Family Circle.

YOUR MISSION. BY E. M. H.

If you cannot on the ocean Sail among the swiftest fleet, Rocking on the highest billows, Laughing at the storms you meet-You can stand among the sailors, Anchored yet within the bay: You can lend a hand to help them, When they launch their boats away If you are too weak to journey Up the mountains steep and high, You can stand within the valley While the multitudes go by; You can chant in happy measures As they slowly pass along; Though they may forget the singer,

They will not forget the song. If you have not gold and silver Ever ready at command; If you cannot toward the neeedy, Reach an ever open hand; You can visit the afflicted, O'er the erring you can weep, You can be a true disciple Sitting at the Saviour's feet.

If you cannot in the conflict, Prove yourself a soldier true; If where the fire and smoke are thickest There's no work for you to do; When the battle-field is silent You can go with careful tread, You can bear away the wounded, You can cover up the dead.

If you cannot in the harvest Garner up the richest sheaves, Many a grain, both ripe and golden, Will the careless reaper leave; You can glean among the briers Growing rank against the wall, For it may be that their shadow Hides the heaviest wheat of all.

Do not then stand idly waiting For some greater work to do; Fortune is a lazy goddess, She will never come to you-Go and toil in any vineyard, Do not fear to do or dare; If you want a field of labor, You can find it anywhere.

LITTLE THINGS. Little things-ay, little things, Make up the sum of life; A word, a look, a single tone,

May lead to calm, or strife. A word may part the dearest friends-One little, unkind word, While in some light, unguarded hour, The heart with anger stirred.

A look will sometimes send a pang Of anguish to the heart; A tone will often cause the tear In sorrow's eye to start.

One little act of kindness done-One little soft word spoken-Hath power to wake a thrill of joy, E'en in a heart that's broken.

And so respect each other, That not a word, or look, or tone May wound a friend or brother.

From the German for the American Presbyterian. ABOUT THE MONTHS .- JANUARY.

As little Adolphus awoke one morning it shone all white through the windows. He quickly sprang from his little bed to see what it was out out of doors that spread such a white light all where did so much snow come from in the night?" the year is divided," said the father, instructing his little son. "Do you still know," he continued

pleasantly, "it is A little wish I bring you here, That God may bless you this New Year.' "And what was the day called on which you Year's Day," answered Adolphus. "Now see." and sixty-five such days." "Oh! but that is many," month has thirty to thirty-one days, except one which has twenty-eight or twenty-nine; every one month called January. We are now in this month: hence it is also called the winter month." "Is it winter only with us?" asked Adolphus, further. "O no, dear child!" answered the father, "it is winter far around over the carth, and in many places there is much more snow than with us." are even countries where the snow lies on the ground the whole year through." "The whole year through!" repeated the child with the same surprise as before. "But what do the people do with so much snow?" "They are glad," said his father, "that they have it; for without snow they would certainly freeze, so severe is the cold." heels, to the manifest discon. This was more than Adolphus could rightly put and all others in authority. together; he thought it very astonishing: the snow ought to make it colder. But his father showed him that it was not the case; but that the snow was like a white covering, a thick winter carpet, through which the cold could not find its way. "There are indeed men," he said, "who live in

cold work. I would not like to go with them." "But," answered the father, "the good people work themselves warm. If it is too cold for the children, the father finds an open place and builds a fire where they can get warm." "That may be very good," answered Adolphus, reaching out his hand to the stove, "but it is far better here, and I will not go abroad gathering wood in winter." 'Thank God that you are not obliged to," said the father, "but when you have grown up and have a stick to spare, don't throw it away or let it rot; but remember the poor people, and give it to one of them, and remember how happy it makes him if in the piercing cold of winter he can heat his stove to cook his supper by the fire."

UNCLE ABEL AND LITTLE EDWARD.

Were any of you born in New England, in the good old catechising, school-going, orderly times? f you were, you must remember my uncle Abel the most perpendicular, upright, downright, good man that ever labored six days and rested on the Sabbath. You remember his hard, weather-beaten countenance, where every line second to be drawn with a pen of iron and the point of a diamond his considerate gray eyes that moved over the objects as if it were not best to be in a hurry about seeing; the circumspect opening and shutting of his mouth; his down-sitting and uprising, -all of which appeared to be performed with a conviction aforethought: in short, the whole ordering of his life and conversation, which was according to the tenor of the military order, "to the right about face—forward—march!"

Now, if you have supposed from all this triangularism of exterior that this good man had no-thing kindly within, you are much mistaken.— You often find the greenest grass under a snowdrift, and though my uncle's mind was not exactly of flower-garden kind, still there was an abundance of wholesome and kindly vegetation there. It is true, he seldom laughed and never joked himself, but no man had a more serious and weighty conviction of what a good joke was in another; and when some excellent witticism was dispensed in his presence, you might see uncle Abel's face slowly relax into an expression of solemn satisfaction, and he would look at the author with a certain quiet wonder, as if it was astonishing how such a thing could ever come into a man's head. Uncle Abel also had some relish for the fine arts, in proof whereof I might adduce the pleasure with which he gazed at the plates in his family Bible—the likeness whereof I presume you never any of you saw. And he was also such an eminent musician that he could go through the singing book at a sitting, without the least fatigue, beating time like a wind-mill all the way. He had, too, a liberal hand, though his liberality was by the rule of three and practice. He did to his neighbors exactly as he would be done by-he loved some things in this world sincerely-he loved his God much, but he honored and feared him more; he was exact with others; he was more exact with himself-and expected his God to be more exact still. Everything in uncle Abel's house was in the same time, place manner, and form from year's end to year's end There was old master Rose, a dog after his own heart, who always walked as if he was learning the multiplication table. There was the old clock forever ticking away in the kitchen corner. There were the never-failing supply of red peppers and onions hanging over the chimney. There were the yearly holly hocks and morning-glories blooming around the windows. There was the "best room," with its sanded floor and evergreen asparagus bushes, its cupboard with a glass door in one corner, and the stand with the Bible and almanac on it in the other. There was aunt Betsey, who never looked any older, because she al ways looked as old as she could-who always dried her catnip and wormwood the last of September. and began to clean house the first of May. In short, this was the land of continuance.

Old Time never seemed to take it into his hear

to practise either addition, subtraction, or multi-

plication on the sum total. This aunt Betsey around. But when he reached the window he aforenamed was the neatest and most efficien clapped his little hands with delight, ran into the piece of human machinery that ever operated in sitting room and cried out: "Father, Mother !- forty places at once. She was always everywhere Snow, snow! only see how much snow! The predominating over and sceing to every thing,trees and hedges are almost covered up, and the and, though my uncle had been twice married, road is not any where to be seen. Oh! oh! but aunt Betsey's rule and authority had never been broken. She reigned over his wives when living His father smiled and said, "January has shaken and reigned after them when dead; and so seeme it out of the clouds." "January," said Adolphus likely to reign to the end of the chapter. But "who is he?" "One of the 12 months in which | my uncle's last wife left aunt Betsey a much less tractable subject to manage than had ever fallen to her lot before. Little Edward was the child "what that little wish was which you wished me of my uncle's old age, and a brighter, merrier a few days ago?" "Yes, indeed," cried Adolphus little blossom never grew on the edge of an avalanche. He had been committed to the nursing of his grandmamma till he arrived at the age of indiscretion, and then my old uncle's heart yearned toward him, and he was sent for at home. brought me this wish?" asked the father. "New His introduction into the family excited a terrible sensation. Never was there such a contemner of said the father, explaining, "New Year's day is dignities, such a violator of high places and the first day of a year, the year has three hundred sanctities as this very master Edward. It was all in vain to try to teach him decorum. He was exclaimed Adolphus. "Yes," said the father, the most outrageously merry little elf that ever "and in order more readily to get a view of these shook a head of curls, and it was all the same to many days, they have been divided into twelve him whether it was Sabbath day or any other day. groups, or little companies. These groups are He laughed and frolicked with every body and called the twelve months of the year. Every every thing that came in his way, not even excepting his solemn old father, and when you saw him with his arms round the old man's neck and too has its own name. The first thirty-one days his bright blue eyes and blooming cheek pressed counted from New Year's day, make the first out by the black face of uncle Abel, you almost funcied that you saw spring caressing winter. Unhence I said, that January had shaken the snow cle Abel's metaphysics were sorely puzzled how from the clouds." "But does it snow only in to bring this sparkling, daucing compound of spi-January?" asked Adolphus. "No," answered rit and matter into any reasonable shape, for he his father: "it often snows both before and after- did mischief with an energy and perseverance wards, but January not seldom brings the most that were truly astonishing. Once he scoured the snow, and in this month mostly it is the coldest, floor with aunt Betsey's Scotch snuff, and once he spent half an hour in trying to make Rose wear her spectacles. In short, there was no use but the right one to which he did not put every thing that came in his way. But uncle Abel was most of all puzzled to know what to do with him on "Still more!" exclaimed the child, full of asto- the Sabbath, for on that day master Edward nishment. "Yes, indeed," said his father, "there seemed to exert himself particularly to be entertaining. "Edward must not play on Sunday," his father would say, and then Edward would shake his curls over his eyes and walk out of the room as grave as the catechism, but the next moment you might see pussy scampering in dismay through the 'best room,' with Edward at her heels, to the manifest discomfort of aunt Betsey

At last my uncle came to the conclusion that "it wasn't in natur' to teach him better, and that he would no more keep Sunday than the brook down in the lot." My poor uncle! he did not know what was the matter with his heart, but certain it was he had lost all faculty of scolding holes made in the snow!" At this piece of in- when little Edward was in the case, though he telligence Adolphus shuddered and took refuge would stand rubbing his spectacles a quarter of by the stove, and said, "That's what I an hour longer than common, when aunt Betsey wouldn't do." His father laughed and said, "I was detailing his witticisms and clever doings. too am of the opinion that a warm house is plea- But in progress of time our hero compassed his santer than a snow-hole; meanwhile you owe it to third year and arrived at the dignity of going to the good God, my child, that you can live in a school. He went industriously through the spellcomfortable house, many a child enjoys this happiness but seldom." "Do not all the people "man's chief end" to the "Commandments" in then have fires?" asked Adolphus in astonish- a fortnight, and at last came home inordinately ment. "They would gladly have a fire," answered merry, to tell his father he had got to "Amen." his father, "if they had wood." "Wood!" ex- After this he made a regular business of saying claimed the child, "wood, surely there is plenty over the whole every Sunday evening, standing of that." "Yes," soid the father, "but it must with his hands folded in front, and his checked be bought, and it is dear—poor people haven't apron smoothed down, occasionally giving a much money, hardly enough to buy what food and glance over his shoulder to see if papa was atclothes they must have, and hence in winter they not seldom are in want of wood, and would be mind, he made several efforts to teach Rose the very glad if they had but enough to cook a warm catechism, in which he succeeded as well as "What can they do then?" inquired | could be expected. In short, without further de-"Cold as it may be, they must go out tail, master Edward bade fair to become a liteinto the woods and fetch the dead wood which rary wonder. But alas for poor little Edward! they can find. In Germany the keeper of the his merry dance was soon over. A day came wood allows the poor people to do this on certain days of the week, and as they are allowed too, to days of the week, and as they are allowed too, to cut off dead branches from the trees, they often start out at such at time, early in the morning, with ropes and hatchets, fathers, mothers, and children, and gather the wood, which they then tie up in great bundles and carry home on their backs, or drag home on sleds; often they are obliged to work kneed deep in the spow and to work a road of the physician, when every thing had been tried in vain. "Nothing," any work kneed deep in the spow and to work a road of the physician. work knee deep in the snow, and to make a road for themselves." "Hooh," shivered Adolphus, chattering his little teeth together, "that must be done!" said he. Just at that moment, a ray of

"O dear, O, I am so sick!" he gasped sleep. "O dear, O, I am so sick!" he gasped feebly. His father raised him in his arms; he breathed easier and looked up with a grateful

Just then his old playmate, the cat, crossed the floor. "There goes pussy," said he; "O dear, I noor. "Inere goes pussy," said he; "O dear, I never shall play with pussy any more." At that moment a deadly change passed over his face; he looked up to his father with an imploring expression and put out his hands. There was one moment of agony, and the sweet features settled with a smile of peace, and mortality was swal-lowed up in life. My uncle laid him down, and looked one moment at his beautiful face; it was too much for his pride, and he lifted up his voice

The next morning was the Sabbath, the funeral day, and it arose with breath all incense, and with cheek all bloom. Uncle Abel was calm and collected as ever, but in his face there was a sorrow-stricken expression that could not be mistaken. I remember him at family prayers, bending over the great Bible, and beginning the Psalm, Lord, thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations." Apparently he was touched by the brilliancy of life was gone, but the face was touched with the mysterious, triumphant brightness which seems like the dawning of heaven. My uncle looked long and steadily. He felt the beauty of what he gazed on; his heart was softened, but he had no words for his feelings. He morning was bright, and birds were singing merrily, and the little pet squirrel of little Edward

was frolicking about the door. My uncle watched him as he ran, first up one tree, then another, then over the fence, whisking his brush and chattering as if nothing was the matter. With a deep sigh uncle Abel broke forth, "How happy that creature is! well, the Lord's will be done." That day the dust was committed to the dust amid the lamentations of all who had known little Edward. Years have passed away since then, and my uncle has long of his griefs and woes." been gathered to his fathers, but his just and upright spirit has entered the liberty of the sons of Yes, the good man may have opinions which the philosophical scorn, weaknesses at ness. which the thoughtless smile, but death shall change him into all that is enlightened, wise, and refined. "He shall shine as the brightness of the firmament and as the stars, forever and ever."

Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe.

CHRISTIAN HAPPY HOMES. It requires not the eye of the close scrutinizer to discern that the moral world needs a thorough reformation. Even the glance of a causual observer will select such an amount of evil as makes the sensitive heart shrink, and cry out for a source of purification. No wonder then, that he who seans the world in all its phases, and obtains a full view of the unnumbered vices and sins that mar its every feature, should exclaim in agony of spirit, "What power is sufficient to change the entire aspect from darkness to light, to diffuse an atmosphere of purity in place of pollution?' And what, indeed, is sufficient to accomplish so mighty a work? No less an agent than the Religion of Jesus can ever prove effectual. And how shall this agent best succeed in the momentous effort? By first making HAPPY HOMES, and then from their hearth stones, as stand-points, its advances are to be urged in every direction. By the Pulpit and Press, by all the means in our power, let efforts be made to stamp the impress of Divine Truth on every feature of the fireside; to render every fireside, in its highest and noblest sense, a happy spot, and then we shall have so many strong fortresses from which to march forth for the

world's conquest. Christians, you who love the blessed Saviour, will you strive ever to manifest your religion abroad, be careful that it is never hidden at home; so brightly at home that all who cross the threshlinger within its influence. Keep the lump of etc. life so closely trimmed and so clearly burning, rich blessings God waiteth to bestow, and then through all their thousand channels of influence,

and purify wherever they go.

Let the home of every Christian become in its

Harry," and was always a favorite with Washington, probably from the recollections of his early every department a truly happy home, spanned by the bright rainbow of divine hope, in which

in a holy warfare. And this home-field is one in which every one the very essence of pure religion be constantly heavenly truth and grace be concentrated by He found there an early friend and schoolmate, every hearth-stone, and from so many mighty Beverly Robinson, Speaker of the Virginia House the homes of Christians truly Christian homes, and soon would the entire moral world be fully revolutionized; yea, more, the heathen world too, would be converted to God.

WINTER RULES.

Never go to bed with cold or damp feet. In going into a colder air, keep the mouth reso lutely closed, that then, by compelling the air to pass circuitously through the nose and head, it may become warmed before it reaches the lungs, and thus prevent those shocks and sudden chills other serious forms of disease.

Never sleep with the head in the draft of an the polite circle of New York. other serious forms of disease.

open door or window. the body. Have an extra covering within easy was refused, is traditional, and not very probable. reach in case of a sudden and great change of His military rank, his early laurels and distinveather during the night.

a short distance. a journey.

If compelled to face a bitter cold wind, throw a sufficient approaches in his siege of the lady's silk handkerchief over the face; its agency is heart to warrant a summons to surrender. wonderful in modifying the cold. Those who are easily chilled on going out of

the setting sun pierced the checked curtains, and space between the shoulder blades behind, the and lay the state of the case before the Council. He sat off promptly on horseback, attended by gleamed like an angel's smile across the face of lungs being attached to the body at that point; a greamed like an angel's sinks across all strength of the little sufferer. He awoke from a disturbed little there is worth five times the amount over the Bishop, the well trained military servant, who had chest in front.

> the back against the fire or stove. Never begin a journey until breakfast has been

minutes, and even then close the mouth, put on the gloves, wrap up the neck, and put on cloak or overcoat before passing out of the door; the neglect of these has laid many a good and useful Among the guests at Mr. Chambe nan in a premature grave.

Never speak under a hoarseness, especially if it equires an effort, or gives a hurting or a painful feeling, for it often results in a permanent loss of voice, or long life of invalidism.—Hall's Journal

Miscellaneous.

WASHINGTON'S LOVE AFFAIRS. In one of these manuscript memorials of l practical studies and exercises, we have come upon melancholy and splendour of the poetry; for, after reading a few verses, he stopped. There was we have just cited with his apparent unromantic a dead silence, interrupted only by the tick of the character. In a word, there are evidences in his clock. He cleared his voice repeatedly, and tried own hand-writing that, before he was fifteen years to go on, but in vain. He closed the book and of age, he had conceived a passion for some inkneeled in prayer. The energy of sorrow broke known beauty, so serious as to disturb his otherthrough his formal reverence, and his language wise well regulated mind and to make him really through his formal reverence, and his language wise well regulated mind and to make him fearly flowed forth with a deep and sorrowful pathos, which I have never forgotten. The God so much reverenced, so much feared, seemed to draw near to him as a friend and comforter, to be his refuge and strength, "a very present help in time of him as such, or his own shyness may have been him as such, or his own shyness may have been him as such, or his own shyness may have been and strength, "a very present help in time of thousand strength, "a very present help in time of the departed one; I followed and stood with him over the dead. He uncovered and rendered him formal and ungainly when he his face. It was set with the seal of death, but O | most sought to please. Even in later years he how surprisingly lovely was the impression! The was apt to be silent and embarrassed in female so-

Whatever may have been the reason, this early attachment seems to have been a source of poignant left the room unconsciously, and stood at the front discomfort to him. It dlung to him after he took door. The bells were ringing for Church; the a final leave of school in the autumn of 1747, and went to reside with his brother Lawrence at Mount Vernon. Here he continued his mathematical studies and his practice in surveying, disturbed at times by recurrences of his unlucky passion. Though by no means of a poetical temperament, the waste pages of his journal betray several attempts to pour forth his amorous sorrows in verse. They are mere common-place rhymes, such as lovers at his age are apt to write, in which he bewails his "poor restless heart, wounded by Cupid's dart," and "bleeding for one who remains pitiless

The tenor of some of his verses induces us to believe that he never told his love, but, as we have already surmised, was prevented by his bashful-

"Ah woe is me that I should love and conceal; Long have I wished and never dare reveal. It is difficult to reconcile one's self to the idea of the cool and sedate Washington, the great champion of American liberty, a woe-worn lover in his youthful days, "sighing like furnace" and inditing plaintive verses about the groves of Mount Vernon. We are glad of an opportunity, however, of penetrating to his native feelings and finding that under his studied decorum and reserve he had a heart of flesh, throbbing with the warm impulses of human nature. *

The merits of Washington were known and appreciated by the Fairfax family. Though not quite sixteen years of age, he no longer seemed a boy, nor was he treated as such .- Tall, athletic and manly for his years, his early self-training and the code of conduct he had devised, gave a gravity and decision to his conduct; his frankness and modesty inspired regard, and the melancholy of which he speaks may have produced a softness in his manner calculated to win favor in ladies' eyes. According to his own account, the female society by which he was surrounded, had a soothing effect on that melancholy. The charms of Miss Carey, the sister of the bride, seem even to have caused a slight fluttering in his bosom; which, however, was constantly rebuked by the remembrance of his former passion—so at least we judge from letters of his youthful confidents, rough drafts of which are still to be seen in his tell-tale journal.

To one whom he addressed as his dear friend Robin, he writes:- "My residence is at present at his lordship's, where I might, was my heart disengaged, pass my time very pleasantly, as there's a very agreeable young lady lives in the same house, (Colonel George Fairfax's wife's sister,) but as that's only adding fuel to the fire, it makes let its mantle be as constantly worn when none me the more uneasy, for by often and unfavorably but fireside eyes rest thereou, as when subject to being in company with her, revives my passion for the public gaze. Keep the fire of divine love, your lowland beauty; whereas were I to live more which God hath kindled in your heart, burning retired from young women, I might, in some measure, alleviate my sorrow by burying that chaste hold shall feel the genial warmth, and delight to and troublesome passion in the grave of oblivion,

etc.
Similar ayowals he makes to another of that all your household-circle shall prefer its pure young correspondents, whom he styles "Dear friend light to any found abroad; and that they for John," as also to a female confidant, styled "Dear whom no such light beams at home, shall be glad Sally," to whom he acknowledges that the comto happen in and feel the influences of its cheer-ing rays. Make your homes, in religion, morality, law of Colonel George Fairfax," in a great meaintelligence and social joys, beautiful spots, im- sure cheers his sorrow and dejectedness. The pressed with as much of heaven as earth may re- object of his early passion is not positively known. ceive. Make them immediate reservoirs of the Tradition states that the "lowland beauty" was a Miss Grimes of Westmoreland, afterwards Mrs. Lee, and mother of General Henry Lee, who send out on every side these blessings to adorn figured in revolutionary history as "Light Horse tenderness for his mother.

Whatever may have been the soothing effect of the lovely tints of all the Christian graces and virtues softly blend, and soon will we see a wondrous change wrought in the community. Then for his love-melancholy in the company of Lord the children of Christian parents, instead of going Fairfax. His lordship was a staunch fox-hunter, forth by hundreds and thousands as recruits for and kept horses and hounds in the English style. the companies of vice and sin, shall go out as re- The hunting season had arrived. The neighborcruiting officers for the army of the Lord, and hood abounded with sport; but fox-hunting in from the ranks of the enemy they shall lead back Virginia required bold and skilful horsemanship. their thousands to enlist under the white banner He forthwith took him into peculiar favor; made of the Gospel of Christ, and become good soldiers him his hunting companion; and it was probably under the tuition of the hard riding old nobleman that the youth imbibed that fondness for the chase may labor, and toil on without ceasing. Let for which he was afterwards remarked. * * * Tradition gives very different motives from those distilled by every fireside; let the strong forces of of business for his two sojourns in the latter city.

centres shall the work of reformation, there begun, of Burgesses. He was living happily and prospercontinue extending in widening lines, till circle ously with a young and wealthy bride, having meet circle, and the reform is complete. Make married one of the nieces and heiresses of Mr. Adolphus Philipse, a rich landholder, whose manorhouse is still to be seen on the banks of the Hudson. At the house of Mr. Beverly Robinson. where Washington was an honored guest, he met Miss Mary Philipse, sister and co-heiress of Mrs. Robinson, a young lady whose personal attractions are said to have rivalled her reputed wealth. We have already given an instance of Washington's early sensibility to female charms.—A life, however, of constant activity and care—passed for the most part in the wilderness and on the frontier, far from female society-had left little mood or leisure for the indulgence of the tender sentiment; but made him more sensible, in the which frequently end in pleurisy, pneumonia, and | present brief interval of gay and social life, to the

That he was an open admirer of Miss Philipse Let more cover be on the lower limbs than on is an historical fact; that he sought her hand, but guished presence, were all calculated to find favor Never stand still a moment out of doors, espe- in female eyes; but his sojourn in New York was cially at street corners after having walked even | brief; he may have been diffident in urging his suit with a lady accustomed to the homage of so-Never put on a new boot or shoe in beginning journey.

Suit with a lady accustomed to the homage of solicity, and surrounded by admirers. The most probable version of the story is, that he was called Never wear India rubbers in cold dry weather. away by his public duties before he had made

Washington was now ordered by Sir John St. doors, should have some cotton batting attached Clair, the Quartermaster-General of the forces to the vest or other garment, so as to protect the under General Forbes, to repair to Williamsburg,

served the late General Braddock. It proved an Never sit for more than a minute at a time with the back against the fire or stove.

Never begin a journey until breakfast has been branch of York River, he fell in company with a eaten.

After speaking, singing or preaching in a warm room in winter, do not leave it for at least ten minutes. and even the claimed him as a guest. It was not a single company with a Mr. Chamberlayne, who lived in the neighborhood, and who in the spirit of Virginian hospitality, claimed him as a guest. It was not a single company with a Mr. Chamberlayne, who lived in the neighborhood, and who in the spirit of Virginian hospitality, claimed him as a guest. ner, so impatient was he to arrive at Williams-

> Among the guests at Mr. Chamberlayne's was a young and blooming widow Mrs. Martha Custis, daughter of Mr. John Dandridge, both patrician names in the province. Her husband, John Park Custis, had been dead about three years, leaving her with two young children and a large fortune. She is represented as being rather below the middle size, but extremely well shaped, with an agreeable countenance, dark hazel eyes and hair, and those frank, engaging manners, so captivating in southern women. We are not informed whether Washington had met with her before; probably not: during that time he had been almost continually on the frontier. We have shown that, with all his gravity and reserve, he was quickly suscep tible to female charms; and they may have had greater effect upon him when thus casually encountered in fleeting moments snatched from the cares, and perplexities, and rude scenes of frontier warfare. At any rate, his heart appears to have

been taken by surprise.

The dinner, which in those days was an earlier afternoon meal than at present, seemed all too short. The afternoon passed away like a dream. Bishop was punctual to the orders he had received on halting; the horses pawed at the door; but, for once, Washington loitered in the path of duty. The horses were countermanded, and it was not until the next morning that he was again in the saddle, spurring forward to Williamsburg. Happily, the White House, the residence of Mrs. Custis, was in New Kent county, at no great distance from that city, so that he had opportunities of visiting ner in the intervals of business.

His time for courtship, however, was brief. Military duties called him almost immediately to Winchester; but he feared, should he leave the matter in suspense, some more interesting rival might supplant him during his absence, as in the case of Miss Philipse at New York. He improved, therefore, his brief opportunity to the utmost The blooming woman had many suitors; but Washington was graced with that renown so ennobling in the eyes of woman. In a word, before they had separated, they had mutually plighted their faith, and the marriage was to take place as soon as the campaign against Fort Duquesne was

Irving's Life of Washington

THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN GENESEE EVANGELIST. A WEEKLY FAMILY NEWSPAPER, Published every Thursday, at 1334 Chestnut Street,

Devoted to the promotion of sound Christian doctrine and pure religion, especially as connected with the Constitutional Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. D. C. HOUGHTON, EDITOR,

ASSOCIATED WITH GEORGE DUFFIELD, JR. ALBERT BARNES.

THE AMERICAN PRESENTERIAN WAS commenced three years ago by a company of benevolent and pious men, who loved the Church and desired to promote its interests. One year later, at the mutual consent of the friends of both papers, and by the publicly expressed concurrence and endorsement of the Genesee Synod, the Genesee Evangelist, for ten years published at Rochester, N. Y., was united with and merged in the American Preserventary, published at Philadelphia. The union of these preserve here contributed expective to the strength in these preserves. PRESENTERIAN, published at Philadelphia. The union of these papers has contributed greatly to the circulation influence, and usefulness of the UNITED PAPER. Measures have been taken to improve the paper, elevate its religious tone and character, and render it every way worthy of its increased and rapidly increasing circulation and usefulness.

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