

Mr. Luscomb about the Lighthouse, and the expression of the boy's dark, sullen face when they would not take him. She only said quietly:

"I think it will come out right, Winfred. I feel sure you will yet find it pleasant in school. Keep steadily on, like a man, and you will yet find friends, and better ones because you have had to win them!"

It was with such brave and hopeful remarks that she encouraged the orphan. He would catch something of her dauntless spirit, and go to school with new courage to meet coldness and loneliness that every isolated one feels keenly, most of all the child-stranger among a crowd of thoughtless juveniles.

"The boy is learning a grand lesson," Master Graham often said, as he noted his quiet dignity; "he'll beat them all, yet!"

It did not seem much like it as the days wore on, and Calvin kept his grudge alive with a persistency that would have honoured a good cause.

His bold, daring spirit and a decided talent for making play intense made Calvin Watkins a leader among the boys. He went into a game with such earnestness that it gave a rare flavor that the others appreciated. And then he branched out in so many entertaining ways, embellishing and adding to old-time sports, until the boys were fascinated. "Seems as if our Cal just added them all!" Mr. Watkins often growled, as he found some of them always about. "All that 'ere boy's fit fur is to lead off on some wild Ingin caper that don't bring in no bread 'n' butter."

(To be continued.)

A GERMAN TRAVELLER'S TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN MISSIONARIES.

Prof. Edward Sachau, of the University of Berlin, in his recently published "Reise in Syrien und Mesopotamien," pays a warm tribute to the American missionaries in Mesopotamia.

The civilizing activity of the Americans extends over almost the entire Tor, and even beyond its limits—e.g., to Sô'ôd, across the Tigris. It centres at Mardin, Midyat, Diarbekr and Harput (a footnote adds, "they have schools at Van and Bitlis also.") If circumstances permit them to work on with the same success as hitherto, they will at no very distant day penetrate from Mosul Uramia, Erzeroum, Harput, Sô'ôd and Djezire, into the interior of Kurdistan and Southern Armenia, send their messengers and physicians through all the valleys of that inaccessible Alpin country, everywhere bring help to suffering humanity, spread Christianity, regard for law and morality, and especially contribute to the elevation, spiritual and material, of the deeply degraded Nestorian and Jacobite Christians. It is a grand and admirable work; and worthy of admiration is the self-sacrifice with which men, women, and girls leave their happy home and spend their whole life in these joyless mountain wildernesses, full of privations as these are, themselves overburdened with exacting work, and not seldom threatened with the greatest danger, and all for the sake of this idea. Verily, if in our time, any movement in behalf of an idea has a claim to the recognition of the rest of the world, it is the work of the American missionaries for the new spiritual birth of Christianity in the East.

I must not omit to mention the fact that the Turkish Government and its subordinates are quite hostile to the Protestant missions, and put all possible hindrances in their way. This example is faithfully copied by the Kurds. The immediate protectors of the Americans in cases of flagrant injustice on the part of the Turks and Kurds, are the English consuls. I think the most effective part of their activity is the medical which is particularly adapted to open the first path to civilization, and show the Oriental the superiority of the foreigner in a way salutary to the former. In the second place I should put the instructions given in numerous schools for boys and girls. They maintain, besides these, normal schools and a medical school at Aintab to educate physicians from the native population. Numerous works are issued from their printing presses in Beirut and at Uramia for the spread of useful knowledge (pp. 22, 423).

These words of tribute gain force and value from the fact that the author is no zealot.

PLEASANT PEOPLE.

We are sometimes surprised to find how many pleasant people there are sojourning upon this planet, and how ready they are to do and say pleasant things, and fill the world with "sweetness and light" for others. Sometimes when we least expect it, when it has seemed to us as if almost everybody was made up on the bias, so to speak, we suddenly happen upon one of these pleasant people, and the cobwebs are all swept out of our heaven and the whole complexion of things is changed. They make a dull day cheerful, they have something of the same effect in a room as an open fire or bouquet of flowers; or they are like the trill of a brook hidden in a still wood, or the unexpected whistle of a bird in early spring.

WHAT MAKES A HOME?

It is an excellent thing to have a well-kept house, finely appointed table; but after all, the best cheer of every home must come from the heart and manner of the home mother. If that be cold, and thus ungracious, all the wealth of India cannot make the home pleasant and inviting. Intelligence, too, must lend its charm if we would have home an Eden. The severe style of house-order neatness seldom leave much margin for intellectual culture; a simpler style of living and house-furnishing would set many a bonded slave at liberty, and add vastly to the comforts of all the household. There are cabin homes that have been and are remembered with pleasure, because of the beautiful, loving presence there; and stately homes without it are but dull and cheerless habitations.

LEFT ALONE.

What did you say, dear? Breakfast?
Somehow I've slept too late.
You are very kind, dear Effie,
Go tell them not to wait.
I'll dress as quick as ever I can,
My old hands tremble sore,
And Polly, who used to help, dear heart!
Lies t'other side of the door.

Put up the old pipe, my dear,
I couldn't smoke to-day.
I'm sort of dazed and frightened,
And don't know what to say.
It's lonesome in the house, here,
And lonesome out of door.
I never knew what lonesome meant
In all my life before.

The bees go humming the whole day long,
And the first Juno rose has blown,
And I am eighty, I am to-day
Too old to be left alone.
O, heart of love, so still and cold!
O, precious lips so white!
For the first sad hours in sixty years
You were out of my reach last night!

I can't rest, now—I cannot rest—
Let the old man have his will,
And wander from porch to garden-post;
The house is so deathly still—
Wander and long for a sight of the gate
She had left ajar for me.
We had got so used to each other, dear—
So used to each other, you see.

Sixty years, and so wise and good!
She made me a better man
From the moment I kissed her fair, young face,
And our lover's life began.
And I held her hand—was it yesterday
That we stood up to be wed?
And—no, I remember; I'm eighty to-day,
And my dear wife Polly is dead!

COMPENSATION.

The truest words we ever speak
Are words of cheer.
Life has its shade, its valleys deep;
But round our feet the shadows creep,
To prove the sunlight near.
Between the hills those valleys sleep—
The sun-crowned hills,
And down their sides will those who seek
With hopeful spirit, brave though meek,
Find gently flowing rills.

For every cloud, a silvery light;
God wills it so.
For every vale a shining neight;
A glorious morn for every night;
And birth for labour's throe.
For snow's white wing, a verdant field;
A gain for loss.
For buried seed, the harvest yield;
For pain, a strength, a joy revealed,
A crown for every cross.

A SAILOR'S DESCRIPTION OF HIS BRIDE.

A member of the Seaman's Association, lately married, is reported to have given to his comrades the following description of his new craft: "My wife is just as handsome a craft as ever left a milliner's dry dock; is clipper built, and with a figurehead not often seen on a small craft. Her length of keel is five feet six inches, displacement, twenty-seven cubic feet; of light draught, which adds to her speed in the ball-room; full in the waist, spare, trim. At the time we spliced she was newly rigged, fore and aft, with standing rigging of lace and flowers; main-sail part silk, forestaysail of Valenciennes, and stun'sails trimmed with orange-blossoms. Her frame was of the best steel, covered with silk, with whalebone stanchions. The rigging is intended for fair weather cruising. She has also a set of storm-sails for rough weather. I have been told that in running down street before the wind she answers the helm beautifully, and can turn around in her own length if a handsome craft passes."

KARL RICHARD LEPSIUS.

The death of this famous German Egyptologist at the age of eighty-four years is announced. He was a native of Naumburg, on the Saale. After a thorough study of the languages at the University of Leipzig, at the age of twenty-six he devoted himself to the study of Egyptian antiquities, and first attracted attention by the publication of a work on the hieroglyphic alphabet. In 1838, while in England on a mission from the Archaeological Institute of Rome, in company with Bunsen, he projected a great work on Egypt. Frederick William IV. of Prussia sent an expedition with Lepsius at its head, the results of which were very gratifying and important. In 1856 he visited Egypt again to examine the delta of the Nile, when he made important discoveries. He was appointed by the king a professor in Berlin, and in 1872 was placed at the head of the Prussian State Library at Berlin. He wrote many valuable works; the results of his researches, which have high authority.

The seventh and last volume of Spurgeon's "Treasury of David," so long delayed by the state of his health, will be ready for publication before the close of the present year.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

SOME of the medical professors of Vienna are delivering lectures in the English language.

"CHRISTIANITY in its Cradle" is the title of a new work about to be published by Francis W. Newman.

THE agricultural statistics of Ireland continue to show a steady decrease in the number of separate holdings.

A PEAL of bells for St. Nicholas' Church, Aberdeen, is to be supplied by a firm in Belgium, at a cost of \$13,000.

ACCORDING to the London Truth, by far the best cabs plying for hire in London are those belonging to Lord Shrewsbury.

"ORANGE Blossoms: a Marriage Chronicle and Social Review," is the title of a weekly journal, the first number of which was published the other day in London.

IN Geneva it has been distinctly proved that of a hundred cases of family destitution relieved by the local authorities eighty are traceable to the drunkenness of the father.

A lady of Hartford has a young humming-bird which was taken from its nest four weeks ago. The bird has been fed on sugar and water. At her call it will alight on her shoulder.

A San Francisco woman is suing a man for \$10,000 damages, because on the 21st of last month, he promised to marry her within "a reasonable time," and has not yet fulfilled the agreement.

GAMBLING is now the absorbing pastime among a large proportion of the students of the Quarter Latin, Paris, which, since a great boulevard was pushed through it, has lost most of its distinctive features.

MR. FROUDE's further portion of Carlyle's life will deal with the period from 1834 to 1881, the year of Carlyle's death. The volume will be rich in facts relating to living men and current events.

A STEAMER specially constructed for the rough seas on the South American coast has been built for the South American Missionary Society and is to be stationed at Falkland Islands and Terra del Fuego.

IT is announced that a cheap edition of the late Dr. John Young's well-known work "The Christ of History," will soon be published. This will be the seventh edition besides American editions and translations.

DR. SELTZER, in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, recommends beef tea made very hot with red pepper, for delirium tremens. A London surgeon is stated to have treated 150 cases successfully with this remedy alone.

THE daughter of a Banffshire baronet, is this year at the head of the list in the entrance examination for Gurton, and accordingly goes to that ladies' college with a scholarship of \$225 per annum for three years. There were twenty-eight candidates.

THE town of Hove, in England, is wonderfully healthy. The last quarterly return shows that the death rate had been at the low figure of 13.5 per 1,000. There was an entire absence of scarlet fever, diphtheria, fever and diarrhoea in the mortality returns.

THE electric railway at Brighton, in England, is a success. It runs along the shore every ten minutes, picking up passengers as it goes, and can be stopped, when hailed, as easily as an omnibus. Its motion is sliding and pleasant. Its capacity is apparently unlimited.

THE supporters of Mr. Macaskill of Greenock, in Newington church, the late Dr. Begg's, Edinburgh, have made a house-to-house canvass of the congregation in order to bring forward as many as possible to vote for him when the Presbytery moderate in "a call at large."

THE Lancet can see no rational basis for the popular belief that natural mineral waters are better than the artificial. One of its writers mentions the curious fact that "an enormous trade in aerated water has arisen since Byron in 'Don Juan' commended the virtues of soda water."

THE advanced tendencies of the age are shown in the establishment of the Clergy Club in London. On the committee are the canons of Chichester, Westminster, York, Lincoln, and Bristol, with four other clergymen, and only two laymen. The initiation fee is to be five guineas.

THE old-fashioned barber and surgeon is yet to be found in some parts of Germany, but his days are numbered, and under a new law, he must take in his sign within a specified time. Only the old plays will remind us that he could cup, leech, bleed, and pull teeth as well as cut the hair.

IN 1820 two hills of an area of about 800 acres, of almost no agricultural value, on the property of Lord Cawdor, in Scotland, were planted with fir and other trees, and, after successive thinnings, the sale of which realized large sums, the remainder of the wood was sold off for the sum of \$80,000.

THE Presbyterian Synod of Eastern Australia have forcibly expelled three ministers, Revs. P. MacPherson, J. S. MacPherson, and H. Livingstone, but we are not told what their offence is. A fourth minister, Mr. Buntine, said he would go with them. The court consisted of eight ministers and five elders.

THE late Rev. John Selby Watson, M. A., died in Parkhurst convict-prison recently. He was sentenced to be hanged in 1872 for the murder of his wife, but his punishment was commuted to penal servitude for life. He fell from his hammock, and received injuries on the head from the effects of which he died.

THE Chalmers' memorial window in the new West Port Church, Edinburgh, was unveiled lately. There is a bust of Dr. Chalmers in the centre compartment, with a representation of the burning bush above and of the Free college below, in the right division is Kilmany church, and in the left a view of Austruther.