

## The Tired Mother.

LITTLE elbow leans upon your knee,  
Your tired knee that has so much to bear;  
Child's dear eyes are looking lovingly  
From underneath a thatch of golden hair;  
Perhaps you do not heed the velvet touch  
Of warm, moist fingers folding yours so tight.

You do not prize this blessing overmuch,  
You almost are too tired to pray to-night.

But it is blessedness! A year ago  
I did not see it as I do to-day,  
We are so dull and thankless, and too slow  
To catch the sunshine till it slips away.  
And now it seems surprising strange to me  
That while I wore the badge of motherhood  
I did not kiss more oft and tenderly  
The little child that brought me only good.

And if some night when you sit down to rest,  
You miss the elbow from your tired knee,  
The restless, curly head from off your breast,  
The hisping tongue that chattered constantly;

If from your own the dimpled hands had slipped,

And ne'er would nestle in your palm again,  
If the white feet into the grave had tripped,  
I could not blame you for your heartache then.

I wonder so that mothers ever fret  
At little children clinging to their gown;  
Or that the footprints when the days are wet,  
Are ever black enough to make them frown.  
If I could find a little muddy boot,  
Or cap, or jacket, on my chamber floor;  
If I could kiss a rosy, restless foot,  
And hear it patter in my house once more;

If I could mend a broken cart to-day,  
To-morrow make a kite to reach the sky,  
There is no woman in God's world could say  
She was more blissfully content than I.  
But oh! the dainty pillow next my own  
Is never rumpled by a shuiling head;  
My singing birdling from his nest is flown,  
My little boy I used to kiss is dead!

## Effect of the Bible.

FAINE'S "English Literature" has a remarkable passage, with reference to the effect of the Bible on the English people, as read and learned for the first time from Tyndal's Translation.

"One hid his book in a hollow tree; another learned by heart an epistle and a gospel, so as to be able to ponder it to himself even in the presence of his accusers. When sure of his friend he speaks to him in private; and peasant talking to peasant, labourer to labourer, you know what the effect would be. It was the yeomen's sons, as Latimer said, who more than others maintained the faith in Christ in England, and it was with the yeomen's sons that Cromwell afterwards reaped his Puritan victories. When such words are whispered through a nation all official voices clamour in vain. The nation has found its poem; it stops its ears to the troublesome would-be distractors, and presently sings it out with a full voice and from a full heart. But the contagion has even reached the men in office, and Henry VIII. at last permitted the English Bible to be published. England has her book. Every one, says Strype, who could buy this book, either read it assiduously or had it read to him by others, and many well advanced in years learned to read with the same object."

## The Best Time for Exercise for Girls.

MEDICAL men will tell you that about two hours' exercise in the open air should be taken every day. But this does not mean you are to take it all at once. Before breakfast is a good time for a gentle walk, yet the delicate should swallow a mouthful or two of milk, or eat a tiny biscuit before going out. A glass of cold water does good too before one's walk, and it is a good

plan to walk, say a quarter of a mile, to a well, drink a glass of water there and then return. To those who take this advice, breakfast will be anything but a make-believe. Never take exercise on a full meal. From two to three hours after is the best time, and if you take your principal exercise before dinner, be sure to allow time for at least half an hour of rest before you sit down; else you are but opening the door for indigestion to walk in and play havoc with your health. Exercise, to be beneficial, must be regular; but perhaps you are afraid of the weather. I pray you be not so; wrap up lightly but well, and defy it. Defy the wind, the rain, ay, and sleet, and snow itself; for one does not catch cold when actually taking exercise, I do assure you. Finally, let your exercise be varied, one day this kind, and the other that, but always pleasant, always pleasurable, and taken at the same hour every day. You may find it irksome at first, but it will soon become a habit, and your guerdon will be—health.

## Aunt Dinah's Hymn.

De sinner see de mote in de Christian eye,  
He can't see de beam in his own;  
He had better go home and keep de house clean,  
And let God's chillen alone.  
I'm gwine home ter glory,  
Gwine to de shinin' town,  
Gwine to tell my story,  
An' wear de golden crown.

De sinner find fault wid he knows not what,  
Can't put nuttin' better in de place;  
Better go er weeking on de solitary path,  
And get aboard de old ship o' Grace.  
For de lightnin' it am flashin',  
The thunder do roll,  
De mitey waves am dashing',  
Oh, sinner, save your soul!

Dey had better keep time to de music of de just,  
An' jine in de singin' wid de band,  
An' try mitey hard to be among de fust  
Dat am pushin' for de promised land,  
Whar de holy lamps are burnin',  
Whar de saints in glory stand,  
To meet de soul returnin'  
Home to de happy land.

For de Gospel's train am comin' on fast,  
Sinner, get er ticket while you kin;  
It's crowded wid de saints, an' will push o' past

If you don't hurry up an' git in.  
I'm gwine home to glory,  
To Canaan's happy land,  
I'm gwine to tell my story,  
An' wid de blessed stand.

—Augusta Chronicle.

## New Guinea.

PROMINENCE is given in recent cable dispatches to the annexation of Papua, or New Guinea, to the British Empire. A commissioner has been sent to the island from Australia to take possession of it as a dependency of Queensland. By this action of the colonial authorities one of the largest islands in the world, with an area of something less than 300,000 square miles, will be incorporated with the British possessions. Holland is the only Government that has colonial settlements in New Guinea. But these are of small extent.

The island is less known to civilized man than any other region of equal extent in the world, for no European had been able until recently to advance more than a few miles into the interior. It is irregular in outline, and is deeply indented by several large bays. It is mountainous, is subject to a hot, damp climate, and is clothed with a luxuriantly rich forest vegetation throughout its known extent. The birds are said

to be more numerous and more beautiful than those of any other island. Among these are eleven species of birds of paradise, of which eight are found nowhere else. No correct estimate of the number of inhabitants can be made. They belong to the typical Papuan race, and have a facial expression not unlike that of Europeans. The fertile valleys of the south-western part of the island are well cultivated by the natives, who excel there as agriculturists. The villages also are singularly neat, in strong contrast with those to the north-west, which are built on poles.

Papua was discovered early in the sixteenth century by the Portuguese, and since 1828 the Dutch have had trading stations at various points. The area which has been under Dutch control comprises about 29,000 square miles, with a population of about 200,000, but the Netherlands have claimed nearly half the island.

## Varieties.

*Paterfamilias* (reading doctor's bill): "Well, Doctor, I have no objection to pay you for the medicine, but I will return the visits."

A LEGLESS man writes to find out what work he is fitted for. Let him apply for a situation as bank cashier. He will enjoy the confidence of the community.

"You just take a bottle of my medicine," said a quack doctor to a consumptive, "and you'll never cough again." "Is it as fatal as that?" gasped the consumptive.

QUEEN Victoria does not indulge in the affectation of pretending not to read the newspapers. She takes a morning and an evening daily and several weeklies.

"HERE, now," said a mother to her little boy, "take this good medicine. It's sweet as sugar." "Mamma, I love little brother," the boy replied; "give it to him."

TEACHER: "Suppose that you have two sticks of candy, and your big brother gives you two more, how many have you got then?" Little boy (shaking his head), "You don't know him; he ain't that kind of a boy."

TEACHER: "Define the word excavate." Scholar: "It means to hollow out." Teacher: "Construct a sentence in which the word is properly used." Scholar: "The baby excavates when it gets hurt."

A FEW years ago, a fat fellow asked old Sir Francis Burdett, while in Parliament, for some position, saying: "Don't you remember me? I used to be a page." "Well," responded Sir Francis, "you have grown into a volume."

LAST Christmas-eve Mrs. J— went upstairs to see if the children had hung up their stockings for Santa Claus, and found that little Fred had pinned his up in a prominent place, with a little slip of paper attached, containing these suggestive words, "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver."

A BOY of 8 years was asked by his teacher where the zenith was. He replied: "The spot in the heavens directly over one's head." To test his knowledge further, the teacher asked: "Can two persons have the same zenith at the same time?" "They can." "How?" "If one stands on the other's head."

## Puzzledom.

Answers to Puzzles in Last Number.

59.—Obe, Rhone, Loire.

60.—Dan-en-how-er.

61.—C A P E  
A R I D  
P I N E  
E D E N

62.—T  
W I N  
T I G E R  
N E W  
R

## New Puzzles.

30.—ENIGMAS.

I am composed of 14 letters: My 13, 12, 8, 14, is a metal; my 9, 11, 10, 13, 12, is a shooting implement; my 7, 6, 5, is used for illuminating; my 14, 2, 3, 4, is a female; my 1, 2, 3, is to squeeze tight. My whole is the name of a great man.

In glove, not in mitten;  
In rabbit, not in kitten;  
In crow, not in caw;  
In foot, not in paw.  
In field, not in plain;  
In fear, not in pain.  
In lard, not in butter;  
In door, not in shutter.  
The name of a President.

## 31.—PORTICAL PI.

The misspelt edde may tell the lurdy bevar;  
The allsters kills may verse a file to vase;  
The stemsall pord the thirtys may erevell;  
The tightless loko may kame a thear to regive;  
Thagun is so small tub taht it may cointan;  
The sore of pureales or the north of apin.

## 32.—DOUBLE CROSS WORD.

In Campbell, not in Cotton;  
In Fuller, not in Wotten;  
In Proctor, not in Randall;  
In Milton, not in Handel;  
In Chaucer, not in Lowell;  
In Roland, not in Stowell;  
In Butler, not in Morton;  
In Hemans, not in Norton.  
A group of stars, and a star.

PEOPLE hurl their scorn at the life of Lord Byron. Lord Byron was not half so much to blame as his mother. The historian tells us that when her child was lying across the floor with his unsound foot, instead of acting like any other mother, she said: "Get out of my way, you lame brat!" Do not denounce Lord Byron half as much as you denounce his mother.

PROOFS are never wanting that the good old times were by no means up to our times. The *Burlington Hawk-eye* puts the case freshly: "There are conveniences to-day in the county almshouse that Solomon had to do without. . . . We haven't so many wives as he had, but we have better children; much better, indeed; for, while Solomon had the theory of training children all right, he never put it into practice in his own family. . . . Remember that the world is better to-day, dearly beloved, than it was when you came into it; and that it is going to be a great deal better still when you get out of it."—S. S. Times.