

Children's Department.

The Lost Lamb.

After some mild days in January there came a sudden snow storm without any warning beforehand; and the poor sheep and the lambs out on the downs, cropping the short sweet grass, were sadly taken aback. The shepherd and his dog turned out in the snow and sought everywhere for the scattered flock, and by dint of great exertion, almost all the poor shivering creatures were gathered into shelter. One or two were missing, however, and the shepherd could not rest till he had another search in the blinding snow. At last he heard the familiar sound of a distracted mother-sheep who has lost her lamb. She was baa-a-ing up and down the hill side, searching wildly for her nursing, which was nowhere to be seen. Poor silly old thing, she did not seem to have the instinct to lead her to the right spot, and the lamb's feeble little cry was blown in the opposite direction. But the trusty old sheep-dog was wiser than the mother, and after galloping on some way ahead, he suddenly changed his bark, and the shepherd knew that the lamb was found. There, in a hole in the ground, almost covered over with snow, was the poor little lost lamb, all alone, crouching down to try and avoid the pitiless snow flakes. It was so chilled and miserable it could not have held out much longer, if good old Rover had not discovered the poor little helpless thing. The shepherd soon picked it up, and having shaken off the snow, he set out to tramp over the hills to get to the farm as quickly as he could. He was followed by Rover and the mother, who seemed hardly yet to realize that her lamb had been found. It was all right, however, when they reached the friendly farm yard, and



Mr. Chas. N. Hauer

Of Frederick, Md., suffered terribly for over ten years with abscesses and running sores on his left leg. He wasted away, grew weak and thin, and was obliged to use a cane and crutch. Everything which could be thought of was done without good result, until he began taking

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turned into an outhouse where the rest of the lost sheep and lambs were being warmed and fed. The shepherd placed the half-frozen little creature he had been carrying on the floor, among several other lambs, in front of the fire; and when the mother came lumbering in through the doorway she soon found out which was hers. And then wha

a commotion there was as she baa-ed over it, and licked it, and tried to get it warm again. The lamb might easily have been lost that winter's afternoon; and even sheep are sometimes overtaken by a snow storm, and are so confused by the falling snow that they go hopelessly astray, and are not found till it is too late, and they die from the effects of exposure. In summer, too, in hilly regions a sheep will often wander down the hill side in search of some tempting looking grass; and when it has finished that little patch of grass it will see another further down, and so till it gets to a place where it can go no further; it cannot climb up again, so there it has to remain. Then, by and by, the eagles see it, and soon come circling round it in narrower and narrower circles till at last the terrified animal loses all self-control, and jumps headlong over the precipice. As it falls the eagles follow it, and soon make an end of the poor lost sheep.

We cannot help thinking of the Good Shepherd and His tender care for the lambs and weak ones of the flock, and His unwearied search for the wanderers from the fold.

But none of the ransomed ever knew How deep were the waters crossed; Nor how dark was the night that the Lord passed through Ere He found the sheep that was lost. Out on the mountain He heard its cry— Faint and weary and ready to die.

And all through the mountains, thunder riven, And up from the rocky steep There rose a cry to the gate of heaven— "Rejoice, I have found my sheep." And the Angels echoed around the throne— "Rejoice, for the Lord brings back His own."

The Love of Christ.

"There was kneeling one day in the church a poor collier lad, some ten or twelve years of age. His hair was rough, his clothes were torn and ragged; his feet were bare. His hands were clasped as in prayer, a sad wistful look was on his face. I knelt by his side. 'I want to be good,' he said,

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