THE WESLEYAN, FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1883.

OUR HOME CIRCLE.

LIGHTS ON THE LINE.

Lights on the line! I watched them brightly

glowing; Their cheery radiance on the iron track In varying colours ever gladly throwing, Reheving darkness as the midnight black. Each had its message, comforting and cheer-

ing, For those who kept that swiftly rushing train

In safety toiling and no danger fearing While as of old those lamps gleam forth

again.

And when the train sped onward, seeming only A transient line of light, a passing roar;

I stood amid the darkness, weary, lonely, And then my thoughts flew back to days

of yore. Another well-worn track, beset with dangers, I saw, on which ny wavering feet were set: But I, alone and in the midst of strangers, With obstacles and barriers often met.

Then were there lights that on my weary sorrow And on my darkness shed their radiance

bright :

And dark to day became a glorious morrow, And blackest midnight fled before the light.

Their words, and tones, and lives so pure and holy

That but could spring from intercourse with

*Deeds that were brave and loyal, true and lowly,

Showed me in outline clear the path I trod.

And still they live, though fleeting time and Cistance Part as from things that we have known

and seen; And in our battles, strong and firm resistance

is strengthened by the thoughts of what has been. Dear distant loved ones! Know that we

are trying To keep the path o'er which your lives

Fond memory joins us, and while time is flying

Thanks rise to heaven for you-Lights o Annie M. Watson.



MOONSTRUCK.

"The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.' This beautiful verse expresses the belief, common in ancient days, that the moon exercises a baleful of chimes are to be tested. influence upon those exposed to her direct rays. In modern times, the pernicious influence of the moon has been doubted, and even denied. But whatever the influence of the moon in the temperste zones, within the tropics it is very injurious to sleep exposed to its rays, especially when at the full. On a voyage to the Antipodes, when near the line, a Maltese sailor, who was a most comical fellow, slept for some hours on the boom with his face towards soon passed away and I felt as the full moon. On awaking in much at home handling the bell

uncovered. The aboriginals of don-a set of twelve bells, Australia do the same as well as tuned in perfect harmony. Be they can with the fishing nets, etc. careful getting down the stairs; that there are no strangers left in because this distrastful heart of that day his store was success. A fire answers the same purpose. they're a trifle steep;" and as the our church, to feel that not one ours is so prone to prophesy, and ful. Afterward he became very-May not the injurious influence visitor made his way down the of the moon (in addition to her narrow, circular staircase, day beauty and utility) account for was dawning. - Phil. Press. the almost universal worship of

THE BELL RINGER.

in the world."

that orb throughout the heathen world ?- Wm. Wyatt Gill, B. A. THE DEPARTING COMET.

On a recent evening Prof. John K. Rees read a paper on the comet of 1882 before the New York Aca-"I've been a bell-ringer for demy of Sciences, in which it is

forty-five years," said William said it should be termed Gould's comet, since Prof. B. A. Gould, of Brown, as he deftly manipulated the bellropes in the beliry of St. Cordova, was the first to see it. He read extracts from Professor Stephen's last night, "and during Young, of Princeton; from the that time I've seen many a sad sight and many a merry one. Director of the National Observa-Thirteen years I spent in the bel- tory, and from Messrs. Chandler fry in England, and thirty-two | and Wendell, of Cambridge, Mass., years in American churches. Pro- and he concurred with Mr. Chanbably I'm the oldest bell-ringer in dler in combatting Prof. Proctor's theory, that the comets of 1843, service in the United States if not 1880, and 1882 are identical, and that the comet now vanishing Brown is a full-faced, healthy from view will return within six looking Englishman of perhaps months. According to Mr. Chandfifty-five. He has been ringing ler's computations, which are the chimes in St. Stephen's for based on all the observations thus twenty years or more. Previous far made at several points, the to the war he was engaged in a comet of 1882 will not return in similar capacity in Christ Church. less than 4,000 years. The comet, He has never been anything else as seen from the Cape of Good but a bell-ringer, and began to Hope, transited on Sept. 17 last, learn the mysteries of sharps and and at the instant of its entering flats at the age of nine years in his the atmosphere of our sun it was native town of Stony Stanton, 1,600,000 miles from the surface in Leicestershire, England. Sinof the sun. The comet's tail, gularly enough he is deaf, but this which was only 100,000 miles .ong affliction does not appear to interwhen first seen, has lengthened to fere with him at all. In conversmillions of miles, and asthis vast ing with him one must speak in a body crossed the sun's disk in loud tone of voice, but let there be two hours, the enormous velocity a false note struck upon the with which it travels may be chimes and he detects it immeconjectured. As its light was diately. He can detect a flaw in visible until it touched the edge a new bell much better than men of the sun's disk, the inference is, with acute hearing, and his serthat the light is not borrowed vices are in demand throughout from the sun, but that it is the the country whenever a new set comet's own incandescence. Touching upon other celestial vis-Last night was the forty-third itors, the lecturer said that the time that he had ushered in the comet of 1843 approached within anniversary of our Saviour's birth 500,000 miles of the center of the with the grand old Te Deum, and sun, or within 70,000 miles of the as he caused the bells to peal out sun's circumference, and that it their rhythmic pæan of praise he must yet plunge into the sun and talked. "It's a bit lonesome at be absorbed. The lecturer threw times," said he, " to be all alone upon the screen representations here in the bell-tower, but one of a number of comets, and then a soon gets used to it. When a lad star shower, such as is seen once | I was a trifle timid about groping in thirty-three years, and the next | lips as he went to school. I turnthrough the church in the dark of which will be seen when the ed to the sitting-room, drew up and climbing into the loft, but that earth passes the track of a star the shades in the bay-window, so

for his welfare or spiritual growth. In all our large cities there is a mass of moving humanity, men gle along upon the world's tossing billows, and it may be that, entering the house of worship, many of them may meet the first Dykes. true, earnest greeting from a

kindly heart that has been given for years. Shall we let them go away uncheered ?- Advance.

AN OLD, OLD QUESTION.

A spirit that from earth had just departed Lingered a moment on its upward way, And, looking back, saw, as though broken

hearted. Its friends and kindred weeping o'er it clay. "It seems they loved me dearly. Had known it

My life had been much happier," it said. Vhy only at our parting have they shown Their fondest kisses keeping for the dead ?" Margaret Eytinge, in Harper's Magazine.

" THE WORK OF OUR

HANDS."

"The work of our hands establish thou it." I read the words over again, going back a little. God be upon us, and the work of our hands, establish thou it." "The work of my hands day

by day," I said almost scornfully. as I thought of the homely work my hands had to do, the cooking, the house-work, the patching, the mending, the rough, hard work I sometimes had to put them to. And I smiled as I thought of such work being established forever. I smiled again almost bitterly as I thought, "It is established that my hands must work, if not forever, for all my earthly time." " Please comb my hair now,

mamma; the first bell is ringing." and Neddie tapped my hand with his comb. I patted and smoothed my

boy's tangled locks. " The work of my hauds," I said, and perhaps more gentle than usual turned up my boy's face to kiss his

all them ! I have written this to how the evils which we most them! I have written this to it dread never overtake us; but just more customers came in, and from urge everywhere that we see to it dread never overtake us; but just more customers came in, and from of God's people cares a thought so lively to exaggerate, misfor- rich, and used to say, "Loweit tune? Like a soothing, cooling all to that spool of cotton." breath from a serener world, there comes down upon the feverish, and women who have left their self-tormenting spirits of men friends and success; fer who homes at the very verge of child- this word of one who was the wouldn't rather buy of a kind. hood, thrown out to drift or strug- messenger of Him whom we dis- pleasant person than of one who trust : your life : be not anxious about ers. to-morrow."-The Rev. J. Oswald

FATAL MONOTONY.

There are exceptional natures that seem to love sameness and hate variety, but that must always be a stunted nature that clings to a dead level of life; and it is probable that an actual and literal motime, even if the scenery were not entirely cheerless, would exhaust the dullest soul. A friend of Lieut. Danenhauer, of the ill-fated Jeannette, put the question to him-

to be felt the most?"

and dreariness of the scene-the utter solitude—than anything else. To go upon deck every day and look out upon the same vast, end-"Let the beauty of the Lord our less waste of ice-it was that which we appeared to feel the most. The utter monotony and the spirits of some, and they would go aside, so as not to infect the others with the momentary depression. When the Indian came one day and announced, 'Me found a two man house,' the excitement caused by the novelty of the anticipation was something tremendous.

"And how did this depressing life affect the appearance of the men-did it blanch their hair, reduce their flesh, or were its effects otherwise perceptible?"

"Collins' hair turned very gray before the retreat, but DeLong, strange to say, grew very stout; Collins also became stouter for a time, I think."

SUNDAY.

O day most calm, most bright ! The fruit of this, the next world's bud, shower in 1890. These shooting my few geraniums might have all Writ by a Friend, and with his blood

They told it to others, and

But it was the kindness, as well as the cotton, which won him "Be not anxious about seemed selfish and careless of oth-

LET ME PRAY FIRST.

A sweet and intelligent little girl was passing quietly through the streets of a certain town a short time since, when she came to a spot where several idle boys were amusing themselves by the dangerous plactice of throwing stones. Not observing her, one notony of scene for any length of of the boys, by accident, threw a stone toward her, and struck her a cruel blow in the eye.

She was carried home in great agony. The doctor was sent for, and a very painful operation was "Among all the privations of declared necessary. When the your Arctic sojourn which seemed time came, and the surgeon had taken out his instruments, she "I think we were more worried lay in her father's arms, and he and depressed by the sameness asked her if she was ready for the doctor to do what he could to cure her eye.

" No, father, not yet," she replied.

" What do you wish us to wait. for, my child ?"

"I want to kneel in your lap, dreariness, after a while, affected and pray to Jesus first," she and swered.

And then kneeling, she prayed a few minutes, and afterward submitted to the operation with all the patience of a strong woman. How beautiful this little girl appears under these trying circumstances ! Surely Jesus heard the prayer made in that hour; and he will hear every child that calls upon his name. Even pain can be endured when we ask Jesus. to help us bear it.-London Christian.

FOLLOWING IN THE DARK.

"Mamma," said little Bessie, 'I should be afraid to die, 'cause I should lose my way in the dark." Her mother did not say a word, but went out and turned off the gas in the hall. Then she opened the door a little way and said; " Come dear, it is your bed-time. Take hold of my hand and I will lead you up stairs." So Bessie put her hand in her mother's and trotted bravely up stairs in the dark. After she had said "Our Father," and "Now I lay me," and had laid her curly head upon the pillow, her mothersaid: "You were not afraid coming up, were you, Bessie?" "Oh, no, mamma," she answered," "I couldn't be, 'cause I had hold of your hand.' "Well," said her mother, "then you need not be afraid of death, for Jesus is holding His hand toyou, and you have only to put your own in His and He will lead you safely through the dark." "But how can I take hold of His hand, mamma?" "By trying to be good every day, and praying to Him to help you; He loves little children so well that they need not be afraid to follow Him auywhere."

1. -- It w Peter to è what had vince the Jesus of A the new possession delivered ingly con opposit admirably pose. Hi mockers ing drunk the absu nine in th what had ment of a prophecie Joel i. 25 into the n reviews th lived aingu though th crucified been pein mitte e of God," same great been perm raised Hi quotes an 5-11), and manner, t spoken the the Messia God had which he wère witt than that had spoken clare that as risen : : of the Fathe Ghost," H mighty ini Jerusalem let all the assuredly t same Jesus; both Lord a This str change wrot tism of " What was t mation? much furth risen Maste so aptly quo doubt amon Jesus had cerning Hiu From that di stoud the Se fore, but th use of know wanting. for; it had to them; it Holy Ghost. ing and cult to remembe derstand, Scriptures, convinced as a gift of hu order to pi conferred

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the morning, the muscles on the right side of the face were contracted, so that every attempt to speak was attended with the most Indicrous contortions. Feeling sure that something was seriously wrong, he spoke to another sailor who, supposing that as usual he was at his old tricks, burst out into laughter. Off he went to another, with exactly the same result. The poor fellow now got into a rage, thereby adding not a little to the ludicrousness of the scene. After awhile the truth dawned upon the captain and officers of the vessel. The doctor gave him some medicine, the muscles gradually relaxed, and in the course

of a week our Maltese friend was well again. Some five or six years ago, when sailing from Tahiti to Mangaia, a little boy of mine, in perfect health, was thoughtlessly the weddings-what a contrast. placed by his nurse in his berth, the slanting beams of the moon falling on his face. Next morning he was feverish and ill and it was two or three days before he was himself again. On the Island of Aitutaki, a native woman was watching night after night for the same bell for all. Still, it's the return of her husband from the Island of Atiu. Whilst doing hearts listen to the merry peals, so one night she fell asleep, the moon's rays pouring upon her face. On awaking she felt ill, haps by the same hand. I wonder on the Sunday, and when the serand her eyes were drawn on one side. Considerable interest was felt by the Islanders in her case. Eventually, however, her eyes were restored. These facts illustrate the injury done to human beings by the moon in the tropics. Yet I never heard of insanity or death resulting from this cause. It is well-known, however, in tropical countries that the moon's rays occasion the rapid decomposition of flesh and fish. A number of bonitas having been caught throw the whole 'change' out of It is a wonder that the cold tide we may have really as much to one evening near the line by a friend of mine, the spoil was hung ringing is not often attempt- the great waves of black unbelief up in the rigging of the ship, and was thus exposed to the moon through the night. Next morning it was cooked for breakfast. Symptoms of poisoning were soon exhibited by all who partook of it-their heads swelling to a great size, etc. Emetics were promptly administered, and happily no but a ringer, however, would be ger often floating to me, seeming but must fidget ourselves about one died. The natives of the

South Pacific are careful never to

ropes as 1 would in front of my own fire. There used to be the usual tales about ghosts and hobgoblins, but, Lord bless you, they never bothered me. I remember very well a droll trick that some young scamps played upon a Leicester sexton, who used to boast of his courage. They turned a calf loose into the church where he was engaged as bell-ringer, and as he came down from the belfry he heard the pattering of feet over the store floor of the church. Back he darted into the bell-tower badly frightened, and when he heard a terrific ba-ah! he locked himself in and remained there until morning.

"I couldn't tell you how many funerals I've tolled the bell for -a great many times in forty-five years you can depend. And then Young people just beginning life would stand in the very same spot where, a few days before, some poor soul had reached the end of it. Tears one day and bright smiles the next. The black pall and bridal orange blossoms, and the way we must go. Happy hear the death knell, tolled perhow many of that happy throng in the street listening to St. Stephen's chimes now will be here next year, or whether the same hand will cause the bell to sound that touches them now?

"It is something of an art, this handling of the bells. You would bardly believe that in what we men twenty-eight hours to comed. We play portions of it, sometimes as long as three hours. a bell cast where only one is needed, which shall be in complete accord with the rest. Sometimes

stars are meteors from disintegrated comets, and serolites that fall to the earth come to us from instellar space. In conclusion, the lecturer said that all the suns of the universe have comets circulating about them, and that the universe is as full of comets as the sea is of fishes.

SPEAK TO STRANGERS.

Some years ago, on leaving home for the first long separation from the familiar scenes of youth, I found myself an entire stranger in a city quite remote from the scenes of my earlier life. I soon found my way to a church, and, presenting my letter, became one of them. In the course of two years not one member of that church came forward to greet me it.' and become acquainted in the name of the Master. From this I went to a larger city, and there too I looked for a church home. I was a working woman and my time was much occupied. The church was at that time without a pastor, and, excepting two or three persons where I boarded, and perhaps two with whom professional duties led me to associand a few years later the same ate, I made no acquaintance there. I went into the place of worship vice ended I walked out, receiviug not a glance, nod, or word of recognition from any one. When I went into the evening prayermeeting in the middle of the week, weary, discouraged, lonely, wishing for the restful sympathy of these people, hungering for the human aid our mutual relations call change ringing it takes eight | might have brought me, I found God, who counts for so much in only the Helper to whom my plete the peal, would you? None of heart called. Was it a wonder them must miss a note, or they that faith grew dim after awhile ? ly trusted, 'or the suspicion that harmony. The complete change of indifference was followed by dread as to hope for from his suwhich came surging in after it? I know another little church It is a very difficult thing to have where, as a stranger, many a hand was extended me in his name. Now, though far away, though Because we are "of little faith," scarcely well acquainted with therefore are we not content to the founder gets the sound a half many of its members, in the dark- plan and work, and having plannote too high or too low. No one est hour I find some little messen- ned and wrought, to sit and wait ; apt to observe the fault, unless it to bring the spirit of that entire that which may be, until impatimight be a musician. Christ church with it; and were I to ence gnaws us like a worm, and expose fish (a constant article of Church has a good set of chimes, write an epistle to that church it our imagination, picturing disasdiet in many islands) to the and so has St. Mark's, both better would only be this : "Little ters in the dark, burns us like moon's rays by any chance. They I think than St. Stephen's. The | children, love one another." But fire. Why is it that popular prooften sleep by the seashore after best in the world, however, are the spirit of the Master's words verbs attest how much worse are did the other ladies also who fishing; but never with the face the chimes of St. Paul's in Lon. they have heard. The Lord love funcied ills than real ones, and I heard the story.

the sun's rays they could, shook down the coal in the stove, dusted the chairs, straightened out the table-cover and books, and brushed the shreds from the carpot, sighing a little over the thin places that the best arrangement of mats could not quite cover. The rooms looked neat and tidy. "The work of my hands," I repeated, mechanically. Just then

the sun shone out bright. It lit up my room like a kind smile. "The beauty of the Lord our God," I repeated softly. I went to my homely work in

the kitchen. Patiently I tried to Make bracelets to adorn the wife go through my every day routine of duty. For I said to myself, " It this is always to be the work of my hands, surely I must let the beauty of my Lord rest upon

"You look very bright to-night, wife," said Will, when he came in after his day's work. "Has it been an easy day ?"

I thought of the cooking and ironing, of my tired hands and feet, and smiled as I said, " I had a good text this morning.'

AGAINST ANXIETY.

It is distrust of God, therefore: which lies at the root of unlawful anxiety. A feeble apprehension of God, as the Agent who overrules everything, and determines those causes which lie outside of our reach, and those events which escape our foresight; this it is which shakes the soul with vague uncertainty, and fills with causeless alarms the darkness of to-morrow. The doubt whether the contingencies of life, be one whose attitude to us may be wholperintendence; this it is which cannot but unsettle a man's steadfast outlook into the coming days, and toss his spirit to and tro in the restlessness of distraction.

The couch of time; care's balm and bay; The week were dark but for thy light : Thy torch doth show the way.

The other days and thou Make up one man ; whose face thou art, Knocking at heaven with thy brow ; The work-days are the back-part ; The burden of the week lies there. Making the whole to stoop and bow, fill thy release appear.

Sundays the pillars are, On which heaven's palace arched lies : The other days fill up the spare And hollow room with vanities. They are the fruitful beds and borders In God's rich garden : that is bare Which parts their ranks and orders.

The Sundays of man's life, Threaded together on time's string, Of the eternal glorious King. On Sunday heaven's gate stands ope ; Blessings are plentiful and rife, More plentiful than hope.

Thou art a day of mirth ; And, where the week days trail on ground, Thy flight is higher, as thy birth. Oh, let me take thee at the bound. Leaping with thee from seven to seven, Till that we both, being toss'd from earth, Fly hand in hand to heaven ! George Herbert.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

THE SPOOL OF COTTON.

Once a young man with a very ittle money opened a small store is a New England city. So few people came in to buy his goods that he grow discouraged, and said to himself as he shut up his store on Friday night, "If I don't have more customers to-morrow I'll give it up and go away."

Just then a little girl came along, looked up at him and said :

" Are you the man that keeps this store ?"

"Yes." he answered, "this is my store; but it is shut and locked up now."

"Well," said the little girl, won't you please open it again and sell me a spool of number seventy cotton ? All the stores are shut up, and my mamma wants to finish my dress to-night, so that I can go and visit my auntie to-morrow."

The young merchant could not refuse the child's pleading voice; so he unlocked the store, went in, lit his lamp, found for her the spool of thread and took her six cents. She went happy on her way home; and the next day her mother came in with two other ladies, thanked him for his kindness and bought some goods, as

WHAT TOM DID.

It was the first clear, cold day after Christmas. The boys and girls were on the hill coasting. They were shouting and laughing as loud as they could, even those who had no sleds.

"Happy New Year to you!" shouted Tom Ross, as away he went on his pretty sled. A brannew sled it was, too; his uncle had given it to him on Christmas. Eve.

When Tom had been up and down the hill ever so many times he suddenly thought,

"What a great, big, selfish bey I am ! Why don't I ask some other boy to get on my sled and have fun too ?'

There was little Joe King, who had no sled.

"Come, Joe ! Jump on !" cried Tom. "Hurrah ! here we go !" After that Tom did not stop with just wishing people a "Happy New Year;" he tried to think of kind ways to make it a happy time to every one. And he was happier too.-Sunbeam.

> "Who misses or who wins the prize? Go, lose or conquer as you can; But if you fail, or if you rise, Be each, my boys, a gentleman.'

Little Georgie, two and a half years of age, on seeing the first. snow fall, called out, "Mamina, mamma, bring a big pan: it's waining pop-corn."

ledge his Ma denied Him the presence brued their the Jesus th was made b courage to t greater that stand; and self equal t his naturall sustaining] Those who things for C the Holy G 2.-The as surprisin cidents of t ascribed as the Holy arguments, direct Divi them in an what they n had preach fully, and of these ve ponding rea but a notew vant was pe the Master had been gi Jesus but no that could glorified. Jesus are al He should o the world and of ju Never forge can truly co Peter's a though he preach and life; "Reper The faith w dition of sal but implies and baptism that if ober the same gif to themselve Spirit was a children, an While much and miracul the Spirit a available t down to th 3.-That twenty wer

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