The Family Circle.

ROCK ME TO SLEEP.

BACKWARD, turn backward, O Time, in your flight, Make me a child again just for to-night! Mother, come back from the echoless shore, Take me again to your heart as of yore; Kiss from my forehead the furrows of care, Smooth the few silver threads out of my hair, Over my slumbers your loving watch keep; Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep

Backward, flow backward, O tide of years! I am so weary of toils and of tears— Toil without recompense, tears all in vain— Take them and give me my childhood again! I have grown weary of dust and decay, Weary of flinging my soul-wealth away, Weary of sowing for others to reap! Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!

Tired of the hollow, the base, the untrue, Mother, O mother, my heart calls for you! Many a summer the grass has grown green, Blossomed and faded, our faces between, Yet with strong yearning and passionate pain, Long I to-night for your presence again; Come from the silence so long and so deep; Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!

Over my heart, in days that are flown, No love like mother-love ever was shown;
No other worship abides and endures,
Faithful, unselfish, and patient, like yours;
None like a mother can charm away pain
From the sick soul and the world-weary brain;
Slumber's soft calm o'er my heavy lids creep;
Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!

Come, let your brown hair, just lighted with gold, Fall on your shoulders again, as of old; Let it fall over my forehead to night, Shading my faint eyes away from the light. For with its sunny-edged shadows once more, Haply will throng the sweet visions of yore: Lovingly, softly, its bright billows sweep! Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!

Mother, dear mother! the years have been long Since I last hushed to your lullaby song; Since then, and unto my soul it shall seem, Womenhood's years have been but a dream. Clasped to your arms in a loving embrace, With your light lashes just sweeping my face, Never hereafter to wake or to weep, Rock me to sleep!

[FROM THE BANNER OF THE COVENANT.] WILLIE, THE RUNAWAY.

ONE moonlight night, when all the house was still, Willie Nichols rose softly from his hed. He dressed himself quietly, that he might not disturb his sister, or his little brother Bennie, who slept with him. Through the window of the attic room the moonbeams shone softly, and they threw their beautiful light on Fannie's pale face, and on Bennie's curling hair. They showed Willie the seams and cracks in the old wall, the trunk which on the stand. Precious little Bible! His It fell, too, upon the Squire's white house, standing so proudly among the old stately trees, and upon the long, winding road that led to Farmer Benson's.

Willie! Do not leave your widowed mo- heavenly home. ther and her little ones, and your dear home." But a whisper on the other side was from the gentleman who, years before, had louder still, and saying, "I can never go to Farmer Benson's," the boy dressed himin Lime.

Irom the gentleman who, just a sent the account of his death to the old home in Lime.

M. E. M. self, tied up his few things, and his Bible among them. Then, with a last fond look at brother and sister, he stole out of the room and down the stairs. At his mother's door he paused, and put his hand upon the latch,

ship had been wrecked on a distant coast, the lady apparently was sleeping. wishes and a day's work now and then to the and my thoughts were my own. widow. Meanwhile by various means, sew- All the tender care which a mother could

The little fellow had objected to this; but shoulder, and rest yourself. his mother deemed it best for him, and the arrangements had been completed to her own satisfaction and that of Mr. Benson. Willie Nichols could find no fault with the farmer, who was a pleasant, genial man, with a kind word for every one, but he longed to go to sea. The sea, with its wild blue waves, foam-crested, with its wideness and vastness. was the subject of his thoughts day and night. "Oh! how free," thought Willie, "must a sailor's life be."

But his mother had a horror of the ocean over since the letter came that told her of the wreck of the Flying Fish. Hen boys of her's should be a sailor." Willie had had said that if he loved her, he would not mention the sea in her hearing.

And so it was that Willie became a runaway. Down the stairs, through the little garden, out on the highway. The world before him! Cold, desolate, bitter world, that has tempted and disappointed so many! Home behind him, sweet home, with its halmy boy, pause, before you, like him, step out caring for him with a solicitude such as mother there only can feel. And through all the into the storms and tempests of life.

hard blows to bear. There was coarser fare filling his duty. than he had been used to. There was climb-ing up the rigging when the waves were seem to feel it beneath them to show any tenhis fearlessness and agility, made him a favorite on board, and there was not a man on the spirit manifested in the incident above mentioned, have the vessel who would not have risked life and an untold influence. The pathway down to limb to save the little fellow, had he been in the grave would be cheered, made even joy-

homeward, or perhaps bound still farther away than they were themselves.

One day the second mate, who was standing on deck, said, suddenly, to the boy, "Willie, where did you come from? "From Lime, sir, near N-

"Did you run away?" A tear gathered in Willie's eye, and his head drooped. No need of an answer. "Have you a father and mother?" "A mother at home, but my father is

"Does your mother know where you are,

my boy?"
"No," said Willie. "I wouldn't let her know for the world. It would break her heart." "Far worse for her to be in suspense.

Twenty thousand miles from home and your mother not know of it! No, Will! the first vessel we speak must carry a letter to your mother. Remember, my boy!" Willie promised, and began, in his leisure

moments, a letter. A few days afterwards they were chasing a whale. This is very dangerous sport, for the huge creature, when wounded, strikes dreadful blows with his tail, and often capsizes boats, or breaks them to pieces. The boat which held Willie and four or five of

the sailors had the bottom knocked out of it

by a blow of the monster's tail. Pale, and dreadfully bruised, the boy was lifted up the ship's side, and laid in his hammock. That night the mate watched by him till twelve o'clock. He had fallen into a gentle sleep, saying he would be all right in the

sleep, saying he would be all right in the morning. Bidding two of the men to watch if he wanted anything, the kind mate, who had always been his friend, left him, that he might himself seek repose.

Morning came. In its first grey light the mate returned to Willie's bed. The watchers, overcome by weariness, had fallen asleep. "Willie, how do you feel?" But Willie did

not answer. "He must be asleep," said his friend, surprised that no reply was given. He laid his hand on the boy's forehead. It was cold as marble. He lifted the little hand. It fell pulseless and cold from his grasp. Willie was dead.

Alone, all alone, in the drear dead of night, without a mother's soft caress, or a sister's loving whisper, the little runaway boy had been called to die. Alone, in the swinging ship, on the wide, wide sea. And, next day, as the sailors strode around in a solemn, silent circle, they brought the little white form on deck. It was sewed up in the hammock, with only the face left uncovered, that all his father had carried with him on his voy- might see, for the last time, the beautiful ages, years ago; and the little Bible lying features and the brown, wavy hair. The Sabbath school teacher had given it to him canvass was sewed up, the weights put in at captain read the burial service, and then the Sabbath school teacher had given it to min as a token of love, long before Willie had even thought of ever being a runaway. Out of the window the same moonlight was falling softly on the old mulberry tree in the little garden, and making fantastic shadows the ship went faster and faster on its way, the little sailor boy's form sank deeper and and branches upon the ground. deeper to the bottom of the sea, there to rest

until the resurrection. The unfinished letter, and a curl of the brown hair, were placed in Willie's Bible, Willie stood trembling and irresolute, as he gazed upon the still world outside. For Willie had been led to repent and believe in and sent home to his mother. But she had a moment his good angel whispered, "Stay, Jesus, and so had met his dear mother in the

OUR PARENTS.

Nor long since as I took my seat in the but he did not venture to go in. His mother cars for a day's ride, I observed, seated opmight awake, and Willie did not dare to meet posite me, an elderly lady and middle-aged her tender gaze, and ask a blessing upon his gentleman, who, I inferred from some casual remark, had been traveling a day or two. It Willie's mother was poor. Her husband's was a very early hour in the morning, and

and he had gone down with it. A hard We rode in silence for some time, when the struggle had Mrs. Nichols to procure food lady awoke, and I heard the gentleman adand fire for her little ones, though many of dress her as mother. His dignified, unobher neighbors were kind, and would have trusive manner, and the tender, deferential helped her if they could. But they were tone of his voice, at once drew my attention poor themselves, and could give but kind to them, and having no company, my eyes

ing, washing, nursing the sick, and in fact bestow on an infant child, were given by that everything that a woman's ready hands could son to his mother. The slightest movement do, she had made both ends meet, until on her part to adjust her furs, or cloak, or her three eldest children were old enough to over-shoes, or any change of position, called help her. Robert and Mattie were learning forth his ready hand in assistance, and the trades, and Willie was to be bound out to a inquiries, "Are you comfortable, mother? Do you feel tired? Lay your head on my

At noon the cars stopped for the passengers to obtain refreshments. It was snowing too fast for the mother to go out of the cars, and the son brought her a cup of coffee. "Is it just right, mother?" he inquired as she tasted it.

"A little more cream would make it better; it is, however, very good as it is," was her reply.

"Let me get you some more." "No, my son, it will make you too much

trouble; it is very good as it is." He went out and soon returned with the had often heard her remark, that "No son then a little more, until it was "just right." cream, and poured a little into the coffee, and sometimes spoken of his wish, but his mother him say in the same low tone of voice that at first attracted my attention, "I am glad, mother, that I can do anything to make you comfortable, it is such a pleasure to me."
"I thank you, my son," she replied in the

same spirit and tone of voice as that of her

Beautiful, thought I, as I quietly watched them, and saw manifested their mutual love lowed memories! Home, with its morning and confidence. My mind went back to the and evening altar of prayer, its charmed the time when this son, now in manhood's circle of loving ones, its recollections of a strength, was a little helpless infant, and I mother's kiss. Poor little wanderer! Ah! pictured that mother watching over him. pictured that mother watching over him, years of childhood and youth, up to manhood, Willie's home was near a seaport town. the watchful eye was ever over him, the guid-Before noon of the next day he was on the ing hand ever ready to lead, and a mother's deck of a ship bound for the South Pacific. love ever ready to restrain him from doing When again the moon shone on the water, wrong. Now it is his turn, when life's merihis native land was fading away in the dis- dian with her is past, and the infirmities of Willie did not find a sailor's life so free as gree, for all the labor bestowed on him, and he expected. There were hard words and faithfully and affectionately did he seem ful-

lashed by storms, and the ship rolled at their derness for their mothers. It is feminine, will. Many an hour of pain and home-sick- they say. They will perform acts of kindness came to Willie, and sometimes his little ness, but in a business kind of way, or behammock was wet with tears. Still, it was cause it is their duty, little dreaming that be the coming despot, if, indeed, he has not

danger.

Eighteen months went by. They had touched here and there at different ports, and now and then they had spoken a vessel bound now and the they had spoken a vessel bound now and the they had spoken a vessel bound now and the they had spoken a vessel bound now and the they had spoken a vessel bound now and then they had spoken a vessel bound now and the they had the th

zen, a true friend, and will be faithful in all or any other, to be so utterly infatuated as the walks of life. The Witness.

WHAT A TESTAMENT DID.

It used to make me shudder to hear Willie H---- pass the house, he was so profane. Many times I have called my little ones from their play, when I have seen Willie passing the house, as he drove a neighbor's cows to and from the pasture. Such vulgar and profane language I had never heard from the lips of a child. One day a lady called him

"Do you go to school, Willie?" A gruff "No," was the only reply. "Can you read?"

"No, not much: and I don't want to." The lady pitied the boy. He had no encouragement or instruction at home. His parents were very poor, and what is far vorse, vicious, and the people with whom he him. After a few kind inquiries, "Will you call a minute, as you go back,

He assented, with a look of wonder, and meeting the next Sabbath.

Now a year has passed. Among those who steadily worship at yonder sanctuary, there is not a more punctual or attentive worshipper than Willie H—. I love to watch him as he sits, with his eyes riveted upon the minister, seeming to drink every word he utters. The same little Testament is seen in the Sabbath school as often as the week comes round, with his lesson well learned, and his hair neatly brushed back from a fine open brow, and his clean "go-tomeeting suit." You would not recognize and profane.

HE TAKES NO RELIGIOUS PAPER.

Who takes no religious paper? A member of the church, and quite a leading man in the congregation to which he belongs!

would be some excuse for him. akes one or two, or perhaps more political thirty days begin to render probable. hat anything is wrong which his party adthe Reformation.

But he knows nothing about the missions f the church. He does not know where she has missions established among the heathen. He could not tell you whether they have done any good. He could not tell you whether a descendant of Abraham has been converted these fifty years. He knows nothing about how other congregations in his church are getting along. So when one member rejoices with it, and when another member suf-

fers, he cannot suffer with it. He casts a dime into the hat, once or twice vear, when collections are taken up, and then wonders what the church does with so

DOMESTIC FAULTS.

much money.—Chris. Intell.

Homes are more often darkened by the continual recurrence of small faults, than by the actual presence of any decided vice. These evils are apparently of very dissimilar magnitude; yet it is easier to grapple with one than another. The Eastern traveler can combine his forces and hunt down the tiger that prowls upon his path; but he scarcely scapes the mosquitoes that infest the air he preathes, or the fleas that swarm in the sand ne treads. The drunkard has been known to renounce his darling vice—the slave to lress and extravagance, her besetting sinbut the waspish temper, the irritating tone, the rude, dogmatic manner, and the hundred of association, have rarely done other than proceed till the action of disgust and gradual lienation has turned all the current of affections from their course, leaving nothing but barren track, over which the mere skeleton of companionship stalks alone.

Miscellaneous.

MILITARY DESPOTISM.

THE Montreal Witness, a journal of high haracter and much influence in British America, has a clear apprehension of our position, and extends a cordial sympathy to us in our trials. To the sinister forebodings and predictions so freely uttered by the enemies of republicanism in regard to one of the possible issues of the present struggle, it replies with great force as follows:

Several British papers express grave apprenension that the American Republic is going to terminate, at no distant day, in a military lespotism, which they aver to be the natural sequence of republics. These writers point to ancient Rome and modern France to jusify their views, but they never allude to Switzerland, where several centuries have failed to develope a tendency in the pre-scribed direction. The papers in question usually belong to the high conservative order, who have all along consistently maintained the necessity of monarchical, aristocratic and ecclesiastical establishments to keep the human race in any kind of tolerable order and stability. They do not, however, allude to the multiplied instances in which this combination of conservative influences has failed to produce its desired effect.

The arbitrary arrests and suppression of pointed to as conclusive proofs that the predicted military despotism is at hand; and scopes. General M'Clellan is on all hands allowed to come already. This young general has only to proclaim himself Emperor, and all the soldiers, and a majority of the people, have

How little do they, who imagine such Unionist of Murfreesboro', N. C., is deterthings, know of the American people! If mined to secede at once from her husband, there is one thing they love, honor and confor this very cause. It is probable that her fide in more than any other, it is in their application will be granted, even in North elective institutions; their universal suffrage; Carolina.

to make an attempt in the direction supposed, he would not find one man in a thousand. we might almost say a million, on his side. And the fact that the whole nation tolerates arbitrary arrests and suppressions of newspapers at this time, is only a proof that they are willing to make any temporary sacrifice, however great, in order permanently to maintain their cherished institutions. Even the Irish and Germans, who constitute so large a portion of the army which General M'Clellan commands, are so enthusiastic in their admiration of democratic institutions, that they have always sided with the demo-

There is another reason,—if any other were needed,-why no American General would ever attempt to become a king. He would know that if his position were such as lived saw little to encourage them to instruct to make the attempt possible, his ambition would be far more gratified by imitating Washington than Cæsar or Bonaparte.-What mere mortal has ever had such honors paid him as George Washington! especially she procured a nice New Testament, and in the United States, and the largest ambiwrote his name in it. In due time he called, tion that any American can conceive of, tillery, who has been taught by his master. seemed pleased at the interest the lady felt | would be to stand on an equality with him as | during the tedious days of camp life, to perin him, and promised her that he would try the second father of his country. Before form tricks that are almost marvellous. The to pick out at least one verse a day in his such an honor as this, how wretchedly poor dog is perfect in his drill, marching slow, New Testament, and that he would go to would appear to an American the fame of quick, and at the double, in obedience to the

HOW WILL THE WAR END?

extraordinary war must have one of three possible terminations.

1. The first one would be the complete him as the ragged, rough, vulgar boy of a success of the loyal forces over the confedeyear ago. He still passes my house with his rate insurgents, and the restoration of the daily errand, but the children are no longer Union in its olden integrity. This result called away at his approach. He is as mo- would be achieved by the superior physical dest and respectful as he was formerly rude and moral power of the North, aided by the Union element of the South, marshalled by such men of steel as Johnson and Holt, who are thus far the twin heroes of the hour. In the Union thus constructed there would be no place for Secessionists; and no political prestige or propagandism left to slavery. If suffered to exist under the Constitution. it would exist only as a crestfallen, emascu-Is he a poor man? No; he carries on a lated thing, shorn of its power to give itself arge business, and makes money faster than airs, and to dictate the policy of the Repubmost of his brethren. If he were poor, there | lic. This is the result towards which the great

matters. You might as well think to turn ses—long continued, crushing, heart-breaking away horror-struck, preferring to leave her will inevitably happen. A powerful peace than have it destroyed. The man who is wilvocates. And he wants everything done in party may then spring up at the North, and ling that his country should be divided by the compel the recognition of the new confede- sword of treason may have been born in perfectly sure that his way is the way things were done in the purest and best times of They would be aided by a small portion of Heart." the distinctively "abolition" party who would rejoice to go clear of the South and of chattel-slavery on almost any conceivable terms. This result is the one which most of the peoand not to them.

the present policy of attack fails to subdue the water, for 'he baptized him." the rebellion. It is that the loyal freedomloving North, exasperated by defeat and stung to desperation by a repetition of such days of terror as the last twenty-first of July on the field of Manassas, should proclaim universal liberty to the slaves, and thus plunge the steel of emancipation into the very vitals of the Confederacy. Ferocious, indeed, ciple, but in the end, slavery would fare like Jerusalem in that terrible Divine prediction, "I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down." You and I would not choose such an end for the institution; we would rather that the bondman's shackles were unloosed by law, under the inspiration of Gospel love. But since slavery made the war, it would be but a Nemesis of history if the war should unmake slavery. God is wiser than we. He reigneth. And be assured that nothing which he deems worth preserving will be lost, and nothing which he determines to destroy ought to be lamented. Let us calmly do our nameless negligencies, that spoil the beauty duty and leave the results to God.—Rev. T. L. Cuyler's Fast Day Sermon.

THE STARS AND MILKY-WAY.

THE total number of stars visible at once to the naked eye on a clear night, has been estimated at about two thousand; but when our Best Physicians as a valuable and favorite FAMILY MEDICINE, the eye is aided by the telescope, the number is increased, just in proportion to the power of the telescope employed.

No possible limit can be assigned to the number of the stars, even supposing that those which are discernable with our present instruments could be reckoned; for every improvement in the construction of the telescopeand such improvements are continually being made-brings into view multitudes of stars which could not be previously distinguished. And as it would be absurd to attempt to set limits to such improvements, it would be in vain to endeavor to form an estimate, even of the number of stars with whose existence we may become acquainted, and much more of those which have their dwelling-place in those depths of space which can never be pene-

The milky-way has the aspect of a delicate luminous cloud, presenting the faint and indistinct appearance which is termed nebulous.

THESE Medicines have now been before the public for a period of Thirty Years, and during that time maintained a high character, in almost every part of the globe, for their extraordinary and immediate power of restoring perfect health to persons suffering the property of the public for a period of the public When examined with telescopes of even moderate power, it is perceived that the nebu-lous appearance is due, not to any vapor-like assemblage of uncondensed matter, but to an innumerable multitude of very faint stars, apparently so near together that they cannot to have been completely cured by these purely Vegethe distinguished by the naked eve. Other nebulous patches are to be seen in different parts of the heavens; and of these, also, most are capable of being separated or resolved, by means of telescopes of greater or less power, into distinct stars, whilst some others newspapers now going on in the States, are mined with the assistance of the best teleretain their nebulous aspect even when exa-

A NOVEL DIVORCE

An application for divorce on the ground of abolition sentiments in the offending party, only to shout "Long live Emperor M'Clellis certainly a novelty, Mrs. Sue A. Carter lan!" and their predictions will be fulfilled. Foster, wife of Charles Henry Foster, a noted

A WRITER in the National Intelligencer states that the theory of Mr. Clemson, head of the Agricultural Department of the Patent Office, of living organisms in the atmosphere, which he made public in 1856, has been adopted by a French chemist named Barkal, and announced to the French Academy. Mr. Clemson's theory is that the air, like water, teems with minute living organisms; that there is phosphoric acid in the air, derived from the successive generations after generations of myriads of these organisms produced, living and dying, in the atmosphere. It is expected that this discovery will explain why cratic party, supposing it to be more favorable to universal suffrage in the largest sense the earth is increased in fertility by being broken up and exposed to the air. It connects meteorology with agriculture, and will, when fully developed, open a new page to the learned of the relation of the spots on the sun, the degree of fertility of the earth, and electrical changes of the atmosphere and magnetical condition of the earth.

EXTRAORDINARY DOG.

At Aldershott camp there is a large spaniel, belonging to a sergeant in the Royal Arany usurper on record! The writers of the word of command. After he had been put articles in question have just as much chance through his paces, his master called him up, to become kings of Great Britain, as General | and asked his opinion of the various regiments M'Clellan or any other general has to become on the ground. Were the Plungers the best king of the United States, or any part thereof. | corps?—no signs of approval. Were the 42nd Foot ?-silence on the part of the dog. After going over a half-a-dozen names, the master asked, exactly in the same tone as that in which he had put his previous questions, the As far as I can penetrate the future this dog's opinion of the Royal Artillery. He instantly burst out into joyous barking, jumping about and rolling. The sergeant then called for three cheers for the King of Prussia; no sounds—three cheers for the King of Naples; a low growl—three cheers for the Emperor of Austria; silence again—three cheers for the Queen of England; such a volley of resounding barks that echoed again. -London Advertiser.

A GOOD SIMILE.

HON. JOSEPH HOLT, in his late speech at Boston, said :- "The dismemberment of the Union involves the abasement of all that of which, as Americans, we feel proud, which we have recived as an inheritance from our fathers, and which we are bound to transmit unimpaired to our posterity. When the wise Is he an intelligent man? Well—yes; he is the result which the events of the last the child there were two, or perhaps more political thirty days begin to read a should be cut in two mans and the child shou papers, and is well posted up in political 2. But in case the war brings only rever- at the judgment, while the true mother turned to each, it was the false mother who exulted America, but he cannot have an AMERICAN

> LOGIC OF THE BAPTISTS.—A very respectable Baptist paper contains in one of its columns, in a recent issue, the following very ple of Europe predict, and which many of characteristic illustration of their mode of their jealous-eyed prophets heartily desire. argument in favor of immersion, as the Scrip-They would like to see us rivals to ourselves ture way of baptism:—"That Philip did not go under the water is certain; but it is 3. There is a third result possible, in case equally certain that he put the eunuch under

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