

Our Children's Corner.

A Child's Hymn.

I am a little child, With nothing good in me, But Father, make me grow in grace, Till fit Thy face to see.

A Child's Faith.

Some think that the little child cannot be converted, because he is too young to understand religion. They might just as well say they cannot live on food, because he cannot tell how the grass that feeds the ox is turned into flesh, and then nourishes him.

Every child knows what it is to love his mother; but can he tell you anything more about it than he feels it? Could any man say more?

Every child can take hold of his father's hand, and go with him in the dark; and this is having faith in his father; and he can not tell you what faith is.

A little child once was lost in the woods, and night came on, and it grew dark, and they could not find him for a long time. At last he lay down under a log, cold and afraid, and cried as loud as he dared.

The beautiful rose does not know how the dew of night refresh it and revive it, but they do. The modest lily, that peeps up and catches a few of the bright sunbeams, does not know how they make it white and pure; but they do.

The valley that lies at the foot of the mountain, does not know how the gentle hills that run down the sides of the mountain, bringing out from hundreds of fertile springs, make it bright and fertile; but they do.

The little one does not know how he believes in Christ, and how he lives by faith; but he does. And the tall tree of the forest, and the giant oak on the hill, can no more tell how they are nourished by the rain and the sunshine, than can the willow that grows in the crack of a rock; and the lily tree in the garden and the frail lily are alike, fed, they know not how.

When the child has said that he feels from Christ in his heart, should a Newton, with all his great mind, say more?

The Promise.

As Alice McCarthy came out of the gate at the little parsonage, she found herself face to face with her father. He had been drinking, and usual, and his features were inflamed with heat and anger.

"Where have you been?" he demanded, roughly. "At the minister's Saturday class," answered Alice.

"What were you doing?" "Studying the Bible." "Now look here, girl; I gave you leave to go to school on Sundays, and that's quite enough. I'm not going to have you wasting your time in this way. You can find plenty to do at home, without running round to the parson's so often. Now mind," he added, raising his right hand threateningly, "you don't set your feet there again."

Alice turned tremblingly away, and with a sinking heart bent her steps homeward. To give up her precious Bible class when she was just beginning to feel the value of the lessons she learned there—O! she could not do it. When out of her father's sight, she sat down on the grass and cried, but in the midst of her grief, a verse that had been in the parson's lesson came to her mind—"Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."

"It is God's promise," thought Alice, "and He will keep it. I will call upon Him, and I know that He will deliver me. She knelt in the grass and told her new trouble to Him who listens to the cry of the humble. There was no sound in answer, God did not speak from the clouds, nor send an angel with his reply, but Alice had the sure word of his promise to abide by, and with it she was content—"I will deliver thee."

The week passed away. Alice prayed daily, and walked in peace in an answer. On Saturday morning, as she was busy sewing, her father came in, and a rare thing to see him with pale face. He dropped into the nearest chair and buried his face in his hands.

"Father, what is the matter?" exclaimed Alice. "Peter Hanlan is dead," he groaned; "killed just in a second. He had taken my place a moment before, or else it would have been me."

"O, father!" said Alice, "I am so thankful that it was not you. I know that Peter was a Christian."

She said no more; her father remained silent for a long time, and then said humbly, "Alice, guess, I'll go with you to church to-morrow; and you needn't mind what I said about your Bible class—go, if you like."

"O, I thank you, father!" said Alice, and with a feeling of wondering gratitude, she went to her room, to return thanks to Him who had not only answered her prayer, but given her so much more than she asked for, by inclining her father's heart to listen to the words of eternal life.

It was a precious lesson to Alice. Thereafter, in every trial, every grief, she carried her sorrows to her heavenly Father, and, throughout her life, had often cause to glorify Him who delivered, when she called upon him in the day of trouble.—S. S. Vailor.

Agriculture.

Planting Sorghum—Soaking Seed.

A correspondent of the Prairie Farmer gives the following as the result of his experiments in planting Sorghum.

Until last season I have always planted dry seed, and it has generally taken it four weeks to come up, and very thin at that. When it first comes up it is hard to discover it, or cultivate on ground covered with weeds, as most ground will be so, and it remains undisturbed long enough for dry seed to germinate.

Last spring, hearing that it was better to soak the seed before planting, I commenced by putting it in a pan and pouring warm water upon it; then turning off the surplus water, and setting it under the stove, keeping it warm, and renewing the warm water every day.

I continued this process two or three weeks, when about one seed in a hundred had sprouted. Then I planted upon freshly plowed land, marked both ways, dropping twenty to thirty seeds in a hill. It came up in about two weeks, averaging fifteen stalks in a hill.

The remainder of my ground was similarly prepared, a dry seed planted, using the same amount in a hill. It was planted at the same time. After waiting three weeks for the plants to come up, and finding that not one hill in ten had come up, and in those only one, two or three stalks in a hill, I began to despair of raising a crop, for the season was so advanced that either process would be too late to secure much of a crop.

I then concluded to try the following experiment: I placed about two quarts of seed in a pan, pouring upon it water as warm as I could bear my hand in, and stirred it up well. In the course of a couple of hours changed the water, leaving it in a warm place. The next morning changed the water again, and poured it off, and put the seed in a bag, and buried it in fresh soil, in a warm, sunny place, just deep enough to cover the seed. On taking it out after three days, to my surprise I found all the seed had sprouted—some of them to full an inch. I immediately commenced replanting the ground previously planted with the dry seed. The sprouted seed came up in two or three days.

The experience of the last season convinces me that it is far preferable to soak the seed before planting. Earliness in coming up, in giving the plants the start of the weeds and grass, insuring early cultivation, is of nearly as much importance as early maturity. Soaking the seed accomplishes this.

The Parsnip.

The parsnip is one of the most valuable roots that can be grown. In the island of Jersey it is used almost exclusively for fattening both cattle and swine. According to LeCouteur the weight of a crop varies from thirteen to twenty seven tons per acre.

When parsnips are given to milk cows with a little hay, in the winter season, the butter is found to be of as fine a color and excellent a flavor as when the animals are feeding in the best pastures. As parsnips contain six per cent, more mucilage than carrots, the difference may be sufficient to account for the superior fattening as well as butter-making quality of the parsnip. In the fattening of the cattle the parsnip is found superior to the carrot, performing the business with more expedition and affording more of exquisite and highly juicy forage; the animals eat it with much greediness. The result of experiment has shown that not only in past cattle, but in the fattening of hogs and poultry, the animals become fat much sooner, and are more healthy than feed with any other root or vegetable, and that besides, the meat is more sweet and delicious. The parsnip leaves being more bulky than those of carrots, may be mown off before taking the roots and given to oxen, cows or horses by which they will be greedily eaten. Another thing in favor of parsnips for this country is, that the frost does not injure them. They may remain in the ground until spring, when they make splendid feed, at a time every other kind of root or green thing is scarce, or may be slightly buried, where they can be eaten, but in the fattening of hogs and poultry, the animals become fat much sooner, and are more healthy than feed with any other root or vegetable, and that besides, the meat is more sweet and delicious.

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the roots, and the air is so moist that it does not exhaust the plants by rapid evaporation. But that good shower does not always come at just the desired time; the season is advancing, our plants are full grown, and ought to be in the garden; what shall we do? To do this: provide a number of old boxes, or a few dozen shingles, and have at hand a few pails of tepid water. Having stretched a line, make holes alongside of it, where the plants are to stand, and pour a pint or more of water into each, leaving it to soak away. Take up your plants carefully with a garden trowel, preserving as much dirt as possible around the roots, drawing fine soil around them, and covering the stems a little higher than they stood before. Previous to finishing off, pour about half a pint of water into each hole, and then cover with common dry soil,—though this last watering is not essential. Shield each plant with a box or with shingles from the heat of the sun. The leaves may drop a little for a day or two, but they will revive again, and not a plant be lost. Following this method one can transplant these, and many other plants, whenever he pleases.—Am. Agriculturist.

Will soon disappear by the use of these invaluable pills, which will quickly acquire additional strength. Never let the Bile be either confined or unduly acted upon. It may seem to be the most common fault, but is the cause of Dysentery and Flux, many persons supposing that they would increase the relaxation. This is a great error, for these pills will correct the bile, and stomach, and remove all the acid humors from the system. This medicine will give tone and vigor to the whole organic system. Nothing will so effectually remove the bile as these pills. It will give a pleasantness to the bowels so as to insure a lasting cure.

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FRIENDS AND RELATIVES.

Brave Soldiers and Sailors.

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HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.

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Coughs and Colds affecting Troops.

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Sick Headaches and Want of Appetite, Incurable to Soldiers.

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Weakness or Debility induced by over Fatigue.

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Volunteers Attention! Indiscretions of Youth.

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For Wounds either occasioned by the Bayonet, Sabre or the Bullet.

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Notes & News.

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Why Salt is Healthful.—From time immemorial it has been known that without salt man would miserably perish; and among horrible punishments, entailing certain death, that of feeding culprits on saltless food, is said to have prevailed in barbarous times.

Maggot and corruption is spoken of by ancient writers as the distressing symptoms which salissae food engenders, but no ancient, or unchemical modern, could explain how such sufferings arose. Now we know why the animal craves salt; why it suffers discomfort, and why it ultimately falls into disease if salt is for a time withheld. Upwards of half the saline matter of the blood (67 per cent) consists of common salt; and as this is partly discharged every day through the skin and kidneys, the necessity of continued supplies of it to the healthy body, becomes sufficiently obvious. The bile, also, contains soda as a special and indispensable constituent, and so do all the cartilages of the body. Stint the supply of salt, therefore, and neither will the life be able properly to assist the digestion, nor the cartilages to be built up again as far as they naturally waste.—Prof. Johnston.

Let the SUNLIGHT INTO YOUR ROOM.—We all feel the gloom and oppression of a house on which the sun does not shine; the farmer builds his barn if possible facing the southeast, because he knows his cows will give more milk in winter, and his hens lay more eggs. The gardener can raise nothing in his hot beds without sunlight, and the orchard produces no well-ripened apples without it; they lack color and are insipid. So will your cheeks, dear girl, become blanched, your form attenuated, your appetite feeble, and perhaps an early death follow your contempt for this great law of God; better even that, than you should insure tubercular lungs or hip-joints and spines to wretched and deformed offspring.

REMEDY FOR BEE STINGS.—Three years ago my little one poked his hand into a beehive. I immediately mixed with water some spears powder and applied it to the place stung, of course with tracing the sting where visible, and in ten minutes he was playing about, and all irritation was gone. The nurse was stung too in several places, and the same remedy was applied with equal success. The Indians use this remedy for the stings of Scorpions. Dr. Livingstone states in his journal that the African tribes use ipecacuanha for snakes' bites. I have not the book to refer to, but I think they mix the powder with oil.—Charles Hankin in the London Field.

A NOBLE ACT.—A noble ship was bearing down on the English coast under a stiff breeze and a lowering sky. It was not many hours before she was in the teeth of a violent storm, rolling and plunging in the angry waters. The wind shrieked through her rigging, and her huge masts groaned from stem to stern. She lay on her side, and became unmanageable, and hoisted signals of distress. A crew of brave and hardy men from the shore put out to rescue the life-fragments. Among them on board was a negro with two orphan children under his charge. The boat was filled with the affrighted passengers, and there was room for one more—room for the negro, and the two little ones. Who should be saved—who left behind to perish? The faithful negro did not hesitate. Over the ship's side he lowered the helpless