OUR HOME CIRCLE.

WHAT THEN.

What then? Why, then another pilgrim's And then a hush of rest, divinely granted; And then a thirsty stage (ah me, so long!) And then a brook, just where it is most

What then? The pitching of the evening And then, perchance, a pillow rough and And then some sweet and tender message sent To cheer the faint one for to-morrow's

What then? The wailing of the midnig ht A feverish sleep, a heart oppressed and ach And then a little water's cruse to find

Close by my pillow, ready for my waking.

journey

What then? I am not careful to inquire; I know there will be tears, and fears, and And then a loving Saviour drawing nigher, And saying. "I will answer for the mor-

What, then ? For all my sins his pardoning grace;
For all my wants and woes his loving kindness;
For darkest shades the shining of God's face, And Christ's own hand to lead me in my

What then? A shadowy valley, long and And then a deep and darkly-rolling river : And then a flood of light-a scraph hymn, And God's own smile, forever and forever.

THE / ESTAMENT IN THE WATER.

In 1854, before any treaty with

England, an English fleet of war came into the harbor of Nagasaki, Japan. The commander-in-chief of the native troops gathered to tion and examination, the lady watch the new-comers, was accustomed to go out in a boat to see that no secret communication was attempted. One day he found in the water a small pocket Testament and was very anxious to know its contents. He learned from some Dutch interpreters that for the study of the Bible, and it told about God and Jesus after a time began a Sabbath Christ. This only increased his school with the Bible class as curiosity to understand it all and teachers. There are now about he finally obtained from Shanghai twenty professing Christians in a copy of a Chinese translation. that town and the most of them Wakasa, as he was called, began have been brought to Christ the study of the Testament and through her efforts. Among the induced four others to join him. believers was a son of Wakasa. One of these was a brother, The daughter of Wakasa went named Ayabe, and another a re- to Osaki with her family, where tainer named Montono. In 1862 she was soon a leader in Christian Ayabe came to Nagasaki, from activity and benevolence. When his home in Saga, for further in- her husband returned from a trip struction, and was taught by Dr. to some island and reported that Verbeck. During the following he had found a people without spring this man came to Dr. Ver- any religion she went to the beck at night and warned him of pastor and begged that some one danger, if he did not leave at once. They fled to China and offered to pay one half the salary remained there till the serious and expenses. She has returned and expenses. She has returned to Nagasaki and is now a regular My life-long colour, my true grief avows; ended. Ayabe afterwards left attendant with her family upon Nagasaki, having received a gov- the church there. Lately, when ernment appointment, but in a Dr. Verbeck was acting as intershort time Wakasa sent Montono preter at a meeting in Tokio, a (who had learned to read Eng. man came to him and said, "I lish) with instructions to read am Ayabe, the brother of Waover and get explanations of such kasa." Since his baptism he had portions of the scripture as they been in the army, and during all could not understand. In this these years had carried the Bible way the Bible class was carried with him, reading it daily. The on for nearly three years: the next day he came with his only lize on good reading, nor to give faithful messenger making the child, a daughter of fifteen, and an exhortation to any of the advotwo days' journey to Nagasaki asked that she might be baptized. cates of good literature. It will

Hizen had arrived and desired an H. Loomis. interview. To his great joy these men proved to be Wakasa, and his brother, and Montono. At the time appointed Wakasa and his train appeared. Two of his sons were also with him. These men had evidently received the Word with all readiness of mind and now sought only some more light in regard to Christian char. acter and customs. After a long conversation or the power and love of Christ, Wakasa requested that he and his brother should be baptized. It was well known that such an act would be perilous, as sacred obligation of those who received it. Without hesitation single provision that it should be done in private as it would not only endanger their own lives but their families also. The following Sabbath evening the three men appeared. Their retainers had been dismissed, the shutters were closed and after some words of exhortation they were baptized and partook of the sacraments. "Now," said Wakasa, "I have that I have long been heartily wishing for." He then told the

On the 14th of May, 1866, a

dently a lady of high rank and many inches. ing the gospel of Matthew they monstrance. Harper's Magazine. recognized it as something they had already learned and purchased a full supply of Scriptures at once. This was on Saturday : on the next day they appeared at service and desired baptism at once. After satisfactory instruc-

women were baptized. The old nurse returned to Saga and taught a small school of girls and soon opened a class of women

listened attentively to all that

was said, and the two faithful

THE NILE CRIERS.

When the inundation approaches the capital-usually at the end of June or the beginning of July-the Nile criers (Muna-dien-Ni) begin the work. These criers are men whose business it is to call out, or rather to recite, before the houses of those who wish it, how much the Nile has risen during the last twenty-four hours. The Oriental does everything, no matter what it is, the law of the land prohibited the gravely, slowly, with much dig-Christian religion. Montono also desired baptism. Qr. Verbeck warned them not to entertain any warned them not to entertain any the street is a complicated ceresuperstitious ideas concerning the street is a complicated cerebaptism, and told them of the which repully takes some mo which usually takes some moments to perform. And in the the request was repeated, with the same way this announcement of the river's rise, which seems to us such a simple matter, is a most serious affair.

The day before the crier begins his task he goes through the streets accompanied by a boy, whose part it is to act as chorus, and to sing the responses at the proper moment. The crier sings: God has looked graciously upon the fields," Response: "Oh! day of glad tidings"

story of the book found twelve give the information so much de-ship in the treatment of our sub-from the cup, I found only dregs the rallying-cry of this great

to. Wakasa returned home re- which he praises God, implores ed to duty about once in three not what became of me, and should to. Wakasa returned home rejoicing in the love of God and the
blessings on the Prophet and all
weeks, or oftener. Our officers have sunk, oh, whither! had it not but yet with hope and courage,
believers and on the master of consist of president, secretary, been for her who, ander God, has that I write it—there presence of the Holy Spirit, and believers, and on the master of been for her who, and on the master of treasurer. and programme combeen my saviour.

| Dut yet with hope and courage, been for her who, ander God, has that I write it—there is reason for the extensive constant. In April, 1880, there appeared Not until all this has been care- mittee. The programme comin the Nagasaki congregation two fully gone through does he pro- mittee arranges the order of exstrangers, one of whom was evi- ceed to say the Nile has risen so ercises for two weeks in advance.

her attendant. They gave the most strict attention and after until the month of September, the week's reading, answers to remost strict attention and after until the month of September, the week's reading, answers to reof her class. On the landing betrained? Is it because they exthe services were introduced as when the river has reached its terred questions, and recitations or low my room I heard the voice of peet to get married? That it is former nurse. Early the next as bringer of such good news, ful feature in the course. The day they appeared and told how never fails to claim his "bak- reviewer is encouraged to use his faithfully they had been taught sheesh"-sometimes humbly, and own language in his writing, state

her family at Nagasaki. Since and also that the government in- at the first opportunity. Dr. Verbeck had left she knew of tentionally spreads talse reports no Christian or missionary to in regard to the advance of the whom she could go for sympathy | inundation. As the land tax can or instruction. As her husband not be levied on certain large was soon to remove to Osaki she tracts of land until the rise of the did not wish to leave until she Nile shall have reached at least had received baptism, so she sent sixteen Egyptian yards, it does to Saga for her old nurse and to- not hesitate (a fact that has come gether they set out to find a within my own experience) to missionary. After some days spread false reports; and although they chanced to find a shop where the imposition is patent to all, no Scriptures were sold. On open- one dares to raise his voice in re-

THE QUAKERESS.

Sweet Quakeress, in sober suit of gray,

The brightest livery that thy sect allows: Thy fair, fond face shines back on me to-day-Thy soft voice breathes thy tender "thee's" and "thou's." appeared with her husband, who

Sweet "thee's" and "thou's"! Was witch. ery e'er so strange, As that with which the liquid tones befell? Were e'er so quickly forged such golden chains As those thy small white fingers linked so

The grave, quaint banding of the soft bright The little cap so lovingly confined, The sunset look thy features used to wear The gentle thoughts that ruled thy quiet

Ah, well I mind me of thy violet eyes, Thy meekest maidenhood's entrancing The roseate dawning of thy sweet surprise,

Thy half-incredulous, yet fond amaze. Thy trembling answer, " Friend, I hold thee dear"-Were ever words so sweet, so simply

spoken? Divinest music to my raptured ear! Divinest pledging of a faith unbroken !

maiden through the gathering gloom of Thy well-loved face and form I yet dis-And, through a blinding, dazing mist of I stretch my hand to thee, who loved no

Ever thy robe clings round me. Night and I hear my darling's tender "thee's" and

A "HOME COLLEGE" EX-PERIMENT.

It is not my purpose to mora-

and returning with the desired Ayabe has recently confirmed the be admitted that the friends of a above narrative. His family is sound literature are legion; and now connected with the church in the interesting problem is, how messenger came to Dr. Verbeck. Tokio, and it is his earnest desire are we to receive the best results and announced that some high to devote the rest of his life to out of the resources already preofficials from the Province of spreading the gospel in Japan.— pared? Last year my attention was called to the "Home College series" of tracts, issued by the tract department of the Methodist Episcopal church. I concluded to try their use on the first occasion. found on examination they embraced a wide range of topics; just such a course of reading to be popular among a busy people, literature. If it were more elaborate in the treatment of subjects, then there would be embarrass. reading, and the indifferent could | her hand with a smile. outside of the class.

her attendant. They gave the This ceremony is carried on reviews on the tracts assigned for by a friend, to see some member because they have never been trained? It is it to make the week's reading answers to reabout the true God and Jesus sometimes, too, very imperiously. his own views on debatable ques-Christ the Saviour. They had The reports of these men, who tions, given from the tracts on biolearned the Lord's Prayer and a in all Egyptian towns are the graphy or from other sources, ters no good. They are lost!' few portions of the Scriptures ambulant advertisers of the state specimens of authors' writings, which Wakasa had written out in of the Nile, are not always re- and compress all, if possible, into simple characters. Wakasa had liable. This is partly owing to eight minutes or less. This gives died eight years before with a the fact that, with true Oriental in a living form the reading of firm hope of eternal life through indifference, they do not take the the week, and all hear it. If any the Redeemer. The daughter had trouble to acquire exact informa- have not read the tracts, there is married and was now living with tion at the only reliable sources, a new incentive to look them over

The department of referred

investigation and research among books. It is raising up a class of explorers in literature. Our the Sunday-school whither she led young people are becoming familiar with encyclopedias and their of the Lord who so gently said, use. The readings or recitations Neither do I condemn thee. Go are participated in by all. The and sin no more! reader chooses his own subject. We started out to read fifty of the tracts of the course. A number will do this. My attention was then called to the "Chautauqua Spare Minute course." I wrote to Dr. Vincent and told him what we were doing, and asked him what he would do for us. A prompt answer came: "For every twenty-five of your 'Home College series' of tracts which you read your members will be entitled to a 'Spare Minute Course' certificate. If you complete the fifty as you propose, each member who has read them all will receive, on payment of eight cents each, two Chautauqua Spare Minute Course' certificates." This was enough to complete our joy. We preliminary sense, with the large stars!' company of Chautauqua readers. I pressed a kiss on the pale forc-

arranged to have suitable closing exercises in the month of June. lowing the Children's day service. | are lost?" We can use the decorations for both occasions, and the two will harmonize in spirit. Aside from the practical results named, we have found that thoughtful reading has given place for religious conviction. During our four weeks of special services, we had no session (which is provided for in our constitution), and all save two who were not Christians were converted; and those two requested prayer. The first-fruits of our revival came from this class, and the conviction widened in its to make a thorough business of influence and power until over one the occupation you have chosen, hundred and fifty were converted. never, never, never begin to be Any pastor who will encourage this reading will find that it will give moral and religious help to will never do for professionals. him in his work.—E. S. McChes. ney, in N. W. Adv.

THE LOST FOUND.

One night last week I received a summons from a distant part of Sorrento rooms must be cut as the city to visit the dying bed of true as a rose-leaf. You can be a one of the pupils of the Elm Street little shaky as to your German Sunday-school. She was a young declensions in the Schiller club, and beautiful girl whom I had which you join so enthusiastically and a large number who have not occasionally observed with inter- after leaving school, and no great learned to read a serviceable est, but of whose life and character harm ever come of it; but teach I knew nothing. They told me Schiller for a living, and for every at the door that she could not live dative case forgotten you are so till morning, so that I was unpre- much money out of pocket. ment. Busy people would not pared for her look of beaming conhave time to take the course of sciousness as she feebly extended demand thorough workmanship or

not be secured. The diversity of "Mrs. T-," said she; "you do for a complete market price, is just as good a playfellow, and subjects and brevity of treatment not know me, but I want to tell are excellences not to be over- you that you may tell all the dear The terrible grinding laws of sup- good sense. He certainly was looked in the practical work of a teachers what Jesus, the Lord, has ply and demand, pay and receive, better tempered than either of course of reading among the done for me. I am a miracle of give and get, give no quarter to the boys, and as to quarreling or people who are to be enlisted as grace. God sent one of your num-shilly shally labor. The excell-fighting, he seemed quite above readers. Last November our ber to pull me out of the horrible ence of your intentions is nothing such behavior. class was organized with a mem- pit. My parents both died three to the point. The stress of your bership of about twenty-five. Old years ago, and left me in great poverty has not the slightest conand young were induced to take straits. They never taught me to nection with the case. An editor den he heard loud, angry words, the course. Our work has pro- fear God and keep his command- will never pay you for your poem gressed with increased interest, ments, but had they lived they because you wish to help your moand with good results. We now would have shielded me from open ther. No customer will buy her have a class of forty-three, and sin. I was in sore trouble from best bonnet or her wheat flour of fisticust fight. No wonder the our tracts are being read by many hunger and cold, and alone in this you because you are unable to pay great city. I strove hard with the your rent. When you have entered Our open session, which in on tempter, but he offered me gold the world of trade, you have en-Tuesday evening of each week, is and ease and warmth and food, tered a world where tenderness

Before the crier proceeds to number outside of our member- foam and sparkle and richness sake,' nor 'chivalry's sake' runs years before in the harbor of sired, he intones with the boy a jects. Our class is divided into at the bottom. Stunned with world—but only 'for value receiv-Nagasaki and all that it had led lengthy, alternating chant, in sections, which have been appoint- grief, surprise, and shame, I cared led.'

'You will get rough thanks for some of the most magnificently acyour pains, and perhaps soil your curate work in the world has been fingers in the contact. Take my done by women. advice. You can do such charac-"Ah! I shall carry the preci-

ous answer, that came echoing up the stairs like a silver bell, to heaven's gate: 'I came to seek and to save them which are lost!' Dear Mrs. T-, I was redeemed from that moment. My heart melted in a instant at the sound of her voice and the touch of her questions is no small item in the hand. She did not despise or hate interest of the class. Scores of me though I was lost, but came questions are at hand, and require on Christ's errand to save me. Her wise, judicious, tender counsel helped me to my footing, and in me I learned the way to the feet

> "Had Miss Allen followed the advice of her friend, what would have become of my soul? How dark and terrible this hour, while now all is light and peace. Please tell every Christian lady that they may never turn away from the darkest or lowest."

She sank back exhausted on her pillow, and at this moment her loved teacher entered the room. I shall never forget the look of ecstatic love that beamed from those dying eyes. Ah! friends, it would be reward enough for a lifetime of toil.

"How I love you!" she whispered. "I dreamed last night I saw you in heaven with a radiant crown set with jewels and sparkare in pursuit of an end, and, at ling with stars, and an angel said the same time, associated, in a to me, 'You are one of those Christ. Sabbath after Sabbath

We have a constitution. It is head wet with the dews of death, a brief of our plan ot work, and and left the two with clasped yet comprehensive enough to be hands and hearts. Dear Christian a death of woe, rose again triumsuggestive and practical for an women, we would not rob Miss phant, and ascended up on high, enthusiastic leader. We have Allen of one of her stars, but how having 'led captivity captive; about our own? Shall we not also be strong to do and dare, ly-It will be in the week fol- ing in wait "to save them that

GIRLS IN BUSINESS.

We commend to all girls who expect to engage in any self-supporting occupation, especially news. Directly the service was where they may come into competition with men, the following extract from Elizabeth Stuart Phelps' article entitled "Support- ry inquiry failed to discover his ing Herself," in the St. Nicholas:

"But girls, if you don't mean

occupied at all. Half-finished work will do for amateurs. It The bracket you are sewing for a New Year's present can hang a little crooked on its screws, and you will be forgiven 'for the love's sake found therein' by the dear heart to which you offer it; but the trinket carved for sale in the

none. To offer incomplete work to be either a cheat or a beggar. often seemed to have so much free to all who may desire to come and better than all, kind words, and charity and personal interests Response: On: day or grad tidings
To morrow begins the announcement,"
Response: May it be followed by success."

to hear the exercises. In this which were balm to my sore neart. are foreign relations. Not for pity's way we have reached a very large

"Well, after I had drank off the sake" nor 'chivalry's sake' runs

for the extensive complaint made "The woman with whom I then by men, that women do not work lodged was a respectable Christian thoroughly. I am afraid that, till woman, and told the lady about time and trouble shall have taught me when she called, accompanied them better, they will not. Is it her friend remonstrating. 'You not in the least because they can had better let her alone,' said she; not, we know; for we know that

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

MY BRAVE LADDIE.

Tap, tap, along the pavement, tap, It came, a little crutch.

A pale faced lad looked up at me. 'I do not mind it much,' He answered to my pitying look; "It might be worse, you know; Some fellows have to stay in bed, While I quite fast can go.

"Oh, yes, I used to run about, Perhaps I may again; The doctor says it's wonderful I have so little pain ; It hurts me now and then, of course, Well-ever since the fall, But I'm so very glad, you see, That I can walk at all."

Tap, tap, the little crutch went on. I saw the golden hair. The brown eyes wide and all aglow,
The noble, manly air;
And somehow tears a moment came, And made my vision dim, While still the laddie's cheerful words Were sweet as sweetest hymn.

"I am so very glad, you see, That I can walk at all." Why, that's the way for us to feel When troubles may betall. There's always blue sky somewhere, friend. Though clouds around you meet

And patience will the Master send. If sought at His dear feet. -M. E. Sangster

THE IRISH BOY'S VIC-TORY

In the northern part of Ireland there lived a good clergyman, who was an earnest worker for he preached of the love of Jesus to perishing sinners. He told how he left his home in glory, led a life of toil and sorrow, died how for those who believe in Him the sting of death is taken away, for with "His right hand and His holy arm He hath gotten Him the victory."

As the preacher spoke thus, his gaze rested on a ragged boy sitting beneath the pulpit. On his pinched face was a look of extreme interest, and he appeared eagerly drinking in the good over the clergyman hurried down but he was too late, the young listener had disappeared and evename or dwelling.

At length one evening an old man called on the clergyman with a request that he would come to see a poor dying lad.

"He has asked for you, sir." said the messenger; "and he do be talking so strange, sure none of us can understand him at all." The clergyman went with the man. On a bed of death he found the boy he had so wished to meet. Raising himself with a last effort, the little fellow exclaimed: "With His right hand and His

holy arm He hath gotten himself the victory." He never spoke on earth again. Reader, what is this victory to

you?-Christian Press.

A TRUE STORY.

Willie and Harry and Crusoe were three great friends, though "People who pay for a thing Willie and Harry were boys, and Crusoe was only a dog, but that

One day Crusoe lay in the sun then a sharp blow, and starting up quickly what did he see but sensible dog was shocked and indignant, and what do you think he did? He sprang right in between them, then separating them, bit each of them sharply!

He evidently thought both deserved punishment, and did not

THE SUN

AU

ABSALOM 2 841 David's doub

ly repented of. of God, but i been worked had to be end predicted, 2 Sa came the sham of his heir and 13: 1, etc., and grateful treach death of his fa all the natural vid's sin agains

Absalom-far

of David by Ma ess. He aven his sister Tam half-brother Au the event, 2 Sa the court of his at Geshur, whe years, 2 Sam. allowed to retur he lived two Sam. 14: 23-28 by David, and plotting his reb limits of the ki before had bee and Beer-sheba David reigned r Egypt to the Eu on the west to and from all th this vast empire exacted." Gesh of Bashan in Sy the mother of and where sti father Talmai, a descendant Anak, Nnm. brother of foolish Bathsheba, 2 Sa a man highly e dom, 2 Sam, 16 privy councillor treacherously to lom. Slighted mitted suicide. only suicide in except in war. mountains of So 15: 51, the native of Ahithophel, v the Gilonite.

EXPL Chariots, ordin phal processions abroad only on h iots and horses w itation of the pon Men to run before go before and a riot; cf. 1 King ners could go Early, when man going in and out where men asser Ruth 4: 1, and th to hear and jud Deut. 25: 7. Co ing pretence of each one. Thy each one that his is no man, better. thee, from the ki excited a teeling of David. ()h that, only king! Ube as the king's son. would not allow down before him kissed them as e

Forty years, a " tour years." sacrificial feast. to have vowed. pet, which was to volt, and to proc! Simplicity, innoc know anything Volt. Sent for, Ahithophel, perha been estranged count of David's granddaughter. the meaning that him to be present David said, etc., prepared against rection, there being in time of peace. David wished to s

horrors of a siege PRACTICAL 1. Every sin be 2. God's judgm but it will surely 3. Ambition for multitude of evils 4. Uprightness

pularity. 5. Flatterers ar

6. A son who w will do other wi densed from Schola

PACKING BUT The style in wh ed and marketed with its sale that and shippers are Boston market t preference for a n white ash or spr from thirty-one to it always sells t tubs should be we before filling with the top. Cover the of clean new bles soaked in brine, a down at the edge. ter and getting it meatness is indispe that it pays. Nev in the same packa or streaked butter and at low prices. salt you can find. orrectly.