

CANADA SUNDAY SCHOOL ADVOCATE

SUFFER · LITTLE

UNTIL · M6 ·

VOLUME X.—NUMBER 23.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1865.

WHOLE NUMBER 239.

For the S. S. Advocate.

LITTLE MARY'S GRIEF.

WHAT is the matter with little Mary? There is a big sorrow swelling her young heart. She is full of grief and shame. What can be the cause of Mary's woe?

Mary has been doing wrong. Sorrow very seldom finds its ways into a child's heart unless sin open the door. What has Mary done?

An hour ago Mary was playing in high glee with her two brothers, when a thought about cherries popped into her head. There was a big cherry-tree at the foot of the garden which was at the back of Mary's home. They were almost ripe, and she longed to taste them, for when ripe they were nice sweet "black hearts," as Mary knew. So she ran to her mother and said:

"Mamma, may I go down the lot and see if the cherries are ripe?"

"They are not ripe, my dear," replied her mother, "I sent John to see this morning."

This ought to have satisfied Mary. It would if she had not felt a little more self-will than usual in her breast. But instead of going on quietly with her play, she put on a scowling face and in a bitter tone said:

"You are an ugly old mother. I don't like you one bit. I wish I had some one else for my mother."

These were strange words to fall from little Mary's lips. Had each

word been a toad or a viper her mother would not have been more surprised nor so much pained as she was to hear her daughter speak so. The good woman felt stunned. She sighed, cast a look of wonder, grief, and pity upon the little girl, and said:

"My child, when I am gone you will be sorry for the way you have spoken to your mother."



Now if Mary's mother had whipped her ever so severely she would not have felt as she did when she heard these words. The tones, the look, the words, all pierced the poor child's heart. They made her feel the wickedness of her conduct just as the look of Jesus made Peter feel the sin of denying his Master.

for Norah watched day and night beside her brother's bed, and did all that her skill and strength could do to make him well. Could she have borne his pain there is no doubt but that she would have done it.

Archie was grateful, but he knew he could never be well any more. So one day he looked into her

With a broken and contrite spirit Mary ran after her mother, and, falling at her feet, craved to be forgiven. She was forgiven and taught to seek pardon at the feet of Jesus too.

Mary is a woman now. Her mother is in heaven. But Mary has never forgiven herself for speaking those wicked words to her mother. She would give almost anything she has if she could unsay them. That cannot be. Words once spoken cannot be recalled. O how careful children should be of their words! Yes, and of their actions also. Dear child, ask God to keep you from doing any act or saying any word you wish undone or unsaid when you grow older and wiser, or when you shall stand at the bar of Christ to be judged.

U. U.

For the S. S. Advocate.

NORAH AND ARCHIE.

Who were Norah and Archie? They were orphan children. Norah was the elder, and she worked for herself and little Archie, earning a scant living for both by means of her spinning-wheel.

One day Archie was knocked down and run over by a gentleman's carriage. When Norah saw him writhing with pain she wept and said:

"O that I might bear the pain for him!"

That was impossible, yet it was no idle wish,