

OUR HOME CIRCLE.

THE PASSING OF SUMMER.

The summer wanes—the noontide shadows fall. A little farther to the north each day; And I half-father that a mystic call...

INCIDENTS OF AN EARTHQUAKE.

Rev. Dr. Vernon, of Rome, gives in the Central Christian Advocate some touching incidents of the earthquake at Casamicciola:

A cradle and child, which were high up in a hotel, after the wreck of the building were found on the ground floor, the cradle lodged over the mouth of a well, the child safe in the cradle! Even a child is of more value than many sparrows...

On July 31st a corporal of the sharpshooters, hearing a voice under the ruins within a house, some walls of which were tottering to a fall, dashed into the midst of the imminent peril and began excavating.

For once the theater proved a comparatively safe place, as most of those assembled there escaped unhurt, the building being wooden; but even here, as often, its frivolous gaiety seems more mad than merry, and his comedy a mere prelude to a real tragedy.

A week after the earthquake, on the mail ship Umbria plying between Naples and Ischia occurred the following touching scene: The vessel halted just a few yards off the little island of Procida to take on the mail.

MADAGASCAR.

The island of Madagascar, which is exciting just now considerable attention in both England and France, appears to rise, says a writer in The Nineteenth Century, like a huge sea monster out of the waters.

forest, varying from ten to forty miles in width, and containing fine timber and valuable gums and other vegetable wealth—a paradise for botanists, where rare orchids, the graceful traveller's-tree, the delicate lattice-leaf plant, the gorgeous flamboyant, and many other elsewhere unknown forms of life abound, and where doubtless much still awaits fuller research.

TRIFLES.

What will it matter in a little while That for a day We met and gave a word, a touch, a smile, Upon the way?

WOMEN ON THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

In Des Moines, Iowa, as a test of popular feeling, the women voted on the license question, twelve declaring in favor of saloons and eight hundred against them.

HABIT OF UNTRUTH.

Some men seem to have a constitutional inability to tell the truth. They may not mean to lie or tell an untruth, but they are careless—careless in hearing, careless in understanding, careless in repeating what is said to them.

is no firebrand like the well-meaning busybody, who is continually in search of scandal, and by sheer habit misquotes everybody's statements.

The effects of this careless misrepresenting of others are seen everywhere. Its effect on the individual is to confirm him into a habit of loose, distorted and exaggerated statement, until telling the truth becomes a moral impossibility.

ON THE MOUNT.

Though I am not, just now, in the furnace as you are, there is no knowing how soon I shall be, and I remember well enough how the furnace feels to have deep sympathy with you in your trials.

NO TIME TO PRAY.

No time to pray! O, who so fraught with earthly care As not to give to humble prayer Some part of day?

A SAD CATECHISM.

Question. What is the population of the city of New York. Answer. 1,206,299. Q. How many places of religious worship in the city? A. 489.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

ONE STITCH AT A TIME.

Aunt Mary sat with her knitting in her hands. Her needles were large and white, and her worsteds were gray and brilliant.

take me about a year," Aunt Mary placidly answered, "and I have not been in a bit of a hurry. I knew that if I took onestichata time and kept on, after awhile I would finish my work if my life was spared.

"I would love to," answered Lucy. "I will begin this afternoon, if mother will let me." She ran to ask her mother's permission. Presently back she came, bringing a little work-box and a very useful face.

"A month's work, Aunt Mary," said Lucy, with a deep sigh. "Yes, my pet; but only one stitch at a time, and they will be all off your hands and out of your way in a little while.

"Not forever and ever. I dislike your school-girl habit of exaggeration, dear. It violates the truth. It will probably take you, with your studies and your various duties, about two years, but it will be a splendid discipline for you. One stitch at a time, and the work will look out for itself."

"I KNOW A THING OR TWO."

"My dear boy," said a father to his only son, "you are in bad company. The lads with whom you associate indulge in bad habits. They drink, smoke, swear, play cards, and visit theaters. They are not safe company for you. I beg you to quit their society."

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