

The Family.

My Playfellow.

The Delights of Innocence.

BY CHARLES MACKAY.

What though you're only five years old, A little rogue, romping fairy, And I'm a man of one and all—

And don't you teach the dog to beg, And don't you paint your birds and fish, And cut your purses out of paper?

And don't you spin our humming top Together on the parlor table?

And don't you tell me fairy tales, At intercession of your mother?

And don't you sit with hands outstretch'd, And eyes that shine like sun-lit fountains, Prout you love me "big as trees,"

And don't you sometimes fall asleep, Look'd in my arms, quite worn and weary?

And don't you carry you to bed, Too drowsy for your prayers, my dear?

O, yes! we're friends and comrades true, There's not a bit of guile about you;

You shed such light about your path, I'd think the world was dark without you.

And if to fourscore years I'll live, However time and fate may vary, I'll wish no better friend than you, My little laughing, romping Mary.

The First Theft.

"What nice ripe currants!" said Harry Maitland to himself, as he passed Farmer Jones' garden, and saw the current-bushes growing close

to the fence, laden with fruit. "How I wish I could get some!" he looked around to see if any one was near him.

There was no one in sight; so he commenced picking and eating all he could reach. There were some branches hanging through the pallings of the fence, full of most tempting fruit, and others which were so

easy reach from the top. He only meant to eat a few when he commenced, but they were so good that he did not want to stop, so he kept on picking and eating, until he was startled by the sound of wheels.

He looked up, and there coming from the barn right through the lane where he was standing, was Farmer Jones himself, in his little wagon, and he must pass directly by Harry.

If he had been used to concealment, Harry would just have walked on as if nothing happened, and very likely Farmer Jones would have suspected nothing; as it was not unusual to see persons in his lane, for it connected two roads which were extensively traveled.

But Harry had never before taken any thing that did not belong to him; and as he saw the farmer coming, his first thought was that he would be found out; so he started to run at the top of his speed, and never stopped until he was inside of his mother's gate, which was not far off.

Farmer Jones, seeing a boy running away from him in that manner, naturally supposed there was some reason for it. "Ah!" he said to himself, "is there one of the young rogues who has been stealing my garden tools lately; yes, there he is, and drove after him—Harry had a little the start of him, though, so that he did not overtake him until he was just at his mother's door."

"Here, you young rascal!" he shouted the farmer, "stop and let me see that rascal; where did you get it?"

At the first sound of the farmer's voice Harry turned round, his face pale and trembling, but he was very much relieved at hearing him ask about the rascal. He went boldly to the wagon with it in his hand, and said, "It is mine, sir," said he as he handed it to the farmer.

"I believe it is," said the farmer, as he examined it. "It is not mine, as you say; but what are you doing with it in my lane?"

"I was coming from my grandmother's, sir, I had been raking in her garden."

"Then you are not one of the boys who have been stealing my tools lately?"

The Bullfinch Finding a Thief.

A poor musician had an ebony flute with silver keys.

The flute however, like many other things, had more beauty than use to boast of; for there being a defect in one of the upper keys that note never had to be skipped.

The musician had for a friend a tailor, who having some taste for music, often came to the musician's room to sing; and when he came, he liked to try his skill on the flute with silver keys.

One night when the musician was out, the flute was stolen. The tailor seemed very sorry indeed for his friend's loss, and tried to help him ferret out the thief.

They suspected an old woman round the house, but there being no actual proof against her, she was let off, and the real thief whoever he or she was, escaped detection.

In a few months the tailor went to live in another town. After a year or so the musician paid a visit, and he found his friend had for company a beautiful bird, a bullfinch, who could whistle several tunes very correctly.

This of course delighted the musician, and he liked to hear it; and what was very curious, he soon found that the bullfinch, whenever it came to a certain high note, always skipped it, and went on to the next.

How did that happen? It at last struck him that the very note which the bird skipped was the very note which his flute skipped, and he came to the conclusion in his own mind that the bullfinch must have been taught in some way from his stolen flute.

He put it to the tailor, when the tailor, pale and trembling, confessed the theft. "Ah, how was his pleasure suddenly turned into shame. Little did he dream that the bird which he had kept hours and hours in teaching could be a witness against him.

Indeed it was a very perfect witness with which the little creature learned its lesson that brought to light its master's guilt.

If we break God's laws the most innocent things will testify against us. It is not necessary to hunt up witnesses; they come of themselves, often when we least expect it; making good, in one way or another, that warning of the Bible, "Be sure your sin will find you out."—Child's Paper.

The First Quarrel.

"I wish," said my companion, whom I will call Mrs. Kindly, "that the woman of a certain manufacturing district) agreed better with her husband; it is so sad, the snappish way they have of speaking."

"The men are rough too," I replied, for my heart always pleads for my sister women.

"Ah, that's true, but it takes two to make a quarrel, and the women forget that," she answered, adding, "I may speak about this, for I have been married more than forty years, and my husband has been my first quarrel to come yet, and while I keep in my right mind it will never come."

Mrs. Kindly spoke very decidedly, and I said, in some surprise, "What! you have never quarrelled all those years?"

"No—and by God's grace we won't begin now. It all lies in the plan that my good mother taught me when I married, 'Beware of the first quarrel.' You know if there was not the first there would not be the second."

"Well, but, with all the vexations of life how did you manage?"

"Oh, I just remembered that quarrelling never made trouble here, and if things went cross, and tried my husband's temper, then, if I could not say a pleasant word, I was always able to keep quiet, and it is wonderful how soon little clouds that might have brought great storms passed over."

"Perhaps," said I, inquiringly, "you have had no troubles?"

"What, forty years, and no troubles! Is that likely? My husband began like a working man, and we had many struggles before he became a manufacturer. And then we had no children—"

"That is sometimes a subject of discontent. There's many a woman now, like Rachel or I did, that is ready to say, 'Give me children or I die.' But God appoints our lot; and though I own some times a man would come into my eyes when I look at the sons and daughters of other houses, I know that God's will was best for us. And so it has proved. My husband has prospered in things that belong to the soul, as well as in worldly matters. We have two nephews whom we have brought up, and they are as tender of us as the most dutiful sons could be. I am very thankful for all these mercies, but most of all that there has ever been peace and love in our dwelling."

"Why, dear reader, should such a testimony as this be so rare? Why are there so few husbands and wives that can say, 'Our first quarrel has not come yet?' Simply that there is not care at the beginning. If any young married woman reads this, let her resolve to follow the example of Mrs. Kindly, and if she finds it hard to love her spirit, let her go to Jesus, the Prince of Peace, and say, 'Lord, give me thy spirit!'"

Temperance.

"Look at Dickon's wife—why she has been the saving of her husband."

"How so?"

"You know he drank! It was heard tell of it; but when I joined these works he was the same steady man he is now."

"Ah! I had forgotten you were a new comer. Time was when Dickon was one of the hardest drinkers among us, and a sad life he led his wife—as neat, tidy a little woman as you would wish to see.—She and my wife are great cronies, and many a time my wife said, 'Well, I always thought my self a good manager, but as to Anne Dickon, she beats me hollow.' At last, one day, when I came home, my good woman met me with such a pleasant smiling face, I knew there was something fresh in the wind. 'Well, Charlie,' she says, 'wonders will never cease.'"

"What is the news, wife?" said I, for I saw she was bursting to tell me. "I do believe that Dickon is going to give up his bad ways; and I should not be surprised if after all, he becomes as steady as you, Charlie; and, if so, under God, it will be all Anne's doing."

"This was news; and I asked anxiously what grounds she had for saying so."

"Why, for some time past Anne has been putting money away in the savings' bank," she said; "if matters did not mend she saw a rainy day could not be long in coming, and when it did come, she knew Dickon would be right glad to find a few pounds saved out of the fire. Here she ever managed to lay by I cannot tell you—but she has managed it by dint of denying herself, and working by day and by night for him who was all the time drinking up her due. Well, any way, she has got her reward—no need to grumble now; but, as I was saying, she put by, and by, till she had got a matter of £20. She then never told her husband, for she was afraid, if he knew of the deposit, maybe he would take it out and drink it; and she was always unconsciously careful to put away her savings-book somewhere

Dr. Ridge's Patent Food.

For Infants and Invalids.

TESTIMONIALS.

1 Queen Elizabeth street, Horselydown, Sept 21st, 1861. Sir,—I beg most sincerely to thank you for commending your Patent Food to my little boy, and to speak of it in the highest terms.

At the age of 7 weeks he was brought down so low that I despaired of his recovery. Various means having been used without effect, I commenced using your Patent Food, and from that time he gradually regained health and strength, so that all that see him consider him a fine little fellow. He is now 15 weeks old. I remain, sir, yours respectfully Dr. J. RIDGE.

29, Prior Place, East Street, Whitehall, S. E. December, 12th 1862. Dear Sir,—Please send me one dozen of your Patent Food and oblige. I find it well used; and indeed it is used with general satisfaction by mothers who dry nurse their babies. Who are unable to thrive and do well; and having seen its good qualities in young members of my own residence, I have recommended it for the most judiciously when opportunity presents itself. I am dear sir, yours very truly PAUL STRANGE.

Dear Sir,—I have examined Dr. Ridge's Patent Food and find it a very useful food for children and invalids. It has a great advantage over any other food in that it is very palatable and easy to digest, and leaving no acidity behind. It is a fine specimen of any length of time, even in a warm climate. (Signed) CARLTON HOUSE EMPLOYE, N. April 10th, 1863. I have examined Dr. Ridge's Patent Food and find it a very useful food for children and invalids. It has a great advantage over any other food in that it is very palatable and easy to digest, and leaving no acidity behind. It is a fine specimen of any length of time, even in a warm climate. (Signed) CARLTON HOUSE EMPLOYE, N. April 10th, 1863.

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A few words about good TEA are never out of season.

H. WETHERBY & CO.

RESPECTFULLY invite special attention to their TEAS at the present time, if any of the following TEAS are worthy of more notice than another it is our

HALF DOLLAR TEA, which for the flavour, strength and economy is just the quality to suit all persons of a cup of good Tea. Lots of not less than six pounds are charged at 4d per lb.

Good Breakfast Tea, 2s 3d All these are good Do Congo 2s 3d value at the Strong do do 1s 6d price.

Also a large and varied assortment of Family Groceries always on hand. Orders by post or otherwise promptly and personally attended to by H. WETHERBY & CO., 205 BARRINGTON STREET, 15 BRUNSWICK ST., HALIFAX, N. S.

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BROWN, BROS. & CO. have received the greater part of their stock of Kitchen, Garden, Field and Flower SEEDS—among which will be found some new and choice varieties, also: Gladioli, 7s to 3s 6d each. Lily of the Valley, Tricolor, Japan Lily, &c.

As Brown, Bros. & Co. have spared neither pains nor expense to secure the very best seeds, they do not doubt that they will be given to you with satisfaction to those who favor them with their order. March 23.

THE SCIENCE OF HEALTH. Every Man his own Physician. HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Disorders of the Stomach, Liver and Bowels. The Stomach is the great centre which influences the health of the system—Abused it becomes a source of weakness, and the breath and physical prostration are the natural consequences.

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CITY DRUG STORE.

20 packages per "America."

RAY'S Relief, Kennedy's Discovery, Lyon's Katharine, Spaulding's Horevay, Huntington's Balm, Huntington's Ointment, Laclede's Compound, Electric Oil, Burnett's Essence, Davidson's Essence, India Rubber Compound, &c.

2 Pkgs. Photographers Material. Consisting of Cases and Trays, in great variety, Varnishes, Collodion, Gilding, Enamelled Glass, Collodion Paper, Mats, Preservers, Traces, Cotton, Chemicals, &c.

ALWAYS IN STOCK. English Drugs, Medicines, Perfumes, Pomades, Hair Oils, Nails, &c. &c. &c. Dec 21.

WOODILL'S SOMETHING NEW. HERE IT IS: Woodill's Soothing Syrup, For Children Cutting Teeth.

A Certain, Safe, and Efficient Remedy against Sore Throat.

During Dentition the infant is especially liable to disease, the most frequent being the growing teeth always giving rise to more or less Constitutional Disturbance.

The process of Teething is not only in itself liable to irregularity, but it is the fertile source of many dangers, and often excites to active disease, particularly diphtheria. This Syrup will be found to be a most valuable remedy, in fact, to be used to prevent diphtheria, by soothing the gums and reducing all inflammation, it will stay all pain and spasmodic action, and will regulate the Natural Acidity of the system, and induce a healthy sleep, and the most dangerous period of life pass with little or no disturbance.

The symptoms of Teething are so well known as to require no description. Among the most common, however, might be mentioned— Irritability, cough, starting in the sleep, sudden screaming, convulsions, eruptions on face and neck, the face often flushed, and sometimes spasms of the different muscles occur.

The timely use of this Syrup will give certain relief. Prepared by A. B. WOODILL, City Drug Store, Halifax.

LANGLEY'S PILLS. ARE TAKEN at any time by either sex, and may be dangerous, as they are free from all deleterious compounds of mercury and other purgatives. Their action is gentle, without causing the usual uneasiness, yet effectual in removing all impure and acrimonious accumulations from the blood system, gradually counteracting the various functions of the body to act in a regular and spontaneous manner. Unlike many remedies, they do not induce liability to take cold, nor establish a necessity for the habitual use of purgatives. They thus strongly recommend themselves as a first class Family Medicine.

Sold by GEO. JOHNSTON, London Drug Store, 148 Holles Street, March 16.

A PORTABLE SEA WATER BATH. At a Trifling Cost. Allgood & Towle's Celebrated SEA SALT.

This Salt, from the careful manner in which it has been prepared and preserved, contains all the Salts of Sodium and Bromine, together with the Chlorides and Sulphates of Sodium, Magnesium, Potassium and Lime, in a perfect state of solution, ready to impart their virtues to water when dissolved in that liquid, thereby producing a genuine Sea Water Bath!

Medical men have heretofore refrained from prescribing Sea Bathing, owing to the danger attendant (even in summer) by exposing delicate patients to the drafts of common bathing houses, and in the winter the trouble in obtaining sea water. These difficulties are now removed by the introduction of

Allgood's Real Sea Salt, which enables all to enjoy that luxury in the privacy of their own bath rooms.

Experience has proved sea water to be an invaluable strengthener for infants and invalids; and also for preserving the health of those who are already enjoying that inestimable blessing.

This Salt is especially recommended to those living in the interior, where sea water cannot be obtained. Done up in seven pound packages at 1s 6d. A large discount to wholesale agents.

M. F. EAGAR, 151 Holles Street, Halifax, N. S. Wholesale Agent for North America. Sub-agents wanted in every town and village. Address M. F. Eagar, 151 Holles Street, Halifax, N. S. March 30.

Country Produce Depot. S. J. COLAHAN, WISHES to inform his Country Customers that in addition to his large stock of

CRY GOODS Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps Ladies' and Gentlemen's Rubber Boots and Shoes Hoop Skirts, &c. &c. He has added a large stock of STAPLE