

## "NICE AND NEW."

"GRANDPA your chin is growing old,  
So are your hair and face,  
And Baby Jean stroked my cheek  
With condescending grace.

"I know," I said, "maybe sometime  
Baby will grow old too."  
"O no!" she cried in frightened tones,  
"I am all nice and new."

Sweetheart, it will be many years,  
Should God your dear life spare,  
E'er Time can steal your peachy bloom,  
The gold from your soft hair.

But there is pathos in your wish  
To keep all "nice and new;"  
I fancy older people feel  
A good deal that way too.

—*Wide Awake.*

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## The Sunbeam.

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## HOW THE GOSPEL WAS FIRST PLANTED IN COREA.

This incident is related by Mrs. Fannie Roper Feudge, of Baltimore, Md.:

"Among many efforts made during the present century to carry the gospel to Corea, and with little apparent success, one seed of sacred truth was planted by a Chinese lad shortly before Corea was opened to missionary effort; and this, so far as we know, was the first of all the Hermit Kingdom to spring up and bring forth fruit to the glory of God. This little boy's name was Ah Fung. He had been taught at one of the mission-schools at Ningpo to read the Bible and to go to Jesus in prayer whenever he was in need of help. When he was about nine years of age his father took Ah Fung with him on one of his trading expedi-

tions to the Corean capital. By some mishap while there the boy was stolen and sold to the governor, who presented him to his wife, who made him her page. He would often attempt to tell his young mistress of the Saviour whom he loved and trusted, but without avail until one day the reaper Death took away her baby girl, and then in her great loneliness and sorrow she recalled the words of her little page about Jesus and his love, and asked him to tell her about the story again. Day after day did this Christian child talk of the Saviour, until she too came to love this same Friend."

## PUTTING A COOPER'S PIPE OUT.

The late Rev. Thomas Collins was a model tract distributor, being instant in season and out of season. He often travelled in smoking-cars, in order to have a wider field for doing good. In his interesting memoir, recently published, we find that he describes some incidents of one of his journeys:

"In the train I presented a New Testament to a soldier; he received it gladly, and I was pleased to see that he caught my meaning at once when I called it a 'sword.'

"A cooper got on at an early station, and, without an apology, lighted his pipe. After a little introductory talk, I submitted for his consideration whether the cost of that cloudy gratification would not send a child to school, and whether that would not be a better outlay, as it would confer a benefit that would last forever?

"He said: 'I never thought of that, but it is true. So, out goes the pipe, and here's for the child.'

"Do you mean that? Will you give up the practice?"

"To be sure I will, and send the young 'un to school.'

"I am so glad to have put your pipe out. Will you oblige me by the gift of the cast-off thing?"

"Certainly, sir, here it is.' So with joy I brought the trophy home."—*Good News.*

## DOING RIGHT.

If a boy is always ready for little deeds of kindness; if he is willing to give up his own plans to help along the plans of others; if he tells the truth, though it may be against himself; if he obeys his parents cheerfully and promptly, even when the task is hard and disagreeable—it is easy for any one to see what that boy desires most. His wish is to do right; and such a wish is always granted, because the Holy Spirit is ever ready to lead the willing feet into the paths of righteousness.

## A CHILD'S FAITH.

IN a town in Holland there once lived a very poor widow. One night her hungry children asked her for some bread. With the tears streaming down her cheeks she said, "My darling children, how gladly I would do this if I could, but there is not a morsel of bread in the house." This poor woman was a Christian, and was trying to love and serve God.

She knew how good he is, and how he has promised to help his people when they are in trouble. So she gathered the children round her, and read a part of the fifth Psalm, ending with the fifteenth verse, in which is found the sweet promise, "Call on me in the day of trouble, and I will deliver thee." Then she prayed with them, telling the Lord of their trouble, and earnestly asking him to help and deliver them.

On rising from their knees, her eldest child, a little boy, about eight years old, said to her, "Mother, dear, are we not told in the Bible about one of God's prophets, who had food brought to him by the ravens?"

"Yes, my son, but that was a very long time ago," said his mother.

"But mother, what God has done once, can he not do again? Now I will go and open the door, that the birds may come in, and bring us some food."

Then the dear little fellow went and set the front door wide open, so that the light of their lamp shone out upon the sidewalk.

Now it so happened just then that the burgomaster of the town was going by. He was a kind-hearted Christian man. Seeing the door open, and the light shining out from the room, he thought it very strange, and stopped a moment. Then he entered the house, and asked, "why they left their door open on such a cold night as that?"

"My little boy did it, sir," said the mother, "that the ravens might come in, and bring some bread for the hungry children, for we have nothing to eat."

"Indeed," said the burgomaster; "then here is the raven already. Come with me, my boy, and you will soon see where the bread is to come from."

So he quickly led the boy to his own house, and sent him home with a basket full of bread, and butter, and meat, and potatoes, and lots of nice things. What a happy supper they had there that night! And after supper the little boy opened the front door again, and looking up to heaven, he said, "Many thanks, dear Father in heaven, for all the good things thou hast sent us."