

FUN AT HOME.

There is nothing like it to be found—no, not if you search the world through. I want every possible amusement to keep the boys at home evenings. Never mind if they do scatter books and pictures, coats, hats, and boots. Never mind if they do make a noise around, with their whistling and hurraing! We would stand aghast if we could have a vision of the young men going to utter destruction for the very reason that, having cold, disagreeable, dull, stiff firesides at home, they sought amusement elsewhere. Don't let them wander beyond the reach of mother's influence yet awhile. The time will come before you think, when you would give the world to have your house tumbled by the dear hands of those very boys; when your hearts shall long for their noisy steps in the hall, and their ruddy cheeks laid up to yours; when you would rather have their jolly whistle than the music of all the operas; when you would gladly have dirty carpets—ay, live without carpets at all, but to have their bright, strong forms beside you once more. Then play with and pet them. Praise John's drawing, Betty's music, and baby's first attempt at writing his name. Encourage Tom to chop off his stick of wood, and Dick to persevere in making his hen-coop. If one shows a talent for figures, tell him he is your famous mathematician; and if another loves geography, tell him he will be sure to make a great traveller or a foreign minister. Become interested in their pets, be they rabbits, pigeons, or dogs. Let them help you in home decorations; send them to gather mosses, grasses, and bright autumn leaves to decorate their rooms when the snow is all over the earth. And you will keep yourself young and fresh by entering into their joys, and keep those joys innocent by your knowledge of them.—*Selected.*

THE WORD OF GOD.

The same blood circulates from Genesis to Revelation. It is the one Book. He who makes Moses a myth, makes Christ an impostor. He who denies the Mosaic authorship and the inspiration of the Pentateuch, denies the authenticity of the Gospel and the divinity of our Lord. But we are told that the Bible must be tested as to its authenticity as other books are. Granted. But when Sir Walter Scott avowed himself the author of the Waverley Novels,

there was an end of guesses and speculations. Plausible arguments might have been suggested for attributing the authorship of some of them to others. But the world had confidence in Sir Walter's veracity. His word settled the matter. And should not the word of Christ settle the matter as to who wrote the Pentateuch? What are all our petty canons of criticism when weighed against this word? Not one scholar in a hundred can test for himself the grounds on which Wellhausen bases his conclusions. But all of us can read in our New Testaments what Christ said about the Jewish Scriptures; about David in the Psalms; about Moses and the prophets; and that is enough for us."—*Chicago Interior.*

CHURCH HOMES.

"It is surprising to see how long a time it takes some Christians to be really settled in a new home. They send their children to school at once, to be sure, and are ready enough to receive calls; but when it comes to the work of the Lord, they feel that they are on a sort of furlough, and that nothing can be expected of them until they have wandered from church to church, and have been invited and urged and made much of for months."

In contrast with this class of disciples, a writer describes and commends a family that having brought letters from the church they have left, "are prompt in presenting them, not feeling it necessary to wait until the pastor has suggested the propriety of their doing so. Having united with the church, they feel it incumbent upon them to assist in bearing the burden of the church work. They are prompt in attendance at the prayer-meeting, and do not slip into a back seat, but come forward as they used to do in their old home, where the faces were all familiar.—*Sel.*

Paisley Free Church Presbytery has resolved to abolish fast-day services in its country parishes, and is to co-operate with the other Presbyterian ministers of the town in an attempt to separate communion from fast-day services.

The Presbyterian Church of New South Wales has made unwonted progress during 1885. In no previous year have there been so many inductions and so much activity in church building.