

the solemn call of the church bell is heard, and with each sound the question will arise, "Could I have done any more to prevent these poor little children becoming motherless?" Sometime or other these little ones may be met in the hands of strangers or as waifs and strays uncared for, and then the same question will arise, "Did I do all I could to prevent these poor children losing a mother's care?" The night comes on with its depressing gloom, and then when in the dreadfully silent, companionless chamber, with shadows on the wall, and no sound save the warning tick, tick of the clock is heard, you feel yourself influenced by that awful power, Law—God—God—Law—that governs the Universe, before which all should bend the knee and bow the head, and then when self speaks to self, it will be well if self in each of us can answer, "Yes, I have this day done my duty to my neighbour." This is responsibility and effects; the picture is not overdrawn. Every conscientious nurse and professional man feels this, and indeed it is hard to bear. We can but do the best we can, and can do no more, for our power is limited. Take the other side. Your charge, owing to your assiduous care, attention and skill improves, she sleeps calmly, the eye becomes bright, she eats and drinks, soon begins to help herself, and by and by rises from her bed; looks gratitude and thankfulness to her nurse, and ever will be a loving friend. No more horrible gloom and silence, but sunshine streams in, merry children romp around or nestle about mamma, who strokes their hair and lovingly caresses them. Soon Christmas comes; the joyous little ones go round the Christmas tree; now they go round the Christmas tree; nurse joins in, the Christmas tree—the Christmas tree; round about the Christmas tree; now mamma, papa, come and go round the Christmas tree, and here let us all join in, and as hand-in-hand we dance round the Christmas tree, with the merry, innocent little ones, heartily wish these kind nurses A Merry Christmas, and many, many happy years, successful in their career, ennobled by their calling, beloved and admired by "neighbours."

