The Family.

Look Aloft.

BY DAISY DEANE.

Mother, is thy fond heart sad?
Nothing more to make thee glad
Mourning for thy child,
Whom the angels bore away
To the "Realms of Endless Day?"
Look aloft, beguiled.
Hark! a voice speaks unto thee,
"Weeping mourner, come to me."

"Weary wanderer, on Life's main,'
Longing for the land again,
Alone and tempest-tost,
Though the high waves o'er thee dash,
Thunders roll, and lightnings flash
Look aloft, and trust!
Listl to Him who hears thy cry;
"Be not afraid, thy Saviour's nigh."

Sufferer, on thy bed of pain
Praying, asking, though in vain,
That God may thee release,
He who hears the raven's cry
Counts *thy* tears, and hears *thy* sigh,
Look aloft, in peace!
"Let not your hearts be troubled now,"
God's will is best, then humbly bow.

Christian, sorrowing and forlorn,
Though thy feet are pierced and torn,
Trial seems thy lot,
Press on, toward the [illegible]
W[illegible] and peace await thy soul,
Look aloft, fear not!
"Be thou but faithful," saith the Son,
"For thee in Heaven there is a crown."

The Stray Cows; or Good for Evil.

'Hallo, Archie, whose cows are these?'

'Where? I don't see any,' said Archie, springing upon the fence with cat-like agility.

'There beyond the little bridge—they are behind the maples now.'

'Well, just let me see them, and I'll tell you in a jiffy. Why, those are old Harper's cows, I know them.'

'You mustn't call him so, Archie. You know mother says it is disrespectful.'

'Well, how can I help it, when he is such a savage fellow. I wouldn't speak so of Mr. Lane or of Mr. Mckay, or of such good men who always treat a boy well, and speak pleasantly to him. I'd do anything for such gentlemen. But Chettie, I shall be a man one of these days, and then if Mr. Harper beats my cows as he did dear old Whitie last winter, I'll——. Here they come, Chett, now let's chase them, just as quick as they get past the gate, then won't he have a sweat to find them?'

'But Archie, mother won't be willing that we should do so.'

'Mother won't know it, she has gone away, you know.'

'Well, it will be just as wrong,' pleaded Chester, the younger of the two boys. But the younger generally follows the example of the elder, so as Chester saw his brother jump down, and run shouting at the cows, he caught the excitement, and ran as shouted too, while the generous animals shook their horns, and jolted along as fast as they could.

At a chamber window with half closed blinds, a young lady sat writing; and as the voices of the children floated up to her, a shade of sadness came over her fair face, and she leaned her head thoughtfully against the casement. When they were gone, she took a bright velvet butterfly from the pen rack, and wiping the ink from her pen, glided down stairs and went out, down the steps into the garden. She took a few turns among the circles and semi-circles of flower plants, and then gathered a little fragrant boquet, and sat down on the steps apparently to enjoy it—but really to await the return of the boys; for she had discovered in their young hearts a weed, senting strongly of revenge, and she would fain pluck it up ere it became deeply rooted.

'Oh, Miss Hildreth—here are the tiniest flowers that you ever saw—we found them by the road-side,' and they threw into her lap a shower of blossoms, and sat down on the steps beside her.

'Oh, how beautiful!' she exclaimed, pointing to the delicate purple shading within the corolla.

'How beautiful! Who made them Chester?'

'God.'

'And did he make those large cows that you drove away?'

'Yes, ma'am.'

'Did't you like those brindled cows? or why, boys, did you wish to frighten and drive them away?'

'I'll tell you,' replied Archie, straightening up with self-satisfaction, 'We had a cow, the dearest, best creature that ever was, and she gave the richest milk, and her cream made the sweetest golden butter that ever you tasted; and one day last winter Chettie left the bars down, and Whitie wanted a little exercise, I suppose, and so she walked off, and before we overtook her, she got as far as Mr. Harper's, and he was beating her with a great lever, and said that if she went there again, he would shut her up where it would take a silver key to get her again. Poor Whitie, is dead now, and I believe that it was that cruel beating that killed her, though father said she ate too much corn. We didn't strike his cows, we only chased them off, to make him go a good way after them, though he is haying.' In conclusion, the miniature man nodded his head, almost saying—'and I am glad of it.'

Mr. Harper's hasty cruelty, and Archie's unforgiving return, brought forcibly to the young lady's mind, the many unpleasantries and malicious contentions of mankind, that should not exist, and would not if the blessed example of the 'Crowned and Crucified' was followed, and the warm tears welled up from her heart, and dropped silently upon the blossoms as she spoke.

'Archie, you know the Saviour lived here on earth for our example, that is, to show us how to live, and he was always patient, meek and holy, through all the persecutions and sufferings that the Jews so cruelly heaped upon him; and he told us emphatically—'Do good to those that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you.'

'Did Jesus Christ mean that for children, asked the impulsive Archie, half rising and fixing his large eyes on Miss Hildreth's tearful face.

'Certainly, my dear, for children, and for all who want to be his disciples, and live happily in this life, and dwell with him in glory hereafter. O yes, boys, he said that for you.'

'Then I'll run right off, and drive back those cows—come Chettie!'

As the children bounded away with that eager delight which a desire to do a kind act always imparts, Miss Hildreth looked after them a moment with a prayer in her heart, and then went back to her pen.

Mr. Harper had hurried off in an opposite direction in pursuit of the stray animals, and was just returned, heated and fretted, as the boys came up with them. He was much pleased and said, with something like a smile,

'Well done, well done, boys, where did you find the critters?'

'They were just over the hill, sir, near the mill.'

'So far off as that? Well, you are good boys, good boys.'

And his hand went into his pocket—but the little boys were skipping homeward, happy, very happy, for they had forgiven Mr. Harper, and felt kindly towards him, albeit they marked that he did not thank them. But the reward was in their hearts.

Dear children, if any one has done you an injury, and you desire to do aught that is unkind in return, you may be sure that your heart is not right, and you should go to God, and humbly ask him to give you a new heart, that you may love him, and not feel revengeful towards those who do you wrong.—*Congregationalist.*

Father Watched over me all Night.

Little Ella and her father were once traveling together on the cars, and in order to reach their home, it was necessary for them to ride all night. This was before the introduction of those uncomfortable things called sleeping-cars.

When it became too dark for them to look out of the windows, and the lamps were lighted inside, the father laid aside his little girl's hat and spreading out cloaks and shawls said, "Now we will rest." But a little troubled face peered out upon the strange scene, a mist was gathering in those blue eyes, and the cherry tone of voice changed to a very plaintive one, as she asked; "Father, how can we go to bed here?"

"This is your bed, darling, he said, drawing her to his heart, "and a warm one you will always find it." And then he tucked her in so carefully that, in place of what had been a little girl, there seemed only a great bundle of shawls. But every now and then there was a movement inside the bundle, and a voice would say, "Oh, father, I am afraid to go to sleep here!" Then the father reminded her that he was taking care of her, and would do so all night. So at last, soothed by this assurance and worn out by unwonted fatigue, she fell asleep. When she opened her eyes again, after what seemed to her only a few moments, the sun was shining brightly. The cars stopped, and there, just in sight, was her own dear home. She could even see her still more dear mother standing in the open door, with arms outstretched to welcome back her loved ones. Their first meeting was too full of joy for many words to be spoken, but after those close embraces and warm kisses were over, the mother asked, "And so my little girl was on the cars all night! Did she find it a long and weary time?"

"Oh, no, mother, not at all; I had such a good sleep, and father watched over me all night! Only think of it! All night, mother, he watched over me! At first I was afraid to go to sleep in that strange place; but he told me to lean against him, and shut my eyes, and rest easy, for he would stay awake and take care of me. So I snuggled up close to him, and made pretend to be asleep, and before I knew it, I was really and truly sound asleep, and dear father staid awake and took care of me all night! How I do love him for it!"

Then the mother, with the love-light beaming from her eyes, told her child of that *other* good Father, who watches over each one of His children, not only one but every night of their lives. And the words she spoke were so impressed upon Ella's mind, that, though grown to womanhood now, she still remembers them, and never lies down to sleep without the glad feeling, "My Father will be awake to watch over me." And her first thoughts on waking to the beauties of the morning light, are of the dear Father in heaven, whose loving care has made her rest so safe and pleasant to her.—*Presbyter.*

What's in a Kiss?

Love thy mother, little one;
Kiss and clasp her neck again.

"Mother, mother, kiss!" pleaded a little cherub boy, with blue eyes, anxiously searching his mother's unusually serious face as she tenderly laid him upon his soft warm bed, and lovingly folded the drapery around him.

"Do kiss me, mother!" and the rosy lips began to tremble, the tear drops to gather in the pleading upturned eyes, and the little bosom heaved with struggling emotion.

"My little son has been naughty to-day," replies the mother sadly; "how can I kiss those lips that have spoken such angry words?"

Too much, too much! Dutiful mother, repent! The little heart is swelling, breaking with grief; tremulous sobs break from the agitated bosom; the snow-white pillow is drenched with penitent tears, and the little hand is extended so imploringly. Relent!

'Tis enough. Once more the little head is pillowed upon the maternal bosom; once more the little cherub form is pressed to that mother's aching heart, and the good-night of forgiveness is given twofold tenderer. A few moments and and the eyelids close, and the little erring one is laid back upon his couch penitent and humbled by one kiss from mamma.

What's in a kiss, a simple kiss? Much, very much! More potent than the sceptre. Who has not felt its magic influence? 'Tis the lover's tender pledge of undying constancy; 'tis a bond of friendship and fidelity; and not only is it dear to the youthful and ardent, but also to old age, to the withered heart and blossomless cheek.

So often will a little word
Unknown, its end fulfil
And bear, in seed, the flower and fruit
Of action, good or ill

—*Author of Home Thrusts.*"

Temperance.

Convention of Liquor Dealers

From the Buffalo Correspondence of the *Morning Star* are given the following paragraphs, descriptive of the Convention of liquor dealers held in that city sometime since.

Those who live by making others poor, the whole fraternity of liquor dealers, with great pomp and display, have been out on parade, and had what they call a "grand festival." And such a parade. Miles and miles of beer and whisky teams, loaded with men and women, barrels, bottles, demijohns, card tables and the paraphernalia of drunkeries; and so they marched through the streets, drinking, reveling, swaggering, gambling, with music and streaming banners flying. Ten thousand people were in the throng, and the power of the traffic which wars against the best interest of society was fully demonstrated. Various devices adorned the wagons, to attract attention and to set forth the real character of their business. There was on board the wagons plenty of beer and stronger drinks, and men employed in drinking it. There were men of bloated forms and red noses, and those upon whom the non-intoxicating (?) *lager* began to have a very singular effect. There were burlesques upon temperance men and temperance efforts. One motto is characteristic: "He that loveth not wine is a fool."

Our people were annoyed, frightened by the display. We know what it means. Combination among liquor men is the order of the day, and a hundred and fifty thousand of them will stand (or stagger) as one against all restraints of law, and they will control the Empire State in the coming election. Nothing short of the most strenuous exertions will prevent their electing a governor and legislature after their own image. Then all barriers to vice and free trade in liquor ruin will be removed. The righteous should take the alarm. The enemy is awake, and upon us, and sanguine of success. The battle will be severe and temperance will fall, unless every man does his utmost to prevent the calamity.

One thing only was lacking to complete the grand display. They should have marshalled the *two thousand miserable drunkards and prostitutes of our city, the fruits of their traffic, the product of their cunning workmanship.* They, in their rags and filth, with their blear eyes, blotched faces and bloated forms, followed by their wretched families, under a flag of distress, mottoed, "And their works do follow them," would have filled out the cavalcade completely.

Very near the street over which the procession passed is the city penitentiary, in which are toiling 320 men and women of all ages, nine-tenths of whom are there through the direct agency of the liquor trade. These unfortunate [illegible] the sound of the bugles, but were not permitted to join the procession. A little way off is the county poor-house, full of inmates, most of whom are the direct or indirect fruits of the traffic. Then the orphan asylums in our city, the thousand desolate and dreary homes, over whose threshold the shadows of intemperance have passed—all of these should have brought up the rear of this motley procession. The squandered fortunes, the wrecked characters, the blasted hopes, the silent graves of thousands of dear ones—all of these should have been appropriately designed and hung upon banners along the way. Then something like propriety would have been apparent.

But these fruits of the traffic were not made conspicuous, though the streets were full of candidates for the miserable doom of the drunkard, and hundreds of boys followed the beer barrels and drank to drunkenness. Enough was seen to make the hearts of parents quail with fear and cry to God in agony for deliverance from these destroyers.

No clergymen or teachers were present. They were not invited. As they moved down Niagara Street to the grove, drinking their beer and wine, and shouting as they passed certain points, no response greeted them. It seemed more like a funeral procession than a festival. It was indeed the festival of death. The aristocratic dealers tarried at home, having too much regard for the popular feeling to show themselves. Only the second grade of the business was represented. The terrible pictures of intemperance were fresh before the minds of the lookers-on, and checked every burst of applause.

Agriculture.

Pure Water for Stock.

A writer in the *Agriculturist*, in the following communication, calls attention to foul water as a fruitful cause of disease and want of thrift in animals:—

"That farmer who has provided for his barnyard a never-failing supply of good water, and an arrangement by which it is brought into the troughs or tubs without pumping or drawing, has a convenience, the value of which is not likely to be over-estimated; but it is a matter of no small importance that it be given to the stock fresh and pure. Because animals drink from a filthy trough or a muddy and stagnant pool with apparent relish, it does not follow that their sense of taste is of a low order and cannot appreciate good feeding. Necessity too often compels them to drink anywhere and whatever they can find. Long-continued habit deadens or perverts the taste. But animals with unvitiated taste, left free to choose for themselves, will find the purest water as quickly as the sweetest grass; especially is this true of the horse. Some are naturally very fastidious about both food and drink, and they often suffer from thirst rather than drink from a vessel or at a well they dislike. Some men, entrusted with the care of stock, seeing a horse tasting or sipping, or playing, as they imagine, say he is not dry, or whimsical, and bring him back to his stall, there to remain till thirst compels him to drink. Thus a real cruelty is ignorantly practiced against a dumb beast, when a few moments' attention would discover and remove the trouble. Fresh, pure water means more than simply water free from sticks, dirt, or substances which are readily detected by the eye. Water exposed in shallow vessels to the atmosphere during warm weather quickly loses its fresh and sweet taste. Should it remain in a stable twenty-four hours it becomes undrinkable from having absorbed the impurities of the air. Ammonia, carbonic acid and all the gasses escaping in the stable are absorbed rapidly and in large quantities by water. During hot weather these gasses are always largely present, even in well-regulated barns, and a tub of water exposed to the air in the stable yard or cellar, soon becomes charged with them, and is unfit for any animal to drink. Besides being of a disagreeable taste, it becomes slightly aperient. "A cover that fits closely to the trough or tub is of some service in keeping out dust and dirt, and preventing contact with impure air; but it is impossible to keep water in shallow vessels about a barn yard and have it absolutely pure. The safest plan of ensuring purity is to draw from the fountain head as often as wanted, and when the anima's have drunk throw the remainder away. It is a common practice in summer to keep water in the trough to prevent its drying and falling into pieces. The more shallow a trough is made, the less liable it is to dry up; but it is better to lose one occasionally than always give impure water to the stock. Scrupulous cleanliness in the care of all the arrangements for furnishing water commends itself to every thinking man who is the owner and lover of animals, in proportion as the ill effects of neglecting them are understood."

Keeping Bacon Hams.

Make a number of cotton bags, a little larger than your hams; after your hams are well smoked, place them in the bags; then get the best kind of sweet, well-made hay, cut it with a knife, and with your hands press it well around the hams in the bags; tie the bags with good strings, put on a card of the year to show their age, and hang them up in a garret or some dry room, and they hang five years and be better for boiling than on the day you hung them up. This method costs but little, and the bags will last forty years. No flies or bugs will trouble the hams if the hay is well pressed around them; the sweating of the hams will be taken up by the hay, and the hay will impart a fine flavor to the hams. The hams should be treated in this way before hot weather sets in.

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