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THE HUDSON.

The beautiful picture on this page is a view on the Hudson River near the Highlands. The Hudson is one of the most interesting and splendid rivers for natural scenery and historic and literary associations in the world. The upper picture on our last page is one of its most beautiful points, but does not do justice to the scene. Our lower cut on that page shows the wonderful bridge which has been flung across the East river, as it is called, at New York.

ALWAYS

EARLY.

Early to bed and early to rise; early at work, early at duty, early at school, early at church. People in the habit of being late lose time and trains and temper and opportunities. The early people catch their trains, save time, preserve their temper, and lay hold of opportunities. Be always early.

But the *e* is one thing in which it is far more important to be early than any of these. It is to seek Jesus early, to seek him in early youth. He said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me;" and there is a special promise to those that seek God early, "They that seek me early shall find me." It is good to seek him early, because it preserves from a great many future evils and sins; it is good to seek him early, because nobody is truly happy till he finds Jesus; it is good to seek him early, because no one ever came to him but wished that he had come to him sooner.—*The King's Own.*

NOT AN ACCEPTABLE PRAYER.

"Let me have a piece of fruit-cake, mamma—a big piece," coaxed Johnny, who had already been helped to a generous slice.

"No, indeed, little boy!" said his mother. "That cake is entirely too rich for you to eat much of it; it would make you sick."

Johnny pondered the situation soberly for a moment, and then with a bright thought said: "Give me the cake, mam-

THE LITTLE DUMB BOY.

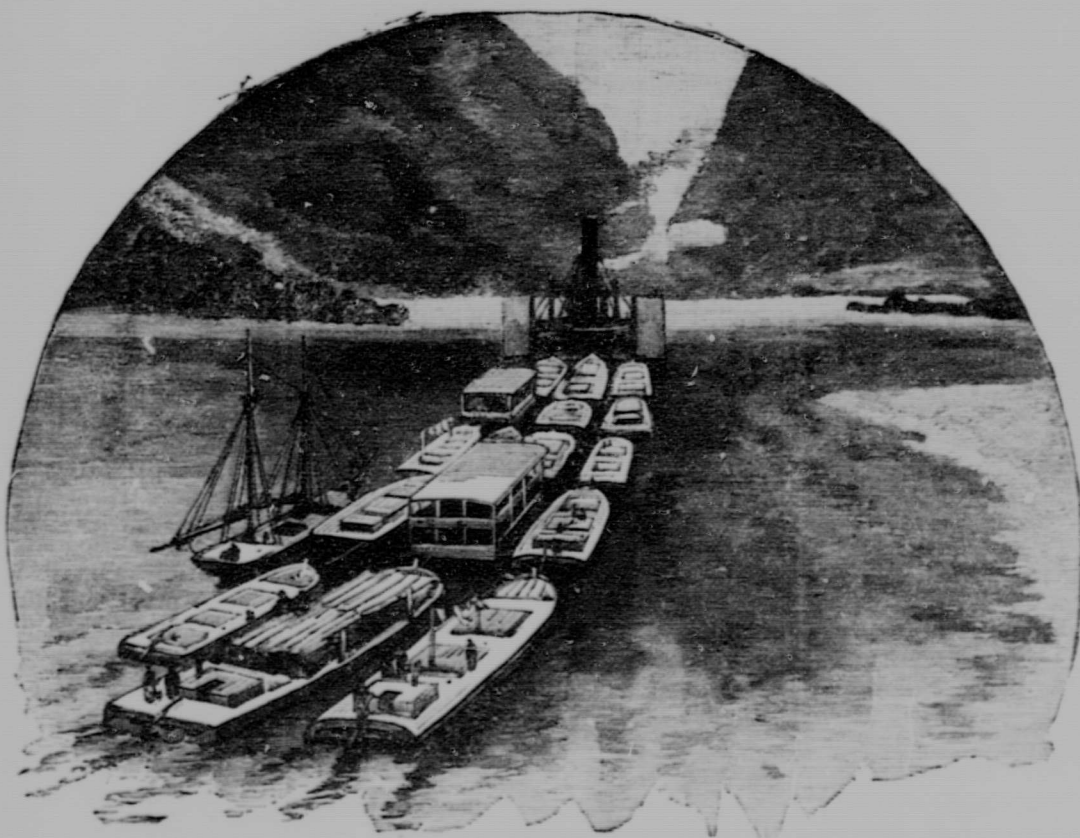
Why God allows so much suffering is one of the mysteries of this life that will never be fully explained till we reach heaven. Then all the strange things will be made clear to us. The lad who made the wise answer given below had come as near solving the question as he could: he left it with God, as we must.

Once a minister paid a visit to a deaf and dumb asylum in London for the purpose of examining the children in the knowledge they possessed of the divine truth. A little boy on this occasion was asked in writing "Who made the world?" The boy took up the chalk and wrote underneath the question: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

Then the minister inquired in a similar manner: "Why did Jesus come into the world?" A smile of delight and gratitude rested on the countenance of the little fellow as he wrote: "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."

A third question was then proposed, eminently adapted to call his most powerful feelings into exercise: "Why were you born deaf and dumb, while I can hear and speak?" "Never," said an eyewitness, "shall I forget the look of holy resignation and chastened sorrow which sat on his countenance as he took the chalk and wrote, 'Even so, Father, for so it seemeth good in thy sight.'"—*Young Disciple.*



IN THE HIGHLANDS OF THE HUDSON—STEAMER TOWING CANAL BOATS.

ma, and I'll pray God to keep me from being sick."

Many older people act on Johnny's plan: they follow their own pleasure, run needlessly into danger, and then pray, "Deliver us from evil!"—*Selected.*

We are not to be wasteful. Gather up the fragments. Save your time, your money, your strength, your affections, your thoughts for some good use. Do not let them run to waste.