

# PLEASANT HOURS

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK

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## German Cradle Song.

SLEEP, baby, sleep!  
Thy father guards the sheep,  
Thy mother shakes the dreamland tree,  
And from it falls sweet dreams for thee;  
Sleep, baby, sleep!

## A VERY SCANTY DINNER.

THE following fact is recorded of a man who was in the habit of too often spending his days and nights lounging about grog-shops, gambling and indulging in the various gross amusements that pertain to such a life. One day while he and his cronies were employed as usual, his wife entered the tap-room bearing in her hands a dish. He looked up with surprise while she said:—

"I thought, husband, that you were so busy, and had not time to come home to dinner, I would bring your dinner to you;" and setting the dish upon the table she quietly retired.

Calling his associates around him, he invited them to partake with him of the repast. Lifting the cover from the dish he found in it simply a piece of paper, on which was written:—

"Dear husband, I hope you will enjoy your dinner. It is of the same kind as your wife and children have at home."

The discomfiture of the husband may be imagined. The subject was too grim for mirth. The hungry wife and suffering children stood in vivid relief before the idle and shiftless man.

How many men there are throughout the



Schlaf, Kindlein  
Der Vater hüt die  
Die Mutter schüt-  
tell das Bäume:  
Da fall'n herab die  
Träumlein  
Schlaf, Kindlein, schlaf!

GERMAN CRADLE SONG.

length and breadth of our land who are daily pursuing the same wretched course! Oh, that the voice of God speaking within their souls may awaken them to their obligations and their sins, and turn their feet into the right way! How many weary hearts and desolate homes would thus be made glad! how many sad and tearful wives would sing for joy! How many children, alas! would rejoice in comfort and plenty, who now are oppressed with poverty, want, and woe!—Sel.

## ALMOST A CLEAN SWEEP.

NINETY-EIGHT and one half per cent. of the whole population of Fiji attend Wesleyan worship. On the island of Nagan—population, 2,000,—700 are pledged to teetotalism, 400 of whom abstain from tobacco also. In the Bau Circuit, in a population of 11,508 there are 11,328 who attend services. There are in that circuit 140 Roman Catholics, constantly decreasing there as elsewhere. The missionary contributions of Fiji last year were that \$20,000, and yet James Calvert, the man who surprised them at their cannibal feast by the story of the cross, is living still, hale and hearty, with boundless faith in the power of the Gospel to save the world.

HE is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.