Provincial Wesleyan.

The Family.

Meekness.

Be meek and patient. O how blest is he
Whose heart is ever ready to forgive;
Who knows and feels resentment is a sin,
That unresisted anger cannot live;
A little spark may rouse a raging fire,
The more opposed the more will anger burn,
But feed it not, the spark will soon be pure
So strife provoked not, will to peace return.

Of Adam born there never lived but One
Who needed not forgiveness day and yet He
Was scoffed, despised, rejected, betrayed,
To bear the burden of his misery:
By man betrayed, how tender, was the prayer
In dying whispers breathed from lips divine!
May we such patience learn, like Him, forbear,
Confide in promised joys, and meek repine.

[The above beautiful lines are set to music by Glover, in Echoes from the Harp, published by O. Ditson & Co., Boston.]

On Prayer.

How Beautiful is Prayer
From the lips of early youth,
Before the world has chased away
Its innocence and truth.
The heart is full of trusting love,
In thankfulness we raise;
How beautiful is Prayer
In the Spring time of our days!

Again in Summer's prime,
When passions fierce and strong,
Assail the heart of man,
And tempt him to do wrong,
To see him kneel before his God,
For help to mend his ways.
Ah! beautiful is Prayer
In the Summer of our days!

And when the leaf grows sear,
The heart that once was gay,
Begins to grieve for talents lost,
And mourn each wasted day;
Our voice, O Lord! to thee,
In penitence we raise,
Accepted be that Prayer
In the Autumn of our days.

And as the snows of Winter,
Fall in showers o'er the head,
And every earthly idol,
Lies buried with the dead,
We pray to see Thee face to face,
And sing Thy constant praise—
How glorious is that Prayer
In the Winter of our days!

Just Twenty.

Among the conversions during a recent revival, in one of the cities of Western New York, was that of a young lady, whose convictions of sin were so deep and pungent, and the subsequent light which broke in upon her soul so bright and clear, and her faith in the Saviour and her love for Him so simple and childlike, that many who had been long in the service of the Lord were greatly strengthened in faith on listening to the simple tale of her conversion. In conversation with a friend respecting the great change in her feelings and views since she had found the Saviour, she remarked: When I look upon my past life, how strange it seems. I am *just twenty*, you know.—Those twenty years as I look back upon them, seem like a blank. I have lived for myself and the world alone. My Heavenly Father kindly watched over me and provided for all my wants during *twenty long years*, yet during all that time I never so much as once looked up to Him for His goodness and mercy to me. It is true I said my prayers as I was taught to do, but my heart was not in them. I never felt thankful.

How ungrateful I have been! I wonder how I could have lived thus. Just think, *twenty years* and not one particle of love for my dear Saviour! O if I could only live my life over again! But those twenty years are past; they are lost. How sad the thought. I feel that my future life cannot be devoted too faithfully to the service of my dear Saviour. O it does seem so strange that so many people can live as they do—wholly absorbed in themselves and utterly indifferent respecting everything pertaining to their duty to God and the eternal welfare of their souls. And yet I lived just so, too, but I was blind and did not see it.

You don't know how different Christians appear to me now from what they used to.—I always respected them, and yet I never liked to be with them. Somehow they appeared so cold and so cold. When Mr. Minister Dr. S. called at our house I did not want to go into the room for fear he would say something to me about religion. But now there is *no one* I like to see and talk with better than with him. And there are my cousins at A. Two of them are members of the Church with whom I used to visit there I spent but a little time with them because they seemed so proud and sober. But when I last visited there I wanted to be with them all the time, they were such good company and appeared so different to me from what they used to. Why, I almost entirely neglected my other cousins, there, with whom I used to have such "good times," as I thought.

I used to hear a good deal about Christians being happy, but I did not believe they were really happy, for I could not understand how people who seemed to be so restrained and hampered by the scrupulous observance of religious duties, and who denied themselves so many of the pleasures and enjoyments of the world, could be happy. I thought I was about as happy as anybody could be. I had a happy home, kind friends, and many pleasant acquaintances. There was nothing to trouble me. Always lively and cheerful, why shouldn't I be happy? Well I was happy—what the world calls happiness, but O what would tempt me to turn back and live just as I used to live? Nothing! nothing! What! turn away from the dear Saviour who died for me, and live only for myself and the world again! Never! Live as I used to?—I have no desire to do it, I could not do it. Happy! I never knew what it was to be happy till I found the Saviour. How I love Him—love Him more than I do all earthly friends, more than I do my parents; and if it was not for my Heavenly Father to have me go now, I should be perfectly willing to go and be with Christ my Saviour.—Sometimes when I get to thinking about it, I am almost impatient to go. I wonder how I could have been so blind as to think myself happy in living as I once lived. I was not happy, I was really unhappy, though I did not think so then; but I can see it plainly enough now. How mistaken worldly people are about Christian happiness. They know nothing about it, neither can they know what it is till they have experienced it in their own hearts. I have been talking with some of my young friends and telling them that the happiness which Christians speak of is real and not imaginary, desiring them to seek for it by giving their hearts to the Saviour. They listen to what I say, but it seems to make no impression upon them. I can see that they look upon me too just as I used to look upon others. They think it is a kind of excitement which will pass away in time, and that I shall then feel and act just as I always did. I feel so anxious about them it seems as if I could not give them up. But I know that without the aid of the Holy Spirit all is in vain.

How little I knew of myself before I was enlightened by the Holy spirit. I once felt strong, but now I feel so weak, just like a child. When I am tempted I go right to my Saviour and ask Him to strengthen me that I may withstand the temptation, for I know and feel that without Him I can do nothing. I love to pray. Sometimes my heart is so full it seems as if I could not stop praying.—And the Bible, how I love to read it. It is a new book to me now. There is no other book I love to read so well as that. What could I do without it? Now that I have a hope in its promises, I shall not fear death when it comes, for death now seems to me a change from this world of sin and sorrow to that home in Heaven where I shall see Jesus my dear Saviour, and be forever happy.—*E. M. C. in Evangelist.*

A Word to Young Ladies.

We wish to say a word to you, young ladies, about your influence over young men.

Did you ever think of it?

Did you ever realize that you could have any influence at all over them?

We believe that a young lady by her constant consistent, Christian example, may exert an untold power.

You do not know the respect and almost worship which young men, no matter how wicked they may be themselves, pay to a consistent Christian lady, be she young or old.

A gentleman once said to a lady who boarded in the same house with him that her life was a constant proof of the Christian religion.

Often the simple request of a lady will keep a young man from doing wrong. We have known this to be the case very frequently; and young men have been kept from breaking the Sabbath, from drinking, from chewing, just because a lady whom they respected, and for whom they had an affection, requested it.

A tract given, an invitation to go to church, a request that your friend would read the Bible daily, will often be regarded, when a more powerful appeal from other sources would fall unheeded upon his heart.

Many of the gentlemen whom you meet in society are away from the influence of parents and sisters, and they will respond to any interest taken in their welfare.

We all speak of a young man's danger from evil associates, and the very bad influence which his dissipated gentlemen associates have over him.

We believe it is all true that a gentleman's character is formed to a great extent by the ladies that he associates with before he becomes a complete man of the world.

We think, in other words, that a young man is pretty much what his sisters and young lady friends choose to make him.

We knew a family where the sisters encouraged their younger brothers to smoke, thinking it was manly, and to mingle with gay, dissipated fellows because they thought it "smart;" and they did mingle with them body and soul, and abused the same sisters shamefully.

The influence began further back than with their gentleman companions. It began with their sisters, and was carried on through the forming years of their character. On the other hand, if sisters are watchful and affectionate they may in various ways—by entering into any little plan with interest, by introducing their younger brothers into good ladies' society—lead them along until their character is formed, and then a high toned respect for ladies, and a manly self-respect, will keep them from mingling with low society.

If a young man sees that the religion which in youth he was taught to venerate is lightly thought of, and perhaps sneered at, by the young ladies with whom he associates, we can hardly expect him to think that it is the thing for him,

Let none say that they have no influence at all. This is not possible.

You cannot live without having some sort of influence, any more than you can live without breathing.

One thing is just as unavoidable as the other. Beware then what kind of influence it is that you are constantly exerting.

An invitation to take a glass of wine, or to play a game of cards, may kindle the fires of intemperance or gambling, which will burn forever.

A jest given at the expense of religion, a light, trifling manner in the house of God, or any of the numerous ways in which you may show your disregard for the souls of others, may be the means of ruining many for time and eternity.—*Home Journal.*

Tell the Truth.

I once lived in a country village with my aunt, who has since joined my dear mother, who was taken to heaven since I was a babe. This aunt loved me very much; but it often sheds a gloom over my thoughts as I think how I troubled her kind heart, and how very naughty I was.

It was on a bright and sunny morning that I started to school, about two miles distant. My aunt gave me a letter to take to the post-office, a few doors from the school-house, and also a penny to buy a stamp to put on it.—I put the penny in my pocket, and the letter I thrust into my cap, and thus I started.—As I walked along with a companion, a beautiful butterfly flew across the path, and joyfully flitted along the side of the hedge. As soon as I saw it I took off my cap, and, all intent on the chase, I saw not the letter drop, and in a moment afterward the light summer breeze carried it along the road, and I lost it.

The loss I found out not very long after; but what was I to do? Sad to tell, Satan, whom the Bible says is the "father of lies," and my own evil heart, tempted me, and I was led into sin. I thought I would deceive my aunt, and make her believe I had posted the letter; and the penny I spent before I went to school. I am sorry to tell you about my wicked conduct; but I do so that you may avoid the wrong path into which I entered.

The letter, however, was picked up by a person who lived at a lodge gate; and as she knew who wrote it she gave it to me on my return in the evening, to take back with me. O! well would it have been if, even then, had I stopped and took the letter home, confessing all; but this, alas! I did not do—forgetting that

He that does one fault at first,
And lies to hide it makes it two.

I hid the letter, thinking that then my aunt would know nothing about it. I did not know the text, "Be sure your sin will find you out." Before I had reached home my companion had been there, and told all to my aunt. When I arrived she asked if I had posted the letter, and I answered, "Yes!" Then that dear face, so loving, cheerful, and happy, was overcast with deep sorrow. I cannot quite remember what she said; but I have not forgotten her grief and tears—tears of sorrow for my sin. She then pointed me, and prayed with me.

Since that day I have found out—and I hope never to forget it—what to do when I am tempted to do wrong. It is this, that as soon as wicked thoughts come into my heart, at once to "resist the devil," and pray for help.—*Am. Paper.*

Agriculture.

Are not Dung-heaps Unnecessary.

Most decidedly so, except under particular circumstances. I have now had the experience of several years, during which the bulk of my manure has been taken from under the animals in the covered sheds, and at once applied to the soil. The resulting crops give unmistakable evidence of the correctness of this practice. If fermentation is so necessary in a dung heap, why does the sheep-fold act so well without it? My custom is as follows: Our straw is cut up by steam power into 2-inch lengths. The action of cutting splits most of it, so that the spongy inside of the straw is at once rendered available to absorb the urine. The outside of the straw we all know is glass, and impervious to moisture. The cut straw is applied as litter from day to day, care being taken not to use more than will get thoroughly saturated and intermixed with the solid manure—in fact, enough to keep the animals clean. If you put in too much it will heat and ruin the health of your stock. It is trodden, when so intermixed, into a sort of hodge-podge, which, when applied to the soil, will beat the best guano ever used in the production of crops, and in the matter of profit. The manure is allowed to accumulate under the animals for a month or two, according to the temperature of the season. In winter it may remain long, in the summer or warm months you must remove it more frequently, having a watchful eye to the heat of the mass and to the comfort of the animals. If the manure is too warm, it takes the animals off their feed and endangers their lungs, much as a pig gets the heaves or lung disease by lying on hot dung, and then becoming exposed to atmospheric change. When the manure is removed it is completely saturated, so much so that my practical neighbour says: your dung, although made under cover, is much more wet than ours, which is exposed to rain and the water from buildings.

It is highly desirable that this manure, when taken out from the sheds, should be at once carried to, and spread on the land; for being so amply saturated, it can take up no more moisture, and therefore a shower of rain washes the soluble portions out of it. If we have no land ready, we place it close to our great tank, and it is thus economised. The floors of my sheds are all, of course, well brick paved. In farm yards the earth to a very considerable depth absorbs much of the farmer's wealth in the shape of soluble manure, and so we need not wonder at the preference for the sheep fold, where the soil gets every portion of the manure.

Manure is so costly to produce that we should certainly take as much care of it as we do of bird's dung (guano,) for I presume that no farmer would see with indifference the latter washed away with the rains. Where is the difference? I cannot distinguish it.

I am always sorry to hear a farmer complain of having too much straw, or, as this last winter, complaining that for want of rain he could not make manure. It is evident that such a man does not keep enough stock; for although I grow an immense quantity of straw, and have all my manure made under cover, and a portion of my stock on sparren floors, I never have quite straw enough, and generally purchase an extra stack or two.

I venture to predict that the time is coming when an open farm-yard, and a dung heap will be an event of other days.

I am sorry to see so little summer made beef. The consumption of green food, with cake, under shelter should go on during summer. Why not continue making good manure all the year round.

Maxims for Farmers.

1. Keep out of debt unless you know how you can get out when you can get in; and pay promptly and as fast as you can. Debts stimulate the man of energy to extra exertions, but the lazy man is not affected by them.

2. It is rarely good policy to buy much land when what you now own is not half cultivated.

3. To borrow money to build a showy house when one of less pretension will answer just as well is unwise. To lend money when your farm needs to be drained and better tilled is little better.

4. A system of improvements laid out for a farm and labour to bring them about would make agriculture more interesting than it is.

5. It is rarely wise for farmers to borrow money on mortgage of their farms with which to enter the mercantile profession. Rarely do men engage in this pursuit without previous training and not become bankrupt.

6. To buy your stock at fabulous prices when you do not know what to do with it, to make it brief, is very unwise.

7. To keep poor stock when you can keep good at the same cost and four times the profit does not pay.

8. To change from one kind of farming to another often because what you raised this year is low, is not always judicious; ten chances to one your crops will be up next year and that which is up now will be down.

9. Do not try to grow those crops for which your soil is not adapted.

10. If you have a good location do not sell expecting to better it in some other place. "Any place but this place," may do for the traveller, but not for the farmer.

11. Rarely commence improvements until your plans are matured, else undue labour and money will be wasted.

12. If your crops are poor, plant less and cultivate more.

13. Oversee workmen as much as possible; not to do so is to "leave your purse open."

14. Keep ahead of your work, or it will keep ahead of you.

15. Resolve that your farm shall be a profitable one, if industry and good management will make it so.

16. Invest more in valuable improvements than in fancy mining stock.

17. When you make experiments keep within the influence of natural laws; these are the farmer's helpers, and without them all agriculture is impossible.

18. Sell when prices are high, keep when they are low.

19. Remember "good harvests make men prodigal, bad ones provident."

20. Do not try to "save at the spigot, when the bung hole is open."

21. Remember, that a "farmer on his feet is better than a gentleman on his knees."

22. Give your children a good education, physically, intellectually, and morally.

23. At 45, if you are well off, cultivate the intellectual and moral faculties more and work less.

24. Take an interest in all improvements in agriculture.

25. Use machinery, instead of muscle, when you can.

26. Get hold of the long end of the lever, if you would work to profit.—*M. L. H. in Ohio Farmer.*

Let all the operations of farming be carried on without hurry or excessively hard labor, by means of the best systematic management.

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SIR,—I beg most sincerely to thank you for recommending your Patent Food to my little boy, and to speak of it in the highest terms. At the age of 7 weeks he was brought down so low that I despaired of his recovery. Various means having been used without effect, I commenced using your Patent Food, and from that time to the present he has lived entirely upon it, and gradually regained health and strength, so that all that see him consider him a fine little fellow. He is now 19 weeks old. I remain sir, yours respectfully
DR J. J. RIDGE. W M. HANKINS.
29, *Prior Place, East Street, Walworth, S. E. December, 12th 1863.*

DEAR SIR,—Please send me one dozen of your Patent Food and oblige. I find it sell very well; and indeed it is used with general satisfaction by mothers who dry nurse their babies, who always seem to thrive and do well; and having seen its good qualities in young members of my own relations, it is a sufficient guarantee for me to strongly recommend it when opportunity presents itself
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To Dr. Ridge. PAUL STRANGE.
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Fellow of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Societ
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