

letter. He had just been recalling the scenes of his childhood, and gratefully and touchingly alluded to the time when she came to bless them. He assured her that he had treasured in memory her years of unwearyed love and kindness, and that in his devotion he always thanked God for giving him such a step-mother.

Ellen's letter was mostly filled with descriptions of a little wee stranger who had come to gladden her Western home.— "We call her Alice," she said, "and only hope she will be as good as the one whose name she bears." Tearfully and gratefully Alice Moreford read those affectionate tributes to her motherly care and love. Then she complained of sudden faintness, and retired. Morning found her very ill. A physician was sent for, who came and pronounced her symptoms alarming. Day after day passed, and she grew rapidly worse, and then the doctor said, sadly, "I fear there is no hope."— George and Ellen were informed that their mother was dying. They hastened home, but arrived in time only to receive one of her own sweet smiles, and then the eyes which had looked so lovingly on them closed forever.

So Alice died—not unmourned. Still is her memory very sacred in the hearts of her bereaved husband and children, who, as long as they live, will bless God that she did not always keep her maiden name of Alice Grey.

PERSEVERANCE.

Nothing valuable is to be gained without labor and patience, and a few faint efforts after intellectual culture, never rendered him who put them forth either learned or great. There have been but few who did not, in childhood or youth, possess ardent aspirations for learning, and picture to themselves the great things that they were to accomplish in after-life. But how few carry out their plans. The failure is often owing to the want of perseverance. They become discouraged at the difficulties that they have to contend with, and give up the task they have undertaken. There are difficulties in the way of the accomplishment of any noble object, and the greatest natural endowments do not free the possessor from the necessity of persevering toil if he would become truly learned. There are those who profess to make men learned, (at least in some branches of literature,) in an easier method than any with which our fathers were acquainted; but it may be

doubted whether any person has ever yet found his way into the temple of knowledge by walking in the path which these individuals have marked out. He must have a wonderful intellect who can acquire a knowledge of Spanish or German in twelve lessons, and yet certain professors would be happy to inculcate such ideas with the masses. If we would lay up a store of valuable knowledge, we must devote much time to its acquisition.

How much encouragement there is for persevering effort. Perseverance has enabled others to surmount great obstacles. Sir Isaac Newton, in childhood, was thought uncommonly dull, and he ascribed the greatness of his attainments and discoveries in after life, more to his perseverance than to the natural superiority of his mind. Dr. Adam Clarke's childhood was very far from being characterized by any remarkable display of aptness at gaining knowledge; yet his perseverance placed him among the most learned men of his age. Who has not heard of Demosthenes being hissed from the stage when he first attempted to address the people. Three times was it repeated before they would listen to him, yet his perseverance rendered him the greatest orator that Greece ever produced. It was not until after long years of training, that Cicero won classic fame. Even those who are the favorites of the masses, have often been indebted, in no small degree, to this peculiarity of character for the position they occupy. Goldsmith had his "Traveler" on hand for nine years, and his "Deserted Village" six or seven years. Moore often labored upon a song for two or three weeks before he deemed it finished.

Reader, the Hill of Science is before you. There you gather the richest fruits, if you will only toil up the rugged steep on which they grow; but it is vain for you to dream of plucking them, without persevering labor. You will never gain the fruits by wishing them within your grasp. You must clamber up if you would get them, and the reward is worth the labor. When you have once gained the victory, you will be fitted to be more useful than you could otherwise be, and the possession of knowledge will open to you sources of happiness that are unknown to uncultivated minds.

S. L. LEONARD.

Oak Creek, Wis., 1859.

Teach your children to help themselves—but not to what doesn't belong to them.

THE BEDOUINS.

It is a curious fact, observes the London Quarterly, that while the Christian Missionary has made his way to every part of the globe, and has taught with more or less success, he has never succeeded in mixing with the Bedouins. They wander over a region which, from physical causes, can be inhabited by none others but men following their mode of life. From earliest times every effort has been made to reduce them to subjection, and to render their haunts by human skill fitted to receive a settled population. Canals and water courses were carried as far as human ingenuity could devise, and where water could reach, there the land was conquered. But there remained beyond a large region which the Bedouin could call his own. There he is to be found still, as we see him represented on the walls of Assyrian palaces, riding his swift dromedary; we read him in sacred history, suddenly appearing as a robber in the midst of the quiet cultivation of the soil, and as suddenly returning unharmed before their well trained legions during the height of their power; he remains to this hour unchanged in his manners, his language, his arms, and his dress. It is this unchangeableness which renders a Bedouin so interesting a study. He is the only link between the earliest ages of mankind and the present time—like a single, strange animal, connecting the actual world with some geological period.

THE HAIR WORM QUESTION SETTLED.

Our readers will remember the several letters which have appeared in our columns on hair worms, and how unsatisfactory the matter was left. Dr. R. P. Stevens, of this city, has just brought to our notice an essay on human testicles, by Dr. Weinland, in which the hair worm is described in a note. It is there stated that hair worms comprehend two families—the common horse hair worm (gordiacca) and the mermaidca or tender white worm, which the plowman often finds in rich soil entangled in bunches. The female gordius deposits millions of eggs in water, and the embryo which are hatched in no way resemble their parents. This larva penetrates into water insects. The young hair-like gordius is found in beetles, which they ultimately leave; and when they reach a ditch of rain water or a spring, their final development goes on.