

Our Young Folks.

BABY'S THINGS.

Hide the little boots away,
Boots wherein your darling's feet
Pattered through the busy day,
Making all your life complete,
But the feet are still to-day—
Hide the little boots away.

Hide the little cap from sight;
There are now no baby eyes,
Gladdened by its tassel bright,
Laughing out in glad surprise,
Dear sweet eyes are closed for aye
Hide the little cap away.

Hide the dainty coat from sight,
For he'll scarcely need it now,
With his dimpled arms so white,
And this silence o'er his brow—
Little empty coat of gray
Put it with the cap away.

Hide the precious form from sight
With these other useless things;
Lay it 'neath the blossoms white,
For he's won his cherub wings—
And the feet shall never stray,
That are so white and still to-day.
—Thalia Wilkinson.

THE LOST SMILE.

A POEM IN PROSE.

Once upon a time there was a little girl who was always bright and smiling, and everyone who saw the gay and happy smile of the little maiden felt bright and cheerful for the moment, and smiled also.

But one morning the smile was gone, and the little maid stood sad and forlorn because she could not smile anymore. She went to the door and called to the wind:

"Wind, wind! Thou hast been blowing all night around my window. Hast thou stolen my smile?"

The wind replied, "Not I, not I; but I am going on a little journey and will make inquiries."

He rushed away, and came back again; but alas! he brought no news of the smile.

Then the little maid went to the edge of the brook: "Brooklet," she said, "I sat a long time yesterday on the bank; didst thou drink up my smile?"

"I only drink the sun," was the brooklet's reply.

So the maiden looked up to the sun that stood high in the heavens. "Hast thou my smile, O Sun! Thou shinest so brightly?"

But the sun replied: "I have bathed in the rain, therefore do I shine so brightly."

Shaking her head the little maid said: "Now I must ask others."

Walking sadly along she soon came to a house where she saw Death. She heard the voices of those who wept and saw the dead one smiling. "Dost thou steal the smiles of the living that thy children may smile?" she asked of Death.

"No!" he said; "my children have their own smiles because they need weep no more; I do not take the smiles of those who still can smile."

To Sleep, as he was fleeing from her, the maiden called: "Art thou fleeing from me, because thou hast my smile!"

"No!" he replied, "I am fleeing from thee because thou hast lost it; when thou hast found it I will come back again."

Patiently seeking, the little maiden wandered on, and soon came to a cave where Mother Time sat spinning with her distaff fine strands of silver-gray hair.

"Art thou spinning my smile in with thy threads, that they glisten so brilliantly?" cried the little girl.

"Oh, if I only had it!" said Mother Time. "A smile makes gray hair so beautiful. But back there in the cave the little boy Forgetfulness is lounging about, and before the entrance to the cave the maiden Hope is keeping watch; perhaps one of them may have it."

But alas! they also knew nothing about the smile. The little boy had only a cooling drink in his jug, and Hope had only an evergreen twig in her basket.

"Go, ask Wisdom," advised Mother Time.

Wisdom sat with thoughtful brow and

gazed with searching eyes upon the questioning child. "I have nothing to do with smiles; I only know," was the reply.

The little maid turned away, and saw Wisdom's gentle neighbor, Experience, with her wise, clear and friendly eyes. "I miss my smile so much," she said. "Hast thou perchance taken it away?"

"I?" said Experience, "how could I do so? I make people wise, and he who is wise smiles. It is not I who took it. But have faith in me, and do not seek thy smile in the outside world. At home thou must find it if thou wouldst find it at all."

So the little maid started sorrowfully on her homeward way, asking only Care, whom she met, about her smile. But Care replied, "Thou hadst it not when I came to thee."

And so, sad and weary, stood the little maid at eve again before her door; and on the threshold crouched a slovenly, cross-looking old woman. It was Discontent.

"Thou hast stolen my smile," said the maiden. "Tell me, is it not so?"

"If thou knowest, why asketh thou?" replied Discontent, grumpily, and slouched away like one who on God's wide earth knows not how to make anything good or fair.

Discouraged the little maid entered her home. She had not found her smile, and when Illness came to her, she said not a single word, and only looked sadly, questioningly up at her. But Illness read the inquiry in the timid eyes and said, "I am not the thief, I have not stolen thy smile. I only make people weary."

The little maiden was now very uneasy about her smile, but gave it up for lost. So when Pain came, she wept and said: "Now it is all over; now that thou hast come I shall never find my smile again. At first I did not think of thee, but now I know thou wert the one who stolest my smile from me."

"I only borrowed it to make it softer and more beautiful. See! a tear sparkles in it now. Now it has become the pearl of a human heart. Here take it back."

"Ah!" cried the maiden, bitterly, "the people will no longer smile when they see the smile that has known thee."

"But something much better will happen," comforted Pain; and so saying she kissed the little one on her lips. And so she received her smile again.

And the little maid was happy that she had found her smile once more, and smiled always when she met any one. To be sure, as the little girl feared, the people no longer smiled on account of the smile that had become acquainted with pain; the tears shone too brightly through it for that. But every one who saw the smile blessed it. And that was better than all else.—*From the German.*

THE LOST BABY.

Maggie, the seamstress, nurse, and the general waiting maid, was cleaning up her rooms preparatory to the advent of another girl. While busy about making her beds she put the baby, for safe keeping, out on the piazza in a large basket, sure that no harm could befall it there, and as its cry could easily reach her while at her work, she felt quite secure as to its safety. The mother of the child had gone out for a brief absence, and when the time she was expected back arrived, Maggie went out to see the baby and how it was getting on.

The basket was empty. Maggie looked everywhere to find the child. She ran down the front steps to the gate and found it open. At the same time she descried her mistress in the distance coming home. Without doubt the baby was stolen, but how could Maggie take to the mother such a message as that?

She went back to the house to make another search. A movement among the rugs in the dining-room arrested her attention and there, under the table, asleep in the arms of Leo, the St. Bernard dog, lay the baby. Leo knew the child was not perfectly

safe in the piazza, so he had brought it in and was guarding it.

The mother came in to find her baby well taken care of and tears streaming over Maggie's face because of her joy in finding the baby unharmed.—*Ex.*

THE NATURE OF RELIGION.

A converted cowboy gives this as his idea of what religion is: "Lots of folks that would really like to do right, think that servin' the Lord means shoutin' themselves hoarse praisin' his name. Now I'll tell you how I look at that. I'm workin' for Jim here. Now, if I'd sit around the house here tellin' what a good fellow Jim is, and singin' songs to him, and gettin' up in the night to serenade him, I'd be doin' just like what lots of Christians do, but I wouldn't suit Jim, and I'd get fired mighty quick. But when I buckle on my straps and hustle among the hills and see that Jim's herd is all right, and not sufferin' for water and feed, or bein' off the range and branded by cow thieves, then I'm servin' Jim as he wants to be served."

PRESBYTERY MEETINGS.

SUPERIOR: This Presbytery met in St. Andrew's Church, Fort William, on Tuesday March 12th. Mr. Omand was appointed Moderator for the ensuing six months. Mr. Murray reported for the committee appointed to purchase books and inaugurate the circulating library scheme, stating that they had selected and purchased a number of volumes, which would be in the hands of the members of the Presbytery in a few days. He also indicated the way in which these books would circulate. On motion of Mr. Rowand, the report was received and adopted, that the Rev. Dr. Robertson was nominated Moderator of the General Assembly. Rev. S. C. Murray, of Port Arthur, and Mr. W. A. Mather, of Keewatin, were appointed commissioners to the General Assembly. On the remits from the General Assembly. It was agreed not to approve of the first remit, having reference to the graduating students and ministers from other churches giving one year's service in the mission field, nor of that anent Aged and Infirm Minister's Fund. The remit on amalgamation of certain committees was considered and on a motion it was agreed that we do not approve of the remit as it stands; but desire that the General Assembly retain a separate committee on temperance. Mr. Murray reported for the Home Mission Committee, giving estimated requirements for the ensuing six months, and recommendations in regard to supply of missionaries for the various missions within bounds. The report was received and adopted. Mr. Nairn reported for the committee appointed to examine the proposed Book of Praise, recommending that the Presbytery express approval of the resolutions passed by the General Assembly. On motion the report was received and adopted. Mr. Omand made a statement in regard to Manitoba college, and urged the claims of that institution on the members of the Presbytery. Mr. Murray also spoke on the subject of augmentation, advocating its claims. Mr. Nairn submitted the report on Systematic Beneficence, indicating the methods in use in the various congregations of the Presbytery for raising money, and making the following recommendations: (1) That suitable literature on this subject be procured and distributed amongst members and adherents of the churches; (2) That pastors preach during the year on the subject; (3) That the Presbytery recommend the managing boards of individual congregations to meet once a month and consider finances of congregation; (4) In order that money raised for the schemes of the Church may be increased and more equitably apportioned, a general missionary society be established in each congregation, and that sessions assume general oversight of the distribution of money. The report was received and the recommendations considered seriatim and adopted. Mr. J. A. Stewart submitted an excellent report on Sabbath Observance, indicating the more flagrant forms of Sabbath violation, and suggesting remedies. The report was received and adopted.—*W. L. H. ROWAND, Clerk.*

CHATHAM: This Presbytery met in Zion Church, Ridgeway on March 11th. The evening was spent in a conference on the State of Religion. Mr. Davidson was elected Moderator for the ensuing six months. Dr. Battisby presented the report of the Home Mission Committee and it was agreed to continue Mr. Greathead as supply for Dawn, etc. Mr. Larkin reported from Buxton, etc., and it was agreed that the supply of the field be left in the hands of Dr. Battisby and Mr. Larkin. Messrs. Becket, Battisby, A. Currie and R. McDonald were appointed to prepare a minute regarding the late Mr. King and brought in a minute which has already appeared in our columns. Mr. Nattress offered, in view of the financial straits of Colchester mission and of the needs of the Home Mission Committee, to undertake the supply of the field for the summer months, which offer was thankfully accepted and the field handed over to his care. The annual reports of the Presbyterian branch of the W.F.M.S. was read and the thanks of the Presbytery were tendered to the ladies for their generous aid. Mr. Gilchrist reported moderating in a call at Leamington which resulted in favor of Mr. J. Hodges, B.A., of Tilbury Centre. The call was unanimous and a stipend of \$900 per annum was promised. After hearing the commissioners the call was sustained and it was agreed to hold an adjourned meeting

in St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, on the 26th inst. to dispose of the same. Commissioners appointed to the General Assembly were: Drs. Jamieson and Battisby and Messrs. Colter, Larkin, McLaren and Nattress, ministers; and Messrs. R. McDonald, J. McDonald, Haggart, Gladstone, Stewart and McLean elders. Reports of Standing Committees were read, received and adopted as follows: Sabbath schools, Mr. McKay; Systematic Beneficence, Mr. Nattress; Sabbath Observance, Mr. Hodges; Hymnal, Mr. Larkin; State of Religion, Mr. Hunter. It was agreed to ask \$250 per annum from the Augmentation Committee for Blytheswood, etc. The Assembly's remits were then considered with findings as follows: 1st. 2 years probation in the mission field for graduating students and ministers received from other churches, agreed to. 2nd. Jewish Committee, not agreed to. 3rd. Aged and Infirm Minister's Fund, agreed. 4th. Amalgamation of certain committees, agreed.—*W. M. FLEMING, Clerk.*

HAMILTON: This Presbytery met on March 29th. Commissioners to the General Assembly were appointed, viz., ministers, Drs. Fletcher Laing and Revs. Messrs. Ratcliffe, Lyle, Wilson, Grace, Bryant, Barclay, Dr. Fraser, Burson, Fisher; elders, J. Charlton, Lawin, McQueen, W. Wilson, Moses, Leckie, A. J. McKenzie, J. Black, Leitch, Gillespie, F. Reid. A call from International Bridge to Rev. P. L. Langill was accepted; the induction was appointed for Tuesday, April 2, Mr. Crawford to preside, Mr. Wilson to preach, Mr. McCuaig to address the pastor and Mr. Burson the people. The grants to seven supplemented congregations were resolved upon for presentation to the Augmentation Committee. The application of Mr. H. O. Beavis to be received as a minister was approved; also similar applications from Rev. W. Donald, of Los Angeles, Cal., and the clerk was instructed to issue circular letters. Rev. P. A. Tinkham, having attended Knox College for the session now ending, as required by last Assembly, was received as a minister. The reports of Standing Committees were submitted and sent on to the Synod. A resolution was adopted and was forwarded to the Attorney General and the members of Parliament representing the constituencies within the bounds asking that no permission should be given in the charters of Radial railways for carrying on traffic on the Lord's day.—*JOHN LAING, Clerk.*

HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

HOW IT WAS FOUND BY A LANARK COUNTY LADY.

She Had Suffered for Years From Weakness and Pains in the Back—Sciatica Complicated the Trouble and Added to Her Misery—Her Health Almost Miraculously Restored.

From Brockville Recorder.

On a prosperous farm in the township of Montague, Lanark county, lives Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wood, esteemed by all who know them. Mrs. Wood was born in the village of Merrickville, and spent her whole life there until her marriage, and her many friends are congratulating her on her recovery to health and strength after years of pain and suffering. When the correspondent of the RECORDER called at the Wood homestead, Mrs. Wood, although now not looking the least like an invalid, said that since girlhood and until recently, she was troubled with a weak back which gave her great pain at times. As she grew older the weakness and pain increased, and for nearly twenty years she was never free from it. About a year ago her misery was increased by an attack of sciatica, and this with her back trouble forced her to take to bed, where she remained a helpless invalid for over four months. Different doctors attended her and she tried numerous remedies said to be a cure for her trouble, but despite all she continued to grow worse. She was advised to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, but she had dosed herself with so many medicines that her faith in the healing virtues of anything was about gone, and she had fully made up her mind that her trouble was incurable. At last a friend urged her so strongly that she consented to give the Pink Pills a trial. Before the first box was all used she felt a slight improvement, which determined her to continue this treatment. From that out she steadily improved, and was soon able to be up and about the house. A further use of the Pink Pills drove away every vestige of the pains which had so long afflicted her and she found herself again enjoying the blessing of perfect health. Eight months have passed since she ceased using the Pink Pills, and in that time she has been entirely free from pain or weakness, and says she is confident no other medicine could have performed the wonder Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have done for her. She says: "I feel happy not only because I am now free from pain or ache, but because if my old trouble should return at any time I know to what remedy to look for a release."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are especially valuable to women. They build up the blood, restore the nerves, and eradicate those troubles which make the lives of so many women, old and young, a burden. Dizziness, palpitation of the heart, nervous headache and nervous prostration speedily yield to this wonderful medicine. They are sold only in boxes, the trade mark and wrapper printed in red ink, at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont.