

found anywhere next day ; and the same may be said of five pounds, seven shillings, and sixpence, in gold and silver, which the vicar had carelessly left in an unlocked drawer of his writing-table.

Nothing was seen or heard of the boy for three weeks, when a letter from him reached the vicarage, stating that he was sailing from Liverpool for Brazil aboard a barkantine, in the capacity of cabin-boy.

Nothing more was heard from him for five years, and then the local postman delivered to the vicar a triple-sealed registered package, which, when cut open, disgorged well-thumbed milreis notes to the value of five pounds, seven shillings, and sixpence. No letter was enclosed ; but the family rejoiced, for it was quite evident to them that Peter was alive and prosperous, and intended to be honest, though he had not thought of adding five years' interest to the sum he returned.

As the vicar was a sentimentalist at heart—as many of those thrashing fathers are—and not particularly in need of a few pounds, the bulky packet of milreis notes was deposited in the very drawer from which its English equivalent had been lifted five years before.

Two years later, on a bright August morning, Peter himself turned up at the vicarage. He was prodigiously tanned and roughened as to both face and language. He said that he held