

strange dark hours on the beach will linger through all my life." She was sitting alone, with her sewing, when Matsie came in with a note.

"A gentleman just left it," she said. "He said it was for Miss Humphrey, and I s'pose that's you, though who the gentleman was I declar' I didn't know from Adam."

Helen opened the note; it was Mrs. Waldermar's invitation for the afternoon.

"My dear Helen," it ran, "we are feeling very quiet to-day, Margaret and I, and we think it would be the pleasantest, most cheering thing that could happen, if you and your little brother and sister would come and take tea with us this afternoon. I will send for you at four o'clock, and you shall go home early in the evening; and if you are able to come, I hope you will give us the great pleasure of seeing you. Affectionately, CLARA WALDERMAR."

Helen read the little note once and again. It was very kind in Mrs. Waldermar to think of her, and she would be real glad to go if she could, if her head would only stop aching and her father approved.

When Mr. Humphrey came home at noon, Helen told him of her invitation, and he readily permitted her to accept it. Mrs. Waldermar was a lady already well known and much loved in the village. It pleased and flattered him that his children should be noticed by her. It seemed, in fact, a kind of secret homage offered to his own self-love and conceit.

Punctually at four o'clock Mrs. Waldermar's sleigh was before Mr. Humphrey's door, and the little party was soon on its way.

Ronald and Sibyl were so impressed with the great dignity and honour of going out to tea, that Helen had small cause to caution them as to their behaviour. Their faces were very grave, their manners as demure as a little nun's and monk's, while all the time their hearts were beating a roundelay of joy, and they were in an ecstasy of delight.

Very kind and affectionate was Mrs. Waldermar's greeting of her young guests. She led them into her cosy, beautiful parlour, where fragrant flowers and singing birds were doing all they could to cheat one of the consciousness that it was winter, and, introducing Helen to Margaret, left the two young girls to become acquainted while she devoted herself to the children. There are some natures naturally so attuned to each other, so full of sympathy and accord, that they remind us of one of Professor Tyndall's experiments. Touch the key-note of the one and the other will respond; bring them together and only harmony will be the result. Such natures were Margaret Waldermar's and Helen Humphrey's. Born in widely different spheres; surrounded with very different home influences and associations; the one the petted, almost idolized daughter and sister, whose life had scarcely ever felt the shadow of a cloud, the chill of a passing storm; the other, burdened with many cares and heavy responsibilities, the elder sister in a home out of which the mother's smile and presence had forever past, and who, though so young, had learned much of sorrow and suffering? what could the two have in common? on what foundation could they build a lasting, earnest friendship? Perhaps on nothing they shared in common in their outward lives; but there was this strong bond to unite them: both were Christians, striving to do their duty in the different sphere in which it had pleased God to place them; both were growing like their Master, and so like each other, and each, loving the Master, was ready to love His child. Each had tastes and sympathies the other shared, and therefore it was, after all, little wonder that, before their first hour together in Mrs. Waldermar's parlour was past, each felt that she had gained a new friend.

(To be continued.)

HINDOO MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.

The London "Times," in reviewing a recently published book by Shib Chunder Bose, "Hindoo Manners and Customs," says:

"Wealthy Hindoos are often lavishly ostentatious when a death, a marriage, or one of the annual religious festivals offer them an occasion for parading their generosity. They illuminate gardens that reflect the pleasures of their paradise; they throw their mansions open to all comers; they feed troops of beggars and priests for days, and sometimes for weeks. And although a Bengali, as a rule, is frugal to stinginess, looking closely to the expenditure of each rupee, the observances of his faith must be a heavy tax on him. As the Brahmins live at the expense of the laymen, it is to their interest to see that these observances are maintained. The great Doorga Poojah festival in itself must be a fruitful source of embarrassments and insolencies. Everybody is bound, if possible, to live in luxury for the time, to indulge in merry-making that degenerates into orgies, and dress in new and sumptuous clothing from head to foot. Persons in straitened circumstances, who actually live from hand to mouth, deposit their hard-earned savings for a twelvemonth to be spent on this grand festival. The beggars have their wants freely relieved, and it is the season to which mendicant Brahmins look forward as the occasion for replenishing their empty purses. According to the author, it has been roughly estimated that \$50,000,000 are spent annually in Bengal alone, directly or indirectly; and the Doorga Poojah only represents on an exaggerated scale a waste that is going forward at intervals through all the rest of the year. Either on religious grounds or on the occasion of family ceremonies, there are many days when a circle of acquaintances must be entertained, and when offerings which must become the perquisite of the officiating priest must be laid before the shrine of the tutelary idol. So the Brahmins victimize the superstitious community, and yet the members of the sacred caste are so great that most of them barely keep body and soul together. This is a common saying that a Brahmin is a beggar, even if he possesses a lac of rupees, and 'if an officiating priest can make ten rupees a month he considers himself very well off.' Naturally, they cannot afford to be scrupulous, and it seems strange that, with their unblinking mendacity and their open disregard of morality, they retain

their hold even on their ignorant devotees. The author relates facts to show that the most sacred laws of the caste are sacrificed to pecuniary temptations. The heads of the order have consented to condone the most flagrant offences when the culprit could afford to bribe them sufficiently."

WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN PROVIDED FOR.

"Good wife, what are you singing for? You know we've lost the hay, And what we'll do with horse and lye is more than I can say; While like as not, with storm and rain, we'll lose both corn and wheat."

She looked up with a pleasant face, and answered low and sweet:

"There is a Heart, there is a Hand, we feel, but cannot see; We've always been provided for, and we shall always be."

He turned around with sudden gloom. She said: "Love-

be at rest; You cut the grass, worked soon and late, you did your very best,

That was your work; you've naught at all to do with wind and rain,

And do not doubt but you will reap rich fields of golden grain;

For there's a Heart, and there's a Hand, we feel, but cannot see;

We've always been provided for, and we shall always be."

"That's like a woman's reasoning; we must because we must."

She softly said: "I reason not; I only work and trust. The harvest may redeem the day, keep heart what'er betide. When one door shuts, I've always seen another open wide. There is a Heart, there is a Hand, we feel, but cannot see; We've always been provided for, and we shall always be."

He kissed the calm and trustful face; gone was his restless pain,

She heard him with a cheerful step go whistling down the lane,

And went about her household tasks full of a glad content, Singing to time her busy hands as to and fro she went:

"There is a Heart, there is a Hand, we feel, but cannot see; We've always been provided for, and we shall always be."

Days come and go, 'twas Christmas tide, and the great fire burned clear.

The farmer said: "Dear wife, it's been a good and happy year;

The fruit was gain, the surplus corn has brought the hay, you know."

She lifted then a smiling face, and said: "I told you so! For there's a Heart, and there's a Hand, we feel, but cannot see;

We've always been provided for, and we shall always be."

POISONS AND ANTIDOTES.

The following list contains some of the more common poisons, and the remedies likely to be at hand in households:

Acids—These cause great heat and sensation of burning pain from the mouth down to the stomach. Remedies, magnesia, soda, pearl-ash or soap dissolved in water; then use the stomach pump or emetic.

Alkalies—The remedy is vinegar.

Ammonia—Remedies, lemon juice or vinegar.

Alcohol—First clean out the stomach by an emetic, then dash cold water on the head and give ammonia (spirits of hartshorn).

Arsenic—In the first place, evacuate the stomach, then give the white of eggs, lime water, or chalk and water, charcoal, and the preparations of iron, particularly hydrate.

White lead and sugar of lead—Remedies, alum, cathartic, such as castor oil and epsom salts especially.

Charcoal—In poisons by carbonic acid gas, remove the patient to the open air, dash cold water on the head and body, and stimulate the nostrils and lungs by hartshorn, at the same time rubbing the chest briskly.

Corrosive sublimate—Give white of eggs and emetic.

Belladonna, night henbane—Give emetics, and then give plenty of water and vinegar, or lemonade.

Mushrooms—Emetics, and then plenty of vinegar and water, with doses of either, if handy.

Nitrate of silver (lunar caustic)—Give a strong solution of common salt, and then emetics.

Snake bites, etc.—Apply immediately strong hartshorn, and then take it internally; also give sweet oil stimulants freely; apply a ligature above the part bitten, and then apply a cupping glass.

Tartar emetic—Give large doses of tea made of galls, peruvian bark or white oak bark.

Verdigris—Plenty of white eggs and water.

White vitrol—Give plenty of milk and water.

Opium—Give a strong emetic of mustard and water, then strong coffee and acid drinks; dash cold water on the head of the patient.

Nux vomica—First give emetics, then brandy.

Oxalic acid (frequently mistaken for Epsom salts)—Give chalk, magnesia, or soap and water, and other soothing drinks.

Prussic acid—When there is time, administer chlorine in the shape of soda or lime. Hot brandy and water, hartshorn and turpentine are also useful.

THE Church of England has 100 converted Jews in its pulpits, and thousands of Jews in London have accepted Christianity.

SEVERAL hundred women in Amoy, China, have pledged themselves that they will not bind their children's feet, and that they will marry their sons only to women whose feet are unbound. This is the beginning of a reform.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

IT is said that President Arthurs weighs exactly 250 pounds.

MORE than half the newspapers in the world are printed in the English language.

THE electric light has been introduced into Shanghai, China, and is exciting much enthusiasm among the Chinese.

THE village of Grindelwald, in Switzerland, so familiar to tourists, has been almost entirely destroyed by a hurricane.

THE Free Italian Church has purchased Santa Margherita, a fine old church in Venice, and opened it for evangelistic work.

LIVINGSTONE HALL, the second of the three contemplated buildings of Fisk University, in Nashville, was dedicated October 30.

THE Chicago Y. M. C. A. has rearranged and improved Farewell Hall for their purposes, and now occupy nearly the whole building.

THE Salvationists have been invited to visit Calcutta, as a section of the Hindoos profess sympathy with the aims and objects of the Army.

AT Ayr hiring fair last week, some farmers offered an addition to the wages of men who promised to abstain from the use of strong drink for a year.

AT a Stenographic Exhibition in Paris, twenty-four different systems of shorthand are on view. Among other curiosities, there is a post-card containing 44,000 words.

THE Duke of Edinburgh is about to become a tenant of the home farm at Eastwell, Eng., and of the extensive pasturage of Eastwell Park, hitherto farmed by local agriculturists.

AN English company offers to drain the waters of Lake Geneva, in Switzerland, into the River Rhone, and to pay \$1,000,000 for the privilege, provided they can have the land that will thus let dry.

THE fastest run yet by a full railway train was made recently between Philadelphia and Jersey City—ninety miles in eighty minutes. The engine which drew the train is new and has seven-foot drivers.

Last year the British Conference of the Wesleyan Church declined the offers of service of some seventy candidates for the ministry. This year sixty-three candidates offered, and twenty-four of these were declined.

THE women of Iowa gained the victory in the temperance cause by luring the question out of the partisan arena, and by constant and devoted work, as well as by thorough organization, accomplished the grand result of prohibition!

STANLEY, who is at present recruiting his health at Nice, contemplates returning to Africa early in 1883. Meanwhile his steamer has left Antwerp for the Congo, laden with merchandise, in order to establish a solid trade with the native kings.

DR. McCOSH, of Princeton College, has issued a programme of a philosophic series, to consist of small volumes of about sixty pages each, on stout paper, at 50 cents per volume, and issued quarterly, and each embracing an exposition, complete in itself, of one theme.

IN Bristol and Clifton, England, nearly 9,000 persons have signed requests to the local postmaster that their own letters may be retained at the post office during the Sabbath. This has so far diminished the work of the letter-carriers that every other Sunday they are permitted to be "off duty."

THE "Missionary Herald" for November contains interesting narratives of the celebration during the past season of the golden wedding of Dr. Elias Ryes and his wife at Constantinople, and of the close of the fiftieth year of missionary service of Rev. Lorenzo Lyons, of the Sandwich Island mission.

CHINA has the oldest newspaper in the world. It is published at Peking, is called King-Pan, is over five hundred years old, and has not changed in size since 1351. Three editions daily are issued, two on yellow and one on red paper, and each edition has a name of its own in addition to the general one of King-Pan.

THERE are 1,021 members of the "Study at Home Society" of America. Each member pays two dollars. The society is strictly feminine, and admits no girls below seventeen. The subjects are history, science, English literature, German art, or French. Applicants may state their preference to be assigned to one or more of these sections.

THE bark "Monrovia" sailed last week for Liberia, carrying thirty coloured emigrants. Rev. Dr. Blyden, President of Liberia College, now in the States, says that the prosperity of the American emigrants there is constantly increasing; they are more extensively cultivating their coffee, which is the finest in the world, and are making rapid strides in education.

THE movement for the higher education of women in England, which led to the establishment of various excellent colleges for them seems to be justifying itself by practical results. Miss Betham Edwards is an acknowledged authority on Egyptology; and Miss Margaret Harkness is now delivering a course of lectures on the Ancient Assyrians, at the British Museum.

VERY interesting jubilee services in honour of the fiftieth anniversary of the consecration of Bishop Smith, of Kentucky, the senior Bishop of the Episcopal Church in this country, were held last week at St. Paul's Church. The venerable prelate is in his 90th year, and was consecrated October 31, 1832, with Bishop Hopkins, Doane and McIlvane, whom he survives.

MR. PAUL TULANE, of Princeton, N.J., whose munificent donation for education in New Orleans we lately noted, and which it is intimated he will largely increase, has given \$5,000 for the educational work of the Kolapore mission in India. We doubt not that some of the inspiration of this noble act came from our friend Dr. R. G. Wilder, editor of the "Missionary Review," who was long connected with that mission.