

South's Corner.

MARGARET'S SHILLING, AND THE MISSIONARY BOX.

Margaret was a little girl of ten years old. She went to the School of Industry, where she learned to sew very neatly, and was also taught many other useful things.

When the borders were finished, she took them to the lady, who examined the hemming, and was well satisfied with it; so that she gave her a cake and an apple, beside the shilling that she had promised.

"Now mother," said Margaret, once more, "what shall I do with my shilling? Shall I buy a nice skipping-rope with handles; and a little wax doll for Kitty? Do tell me, mother, how you would lay out the shilling, if you were me?"

Margaret looked grave, and said no more. The mother was a pious woman, who sought to bring up her family in the fear of the Lord; but the little girl was often giddy, and not always willing to do as her good parent wished.

This was Saturday evening; and on the following morning Margaret, as usual, went to the Sunday-school, for her mother took care that she should lose no opportunity of learning the way of eternal life.

When the girls in Margaret's class had done reading, their Teacher began to talk to them about the Missionary Meeting, explaining the purposes for which it was held, and encouraging them all to ask leave of their parents to attend.

"It is very little that you are able to give," said the Teacher: "but God sees the desire of the heart; and if, from love to Him, and a wish to do something for His cause, you deny yourself any trifling gratification, He will look with favour upon the smallest offering that is given for the sake of His dear Son."

While the teacher talked to them, Margaret felt very unhappy; for her conscience was telling her all the time that she had never done anything to help the poor Heathen, though she had spent many a half-penny and penny over some foolish pleasure of her own.

And now you can guess what became of Margaret's shilling. The pious mother thought that her daughter's first earnings could not be better spent than in the Saviour's cause; so the shilling was taken from the cupboard, and carried in Margaret's hand to the Superintendent of her Sunday-School.

ed the next day. And never was Margaret known to regret the skipping-rope, or to wish that her first shilling had been spent in another way.—The Child's Companion.

WILLIAM WIRT AND THE BLIND PREACHER.

The power of religion, in promoting happiness in this life and in disarming death of its terror, has seldom been more beautifully illustrated than in the example of William Wirt, Attorney General of the United States.

While thus living, as he was on one of his professional circuits, as a lawyer, he passed a Sabbath where the celebrated Blind Preacher of Virginia was to preach. Mr. Wirt having no other way to pass the Sabbath, entered the humble Church with the congregation.

Though necessarily called to move in the highest circles of opulence and intellect, and to encounter the temptations with which those circles are ever filled, he humbly, yet fearlessly, sustained his character as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and gave his commanding influence, unreservedly and constantly, for the promotion of piety.

Such are the effects of religion. Infidelity can show no such triumphs. Who will not utter the prayer, "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his?"—American Messenger.

SELF-ACTING FURNITURE.—We have seen advertisements in the newspapers, for some months past, with this heading. We have not the least notion what it means. Can it be that modern ingenuity has invented furniture which helps us to discharge our duties to ourselves and neighbours?

THE DESERT AND THE GARDEN.

One impression has taken me by surprise. I used to wonder—and always did till now—at that stupidity of the Israelites which so angered their leader,—their pining after Egypt, after finding it impossible to live there. It was inconceivable how they could long to go back to a place of such cruel oppression, for the sake of anything it could give.

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ling dreariness of the depths of the desert. I can only say, that when it rose up before me in contrast with that nook of the valley, at sunset, I at last understood the surrender of heart and reason on the part of the Israelites, and could sympathise in their forgetfulness of their past woes, in their pining for verdure and streams, for shade and good food, and for a perpetual sight of the adored river, instead of the hateful sands which hemmed them in, whichever way they turned.—People's Journal.

THE FRENCH ROYAL FAMILY.

I will confine myself to the circle collected in the interior of the Tuileries. No conversation is here allowed—no voice, save that of the one most illustrious, is ever heard above a whisper in that gay drawing-room, all decked with blue and orange, beyond the *salle du trone*, whither the family retire, one and all, after dinner.

The Princess de Joinville comes next. She is, in the opinion of every poet and artist, a most beautiful creature. What a contrast do her large, melancholy eyes, dark as midnight, and of the most languishing expression, her coal black hair, flat, smooth, and shining, her pale and faded complexion form to the full and rosy beauty of her Saxon neighbour!

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THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT. The Red River Settlement will be a great colony; the soil is very fertile (one of the most important elements of colonisation), its early tillage producing forty returns of wheat; and even after twenty years of tillage, without manure, fallow, or green crop, yielding from fifteen to twenty-five bushels an acre.

GUTTA PERCHA.

The substance known as Gutta Percha, now so extensively used in England, was first brought to notice and introduced from the East Indies, by W. Montgomery, Esq., Assistant Surgeon in the British Army. Being on duty at Singapore in 1812, he on one occasion observed in the hands of a Malay woodman,

the handle of a PARANG (wood chopper) made of a substance which appeared quite new to him. His curiosity was excited, and on enquiry he found it was made of a substance called by the Malays GUTTA PERCHA, and that it could be moulded into any form by simply dipping it into boiling water until it became heated throughout, when it became plastic as clay, and when cold regained unchanged its original hardness and rigidity, equalling, for handles of wood choppers, spokes of either wood or buffalo horn.

The tree producing it is one of the largest of the East Indian forests, growing to the size of three or four feet in diameter. The wood is of no value as timber, but an edible concrete oil is procurable from the fruit and is often used by the natives as food. The method adopted to obtain the gutta percha was to cut down a tree, strip off the bark, collect the milky juice, and pour it into a trough formed by the hollow stem of a plantain leaf.

EXPERIMENTS AT PORTSMOUTH.

Some few weeks since we referred to the fact of the appointment of a committee at Portsmouth for the purpose of determining the best method of securing heavy guns on board ships of war, so as to guard against injury to the deck and bulwarks of the vessel from the enormous recoil of the largest pieces of ordnance.

PETERBORO' AND PORT HOPE RAILROAD.

The question of the possibility, practicability, and outside cost of a Railway to connect the towns of Port Hope and Peterboro', is now pretty decidedly answered in the completion of the survey. The engineer has furnished the President and Directors with an outline report and estimate of the cost per mile.

the mile, or where the same level can be so easily and for so great a distance maintained. The line is highly favourable, the ascent from Port Hope to the summit near Bewdley on Rice Lake, will not exceed 30 feet per mile in any place, and in general will be only 20 feet per mile, the residue of the route northward to Peterboro is almost a perfect level.

THE ESTATE OF A. McNIDER, BANKRUPT.

For Sale by order of the Court, to close this Estate. ONE Share in the Quebec High School, £7 10s paid. The outstanding debts due to this Estate: of which a List can be seen at the office of the undersigned assignee.

RECEIVING FOR SALE.

Best and Common English BAR IRON, Tin and Canada Plates, Boiler Plates, Sheathing and Braziers' Copper, Camp Ovens, Bake Pans, and Sugar Kettles, Sheet Lead and Patent Shot, Blister and Cast Steel, Smith's Bellows and Anvils, Spades and Shovels, Chain Cables and Anchors.

FAMILY RESIDENCE AND FARM.

To be Let or Sold, BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED ON THE RIVER ST. FRANCIS, Midway between Sherbrooke and Lennoxville. THE HOUSE comprises every convenience for a genteel family: 3 Sitting Rooms, Nursery, Pantries, 2 Kitchens, 8 Bed Rooms, Dressing Room; ample Cellarage, Bath and Store Rooms, &c.; 2 large Barns, double Stables, Coach House and every complete Outbuildings.

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