

count's face grew cold and satirical. Lottie looked pale and sullen, and De Forrest was evidently disgusted. Mr. Dimmerly sidged in his seat, and even complacent Mrs. Marchmont seemed a little ruffled and disturbed, while her daughter Addie was in a state of irritable protest against both preacher and sermon. Poor Bel was merely frightened and conscious-stricken, her usual condition after every sermon to which she listened.

As, during the brief remnant of the service, Hemstead dropped down into consciousness of the world around him, he felt at first, rather than saw, the chill he had caused, instead of a glow answering to his own feelings. As he looked closer, he imagined he detected a gloomy and forbidding expression on the faces turned toward him. The Gospel—the message of good news that he had brought—appeared to shadow the audience like a passing cloud.

After dismissal, the people aroused themselves as from an oppressive dream. The few greetings and congratulations that he received as he passed down the aisle seemed formal and constrained, and, he thought, a little insincere. He was still more puzzled as he overheard Miss Martell say to Harcourt at the door:

"I am sorry you heard that sermon."

"I am, too," he replied, "for it seemed true."

"It's only a half-truth," she said earnestly.

"The Lord deliver me, then; this half is more than I can stand."

Lottie scarcely spoke during the drive home, and Hemstead noted, with pain, that her face had a hard, defiant look. It occurred to him that he had not seen any one who appeared as if they had enjoyed the service.

There were long pauses at the dinner-table, and after one of the longest, Mr. Dimmerly abruptly remarked, in his sententious manner:

"Well, nephew, I suppose you gave us a powerful sermon this morning. It has made us all deucedly uncomfortable, anyhow. But I've no doubt the old rule holds good, the worse the medicine is to take the more certain the cure."

Lottie's response to this remark was a ringing laugh, in which the others, in the inevitable reaction from the morbid gloom, joined with a heartiness that was most annoying to the young clergyman.

"You must excuse me, Mr. Hemstead," said she, after a moment, "I have had the blues all day, and have reached that point where I must either laugh or cry, and prefer the former at the dinner-table."

Hemstead stiffly bowed as his only response. He was too chagrined, puzzled and disappointed, to venture upon a reply, and after this one lurid gleam of unnatural mirth, the murky gloom of the day seemed to settle down more heavily than before.

After dinner De Forrest tried to secure Lottie's society for the afternoon. The refusal was kind, not careless as was often the case formerly. Indeed her whole manner toward him might be characterized as a grave, remorseful kindness, such as we might show toward a child or an inferior that we had wronged somewhat.

De Forrest, finding that Lottie would persist in going to her room, went to his also, and took a long, comfortable nap.

Bel wanted to talk about the sermon, but as Lottie would not talk about anything, she too, soon forgot her spiritual anxieties in sleep.

But Lottie sat and stared at her fire, and Hemstead, deserted by all, stared at the fire in the parlour: and both were sorely troubled and perplexed.

(To be continued.)

HINTS FOR YOUNG MOTHERS.

The three requisites for babies are plenty of sleep, plenty of food, plenty of flannel. The saying that man is a bundle of habits is as true of babies as it is of grown children. If an infant is accustomed from its birth to sleep from 6 o'clock at night till daylight, the habit of early sleep will be formed, and the mother may have all the evenings to herself.

If the baby sleeps all night, a long morning nap will naturally come about dinner-time, after which the child, except when very young, should be kept awake until six o'clock. Perseverance in this routine will soon result in securing quiet evenings for both the child and the parent.

Some mothers have a long season every morning and every night in getting the baby asleep. They rock them and sing to them till Morpheus unfolds them. With most children this is entirely unnecessary. An infant can be accustomed, by a few days' training, to go to sleep itself for a morning nap as well as for the longer rest at night.

A mother has duties to herself as well as to her offspring. While she should exercise a constant care in securing its utmost physical comfort, she should secure rest and recreation for herself. In no other way can she keep fresh in feeling and buoyant in spirit. Nothing is so wearing as the unceasing tending of a fretful baby.

Every means should be employed to aid the child in taking care of itself and giving as little trouble as possible. It may learn in babyhood to amuse itself with toys or by watching movements going on around it.

Fashion as well as good sense requires infants' dresses to be made with long sleeves, and high in the neck. Fashion requires children of all ages to be warmly clad. Flannel should encase the whole body, with the exception of the head and hands. The fruitful cause of colic in infants is the nakedness of their necks and arms.

Regularity in feeding is as important as either of the other requisites. Babies cry as often from being overfed too frequently as from hunger. Let the mother obey the dictates of common sense in this matter and not force food into a baby's stomach for every little complaint it makes.

Children of three or four years old need much more sleep than they usually have. For irritable and nervous children sleep is a specific, and it can be secured to them only by the force of habit. Many light forms of disease may be cured by keeping a child in a uniform temperature and in quiet. Let the young mothers who read this article experiment upon these few suggestions, and we are sure they will have many an hour in the nursery for reading and thought.—E.R.

IS IT YOUR BOY?

We have before us as we write, a dozen or so of those periodicals which fill our news-stands and are thrust into our faces in the cars, weekly papers intended mainly for the perusal of young men and boys. They are for the most part very coarsely printed, are illustrated with pictures most roughly done, and are in exterior almost as unattractive to any person of taste as their contents are impure and debasing.

The staple contents of most of these papers are the stories. These vary in character, of course, according to the audience supposed to be reached. Sometimes they are of border adventures. Indians, herdsmen—ruffians of every grade taking prominent parts. Sometimes they are stories of pirates and mutineers, sometimes of train-wreckers. Thieves, bandits, cut-throats, figure largely in these tales. There is generally some hapless maiden to be rescued, and superhuman feats of strength and daring are done that she may be released or saved from peril. If a boy is the hero of the story, he has a sagacity perfectly wonderful in one so young; he has a courage that never falters; he has endurance that never gives way; he has a versatility of gifts that fits him for every emergency. He always comes out best.

Such utterable improbable stories as are here told are bad enough, in the sadly distorted and wretchedly untrue views of life and the objects of living which they present. A mind nourished on this sort of food soon becomes diseased—all fine and noble and pure sentiments blunted. But stories are not the worst features of many of these papers. They pander to lust. They are not so openly obscene as to be actionable. But they do go just as near the border as they dare. And unquestionably they *seduce*, even if they do not give expression to lustful thoughts, and so lead to lustful deeds. They are not papers that any young man in our families would want that his mothers or sisters should see. They are not papers that any young man can himself read and not be defiled. Crimes against purity are often illustrated with a show of indignation, to be sure, against the perpetrator. But the effect is of course, to suggest scenes of impurity to the imagination, and when it gets to work in this direction it runs riot. When such crimes have been perpetrated, it is necessary that the officers of the law be made cognizant of them. Fathers and mothers should know what perils are about their children, that being forewarned they may be forearmed. But so far from their being the slightest need that young men and boys should know anything about these revolting crimes, it is to be deplored that such occurrences are given even the inconspicuous paragraph in the daily newspaper. How much worse is it when, with picture and all possible detail, such crimes are spread before the eyes of this class! The effect can be only disastrous. *V. F. Christ-ian Week.*

THE Princess Alice devoted the greater part of the allowance made to her by the British nation at the time of her marriage to various works of benevolence. One of these was the establishment of the Alice Hospital at Darmstadt, with a training school for nurses attached, and another an asylum for idiots, and there was also an orphan relief association, industrial schools for women and other objects which her death leaves unprovided for. It is proposed by her subjects to raise a fund for the perpetual endowment of the charities which she created.

Extremes are to be avoided. A great many persons talk more than they ought to. There are superintendents who overdo the talking business before their schools. There are prayer-meeting talkers who never let a chance slip for getting in a word. And oh! how many persons there are who wish that that one unfortunate remark of theirs had been left unsaid! But there is such a thing as not talking enough. Here comes the story, from one direction, of a woman in Georgia who did not speak a word for twenty years; and from another direction, of a man in Northern New York who spoke only twice in fifty years. "The tongue is an unruly member," but it is hardly fair to give it no play at any time. It is better to have it trained than tied. Almost anybody ought to think of something worth saying as often as once in five or ten years; and after due deliberation they should say it.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East Indian missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy, for the speedy and permanent cure of consumption, bronchitis, catarrh, asthma, and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, with full directions for preparing and using, in German, French, or English. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. Sherar, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N.Y.

A SICK SENATOR.

The excessive corpulence of a certain United States Senator has long been the butt of editorial wit and spicy *bon mots* from the pens of Washington correspondents. Few persons have suspected that his obesity was a disease, and liable to prove fatal. Yet this is the sad fact. Excessive fatness is not only a disease in itself, but one liable to generate other and more serious ones. Chemistry has at last revealed a safe, sure, and reliable remedy for this abnormal condition of the system in Allan's Anti-Fat. Distinguished chemists have pronounced it not only harmless but very beneficial to the system, while remedying the diseased condition. Sold by druggists.

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BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE contributions to Foreign Missions in Great Britain last year were \$5,503,965.

A CINCINNATI engineer has contracted to build a narrow-gauge railroad from Jaffa to Jerusalem.

It is rumoured that the Pope contemplates establishing a new Roman Catholic diocese in Wales.

A GREAT pavilion, to seat from 6,000 to 8,000 people, is to be ready for the next summer meetings at Chautauqua.

MR. SPIRIGLON has arrived at Mentone, France, and his health is stated to have already considerably improved.

THE receipts of the American Home Missionary Society for January were over \$41,000, the largest of any month in its history.

KEY WEST, Fla., is rejoicing in the discovery of sponge of superior quality in its harbour, which it had supposed was extinct there.

THE seventh General Conference of the Evangelical Alliance will be held at Basle, Switzerland, beginning August 31, and continuing a week.

MR. JOSEPH COOK'S Boston lectures reach weekly over 500,000 readers, being published in Boston, New York, Chicago, London, and Glasgow.

THE RE is great distress among the Jews at Jerusalem this winter; there has been little rain, prices are very high, and business is at a standstill.

THE Connecticut Legislature, by a unanimous vote, has prohibited the sale of liquors, wine, or lagerbeer in any part of their beautiful statehouse.

ONE of the Chinese officials at the Centennial Exhibition, since his return home, has published an account of his travels in the United States, in four volumes.

THE Maine Legislature, by a decided vote, has defeated the Druggists' Bill, which was believed to be a wily effort to reopen the liquor trade in that state.

THE native Christians on Formosa, who were heathens ten years ago, recently contributed \$500 for the relief of the famine in Northern China.

THE number of native Christians in China at different periods is reckoned to have been 351 in 1853, 1,974 in 1863, 5,745 in 1868, and 13,035 in 1877.

THE English Bible and Prayer Union, established for the consecutive and simultaneous reading of the Word of God, begins its fourth year with over 61,000 members in all quarters of the globe.

THE American missionaries of the Foo Chow Methodist mission, China, are soon to leave the coast and go into the interior, the native members of the Conference being fully able to carry on the work.

A FUND to perpetuate the memory of the late Princess Alice is to be raised, the sums to be devoted to the enlargement of the Alice Hospital at Darmstadt, founded by her, and for the Orphanages there.

POPE LEO has forbidden the traffic in relics, which he truly says has become an abuse. Now, if he will go a step farther and forbid his followers to adore them, he will free them from the guilt of a greater "scandal," amounting often to absolute idolatry.

THE Secretaries of the American Presbyterian Board of Home Missions state that on February 1st they were \$90,000 in debt, and that their expenses for the next two months before the close of their fiscal year will be \$45,000 in addition. They appeal earnestly for the removal of the debt.

THE Methodist Missionary Society has received the cheering news from Japan that sixty-two persons have united with their church at Nagasaki, among whom were prominent merchants and well-known citizens, that a church has been organized at Sapporo, and that twenty-eight professed their faith in Shinshu.

DR. STUART ROBINSON recently delivered a lecture before the Young Hebrews Association of Louisville, Ky., on the credibility and authenticity of the Bible. The "Jewish Messenger" says, "It is significant when Christian clergymen appear before Jewish audiences in defence of the Old Testament."

THE Rev. R. Workman was brought before the Belfast Presbytery recently for introducing a harmonium into his church, and stood his ground well, defending his position on grounds of Scripture and Christian liberty. It is hinted that this year's offence will be made the subject of a complaint to the General Assembly.

AN association has been formed in Dublin, called "The Presbyterian Association," for the advancement of Presbyterianism especially among young men. It has a membership of 361, has raised \$20,000 for a hall and rooms, and has pledged for \$5,000 more on condition that the \$10,000 still needed be raised during the present year.

A STUDENT'S Missionary Society has been formed in connection with the Theological College of the Presbyterian Church of England. Its object is to promote among the students an interest in missionary enterprise at home and abroad. Papers are to be read, or addresses delivered, at monthly meetings during the college session; and funds are to be raised for the practical promotion of mission effort, with special reference to the foreign field.

M. ANASTASIOU, Minister of Education at Athens, Greece, has offered Madame Sakalarius, the wife of a Baptist missionary, permission to reopen her school there on condition that either a picture of the Virgin is hung up in it or that a Greek priest is permitted to teach the children the catechism daily. The offer was refused. This school, largely attended by poor children, was closed by the Government three years ago because Madame Sakalarius refused to teach the Greek Catechism in it. The Protestant missionaries declare that there was more religious liberty when the country was under Turkish rule than there is at present.