And think of the absent one Don't selfishly scribble, " Excuse my haste I've scarcely the time to write: Lest their drooping thoughts go wandering

To may y a by-gone night-When they lost the needed sleep and rest, And every breath was a prayer, That God would leave their delicate babe To their tender love and care.

Don't let them feel that you've no more need Of their love and counsel wise; For the heart grows strongly sensitive When age has dimmed the eyes-

It might be well to let them believe You never torget them quite: That you deem it pleasure, when far away, Long letters home to write.

Don't think that the young and giddy friends. Who make your pastime gay, Have half the auxious thought for you

That the old folks have to day-The duty of writing do not put off-Let sleep or pleasure wait-Lest the let er for which they have looked and longed, Be a day or an hour too late.

For the sad old folks at home, With locks fast turning white, Are longing to hear from the absent one— Write them a letter to-night.

COALS OF FIRE.

Farmer Dawson kept missing his corn. Every night it was taken from his crib, although the door was well secured with lock

"It's that lazy Tom Slocum! he exclaimed the morning after missing more than usual. I've suspected him all the time, and I won't bear it any longer."

"What makes you think it's Tom?" asked his wife, pouring out the fragrant coffee.

"Because he's the only man around who hasn't any corn-nor anything else, for that matter. He spent the summer at the saloons while his neighbors were at work. Now they have plenty and he has nothing-serves him just right, too!"

"But his family are suffering," rejoined his wife; "they are sick and in need of food and medicine; should we not help them?"

trap him this very night.'

"In this case coals of fire would be better. Try the coals first, William, try the coals first.

Farmer Dawson made no reply, but finished his breakfast and decided step of one who has made going to be done.

His wife sighed as she went

to admit a man's bands. "There's the leak!" he ex-

Next morning he arose earlier claration. than usual, and went out to the erib. His trap had caught a

he had suspected! He seemed to take no notice of the thief, but turned aside into the barn and began heaping the from the summer's harvest field.

fruits of his honest toil. one bunt in the trap.

you doing here?" he asked. Poor Tom answered nothing,

have done.

Tom's sack, ordered him to hold whether it had or had not been sion.

it while he filled it with the worn. He appealed to the secrecoveted grain.

"There Tom, take that," said against him. He then brought the farmer, "and after this when suit within ninety days in the you want corn come to me and I'll | United States court. His wife let you have it on trust or for swore that a portion of the whole work, I need another hand on had been worn in good faith. The the farm, and will give steady duties paid on that portion were work with good wages."

"O. sir." replied Tom, quite mainder were retained. if you'll give me a chance."

thing we must agree to first."

Tom lifted an enquiring gaze. "You must let whisky alone," promise not to touch a drop."

emotion as he said:

the house and gave him his break- the vice. Modistes and dressfast, while his wife put up a bas- makers are naturally the most ket of food for the suffering family frequent and flagrant offenders. in the poor man's home.

Tom went to work the next linens, wound around the body day and the next. In time he or limbs; human hair in toupees, came to be an efficient hand on wigs and switches sewn into the Dawson place. He stopped skirts; new dresses stitched to old drinking and stealing, attended ones; silks and laces made up church and Sabbath-school with into several voluminous skirtshis family, and became a respect- are among ordinary discoveries. able member of society.

what he once was!" remarked the farmer's wife one day. "Yes," replied her husband, 'twas the coals of fire that did

CUSTOM-HOUSE EXAMIN-ING.

Baggage is landed and deposited in separate piles according to the The old, old story; yet I kneel initials of the owners' names, the proper label having been affixed That Jesus knows them all, on the steamer. The places are designated by huge letters on the The joy, the grief, the loss; The roughened path, the sunbeam bright, "No!" growled the farmer; "if designated by huge letters on the he finds his neighbors are going wall of the shed. If there are to take care of his family, it will | many Smiths aboard, for instance. encourage him to spend the next | there will be a crowded congregaseason as he did the last. Better tion of trunks and owners about send him to jail and his family to S. The examining inspectors are the poor house, and I'm going to already drawn up in line across do it, too! I've laid a plan to the dock; and nothing passes them without due scrutiny. Wearied "Now, while Tom is reaping travellers, who can leave their the bitter fruits of his folly, is it matters in the hands of friends. not the very time to help him to are relieved of further waiting. a better life?" suggested the and after quick search of wraps and valises are allowed to depart "A little course of law would in peace. As each individual's be the most effective," replied the baggage is brought together, he notifies the staff officer, and hands over his ticket. The officer selects the corresponding declaration, writes the name of an in- yet its true source has been alspector—whom he calls from the most wholly overlooked. It has line—upon it, and directs immed- figured as an epitaph upon gravewalked out of the house with the late examination. This is usually stones and has been utilized by sufficiently thorough. Inspectors, up his mind, and something is through long practice, become involuntary disciples of Lavater, thought, but the words are the and such expert critics of human words of a Pagan. It was the stoic about her work, thinking of the nature that they almost intuitive. Senecawhosaid "Not lost, but gone weary, heart-broken mother with ly detect attempted fraud. Dut before." There is in his thirty-sixth her sick and hungry babes around tiable articles, not declared as epistle a remarkable sentence in such, are brought out, valued by which we read, "Death, which The farmer proceeded to examilthe attendant appraiser, entered, we dread and shun, interrupts life, ine his cribs, and after a thorough | with value attached on the doclar- does not take it away: the day search found a hole large enough ation, and the owner is obliged to will come again which shall repay the requisite duty to a clerk store us to the light, and which in attendance for the purpose of man would shun unless it brought claimed; "I'll fix that!" and he receiving it. The inspector also back those who are forgotten. went to work setting a trap inside. signs his name to the de- The meaning of that is not that

man-Tom Slocum, the very one the inspectors on the dock, to phrase under consideration. But of their not particularly pleasing in the third century, supplies us duties, are worthy of high praise. with something very definite. In Exceptions are few and far be- his discourse "On Mortality," mangers with hay, sweet-scented tween. The questions asked Cyprian speaks in this language; about dresses, laces, cloaks, etc., "Our brethien should not be be-Then he opened the crib door and are not invariably met with pre- wailed when by the summons of took out the golden ears—the cisely truthful rejoinders. To the Lord they are delivered from All the time he was thinking ters is regarded as a decidedly are not lost but sent before (non what to do. Should he try the venial sin by most of his children, los amitti sed præmitti), that law or the coals? The law was native or adopted. This notion is when they retire they precede what the man deserved, but his doubtless an unconscious remnant (or go before), so that they ought wite's words kept ringing through of the freebooting ethics of for to be longed after as those who his mind. He emptied the corn gotten ancestors. It is slowly go on a journey or a voyage, and in the feeling troughs, then went | yielding to higher and better | not | lamented." He adds, around where the man stood with ideas. Even the wealthiest are what might serve as a motto for "Hello! neighbor, what are mania. One gentleman, whose "that black garments should not fabulous wealth, returning from already put on white robes there." but the downcast, guilty face con- Europe in company with his wife, It will be seen at a glance that fessed more than words could was compelled to pay about our common saving is almost an \$1,800 in duties on her enormous exact rendering of the words of Farmer Dawson released the stock of wearing apparel, which Cyprian and to him we should

tary of the treasury, who decided

refunded, while those on the reovercome, "I've been wanting Smuggling is carried on in work, but no one would hire. My many ways, and will be carried family are suffering, and I am on while human nature continues ashamed to beg. But I'll work to be what it is. Foreign retail for this and every ear I've taken, traders are adept instructors in the art of evading the payment "Very well, Tom," said the of duties, as anyone who has farmer, "take the corn to the been in the lace establishment of mill and nake things comfortable Des Marets and other merchants about home to-day, and to-morrow of Brussels can testify. The inwe'll begin. But there's one genuity of inspectors is taxed to the uttermost to detect their schemes. Female inspectors are employed to search persons of continued the farmer; "you must their own sex who are sent to them by the deputy surveyor for The tears sprang into Tom's that purpose. Of these inspeceyes, and his voice trembled with tresses three are nine. In 1866 there were only four. The in-"You are the first man that spectresses perform their duties, ever asked me that. There's both at Castle Garden and on the always enough to say, 'Come, docks, in rooms set apart for such Tom, take a drink,' and I've drank | searches. Recitals of their experuntil I thought there was no use iences are at once amusing and huin trying to be a better man. miliating to believers in the natur-But since you care enough to ask al goodness of men. German Jews me to stop drinking, I'm bound to are more addicted to smuggling make the trial; that I will, sir." than people of other nationalities. Farmer Dawson took Tom to but none are altogether free from

look to us for example? Extra gold watches; laces, silks, One unlucky wight, suspected of "How changed Tom is from complicity in feminine designs, was found to have two sets of point-lace in the crown of his hat. -Harper's Magazine.

> "HE KNOWETH ALL." The twilight falls, the night is near, I fold my work away,
>
> And kneel to one who bends to hear very aweet and winning way, There is no harm in this or that,

and you can be just as good a Christian, and yet have a little pleasure; or he will say: " If you will only do so and so. you will have more influence over sinners;" and so by his

With answering love is stirred, And every anguished pain and smart Finds healing in the Word. So here I lay me down to rest, As mighty shadows fall, And lean confiding on His breast Who knows and pities all.

The story of the day.

To tell it at Thy call;

And cares grow lighter as I feel

The hourly thorn and cross,

My weary eyelids close, Content and glad awhile to tread

This path, since Jesus knews.

And He has loved me! all my heart

Thou knowest all-I lean my head,

"NOT LOST BUT GONE RE-FORE."

"Not lost but gone before," is a very common expression, and the poets and other writers. The thought is, indeed, a Christian

of the Christian, and nothing else The efficiency and courtesy of in Seneca, so far as we can disthe deputy surveyor, and also of cover, can be compared with the gether with the delicate discharge Cyprian, the martyr, who wrote cheat Uncle Sam in revenue mat- this world; for I know that they not exempt from the smuggling the Funeral Reform association, name is synonymous with almost be put on here when they have imprisoned hand, and, taking he contended was not dutiable, not hesitate to ascribe the expres-

"AS BECOMETH WOMEN PROFESSING GODLI-NESS.

daughters? What are we doing for them? Are we training them for intoxicating liquors, and adds. to be pillars in the temple of God? God's blessing on herself and all inals in the United States to day ren should possess the beautiful | \$100,000,000 per annum. things of earth, but not to the ex- "But this is not all. Much of cometh not women professing brawls and murders, which costs decoration of these frail and vice of drinking. perishing bodies, nor even to the "Nor is this all. No pen but cultivation of the intellect, while the recording angel's is able truththe culture of the soul is neglect- fully to portray the sorrow that ed. What will the harvest be is inflicted upon loving hearts by from all this in our own hearts this infernal habit of drinking and in the hearts of our daughters, stimulants. No class is so high and in the hearts of those who in the social scale that it is not

Does not the trump give forth an erable by it. A drunken parent uncertain sound? How much are | bestows a curse upon his offspring, we to blame for the dearth of spirit- | even to the third and forth geneuality in our churches? Let us rations. Science shows how vice hear what the prophet says to us of any kind vitiates the blood, in the 32nd chapter of Isaiah, 6th | and, although it may skip one and 11th verses: "Rise up, ye generation, it is certain to crop voice, ye careless daughters; give | dead drunkard often reaches out ear unto my speech. . . . his hard from the grave, and with Tremble, ye women that are at his skeleton fingers, palsies the ease; be troubled ye careless ones: | brain of his descendants, and strip you, and make you bare, sends them, like so many jabberand gird sackcloth upon your | ing idiots, to the insane asylum to loins." The enemy of souls is be supported by charity. subtle and insinuating. He tells position, or we cannot do this or that, of which we are so fond. Or sometimes he says to us, in a

specious arguments he entices us. The Bible lays down no law; neither dare we. Each must be a law unto himself or herself. We are pleading to-day for more consecration in living, and we know there is a pleasure and delight in serving Christ which can not be surpassed. The more self-renunciation we have, and the less we kick against the pricks, the more of peace and joy we have. In the words of another, "The needle of the compass will not settle until it points toward the polar star, and so the soul can find no peace until it turns with full purpose of faith to Christ." Note the words full purpose. There must be a purpose, and that purpose the yielding of all to Christ; and it must be a full purpose, full of faith. Oh, that we would allow ourselves

day in my vineyard?' s a beautiful example of consecration. Her life bore the fragrant blossom of godliness. Her little poem of "Consecration" breathes an aspiration known and understood only by a Christian heart:

done. He says: "The harvest

"Take my life, and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to thee. "Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in neaseless praise.

" Take my hands, and let them be Swift and beautiful for thee. " Take my voice, and let me sing

Always, only, for my King. " Take my lips, and let them be Filled with messages from thee. "Take my silver and my gold; Not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect, and use Every power as thou shalt choose. "Take my will and make it thine; It shall be no longer mine,

" Take my heart, it is thine own It shall be thy royal throne. "Take my love, my Lord; I pour At thy feet its treasure's store. "Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all, for thee."

-Journal and M some

IMPORTANT TESTIMONY

The Evening Journal, Chicago, quotes the return of the last cen-And what shall we say of our sus, howing that \$750,000,000 are spent yearly in the United States

"But the cost of liquor drinking or are we, by precept and ex- is not altogether in money, it ample, teaching them that social costs immensely in other direcposition, wealth, culture and taste | tions, entails injuries and heartin dress are more to be desired aches that are quite beyond the than true godliness! You per- figures of the arithmetic accuratehaps have all heard the little story | ly to compute. Four fifths of all which, while amusing, cannot fail | the inmates of our jails, prisons, to bring to every true Christian penitentiaries and reformatories heart a touch of sadness—of a are brought there directly or inlittle girl who, in saying her directly, by strong drink. There evening prayers, after asking are 500,000 of those whiskey crimher dear ones, closed with this every institution that is open for petition: "And, O Lord, please their reception is full of them, and make us all stylish!" Are our the number is rapidly increasing. daughters being led to feel that Then there are 800,000 insane these things are of the first im- persons, idiots, helpless inebriates portance? Truly our Father has and paupers in the poor houses given us all things richly to en- and charitable institutions of the joy, and he desires that his child-country, costing the taxpayers

clusion of higher things. It be- the criminality, especially street godliness to yield so large a part | the public so much money, is diof their time and thoughts to the rectly traceable to this one parent

dragged down by it, and no class Where do we stand to-day as is so poor and degraded that it is women professing godliness? | not made more inhuman and miswomen that are at ease; hear my out further down the stream. A

"The liquor traffic must be us that if we give true allegiance characterized as an unmixed to Christ we can not have social curse, viewed from any standpoint whatever, and as such it anddoes not pay."

OUR YOUNG FOLKS

A LITTLE QUESTIONER.

What do the birdies dream about ? Who paints the roses red? Why do the pretty stars peep out? When do they go to bed?
The moon looks like a silver ball, Who tossed it up the sky?
Why don't the clouds upon us fall? When it rains do they cry?

Why do the brooks run so fast away? Do small fish ever talk? Can little frogs their lessons say Why don't grass-hoppers walk? Do baby crickets sit up late? Whe teaches them to sing? Why do the flowers for summer wait? Where, does snow hide in spring?

What do the cows say when they " moo ?" Where do the wee lambs sleep What will the bees in Winter do ! Why is the sea so deep.? Seme parrots are—talk so, I mean Mamma says it's absurd; Phat little children should be seen And very seldom heard.

FOUND AT LAST.

A little girl stood by her mother's death bed, and heard her last

words: "Jessie, find Jesus." When her mother was buried to be kept for the Master's use? her father took to drink, and Jes-He can not use us unless we will sie was left to such care as a poor it so. And there is so much to be neighbor could give her.

One day she wandered off with truly is great, but the laborers a little basket in her hand, and are few." Who will go work to- trudged through one street after another, not knowing where she England's sweet and sainted went. She had started out to poetess, Francis Ridley Havergal, find Jesus. At last she stopped from utter weariness in front of a saloon. A young man staggered out of the door and almost stumbled over her. He uttered the den, and stopped to play with him, name of Him she was seeking. "Can you tell me where He is?"

> she inquired. "What did you say?" he asked. "Will you please tell me where Jesus is, for I must find Him."

The young man looked at her curiously for a minute without speaking; and then his face sobered, and he said in a broken, hu-ky voice, hopelessly: "I don't know, child-I don't know where he is."

At length the little girl's wanderings brought her to a park. A woman, evidently a Jewess, was leaning against the railing, looking disconsolately at the green religionists of that day took him grass and the trees. Jessie went to the cross. His character made up to her timidly.

He is," was the child's thought. him." Reputation is that what In a low, hesitating voice, she men think we are; character is asked the woman:

The Jewess turned fiercely to face her questioner, and in a tone of suppressed passion, exclaimed : Jesus Christ is dead."

Poor Jessie trudged on, but a rude boy jostled against her, and snatching her basket from her hand threw it into the street. Crying, she ran to pick it up. The horses of a tramping street car trampled her under their feetand she knew no more till she found herself stretched on a hospital bed.

When the doctors came that night they knew that she could not live until morning. In the middle of the night, after she had been lying very still for a long time, apparently asleep, she suddenly opened her eyes, and the nurse, bending over her, heard the whisper, while her face lighted up with a smile that had some of heaven's own gladness in it." "O Jesus! I have found you at last.'

Then the tiny lips were hushed but the questioning spirit had received an answer .- Leaves of Light.

THE BONES IN OUR BODY.

"How many bones have I in my whole body, mother?" asked Charlie, one day.

Charlie was washing his hands at that moment, and as he washed them he kept opening and shutting them and twisting them about in all sorts of ways; and as he did this he couldn't help seeing that the hand was not one single piece. but was made up of a good many pieces. And from that he began to feel his head and his body. and to look at his feet and legs, and he saw that he was all made up of little pieces. That was what led him to ask the question.

"You would be surprised if I should tell you," said his mother: 'will you try to remember?" "Yes'm, indeed I will," said he. Just let me see if I can guess-

a muny as fifty, I do believe." " More than that my son; two hundred and eight."

"Two hundred and eight! 1 can hardly believe it! There's one great round one for my head

"Stop my dear. Instead of that great round one it takes thirty small bones to make a head. Then there are fifty-four in the body, thirty-two from the shoulder to the finger-tips, and thirty from the thigh to the ends of the toes. The hand is a most wonderful little machine, and so is the foot. See how you can move them about. How many wonderful things they will do for you! Oh, Charlie boy, I hope you will never let your hand or your foot, ot any part of this body, which God has so wonderfully and beautifully made, be used to do wrong and commit sin."—Christian Wo-

THE DIFFERENCE.

man.

"Willie, why were you gone so long for water, asked a teacher of a little boy.

"We spilled it, and had to go back and fill the bucket again,' was the prompt reply; but the bright, noble face was a shade less bright, less noble than usual, and the eyes dropped beneath the teacher's gaze.

The teacher crossed the room and stood by another, who had been Willie's companion.

"Freddy, were you not gone for the water longer than was necessary?" For an instant Freddy's eyes

were fixed on the floor, and his face wore a troubled look. But it was only for a moment—he looked frankly up into the teacher's face. "Yes, ma'am," he bravely answered; we met little Harry Bra-

and then we spilled the water, and had to go back." Little friends, what was the difference in the answer of the two boys? Neither of them told anything that was not strictly true. Which of them do you think the teacher trusted more fully after that? And which was the hap-

pier of the two?

Men often confuse character and reputation. They are immensely different. Jesus "made himself of no reputation," never of no character! His reputation with the him forever "the Author of eternal "Perhaps she can tell me where salvation to all them that believe what God knows we are.-Ed-"Do you know Jesus Christ?" | ward Kimball.

THE

THE TI

The tem eleventh ; the eighth the follow month, du with its h brought in cloud, they presence fi This indica rael that (his abode would hen ship and f his law an a portion that was

Stood, or form, abou in the cou purpose. Keepest co es; an app ness, and er. Word in 2 Sam. ens, the he most ex strikes do hovah is a or that he men are; he is infini spect unto. Thine eyes and answ presence : and name upon, in ca nesses Go 22: 7-11. sinning," this house, for "in;" ing and pr those at h captivity. cause the walk, the induce the

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