

THE CHILDREN'S HOUR.

God wants the happy-hearted girls,
The loving girls, the best of girls, the worst of
girls.

God wants to make the girls his pearls,
And so reflect his holy face,
And bring to mind his wondrous grace,
That beautiful the world may be,
And filled with love and purity.

God wants the boys, the merry boys,
The noisy boys, the funny boys, the thought-
less boys.

God wants the boys with all their joys,
That he as gold may make them pure,
And teach them trials to endure ;
His heroes brave he'll have them be
Fighting for truth and purity.

A century and a half ago a young Quaker clerk named John Woolman, listening to the dictates of the voice of God in his soul, refused to make out a bill of sale for a negro slave who belonged to one of his master's customers. This act of faith was the beginning of the agitation which never ended until negro slavery was swept away from every land in which the Bible is an open book. But there were many stages in that agitation. Men, good men, did not all at once see the full bearings of the question ; and so we find that those who listened to the voice within began insisting that their brethren in the faith should well-treat their slaves, educate them, and provide comfortably for them in their old age. But they found, as they listened to and obeyed the voice, that they were led on to further and higher standards of duty, until at last we find John Woolman and his friends engaged in visiting all the members of various "meetings" of Quakers in America, exhorting them that their duty as followers of Christ was to give up all property in negro slaves, and at last getting resolutions passed that all members who did not, after suitable admonition and time given for repentance, set their slaves free should forthwith be disowned and separated from the church. So earnestly

did they work, that it was found necessary in only three cases to proceed to this extreme measure ; and not only were the slaves liberated in the other cases, but many of them were paid by their former owners for years of past service.—[*From Good Health.*]

A CURIOSUM.

BY DR. B. L. CITTINSKI.

The following is a translation of the petition of the "left hand," addressed to parents and pedagogues, from the pen of no less distinguished personage than Benjamin Franklin. It was published in a little French almanac, entitled "E'trenne a' l' Humanite," in the year 1787, just a century ago :

"I take the liberty of addressing myself to all the friends of youth, and to beseech them to have compassion upon my misfortune and help me to conquer the prejudice of which I am the innocent victim.

I am one of two twin sisters of our family. The two eyes in the head do not resemble each other more completely than I and my own sister do.

My sister and I could perfectly agree together if it was not for the partiality of our parents, who favor her, to my great humiliation.

From my infancy I was taught to look upon my sister as if she was of a higher rank than I. My parents allowed me to grow up without any instruction, while they did not spare any cost on the education of my sister. She had professors of writing, drawing, music and other useful and ornamental performances, but if I happened to touch a pencil, a pen or a needle I was severely reprimanded, and more than once I was beaten for being clumsy.

It is true that my sister likes my company and does not despise my cooperation occasionally, but always claims superiority, and only calls upon me when she needs my assistance.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I do not believe that my complaints are directed