

A PARABLE.

"Oh, dear! I'm so tired of Sunday!" So said Willie, a playful little boy, who was longing for the Lord's Day to be over, that he might return to his amusements.

"Who wants to hear a story?" said a kind friend who was present. "I, sir," "And I," "And I," said the children, as they gathered around him.

Then he told them a parable. Our Saviour, when he was on earth, often taught the people by parables.

The parable told the little boys, was of a kind man who had some very rich apples hanging on a tree. The poor man was passing by the house of the owner, and he stopped to admire this beautiful apple tree. He counted these ripe golden pippins—there was just seven of them. The rich owner could afford to give them away; and it gave him so much pleasure to make this poor man happy, that he called him and said:

"My friend, I will give you part of my fruit."

So he held out his hand, and received six of the apples. The owner had only kept one for himself.

Do you think the poor man was grateful for his kindness? No, indeed. He wanted the seven pippins all for himself. And at last he made up his mind that he would watch his opportunity, and go back and steal the other apple.

"Did he do that?" said Willie, very indignant. "He ought to have been ashamed of himself. And I hope he got well punished for stealing that apple."

"How many days are there in a week, Willie?" said his friend.

"Seven," said Willie blushing deeply: for now he began to understand the parable, and he felt a uneasy sensation at his heart. Conscience began to whisper to him, "And ought a boy to be ashamed of himself who is unwilling on the seventh day to lay aside his amusements, if he will not 'remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy?'"

—Parish Visitor.

HUNTING IN AFRICA.

Dr Livingstone in his book on Africa, tells how some of the tribes conduct the chase. With logs and brush they construct large pits or traps into which the wild animals are driven. The natives go round the neighborhood and start their game, closing in upon them and chasing them towards what appears to the hunted animals as a friendly shelter, when in reality it turns out to be a death-trap. There they struggle for their lives, but the large number of dexterous hunters who surround the pit soon silence in death the frantic cries of their doomed victims.

How many snares and pit-falls there are everywhere, into which Satan seeks to drive his prey, pre-

cious immortal souls! Boys and girls, grown men and women, have to be on their guard, for the enemy is constantly seeking whom he may devour.—Golden Hours.

THE Lord's Prayer is not, as some fancy, the easiest, the most natural, of all devout utterances. It may be committed to memory quickly, but it is slowly learned by heart. A life time will not exhaust all the meaning it contains. A child may repeat the words easily; the best and the wisest can never outgrow it.

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