



The Little Ones He Blessed

I wonder if ever the children
Who were blessed by the Master of
old
Forgot he had made them His treas-
ures,

The dear little lambs of his fold;
I wonder if, angry and willful,
They wandered afar and astray,
The children whose feet had been
guided
So safe and so soon in the way.

One would think that the mothers at
evening

Soft smoothing the silk-tangled hair,
And low leaning down to the murmur
Of sweet childish voices in prayer,
Oft bade the small pleaders to listen,
If haply again they might hear
The words of the gentle Redeemer
Borne swift to the reverent ear.

And my heart can not cherish the
fancy

That ever those children went
wrong,
And were lost from the peace and the
shelter,

Shut out from the feast and the
song.

To the day of gray hairs they remem-
bered,

Think, how the hands that were given
Were laid on their heads when Christ
uttered,

"Of such is the kingdom of Heaven."

He has said it to you, little darling,
Who spell it in God's Word today;
You, too, may be sorry for sinning,
You also believe and obey;
And 'twill grieve the dear Savior in
heaven.

If one little child shall go wrong—
Be lost from the fold and the shelter,
Shut out from the feast and the
song.

—MARGARET E. SANGSTER.

Home Chat

One who signs herself "Country Schoolma'm" wishes me to talk to the parents about visiting the schools where their children are spending many of the dark, cold days of early winter, and ask them to take notice of the conditions under which the work of both teacher and pupil is done. Having, at one time, in the long ago, been familiar with the "conditions," both as teacher and pupil, and knowing that, in many neighborhoods, the old customs still prevail, I can readily understand her desire that the parents should be "stirred up" in the matter. When we think of it, it does seem strange that so little interest is taken in these matters by the parents. The little ones are sent out of the homes daily into influences to which the parents seem utterly indifferent; not one parent in ten ever meets the teacher, and, as to visiting the school room, any excuse will answer for their neglect in that direction. How many parents interest themselves in the progress the child is making in his studies, or offer any helps in the way of making the room comfortable—to say nothing of attractive to the little ones who do not know how to take care of themselves? Judging from the facts in many cases, anything, in some districts, will do for a schoolhouse. If the children's feet

AN OLD AND WELL TRIED REMEDY
MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for children
teething should always be used for children while
teething. It softens the gums, allays all pain, cures
wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea.
Twenty-five cents a bottle.

freeze all winter, owing to cold floors, or if their brains bake under stove-pipes overhead which would much better be laid along the floors, how many people know it? When the little ones come home coughing, with sore throats, and aching bones, with chilblains on their feet and catarrh in their heads, how many parents stop to think where these colds were contracted, or how they might be prevented. Children can not do their best with their school privileges, and no teacher can sufficiently interest the little, uncomfortable things in their lessons, when they are all huddled up with cold, chilled and shivering, or, as a contrast, overheated and breathing the poisoned air where no ventilation is possible except through open, draft-inducing doors and windows, where a roaring hot fire scorches those nearest the stove while those further away are freezing. Why not visit the schools?

Christmas Giving for the Children

In the kindergarten classes of the schools, many things are taught the little ones which the mothers might well imitate in the homes. The children are taught to make many pretty trifles of tissue, crepe, or tinsel and colored paper, and these will not only serve to decorate the tiny trees, but may be used as presents from the little ones to their elders, giving much pleasure to both the giver and the recipient. Many pretty things may be made of cardboard, worked with cross-stitch; or cut from gay-colored paper; or made from the many really beautiful pictures given by advertisers in the magazines and periodicals; or from the colored plates taken from catalogues of nurserymen and florists. Even though the efforts of their baby hands are crude and smeared with paste, or showing threads and misplaced stitches, the fact that the little one made them for love of you should cover every defect, and some day, these little, unskilled offerings may be priceless to your bereft hearts. Encourage, then, the little ones to make their own love offerings, and do not be too free with your offering to "show them how." Let them be characteristic of the little opening intelligences.

For Our Boys

Lord Melbourne said: "Young men should never hear any other language than this: 'You have your own way to make, and it depends upon your own exertions whether you succeed or fail.'" Any observer knows that the boy who has his life planned for him, and the rough places made smooth without any exertion on his part, is apt to be indolent, discontented and incompetent. This is the kind of boy, when fortune fails him, who takes up the idea that the world owes him a living, and waits for his supposed inheritance. There are times, in the life of both boys and men, when they think if they had the chance they could do great things. The way to have the chance is to make it. Opportunity does not come to us heralded by trumpet and drum, and greatness is seldom thrust upon us, though men have achieved success through influential friends, or by the pushing of great talents; but the majority achieve it by a combination of poverty, ambition, hard work and determination. The hard road is the sure road, and strength of mind, as of muscle,

is only to be had by persistent exercise and steady training. The true meaning of success is not to accumulate wealth, or gain the applause of the multitude—the majority of whom shout only because they hear the shouting of others. A truly great man wishes to stand pre-eminent for something higher and better than money or notoriety. One to be really successful in the higher meaning of the word, must be a hard, earnest worker, and must expect to take the knocks and buffetings he is sure to get from meaner, envious spirits. Modest merit is not necessarily overlooked, but merit, to be recognized, and hence to gain the reward it deserves, must exert itself to find it; it must not fail through inactivity, neglect of opportunity or untrained abilities. It must not hold back to be sought, but should "let its light shine," and hold itself ready at all times to make the most of whatever advancement comes in its way. Forward and impudent men are not preferred above retiring merit, but it often happens that men of inferior abilities are prompt and active in grasping opportunities, where superior merit holds itself in the background. "A barking dog is often more useful than a sleeping lion," and his presence is surely better known.

Frosted Feet—(Requested)

Before going to bed, rub in snow or ice water, and apply the compound resin ointment made by all druggists, with a very little turpentine added. Or, bathe the feet in very hot (as hot as can be borne) soapy water, for half an hour, dry well, then put on the affected parts all the turpentine they will absorb, heating before the fire. Or, grease the parts well with rabbit fat, heating it in.

The following is said to cure the worst cases in a very short time: Mutton tallow and lard, of each three-fourths pound; melt in an iron kettle and add hydrate oxide of iron, two ounces, stirring continually with an iron spoon until the mass is a uniform blackness; let cool, and add Venice turpentine, two ounces, and Armenian bole (rub up the bole with a little olive oil before adding to the mixture) one ounce; oil of bergamot, one dram. Stir all well together, and apply several times daily, by spreading it on lint or linen and using it as a plaster, to the sore.—Chases' Recipes.

Chilblain, or frost bite is in the nature of a burn, and must be treated as such. Frost burn is as common as fire burn.

Uses of Coal Oil

It used to be called kerosene, but now we call it coal oil. But its uses in the household are still the same, though greatly increased, while the oil itself is greatly improved. We are assured that coal oil and cold water—say, a teaspoonful of oil to a panful of water, are equal to soap and hot water; water, comfortable for the hands, and a little coal oil will dispose of more than half the labor of washing the utensils used in cookery. Coal oil is one of the purest and most effective detergents that nature has provided, an anti-septic, and, in a moderate degree, a germicide, besides being excellent for removing grease and grime from pots and pans; it is a perfect purifier and cleanser for porcelain and glazed wares, even with cold water, and nothing so quickly removes the sticky, ugly gum that will cling to the sink and wash basin as a wash with hot water and coal oil.

Such easy removals of defiling impurities will greatly simplify the hard work in the kitchen and household, and one good thing in its favor is that it is an article that is always at hand. For the laundry, its uses are becoming known and appreciated more and more, and as an insecticide, when combined with soap and water, it is almost invaluable to the housewife, the florist and orchardist.

Carelessly written recipes often bring much disappointment and sorrow to the hearts of inexperienced persons; not alone is the carelessness shown in recipes for cookery, but for those of as great, if not greater importance—those used for drugs, salves, solutions or compounds intended for alleviation of pain; or for the renovation of household goods in the way of paints, polishes, dyes, etc. If a recipe or formula is worth passing on, it certainly is worth the careful writing out of proportions, ways of mixing preparation for using, and the proper application when made. A person of large practical experience can generally use even defective recipes, and the druggist may be able to correct carelessness in proportioning ingredients; but what is the inexperienced or impractical to do? Let us be careful in the small, though necessary, details.

Dainty Christmas Desserts

Pastry for Christmas Tarts.—Mix and sift together two heaping cups of flour, a rounding teaspoonful of baking powder and a salt-spoonful of salt. Work in a scant cup of butter with the tips of the fingers; when the mixture is fine as meal, stand it aside for an hour or more to thoroughly chill; then take out half a cupful, and to the remainder add cold water gradually to make a stiff dough. Knead lightly, turn on a floured board and roll into a long, narrow strip. Sprinkle the dough with half the reserved mixture and fold so as to make three layers; turn half way round with the open end toward you, roll again into a strip, sprinkle with the remainder of the mixture and fold as before; roll and fold twice more, and the pastry is ready for use. Roll into thin strips and cut into various shapes; bake the pastry and fill or spread with any preferred mixture.

Cut the pastry into two and a half inches square, brush with the beaten white of an egg, fold the corners to meet in the middle, press together and bake; or, fold the two opposite corners together, bake and fill with jelly or fruit cream. For fruit tarts, bake the pastry in small patty-pans, fill with fruit cream, and cover with a meringue, or dust with powdered sugar. Or, cut into strips; bake, spread with jelly or fruit-cream, cover with nut icing, and put in the oven until a nice brown. Or, dip into caramel and lay on paraffine paper to harden.

Fruit Wafers.—Mix a cup each of cleaned raisins, figs, dates, and nuts, and force twice through a meat chopper. Add a few drops of vanilla, lemon juice or liquor, then knead until well blended on a board dredged with confectioner's sugar; roll to a thickness of one-fourth inch; cut into rounds with the top of a salt shaker or into three-fourth inch blocks with a knife. Roll in granulated sugar and pack in tin boxes between sheets of paraffine paper.—Good Housekeeping.

"Larding" and "Daubing"

Answering Mrs. B. M.: These are terms used in cookery to signify

BETTER THAN SPANKING

Spanking does not cure children of bad writing. If it did there would be few children that would do it. There is a constitutional cause for this. Mrs. M. Summers, Box 118, Notre Dame, Ind., will send her home treatment to any mother. She asks no money. Write her today. If your children trouble you in this way. Don't blame the child. The chances are it can't help it.