It lies around as like a cloud-A world we do not see; Yet the sweet closing of an eye May bring us there to be.

Its gentle breezes fan our cheek, Amid our worldly cares Its gentle voices whisper love, And mingle with our prayers.

Sweet hearts around us throb and beat Sweet helping hands are stirred And palpita e the veil between With breathings almost heard

The silence, awful, sweet and calm. They have no power to break; For mortal words are not for them To utter or partake.

So thin, so soft, so sweet they glide-So near to press they seem -They seem to lu!l-us to our rest. And melt into our dream.

And in the hush of rest they bring Tis easy now to see How lovely and how sweet a pass The hope of death may be

To close the eye and close the ear. Wrapped in a trance of bliss, And gently drawn in loving arms, To swoon to that-from this.

Scarce knowing if we wake or : leep, Scarce asking where we are; To feel all evil slink away, All sorrow and all care

Sweet souls around us! watch us still, Press nearer to our side; Into our thoughts, into our prayers,

With gentle helpings glide. Let death between us be as naught. A dried and vanished stream :

Your joy be the reality Our suffering life the dream.

## AFTER MANY DAYS

An English Christian writes of a remarkable circumstance that lately came under his observation. Coming from a religious meeting some time ago one of our nobility stepped into a private circle of friends, one of whom said to

"Your lordship promised you would tell us about your son who died in Africa."

His lordship narrated the following incident:

"Our boy was the darling of his mother, and his father's tavorite child. We could not but love him. But he left us and went to South Africa. When he left us he was unconverted, and this was our chief sorrow. He had not been long in Africa, when we received a letter to the following effect:

"MY DEAR FATHER: -You will be sorry to hear that I have met with an day: "It is a splendid place; I admire accident. I am unable to write much. The doctor hopes that in a day or two I shall be better. I will let you know in a day or two, if I am able.

"Oh," said he, "if there had only been in it one such expression as 'by library better than any of those foreign God's providence,' or 'if the Lord paintings. It never troubles me; I But there was no recognition of God; and the father grieved lest his son should die in the unconverted state per cent on thirty dollars won't hurt any in which he left home.

Time rolled on, and another letter came. The postmark was the same, but the handwriting was different. It turned out to be written by the physician. The substance of the letter was

"Your lordship will be grieved to hear that your son died by the accident to which he referred in his last. He lingered but a few days. He suffered greatly."

Said the nobleman: "When I read that letter, I took it away with me and laid it down before the Lord and said: 'O Absalom, my son, my son! would God that I had died for thee, my son, my son!' I dared not hand the letter to his mother. But there was not a word of God, or Providence in the letter, and it was bringing my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave; I felt as if I should never lift up my head again.

"A few weeks again elapsed, when a third letter was brought. It was substantially this:

"Your lordship will grieve to learn of the death of your son. The moment I heard of his illness I resorted to his bedside, where I found him in the deepest anxiety about his soul. He was laboring under a sense of guilt—a deep load of sin. I pointed him to the dying Lamb; told him of the one Sacrifice -the one Saviour; and your lordship will be delighted to know that on the day before his departure, light broke in upon his mind, and he died rejoicing in sin forgiven. His last words were these: "Tell my father that I die in Jesus, and that I shall meet him in heaven."

His lordship, after telling this affecting story, wiped the tears from his aged and noble face, and, turning around to his auditory in that private circle, said : "Can I ever doubt my God again? Can I doubt his promises? I have always believed the Saviour's promise, 'If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it;' and 'Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."-The Chris-

# DISCOMFORTS OF RICHES.

getting it, un questionably carries its remantlepiece. venges, which the most sordid, selfish reature cannot wholly escape. No senmaniz ig, refining, of doing good in all that's what did it."

directions. Like fire and passion, it is an excellent servant, but a fearful master. No man, in the way of accumulation, can be too careful of its domination, whose approaches are stealthy and insidious. At the beginning, we say we want to be relieved of anxiety, to be modestly independent; we do not wish to be rich. A few, a very few, when independence has been attained, have strength to pause in the pursuit of gold, and to turn their attention to their

higher needs. A great fortune is a great tyrant; it drives and spares not. Many a rich man looks back on the time when he was poor, and sighs to remember how free his mind then was from care, how much he enjoyed the simplest pleasures. But he would not exchange his present for his past any quicker than he would exchange freedom for slavery, health for disease, honor for infamy. He may confess that his vast property, toiled and suffered for through years, worries and hardens him; but he would not surrender any portion of it more willingly than he would surrender the use of his right arm. It is the malediction of superabundant riches that while they harry their owner and may destroy his mental peace, he clings to them as tenaciously as to life, and is bitterly tormented by the smallest fraction of their decrease. The ordinary rich man does not enjoy what he has so much as he suffers from what he fails to get. We have all heard of the New York Crœsus who declined to contribute to a most worthy charity. The man who had asked for hi subscription expressed his surprise. I should be glad to do it," was his excuse, "but really I can't afford it. Why, at this moment, I have more than halt a million of dollars in bank, and I'm not getting a cent of interest on it."

Most very rich men form a habit of counting the interest on everything. When they build a fine house, or buy books, or pictures, or furniture; when they lay out grounds, or travel, or make a donation, they cannot help thinking what the sum expended would have brought in at a certain per cent. A very wealthy manufacturer up town put up, not long ago, a palatial country seat, and made it his home for eight months in the year. He furnished it at great expense, not because he cared for the rare and dainty things that filled the spacious rooms, but because he imagined that they would add to his social consequence. He told a friend one it myself, but it makes me unhappy when I think that six per cent. on its cost would give me twelve thousand dollars a year, and it yields no return at all. I like that photograph in my gave only thirty dollars for it, frame and all—it was a regular bargain—six man."-N. Y. Paper.

# THE CRY OF THE HUMBLE.

A colporteur, having gone to give an address at a temperance meeting, took a few almanacs with him, and at the close of his address. opening one, he read out the text printed at the foot of one of the illustrations, "He forgetteth not the cry of the humble," and then the beautiful hymn by Paul Gerhardt. commencing-

Jesus, thy boundless love to me No thought can reach, no tongue declare; Oh, knit my thankful heart to Thee, And reign without a rival there.

Thine wholly, Thine alone I am:
Lord, with thy love my heart inflame.

At the close of the meeting he sold all the almanacs he had but one, and thea left for home.

On the way a rough-leoking man overtook him, and accosted him thus :-"I say, guv'ner, have you got any of

them little books?" He replied that he had one left; and the man said he should so much like to have it, but he hadn't a penny with

"I ain't a teetotaler," he said ; "but I just thought I'd like to come into the meeting to see what it was like, and I did like them pretty words you read."

"Take the almanac, my friend," said the colporteur, "and you can pay me

when you see me again.' Nearly a year had elapsed, when one

day the colporteur saw a man with a bright, happy face crossing the road, and extending his hand toward him, "I say, guv'ner," he exclaimed, "I owe you a penny, I think," "What for?" asked the colporteur, when the man reminded him of the previous circumstance, ending, "An' its the best pen'orth ever I had!" He then gave him a hearty invitation to come to his house.

He west the same afternoon, and found the man kept a small fish shop. Walking right into the back parlor, he overheard the man saving to his wife, "And I met the man this very day;" and, turning round, added joyfully, "and here he is." He then showed the colporteur the picture from the almanac with the text and the verses, framed in Money getting, simply for the sake of Berlin wool and nailed up above the

"That's what did it," he exclaimed; "first I gave up the drink; then I besible person depreciates money; it has gan going to the meetings; now, sir, an incalculable power of civilizing, hu- I'm a Christian, bless the Lord, and

When the colpoteur left, he carried a light heart and heavy pockets, for the latter were well filled with "cockles," a present to "the missis;" a humble but hearty token of gratitude for the blessing he had received; and not long after the colporteur and the fishmonger together partook of the Lord's Supper in the parish church .- Word and Work. 

### VENTILATION,

An illustration of popular ignorance as to ventilation is turnished by the Sanitary Engineer, and is as follows:

A gentleman while attending church one evening found that his feet were icy cold, so that he had to raise them from off the floor. Calling the sexton's attention to the fact, the latter said, with some perplexity,-

"Yes, we have a good many complaints of cold feet from others; but I don't understand the reason why we can't keep the church warm; we surely have fires enough."

So saying he pointed to a register in the floor directly behind the gentleman, in the adjoining pew. Looking around, the latter could see that there was a hot fire in the furnace beneath, and yet no heat came up. When a handkerchief was laid over the register, it scarcely stirred. The visitor asked the sexton,-"Have you any means of ventila-

"No, sir."

"Are there no windows open?" "None whatever."

" How then, can you expect the air tocome in here if it can't get out some-

There was no response, -- the man was nonplussed. "Did you ever try to blow into a bottle?" continued the inquirer.

" No. sir." "Do you think if you did, that you could force any more air into a bottle by blowing than was in it before?" He

couldn't say. Never had thought of it. "Well," continued the gentleman, you would soon find, if you tried, that it is impossible, and neither can you force air into this church through a register if you don't open a window or some other orifice."

"But," the sexton demurred. " opening a window would let in the cold air, wouldn't it?"

"You just try it," was the response. Raise some of the windows on the leeward side of the church, and see what will happen."

It was done, and instantly the handkerchief lying on the register rose halfway to the ceiling with the force of the ascending current. The sexton stood and stared in astonishment.

# MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS.

Every one blames the fine lady daug ter and pities the drudge mother.

The daughter sits in the parlour, in nice clothes and elegantly arranged hair, dawdling over a novel or chatting with companions or friends. Her mother is toiling in the kitchen or fretting her soul in the vain attempt to reduce her pile of "mending," and at the same time look after a tumbling baby.

The mother's face is worn and thin. Baby has pulled her hair askew. She stills wears the old dress that she put on in such a hurry at half-past five in tinguished exceptions. Arrace cannot morning when baby woke her from a sleep.

She is tired! She is always tired She is tired on Saturday and she is tired on Sunday; she is tired in the morning, and tired in the evening; and goes to bed and gets up tired.

It is hard not to be augra with the daughter we confess. She can look in her mother's face, and know bow much work there is to be done, and never It is noteworthy also that for more than willingly put forch a hand to help her. a hundred years after Cromwell's death Nay, she is going to tea this evening... not one of his descendants had achievand will come to her mother to have ed distinction except his son Heary : her dress adjusted for the great occasiona She casts much of the burden of her. existence upon the too generous hears | who was Chancellor of the Exchequer that she does not appreciate, and never and became Lord Bexley, have received once feels the inpulse to give the aid of her youthful strength.

In all our modern world there is not an uglier sight than this, no not one. It is but natural to throw the blame of it upon the daughter. "Heartless exhibited cannot be legitimately attribwretch!" we have heard such a girl call.

ed by indignant acquaintances. She is to be pitied rather. When she was a lixtle child, all lovely and engaging her mother said to herself. She shall not be the drudge I was. She shall not be kept out of schoolso do housework, as I was. She shall have a good time while she is young, for there's no knowing what her lot will be afterwards.

And so her mother made her young life a banquet of delight. Rough places were made smooth for her; all difficulties were removed from her path. The lesson taught her every hour for years was that it was no great matter what other people suffered, if only her mother's daughter had a good time.

She learned that lesson thoroughly, and a frightful selfishness was developed in her.

Her eyes may fall upon these lines, If so, we tell her that people in general will make no allowance for the faults of her bringing up. They will merely say: " See what a shocking and shameful return she makes for her mother's indulgent and generous care.

BABY HAS GONE TO SCHOOL. The baby has gone to school; ah me

What will the mother do. With never a call to button or pin Or tie a little shoe? How can she keep herself busy all day With the little uindering thing away.

Another basket to fill with lunch. Another "good-by 'to sav; And the mother stands at the door to see Her baby march aw y, And tu ns with a sigh that is half relief. And half a something akin to grief.

She thinks of a possible future morn, When the children, one by one, Will go from their home out in the world To battle with life alone; And not even the baby be left to cheer The desolute home of the future year.

She picks up garments here and there. Thrown down in careless haste. And tries to think how it would seem If nothing were displaced. It the hou e were a ways as still as this How could she bear the loneliness. -Canada School Journal.

## THE DEAD BABY.

A lady writes to the New Orleans Times, telling what her brother saw the other day on the cars. Few sights could be so pitiful and so full of tears. When the train stopped at the Bay a man got into the car in front, with a little baby lying in his arms. The baby seemed young, and the man hushed it in his arms with a gentle rocking motion, bending over it now and then to kiss its little white face.

After the train got under way, the conductor came to Tomand said "Come with me; I want to show you the saddest, strangest sight you ever saw in all the lava of the same mountain, after your life," and he led the way into the next car. "Do you see that man there?" said he, and there sat the man whom after the event. In the eruption Tom had noticed with the babe. His of Vesuvius, A.D. 79, the scoria and precious little bundle lay quite on the ashes vemited torth far exceeded the seat in front of him, and as these two other men watched, he leaned over, looked long and earnestly in the little face, and then kissed the frail fingertips he held so gently in his hand. "That baby's dead," said the conductor. "It died this merning at the Bay. He couldn't bear to put it in a coffin because then it would have to go without him in the baggage-car and so he is just carrying it home to New Orleans iu his arms.'

And the carrattled on—the boy called the stale slices of sponge cake and his cigars through the train-the passengers laughed and smoked, and fought the mosquitoes, and he, strucken to the heart's core, sat there quiet and unheeding, watching over his dead child. kissing the fingers that would never clasp his, looking down upon the white lids that had closed over the bright eyes as the petals of a sensative flower close at night-time over its delicate heart, and the world was nothing to him.

# CROMWELL'S DESCRINDANTS.

The last descendant of Cromwell in a direct male line, Mr. Oliver Cromwell, of Chesnut, a Lundon attorney, died in 1821, and his daughter died in 1849 leaving children and grandsbildren who are still living ...

Nothing is more remarkable than the general mediocrity of Cromwell's posterity. There are, of course, some disbe reckoned as altogether destitute of parts which has produced men like Sar George Cornwall Lewis, the late Earl of Clarendon, Mc. Charles Villiers, Sir John Lubeck, and the present Vicerey of India. But if we take into account the number of Cromwell's known descendants, the proportion of able or distinguished men among then must be pronounced to be singular / small. and that of those who have subsequently achieved is, all except Mr. Vansittart, the Croniwali blood through the Branklands, Baronets of Thirkleby, Yorkshire. These facts would lead us to infer that the talent which the descendants of the Protector have in these cases uted to the Cromwe'l blood. The surprising mediocrity of the numerous posterity of so extenordinary, a man constitutes for Mr. Galton and other writers on heredity a difficulty which, cannot be easily reconciled with their hypothesis, and which, indeed, they have never attempted adequately to deal with. Another circumstances which may be

mentioned in connection with this sab. ject is that when eminence has been attained by any of the Protector's descendants, it has been for the most part in the field of politics. One of them has been Prime Minister, the first Earl of Ripon; and there are three who hold office under the present Administration, namely : Earl Cowper, the Earl of Morley and the Marquis of Ripon. The Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland has been four times held by descendants of the Pro tector; by his son Henry, by Lord Clarendon, by Lord de Grey, and by Lord that papa?" Cowper. The vicissitudes of fortune which the Cromwell family have suffered have often been made the subject of remark. In the fourth generation cage chirped for joy .- Sel.

some of his desor ndants had become paupers, and others had intermarried with families of his opponents. Th Protector had no more energetic autagonists than the Earl or Rothes and the Earl Clarendon in their several spheres, but the present representatives of both these Earls are the P. "otector's lineat descendants.

#### WHAT VOLCANOES CAN DO.

Cotapaxi, in 1738, threw its fier rockets 3,000 feet above its crater; while in 1754, the blazing mass, struggling for an outlet, roared so that its awful voice was heard at a distance of more than 600 miles. In 1797 the crater of Tunguragua, one of the great peaks of the Andes, flung out torrents of mud which dammed up the rivers; opened new lakes, and in vaileys 1,000 feet wide made deposits 600 feet deep. The stream from Vesuvius, which, in 1837. passed through Torre del Greco, contained 33,000,000 cubic feet of solid matter; and in 1798, when Torre del Greco was destroyed a second time, the mass of lava amounted to 45,000,000 cubic feet. In 1760 Ætna poured forth a flood which covered eighty-four square miles of surface, and measured nearly 1,000,000,000 cubic feet. On this occasion the sand and scoria formed the Monte Rosina, near Nicholosa, a cone of two miles in circumference, and 4,000 feet high. The stream thrown out by Ætna in 1810 was in motion at the rate of a yard a day for nine months after the expetion; and it is on record that a terrible eruption, was not thoroughly cool and consolidated ten years entire bulk of the mountain; while in 1660 Ætna disgorged more than twenty times its own mass.

#### Our Young Folks.

## SEEDS.

Charlie Campbell had a brother, Walter, and two sisters, Amy and Marion.

Charlie was not always so consider. ate for his brother as he ought to have been, and both of them tried the tempers of their sisters in a variety of ways.

The sisters, in their turn, were often forgetful of the law of kindness, and clouds gathered where only sunshine should have been. As Mr. Campbell was from home all day, the management of the children fell upon mammas; and although she did her utmost to govern them wisely, she did not always find theraso gentle and loving as she wished tuem to be.

Sometimes Walter wanted Charlie's nine pine when he was-playing with them himself, or Charlie wanted Walter's horse; and it was no uncommon thing for Amy and Marion's tempers to be sorely tried by the rough way in which their brothers handled their beautiful wax dolls.

What was their poor mother to do-? On Sunday evenings it was the custom of the Campbells to have a little sacred concert. Mr. Campbell blayed the harmonium, and Mrs. Campbell sang, the children joining in as they were able. The last hymn sung on Sunday evening was "Scatter Seeds of Kindness," and it came to Mrs. Campbail's aid the following morning, when her children were not very amiable. In a gentle tone she said, "Remember what we sang last night; let us 'scatter seeds of kindness." "Oh, yes!" said Charlie that's a good idea, mamma, I'll begin to-day." "And I'll begin too," said Amy. Walter and Marion did not say anything, but looked at their ramma, wondering what it all meant.

After the children had returned from school Charlie was playing with his Nosh's ark, when Walter wanted it. Charlie was just about to say, " No, you shan't," when a better feeling prevailed, and he said, "Yes, Walter, you shall have it; we must 'scatter seeds of kandness;" and he went away to find amusement in looking at the pictures in a volume given, to him a tew days before.

Walter was as happy as a king, and Charlie had the pleasure of making him so, while even little Marion, began to see the meaning of what mamma had said.

For some days after if you had visited their home, you might have almost fancied yourself in a seedsman's shop, the children were so often talking about 'seeds of kindness."

One morning while they were seated at breakfast, Charlie said, "Mamma, I think we shall soon have quite a mice garden." Mrs. Campbell did not understand him at first, and replied, What do you mean, Charlie? Even the snow-drops have not come into flow-

"Well, ma," said Charlie, "we've been scattering such a lot of 'seeds of kindness,' they are beginning to come up." Mrs. Campbell looked at her nusband and said, "What do you think of

Mr. Campbell could not help laughing, he was so delighted; the others all chimed in, and even the linnet in its Sunday Scho

LESSON X. DEC THE LAST DAYS OF

> EXPLAN And Israel beheld

cannot suppose that this, been introduced times, probably, had man, and ofttimes ha of the Lord God of t now Joseph took the presence, that they m once more his testing divine goodness and I sire was that the sone incorporated into hi therefore formally ad 6). By this act Jacq rights of primogeni belonged properly to unhappily forfeited t fore they were tra Jacob himself posse and Esau sold it to h

tage; and, having a took it from his elde one who was several God hath showed m acknowledges the ha no fatalist. He redence in all the ever lieved that it was him into Egypt.

Bowed himself. his respect to his fa ence to the divine pronounced. The bowed, i.e., all three able. Joseph took them most natural, Jose

him so that he mig which was the sym or, on the head of t Israel stretched or eph interfered as if taken (verse 17). Him who guided hi hands wittingly. advisedly, intention for this very purp hand is here for th in the Scriptures. conveying some go

to an . ffice, traasfe dignity or authorit And he blessed blessed Joseph in much as Ham was Canann. God befo did walk Before he recounts his ex ness to him. The word fed is scard press the meaning shepherded me ; w and restoring me t well as feeding me riarch is seen esp ledging God as I his wanderings, a rows too. He ha

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Angel cannot be Angel of God's p who spake with himself divine. Old Testament i the New, and wh age the Redeeme evil. Jacob coul sore pressure, it deliverance had are connected w an, Shechem, Let my name name, Israel, th them be Israelit them be counted (verse 6). He they may be they were by lin have all the sain rael that are of tiles are a part name of Chris them. He me remain Exyptia

were such,-th and their father Joseph presu gone astray thr and endeavors finds, however, is now conferm fully conscious like Joseph, ar fore Ephraim; his hands acros upon the worse hand upon the amazement eve Shall be gre tribe of Ephra

that of Manas history. On th of Israel out numbered 40 the latter nu tribe of Ephra honor of bear standards or in the march were used as a ing to a tradit if we look at t Canaan, we si Ephraim was tracts of the included nea became subset of Samaria (. tract Shiloh tabernacle of until the days the tribe of honor, Sailoh ing this peri we e accuston sions, to repa too, did the t history of th

rael! 1 King