OUR HOME CIRCLE.

THE SKEIN WE WIND. BY GEORGE KLINGLE.

If you and I to-day, Should stop and lay Our life-work down, and let our hands fall where they will--Fall down to lie quite still,-

And if some other hand should come and stoop to find
The threads we carried, so that it could wind, Beginning where we stopped; if it should

Our life-work going; seek To carry on the good design Distinctively made yours, or mine, What would it find?

Some work we must be doing; some so exalts Itself that we look up to it or down,

As to a crown To bow before, and we weave threads Of different lengths and thickness -- some mere shreds-

And wind them round Till all the skein of life is bound Sometimes forgetting at the task To ask.
The value of the threads, or choose Strong stuff to use. No hand but winds some thread It cannot stand quite still till it is dead. But what it spins and winds a little skein. trod made each hand for work—not toil stain is required, but every hand. Spins, though but ropes of sand.

If Love should come,
Stooping above when we are done

Stooping above when we are That we have held, that it may spin longer but find shreds That break, when touched, how cold, livering, portionless, the hands will The broken strand and know Fresh cause for woe.

YOUNG ASSOCIATES.

BY A CHRISTIAN MERCHANT.

There are but few parents who seem to fully realize the danger their children are in from evil associations and companionships at a time of life when it is generally considered that a child has nothing that requires especial attention on the part of father or mother, except ats physical development, protection from disease and childish gratification, or play.

There are no pains spared to protect the health of the body against contagious diseases; but there is often little or no thought about the whose success his restoration to danger the child's moral character liberty depended, was in Holland, or spiritual nature is in from contamination by a nurse, or servant, whose example and impulses, or, perhaps, immorality of conduct, is traught with much greater danger to its future well-being and happiness, than any contagious disease could be to its physical development or bodily growth. A child's disposition and character begins to develop very young, and I believe that most of the evil-disposed children of moral or Christian parents to communicate with the army of ing? Impossible! I never am begin the downward career, or ra- his countrymen and its Generals, direction, before they are six years old, and hence I believe that proper care on the part of the parent to see that the natural evil propensities, and inherited temperament or disposition, are corrected, and brought under subjection before that age is reached, will result, in nine cases out of ten, in their ceasing to have Dutch nation. control; and if the character of the child's associates and playmates are 4ree from contaminating influence up to ten years of age, there will be but little danger of its going astray from the path of virtue, becoming deceitful, or having an ungovernable temper, when grown to manhood or womanhood.

There are very many parents who are considered good, moral members of society who will pet and praise a bright forward child, and who will laugh at and encourarge a selfish or combative spirit in a little child, who little think that they are encouraging the formation of a character that will cause their little loved one to be imbued with a talse idea of its own importance, and cause the formation of characteristics that will develop in habits of life that will hinder the future happiness of both child and parents.

The one great cause why so many children of parents who are in good elroumstances, temporally, prove tife-failures is, in my opinion, because of ideas of life derived from the narses or servants to whom the mother delegated their care when Tafants and very young children; and then the views of life that most, ple, while their souls are so needy. of the associates and playmates of that class of children entertain are calculated to give them the impression that their parents' standing and social position entitles them to a life of indolence and luxury, and they become often dependences We haven't much money. The few and profligates, when, if the mother many profligates, when, if the mother much money on hand will be a sell for twenty-five or thirty dollars only. morat training and Inculcation of Every man as he purposeth in true principles and views of life to his heart so let him give; not then have grown up a blessing to themselves and the society she sacrificed their welfare to enjoy.

There is often a disposition to Some have thought we might get send very you, g children to school, up a supper, and a few charades—and to cram the brain with intellect strictly moral ones, of course—or an tual knowledge that, in my opinion apron festival, or some thing of the is a great mistake I believe that kind and thus make a hundred dolthe morat character and disposition lars instead of swenty-five, with

very much more important question thau what it knows.

The first impressions of life that all things. a child receives should be imparted by its own parent, or by one whose religious and moral character is above reproach, and no parent that evil tendencies are "nipped in

The means for acquiring an education are now so ample that I believe the health as well as the morals of our children would be imkept at home, and under the perso- | darkness?'nal care and instruction of parents, until at least eight or ten years old; and I think that no child should in all schools until that age is do not agree with us?" reached.

We cannot begin too early in noting the inherited characteristics and disposition of our children, and it behoves us to see that the spiritual and moral nature of our children is preserved from contamination by associates and playmates. as much as it does for us to see that poison is not taken for foed, or health destroyed by contagion.-N. Y. Witness.

RUINED BY A SPIDER.

Spiders crawling more abundant ly and conspicuously than usual upon the indoors walls of our houses foretell the near approach of rain; but the following anecdote inti-mates that some of their habits are equally certain indication of frost being at hand. Quartermaster Disjonval, seeking to beguile the tedium of bis prison hours at Utrecht, had studied attentively the habits of the spider; and eight years of imprisonment had given him leisure to be well versed in its ways. In December, of 1794, the French army, on and victory seemed certain if the frost, then of unprecedented severity, continued. The Dutch Envoy had failed to negotiate a peace, and Holland was despairing, when the frost suddenly broke. The Dutch were now exulting, and the French Generals prepared to retreat; but the spider warned Disjonval that the thaw would be of short duration, and he knew that his weather mon. itor never deceived. He contrived who duly estimated his character. within a few days the water would again be passable by troops. They delayed their retreat. Within twelve days frost had returnedthe French army triumphed. Disionval was liberated; and a spider had brought down ruin on the

THE DORCAS SOCIETY.

'The Ladies' Sewing Circle will meet in the small vestry on Wednesday, at 2 o'clock, p. m. A large attendance is desired, as business of importance is to come before the meeting.'

So read the minister that drowsy midsummer Sabbath afternoon.

Almost instantly imagination travelled backward over nearly two thousand years, and I seemed to see before me a woman-one who has become immortalized as a maker of garments for the poor-conversing with a preacher of the gospel.

'I found,' she is saying, 'that there were a number beside myself nterested in this work, and we met occasionally to sew for the poor. We find the suggestions and encouragement we can give each other a great help. We have found it best to organize a society with officers and rules.'

St. Paul smiles approvingly, as he replies, " Let all things be done decently and in order.'

with We cannot be contented with working for the bodies of these peo-We want to belp them spiritually. For the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which

are not seen are eternal.' 'Now, we want to help about that new church you are building. sell for twenty-five or thirty dollars

loveth a cheerful giver.' There's a little matter that I

ality, who say they can see no harm early brought under subjection, and jurge the performance of what they ments of such a character as shall gratify the worldly tastes of outsiders, and thus draw them in.

'What fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And proved and advanced if they were what communion hath light with

'You do not think it desirable, Cleveland Leader. then, to give up our own convictions of right to gratify the unconbe subjected to the evil contam- verted? But what shall we do conmations that more or less exist cerning those of our number who

· Be not overcome of evil; but overcome evil with good. For the grace of God . . . hath appeared . . . teaching us that, deny= ing ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world.'

'Your words have strengthened me much, Brother Paul, but there is another harmful tendency creeping into our society—that of evil speaking. Some of the members are jealous, and some are sensitive. What can we do?'

"Above all things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints: neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient. but rather giving of thanks.'

Women, you know are proverbially great talkers. Will you not give us some short, simple rule to guide us in this matter?"

'Let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ.'

'This talk has done me a world of good. I believe it possible for a sewing society to be an influence for good; not necessarily a place where worldliness and evil tempers are fostered. I mean to do all in my power to make ours what it was designed to be—a help to the church.' The grace of the Lord Jesus

Christ, and the leve of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.'

I started! Was it possible that it was my minister's voice and not that of St. Paul pronouncing the benediction? Had I been dreamguilty of napping inchurch. Though I had lost a good fermon. I think it and relied upon his assurance that was not wholly in vain that I attended church that afternoon. Truly imagination is a wonderful faculty. -Zion's Herald.

WHAT DRINK CAN DO.

A highly respectable physician is authority for the following story of almost unbelievable depravity: An port upon the work of his daughter -his only child. He was not worthy of that support ,and he was a slave to the most hideous of harsh masters-the whiskey-bottle. He

in the mind of a parent. In other great Apostle assumes a serious liquor. At night, when the rum words, what a child is should be a expression. Gravely he replies,— craving came on strongest, the old Abstain from all appearance of man secured a horse and wagon, evil.' Godliness is profitable unto drove to the grave where his dead daughter was buried, dug up the daughter was buried, dug up the moniously adjusted in our various own country are called Home with you, but there are earth, tore the emaciated body from moniously adjusted in our various own country are called Home with the signature of the si some who admit that these things its resting place and conveyed it relations, can be assured that the sionaries; and others are call continued We may yet Foreign Wissionaries; may not conduce to greater spiritu- away to the storage-room of a medi- ease will continue. We may yet Foreign Missionaries. cal college. He sold it there for a have to dwell among the rocks, and should fail to see that the will is in them. Some even go so far as to miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the cataracts but a little way aries go?" asked Winnie. miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance—a few dollars hear the catalacte out a miserable pittance consider a duty-to give entertain- kneel down before the frightful idol to whom he had offered up health, happiness, home, his only child, and his own soul. Humanity so sunk is happily seldom seen. With the price of his faithful daughter's body, that man, the physician says, is even now debanching himself .-

SUNWARD. He that hath the Son, hath life."-John v, 12 Strong Elder-Brother-Son of God! I kiss thy glistening garments' fold, And follow where its hem of gold Transfigures with its touch the sod, I marvel at the Love that laid Unon itself the nameless woe That broke thy human heart to know, Yet, knowing, left thee undismayed. But more I marvel that the Love Which yielded to the touch of death

The Life of life below-above. O Life, how limitless thy day! I float upon the blessed air A mote—yet conscious of thy care, While earth and shadows drift away. Mary A. Lathbury.

Still lives -of all that lives the breath-

THE MOUNTAINEER'S

A lady unused to the rough travelling of a mountain land went thither to make her home, and received from one of her new friends this bit of advice : She had been telling of her faintness when guiding her horse through a deep ford where the water run swiftly and the roar was incessant, and said she feared she would never be able to overcome the abject physical terror which dominated her whenever she found herself in the strong current midway between the banks.

"Oh, yes, you will," said her companion. "Just take a leaf in your mouth and chew it, and as you ride across, keep your eyes on the

other side."

When I heard this, I thought there was a lesson in it for myself and perhaps for others. The leaf in the mouth, a simple thing and at first glance unnecessary, nevertheless had a meaning, and I soon discerned it-occupation, diversion of the mind from an unreasoning fear, something to attract attention from fright and peril half unconsciously. The look over and beyond the flood was emblematic of the power of faith, which enables us to go forward, no matter how environed with difficulties, because we are not dwelling as much on the present distress as on the joy that is set be-How often we are encompassed,

beset and thoroughly perplexed by the contrary circumstances of our lives! Going up stream is hard old man in this city depends for sup- work when everything about is combining to drag us down. are a young Christian, and have resolved by the help of our Divine Saviour to live singly and consistently for him. But your home influmade no effort to earn an honest ences tend to worldliness, to money living for himself, although able of making, to securing social position limb and sound of mind, but was an or to stepping higher in the sight almost constant dweller at whiskey of men. They who love you most shops and loafing corners. His tenderly set stumbling blocks in daughter went out to sew, and her your path, and your household affather compelled her, every day, to fections strive against your spiritugive him a quarter to buy liquor. ality. Do not grieve about it. Take With that money he always went the leaf in your mouth. It may be out in the evening to blow his coin, the leaf of Bible study. A sweet his health and his brains into whis- verse in the morning, read, thought key jugs, leaving his child, tired and over and assimilated, is a wondertearful, in a frequently cold and ful onward helper. It may be the dark house. By her toil she secur- leaf of unobtrusive humility, for ed a sewing machine, and did her you are tempted to pride and Phar- looked at me firmly and said, 'Mumsewing at home. She did every- isaism more than you are aware. thing in her power to draw her It may be the leaf of gentle effort I knew not what to say. I wanted father out from the folds of the for the Master, in the Flower Mismonster that with a thousand arms sion, in the invalid's chamber, in was dragging him down. The the daily homely house-work or in neighbors reasoned with him and the Sunday-school. Take the leaf, scolded but with to avail. He re- and remember to keep your eyes gularly slept in a gutter, or crawl- on the other side-the bright side ed home from some saloon, in the | -where the day dawns and the morning, to bear to his poor girl shadows flee away. You are the the sight of "the old man drunk head of a family, or you are a man again." One day, when all the in a place of responsibility, with streets of Cleveland were covered others depending on you for direcwith ice, the daughter slipped and tion. You cannot swerve by a hair's fell near the public source. She breath from your integrity without was picked up badly injured, and bloing fireparable injury to many carried to one of the hospitals, interests, Sometimes you are press-Her full was too much for her frail ed and pulled and harassed in ways system, weakened and run down by which nobody suspects. Neither increased toil, poor food, cheerless your wife nor your business partner days and nights of sorrow. For nor the people you meet as you go several days she, tossed in fever, to and fro, your pastor nor your inand, although kindly cared for, she timate friend suspects the perils you ther young children, they would grudgingly, or of necessity; for God finalty died. The father missed her are facing. It turns you giddy and daily pittance for rum, and pawned sick, but they go daily on, for your her sewing machine to buy more mountain torrent is to them as a want to ask your advice about liquor. The poor dead girl was silvery brook in the green pasture. buried quietly, no one going to the De not despair. Take the leaf in lies that Mr. White told us about pauper's graveyard except the un- your mouth, the leaf of prevailing dertakers and the father. The prayer, the leaf of stubborn honladies who lived neighbors to the esty or the leaf of brave self-assergirl made a beautiful wreath to be tion, and look, till your weary eyes as well as the ability to control the which to aid your enterprise, the district to be placed there in the grows confident, to the other side temper, should be the first thought. The benign countenance of the grave. The wreath he sold for where all is peace and safety. put on the coffin, and gave it to the grow clear and your feeble heart tell others the story of Jesus."

We ford the most dangerous places in life alone. Others may own country even, who know be near us, but there is solitude thing of Him, besides others sometimes in the midst of company. live in far off lands over the None of us, however easily and har- Those who do not go out of

was working badly, yet the super- putting us in a land where Ha intendent could not tell what was known and reverenced?" the matter. He went from shaft to "Oh! yes, dear mother," cite shaft, from wheel to wheel, from Winnie, flinging her arms aroundle pinion to pinion. He consulted mother's neck, "and I will save and I with the operatives in each depart- pennies and send them to them. ment. He tightened screws, he signaries too. shortened belts, he oiled bearings. "And my darling, when you see But all in vain. At 12 o'clock he your pennies to the mis said to his men, "I am going to send your prayers too" overhaul this machinery; your "Yes, mother, I will," said W wages will go on as usual, but you nie; then she added, "but then need not come back until I whistle must have something to put m for you." They went away. He pernies in." stopped the engine, locked all the doors, and then, alone in the silence | Frank gave you." began to examine every part of the factory. An hour has passed. It is time to begin work, a hundred nie. King David said he would be men are idle and under pay, but no matter; he must find out what the trouble is, and stop it. He keeps the engine still and the doors fast the bank. "And I will wait along until he has finished his examina- time before I open it, and then tion. He finds a defect where he least expected it, where he might not have discovered it until had proved fatal. One of the massive foundation stones had settled, and she said, "to begin the year anen." thrown everything out of plumb, She counted her money and found and of course slightly out of gear. This defect was promptly remedied, and then all worked well again. Those were costly hours to the owner of the factory, and yet they were profitable. By being alone with the machinery the superintendent saved it from rack and rain.

Our hearts are like that factory. They are complicated; they are liable to get out of order. It is not easy to discover what is the matter, amid the hurry and bustle of life, with the steam up, and our fellow men around us. We must go alone, enter our closets, and shut the door. There, in consecrated quietness, we must "think ourselves over," We shall find, no doubt, a defect where we least expected it; a pressure of insidious temptation upon some corner-stone that we thought immovable. A sadly neglected duty in our day is self-examination.—Dr. Babb.

SWEARING FATHERS.

Some years ago I asked a lady who had reared a large family of sons, "Did you ever have any great difficulty in training your boys to be good men?" I remember well her reply. "Yes, one: to keep them from swearing. My oldest, little Willie, was my pride, with his large dark eyes, rosy cheeks and waving | believe sick any longer, if I'ven hair, but above all his manly ways. One morning when he was about six years old he was in great glee, riding his rocking-horse. I sat watching him with a happy heart. How proud I was of my noble little stove and washed herself all over. son whom I had striven to train aright. I was congratulating myself on my success, when suddenly he fell from his horse, and from his lips came a great oath. I was shocked to tears. He was not injured but that oath from the mouth of my precious boy, how it hart

"I talked earnestly with him and told him how wicked and unmanly it was to swear, but I could not fail to note the incredulous, half defiant expression in his eye; suddenly he ma, papa said it, and I can say it too!' him to love and respect his father, so I tried to shield or excuse him by explaining to him that his father had no mother to care for him, and learned that wicked habit in his childhood and now in munhood when suddenly angered he sometimes swore before he thought, (which I knew must have been the case when Willie overheard him,) but it was a painful task, and I never could tell how many anxious tearful hours that one bad habit of their father cost me and our sons.

OUR YOUNG POLKS.

WINNIE'S MISSION BOX.

Winnie Field was a bright, interesting little girl of ten years. One day after sitting quite still for some time, a thing quite unusual for her to do, she suddenly said.

" Mother, who are the missionarvesterday ?"

"Missionaries, my child," answered Mrs. Field, " are people who go away from home and friends to

every one knew that;"

"But where do toreign mission

to Europe." "And they leave their friends, ALONE WITH OURSELVES. home to tell the heathen of Jesus "Yes, and do you not think " ought to thank him a great deal

"You have a little blue bank the

Winnie hesitated. "You make expect to practice self-denial, Win give unto the Lord that which one him nothing," said Mrs. Field Winnie ran at once and brought shall be surprised to think how much I have." At the end of the year Winnie opened her back which had grown so very heavy, "so as" she had five dollars and twenty eight cents exactly.

Children, who of you cannot d the same? If you have not the 'bank," take a box instead ar save your pennies as Winnie die If you do not have as much as the remember "Every little helps," and some other girl or boy may him and so even it.

WILLIE WISP'S TEMPER ANCE LECTURE

Mother went to a funeral one day ast spring and left me home alone I went out to the hen-house fo the eggs, and there I saw Spe sitting all humped up, and carried her into the house. I hardly kner what to do, but I remembered what mother does for young lambs when they are chilled, so I warmed the the milk and put in a few drops of whiskey she keeps on purpose for the lambs. I tried to feed Specke some of the stuff with a teaspoon, but she wouldn't eat it. She show her bill, and spattered it all over my velveteen suit. I tried it over and over again, till I was about s speckled as she was; then I gave it up, and carried her back to the her house; and she went to eating com, as much as to say, "I won't make to take that stuff!"

I went back to the house, and tried to make my kitty eat theres of the milk and whiskey. She tast ed of it and then went behind the I wonder if she thought that one

taste made her so dirty. I thought I'd call Bose, and have him cat it. Dogs know something. But Bose only smelled it, and then wouldn't taste it at all.

"Well," I thought, "if hens and cats and dogs know enough not to drink whiskey, it's a pity a boy shouldn't know as much, I made up my mind then and there that I'd never drink, and give folks a chance to say that I was not as wise as a hen, a cat or a dog .-- M. C. W. B. is Youth's Companion.

GOOD MORNING.

Don't forget to say "good more brothers and sisters, your school mates, your teachers and say it cheerfully and with a smile; it will do you good and do your friends good. There's a kind of inspiration in every "good morning heartly spoken, that helps to make hope fresher and work lighter A It seems and to be a prophecy of a good day to come after it. And if this be true of the "good morning," it is also of kind, heartsome greeting.

They cheer the discounted, rest the tired one, somehow make the wheels of life run more smoothly Be liberal with themy then, and let no morning pass, however dark and gloomy it may be, that you do not help at least to brighten by your smiles and cheerful words

Work for Christ will present it self to the willing hands of a real worker as certainly as sig rushes into a vacuum. The man inho says he can find nothing to de for his "The story of Jesus, I supposed Master wants promotion of an easy place, not work.

SUNDAY

THE CALL

The country from the dauge in Egypt, was ites, de scendan wife Keturah kindred to the doubt this, wit primitive faith to seek a refug an act of kinds ated himself in Jethro or Rue given him see and also, acco toms, the head Here, remote tion, the man of Pharaoh, th cess, heir to e sed in the high settled down shepherd, and years without turbing the

life.

How unlike should have ways are not a discipline the servant of Got com: fitted He had show promptness in sentment at w ties most ess the deliverer a But others we patience to wa portunity, for whom God kne soon, discove and rebellious ties were to be ful pastoral li people, often e think of Moses for farty years go out into mission.

There came city of pasture stances, caused further away and he " came even to Horeb. of the whole the northern where Moses his father-in-Here a stra One of the lar

abound in that on fire. The circumstance. was that the b long after it and was yet 1 that which t spot, to ascert strange pheno arrested by a the burning b He was instr. because he ground. In custom to unc uncover the l underlying the it is not exact! the removal of of reverence for rather of Hi there. With shoes is a conf ment, and co stand in the p iness." The was not ordina er spot. It w it so; and his

> about a place house, his nam he manifests Having ma Lord proceeds purposes on had not beer those long yes Lord had only time to inter upon it that him. Then to go and un manding from the Israelites. change that h In genuine h fitness for au

holy. We st

But he was as sence with his in his task, an ple should wo on that very s In asking t vine name, to get special of the names already knows

promise shoul he needed was rection to use bear in itself ment." The express absolu nal being. brew is equiva in form. This substitution The name wh missioned to old; old in vious revelati terpretation, the covenant destined Me Sunday School

'The girls o ducated,' sai a Committee op of Gloucer denied,' retor ever, there is will never fin