AUGUSTINE, BISHOP OF HIPPO. (From the Children's Quarterly Magazine:

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, was a native of Tagasta, a city in Numidia. His father, by birth a her death: during her last illness she looked forward of childhood, the hills and valleys endeared by so many Pagan, was not converted to Christianity till a short with joyful hope to her last change. Knowing that time before his death; his mother was, throughout her whole life, remarkable for her piety and devotion to the service of the true God. Monica had been educated in a family professing the true Gospel, and was much indebted to the care of an aged servant of her father's house, to whom he had committed the superintendence of bis daughters.

After her marriage with Patricius, Monica endeavoured by every means in her power to win him over to the service of God. His temper was naturally violent, but such was her Chistian meekness that she knew how to bear with him when angry, never irritating him by provoking replies; and while many of were nevertheless much milder than the temper of Patricius, Monica would advise them to govern their faint." tongues, and to take rebuke patiently, not answering again; while to their surprise, that she had never been at variance with her husband for a single day, she Christian conduct was attend with a blessing to herself, for her mother-in-law, who had been at first much set against her by slanderous reports, was at length so softwhich had been made against his wife.

tian mother, would pray earnestly for the conversion duties of the episcopal office. of her children. Accordingly we find, that from his earliest years, Augustine was the object of his mother's unceasing petitions, while she strove, by her instructions and advice, to lead him to seek a heavenly father as his guide and portion, and to induce him to cast in his lot among the followers of a crucified reap in joy.

he paid no attention to its precepts, but grew up to from the table, or he would himself quit the apartment speaking to her from above, when the bishop said this, claim. for she was by it encouraged to return home with About the year 430, Genseric, King of the Vanrenewed hope, that God would in the end hear and dals, invaded Africa: Count Boniface, a brave Roanswer her petitions. For nine years did she offer up her daily prayers at the throne of grace for her son's it for fourteen months, after which time it fell, with conversion; and the blessing, though long delayed, all Africa, into the power of the Vandals came at last.

recourse to stratagem, he pretended that his sole pur- ble legacy to the Christian Church. pose was to remain with a friend about to leave his departure, and persuaded his mother to remain all night in a place dedicated to the memory of Cyprian. Meanwhile-that very night-Augustine set sail, and before morning the vessel was out of sight, leaving erring child.

From Rome, Augustine proceeded to Milan, where the young. he obtained an appointment as Professor of Rhetoric. "It was Sunday morning. The rain fell in torrents that had been said; and, what was better, she after-Here he met Ambrose, bishop of the church in that the wind moaned dismally whilst ever and anon a fit- wards practised it. She gave from her own little city, a zealous pastor of Christ's, flock. Attracted ful gust sent the rain-drops pattering against the purse; she had her little collecting cards; and though by his eloquence and the beauty of style, Augustine drawing-room windows. Little Edith Fubrey often at first some turned coldly from her, yet her friends constantly attended his preaching; by degrees he cast a wistful and sorrowing glance at the desolate and young companions soon began to feel interested Stock thereof to £40,000. paid more attention to the doctrines he enforced, and scene without, as she sat in her own pet chair by the when she read to them some of the touching details thus began to have a clearer insight into the truths warm and blazing fire closely enveloped in a large recorded in the Quarterly Papers, and other Misof the Gospel. He did not, however, join the Church shawl; for Edith was that day an invalid, and strictly for a considerable time. He was long in a state of forbidden to leave the genial atmosphere of the drawpainful uncertainty respecting the truth, and he told ing-room. 'Oh, mamma!' at length she exclaimed, his mother, who had joined him at Milan, that he 'how sorry I am to see this wet Sunday morning; breast—a zeal, whose precious and richly multiplying despaired of ever coming to the full blaze of gospel must I really stay from Church to-day? I have not light; but Monica, who saw in these inquirings after missed church for so many, many months; I really knowledge the indications of an awakened heart, re- think it would not hurt me to go, if well wrapped up plied that "she doubted not to see her son one day a in my warm cloak and furs." sincere believer." Augustine found no opportunity "My dearest Edith! replied mamma, 'you know for conversation with Ambrose, but Simplician, the doctor has prohibited your quitting the house a Christian advanced both in years and experience, while this influenza continues; and my Edith cannot gave him much wholesome advice. Severe was the wish to be a rebellious patient. struggle which took place in the mind of Agustine "No, indeed, mamma! but it does so grieve me before he could consent to lay down the pride of phi- to be absent from church;' and tears came into Edith's losophy, to give up the world, and follow Christ. At eyes as she spoke. Her mother gently approached, length divine grace conquered, and Augustine was and said in the kindest manner-'Yes, my love! I enabled to receive Jesus Christ, and to "live no know it grieves you, and it is right it should grieve longer onto himself, but unto him who died for him, you; I hope it always will grieve you to be absent from and rose again." Augustine now saw his past sins in God's house of prayer; but remember, Edith, whose of Car their true colours, as hateful to God, and justly de- prisoner you are. It is not the influenza, nor the serving his displeasure. "How long," exclaimed he, doctor's order, nor an anxious regard for your health; for in the convictions of an enlightened conscience,— all these are only the means,—simple instruments in "how long, Lord, wilt thou be angry, for ever?" Re- God's hand; but it is God Himself who sends you why should not this hour put an end to my slavery?" yourself may lurk in your heart.'

He truly is a slave who lives under the power of sin,

"But, mamma, it must be ri and the chain of evil habits and passions is the hard- church.' est to bear. "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin," said the Saviour.

a sincere Christian. He was baptized at Milan, and you have rather been gratifying your own wishes, inwere at the mouth of the Tiber, on the point of em- only mourn, but-I know it is so-there are murmurs barking on their voyage, Monica was called to a bet- swelling in your heart; oh, my child! remember it is with aged Simeon, "Lord, now lettest thou thy ser- learn to bow submissively to that most holy will, even filled the one object of her wishes, and she had the the purest and noblest aspirations of your soul.' should I do here, and why am I here, I know not, the even for years together.'

hope of this life being quite spent. For one thing only I desired to live-viz.: your conversion. My God has given me this in large measure; what do I they leave this country, mamma?" here?" About five days after this conversation Monica fell ill of a fever, which soon terminated in them to quit their native land, to abandon the home she had always expressed a great anxiety to be buried in her own country, one of her family lamented in her presence that she was likely to die in a foreign land, upon which she looked at him with sorrow, as if to reprove his anxiety for the earthly tabernacle; and then, turning to her son, said, "Place my body any in humble faith and adoration of the present Saviour, where, do not distress yourself concerning it."

In Monica's case we perceive the blessing which accompanies earnest, persevering prayer. She continued, in spite of discouragements, to pour out her waters, far away from the sound of the bell of the petitions at the throne of grace, and though the answer was long delayed, yet it came at last, as she herself said, in large measure. God did for her more her friends were complaining of the harsh treatment abundantly than she had asked, or even dared to exthey received from their busbands, whose tempers pect. Thus we see enforced our Saviour's declaration, "that men ought always to pray, and not to where is the Sabbath-bell?—where is the village

After his mother's death, Augustine returned to Africa, and lived upon his own estate for three years, would answer by explaining to them her method of retired alike from the business and pleasures of the proceeding, and by advising them to adopt it. Her world. At the end of that time he visited Hippo, in order to oblige a person of distinction, who wished to profit by his instructions. Soon after he went to Hippo he was ordained prsbyter to Valerius the bishop, tened by her conciliatory deportment, that she desired her son to put a stop to the false accusations ple, that Valerius, by age and infirmity rendered incain conjunction with himself; and after the death of You will imagine that Monica, thus truly a Christhe latter, Augustine continued to discharge alone the comes far over field and flood, cheerfully encountering

As bishop of the Christian Church, Augustine laboured diligently for the good of the people committed to his charge. In his private life he acted as one desirous in all things to glorify his divine Master. In his dress, furniture and diet, he was free from all dis-Redeemer. But many years elapsed before she saw play or excess, following the Apostle's precept, "Let the desires of her heart accomplished, in the converthe desires of her heart accomplished, in the conver-sation of her beloved child. She was constrained to by his friends, inviting them to his table, and promo-"sow long in tears," before she was permitted "to ting free and rational conversation; but he would never anything which approached slander or evil Augustine's childhood was passed, as it is to be speaking to be uttered in his presence; and he had a feared the early years of two many are spent, -viz : distich written on his table to the effect, "That all in thoughtlessness and forgetfulness of God. He who attacked the character of the absent should be himself tells us that he was disobedient, idle, and self- excluded from the society." On one occasion some willed, that he loved to play better than to study; bishops, his intimate friends, violating this good rule, though he was taught the Scriptures from his infancy he remarked that either those lines must be erased manhood a lover of plsasure more than a lover of God, He was very charitable to the poor, employing the -untouched by the truths, uninfluenced by the com- alms presented by the faithful, as well as part of the mands of the Gospel. At sixteen he was sent to suns belonging to the Church, in administering to Carthage, where he studied eloquence, and it appears their necessities. He never purchased houses or made much progress in worldly knowledge; but he lands for his own benefit, being anxious to avoid, as unhappily fell in with false teachers, who led him still far as possible, the interruption of secular cares. Au- poor emigrants!' farther from the truth, persuading him to adopt their gustine's writings were numerous. He was a zealous opinions, which were quite contrary to some of the defender of the doctrines of grace against the errors principal doctrines of God's word. His mother, of Pelagianism, which in his day had made consideradeeply grieved at his errors, and finding that her ex- ble progress. He also opposed the followers of Cæpostulations produced no effect, on one occasion en- lestius, another heretical sect, with success; and with treated a godly bishop of the Christian Church to much of that inclination in favour of monastic life, converse with her son on the subject. The bishop which was one of the prevailing errors of the age, he replied, that in Augustine's case arguments were use- did not go the lengths of many in persuading the laity less, and advised his mother to let him alone for the to take the vow. On the contrary, we find him on present, continuing in prayer on his behalf, and trust- one occasion rebuking a woman who had been pering that through grace he would at last be led to the suaded by two travelling monks to leave all her protruth. With tears, Monica still persisted in her perty to the Church, to the exclusion of her son, who request, till at length the bishop exclaimed "Begone, was, of course, her rightful heir; and it was his good woman, it is impossible that the child of such desire that no one should leave their possessions to the tears should perish." Monica felt as if a voice was Chuerh while there were relations who had a prior

town he went to Rome, with the intention of opening siege, aged seventy-six years, forty of which he had a School of Rhetoric in that city. His mother was passed as Presbyter or Bishop. He was accustomed much opposed to his departure from Africa; she had to say, that a Christian needed repentance till the flourish! And though you begin with a shilling, you been many years a widow, and doubtless felt much hour of his death, and during his last illness he had will not end there; as your means increase, the shilreluctance at the idea of separating from her son for David's penetential Psalms inscribed upon the wall, so long a period. She followed him to the sea-side, that he might read them continually. For ten days with the intention of persuading him to return, or if before he died he constantly desired to be left alone, that were impossible, of accompanying him herself to that he might spend his last hours in devotion. In his Italy. To escape her importunities, Augustine had writings, which are numerous, he bequeathed a valua-

Africa, during the short time that must elapse before EDITH AUBREY; OR, THE WET SUNDAY. (From the Quarterly Paper of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.)

A pleasing little tract under this title has been for-Monica to bewail her son's unkind deception and her warded to the office of the Society. Permission has own loss. With a heavy heart she returned home, been asked and obtained, to reprint it; and it is now and continued as before to weep and pray for her given, in an abriged form, with the hope that it will be found both interesting and instructive, especially to

member not my old iniquities, for I perceive myself this little chastisment for your own improvement or entangled by them: how long shall I say-to-morrow, to correct some fault, which, perhaps unknown to

" But, mamma, it must be right to wish to go to

"'Assuredly, my love; but, reflect for one moment; -you take delight in attending church; it is a real From this time Augustine became in heart and life pleasure to you; -it may be, with such happy feelings, giving up his professorship, made preparations for stead of looking simply to God's will; and now he returning with his mother to Africa; but while they sends you an illness to detain you at home, you not ter and more enduring home. She might have said His will that imprisons you, and pray that you may vant depart in peace," for God had abundantly ful- when it demands the temporary sacrifice of some of

happiness of seeing her son a fellow-heir of the pro- "Edith remained silent, and bowed her head in mise and hope of the Gospel. Some days before her humble thought. Her mamma continued-'If thus last illness she was standing with her son at a window it grieves you to miss your customary attendance at overlooking the Tiber; their conversation turned church for one Sabbath, learn to think with pity on the upon that eternal inheritance laid up for the children poor emigrants, who, in the far wilds of Canada, Ausof God, -the nothingness of earthly things compared tralia, and other of our Colonies, are, unhappily, too with the life hid in Christ, their Saviour. "Son," often deprived of the ministrations of the Church, not said Monica, "I have now no delight in life; what for one Sabbath only, but for months, aye, sometimes

"'Poor emigrants! how desolate their Sundays must be, without a church to attend; But why do

"'Poverty, Edith, stern poverty, is what obliges sweet recollections, and more than all, the village church, where once themselves and in after years their children, received in Baptism a Heavenly Father's blessing-the altar where, one by one, the elder children, as they had received the holy rite of Confirmation, were severally taught to kneel beside their parents whose 'flesh is meat indeed,' and whose 'blood is drink indeed.' And the iron hand of poverty forces them from these hallowed privileges, over the dark blue village Church ;-and they penetrate the trackless forest, and raise the log but to shelter the helpless children; and the trees are felled, and the once tanlged brake is changed into the fruitful field, and the log-hut gives place to the neat farm house; -but church? Oh, that we in favoured England, would arouse ourselves, that the ears of the poor exiles may once more be gladdened with the sweet bell of the church of their fatherland!"

"'But, mamma, are their not churches at the mis-

"'Yes, there are churches at those bright spots in the desert, and thrice happy are those who dwell within reach of the holy services; but many of the settlers are miles, sometimes hundreds of miles away, and never hear the voice through her ordained Ministers, except when some Missionary Bishop or Pastor innumerable hardships, to brighten, for one Sabbathday the home of the lone emigrants, and carry the Sacraments and Ordinances of the Church to the solitary places of the wilderness.

"The good Bishops and Missionsries must meet with many difficulties and inconveniences in such long journeys, do they not, mamma?"

"'Indeed they do, Edith; but it is love-love to their Saviour, who suffered so much to redeem His Church, and love for his scattered sheep, and for the poor benighted heathen who are yet without the fold -that enables them joyfully to undergo fatigues and dangers from which we in England should shrink in dismay. There is the river to swim across - there is the prairie or forest-track to be pursued; there are dangers in the deep besetting the Missionary boat;there is the midnight and tented ereampment, where, notwithstanding daily journeyings, the morning and evening services are regularly offered; -and above all in the case of the solitary Missionary in a pagan land, there is the loneliness. And yet the Missionary is not Gold and Silver bought. alone-his Saviour-God is with him.'

"'Oh, mamma! I wish I could do anything to "'You can do something, Edith.'

" How, mamma? Oh, pray tell me!" "'You can go among your friends, and collect for the great Missionary Societies of the Church, who aid our Colonial Bishops, and send Missionaries to all our Colonies, whether, in Asia, Africa, America, or the Australasian Isles-which despatch Missionaries to the heathen of every clime. We should aid these excellent Societies. From your own little allowance, BOOT AND SHOEMAKER, my Edith, you can spare at least one shilling a year

for them. consider; yes-that will be the way; when I see anything very nice or pretty, and I wish to buy it, I must think, Now this is not necessary: I should like to have it, but it will only amuse me or give me pleasure for a very little while-I shall be just as well without it

Augustine did not live to see the desolation of his After Augustine had spent some years in his native own he went to Rome, with the intention of opening own he went to Rome, with the intention of opening and seventy-six years, forty of which he had that sum annually, how the cause of Missions would cording to the means which God may graciously give you. And now I must leave you, Edith, for the Church-bells are sounding for morning service; but remember their is one other way in which you may any-one without which all the rest will, and be

"'Oh! what is that, mamma? "'You may pray to God for them-pray that he will graciously bless their labours-pray for the outpouring of the Spirit-pray that the Saviour, in whose name you plead, may work with them and through

"And Edith was left alone. While her mamma was gone to church she thought and prayed on all sionary publications, of each Society; and she evenfoundation of Missionary zeal in many a youthful benefits are beyond calculation.

"And now my little readers, did not little Edith Aubrey make a good use of her wet Sunday? And will not you do the same? The wet Sunday is presented for your imitation! 'Go and do ye likewise.'

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