

ments as cards, and hence Christians very properly object to them as a fit amusement at their social gatherings.

## HAPPY SUNDAY.

The Bible teaches us to "call the Sabbath a delight," Isa. lviii. 13. Of all the days in the week, we should love it the best. Every day should be a happy day, but Sunday should be the happiest of all. Let us see how the parents of little Mary and James taught them to keep a happy Sunday.

First they were taught to prepare for it. On Saturday night they put away all their playthings and work, and they thought no more of them till Monday came. They then got their books ready; and their clean clothes were laid out, so that there might be no hurry or confusion on Sunday morning.

Mary and James got up earlier on Sunday than on any other day of the week. Some children think they may lie much later on that day than on any other day; and their parents have to call them two or three times before they arise from their beds. But those who wish to spend a happy Sunday, must be up betimes.

When Mary and James were dressed, they did not idle away their time. After kneeling in prayer, they came from the rooms. Mary helped her mother to get the breakfast, and James sat in a corner, learning two verses of a hymn.

When it was near school time, they kissed their father and mother, and hastened to meet their teachers with a cheerful smile. They were always among the first scholars in the class; and as they had learned their lessons at home in the week, there was no time lost when they were in the school. They loved their kind teachers and tried to profit by their instructions. Mary and James had been taught how to behave themselves in the house of God. They did not trifle and play, or look about them, or go to sleep; but joined in the sacred service, and listened to the minister. They used to find out the text, that they might repeat it to mother before going to bed.

On their return from school in the afternoon, they were not allowed to go out to play or talk with rude boys and girls. Sometimes they would tell their parents some of the pious things which their teachers had said; or they read a chapter in the Bible together. After tea they sang a hymn. They were very fond of singing—

"See the kind Shepherd, Jesus, stands,  
With all-engaging charms;