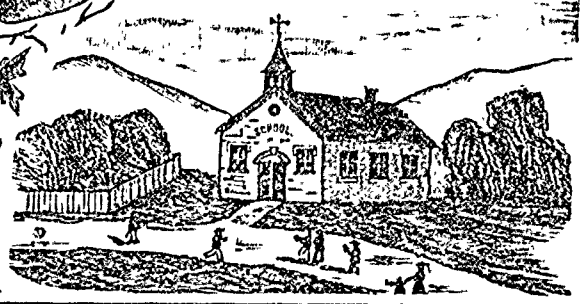
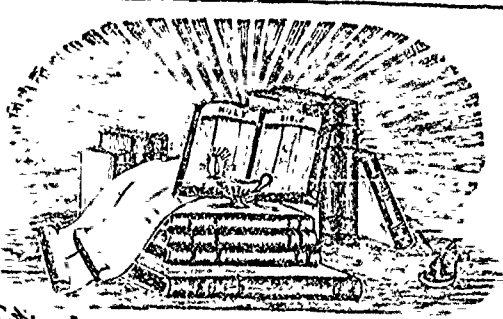


HOME SCHOOLS.



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[No. 8.

One Week in Heaven.

One week in heaven! Oh, who can say,
 What joys, what wonders were revealed,
 When through the pearly gates the day
 Of endless joy her eyes unsealed!
 'Twas Sabbath when she passed away;
 Gently was loosed the "silver cord,"
 The angel more in heaven that day
 Entered the mansion of our Lord;
 'Twas the same day her Saviour rose,
 Fittest for death of all the seven;
 Now His fond care and love she knows
 One week in heaven!

Another harp and golden crown,
 Another robe of spotless white,
 Another angel voice floats down
 From heavenly hosts in realms of light.
 Larger she joins the heavenly choir
 In praises to the eternal Son;
 But our sad voice can rise no higher
 Than meekly cry, "Thy will be done."
 To call her back we would not pray,
 Though 'tis our mother given;
 Her night's exchanged for endless day—
 One week in heaven!

What the Blind Can Do.

Did you ever see a Bible for the blind? Here is a picture of a blind man reading one with the tips of his fingers. Fifty years ago there was not one in the world who could do that, for it was not till 1836 that the New Testament was printed for the blind in any language. Since that time the New York Bible Society alone has printed thirteen thousand three hundred and sixty-three Bibles, and parts of the Bible, in the raised type which the blind can read; and there have been many other works printed in it—histories, geographies, and other school-books, "Pilgrim's Progress," Lockens' "Old Curiosity Shop," Milton's poems, and many, many more. But these books in large raised letters like ours have been found to take up a great deal of room, and besides, when one has used them a while, the tips of his fingers grow calloused, and cannot feel out the shape of letters so easily as he could at first; so now those who love and care for the blind have made another alphabet for them, which they think will



WATCHING THE BLIND MAN READ.

suit them better. Shall I tell you about it? It is called the "Point Alphabet," and the blind, by pricking points through paper, can write it as well as read it. If you will imagine that these dots are raised points, I will show you some of the letters. Here is a b c d e f g, etc. For and

this is the sign :: and for the, this, . . . I will write out for you the words "God is love," and you can prick them on a piece of paper, and then shut your eyes and see if you can feel out their sweet meaning. Where are they to be found in the Bible? You must be sure to prick backward—i.e., from right to

left—so that when you turn the paper over you can read them from left to right.

These five points which come at the end mean *period*; sometimes a space of the same length is left instead. When a blind boy wishes to write this language, he has a little frame like a slate which holds his paper, and over this is fitted a sort of wire screen, which divides four lines at a time into four lines of little squares, all of the same size. He does not use pencil or pen, but with a blunt awl pricks one, two, three, or four little holes, as the case may be, in the corners of the wire squares. When he has written four lines, he moves the screen on which his hand rests down the page till two little pegs at its edges drop into two little holes in the frame, made expressly for them. Then he writes some more. A good deal harder work than yours with the copy-book, is it not? But he is very proud and happy to find that he can not only write this way, but can read what he has written. When he studies arithmetic, he has a slate with little square hollows all over it, and little pegs to put in them. Turned one way, this peg means 1; give it another turn, it means 2; another, 3; another, 4. Now turn its other end up for 5, 6, 7, 8, and take the two ends of another peg for 9 and 0. Now, you see, he can "do sums" without seeing them; but isn't that a curious way to cipher?

Blind people can learn many things besides book knowledge. Basket-weaving can be beautifully done by them, and they can make the cane seats of chairs. There are thousands and thousands of blind mechanics. God has given blind people a keen sense of touch, which makes them able to do many wonderful things.

A blind man named John Metcalf lived in England about a century ago, and though "Blind Jack" could not see at all, he planned and built more than two hundred miles of roads, and often served as guide for strangers