

PLEASANT HOURS

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK

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No. 4.

WE CAN MAKE HOME HAPPY.

THOUGH we may not change the cottage
For a mansion tall and grand,
Or exchange a little grass plot
For a boundless stretch of land,
Yet there's something brighter, nearer
Than the wealth we'd thus command.

Though we have no means to purchase
Costly pictures, rich and rare;
Though we have no silken hangings
For the walls so cold and bare,
We can hang them o'er with garlands,
For flowers bloom everywhere.

We can always make home cheerful
If the right course we begin;
We can make its inmates happy
And their truest blessings win;
It will make the small room brighter
If we let the sunshine in.

When we gather round the fireside
When the evening hours are long,
We can blend our hearts and voices
In a happy, social song;
We can guide some erring brother,
Lead him from the path of wrong.

We may fill our home with music
And with sunshine brimming o'er,
If against all dark intruders
We will firmly shut the door;
Yet should evil's shadow enter,
We must love each other more.

There are treasures for the lowly
Which the grandest fail to find;
There's a chain of sweet affection
Binding friends of kindred mind;
We may reap the choicest blessings
From the poorest lot assigned.

KIND ROVER.

ROVER is not one of those
snarling little curs that
"delight to bark and bite."
He has a good strong voice
and a sound set of teeth of his own,
but he does not seem to think they
were given him for the purpose of
annoying or injuring his neighbours,
so he keeps his bark for burglars
and his bite for beef-bones. When
an impudent puppy yelps at him as
he goes along he makes no reply; he
just raises his nose a little higher in
the air and passes on. When an
evil-disposed dog is on the point of
attacking one that is smaller and
weaker than himself he first looks
up the street and down the street to
make sure that Rover is not in sight,
for he knows that Rover will not will-
ingly allow the weak to be oppressed.
When any one falls into the water his
scream is very likely to be speedily
followed by Rover's plunge, for it does
not take him very long to get to any
particular spot if he should not happen
to be there just at the moment. Once
and again he has dragged a drowning
boy ashore or kept him afloat till
further help arrived. This time it is
one of his own species that he is bring-
ing to land. Even dogs can be

drowned, especially when they are
young and inexperienced and under-
take a long swim. It was good for
this one that a better swimmer than
himself got sight of his sinking head,
plunged in to his rescue, dived be-
neath him, bore him to the surface,
and with wonderful adroitness and
skill supported him to the bank.
Kind, noble Rover! it is no wonder
that all the dogs respect him, and that
all the boys are fond of him.

In large cities, saloons, barber-shops,
cigar-shops, and other places of busi-
ness are kept open on Sunday, for no
other purpose than to make money;
for our experience and the history of
these Sunday places of business, teaches
that they lead young men astray, and
bring about a lack of respect for the
teachings of the Bible, and a want of
reverence for God's Sabbath.

The passenger trains they say must
run on Sunday for the convenience of

trains to run, and post-offices kept open
on Sunday that they may go on busi-
ness errands or send or receive business
letters! Oh, no! If the street-car
and railroad companies were to receive
no pay from passengers, nor any pay
for carrying mails on Sunday, would
their cars and trains continue to run
on the Sabbath!

Is it not a money consideration that
runs the printing press on Sunday, and
sends hundreds of little boys out to
sell the papers who ought and
might otherwise be in Sabbath-
school; that runs the saloons, the
barber-shops, the cigar-shops, the
street-cars, the railroad trains, and
the livery stables on Sunday!

Is it in accordance with the word
of God and our Saviour's teaching,
for men to labour hard all day
Sunday, cleaning of the engines in
the round-house; pulling the throttle,
firing the engines, driving street-
cars, and many other kinds of work,
for from seventy-five cents to three
dollars per day! Will not God
bring a curse upon this far nation
if the Church does not rise up to
condemn and correct the evil of
Sabbath-breaking! Our Saviour
said: "It is lawful to do good on
the Sabbath," but we suppose he
meant visiting the sick and father-
less, feeding the hungry, supplying
the wants of the needy, expounding
his word in his earthly temples,
praising, praying, and such like.
Will any one dare say he meant
that men should work in the field,
on the train, on street-cars, in post-
offices, barber-shops, and such like
places on the Sabbath-day for
money? No, verily, and his anger
is kindled against us as a nation for
these violations of his holy law; as
has been evidenced by droughts,
storms and plagues in different parts
of the United States. He will not
always chide. God commands us to
do all our work in six days, and to
rest on the seventh—the Sabbath.
How absurd, then, to say a man can
work all day Sunday for money, and
not incur God's displeasure. Moses
told the children of Israel if they



KIND ROVER.

THE NATION'S GREAT SIN.

THERE is probably no other
sin that is more likely to
bring down God's wrath and
displeasure upon us as a
nation than Sabbath-breaking. Fathers
cut wool, and allow, if not compel,
their children to do so on the Sabbath
day; livery stable men make lots of
money on the Sabbath; street-car
companies make more money, running
their cars and working their men on
Sabbath perhaps than on Monday.

the public, and to carry ministers to
their appointments, etc., and the mails
must be carried on Sunday, and the
post-offices must be kept open an hour
or two on Sabbath, and why? Well,
because the Postmaster-General says
so, and because the public convenience
demands it, and because we expect
that through them we will receive
some message of love, or send some
tidings of joy or grief, and thereby
"do good on the Sabbath day."

Of course no one in this God-
favoured land wants street-cars and

failed to keep all the law and com-
mandments and obey the voice of the
Lord, all these curses should come
upon them and overtake them.
"Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and
cursed shalt thou be in the field;
cursed shall be thy basket and thy
store; cursed shall be the fruit of thy
body, and the fruit of thy land, the
increase of thy kine, and the flocks of
thy sheep; cursed shalt thou be when
thou comest in, and cursed shalt thou
be when thou goest out. The Lord
shall send upon the cursing, vexation,