



# SUNDAY SCHOOL GUARDIAN.

"ALL THY CHILDREN SHALL BE TAUGHT OF THE LORD."

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## PORRIDGE WITHOUT MEAL.

When Dr. Chalmers was first settled in the ministry, he was a stranger to piety in which he afterwards became so eminent. As he felt but little interest in the Gospel, he gave his mind to science. On one occasion he delivered a course of lectures on Chemistry to his parishioners. They were a plain, uneducated people, and all the facts presented by the lecturer were wonders to them. Among other experiments, he made some in bleaching. By applying a bleaching liquid to a brown, dirty looking piece of cloth, it was changed to a beautiful white in a moment. Soon after the lecture, the following passed between two old ladies of the parish.

"Our minister," said one, "is nothing short of a warlock; he was teaching folks how to clean clothes without soap."

"Ay woman," was the reply, "I wish he would teach me to make porridge without meal."

Porridge, you know, is made of meal and water. It could be made very cheap if one could do without the meal. You would think a per-

son very foolish who should attempt to make porridge without meal. Boys are often guilty of things well nigh as foolish. They sometimes attempt to write compositions before they have any thoughts on the subject. They might just as well attempt to make porridge without meal. They sometimes attempt to get their lessons without study. They sometimes resolve to be good without self-denial and effort. Nothing great or good can be done without labour, any more than porridge can be made without meal. One of the first habits to be formed by the young is the habit of industry. They must learn to enjoy the pleasures of industry. Many young persons will be disposed to smile to hear one speak of the pleasures of hard work. They can understand the pleasure of having nothing to do, but not of having a great deal to do. Be assured, my young friend, there is much more enjoyment to be found in labour than in idleness. We must labour. We cannot live without it. We should be thankful to God that he has made labour pleasant.

I do not say that it is pleasant at first. To one accustomed to idle-