

Our Home Circle.

REPENTANCE.

If the Lord were to send down blessings from Heaven, as fast as the rain, or the flakes of the snow, I'd love and I'd bless him for all; But the gift that I'd crave, and the gift that I'd keep, if I'd only one to choose Is the gift of a broken and a contrite heart, for that God will not refuse.

THE BATTLE FIELD.

Scattered here and there over the surface of the earth are fields memorable from having been scenes of terrible conflicts. On some of them the grass grows greener and the corn is more luxuriant, from the blood and carnage which years ago enriched the soil.

This was the man who, when twenty-three years old, wrote these words:—"By the grace of God I will never be worth more than fifty thousand dollars."

"By the grace of God I will give one-fourth of the net profits of my business to charitable and religious uses. If I am ever worth twenty thousand dollars, I will give one-half of my net profits, and if I am ever worth thirty thousand I will give three-fourths, and the whole after fifty thousand dollars."

He being dead yet speaketh; and a correspondent of a religious paper published at Richmond, Va., enclosing \$500 for missions, said, "About ten years ago I began the world with what I saved from my wages for tending stores."

THE EARLY USE OF BELLS.

A writer in the Troy Times gives the following information about the early use of bells:—"It is evident that the earliest use of bells in churches was to summon the congregation; but superstition soon enlisted them into her service. It then became customary at their consecration to pray that they might be endowed with power to drive away devils and dissipate thunder storms, hail and tempests."

LESSONS OF EXPERIENCE.

A mother had taken her year-old babe with her on a visit. While she and her hostess were busy about something, the baby started on a voyage of discovery. He had managed to crawl under a table of peculiar construction and had become penned in by its legs.

if he must get himself out, he'll be more careful about getting into trouble." It was another mother who, when her child wanted the candle although she had told him it would burn, let him have his own way so that he should find out what 'burn' meant.

EXAMPLE. We scatter seeds with careless hands, And dream we ne'er shall see them more; But for a thousand years Their fruit appears, In weeds that mar the land, Or harmful stores.

SIMPLE MEANS BLESSED.

The autumn of 1859 had been passed at a small watering-place in the neighborhood, where daily intercourse with the honest, brave sailors and coast-guardmen, on the picturesque old wooden jetty, had resulted in many a hearty friendship.

"I know not of one," was the reply. "But we wait upon our God to give the increase." On returning home, we found a messenger had called to say that the captain of a small vessel, who had been in the Scripture reading the night before, had been seized with a sudden illness, and was believed to be dying.

The wild, wandering eye, showed me in an instant that it would be undesirable to encourage him to speak. So, kneeling by his side, I took his tossing hand, and repeated slowly and gently to him the inspired answer to the question, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved," and after commending him to that Saviour's mercy in a few short words of prayer I saw the poor sufferer's softened eyes fill with tears; and then he laid his head quietly down on the pillow, and soon afterwards fell asleep.

The storm and the rain were forgotten in our gladness, as we walked home after hearing such good news of the grace of God.

The following morning we heard that the father was better, and sleeping as peacefully as a child. In the evening we found that his consciousness had fully returned; and that the anxious questioning had been exchanged for a calm trust in the promise of salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

CONSECRATED GROUND. A correspondent sends us the following: "On reading the recent debate on the Luriala Bill, I was reminded of an incident which lends significance to the oft-repeated word 'consecration,' as also the prominent importance and supernal reality attached to the term."

The incident was on this wise: In a parish not far distant lived Jim. Jim had actually been twice under the shadow of an ecclesiastical edifice; once, it was said, when he was baptized, but certainly at a wedding. It so happened that the said Jim loved the liquor, and freely used it. Moreover, he not only made use of the whiskey, but he liked the girls, and occasionally a bit of a fight and sundry things of a kindred nature.

"CAN THE LIKE OF US GET IN?" Coming rather late, one stormy afternoon in November, to the place where a children's service was to be held, I was surprised to find a group of little ones standing outside the door in the heavy rain; apparently waiting for something. They were strangers to me, but as I came up three of them ran to me, asking eagerly: "Is there anything to pay to get in?"

LET THEM ALONE.

Never try to rob any one of his good opinion of himself. It is the most cruel thing you can do. Moreover, it is by no means doing as you would be done by. Crush a woman's self-esteem, and you make her cross-grained and snappish. Do the same to a man, and you only make him morose. You may mean to create a sweet, humble creature, but you'll never do it.

before their eyes, unless with a pure intention to uproot sin. So may a mirror without a flaw never be prepared for you. In those things which we cannot help, may we ever be blind to our own short-comings. We are neither ugly, nor awkward, nor uninteresting to ourselves if we do not know it.

Our Young Folks.

SECRETS.

The moment a girl has a secret from her mother, or has received a letter she dare not let her mother read, or has a friend of whom her mother does not know, she is in danger. A secret is not a good thing for a girl to have. The fewer secrets that lie in the hearts of women at any age, the better. It is almost a test of purity. She who has none of her own is best and happiest.

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The Lord in

The Lord in time of Joseph has often been the favorite of Joseph's imitators. An explanation of this our human suffering for it; we have not our penalty. Short Joseph was raged, and raged upon him. all is right, but with this poet. But this is not Are these, then—horses and the knee with these things? Everlasting? What was J rank conferred pure, to be la morose; to see the King in this the dunt that to this any thing? God. Give keeper. The viciously acqui had access to crime laid by all the inter there was a "the Lord wa Committed prisoners. nature of hu men equal in there will be quired influe prisoners we but very soo him influenc Chap. 40's butler. Not acer of the r wine-cellar's dreds of pe cook. He every thing, both officers in ancient E rank and im fidential nat well as their they were ge princes of the Pharaoh's house," and on the mo for king; pperor of Ru for the gove Charged of the guar was most phar himse suggests) it w fled of the Hebrew, the exposure of dent to de season in u uncertain, tautious tha into prison perhaps, c still more have char have had a apparen in the o Joseph's s tion. They dr of Phara during of generally ed as of s terpretati care. T tion, God will to a be surpris tion. Thus (D Pilate's Where the tend observed his fellow feeling w eph had he under often re ly needi pathy. There that th much in wants of dreams ions be mended pretend first rel dream w branche Yet w up thin restore deliver the forr butler" aged by dream, To this terpreta

