### Jumily Depuntment.

A HARD LESSON.

A TALM.

[Written for the Church Guardian.] (Continued.)

He had decided the matter for himself, but nevertheless it was a relief to him when he heard the long, keen whistle of the train, which told him that hesitation was no longer possible. Half an-hour's

familiar to the eyes of Archie Lonnox.

The iron gate awang back from his moment, listening with a loudly-beating heart. Yes, she know it was his stop, and before he could touch the bell, the door was opened, and she had stretched out her hands in sweet welcome "Archie!" the one word contained a world of gladness, love and trust. When the first delight of meeting was over, and they were sitting, hand in hand, saying the thousand things that lovers will, after a three months parting, Mrs. Goodwin came home with Trixic. who had been spending the day with a small friend. The older lady had in Archio's eyes ever the same sweet face that had smiled upon him as a lonely child, and indeed it was a beautiful face still, though since her husband's death, the brightness had given place to a quiet sadness. Mother and daughter were strikingly like each other, the more beauty of feature in both being second to the beauty of expression. As for Trixie, taken off his overcoat and, remembering she is not four years old, and yet, as she Trixie's invariable habit of investigating tion of elfin leveliness amongst them. part interpreted by her ignorant elders.

out his hand to draw the child to him, there, and, at last, feel something, some-It was not so easy to capture her, but after thing, of course, that Santa Claus has pur a while she condescended to sit upon his there for her. She pulls it ent, and knee and investigate the pockets which holding it tight, descends in the same were usually an unfailing depository of undignified fashion from her high perch. toys or delectable sweeties. But to-night She takes the stool down, too, and drags the pockets contained nothing of interest, it back into the dining-room, where a

"Bad, bad, Chee-chee !" She said, shaking her head with great disapproval, "Tixie no weeties." "Chee chee has brought nothing but himself," said "Archie, laughing, and was very near his having been on his way to the station, his having been on his way to the station, and how it had come to pass that he was with them after all. "Don't be alarmed," he added, "seeing a little look of anxiety flit across the face turned towards him, there will be abundance of time to see Miss old piece of furniture is partly let into the path added I should have rebelled at once, when Dryson proposed my going, only that this wery morping something had the path added, happened which was ene of the thousand. I'm a ship, made of parts and powers, and worth forty times what the stock in the panh of the panh of the carved top of a small old-fash into the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was made, unterly useless to the end for which I was certainly a strange get into this sea before us. There I shall get into this sea before us. There I shall get into this sea before us. There I shall get into this sea before us. There I shall get into this sea before us. There I shall get into this sea before us. There I shall get into this sea before us. There I shall come immediately to the piano, take his place, open his mouth, whilst he shook all get into this sea before us. There I shall get into this sea before us. There I shall get into this sea before us. There I shall get into this sea before us. There I shall get into this sea before us. There I shall get into t that this very morning something had thappened which was one of the thousand reasons I wanted to see you to night; and wanted to see you present a mans conversion, and say men are lost if not so changed out wanted to work and such as well as a well

been so glad of Archie's success, and the women's eyes filled with tears.

The evening passed only too quickly, an ovening to which they were destined to look back with a strange regret. They had so much to say to each other, so much of the happy past, and of what they trusted, would be the happier future. It was not until Miss. Trixie's was the Man of Sorrows also. It was bed time, however, that they could enjoy well that they did not feel too confident poaceful talk. That young lady was in in their happiness, that as they sat togone of her most elfin of moods. She ther that evening, they spoke to one an apid walking brought him within sight and been excited by a day of unlimited other of that other world, with its imper of his destination, and then he slackened potting at a friend's house, and was con-ishable joys, to which He who was born his pace, not unwilling to prolong for a scious of not receiving the usual amount that blessed night had opened the way few moments the pleasure of anticipation. of attention to which she was accustomed for us. What a charming spot it was, the modest old-fashioned, and yet elegant grey-stone house, with its broad verandal, beneath which the ruddy fire light gleamed through the windows. The little avonue as it was possible for a fairy to look, and of acacias threw a delicate tracery of shadow upon the space for by this time. shadow upon the snow, for by this time rebellious as possible. She flitted hirher forward with an anticipation which, in and auc e ding in doing so is, however, I the young moon was up, and poured her and thither, taking advantage of the itself, is delight to the speedy meeting think, a novelty; but as I have more than soft light upon a scene as pleasant as it was elder's preoccupation to practice a thou-with one who is dear to us as life itself, familiar to the eyes of Archie Lonnox. saud small mischiefs. Now it was the the next, and the message is put into our cut which she ruthlessly snatched from hands which seems for us to blot the her slumber by the fire, and dressed in sun out of heaven. One moment we who had been sitting on a low seat her own little bonnet and cape, much to are saying "Soul thou hast much goods beside the fire sprang up and stood for a their detriment, now it was Inez' work laid up for many years,' and the next, box which was suddenly emptied of its the wire has flashed the news that we are contents, and again a sulphurous smell beggars, or perchance the message comes announced that she was amusing herself more awful far, "Thou fool, this night with the receptacle for matches. "What thy soul shall be required of thee." makes my Trixio so bad to night?" said Inez, who could usually subdue her carthly life, but that change is so often when even Mrs. Goodwin failed, and she as swift as it is momentous. tried to conx the offender to good behavious on her knee, but in another moment she had slid down, and was executing a wild war dance on the carpet. It was a marvel how so tiny a being could contain so much spirit. Finding nothing more to amuse her at the moment, she disappeared from the room to pay a visit, doubtless, to Katie, the old servant. who was her most abject slave and victim. It had been well for all concerned had they followed her, for those baby-fingers go, and, with a laughing pretense of terwere about to do what was to change the for at her severity, he hurries away. whole current of their lives.

When Lennox had arrived he had plays a prominent part in my story, I his pockets, had transferred to it his note must make some mention of her appear. book with its valuable contents. There ance. If the good old fashioned belief in hung the coat, and Trixie's eyes rested fairies were not exploded, one would on it as she passed out into the hall on have been very apt to class this appari-tion of elfin leveliness amongst them. thought of possible treasures in the Unmanageable silken curls of quite a pockets of that coat suggests itself to her dark brown, dancing, dangerous eyes of mind, and the next moment sho is standperfect blue, a lovely, saucy nose and ing on tiptoe on a hall chair, vainly pouting lips, pink, waxen fingers always ondeavouring to reach it. Not high in mischief, those were the salient points enough yet Trixic! and she has clambered in Trixie, if we except a tongue not to be down and, with great expenditure of surpassed in volubility, but speaking a strength, has carried a hassock from the language which could be only in small dining room, which she rests upon the chair, and once more, at the risk of a "And how is my fairy to night ?" said serious fall, behold her standing now Archie Lennox, after an affectionate within reach of those fascinating pockets; welcome from Mrs. Goodwin, and he put the dimpled hands dive now here, now and, very much disgusted. Trixic at last lamp is burning, and sits down to see desisted from her fruitless search. What is it? she tries to open it again and again, but fails. It is a pretty red colour, and has a bright steel clasp, and the pink fingers weary them-

selves in pulling and twisting it. not bringing even that," and in answer to open it, for she has some latent con- al state—you've heard that phrase? Now the scale equally well without the help to Ines questioning look he told them of scioneness that she is a culprit, and at I'm a ship, made of parts and powers, of her voice.

in any way divide them. And then night it was Christmas peace seemed You hear that racket of maula and mall respondent, who is an authoress of good they all thought of him who would have brooding over the carth, a something lets all around under me 'driving up standing, was desired to revise her been so glad of Archie's success, and which chastened earthly happiness, and wedges and knocking out the props!" statement, and give her own veucher of drew the thoughts upward to a higher, which fadeth not away. To the mother just then, especially, for whom the morning and to get sinners who are vain and self-conaway, this PEACE was precious; but to tident ready to rest on Christ. These Inez and Archie, too, a message seemed to come from the Prince of Peace, who well that they did not feel too confident

is not only that change seems to rule this

Archie has read the blessed story of the Angels' Message, and the Wondrous Birth; and they stand lingering for a few moments before wishing each other "Good Night!" We wish we could prolong those moments, for we know that when Archie closes the door behind him, he will enter upon a very different phase of life.

At last Mrs. Goodwin points to the clock, and says that he must positively

(To be continued.)

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mallets, the racket of braces, "shores" ers, kept the ears busy. I sat down on a eyes on me" and answer my steady gaze. in tune. I heard :

'You, sir, on that log yonder, you are minister are you? Now if you'll mind it, I can show you some theology here make him perfect in the starting note. that will help you pray and preach better than some of you commonly do."

It was easy enough to believe that; so I said. "Come on, speak out."

"Theology, and a system' of it ! I should like to see how." said I.

land; sprang from it; each timber in once opened his mouth, and was ready me grew there; each bolt and spike was to begin. After two or three days she mined there. all parts of me are of the tried him with the piano alone, and dis She does not take it to Inez or Archie earth, and so, earthy. That's my nature covered that he was capable of singing

props and shores I lean upon are just like the good works, good resolutions, and such like to which men stick so terri-

And I thought the ship was right. Syman Whitting, D. D.

#### THE SINGING DOG.

So much that is wonderful and interesting has been already related about animals in general, and more especially about logs, that it scarcely scems possible to nation to be alone with God. And what tell of any now trait in the latter. The fact of a dog attempting to sing the scale, once witnessed the performance, I can vouch for the truth of it "Fluff's" appearance corresponded to his name; he was a lovely white poodle, covered with long curls: he wore a blue ribbon round his neck, and when curled up upon the rng he looked like a fluffy snowball. His musical education was on this wise. of Christ, if we hold the beginning of When my friend Mrs. H—— first got our confidence steadfast unto the end. him, he was a puppy, and spent most of his time in the drawing-room with her. a real sanctification. Let nothing satisfy She was fond of singing, and used to practise it a great deal, It was not very ong before Master Fluff evinced a decided objection to her practising, and when ever she began he would jump upon a chair near her and begin to howl violently. As may be imagined, this melody did not facilitate her progress.

So ale one day took him upon her lap and gently reproved him for making such a noise. She then began to sing the scale. Fluff appeared to be listening attentively for a few minutes, then he suddenly opened his mouth and produced a very good, clear note, a decided Do. My friend could not help being struck by the tone, and she said laughingly, "Well done, Fluff! try again: sing the TREOLOGY IN A SHIPYARD.

Do after me." She then sang the note loudly, striking it at the same time upon the piano. Fluff opened his mouth, her," anid the carpenter-sexton to me, as and in the most comical manner repented he was shutting the vestry after meeting, the note, which was perfectly true. My I wanted to see that launch. On friend was delighted, and repeated the time I was there. Around and over the note three or four times, Fluff imitating stately hull there was time to stroll her every time correctly. 'Now then, The clatter of a hundred beetles and we'll try another note." The Re was next sung, and this sound Fluff also pro knocked away, and cries of the carpent duced, as easily as he had done the Do. This note was repeated again and again, log alongside, to watch an I wait. After and then Fluff was made to sing the Du a while sho—the ship—seemed to "set and Re successively. He kept perfectly

In this way Mrs. H --- went patiently through the whole scale toying each tone, always returning to the Do, in order to After an hour's hard work-which, however, did not seem at all distasteful to him-Fluff had mastered the scale, and "Now," said the ship,"I'm a kind of note. Of course he was patted and "Now," said the snip,"I'm a kind of note.

system of theology in nature and condition."

renewed the next day. To my friend's great pleasure and amusement Fluff had not forgott n his lesson. He seemed Whereupon, grave as a professor, it r.ther pleased than otherwise at boing pake thus; "By nature I'm of the dry placed on the chair near the piano, at

redges and knocking out the props!" statement, and give her own voucher of Indeed, I could not hear much else personal knowledge of the incident. She has done this in the completest manner.—Ep.]—Animal World.

> In these days of hurry and bustle, we find ourselves face to face with a terrible danger; and it is this-no time to be alone with God. The world, in these last days, is running fast; we live in what is called "the age of progress," and you know we must keep pace with the times." So the world says.

But this spirit of the world has not confined itself to the world. It is alas, to be found among the saints of God. And what is the result? The result is. no time to be alone with God. And this is immediately followed by no inclinext? Surely the question does not need an answer.

Can there be any condition more deplorable than the condition of a child of God who has no inclination to be alone with his Father ?

Do you want a Scriptual assurance of your interest in Christ? It can only be maintained by an unshaken reliance on His atonement, and a growing conformity to His image; for "we are made partakers Beware, than, of substituting an ideal for you but a work of grace in the heart, evidencing itself by those fruits of the Spirit which are in all goodness and z hteousness and truth.—Fx.

I AM persuaded that many persons say more about their sins being too great to be pardoned than they either believe or feel, from a supposition that it is a token of humility to talk thus. God cannot be clorified. nor Christ honoured, by doubting of His ability or willingness to save. -James.

#### BOOK NOTICES.

THE DAILY ROUND: Meditation, Prayer and Praise, adapted to the course of the Christian Year.

WE most earnestly recommend to the notice of our renders, this little book, lately published in England, which seems successfully to supply a want long felt by many, Its teaching is thoroughly sound and earnest, and the practical, thoughtful tone through the whole book could scarcely fail to arouse attention and serious thought, and moreover to be of great help and comfort in the daily life. A short meditation follows the text, which forms the heading and subject of each daily reading, often interspersed with personal questions to be put to each individual soul; this is followed by a very brief prayer, ending with a verse of some hymn. To those who have not time or opportunity for longer and more claborate daily reading, we feel convinced that the "Daily Round" will, after perusal, commend itself most heartily by its could sing it after his mistress, note for very simplicity and earnestness. The book has already received, as it heartily deserves, very favorable mention from the pens of Bishops and Clergy, on the other side of the Atlantic.

#### Marriages.

CUBLICOVER-PUBLICOVER.-On the 18th inst., at St. Barnabus Church, Blandford, by the Rev. John Manning, Rector, Mr. Artemas Augustino Publicover to Helena, daughter of James Publicover, Esq., of Blandford.

BENT-GENER.—At Belle Isle, Aunapolis Co., at the residence of the bride's father, on 14th inst., by Rev. L. M. Wi kins, B. A., Mr. Sylvester Bent to Miss Arminda, daughter of Mr. Georgo Gesner.

MILLS-YOUNG .- Also, at Belle Isle, by the same, on 15th fast, at the residence of Mr. W. H. Young father of the bride, Mr. Samuel Mills, of Granville Ferry, to Miss Emily Ruphemia Young.

MCALPINE-TOWNSEND.—At the Church of St. Bartholomew, Mission of Louisburg, C. B., on Thursday, 16th De ember, by Clarence W. McCully, Descon in charge, Edinund S., McAlpine, merchant, and Mare, widow of the late Joshua Townse id-

# R. m. J. M. Beilies, merk

MCKRIEF.—At Kingsclean on the evering of the 16th inst. of congestion of the image. William McKinley, aged 61 years. Deceased was native in White Hall) near Bally-96 stile. County Antrim, Ireland, and over fifty years, a resident of Kingsclear, York County, N. B.

Jouert.—Effered hate rest, Dec. 17th, at Bellevice, Frieddrich, Hannah Ellewice, aged 70

wife of Beverly R. Jouett. Eeq. aged 70 years. "For so He giveth His boloved sleep,"