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Volume XIX.-Nosumis 16.
MAY 23, 1874.
Whole Number 448.


Being Useful.
Ix only quite a little girl, But once was smaller still; I uscd to colble up my worl; And do it-0 so all

And yct I always took such palus, And thought I woriced so well! Perhaps you don't admire it jet, Only you will not tell.
I can't quite thread my needie ych, Ther make the bole so small;

Mother's the only onc that can, For Grannle can't at all.

And father says he can't see how Wo women ever can;
The needics bare such little egceBut then he is a man.

I am but quite a dittle giri, But I am neefal too,
For mother seys so; I know how Qulte rumns things to do.

The cradie I can rock, and sing,
And carry baby out
A little way, and then I let
Him crecp and trot about.
The dinner 1 can help to set, And put away the tea;
And many thluge there are to do, Just ut for Tom and me.

Sometimes wo play at sweeplng ep, Aud makiug all Lhings neat;

## Weid like to set the world to rights,

 And have it clean and sweet!Put peoplo Inugh when we say so,
And say, "It can't be done ;"
But Granny stghs, and says it might
If "each one mended one."

## A Brother's Charge.

Ons day a little boy asked his mother to let him lead his little sister on the green grass. She had just begun to run alone, and could not step over anything that lay in the way. His mother told him he might lead out the little girl, but charged him not to let her fall. I found them at play; vers happy, in the field.
1 said, "You seem very happy; George. Is this your sister?"
" Seb, sir."
"Can she walk alone?"
"Yes, sir, on smooth ground."
"And how did she get over these stones which lie between us and the house?"
" 0 , sir, mother charged me to be careful that she did not fall, and so I put my hands under her arms and lifted her up when she came to a stone so that she would not hit her little foot against it."
"That is right, George; and I want to tell you one thing. You see now how to understand that beautiful text: 'He shall give IIis angels charge concerning thee; and in their hands they shell bear thee up, lest at any timo thou dash thy foot against a stone!' (iod charges his angels to lead and lift his people over difficulties, just as you have lifted little Annie over these stones. Do you understand now?"
"O yes, sir, and I shall never forget it while I live."
Can one child thus take care of another, and cannot God take care of those who trust him? Surely he can! There is not a child who may read this story over whom he is not ready to give his holy angels charge.

## Excuses.

Ela.a Fa:whin is called a very amiable girl. She is never out of temper, and never sulky, and always has something to say. She has very soft, caressing manners, and professes a great deal of aflection for all her friends
But Ella, I fear, uses these gifts of hers most for her own selfish ends, rather than for the sake of giving pleasure to others. She is skillful in coaxing; and she has acquared to perfection the very undesurable art of shirking her own duties on to the shoulders of other people. She always has some good reason why she cannot mend her clothes just then, and is sure that dear sister will do it for her just once. She is so anxious to get on with her practising. that she can not do that errand for her father right away;
and wo'nt James, who is almays so obligine just and wont James, who is almays so obliging, just lay aside his book and go down town in her place? She is so busy, and her head feels like aching: and Laura, her intimate friend, darling Iatura, who is always so sweet, will look up those phaces on the map, and tell her where they are before class time. Flla is sure that she would do three times more than that for Laura any day. But if the day ever comes when she might oblige laura in amm, if it is the least inconvenience, Ella has always some excellent excuse, which then quite impossible to do what sho is asked.

Ella has no idea that she is not quite a pattern girl, and succeeds in deceiving herself by herex. cuses even more that she does others; and every day, in spite of outward sweelness, grows more and more unlike IIim who came not to do His \{own will.

## Brave Little Tom.

"Moturn!" said Bessio Stanford, "where shall we go? who will care for us now 9 "
These words were spoken by a little girl, its she clung to her mother's side one autumn even. ing: mother and daughter were standing by a newly-made grave, in which but a few days before he who had been their earthly comfort and support had been laid.
For a few moments the widow's heart was too full of grief for her to reply to Bessie's worls, till again the child, raising her tearful face, exclaimed:
"Oh, mother, who will wre for us now?"
"Our Father in Heaven," answered Mrs. Stan. ford. "He knows our sorrow, He watches over us at this very moment, and for the Saviour's sake $I \mathrm{He}$ will guide and direct us, if we trust in Him" Then, with one lant look at the grave, Mrs. Stnnford took her little daughter's hand, and turned her steps towards her home.
Though Bessie could not thoroughly uader. stand all that her mother's words implied, yet they gave $h: r$ some comfort; and as she walked on by her side she began to talk more cheerfully of their intended journey on the morrow, and to Fonder how their strange uncle would welcome herself and younger brother Tom. For Mrs Stanford was going to leave the village where she had lived ever sinco her marriage. IIer husband's long illness, previous to his death, had compelled her to part with all her furniture to pay off their debts; they had no near friends or relatives in the place, there seemed no way by which she could support herselfand children, so she had resolved to seek a homo with a younger brother, who was head gardener in a gentleman's family, about thirty or forty miles away. This brother was unmarried, and had always been much at. tached to her. Not only that; Mr. Holland, the gentleman for whom he worked, would, she knew, do all he could to befriend herself and children, and put her in the may of earning a livelihood.
The next morning at daybreak Mrs. Stanford quitted the cottage in which she had lived so nany years. As she pased down the village she left the key at the landlord's, who had bought ber furniture, and then set out on her journey. The two children walked along, pleased enough rith the thought of a change; but Mrs. Stanford was too full of sorrow to heed their childish prattle. Ifer strength had been much tried during her husband's illness, and by anxiety since, and she feared lest it should fail her before she could ar. rive at Holland Mranor.
She had intended to walk about ten miles that ciay, so as to reach a farm-house where she was known. and where she knew they would give her a nigit's lodging. It was quite late when they cance to the furmgate, for Tom, who was only six years old, had become very tired, and had scarcely been able to get along. Very thankful were they for the welcome they reccived, and were soon asleep after the fatigues of the day.
"If it wasn't harvest time," said Farmer liogers next morning, "I could give you all a lift for a few miles on your way; but my horse is overrorked as it is-better stay a day or two -rith us, you don't look fit for much just now."

But Mrs, Stanford was very;anxious to see her brother as soon as possible; she did indeed feel very ill, but that only made her more desirous to place her children under their uncle's care without delay, so that, should she be taken away from them, they might nol bo withouta protector. It rudded much to her anxiety that she had not heard from her brother for soms time, for at the time of my story people did not write so many letters as they do now, and travelling was much slower and more expensive. This was why Mrs. Stanford had determined to walk most, if not all, of the way to IIolland Manor; lesving such little property as atill was hers in the care of a friend in the village she had left.
Bessie and $T_{1}$.a would gladly bave had their mother accept the farmer's kind proposal, but, for the reasons I have said, Mrs. Stanford determined to continue her journey at once; so, thanking Mr. Rogers warmiy for his kindness, she left the farmhouse directly after brenkfast.
By the evening of the third day they were still six miles distant from Mr. Holland's house. Tired and footsore, Mrs. Stanford sat by the roadside to rest; Bessie leant her head upon her mother's knee, while Tom peeped through the hedge at tho cows in the fields beyond, and wished that his mother would have stayed for the might in the little village they had passed through about an hour before. Ife was not so weary an the others, for his mother had sometimes carried him a little way, and once a lad with a donkey-cart had found room for Tom among his baskets, \&c., and so had heiped him a mile or two on the road.

While Sirs. Stanford was thus resting, there pased by a waggoner; he came from the तirection our friends were taking, and as he looked pleas. antly at the little group Mrr3. Stanford was tompted to ask him a question-
"How far is it to Ifolland Manor?" said she, "and is there not a shorter road to it across the fields ${ }^{\prime \prime}$
"Yes," answered the man "there is. But what be you a wanting at Holland Manor?"
"3y brother is head gardener there-Squiro Holland knows us well-I want to get there to. night."
"There is not mucla use in your going, misses. Why, didn't you know as the old Squire be dead? Died four months past, and the family be all gone away, servants and all, and the place well-nigh shut up."
"But my brother will be there, surely;" cried Mrs. Stanford. "He has been with them for years."
"Jlay be," answered the waggoner, "but I doubt you will find no gardener there, only two old folks left in charge of the empty houre. I tell you the Squire is dead, and the family right gone away. Better come back with me to Amherst and get a night's lodging somewhere."
"No, thank you," answered Mrs. Stanford, rising, "I and tuo anxious; I must go on at once; I must find out where my brother is," and taking up the small bundle she was carrying with her, she and the children began to walk on.
[To be concluded in our next.]

IIAve a care of your temper, for a passionate boy rides a pony that runs away with him. Passion has done more mischief in the world than all the poisonous plants that grow in it ; therefore again I say have a care of your temper. "A soft answer turncth amay wrath."

The shortest verse in the Bible, "Jesus wept;" \{the sweetest verse, "God is love."

## 

## TOROXTO, MAY 23, 1874.



## Iove the Birds.

Instres, children, to the voices Of yon feathered songoters gay;
IIow ench golden tongue rejoices
This sunghiny summer day.
Richer now their notes and fuller As they feel the glow of epring; And bedeck'd with brighter color Swells each throat and fits ench wing.

And not fair alone, but clever, For with only beak and feet, And without a teacher ever, Nests they weavo-mound, warm, and neat.

They are full of life and gladness, Eright and buay all dayjlong: What have they to $!0$ with sadnems? What have they to fear of wrong?
Who their shining eggs would plunder? Who their charming songs would still? Who would vear their homes asunder, Built with so much care and akill?

God has made them for enjoymentNot their own alone, butours ; Who rould stop their sweet employment, Singing, nesting, in the bowers?

Who would rob them of their pleasure? Who would blight their busy days? Who would take from birds their treanure, And from God such songs of praise?

Children, guard them, love them dearly; Learn yourselves from birds to sing, As they warble sweetly, clearly, Like the angels to their King !

## The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty

 to Birds.Wues lired Evans was a boy he lived in the country. I had almost said in the woods. News. papers were not so common then as now, and I suppose he never even heard Mr. Bergh's name mentioned; so his "society" was an entirely original idea.

Fred had five brothers, some older and some younger than himself, and there was quite a number of small boys in the neighborhood besides. Such good times as they lad in the fields and woods ! Dird-nesting, squirrel.hunting, nutting,-the year indeed was full of delightful diversions.
Fred loved the woods and everything in them with all his heart, and the cruelty that was often
\{shown the denr, patient little birds hurt him more? Rcknowledge that such a society has a good deal \{ than he could say. He had often wished he coula \} of power.
\{dosomething to prevent it; and one day, as spring Fred's hopes were more than realized in the was coming on, meditating and whittling, he'success of his plan, and I am sure that he grew thought itall out. There was no use "preaching" into a nobler and better man for putting his kind to the youngsters; they would only laugh and go impulses into deeds. When I last saw him he wan \} their own way ; and so Fred, wise in his generation, ; an earnest, influential minister of the gospel, and \}caught them with guile. Some square bitsistill continued to teach the children to be kind \}of white pasteboard were procured, and neatly to the birds, and also to all God's creatures which prepared for invitation cards. They were pinted'are exposed to the carelessness and cruelty of in a round, boyish hand, and cost Fred n great'; wicked persons.
deal of trouble: "You are inrited to come to $a$ \} meeting to form a society, Saturday afternoon, \{at onero'clock. Be suro and come early."
Saturday came; and so did all the boys in the neighborhood, full of curiosity to learn the object of the "meeting." Fred had kept it a profound secret, even from his brothers.

Very properly, the exercises were opened with a spoech. Fred was the speaker: "I say, boys, \{ we ought to have a society, -a regular society, \{you know,--with a president, and all that." It wasn't a very long speech, but Fred knew his \}audience better than some older orators do theirs. "Hurrah!" "Jolly!" "Good for you!" "Just the thing!" were some of the exclamations which \} showed Fred that he had the public ear.
"What's it to be called"" "What's it for?" were questions that speedily followed. Encour. \{raged by the interest displayed, Fired ylunged at \}once into the middle of things.
"Well, boys, I go for the birds, and I don't care who knows it; and what's more. I don't b'lieve there's a feller here mean enough to want to hurt \{one of the little things if he only stops to think. They don't never do nobody any harm, and I think the woodin wouldn't to puch 'count without 'em."

Joe Wilkins gave a prolonged whistle, but no. body minded him.

the

## Tho Shepherd's Dog and the Sheep.

Ir is said that on the large sheep farms of Scotlanci, a shepherd often has the charge of from three thousand to six thousand sheep. The shepherd is usuaily aided by two shepherd's dogs, to drive the sheep out to pasture, and to bring them in.
Often in driving flock: from one pasture to another, one sheep. will turn the wrong way, and all the others will be sure to follow as fast as they can run. So the shepherd must send one of his dogs to turn them back. The careless keeper, no matter how hot the day, rould order his dog to rush down the narrow lane, tirrough the flock, frightening the sheep, and often erushing or kill. ing some of the tender lambs. But the wise shep. herd directs his dog to go upon the other side of the hedge or fenc., get ahead of the flock, and bring it back, taking care not to frighten the shoep. The dog will trot off so quietly, that the sheep do not notice him, and occasionally he will peep over or through the hedge, until he is sure of being ahead of the flock, then he will come out gently in advanc: of the shecp and turn them back without scaring or harming them. But if the sheep will not be turnid by this gentle course, ithen the dogs must bark or bite them.

So when young persons turn down the wrong road leading into sin and danger, the Good Shepherd would bring them back by kind, gentle, and loring means. Ie sends affectionate Christian parents or kind teachers to show them their danger, and to zoint out to them now to find the safe paths. How careful should youth be to heed all such gentle marnings! How quick to return from every evil road, and malk in the way of God's commands ! Then they need not fear any sharp judgments, and Jesus can treat them as tha rise shepherd does his obedient flock.
"Now, lets" have a reg'lar society for taking care of the birds. We'll 'lect a president, and have a meeting every week, and then every boy'll tell how many birds'-nests he lass found, and where they are, and whether they're all right or not. The president'll keep an account in a book of the number of nests that each boy has the care of, and when the summer's over, the boy that's had the most nests'll be the best fellow, and we'll ? 'lect him for our next president. What do you say? Let's take a vote."
Fred was a leader among the boys, and the vote was unanimous in favor of his plan. He was duly elected president, and the society entered at once upon its humane and civilizing work. Meetings were regularly held during the summer; birds' rights were carefully considered, and nothing was? allowed to interfere with their life, liberty, and \} pore ; good-night kisses, and no good mothers to give by the society; and any fair-minded person will them any? They are poorindecd.

Do you pity the little children who have no

## Good-Night Kisses.

"Mansal" cried Georgie, in a plaintive volce. It was dark, and Georgie had been an hcur in his trundle-bed.
"I thought jou mere asleep, Georgie, long and long ago," said sh., coming into the chamber where Georgie lay in his little white bed.
"You never kissed me to.night," said Georgie, stretching out his arms; "I can't go to sleep with. out my bestest mamma's good-night kiss. Won't you kiss me, mamma?"
Mamma gave it with great joy. She hugged Georgie, and Georgie hugged her. "I want you to be a good boy as well as a dear boy, Gcorgie;" that is what she always said; and as often as she sald it, so often his little heart said back, "I will bea good boy."

## The Fast Word.

Is South Africa a Citlir chief sent some of his the san men fifteen miles to ask a missionary if tho word and that was becauso my shoes were worn out he had tapght them about the Iord's day was the and I had no money to buy new ones. Soon "fast word,"-that is, whether or not it came after, I met a man who had no feet; and I went from God, and was a command that they must home contented with my baro ones.'" strictly keep. The reason why he had sent mas this: An En. Jennie; "so I'll be glad I have got thick shoes glish trader had brought his waggon near their to cover my bare feet, and that I have feet to be village, and was asking the native people to buy, oovered."
and sell, although it was the Lord's.day. The;
trader said that "he had no Sunday," at which, the Catfirs wondered much. The chief, however,: answered that the missionary must decide the' question, but that the trader might let his oxen: graze, and make himself comfortable till the: messengers camo back.
When the messengers came to the missionary's house they said, "Hors can this be? The man was a white man! Where was he born that he' has no Sunday?"
The missionary sent back nord to the chief $\}$ that it was a "fast-mord," for it was God who said, "Remember tha Sabbath-day to keep it holy," and that this word was binding upon all men of every nation.
When the chief received this message he said to the Callirs who had crowded around him waiting for the missionary's answer, "Do you hear that now! The missionary must be right, because he has the book," meaning the Bible.
the trader was thin told that he must wait until the next morning, when they would be glad to trade with him, for they would have nothing to do with him on the holy day.
It is very sad to think how many there aro in our Christian country who neglect the "fast word" which these Cadirs had learned, and who "buy and sell and get gain" on the Lord's day, instead of using it for the holy purpose for which the rise and loving God has given it.

## How Mollie Helped Namma.

Thera was once a bright, spirited little girl, whose hard-worked father was taken suddenly away from his little family, lenving the whole burden of their support on the mother. A kind lady questioned this child, but six years old, as to how they got along.
"Oh," said little Mollie, " mother and I do all the worle now, and we do it first.rate."
"But what can you do to help, with such little hands as those?" asked the lady.
Sollie held up her plump little hands, and turning them over again and again, said:
"Oh, I can do lots and lots! I set the table, and wash the dishes, and shake up the cradle. pillow, and blow the whistle for the baby. Some. times mamma gets tired washing, and she cries.
"I am not so bad oll as either of them," said

## Willia's Heroism.

Tus blue sky was covered with dark thunder. clouds and the air was still and hot.
In the little school-house "on the green" n patient teacher was trying to make her scholars bend their anxious ejes on their books; but the little faces would keep furning towards the window.
She had promisedt to toll the story of William Tell that afternoon to her geography class; and finding it so difficulf to turn theirminds from the shower, she called out that class before its turn, and told thom the atory about how William Tell had to fire hin arrow through an apple which had been placed on the haed of his son, and how brave the boy wat, and how he cried, "Fire, father! I am not athid!' for he was sure his father'a arrow would never mins its mark.
Just as she was saying this there came a sudden flash of lightning and a loud crash of thunder. Some of the children screamed, some began to cry, and come ran to the temcher for protection; Willie Hawthorne kept his seat, and his eyes were fixed quiotly on his book.
"Why, Willic!" asked lus teacher, after che shower was over, "why wereyou not afraid like the other children?"
"Because, Miss YoLean, I knew the arrow wns in my father's innd; and how could $I$ be afraid?"
I believe tho children never forgot Wiliie's bravery; and now, when you aro afraid of the ightning, little reader,you can remember Willie's aswer, and be as bravo as he.
Then I go and lift baby out of the cradle-he is amful heavy-and hold him right up before mamma. Then she always laughs and tukes him, and that rests her, you see."

## Bc Content.

"Ont, dear! I don't see what you buy me such thick shoes for," said little Jenno lay; "they are unly fit for clol-hoppers. Why can't I have a pretty pair of French gaiters liko Annio Swift's?"
"Wo buy such things as wo can aftord and think suitable for youl," nussered her mother. "I am sorry that, instead of being thankful for them, you should fret so. 1 wish you were like

## SUXDAY SCHOOL BANMER FOR 1874,

## ENLARGED and IMPROVED!

THIS PERIODICAL han been before the publio Lafficiently long for its principal oharacterintica to be clearly underntocal. It is our intention to make the Bannar for the coming year increasingly useful to Sunday-achool teachera. Each issue will consint of Twenty-fonr Pages printed cin good paper and will coutain, -
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