

HOUSEHOLD.

He Careth.

I. Peter i., 7.

What can it mean? Is it aught to Him,
That the nights are long and the days are
dim?

Can He be touched by the griefs I bear,
Which sadden the heart and whiten the hair?
About His throne are eternal calms,
And strong, glad music of many psalms,
And bliss untroubled by any strife;
How can He care for my little life?

And yet I want Him to care for me
While I live in this world, where the sorrows
be,

When the lights die down from the path I
take,

When strength is feeble and friends forsake,
When love and music, that once did bless,
Have left me to silence and loneliness.
And my life song changes to sobbing prayers,
Then my spirit cries out for a God who cares.

When shadows hang over the whole day long,
And my spirit is bowed with shame and
wrong,

When I am not good and the deeper shade
Of conscious sin makes my heart afraid,
And the busy world has too much to do
To stay in its course to help me through,
And I long for a Saviour—can it be
That the God of the universe cares for me?

O wonderful story of deathless love,
Each child is dear to that heart above,
He fights for me when I cannot fight,
He comforts me in the gloom of night,
He lifts the burden, for He is strong,
He stills the sigh and awakens the song;
The sorrow that bowed down, He bears,
And loves and pardons, because He cares.

Let all who are sad take heart again,
We are not alone in our hours of pain;
Our Father stoops from His throne above
To soothe and quiet us with His love;
He leaves us not when the strife is high,
And we have safety, for He is nigh.
Can it be trouble, which he doth share?
O rest in peace, for the Lord does care.
—Selected.

A Scolder's Child.

The following incident, apropos of our recent article on mothers who scold, illustrates the subject from a viewpoint outside the family. Sara came one Sunday afternoon for a quiet visit with Little Jane. Both were in spandy clean Sunday frocks, but knowing them to be careful children, Little Jane's mother allowed them to go into the orchard. Alack! the unexpected happened; and Little Jane's mother, called by shrieks of anguish, hastened to the door to meet Sara—mud from hat to shoe toe. The child was wailing hysterically: 'What shall I do! What shall I do! O, Mrs. Burns, can't you clean me up? Mother will be so angry! She will scold so!' The nervous little thing was actually terrified at the impending rebuke. Her mother's displeasure had evidently become a frightful, exaggerated bogie, very real to the nervous child. Her sobs did not cease until Mrs. Burns had got out the tin bathtub, stripped off the shoes and half hose, and popped the muddy little legs into the water. How would that mother have felt had she known that Mrs. Burns and her oldest daughter built a fire, heated water and irons, and spent an hour that warm Sunday afternoon cleaning the child's dress and petticoat to avert the dreaded scolding? How did kindhearted Mrs. Burns regard a mother apparently so inconsiderate of her child's happiness? Worst of all, would the little girl herself draw comparisons in mothers?—'Congregationalist and Christian World.'

Economy.

Economy no more means saving money than spending money. It means spending and saving, whether time or money, or anything else, to the best possible advantage.—John Ruskin.

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