BABY ASLEEP.

MINNIE E. KENNEY.

Tread lightly, for he sleeps. The tiny hands,
Restless and fluttering like a leaf, wind tossed,
But scarce a moment since might chiselled be
By sculptor's tool, so meekly are they crossed.
Rose-tinted palms, and dimpled fingers white,
Lightly as snowflakes fall, they passive lie,
Meet only for soft kisses. Little hands
What burdens shall life bring you by-and-by.

Speak softly, for he sleeps. Brown silken lashes fringe
The snowy curtains drooping low which hide
From baby's wondering eyes the strange, new world,
With all its pains and pleasures yet untried
Dear, truthful eyes, within whose violet depths
Where innocence is mirrored, never lies
A shadowed doubt of ought that time can bring,
For life to baby is one glad surprise.

Hush, for he sleeps. The dimpled, restless feet,
So tireless in their motion to and fro,
Are quiet now. O tender, baby feet,
With all life's toilsome journey yet to go,
You are so softly shielded from all harm,
Yet not love's tenderest care can smooth the way
That lies before you in the great unknown,
Where with the sunlight lie the shadows gray.

Hush, let him sleep. The rounded, rose-flushed cheek,
The parted lips curved in a happy smile
Are all the fairer for the peaceful rest
Which cannot be love sheltered so erst while.
Sleep on, my baby, while I guard thy rest,
Thinking meantime upon the Love that keeps
Over thy life more tender watch and ward
Than even mother's love. Hush! Baby sleeps.

—*Christian Weekly.*

THE HOME.

Darkness for the Sick.

A more injurious practice really could not be maintained than that of darkness in the sick room. It is not only that dirt and disorder are results of darkness, a great remedy is lost. Sunlight is the remedy lost, and the loss is momentous. Sunlight diffused through a room warms and clarifies the air. It has a direct influence on the minute organic poisons, a distinctive influence which is most precious, and it has a cheerful effect upon the mind. The sick should never be gloomy, and in the presence of the light the shadows of gloom fly away. Happily the hospital ward, notwithstanding its many defects, and it has many, is so far favored that it is blessed with the light of the sun whenever the sun shines. In private practice the same remedy ought to be extended to the patients of the household, and the first words of the physician or surgeon, on entering the dark sick room, should be the dying words of Goethe, "More light, more light!"—*Dr. B. W. Richardson.*

Children in Heaven.

What is it when a child dies? It is the great Head Master calling that child up into His own room, away from all the under teachers, to finish his education under His own eye, close at His feet. The whole thought of a child's growth and development in heaven instead of here on earth is one of the most exalting and bewildering on which the mind can rest. Always the child must be there. Always there must be something in those who died as children to make them different to all eternity from those who grow up to be men here among all the temptations and hindrances of earth. There must for ever be something in their perfect trust in the Father, something in the peculiar nearness and innocent familiarity of their life with Jesus, something in the simplicity and instinctiveness of their relation to the truth, something pure even among all the perfect purity which we shall all have reached, something wiser than the wisest, showing that even there, there is a revelation that can be given only to the babes. —*Congregational Magazine.*

Sunshine in Religion.

Put sunshine into your religion, and plenty of it. It is a good thing to have a southern exposure of the house. Health and happiness are found on that side. So in the Christian life, growth and grace face toward the sun. Don't live in the cellar. Subterranean believers dishonor their faith. If God is your father; if your interests are in the divine Providence, so that all things work together for good; if He has promised to take care of you here and to crown you hereafter, why borrow trouble?

It is foolish to borrow trouble when there is always so much of it in the house. Remember that you have not one care too many. Earthly perplexities are the architects of character. There never was a strong character that was not compacted out of tribulations. These things are all part of the discipline that makes manhood and womanhood. Accept them, therefore, as helps not hindrances. Be more studious to profit by them than to escape from them. Watch God's dealings with you. "He who watches for Providence," says an old writer, "will have Providence to watch."

Are you an heir of God? Is immortality a-throb in your soul? Is your career ruled and overruled for good? Why, then, laugh; don't hang it. Sing; don't cry. Carry peace in your nature. Diffuse joy. Ray out sympathy. Surround yourself with the atmosphere of good will. Prove the helpfulness of religion by showing that it is your consolation.

The best recommendation Christianity can have is a happy, buoyant Christian. Stand, therefore, like an angel mentioned in the scriptures, "in the sun."

How to Treat Him.

Parents cannot be too careful in their references to their ministers in the presence of their children. The *Telescope* says:

The minister should always be spoken of with respect either in the home or social circle. If a minister finds himself treated rudely or discourteously by children, he has good reason for believing that the fault is more with the parents than with the offenders. Slighting remarks or captious criticisms, passed on the pastor by the parents in the home circle may be detected by him when he meets the children on the street. If they act as though they do not like the pastor he can at once tell what the feelings of the parents are toward him.

If parents would instil in the minds of their children a love for the church, they should never in their presence speak of the pastor's sermon as dull, uninteresting, or pass any uncomplimentary criticism on him or his work. The young should be taught to love and respect God's ministers; and there is no place where this teaching can be more effectively done than in the home.

THE FARM.

Uncle Jake's Dumb Critters.

I don't know much of languages such as the scholars tell,
But the language of dumb critters I understand quite well,
And I think, sir—yes, I think, sir, that their voices reach the sky,
And that their Maker understands the pleading of their eye,
And I shouldn't be surprised, sir, *if in the judgment day,*
Some cruel, heartless human folks should be as dumb as they.

My house is not as elegant as many are, I know:
But my cattle are all sheltered from the wintry winds and snow.
And they're not kept on rations that leave nothing but the frame,
Or in the spring returning to the "dust from whence they came."
Ah! God hath wisely ordered, sir, that in a money way,
Starving, abusing critters are the things that will not pay.

If any of my flock are sick or hurt in any way,
I see that they are cared for, sir, by night as well as day.
My letter's *on their wool, sir—that's all the brand I know;*
My lambs—they are not tailless, for God didn't make them so.
Some say sheep don't need water, but I tell you it's a lie!
They're almost frantic for it, sir, the same as you or I.

My horses—you have seen them, sir; they are just what they seem;
And, if I do say it myself, they are a splendid team.
They wear no foolish blinders, and from hitchup reins they're free;
And they never had a hurt, sir, that has been caused by me.
The way they do my bidding now, 'tis really a surprise!
They know my every step, sir, and thank me with their eyes.

My pigpen, over yonder, I'd like, sir, to have shown;
My hogs—they never are the "breed" that is but skin and bone;
I know, sir, that to fatten them, they need both food and drink,
A shelter and a bed, sir, will help it on, I think.
I have a yard on purpose they can root whene'er they choose—
It seems to me like cruelty, so rings I never use.

There's one thing more I want to show, 'tis Hannah's hen house here—
Our poultry always pay us well, and just now eggs are dear—
'Tis warm and clean and bright, you see, with gravel on the ground;
There's feed and water standing here all 'day the whole year round.
But maybe I have tired you, sir—forgive an old man's pride;
But somehow I love dumb critters, and I want their wants supplied.

—*Our Dumb Animals.*

Separating Cream from Milk.

The methods of separating the cream from the milk are three in number, viz, the deep pail system, the shallow pan system and the centrifugal creamer.

The deep pail system is derived from the method which has been common in Sweden for many years, and which is there known as the Schwartz method. It is based on the fact that the rapid cooling of the milk to a low temperature, and the maintenance of this temperature, cause the entire separation of the cream in a few hours; the lower the temperature, the more rapid being the separation. There are several kinds of apparatus in use adapted for this system. The use of water from a permanently cold spring, or of ice, is necessary under this system. The use of this method of raising cream is rapidly extending, and is indispensable in the management of a public creamery.

The shallow pan system is the most used, and is practically universal in private farm dairies; it has the advantage of convenience and simplicity, and under the best conditions of practice is quite as effective in every way as the deep pail system. No water or cooling is required; but some method of heating is desirable in the winter. An airy, dry, deep cellar, with thick walls, and well constructed, furnishes every desirable or requisite condition for raising the cream under this simple system.

The centrifugal is a comparatively new introduction in the business of dairying; but its value and adaption for the economical and effective working of dairies, large or small, are boundless. The machine, which separates on the principle that centrifugal force in a confined vessel, properly constructed, will throw the denser and heavier particles of a fluid to the outer circumference, and thus compel the lighter particles to seek the centre, is really the adaptation of the principle of gravity to a horizontal position, compelling the lighter particles to rise to the top, and the heavier ones to sink to the bottom, so to speak, by the exercise of this force being exerted horizontally instead of perpendicularly. Like all the other operations of natural dynamic laws, it is exceedingly simple.—*American Agriculturist.*

CHILDREN

Are always liable to sudden and severe colds, to croup, sore throat, lung fever, etc. Remedies, to be effective, must be administered without delay. Nothing is better adapted for such emergencies than Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It soothes the inflamed membrane, promotes expectoration, relieves coughing, and induces sleep. The prompt use of this medicine has saved innumerable lives, both of young and old.

"One of my children had croup. The case was attended by our physician, and was supposed to be well under control. One night I was startled by the child's hard breathing, and on going to it found it

Strangling.

It had nearly ceased to breathe. Realizing that the child's alarming condition had become possible in spite of the medicine it had taken, I reasoned that such remedies would be of no avail. Having a part of a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral in the house, I gave the child three doses, at short intervals, and anxiously waited results. From the moment the Pectoral was given, the child's breathing grew easier, and in a short time it was sleeping quietly and breathing naturally. The child is alive and well to-day, and I do not hesitate to say that Ayer's Cherry Pectoral saved its life."—C. J. Wooldridge, Wortham, Texas.

☞ For colds, coughs, bronchitis, asthma, and the early stages of consumption, take

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Proper Feeding for Cows.

Farmers are learning that at no season is it profitable to under-feed cows. Their product in milk, butter or cheese is worth more than the extra food required to produce it, above what is needed to merely maintain life. The excessive feeding of corn has been one drawback to winter dairying. For a little time the milk and butter product is increased, but soon heavy feeding will run to fat, and the animal will dry off and be fit only for the butcher. By mixing cornmeal with wheat bran and giving both largely thinned with water, the ration may be kept up, but its fattenning effect increases or diminishes with the proportions used. With a new milch cow the proportion of cornmeal should be larger, as during the heavy flow of milk at this time the tendency is to run off flesh very rapidly, unless the animal is full fed. And herein is one great advantage in having cows calve in the fall rather than in the spring. They can be fed with cornmeal late in fall and through the winter, and be in excellent condition to continue a full mess when turned out to grass. Whereas, if the calf is dropped in the spring, the large flow of milk comes at a season when the food is most stimulating to extra milk production. By fall the cow will be down to flesh, and grain food will only result in fattening her.—*New York Herald.*

What Kills Fruit Trees.

Deep planting is one error—to plant a tree rather shallower than it formerly stood is really the right way, while many plant a tree as they would a post. Roots are of two kinds—the young and tender rootlets, composed entirely of cells, the feeders of the trees, always found near the surface getting air and moisture; and roots of over one year old, which serve only as supporters of the trees and as conductors of its food. Hence the injury that ensues when the delicate rootlets are so deeply buried in earth. Placing fresh or green manure in contact with the young roots is another great error. The place to put manure is on the surface, where the elements disintegrate, dissolve and carry it downward. Numerous forms of fungi are generated and reproduced by the application of such manures directly to the roots and they immediately attack the tree. It is very well to enrich the soil at transplanting the tree, but the manure, if to be in contact with or very near the roots, should be thoroughly decomposed.

TEMPERANCE.

Take a Drink?

Take a drink? No, not I!
Reason's taught me better
Than to bind my very soul
With a galling fetter.
Water, sweet and cool and free,
Has no cruel chains for me.

Take a drink? No, not I!
I have seen too many
Taking drinks like that of yours,
Stripped of every penny.
Water, sweet and cool and clear,
Costs me nothing all the year.

Take a drink? No, never!
By God's blessing, *never*
Will I touch or taste or smell
Henceforth and forever!
Water, sweet and clear and cool,
Makes no man a slave or fool.

—*Sunday School Times.*

— We believe that the use of tobacco in any form—smoking, chewing, snuffing, dipping, is evil, and only evil. But, of course, there are degrees. A person who leads a laborious out-door life can bear the use of narcotics to an extent that would be perilous to any one leading a sedentary, in-door life. Probably the very worst form of using tobacco ever devised is the smoking of cigarettes by boys, and even children. A few days ago, a lad of sixteen died at St. Joseph's Hospital, Brooklyn, a chorister in a Brooklyn church, said to be an exemplary lad, whose only vice was cigarette smoking. The poison penetrated every part of his system. His sufferings were excruciating. Just before he died, he said: "I wish that all boys who smoke cigarettes could see me now."

A few days ago, a very eminent clergyman in this city, who had been in the habit of smoking moderately, was visiting a friend, when he saw a lad, the son of the family, teaching himself to smoke. He at once said, "No boy shall ever be able to quote my example in favor of smoking;" and from that time he gave it up. It was a noble act; the sacrifice involved, whether great or small, was a thousand times out-measured by the satisfaction of a good conscience, and by the evil avoided and the good done to others.—*National Baptist.*

Total Abstinence.

Here are a few clear and indisputable reasons for preaching abstinence in the Sabbath-school. Scripture truth, medical science and human experience all agree that the one absolute safeguard against the perils of intoxicants is to *let them alone.* He that *never* drinks is safe; he who *ever* drinks incurs a risk. Good people may differ as to their motives in becoming total abstainers. Some of us refuse to touch alcohol because it is a poison to the brain. Others—like Theodore Frelinghuysen and Bishop Alonzo Potter, and the late eminent English Bishop Lightfoot of Durham—discard the wine-glass for the sake of example to their neighbors. There are two good reasons why I have never touched alcoholic stimulants: first, I am afraid of them, and, secondly, I am afraid that my example might decoy somebody else into danger. The decanter and the theatre are two perils that I have always warned young Christians against; in these days the church of God cannot go into fellowship with either of them and maintain its purity and power.—*T. L. Cuyler, in Christian Intelligencer.*

The Pint of Ale.

A Manchester calico printer was, on his wedding-day, asked by his wife to allow her two half-pints of ale a day as her share of extra comforts. He made the bargain, but not cheerfully, for though a drinker himself (fancying, no doubt, that he could not well do without) he would have preferred a perfectly sober wife. They both worked hard. John loved his wife; but he could not break away from his old associations at the ale-house, and when not in the factory or at his meals, he was with his boon companions. His wife made the small allowance meet her housekeeping expenses, keeping her cottage neat and tidy, and he could not complain that she insisted upon her daily pint of ale, while he, very likely, drank two or three quarts.

They had been married a year, and the morning of the wedding anniversary John looked with real pride upon the neat and comely person of his wife, and with a touch of remorse in his look and tone, he said: "Mary, we've had no holiday since we were wed, and only that I haven't a penny in the world we'd take a jaunt to the village and see the mother." "Would thee like to go, John?" she asked.

There was a tear with her smile, for it touched her heart to hear him speak tenderly as in the old times. "If thee'd like to go, John, I'll stand treat." "Thou stand treat, Mary! Hast got a fortin' left thee?" "Nay, but I've got the pint of ale," said she. "Got what, wife?" "The pint of ale," she repeated.

Thereupon she went to the hearth and from beneath one of the stone flags drew forth a stocking from which she poured upon the table the sum of 365 threepences ($22.81), exclaiming: "See, John, thee can have a holiday." "What is this?" he asked in amaze. "It is my daily pint of ale, John."

He was conscience-stricken as well as amazed and charmed. "Mary, hasn't thee had thy share? Then I'll have no more from this day." And he was as good as his word. They had their holiday with the old mother, and Mary's little capital, saved from the "pint of ale," was the seed from which, as the years rolled on, grew shop, factory, warehouse, country-seat and carriage—with health, happiness, peace and honor.—*Christian World.*

The superiority of Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator is shown by its good effects on the children. Purchase a bottle and give it a trial.

— He who gives pleasure meets with it; kindness is the bond of friendship, and the hook of love; he who sows not, reaps not.—*Basile.*

Lottie Howard, of Buffalo, N. Y., was cured of sick headache, biliousness and general debility by the use of Burdock Blood Bitters, which she praises highly.

— To rejoice in the happiness of others is to make it our own; to produce it is to make it more than our own.—*James.*

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