

rocking chair; the other, Emily, hops about on crutches like a friendly little sparrow watching over the others and waiting on them.

There is another ward with older girls, but we will not have time to stop there to-day, the boys will be wondering if it is a girl's Hospital.

We will go down stairs again. In the first ward we come to seven cots, in the second, five, all with boys in them. It would take too long to talk to them all now. There is "Big Tom," and "Little Tom," "Big Willie," "Wee Willie," and "King Willie," Joe, George, Albert, and many more, that some other time I mean to tell you all about. To-day we will only stoop and kiss "Wee Willie," only five years old, who has lain there for four long months, his dear little head strapped in a steel cage, and fastened to the top-head of the bed so that he cannot move, yet he is a great little chatter-box and always tells you that he is a "dood boy."

You will be wondering how you can help those children who seem so well cared for and happy, and, best of all, are taught about the kind Saviour. You live so far away, some of you, you cannot take the place of those kind nurses, or go to amuse the little folk when they grow tired of their toys and picture books. No, but I will tell you what you can do. Your little neighbours in the United States did for the St. Luke's Hospital in New York, what I want you to do for the Toronto Children's Hospital. I want you to take a cot for your own and call it the Canadian children's cot; save your pennies; earn more by little services about home; send this, no matter how small, to the editor of the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT, telling him what it is for. He has kindly promised to take care of it till there is enough to endow your cot. It will never be empty, and from time to time I will write to you telling you about your little child. Each one of you may call it your own and feel that you are doing it for Jesus' sake, who loves little children.

It will not be such a very large sum—only a little over \$1,000. As you send it, the editor will acknowledge it in the next issue of the paper. You will thus know it has reached him and also see what other little children are sending from other places.

B. S.

Toronto, May, 1879.

#### PETRARCH'S WORD.

PETRARCH was a poet whose home was in that soft and sunny land called Italy. One day he was summoned to court as a witness on a trial. On entering the witness box he prepared to take the usual oath, when the judge, closing the Holy Book, said,

"As to you, Petrarch, your word is sufficient."

Wasn't that a fine compliment to the poet's character? He had always been so careful to

speaking the truth that his bare word was considered equal to other men's oaths. Noble poet. May every child in every family be as truthful as Petrarch.

#### A GOOD NAME.

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches."

Children, choose it,  
Don't refuse it;  
'Tis a precious diadem;  
Highly prize it,  
Don't despise it;  
You will need it when you're men.

Love and cherish,  
Keep and nourish;  
'Tis more precious far than gold;  
Watch and guard it,  
Don't discard it;  
You will need it when you're old.

#### DONE HELPING THEM.

"I HAVE done helping them," said an old farmer, speaking of his sons. "I gave them a start, but they managed badly and made losses. And my daughters all married well; their husbands are mechanics who made high wages—three or four dollars a day—in prosperous times; but they spent it as fast as they made it, and thought nothing of going on a frolic that cost them twenty-five dollars; now they are out of work, and for a long time past I have been paying their rent; but I have done helping them now, for, what with the sickness I have had in my own family, the money I have saved is just about used up, and I have only the farm left." This old farmer had pursued just the opposite course from that of his sons and sons-in-law. He had enjoyed life rationally, but had carefully proportioned his expenses to his income, always keeping the income the larger of the two. The result was that he had been able to relieve the necessities of his sons and sons-in-law when their own improvidence had reduced them to the verge of want. The example of these young men should serve as a warning. It is example to be shunned, while that of the old farmer is worthy of every young man's imitation. Whatever your income, carefully and scrupulously, with undeviating regularity, lay aside a small percentage of it, and it may some day prove a source of the greatest relief to yourself and to those you love.

#### MIRTH AT MEAL-TIME.

EVERYBODY should plan to have pleasant conversation at the table, just as they have good food. A little story-telling, a little reading, it may be of humorous things; anecdotes will often stimulate the joyous elements of the mind and cause it to act vigorously. Try and avoid going to the table all tired out. Let all troublesome topics be avoided. Think and say something pleasant. Cultivate mirth, and laugh when anything witty is said. If possible, never eat alone. Invite a friend of whom you are fond, and try to have a good time. Friendship and friendly intercourse at the table whet the appetite and promote the flow of animal spirits.

#### SKIPPING THE HARD POINTS.

BOYS, I want to ask you how you think a conqueror would make out who went through a country he was trying to subdue and whenever he found a fort hard to take left it alone. Don't you think the enemy would buzz wild there, and when he was well in the heart of the country, don't you fancy they would swarm out and harass him terribly?

Just so, I want you to remember, will it be with you if you skip over the hard places in your lessons, and leave them unlearned, you have left an enemy in the rear that will not fail to harass you, and mortify you times without number.

"There was just a little of my Latin I hadn't read," said a vexed student to me, "and it was just there the professor had to call upon me at examination. There were just two or three examples I had passed over, and one of those I was asked to do on the blackboard."

The student who is not thorough is never well at his ease. He can never forget the skipped problems, and the consciousness of his deficiencies makes him nervous and anxious.

Never laugh at the slow, plodding student; the time will surely come when the laugh will be turned. It takes time to be thorough, but it more than pays. Resolve, when you take up a new study, that you will go through it like a successful conqueror, taking every strong point. If the accurate scholar's difficulties closed with his school life, it might not be as great a matter for his future career. But he has claimed to himself a habit that will be like an iron ball at his heel all the rest of his life. Whatever he does will be lacking somewhere. He has learned to shirk what is hard, and the habit will grow with years.

#### Official Notices.

THE Secretary of the Labrador Mission begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the following contributions:—A parcel of books, hymn-books, and Sabbath School papers, from the Rev. S. T. Gibbs, Toronto. A box of assorted tracts (no address given). A box of Sabbath School papers from the Guelph Sunday School. The above have been sent to Quebec, and forwarded from there. Within the last few days a valuable contribution has been received from the ladies of the Dorcas Society of the Northern Congregational Church, Toronto, consisting of hoods, mittens, and other useful gifts for Miss Warriner's pupils. In all likelihood these will accompany Miss Warriner on her return trip to Labrador. She will probably sail from Quebec, on or after the 20th June. E. TOLLER, Sec. Lab. Miss'n.

UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK.—Arrangements have been made with the Bay and River Steamers, and also with the Intercolonial Railway, by which parties attending the Union, having paid one first-class fare, will be returned, free of charge, on presentation of certificate signed by the Secretary. No arrangement has been made with the Windsor and Annapolis Railway, as no inducement is offered, except for large numbers. The attention of all the Churches is called to the annual collection on behalf of the Union. All who purpose attending the Union are requested to forward their names, without delay, to the Rev. S. Sykes, of Keswick Ridge, N.B., in order that provision may be made for their accommodation. The annual meeting of the Ladies' Home Missionary Society in connection with the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, will be held contemporaneously with the sessions of the Union. It is very important that every Church in the Lower Provinces, belonging to the Denomination, should be represented at this particular time, in view of the severance of our connection with the Upper Provinces. DUNCAN MCGREGOR, Sec. Liverpool, N.S., June 6th, 1879.