

She stood on the step above him, a little girl upon whose head the years were light and few, a slight figure in rags and tatters; nevertheless, he saw at once that her heart had taken in the heavenly types, and was thankful.

A week later Ora and Otto, were motherless, yet not alone. Kind friends took them in, kind hands ministered unto them; but neither ever forgot their first sermon, nor the kettle and bottle they brought to put it in. — *Selected.*

THE BROKEN SAW.

A boy went to live with a man who was counted a hard master. He never kept his boys. They ran away, or gave him notice they meant to quit; so he was half a time without or in search of a boy.

The work was not very hard—opening and sweeping out the shop, chopping wood, running errands, and helping around. At last Sam Fisher went to live with him.

"Sam's a good boy," said his mother.

"I should like to see a boy now-a-days that has a spark of goodness in him," growled the new master.

It is always bad to begin with a man who has no confidence in you, because, do your best, you are likely to have little credit for it. However, Sam thought he would try; the wages were good, and his mother wanted him to go.

Sam had been with Mr. Jones but three days, before, in sawing a cross-grained stick of wood, he broke the saw. He was a little frightened. He knew he was careful, and he knew he was a pretty good sawyer, too, for a boy of his age; nevertheless the saw broke in his hands.

"And Mr. Jones will thrash you for it," said another boy who was in the wood-shed with him. "Why, of course," didn't mean it, and accidents will happen to the best of folks," said Sam, looking with a very sorrowful air at the broken saw.

"Mr. Jones never makes allowances," said the other boy; "I never saw anything like him. That Bill might have stayed, only he jumped into a hen's nest and broke her eggs. He dared not tell it; but Mr. Jones kept suspecting and suspecting, and laid everything out of the way to Bill, whether he was to blame or not, till Bill couldn't stand it and—wouldn't."

"Did he tell Mr. Jones about the eggs?" asked Sam.

"No," said the other boy; "he was afraid, Mr. Jones has got such a temper."

"I think he'd better have owned up at once," said Sam.

"I suspect you will find it better to preach than to practice," said the boy. "I would run away before I would tell him." And he turned on his heel and left poor Sam with his broken saw.

The poor boy did not feel very happy or comfortable. He shut up the woodhouse, walked out into the garden and then went up to his little chamber under the eaves. He wished he could tell Mr. Jones; but he wasn't sociable, and he had rather not. "Oh my God," said Sam falling on his knees, "help me to do the thing that's right."

I do not know what time it was, but when Mr. Jones came into the house the boy heard him. He got up crept down stairs, and met Mr. Jones in the kitchen.

"Sir," said Sam, "I broke your saw, and I thought I'd come and tell you 'fore you saw it in the morning."

"What did you get up to tell me for?" asked Mr. Jones. "I should think morning would be time enough to tell of your carelessness."

"Because," said Sam. "I was afraid if I put it off I might be tempted to lie about it. I'm sorry I broke it, but I tried to be careful."

Mr. Jones looked at the boy from head to foot then, stretching out his hand, "There, Sam," he said heartily, "give me your hand. Shake hands. I'll trust you Sam. That's right. Go to bed, boy. Never fear. I'm glad the saw broke; it shows the mettle in you. Go to bed."

Mr. Jones was fairly won. Never before better friends after that than Sam and he. Sam thus justice has not been done to Mr. Jones. If the boys had treated him honestly and "above board," he would have been a good man to live with. It was their conduct that soured and made him suspicious. I do not know how that is. I only know that Sam Fisher finds in Mr. Jones a kind master and a faithful friend. — *Selected.*

It's no USE.—It is said that a country woman went into a shop one day, and putting some silver on the counter, remarked to a clerk: "There! fourteen years ago—I'll be fifteen this month—I bought something next door, and gave them half a sovereign; but they couldn't give me the change, so they sent a boy into the next shop, and he brought me back the change for a sovereign instead of half a sovereign. I took it, but 'taint no use; I ain't a-going to keep it any longer; so there it is, all back again." And before the astonished clerk had time to make any inquiries she was gone.

Poor woman! She had endured fourteen years of trouble for a single sin, and at last had to confess and make restitution. It was well that she had courage and grace to do it finally.

It is of "no use" to sin. If you have done wrong, make it right; and the quicker you do it the better. Life is uncertain; a time is short; sin is a heavy load here, but it will be heavier still to bear it before the judgment seat of Christ. Make haste, then, to get rid of every sin; fly to Christ for pardon and for peace; restore all unlawful gain, right every wrong, and make ready to accept of the judgment day. "The judgment day that is 'near and hasteth greatly.'"

"AS RICH AS LORD BRACO." Lord Braco was a Scotch judge of the last century, and a great miser. One of his farmers, seeing him one day pick up a farthing, said: "I would give a shilling, Lord Braco, to have a sight of all the gold and silver which you possess." "Well, man," his lordship replied, "it shall cost you no more." The shilling was laid down at once, and his lordship fulfilled his part of the bargain, exhibiting to his tenant a considerable number of iron boxes filled with gold and silver coin. "Now my lord," said the tenant, "I am as rich as you are after all." "How do you make that out?" asked his lordship. "Because I have seen the money, my lord, and you have not the heart to do anything more with it." — *Children's Friend.*

AN ECCENTRIC divine in the north of Scotland discoursing on a class of persons who were obnoxious to him, concluded with this singular peroration: "Ma freens, it is as impossible for a *modernist* to enter the kingdom of heav'n, as for a coo to climb up a tree with her tail foremost, and harry a crow's nest; or for a soo to sit on the tap o' a thistle and sing like a mavin." The same reverend gentleman, in the course of a sermon on the depravity of human nature, spoke thus: "The human heart is just like a pig's trotters, that when its weedit at the ae end, the ither end begins to grow again."

A SCOTCH minister was riding on horseback one stormy day, enveloped in a loose cloak of large proportions, and having a broad scarlet neck. By the strong action of the wind, the cloak was tossing about in all directions, when an English gentleman rode up on a spirited charger. The gentleman's horse shied and almost threw the rider. "That cloak of yours would frighten the devil!" said the Englishman. "Man," replied the minister, "that's just my trade."

—THE PUBLISHER of a weekly paper in Illinois prints in each issue a chapter of the Bible, and upon being ridiculed for it by his contemporaries, remarked editorially: "We publish nothing but what is new to our readers." What an opening for the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge!

MEETINGS OF ASSOCIATIONS, 1878.

WESTERN meets at *Alhambra village on Friday 31st of May*. Preacher, Rev. E. Cheney; alternate, Rev. J. L. Barlow. Writer of Circular Letter, Rev. J. L. Barlow; alternate, Rev. J. B. Huff.

NIAGARA meets at *Port Colborne on Wednesday 5th of June*. Preacher, Rev. E. Hooper; alternate, Rev. E. Bosworth. Writer of Circular Letter, Rev. S. G. Harris; alternate, Rev. S. C. Keetch.

ELGIN meets at *Aylmer on Friday 7th of June*. Preacher, Rev. E. Harris, B. A.; alternate, Rev. R. Lennie. Writer of Circular Letter, Rev. D. P. McLaughlin; alternate, Rev. G. F. Stansbury.

BRANT meets at *Dewey on Friday 7th of June*. Preacher, Rev. James Grant; alternate, Rev. J. Gilechrist. Writer of Circular Letter, Rev. N. Wolverson, B. A.; alternate, Rev. Ira Smith.

TORONTO meets at *Collingwood on Tuesday 11th of June*. Moderator, Rev. Joseph D. King. Preachers, Rev. Dr. Castle, and Rev. Wm. Grant. Writer of Circular Letter, Rev. E. M. C. Bottrell.

MIDDLESEX AND LAMBTON meets at *Alma Craig on Friday 14th of June*. Preacher, Rev. C. Y. Snell; alternate, Rev. H. Richmond. Writer of Circular Letter, Rev. James Cooper, D. D.; alternate, Rev. H. Foshy.

GRAND RIVER meets at *Victoria on Friday 14th of June*. Preacher, Rev. C. Goodspeed, M. A.; alternate, Rev. J. W. Silcox. Writer of Circular Letter, Bro. J. T. Smith; alternate, Bro. W. W. Peeg.

MIDLAND COUNTIES meets at *Guelph on Friday 21st of June*. Preacher, Rev. Chas Walker; alternate, Rev. M. McGregor. Writer of Circular Letter, Rev. E. J. Stobo; alternate, Rev. D. Baird.

EAST ONTARIO meets at *Uxbridge on Wednesday 26th of June*. Preacher, Rev. W. H. Walker; alternate, Rev. John Gray. Writer of Circular Letter, Rev. J. J. White; alternate, Rev. Alex. Turnbull, B. A.

HURON meets at *Wingham on Friday 5th of July*. Preacher, Rev. D. McNell; alternate, Rev. S. Tapscott. Writer of Circular Letter, Rev. Alex. Grant; alternate, Rev. G. F. Robertson.

OTTAWA meets at *Thurso, Ont., on Wednesday 19th of June*. Preacher, Rev. A. H. Munro; alternate, Rev. J. L. Campbell. Writer of Circular Letter, Bro. J. D. Laflamme.

DANVILLE meets at *Eaton, Ont., on Wednesday 19th of June*. Preacher, Rev. E. T. Sandford; alternate, Rev. N. C. Saunders.

CENTRAL CANADA meets at *Farmington, Ont., on Wednesday 26th of June*. Preacher, Rev. R. B. Montgomery; alternate, Rev. T. Luckens. Writer of Circular Letter, Bro. F. F. McNab, M. A.; alternate, Rev. J. H. Hyde.

LA MOILLE (a Vermont Association which includes two or more Canadian churches) meets at *Burlington, Vt., on Wednesday 4th of September*. Preacher, Rev. J. G. Lorimer; alternate, Rev. G. W. Arms.

AMHERSTBURGH (coloured churches of western Ontario) meets at *Two River on Thursday 14th of September*. Preacher, Rev. H. S. Davis; alternate, Rev. T. Washington.