## NELL'S SELF-DENIAL.

## BY CRARLOTLE $\triangle$ RNODD.

Nell was a little gill, only nine years old, but she was illeady in ménber of $a$ old, but she was in rady namenber of the
Society of Christian Fndeavorr For town in culinch she lived there was no Junior Society, and it was the custom tit allow the little children, if they so desired, to become associate members of the regular
society. So as it happened, there were society. So as it happened, there were
quite a number of these smill members in the B—Society, and their faithfulness to the pledge was remarked by ${ }^{3}$ the older members, who often spoke of their young associates as bright examples to them.
This particular small member, thowever, Was in a deep study, aud as slie satin a corner of the sofa, with her heid propped on her himd, and her brows drawn in
thoughtful lines any one would have known that $a$ matter of grave iutportance wns occupying her youthful mind. IIer mother, sitting opposite with her sewing, mighty problem was keeping Nell quiet so long, for usually the restless feet kept their long , or usually the restess
little owner trotting hither and thither, and her tongue chattered like a noisy mast. pie, much to the annoyance, sometimes, of
hor older brothers and sisters, who were -hor older brothers and sist
trying to get thieir Jessons.
Indeed, it was ouly that morning that her brother Dick, after a fruitless attempt to close his ears to the merry. voice that sang nonsense rlymes to her dog, called her to him, and, affixing a
the laughing lips said:
the laughing lips, said
here, Nell I have placed the senl of keep quiet five minutes.
But the energetic little elock on the mantel had ticked out six tinimes five minutes on this bright Saturdiy afternoon, nud still Nell's spell of silence continued. Her absorption was so cumplete, that a
peremptory scrntcli; and pathetic whine at peremptory scratcli; and pathetic whino at
the door was unheeded, and even when the door was unheeded, and even when
the door, not being unlatched, yiedded to the pressure, and first the white nose, followed by the black-and-tim body of fier favorite Scotch collie appeared, she still mid no attention. And Growler, finding that his little mistress took no notice of him, rot up on tho sofic, andilaid the stick he had brought her on the edre of her
dress, and his white nose bésidé it, and then went to sleep. After a while, hoy:over, Noll woke from her reverie, the quiet tongue unloosed and mocher found that the problem that was vexing Nell, was one that has tried older souls-the problem of giving. On the preceding sabath, as Christim Endeaver' Society had rond to them a letter from tho board of Foreign Missions, asking the young people to join in making a self-deninl offering for the cause of Foreign Missions. The need for
nid was set forth in unmistakable terms, and besides Miss Carol, the president, had spoken very earnestly and feelingly on the
subject from the Christian Endenvor subject from the Christian Endeavor
standpoint, and concluded her remarks by calling for a grand rally to the cause of missions from every truo Christian Endenvorer. Slie desired the secretary to call the roll, and she asked each one who was willing to bring something the next Sabbath that had cost self.denial, to respond.
Nell was much impressed, both with the lotter and Miss Carol's tallk, and hand answered, 'I will,' when her name was called. But the week was almost gone and
Nell had nothing to give. She had plamed that if any one should give her money durthat if my one should give her money dur-
ing tho week to spend for herself, she ing tho week to spend for herself, she
would contribute that, but unfortunately when had not roceived a cent. Nell was
shent one of a large family whose means were limiled, and as the children wero used to doing without every thing but the actund
necessaries of life, there was not much of a fick for self-deninl in their overy-day life. Sometimes an aunt or cousin give Nell
money to spend on herself, but alas! this week had brought her nothing
This then was the secret of Noll's deep abstraction. She was planning what she and voice were very rueful as after face her inother the foregoing explanation, she went on:
'I haven't a single thing I can sell. Growler isn't mine, and, nuyway, nobody would want him. Why, if the jerson who
bought him didn't happen to suit his fancy, he'd fly at him and bite his feet, wouldn't you, Growler ?" And as the in his sleep, ns though to sny; Just give me half a chnnce.
At this monenta twitter was heard from the bird hanging in the window. © And, looking up, Nell sno the benutifnligolden canary with its head between the bars looking straight at her with a saucy
twitter, twitter, which snid, as plainly as twitter, twitter, which snid,
possible, "Give me, give me.
"No, no "'" cried poor Nell, with both hands over her ears. 'Don't say that agiin, little bird. Did you hear him mamma, just as plain as any thing, 'give
me, give me?" asked Nell. 'But Inever me, give me !' asked Nell. 'But I never could give my diurling, good, Jittle hird." Nell's distress was very genuine, for her bird was her delight and pride. It had such pretty ways, and Nell had taught it so many funny tricks, and. had even taught Home." No, to give up Fluffic was out of the question; no one could expect it. And Nell wept and sobbed at the very thought. Her mother tried to comfort her, by telling that she need not give up her bird, that no one woild ever think of such a thing. She told her, too, that she ivould give her some money to contribute.
Bat Nell only said, piteously; : Miss But Nell only said, piteously, 'Miss
Cnrol snid we ought to be willing to give up our very best to Christ; who lad given up so much for us.
Mrs. Grey pitied the child very much, as she watched thie signs of the struggle that was going on in her heart; while the bird kept up an incessant hopping and dancing, peeping at Nell, and twittering, 'Give me, give mej give me,' until Mrs. Grey, like Nell, thought it sounded very plain. Atthis juncture Mrs. Grey was called away, and Nell was left to fight her battle alone. Tocannot.stop now to tell you every stage of the conflict, but only that a, half hour ater Nell might havo been seen on her way to Miss Carol's home with her precious bird carefully protected from tho clill air. When Miss Carol heard that Nell wished to sell her bird, she at once offered to buy it for two dollhrs, ind so Nell walked home with her self.denin money held tight in her-hanid. Miss Carol said nothing, but
her shiup eyes noted the signs of the gtrugglo in the sorrowful little fice before her, and sho thought 'Nell's offering is given in thi true spinit of the Master.' And she pondered.
The next evenins there was an unusual number in attendance at the Christian Endeavor prayer-meeting. Some who were strangers in the town ; others. Who
were too often strancers in the society were too often strangers in the society.
These may have wondered, as also did the regular members, at tho presence of a canary in the meeting. It was a well regulated little bird, and in no wise dis turbed the assembly, but snt quietly on his perch, looking about with its bright eyes, as though it wondered at this strange, new phase in its life. During the voluntary exercises, Miss Carol rose and told the denial offeritue ira, how... ho was ans est members, so that sho inight aid in sending the story of Jesus, the Saviour of children, to those who had never heard of his wonderful love. Miss Carol pictured, in graphic lauguage, the devotion of the child for her jet, and the bitter heart-ache withoused her to part with it. And then without
titoned
"
Are there no sacrifices that wo who are older can mike for Christ's snke ?",
Just beforo the collection was taken the Ieader asked for a moment's silent prayer: Every head. wns instantly bowed, and i solemn hush stole through the room. But presently through the stillness floated $a$ low sweet melody. Tho notes soft and faintat first, gradually increased in strength until rich, and cleari, and high rang the jubilant song, making one think of a triumphant Gloria. Then, just as ench soul was fairly captivated by the swelling notes, a devoice of a plaintive flute sounded the fami iar strain of "Home, Sweet Home," and again all was still. FJuffie had found his againotun was still. Fimproved it. Thare were opportunity and improved it. There were
some there who never forgot that night or some there who never forgot that night or
that occurrence, and whether due to the influence of the little ginl's example, or to influence of the little girl's example, or to
the wee bird's song I know not, but there
never had been sucl' a liberal collection for any missionary purpose before in that church, at this one given
I am glad to be able to tell you that then and there it was yoted that Fluffie be known as an associate member of that society, At the close of the service, Miss Carol carried the cige to Nell and begged as she was at teacher and must be away from home all day. And happy Nell carried Fluffie home again, while Miss Carol remarked to her compunion, as she walked a way, that perhaps as our Heavenly Father marked the sparrows fall, he also directed the canary's song.-Presbyterian Observer.
THE TRYING OF YOUR FAITH,
It is not $\Omega$ hard thing to fight, so long as ve may gain the victory; and the victory is already partly gained when we are anticipating the attack of a foe, and are thoroughly prepared with the armor of God against him. It is a tremendous warning
that says that 'we wrestle not aginast flesh that says that 'we wrestle not against flesh
and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against wickeci spirits in heavenly places.' It is indeed true that the nearer we come in our lives to God, the more subtle and deady against us, so that the very shrewdest of all devils in hell are the wicked spirits that attack those who would live in heavenly places. But it is also true that there is a way of continual victory, as in that same passage the writer says, 'Ye may be able may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done all, to stand ;' 'Ye shanl be able to quench all the fiery darts' of the wicked.' The armor which he so graphicilly and particularly described is ullof it summed up in a word in another place, where he
says 'Put ye on the Loid Josus Christ', for Christ is called the truth, and our right cousness and our peace and our faith and our salvation, and just so far as we have approprinted him will he in the hour of testing make himself all these things to us, shield and breastphato and sandals and Spirit, which is the word of Godiaxs.
When the Romans landed on the const of Britain, there came swarming to meet them tens of thousands of the savage natives of the country ; and as the primicliffs and looked down upon; this strange foe, they uttered howls of rage, and seemed to be about to cast themselves down and exterminate the invaders. It was then
that the Romans, offering sacrifice to their gods, and looking for one moment out across the sen, toward far-distant Rome, which they might never see aginin, instend
of preparing their ships for flight, tint of preparing their ships for flight, that be , in case of the defeat which seened to safety, lighted firo to the vessels which would have been their only hope of escape in a case of dis aster. And as the savagesalong the cliffs, many times in number the invaders, looked sown upon that heroic act, they were struck with a fear that caused a panic to heioic band who had counted the cost and squarely met the issue in time of testing, as the dry leaves an
tempestuons wind.
God said to thie shrinking Jereminh
God said to the shrinking Jereminh: confound thee before them, for behold have made thee this day a defeneed city, and an iron pillar and brazen walls against
the whole land, a against the kings of Judal, the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the
priests thereof, and against thepeople of he land. And they shall fightarainst thee, but they shall not prevail, agninst thee, for I am with thee, saith the Lord, to deliver thee.'
The sound by which a man says, 'I do now belong to God,' is a challenge to the eneny to do his worst; and the doing of the worst by the adversary, and the conse quent victory that comes to the child of the means by which his eyesight is cleared, his strength increased, his faith developed, and he is led in the confidence of triumph, from victory unto victory. - From 'Victory

## DIVES' SIN.

What was the sin which doomed Dives to such awfulagony? He was no monster of vice "Un the contriry, he secus to have lived respectnbly. It was sellishness
that blasted his möal being and finally that blasted his moinl being and finally danned him, He siined the sin of inhu manity. God gnve him the means and opportunity to help a poor brother ; but he refused tho helping hand, and thought only of his own conifort. Let his terrible fate be a warn
tian Advocite.

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