Sunday LESSON

THE PROI

I.-THE CO:

This was though be own son wa ment of the " Was vist is either in in mercy of Was now vis angels or pr of second ca under the d God himself the purpose redemption actually red from guilt

Satan and t " A horn prophetic te cxxx11. 16) bol in the C animals the the develops val at mat thus a symu

" In the he The whole feetly Zack spective mis children w nounced by carries us b successiou o told the con began with promise was through No Isaiah and there bad testimony, b and more in course dark and sil dred years, Zicharias 1 aublime stra an iliustrat

II.-THE P

Isaiah wrote

The latter former. thought the influence about the M deliverer. tion of which delivered fi " Serve Hiu and righteo days of our the duties righteousnes our fellow i " expresses it of the so those exte from it, w mercy. out in regar are to rend 1. Its natur vice ; 2. 1 out of the at liberty t from the f us before. der the infl filial confid the days of

III.—THE THIS GR

" The Pe the Highes " John was as sent by John ackno he predicte tion, discou acter and pointed His trust to gu called the verse 35; 84ge are an Messiah's were prepar the Highest, styled His s 77 are a dis nature of the 71-75). It ed " by the is no salvat introductor a state of sa tion of the in which we Jesus Hime purpose of xxlv. 46, 47 states it to tion (Eph. i realized th are our sins if we will of Christ. W a conscious the forgiven " The Su

of the propi (Mul. iv. Church was light (Isa. light to the and the sha The fulfilm prophecies the watcher light of day the horizon pears.

IV.—THE

OF

He grewоршент-ап in intellectu velopment.