

That afternoon a gentleman called, and during the conversation said:

'By the way, I have an offer for you, Earle, of twenty-five dollars for that water-color of the Lurline. Let me take it.'

'I hate to part with it,' said Mr. Earle, 'But if you really want it, you will find it there in the Rhino collection.'

'It's not here,' said the gentleman, looking through the book.

'I'm sure I left it there, where can it be? I declare, I believe that James, whom I dismissed for dishonesty, must have taken it. What a shame!'

As the gentleman left the room, the little boys, who had overheard all that had been said, looked at each other.

'Must we tell?' asked Ray, softly.

'Yes,' said Laurie, firmly, 'it's another temptation, I do believe, and we must resist it, we must fess.'

'Why can't we just put the picture on the table and not say anything?' said little Ray.

But Laurie took Ray's hand, and walking right up to their father, as he came back to the fireplace, said:

'Papa, James didn't take that girl and the boat. She tempted us, and we put her behind us.'

'And we are havin' another temptation now,' said Ray, who was not to be outdone in 'fessing.'

Mr. Earle was completely puzzled as to what the children were talking about, but he held their little hands while they told the whole story. Then he put the picture up over the clock, and told them it should be kept there all Lent, to help them to be strong to resist temptation, and they would all try together to do some good each day, that Easter might come to them in its fullest joy.

#### CHILD TORTURE.

The most frequent form in which offences against the truthfulness of children are cast is like that of which the Rev. Wm. Arnot gives us an account in his excellent work, entitled 'Laws from Heaven for Life on Earth.' He says: 'A lie told by seniors for their amusement threw a dark shadow over my childhood, and took much of the sunshine out of it. Some person in a military dress, interested in the child for his father's sake, took me fondly in his arms when I was between four and five years of age, and slipped a chilling into my hand. I either never knew, or have long since forgotten, what his name was, and what relation he sustained to the family, but the instant he passed, older children and grown up people told me, with an air of seriousness, that I was enlisted, and that when I should be old enough the officer would return and take me off to the wars. This intimation sank into me, and lay at my heart like lead, all the period of my childhood. I was afraid to speak of it and suffered in silence. The terror was never taken away by a serious explanation, for no one knew how great it was. I obtained

no relief until my understanding gradually outgrew it. That lie wrought grievous harm to me. Besides overclouding life at its very dawn, it left within me when it departed a general grudge against mankind for wantonly wounding the helpless. When the boy was big enough to shake off the phantom, he was full of indignation against the world for torturing a child.'

Thousands will read this who cannot remember so vividly the occasions of their suffering in a similar manner, nor state so definitely the result on their subsequent life, but who will feel this picture is all too true to nature. It would be a matter for thanksgiving that William Arnot has suffered so if this pathetic account which he gives of the cruel injury might result in preventing other young hearts being so unkindly served — *Selected.*

#### MRS. P. T. BARNUM'S FIRST ATTEMPT.

One finds it hard to believe that Mrs. P. T. Barnum's article, 'Moths of Modern Marriages,' in *The Ladies' Journal* for March, is really the first she has published. Her keen comment touches the very heart of existing difficulties, and transforms an old subject into one of fresh and genuine interest. The timely suggestiveness of the article is attracting wide attention.

The Pulpit for this week contains sermons by Revs. George MacDonald, D. D., on 'To the Church of the Laodiceans'; Henry W. MacCracken, D. D., LL. D., on 'The Bible a Book of Ethics for Educated Men'; Hugh P. Hughes, M. A., on 'Jesus Christ and the Masses'; Theodore E. Sonmank, D. D., on 'Manifesting His Glory.' Weekly, \$2 a year. The Lakeside Publishing Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

The Rev. C. H. H. Wright's 'Introduction to the Old Testament,' in the *Theological Educator Series*, will be issued immediately by Mr. Thomas Whittaker.

#### MARRIED.

KNAPP-ADDISON—On the 18th instant, at Corlet Church, Brompton by the Rev. J. O. Cox, B. A., David A. Knapp to Miss Hannah W. Addison, only daughter of Mr. John Addison.

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