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funds were somewhat scarce, therefore Mr. Spratt, a self-taught clock-maker, with commendable spirit, came forward and offered to make a clock free of charge if the villagers would bring him all the iron, lead, steel and brass available. The villagers were delighted and entered into the project with zest, and Mr. Spratt's cottage was soon the scene of a collection of heterogeneous articles. Parts of agricultural machinery, bicycles, perambulators, fire irons, brass weights, &c., were sent. Although at first the amateur clock-maker's offer was looked upon as a

joke, it soon became apparent that he was in earnest, and he has produced from the articles supplied to him a remarkable timepiece which is calculated to make the village of Wootton famous far outside the borders of beautiful Wiltshire.

The New Bishop of Salisbury.—The King has been pleased to approve of the appointment of the Right Rev. Frederick Edward Ridgeway, D.D., Bishop-Suffragan of Kensington, one of the Bishop of London's Suffragans, to the Bishopric of Salisbury. Dr. Ridgeway is a brother of the Bishop of Chichester, and was born in 1848, therefore he is 63 years old. The Bishop is a graduate of Cambridge University Clare College, and he took his B.A. degree in 1870 proceeding to his Master's degree nine years later. He was ordained to a curacy in Tunbridge Wells, and after serving there and in three other parishes, he joined the staff of St. Peter's, Eaton Square, when the late Primus of Scotland, Dr. Wilkinson, was Vicar. In 1878 he went north and became incumbent of St. Mary's, Glasgow, and after some time, Dean of Glasgow and Galloway. In 1890 he returned to London as Vicar of St. Peter's, Cranley Gardens,

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where he remained for ten years. In 1900 he was appointed rector of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, a City living, and the following year a prebendary of St. Paul's, and Bishop-Suffragan of Kensington. He was the last Bishop whose appointment was approved of by the late Queen Victoria, and before his consecration both the Queen and Dr. Creighton, the Bishop of London whom he was to assist, had passed away. The Bishop has done a grand work in London, and its people will bid him farewell with great regret. During his régime he has won golden opinions from men of all shades of thought and on the committees of the Pan-Anglican Congress, the Central Board of Missions and the Evangelistic Council he has rendered most excellent service.

The work of the British and Foreign Bible Society grows prodigiously year by year. In the last year the circulation of Bibles and New Testaments amounted to nearly seven millions, being some 355,000 more than in the previous year. In the United Kingdom the year's figures are 1,257,457, or 137,275 in advance of the figures for the previous year. In France the total circulation was 219,630 against 187,145; in Belgium, 49,899 against 26,514; in the German Empire, 329,205 against 323,519; in Austria, 73,336, against 73,070; in Hungary, 110,777, against 106,621; in Italy, 91,329, against 76,515; in Portugal, 14,271, against 11,591; in European Russia and Central Asia, 495,033 in fifty languages, against 425,564; and in Siberia, 59,142, against 50,362. These figures are a wonderful indication of the growth of the work, and show how their Society's ideal, "The Scriptures for every man in his native speech," is being steadily realised.

Children's Department

THE BOY AND THE DREAM.

The boy's father died when he was ten years old. His mother had no one then but him. She read and stud-

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ied and played games with him. They walked up and down the hills together and picked flowers and mosses. Often they had long talks.

Little by little a terrible truth dawned upon the mother. She had never been strong, and since her husband's death she had grown weaker. She might die before the boy should grow up. Then he would come under new influences. He might forget her teachings. He might become a very different man from what she wished him to be.

"Oh," she thought often, "if I could only speak some strong words which might sink so deep into his heart that he would never forget them!" She prayed much that these right words, at just the right time, might come to her, "like apples of gold in pictures of silver."

One day they had been off on a delightful excursion and had come home in the early evening very tired. It was while they were resting in the easy chair, and the boy on a hassock at her feet, with his head in her lap, that the words came to her for which little parlor, the mother in a great, she had been hoping; and it was as she had wished—the boy never forgot them.

There had been a pause. Then the boy began: "Harold says he don't like it in the city. He says when it comes night his aunt won't let him go anywhere—and she won't play parchesi nor anything with him, and there isn't anything for him to do."

"That is rather hard," smiled his mother, "but there is always the Dream."

"The Dream?" repeated the boy, mystified.

"Yes. Haven't you a Dream?"

"Why, yes," he answered hesitatingly. "I dream a good many nights. Don't you know I told you yesterday about a dream I had about riding with my father?"

"Yes. That was a night dream. Night dreams are often beautiful, but they are generally rather wild and disjointed. I like day dreams better."

"Day dreams?"

"Yes. When I was a little girl, I used to have beautiful day dreams—especially when there was nothing else to do, and time hung heavily.

Sometimes I dreamed that I stood at the head of my class. Sometimes that I became a great nurse, and comforted many sick people. And always, that I had a home of my own, which I would arrange sometimes in one way, sometimes in an-

"OUR EMPIRE"

A New Weekly Magazine for Sunday Schools

SUBSCRIPTION, 1/- PER ANNUM

In view of the tendency to exclude direct religious teaching from the week-day instruction given to children in the State Schools—a tendency which prevails all over the Empire, and more especially in the Colonies and Dominions—it is plain that we must look more and more to our Sunday Schools for the building up of our children in the Faith. The Church in Canada has taken a lead in this movement, which has the support of the Bishops and General Synod there.

In order to help the Sunday Schools in this important task the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge has decided to publish a twelve-page Weekly Magazine for Sunday Schools, under the title of "Our Empire," the first number of which will appear in Advent, 1911.

The Magazine will be published simultaneously throughout the Empire. It will be well illustrated and will be simple and bright, yet containing definitely instructive articles covering a very wide range of subjects, and all written in such a way that the children will be able to read them with pleasure to themselves.

The Magazine will be issued at a subscription price of 1/- per year of 52 numbers, or less than one farthing per weekly issue. This price will place it within the reach of the poorest child, and will allow of the distribution of the Magazine throughout the Empire at a minimum cost.

New and varied features will be introduced from time to time. Suitable contributions from the Colonies will be welcomed—especially short stories not exceeding 1,000 words.

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