

her sorrows. The tears did come to her eyes, but a light shone through them as she said, "Oh, did you never read the Bible, 'He is the health of my countenance?' Adding, "It is necessary I should have it, too, for I want him to see my face continue young." "He is the health of my countenance." Oh, friends, it is Christ; it is only Christ; it must be Christ!

#### ITS CALL.

When the Lord of the vineyard is calling  
For your help when there's work to be done,  
Are you ready to go at His bidding,  
And toil till the set of the sun?  
Are you willing to go without knowing  
What reward there will be for the pain,  
Leaving all in the hands of your Master,  
Till He comes to His vineyard again?  
There's no place for the idle; the harvest  
In the heat of the day must be won,  
For the Lord of the vineyard will only  
To the faithful ones whisper "Well done."

—Selected.

#### THE PHILOSOPHER AND THE FERRYMAN.

A STORY is told of a philosopher who, whilst crossing a river in a ferryboat, asked the boatman if he understood astronomy. "Astronomy! No, sir, I never heard of it before." The learned man replied, "I am sorry, for one-quarter of your life has been wasted." A few minutes after he asked the ferryman, "Do you know anything of mathematics?" The man smiled and answered "No." "Well, then," said the sage, "another quarter of your life has been wasted." Then he asked a third question, "Do you understand arithmetic?" "Oh, no; I never went to school," said the ferryman. "Well, my friend, a third part of your life has been wasted." Just then the boat struck on a rock. The ferryman, as he pulled off his coat to swim to the shore, asked the philosopher, "Sir, can you swim?" "No," said the learned man. "Well, then, replied the boatman, your whole life is wasted, for the boat is going to the bottom."

The story may or may not be true, but there is a moral in it. Men may know much about astronomy, mathematics, geology, and other sciences; but if they do not know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour, they will be lost. Of what use was the philosopher's learning to him when the boat went down if he could not swim? Of what use will this world's wealth, learning, fame, or glory be to a man who is about to pass into eternity if he has not Christ? To know the Lord Jesus Christ

and what His death has accomplished for you will give you life eternal. "This is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."—*Good Seed.*

#### TOO OLD TO SAY PRAYERS.

"Oh, mother," says she, as she and I were going one night upstairs,  
"Amn't I old enough," she says, "to give up saying my prayers?  
For I've been seven such a long time now, I think I'll be eight very soon;  
And it's long since I've had a knife and a fork, and given over using a spoon."

"Why, what dost thou mean by such talk?" I said; and she turns on me her eyes,  
And gives me a look quite innocent, and yet as wise as wise:  
"Why, mother," she says, "there's a lot of things, like saying 'I will' and 'I won't,'  
That children are always bid to mind, and that bigger people don't."

"And brothers, when they were as young as me, wore their little frocks instead  
Of coats and trousers, and little ones are sent off soon to bed,  
And set to learn our AB, ab, and I thought that saying one's prayers  
Was just like these, for I never see any grown-up folks say theirs."

"Oh, bairn," I said, "have done with thy talk!" for each word was like a knife;  
"Of lessons thou's given thy mother one that'll last her all her life."  
And I knelt down beside her little bed, and all that I could say  
Was just "Our Father, who art in heaven," and "Lord, teach me how to pray."

"And pardon," I said, "a sinner's heart that comes to Thee on her knees,  
And pardon her ways that's been blind so long that it's only now she sees."  
"And pardon," I said, "a sinner's life, and give her grace to mend,  
And be Thou to me, and be Thou to mine, a Saviour and a friend."

—Sunday at Home.

#### THE DEVIL'S FOUR STEWARDS.

THE devil has a great many servants. They are all busy, and in all places. Some are so vile-looking that one instinctively turns away from them in disgust; but some are so sociable, insinuating, and plausible that they almost deceive at times the very elect. Among this latter class are to be found the devil's four chief servants. Here are their names:

"There's no danger."

"Only this once."

"Everybody does so."

"By and by."

All four are cheats and liars. They mean to cheat you out of heaven, and they will do it if you will listen to them.—

Selected.

## Boys' and Girls' Corner.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS.

International.		Institute.	
Oct. 1	Rom. 1: 8-17	Exod. 12	37-42.
" 8	" 3: 19-26	" 13	17-22.
" 15	" 5: 1-11	" 15	1-21.
" 22	" 12: 1-15	" 15	22-27.
" 29	1 Cor. 8: 1-13	" 16	

#### LITTLE BY LITTLE.

(For the children to learn by heart.)

"Little by little," an acorn said—  
As it slowly sank in its mossy bed—  
"I am improving every day,  
Hidden deep in the earth away."  
Little by little each day it grew;  
Little by little it sipped the dew.  
Downward it sent out a thread-like root,  
Up in the air sprang a tiny shoot;  
Day after day, and year after year,  
Little by little the leaves appear;  
And the slender branches spread far and wide,  
Till the mighty oak is the forest's pride

Far down in the depths of the dark-blue sea  
An insect train work ceaselessly;  
Grain by grain they are building well,  
Each one alone in its little cell;  
Moment and moment, and day by day,  
Never stopping to rest or play.  
Rocks upon rocks they are rearing high,  
Till the tops look out on the sunny sky.  
The gentle wind and the balmy air  
Little by little bring verdure there,  
Till the summer sunbeams gaily smile  
On the buds and flowers of the coral isle.

"Little by little," said a thoughtful boy,  
"Moment by moment I'll well employ,  
Learning a little every day,  
And not spending all my time in play.  
And still this rule in my mind shall dwell:  
Whatever I do, I will do it well.  
Little by little, I'll learn to know  
The treasured wisdom of long ago;  
And one of these days perhaps will see  
That the world will be the better for me."

Now, do you not think that this simple plan  
Made him a wise and a useful man?

—Selected.

#### A BOY'S COVENANT.

Do you know what a covenant means? It means an agreement between two persons. Now, the agreement we are going to speak about was made by a little boy named Zinzendorf, who was born nearly two hundred years ago.

Zinzendorf was the son of rich and noble parents, who would have had many temptations, but when he was only four or five years old he began to love to talk with God.

He was only a little fellow when he made this covenant with Jesus: "Be Thou mine, dear Saviour and I will be Thine."