



PISA'S LEANING TOWER.

## LEANING TOWER.

Our picture gives us a pretty clear idea of the famous leaning tower of Pisa in Italy, and also of a great baptistery near by. This tower was built in 1174, but whether it was built leaning as it now stands, just for an architectural curiosity, or whether the unequal settling of the foundation caused it to incline to one side is not known. It was most likely built in its present position, as the top part is said to be constructed of very porous and light sort of stone. It is 179 feet high, and leans about thirteen feet out of the perpendicular. The purpose for which this famous tower was built is not known, but it is now preserved solely as an object of curiosity.

## "SUNNY-FACE."

Her real name was Alice, but the girls at the school called her "Sunny-face." This was partly because of her blue merry eyes and rosy cheeks, and hair that looked golden whenever the sun shone upon it.

But the chief reason was that Alice was one of the lambs of the Good Shepherd, and he filled her heart with joy.

One day her teacher called her into her pretty sitting-room. She showed Sunny-face a beautiful, rosy-cheeked apple, and asked her what she thought of it.

"I think it perfectly lovely," replied the child.

"Look again," said her teacher. "Turn it over."

Sunny-face looked, and then she saw a large black spot on the apple.

"No; it is not perfect," she said, "that spot spoils it."

"Alice," said her teacher, "your friends call you Sunny-face, and with good reason, for you are a happy child, and have the blessing of God upon you. But there is one ugly fault that spoils you. Can you think what it is?"

Sunny-face did not need to think long; the voice of the Holy Spirit in her heart had often told her about the bad temper that bubbled up so quickly and made her think and speak and act wrongly.

"I cannot help it," she said. "I do pray, but somehow it comes so quickly—the anger—and before I know how to stop it."

"That will not do, my child. What will happen if I leave this pretty apple for a day or two in this basket, and then look at it again? We will see."

In a few days little Sunny-face again was called to look at the apple, but what a change had taken place in it! The rosiness had nearly all gone, and instead a great rotten patch covered the whole of one side.

Sunny-face was not a stupid girl; she knew what her teacher meant, that if she did not try to subdue this bad temper of hers it would grow worse and worse, until it spoiled her life, and she could be Sunny-face no longer.

Years passed by, and one day a bright, happy-looking young lady was telling her little niece about Sunny-face and the apple.

"Oh, auntie, I know it was you, you have such a sunny face. But you have not got a bad temper."

"My darling, for a long time I had, and fought against it hopelessly, till a kind friend said to me, 'Why do you not cast it on Jesus, and ask him to take it quite away?' At first I could not believe that it was possible. But I asked Jesus to make me understand, and to show me how he would do this. And after that I found indeed that he took my bad temper away altogether."

"And so you are still Sunny-face," said the little niece, lovingly.

## OBEYING MAMMA.

Mary, Ella and John went out in the garden to play. John rolled his hoops. But Mary and Ella looked at the flowers, and gathered a few. Just as Ella was going to pluck one from the bush by the fence, John said, "Mother don't want us to pick any from that bush." I am glad to tell you that the little girls went cheerfully away, and did not worry about the one they might not have. This was cheerful obedience. Do you always obey papa and mamma in that way? I hope you do.

## HUMILITY.

A farmer went with his son to a wheat field to see if it was ready for the harvest. "See, father," exclaimed the boy, "how straight those stems hold up their heads! They must be the best ones. Those that hang their heads down, I am sure cannot be good for much."

The farmer plucked a stalk of each kind and said: "See, here, foolish child, this stalk that stood so straight, is light-headed and almost good for nothing, while this that hung its head so modestly is full of the most beautiful grain."—Foster.



THE SACRIFICE OF ISAAC.