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Vol. XIII.]

## SEAGULLS.

$\mathrm{As}_{\text {steam one of the great ocean }}$ on her was rusling along Atlantic way across the broad Allantic Ocean and was mileady some hun dreds of miles out at sea, a little boy ran up to his mother and cried:
" 0 mother, get me some biscuits too."
"Why, Freddie," replied want the biscuits what do you "The biscuits for?" pretty birds," out to the "Ohetty birds," Freddie said. and come, mother dear, birds see the pretty white how thying after us. See how they dip down and pick ${ }^{\text {up }}$ the biscuits on the water. mother kind of birds are they, mother, and where do they fleep away out here so far "They are seagulls, my "They juplied the mother. the water-no sleep floating on rough water-no matter how milow ships hundreds of miles, picking up anything that the cook throws overboard. They throws overall large They are found on the big bodies of water-on Well as on thater lakes as they are on the ocean-but fishing are thickest around the in hundreds. They gather sels hundreds about the vesselean where the fish are being of thed. As the waste parts of the fish are thrown overwoard the seagulls dash down with hoarse cries and great flapping of wings, tearing at the pieces and fighting over them, but the fishermen pay Io attention to them.
ing schow one of these fishdisabled schoons that has been left to in a storm and is gulls to her fate. The seaaround be seen flocking dound by hundreds, darting down upon the pieces of fish that have been washed out of the sinking vessel.
you our picture could make can hear them as well as you Want to them, you would run away. close your ears and

## OYSTERS ON TREES.

The other day I heard sonnebody speak of "oysters
hanging hanging speak of "oysters
of trees upon the branches Chesas on the borders of the "Thake Bay.
I to mat sounds like a fairy tale," thought I myself.
"I determined to investigate. So I said: the water. supposed oysters grew under clusters on I never knew they hung in Curious on tree branches like apples. Which prowt of oysters those must be poake ! grow on trees along the Chesa-
oy Cher," said the Bay has the best kind of "yter," said the Talking Man. "The rea-


SEAGULLS.
ders of the Chesapeake the same as on the ders of the Chesaper river or bay. At high
son they are sometimes found growing on tree branches is this. oyster floats about in has the quality of atwind and waves. It to any solid substance taching itself firmly it touchos. ship, a rock, or a tree branch. You know the bottom of a ship orten needs ing to it.
ing to it. Now, the branches of trees often droop into the water. They do it along the bor-
der water will be nearly covered with small oysters. It ered with small oysters. it it's a common enough sight down there.
"Grow? They don't grow very large, to be sure. $\mathrm{T}_{0}$ attain perfection an oyster must be always under water, and these hang half the time out of it. When they are exposed too long to the hot sun, they die. Their weight often causes them to fall off.
"Little oysters are sometimes transplanted. Not oft tree branches, but from the beds at the bottom of the bay. They are planted in oyster beds in other places, where, in a couple of years, they grow to maturity.
"It sounds funny to talk of picking oysters off trees," said I, "or even seeing them grow there."|
"Funny enough. But they do grow there. I've seen it lots of times," said the Talking Man. "That's the way queer stories get about. Somebody hears of a thing and doesn't understand the sense of it. And most people never stop to ask what it means. They either repeat the story for a marvel, or say they don't believe it."-Harper's Young People.

## A WORD TO BOYS.

If we are to have drunkards in the future, some of them are to come from the boys to whom I am now writing, and I ask you if you want to become one of them? No, of course you don't! Well, I have a plan that is just as sure to save you from such a fate as the sun is to rise tofate as the sun
morrow. It never failed, it morrow. It never failed, it
never will fail, and it is never will farth knowing.
orth knowing.
Never touch liquor in any form. That is the plan and it is worth putting into practice. I know you don't drink now, and it seems to you as if you never would. But your temptation will come, and it will probably come this way. You will find yourself sometime with a number of companions and they will have a bottle of wine on the table. They will drink and offer it to you. They will regard it as a manly practice, and very likely they will look upon you as a milksop if you don b indulge with them.
indulge with them.
Then what will you do ? Will you say, "Then what none of that stuff for me!" or will you take the glass with your common sense protesting, and your conscience making the whole draught bitter, and then go off with a hot head and skulking soul that at once begins to make apologies for itself and will keep doing so all its life? Boys, do not become drunkards.

a burden bearer.

## OUR PERIODICALS

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## Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOI.K
Rev. W. I. WIThrow, d.d., Editor.
TORONTO, JUNE 10, 1893.

## AN OPEN LETTER TO BOYS.

sy meta lander.

## II.

There is another point to which I want to sall your attention, for some of you will keepers, or to bece get situations as book fessor Oliver, of the Naval Atudents. Prohe can invariably recognize the user of
tobacco "f tobacco "from his tremulous hand und ab solute inability to draw a cleand and abline." I know of a merchant, who used to applied to him for a situativery boy who way always detected tobacion, and in this them aways detected tobacco users and sent Now, I
cigarettes, which to say some things about more the delight are becoming more and anore the delight of boys, and which, know, "are coming to ovists who ought to branches of the business." Do you care to $k$ niness
I think I can enlighten you they are made? boy only eight years old you. An Italian a justice in New York City as a vagrant,
or, in oth or, in other words, a young tramp. But
what did the officer Only with picking up cige him with doing? the streets and gutters. Tigar-stumps from showed the boy's basket, prove this, he stumps, water-soaked and half full of
mud. mud.

What do you do with these?" asked answer? "I Well them you think was his cents a pound, to be used man for ten cigarettes." Not a particularly making piece of information, is it, boys? agreeable
In our large cities is ther, boys
cigar-butt grubbers, as they are a called. It certainly is not a pretty name, though very
appropiate; for it is applied to in se. reh of hillf-burut the streets stumers, which heburut cigars and sold to be used in dried and then But this isn't all, ing cigarettes. orst of it. Thase nor even the been analyzed: ane cigarettes have chemists yzed; and physicians and much opium is put into find how tobacconist himself says them. extent to which drucs are cigarettes is appalling." "Havana havouring" for this same purpose sold everywhere by the thousand barrels. This flavouring is made tains a deadly poison. The wrappers, warranted to be rice wrapare sometimes made of paper, paper, and sometimes of come filthy paper, and sometimes of the filthy white with arsenic Wickers bleached to be practised on people ! What a cheat
Think of it, boys, the next time you take up a cigarette, and drop it-as you would burn your fingers; but this burns simply burn your fingers ; but this burns up good
health, good resolutions, good manners good memories, good faculties, manners, good memories, good faculties, and often A nesty and truthfulness as well.
A bright boy of thirteen came under the
spell of cigarettes spell of cigarettes. He grew stupid and subject to nervous twitchings, till finally
he was obliged to When asked why he didn't throw studies. miserable cigarettes, the poor boy replied, with tears, that he had often tried to do so, but could not.
Another boy of eleven was made crazy by cigarette smoking, and was taken to an insane asylum in Orange County, N.Y. He was regarded as a violent and dangerous macuac, exhibiting some of the symptoms peculiar to hydrophobia.
The white spots on the tongue and inside the cheeks, called sinoker's patches, are thought by Sir Morell Mackenzie to be with other smokers.
"Does cigarette-smoking injure the York physician For of a leading New doctor lighted a cigarette ans answer, the mouthful of smoke, blew it and inhaling a of his handkerchief which he held tighther over his mouth. A dark-brown stain wat distinctly visible. "Just such a stain," said the doctor, "is left- upon the lungs." If you ever smoke another cigarette, think of the stains you are making.
There is a disease called the cigarette eye, which is regarded as dingerous. A film comes over the eye, appearing and disappearing at intervals. And did you know that boys had been made blind by smoking cigarettes? How would you like to part with your sight, and never again behold the light of day or the faces of your friends?
A writer I give you two or three pictures? A writer greatly interested in young people tacle which he sawboy, seemingly less than ten years old, standingat the entrance of an alley, without a hat, his dilapidated trousers very ragged at the knees, his hands in his pockets, shivering with cold, yet whiffing away at a cigarette.
Dr. Hammond says: "I saw, in Wash ington, a wretched-looking child, scarcely five years old, smoking a cigarette and blowing the smoke from his nostrils. His pale, pinched face was twitching convulsively, his little shoulders were bent, and his whole appearance was that of an old
Cases of epilepsy, insanity, and death are frequently reported as the result of smoking cigarettes, while such physicians as Dr. Lewis Sayre, Dr. Hammond, and Sir Morell Mackenzie, of England, name heart-trouble, blindness, cancer, and other heart-trouble, blindness, can
diseases as occasioned by it.
We also learn that several leading physi cians in Philadelphia unanimously con demn cigarette-sinoking as "one of the vilest and most destructive evils that ever befell the youth of any country," declaring that "its direct tendency is a deterioration f the race."
What can we do, dear boys, to protect you against this dreadful foe? How can I adequately set forth the perils of this tobacco-habit, to which you are drawn, not only by the example and the persuasions and sometimes the ridicule of other boys,
but by various snares set for your
unwary feet? Would th could persuad you not even to glanee at the temptation which connes in offers of pic-tures-if only you comply with cer ditions.
"Ir!
settle you not now and fore "if"
Will you not deliberately atic No? will never touch another cigresolve: never use tobach another cigarette; I will be your best gift to a form"? This will sister. And it would give mother and pleasure than I can express to me greater a pledge from you. I wours to receive such names down in a ou. 1 would put your as a precious memorial

## FARMING IN OHINA.

## I.

[We have pleasure in printing herewith ing in West Chine" missionaries in that country. Theyoted readers-E ${ }^{0}$ ] th great interest by will West Chin
regions four crops in a y in her more fertile Sze-Chuan is considerar.
province in China, and the most fertile produce she is cana, and the amount of narket to feed her of putting upon the marvollous. marvollou
high Central China, along the great water of the soil and the ocessions of the fertility possible inch for productions of every severe shock. Long stretches of reeves a visible in low water as well as higher tract are unused or indifferently cultivated. pectation. So anxious are the highest ex pectation. So anxious are the Westorners and make beds of earth scrape the rocks the hollows. Thus gren eus sizes in vegetables often greet green patches of barren hillsides, forming pleesen, high up with the dark, frowning pleasant contrasts Three things chara
Chinese farmers characterize the Western the soil, keep their fay thoroughly work and carefully transform clean and tidy; fertilizers. The pla
kept vegetable garden. miles resemble a wellshow its are used ind to lose it. Two instrument and the ubiquitous ho soil, the plough Chinese uiguitous hoe.
Chinese ploughs are very primitive, such time used in Abrabuch ame. It consists of a handle a beam a slightly curved iron ploughshare naind to a shank. The whole outfit stands nailed A Chinaman with one hand holds the plough, with the other flourishes a whip while from his mouth a hissing sound proceeds which answers to our chirp. The plough is attached to a cross-bar which in wou is fastened by rope traces to ful-len hame around the neck of a power Bufforing creature called the Water allel with his back, sivinggy horns lie parand whose nose snitfs the hir a wild look, foreigner comes within smelling distance The peculiar odour that emanates from oreigner-this is not interided to rom a upon the cleanliness of foreigners-is quite epulsive to these animals, who take their bath regularly, and one of two impulses ils their breasts-either to rush at the A Chinese plen from his presence.
A Chinese plough makes a furrow about sit inches deep and five wide. The hoe is the most conspicuous farming implement in Western China. Men usually work in companies. A dozen men stand in a row and their hoes keep time as they dash them into the soil. Women are not exempt from this labour, especially if they have large et
The grain is cut with a large, slightly curved knife, bound up into sheaves and placed in stooks. The threshing machine is a very simple arrangement. A heavy bor two feet high is carried into the field.

The threshers take up a small bundle od grain and dash it against the inside is looseued is repeated until all the gratiot help but contrast stalks. civilized contrast the advancement machin nations in time and labour-savis Chinese. With the primitive style Brandon, Manitoba, on the plains thresher pouring forth writer saw a stea minute. Oning forth a bag of wo me would scarcely thresh a bag in half a The grain is cleaned in the old-fashio Way, by tossing into the air and perm the breezes to carry off the chaff. through sond also a pleasure, while one had seen a western to find that had constructed western fanning-mill, as menory would few as nearly to begin improvements, but that the movement in her stagnant waters is $q$ evident from the stagnant waters is $q$ are yearly being introduced and utilized Geo. E. Hartweld

## A Modern Prodigal,

Mrs. Julia McNair Wright.

## CHAPTER V.

## achilles still mourns patroclus

The seasons whanged the days with the prisoner it. Sometimes frod and he scarcely kne lifted his blue, or caught a waft of steadfast summe newly mown. a waft of air from meadow forgotten in the The violets of April wer June, the roses iplendour of the roses of regal pomp of were supplanted by the regal pomp of the dahlias ; ripened grain which had to ripened grass; the birds, now sung their "wa prans of their return clear, and in the slow " lyrics sad and prison Thin in the slow monotony of his munion withas Stanhope held no com pageants. His communion those clangefu own heart, and with the past Penitence is a salutary, but not a joyful, mood of th soul; in its deeper shadow, mood or in tense bitter remorse which is the thitan of the world without hope speniter only by change of labour hope. So, marke of meals, by the hours of going recurrence getting up aqain, going to bed an A the days ghosts of past opportunities wasted, of happiness and fortune squandered rose to mock and rebuke him! A good name plenty of frieids, a modest little compe tence, a home, a fair modest hittle compe good pronise- to thee he had sacrificed all these, 0 Moloch of he had sacrificed gnashed his teeth rech alcohol! How he been, and what might have been. what had honour, fortune, home all ended in-a te years' sentence. However, there are som of our perverse human race who will hav none of a door of hope, except in the valley of Achor, and when youth is past
Achor, and when youth is past
prisoner, what was the fortune fortune of tho Mercy in her sorrow and ane of his home found herself sorrow and apathy of misery the strong currents of carried along by ful energy currents of her children's hope igorousgy. These children had the full of indomitable of Deacon Stanhope triumphing by main strength of work, of fate. They were in the rebound af the irst freedom, the first possibilities of their ives. All the want and mortification and loss of their past stung them to acquire something for themselves, to have, and to
do what other people did. All their inline of were the hereditary instincts or home-builders. Why, now that their father was gone, should they not like other people?

Achilles was an unusually sturdy, shrewd lad. He had from early childhood worked for the neighbouring farmers, from the
time, indeed, when at five years old he could only gather stones in a little home made cart. From such labours he had mother. Thus the habit of labour was formed in him, and better than other boys of his age he knew the methods of labour.
Letitia had never had opportunity to be a child; she had been her mother's friend, nurse, solace. Thanks to a good constitumature cares pure mountain air, hor pre or health. She was at injured her growth pride and decent instinct begins to stir in rounding respectable clothes and tidy sur oundings. She planned as enthuslastically as Achilles, and the two aroused and in spired their mother. At first Mercy had taked to whatever was proposed, and had from thought and to please Achilles, lest in despair he should desert his unhome-like home. But as day after day drifted by in good food began to tell upon Mercy, bringing back health to mind and body. She children some of the enthusiasm of her which had not been quite destroyed, revived again. It seemed good to her to sit down in a clean room, with no terror of a ence seeinces return; it was a new experigrade, and finding that household belongings increased instead of diminishing.
ho house well cleaned, all the bedding cluthes made, all the refuse rags and tatters washed, cut, and braided into mats, in which work she was helped by the nimble fingers of Samuel, Mercy began to tind a hew comfort in living.
Nothing so revives a mother's heart as
the thoughtful kindness of a child. How could Mercy but take comfort, when Achilles was so thoughtful for her? He came over the hills one evening, carrying rocking-chair.

I hought it for you, mother," he said, I'm going over to churn for her evenings, all smmmer, and she gave me this, and she'll give me some other things; she has
a lot of things up in her attic. There's a good lounge up there I can have if I work for it ; it will look nice in this room, and
Patty can sleep on it when she comes Pack."
Seated in this chair which Achilles had worked for, and Letitia had cushioned with patchwork, how could Mercy, with her feet
resting on a mat loraided by Samuel, fail to take hope and see more sunshine in life?
'The garden had been Achilles' first care,
and when the brown, well-worked beds lay in the spring sunlight; when beans, potatoes, and onions, cabbage and tomato plants, began to shine in green rows mending the front fence, tearing down the stile and putting in a gate, repairing the barn-yard fence in readiness for Letitia's fowls. Calf, making a place for the coming trough, The dolliar, hidden under the water trough, and which had been laboriously lumber in cents and nickels, went for pledging all his work during the month o
Novernber ember.
over little Sweat of honest labour poured as his indle Samuel's angelic countenance, picking indefatigable brother kept him busy preking up stones, cleaning ap the old yard, and barn, raking and sweeping the oats. "The oats," said Achilles, "will spring first, and be something green, "will spring what to set, and the chickens can pick up green yard. in a year or two we'll have a plantin, it is not half as hard as this treewith pride I'm doing," and Achilles looked "'But I

[^0]"Work won't hurt you," said Achilles. "If you sit in school all day you can work hard at home, and gets good bread and for it. A boy that gets good beat growl at bacon and pid you get reg'lar good meals and work. Did you get reglar good m"
quiet nights last year is an effort to summon To a child of six it is an effort to summon up the circumstances and eming accomprevious year. Samished the task, admitted that "Las' year he didn't have nothin'.
"You had a drunken dad," said his brother, "and now he has gone you've no call to grumble at nothing. You pile all those stones into a real pretty border about that round bed I dug up there. to plant out for mother. Mother's going to have a posy bed now, same as other people. Im going to have this place worth somet trees and I've heard Mr. Lyman say that trees and fower-beds made a place wo
hundred or so dollars more any day.
And so Achilles worked and kept Samuel at work, and the stars had west before Samuel was allowed the pink west hash himself and tumble into the bed to wash he shared with his brother.
which he shared wablaths of this new life The first thee farked the same as on other the family worked the says. The boys hammered the fence, and cut wood, and sawed and pounded at the barn, trying to straighten up the door, and nail back some loose boards; and Mercy was beguiled out to plant the asters and pinks and ger

But toward sundown of the third Sabbath Friend Amos Lowell rode up on Bay bath Friend and in his arms he had Patty-a Betty, and in his arms hatty from the one he very different anay on the day of the trial.
had taken away on the Norcy Stanhope," said the Quaker, 'to make visits on Firs Day. That is a day the good Lord has reserved for himself, and has he not sad that in it we are not to do
think our own thoughts?'
"Why, what are we to do then?" deanded Samuel, whose mind was ever on manded alert.

- Thee must worship God, read his holy book, praise his name, examine thy conduct. - think of the good land light of God's right
face.

There now, Kill! What cid you make me work for?" crie
looked perplexed.

Mercy, thee has wandered far from the teachings of thy youth. Thee has not done as well for the children as thee might have done," said Friend Amos sady.
"Thee was reared to hallow the holy day, according to the commandment.
"I know it," said Mercy. "But in these years when we had no clothes and no way of getting to church or to wabere safest out and when the poor things were safest out
of the way and I dared not even get out my Bible, I have fallen into a way of letting them go just as on other days. I know it is wrong.'
"Then thee must right the wrong. Whoso confesseth and forsaketh his sins shall find mercy. 1 feared thee was un keeping the day of rest, and house. Does to testify to thee and to daily?"
"Thee read the Scriptures dathy hice story-book she had hiden?"
"The nice story-bok Mr. Lowell, she creads that always after supper."
"That is well, but thee will remember to call me Friend Amos and to give me no vain appellations, Mercy?

Mercy flushed and shook her head.
"Thee must pray, Mercy, and teach the children to pray also. After thee reads the Holy Word, then pray with thy house, and bid the children to pray with thee. This book, Samuel, is not merely a book of pleasing tales, it has in it the law of unto Lord, and is able to make knows all that
salvation. Thy mother kit should be told and taught thee of God and thy duty, and she must instruct thee and Stanhope, he that builds on any other Stanndation than Jesus Christ and faith in him, as set forth in the Holy Word, builds on sand and shall fall away. If thee de sires the good of thy household, and the blessing of God on thy labours, seek ye the Lord while he may

The good man then took the Bible, read the Ten Comily to learn brayer, and advising heart knelt down and made a fer-vent-suppication. He then urged them to attend church and Sabbath-school regu larly; they were able to walk, and the
weather and roads were good. He said he was quite ready to have Mercy purchase at his store whatever she needed for a suitable outfit for church-going, and he would wait for

When Friend Amos and the smiling Patty had ridden away on Bay lBetty, Mercy Patty had to tell Samuel and Achilles how she had been taught to spend Sabbath when she was young, and what she had learned on that day.

Tish goes to church with Mrs. Lyman," said Achilles, "and Mrs. Canfield told me last night, when I was churning, that we ought to go to church and be good ch to do just now fixing the house, but she 'lowed she didn't know what good houses in this world was going to do us, if we didn't have world was going to do hands eterual in the houses not made with hands eterual in the
heavens. I didn't say nothing, for I didn't heavens. I didn't say
know what she meant."
"Then I'd asked what she meant," said Samuel.

I ain't so dead set on lindin' out what things mean as you are," said Achilles, but if going to church and saying prayers is respectable and going to make somebody lse mother that is like folks for us to do lou let us know and we'll do it."
A na, th sufficed for Achilles and his coworkers to give the surroundings of their home a somewhat orderly and thrifty ap pearance. During the latter half of May, Achilles went to the village each morning and working with the carpenter and glazier, who were busy on some new houses, he earned window-panes for the broken windows, a couple of door-sills to replace the worn-out ones, a pair of wooden benches, and two or three second-hand tools, as a hammer and sav. He took Samuel with him on the Saturdays, and had him pick up several pounds of nails, where a dwelling had been burned down.
With June, Achilles began to work for the farmers in his neighbourhood. He took his pay in meat, flour, vegetahles, or pieces summer about the first of July, and Samuel's life became a burden, what with weeding, and hunting for potato bugs-but he received some consolation from writing on a slate and reading in some small books With which his teacher had presented him. Mercy began to have ambition once more,
as Samuel at her side continually asked, as Samuel at her side continually asked, "What doe

Achilles regarded Samuel with pride. "Some day he'll be a judge, maybe, or a doctor," he said. "He'll let folks see that father couldn't keep us all down. We shall d" well enough, now he's gone for good."
chilles never dreamed that this speech hurt his mother, and Letitia was not there to hint the fact to him. Letitia was still working for Mrs. Lyman, intent on learning how to keep house, and earning clothes so that she could begin school with the fall term.

Mercy was beginning to have dreams of future respectability. Letitia, perhaps, could fit herself for a school-teacher. She recalled her own girlhood, not Letitia have pleasant home-why cound
something of this kind also?

Mercy herself was not idle. Not only was she busy at the house, but che went out to help her neighbours for a day at a the boys could get on fairly well in her The boys could get summer, and it was a matter of the first importance now to promater dishes, cooking utensils, and some warm bedding.

Friend Amos, wisely alert for the family he had received as his especial charge from Providence on the day when Thomas Stanhope's earnest speech went to his heart, advised Mercy to look for sewing or knitting which che could do at home, so that the which she home could always be pleasan's like, and cheered by a mother's presence.
"Thee knows, Mercy, if thee is not there, the lads may begin to wander off for
their father did before themptations, It is thy home, Mercy, that is to moor thy boys to virtue, and all good and prudent habits.

That is true," said Mercy, "and I only ntend to try and ean a hithe money to fix up the house with, and then l shall try to the shops. I am a good hand with my needle, and some people lise handwork best. Achilles is so fond of gaty and nice things at home. Friend Amos, I hope you will not think I ann wrong if I buy some window shades, and a rel talile cover, and a good lamy, and ahso some chantz to cover the lounge the boy enned from Mrs. Canfield?'

Thee is quite right to buy these things, Mercy. Come to the st
have them at cost price.
And how glad a boy was Achilles, when in October, returning from an absence of four days, spent in corn-husking for a farmer, he found his home bright with his mother's earnings. Tho stove was black ened, a row of blue dishes ormamented the shelves he had put up, bright tins lang in the little closet, the lounge had a gailyflowered cover; on the tahle was a red cloth, and a lamp with a shade, and the two windows had Holland shades with fringe, and beautiful little gilt crescents to pull them down by. Little Patty had come home. Friend Amos had reluctantly re signed her. Letitia's fowls were going to roost in the barn. Letitia was feeding her calf, and also another calf which had a history. That second calf Achilles had found in Mr. Canfield's pasture, such a feeble creature that the good farmer said that to knock it on the head would be the best solution of its life-problem.

Then Achilles boldly begged to keep the Then Achilles boldly begged to keep the
creature. He worked to errn milk for it, creature. He worked to earn milk for it,
fed it from a bottle, kept it warm in an old quilt behind the stove, and at last, by his indefatigable care, it became a thrifty, frisky creature.

On Thanksgiving Day after church, Mercy prepared for her household a dinner of roast fowl and apple-sauce, and there was great rejoicing.

Then some one, passing by, handed in that letter written to them by tho prisoner Mercy read it with tears, Samuel sighed in sympathy, Letitia said it "sounded like a ice new father," Achilles was silent.
Then he and Letitia went out to look after the calves. Achilles caressed the hesd of his protégé, which had a white spot, rehad been as his Patroclus.

I don't care what he writes about being sorry," he said to Ietitia. "Let him be sorry, he ought to be. But he shall never come back here to raise Old Nick, and sell steers. I won't let him! IIe's out and he'll stay out?"
(To be continued.)

## RULES FOR USING BOOKS.

While books are numerous and cheap, that does not justify their careless use. The engt h of time which school and other books ase depends on the way they are used. Some people in good condition for years or even a iffetime, while others seriously soil or destroy them in a very little time. Children should
be early taught how to handle books. The be early taught how to handle books. The following rules are worthy of careful study ; and their observance would, in a short time, greatly improve the appearance of books in many households

## Never hold a book near a fire.

Never drop a book on the floor.
Never turn the leaves with the thumb.
Never lean or rest upon an open book.
Never lean down the corners of leaves.

## Never touch a book with damp or soiled

 hands.Always turn leaves from the top with the middle of forefinger.
Always open large books from the mid-
dle and never from the ends or cover.
Never open a book farther than to bring both sides of the cover into the same plane.
Never cut the leaves of a book or maga. ine with a sharp knife, as the edge is sure to run into the print, nor with the finger but with a paper-cutter, or table knife.

Never hold a small book with the thumb pressed into the binding at the lower back, but hold it with the thumb and little finger upon the back.

## PLEASANTHOURS.



IN MISChief.

## IN MISCHIEF.

"On, dear! oh, dear! what is this naughty fellow about? Surely he cannot he has no use furthering a bouquet. No merely in use fur the precty flowers; it is he so ruthlay, because it amuses him, that this was mossly destroys them. Now all this was not so very bad for the playful,
 dear yong purpy ; but what do you think, act in this reay? its of boys and girls who their part way tory sad noud such conduct on children, fury sad and wicked? And yet children either, will often not very young such conduct, and when called guilty of just declare they " and when called to account see, dear young friends, what an ide." But
cuse, is cuse. We young friends, what an idle ex. direct us, and it weall mot and good sense to through life doing things to go stumbling harming whore we ought to unintentionally, ${ }^{4}$ nuisance of ourselves to henerally and making ing as puppy's anselves generally. Annoy. ough at them, through he may be brought But wher firm liy some one hy and-bye. pranks, there is and girls perform such ahound that is a pretty serious one pic should be soriously hetty serious one, which

## ROSSIAN PERSECUTION.

The dreadful persecution of the Stuncontinues in rearmbling the Methodists, appointed to Russia. A Commission was appointed to consider the best means of recoming the growth of Stundism, and the which have just of that Cummission, incredillave just been publishel, are of Incredible and almost unparalleled atrocity. In addicinnd to all the ferocious methods
with farmiliur which we are already painfully familiar, it is act are already painfully those who have actually suggested that tion at the result of ex medigal aberraaro to be plased in lunatic arylume, and
that the ecclesiastical authorities are to compel those suffering "undue religious excitement" to enter a monastery until they are restored to a healthier and more normal state. So far as we are mare there is nothing in the darkest records of the Romish Inquisition quite equal to this We cannot imquisine how any Government which makes the least pretence to civiliza tion can calnly and unblushingly sanction such atrocities. The Czar of not succeed where Pharar of Kussia will nezzar failed. We sharaoh and Nebuchadof the Divine wrath which the Czar and his advisers are heaping up for themselves and the unhappy people of Russia. May God open their eyes before it is too late.

LESSON NOTES.
SECOND QUARTER.
old testament teachings
B.C. 397.] LESSON XII. [June 18.

Mal. 3. 1.12.] [Memory verses, 8-10,
Golden Thxt
They slall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels.Mal. 4. 17.

## Outline.

1. The Messenger, v. 1-4
2. The Witness, v. 5.9.
3. The Blessing, v. $10-12$

Time.-Perhaps about B.C. 397.
Plack.-Jerusalem.

## Connectina Lines

Malachi lived in or after the time of Ezra phets, and the last was the last of the pro pointa us to the Mesaiah

## Eiplanations

tist. "My messenger"-John the Bapmessenger of the covenant""The angel of the covenant. "The day of his coming "-Here, as else where, the results of the first and second advents are presented and gether. "A refiner's fire"-A fire which is so hot as to melt silver or gold, and enable the dross "Fo be separated from the pure metal. "Fullers' soap" - Substance that removes all filth and traces of im: purity from the garment, and modernes it white. Soap of the modern sort was unknown in Bible refiner must as a refiner"-The metal must watch his precious metal, and be ready to remove the right moment. "The Levites" were the leaders of the relicious wife of Israel. "Sorcerers" religious der-workers, who pretended to der-workers, who pretended to
have superhuman power. "Mahave superhuman power. "Ma-
gicians," " witches," necromancers clairvoyants, ""seventh sons of of
seventh sons," seventh sons," spiritualistic medi.
ums, and all who by tricery ums, and all who by trickery and
fraud impose on weik intell and impature conscience are the modern counterparts of those men and women. The word "adulter ers here refers, probably to those who hazarded the purity of their faith by intermarriage with heathen. "False swearers"agose who bear false witness against men for gain. "Hireling" -Employe. "Tithes"-The tith wruits of the of one-tenth of the of flocks and hards an the increase plied for the support, which was apflied for the support of the Levites the poor. "The devourer"-The

## Practical Trachinge

## Where in this lesson are

 taught-1. The need of the natural heart? 3. That robbery of the wicked? curse? brings a blessingecration to God

## The Lesson Catrohisi.

1. Who was Malachi? "The解 phets," 2. What dill he foretell: 3. What did he coming of the Saviour." "They shall be mine," in the Golden Text? messenger sent before the 4 . Who was the "John the Baptist." 5. By what the Lord? did Malachi call the Messenger of the covenant, the coming Saviour? "The Sun of

Doctrinal Sugaestion. - The unchang
Catechism Questions.

## What do you call this mystery !

The mystery of the Holy Trinity
What do you mean by mystery ?
A truth which man's reason could not dis cover, and which God, by degrees, makes
known.

## POLICE MONKEYS.

In Hindostan, where three varieties of sacred monkeys enjoy the freedomieties of town, these four-handed pensioners often assist the police in enforcing the riot laws by charging en masse for the scene riot laws dog fight and schoolboy scuffle. They will rescue worried cats, and for greater security will deposit them on the next roof, or will suppress rowdyism in general. The stout Rhesus baboon, for instance, is physicau as well as norally qualified to quell the aggressive disposition of the fiercest cur On the platform of a public warehous the British residents of Agra a few yous ago witnessed a scene which put that cha acter trait in even a stronger light Alar street Arab had spread his pallet is shade of a stack of country pallet in th had just dropped of country produce, and tor of the Ppped asleep, when the proprie tor of the Planter's Hotel strolled up with a pet leopard that had learned to accom pany him in all his rambles. A troop of tramp monkeys had taken post on the op posite end of the shed, and, like the beggar boy, seemed to enjoy a comfortable siesta but at sight of the speckled intruder the
whole gang charged upon the platform a squadron of spahis, and instantly formined a semi-circle about the little sleeper resolvard with bristling manes, evide aib resolved to defeat, at all hazards, the pected purpose of his visit

## The Heart of a Tree.

What does he plant who plants a tree? He plants a friend of sun and sky; He plants the flag of breezes free : The shaft of bealty towering high He plants a home to heaven anigh In bong and mother-croon of bird The treble of heaven's harmony These things he plants who plants a tree.
What does he plant who plants a tree? He plants cool shade aud tender rain And seed and bud of days to be, And years that fade and tush again; He plants the glory of the plain; The harvest of a coming The joy that uuborn eyes shatl see These things lie plants who plants a tree
What does he plant who plants a tree? He plauts in sap, and leaf, and wood, In love of home and loyalty
And far east thought of civic good-
His blessing on the neighbourhood
Who in the hollow of his hand Holds all the growth of all our landA nation's growth from sea to sea

## A OINDERELLA COACH

A ranch owner in Goleta, Santa Bar bara Co., Cal., had growing upon his place some enormous squashes, one of which wio so large that he had it hollowed out to make, as he said, a Cinderella coach for biv hitle girl. He was expecting a visit frow an eastern friend and after the guest cam ${ }^{2}$, accompanied by his little airl, was showing him over the ranch Giving wis doughter sly look which she undergtood she slip ped away and ran and in the squgh. As he was going and got into the squab to his friend, "Yoing over the field he salid but sometimes "You may not believe it, bur squashes, we have little girls in oure squashes, and I shouldn't wonder if there it one in this one." So saying he tapped the squash, the sides fell apart, and out fro the eastern sprang his little girl. It is gaid that his hair turned white ! Probably it was white before, but white! rest of the story is true. This squash was over three feet length and weighed two hundred and fifty pounds.-Congregationalist.

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[^0]:    "But I ain't half so big as you," puffed

