

needed not the correction of stripes, even lightly applied.

"Served you right!" said the father, when the story was ended. "No business to have done so. Do as you are told and mind your work and you'll escape flogging. Otherwise I don't care how often you get it. You've been spoiled at home, and it'll do you good to toe the mark. Did your master know you were coming home to night?"

"No, sir," replied the boy, with trembling lips, and choking voice.

"Then what did you come for? To get pitied? Do right, and you'll need on pity."

"Oh, James, don't speak 'so to the child!" said Mrs. Warren, unable to keep silence.

This was answered by an angry look.

"You must go back to your master, boy," said the father, after a pause. "When you wish to come home, ask his consent."

"He doesn't object to my coming home," said Willy, his voice still quivering.

"Go back, I tell you! Take your hat, there and go back. Don't come here any more with your tales."

The boy glanced towards his mother, and read pity and sympathy in her countenance, but she did not countermand the order; for she knew that if she did so, a scene of violence would follow.

"Ask to come home in the morning," said she to her boy, as she held his hand tightly in hers at the door. He gave her a look of tender thankfulness, and then went forth into the darkness, feeling so sad and wretched that he could not repress his tears.

Seven years. And was only this time required to effect such a change. Ah! rum is a demon! How quickly does it transform the tender husband and parent into a cruel beast! Look upon these two pictures, *ye who tarry long at the wine*. Look at them, but do not say they are over drawn. They have in them only the sober hues, and subdued colors of truth.

Lightning.

Q. If a person be *abroad* in a thunder storm, what place is the *safest*?

A. Any place about twenty or thirty feet from a tall tree, building, or stream of water.

Q. Why would it be safe to stand

twenty or thirty feet from a tall tree, during a thunder storm?

A. Because the lightning would always choose the *tall tree* as a conductor; and we should not be sufficiently near the tree, for the lightning to diverge from it to us.

Q. If a person be in a *carriage* in a thunder storm, in what way can he travel most *safely*?

A. He should not lean *against* the carriage, but sit upright, without touching any of the four sides.

Q. Why should not a person lean *against* the carriage in a storm?

A. Because the electric fluid might run down the sides of the carriage; and (if a person were leaning against them) would make a choice of *him* for a conductor, and perhaps destroy life.

Q. If a person be in a *house* during a thunder storm, what place is *safest*?

A. Any room in the middle story. The centre of the room is the best; especially if you place yourself on a mattress, bed, or hearth-rug.

Q. Why is the *middle story* of a house safest in a thunder storm?

A. Because the fluid (if it struck the house at all) would be diffused among the several conductors of the *upper* part of the house, before it reached the *middle* story; in consequence of which its force would be weakened.

Q. Why is the *middle* of a room more safe than any other part of it in a thunder storm?

A. Because the lightning (if it should strike the room at all,) would come down the *chimney* or *walls* of the room; and, therefore, the further distant from these, the better.

Q. Why is a *mattress, bed, or hearth rug*, a good security against injury from lightning?

A. Because they are all *non-conductors*; and, as lightning always makes choice of the *best* conductors, it would not choose for its path such things as these.

Q. What is the *safest* thing a person can do to avoid injury from lightning?

A. He should draw his bedstead into the middle of his room, commit himself to the care of God, and go to bed; remembering that our Lord has said, "The very hairs of your head are all numbered."

No great danger need really to be apprehended from lightning, if you avoid taking your position near tall trees, spires, or other elevated objects.—From "*Familiar Science*," edited by R. E. Peterson.