# The Family Circle.

#### Potential Moods.

I sir and dream Of the time that prophets have long foretold, Of an age surpassing the age of gold, Which the eyes of the selfish can never behold, When truth and love shall be owned su-

I think and weep O'er the thousands oppressed by sin and woe, O'er the long procession of those who go, Through ignorance, error, and passions low, To the unsought bed of their dreamless sleep.

I wait and long
For the sway of justice, the rule of right;
For the glad diffusion of wisdom's light; For the triumph of liberty over might; For the day when the weak shall be free from the strong.

I work and sing To welcome the dawn of the fairer day, When crime and sin shall have passed away, When men shall live as well as they pray,

And earth with the gladness of heaven shall

In the tide of God's love that unceasingly rolls, In the dear words of promise that bear up our In the tender compassion that sweetly consoles, When in death's darkened valley we tremb

I toil and pray For the beauty excelling all forms of art; For the blessings that comes to the holy heart; For the hope that foretells, and seems a part Of the life and joy of the heavenly day. -Continental Monthly.

#### THE HOME OF LITTLE BEN.

AT the appointed time, Mr. Elliot found himself again in the wretched court; within squabble and fight. It was a painful scene, ever mingled with his pride of intellect, they and Mr. Elliot groaned over the want of la- had vanished now. Here were the sickborers in this mission field,

"Where souls were wandering far and wide, One or two touching little things struck there was for them also a Good Shepherd and Mr. Elliot's eye. There was a broken flower- a happy fold. pot in one window, in which a small fuchsia "Listen," said he, "God, the great God was hanging out its graceful but sorely that made us, was very grieved because men In another there was little box of mignonette, pale and stunted, but He had an only and well-beloved Son, but still a green thing, which might per-chance take a thought of freshness into its will the Son came down from heaven, and possessor's heart. From yet another window lived thirty years on earth as a poor cara lark, imprisoned in a small cage, was pour- penter, mocked and hated, and at last he died ing out its heavenward notes, and at inter- a cruel death on the cross; but he said, 'Bevals beating the bars of its cage, with the lieve on me and ye shall be saved and live. wild vehemence of its longing for purer air Then He rose again after that death, and now and freedom. Mr. Elliot wondered if, in He lives in heaven forever; and so it is, that dreary court, the lark's song took a mes- since that day, that whoever believes that sage to any of higher things—if there were the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all but one soul that longed to spread its wings sin is saved from his guilt and misery, and and flee away. There was none of those though he be dead, he shall live with God little external symbols of better things in forever. poor Ben's dwelling. It looked more forlorn than ever. The step-mother was less smile of peculiar and intelligent beauty, and stupid, but more ferocious than she had been again she murmured, soft and low, her old during Mr. Elliot's last visit. She had just burden: finished boxing poor little Ben's ears so soundly that he had fallen against the wall, and his nose was bleeding, and he was crying loudly; but the pain somehow lulled, and the tears dried up by the very sight of his friend. His father, two other men, and a bold, handsome girl, were playing cards, smoking, and drinking in one corner; while in another a wan, stricken-looking woman was leaning against the wall with her arms folded, and at her feet lay on the same dirty straw the same sick child whom Mr. Elliot had seen before-"little Moll." She was leaning on her elbow, her eyes sparkling and her cheeks flushed with feverishness, as she watched her mother and Ben with strange, wistful looks, that kept turning from them again up to the dirty broken panes, and to the dim blue strip of sky which she had watched, and watched, till it had grown like

"I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless lamb of God."

of that pretty hymn:

"Who taught her that?" he asked. "It's some gammon of Sue's there," answered the woman impatiently, while one of the men shouted out rudely: "What! Sue the sinner turned Sue the

saint! What's to be next?" The poor woman flushed and turned sadly to Mr. Elliot, saying in a weak, low voice: "It were none o' mine, but Ben's mother good lady taught it to her, and a deal more. and she kind of smiled when she said it, and I told it over to the little lass there, but I know naught more of it."

"What's your business, if so you have any?" interrupted Ben's step-mother, looking fiercely at Mr. Elliot. "You'd best be quick," said one of the

men, in a threatening voice. Mr. Elliot turned to a man who had not spoken, and whom Ben had pointed out as look came across the poor woman's agonized his father, and in a few short but kind words face, but she started up a moment after, saymade known his wish to take the boy from his home, put him at school, and afterwards get him taught a useful trade. The man bless you, sir!" and she hurried him away. hesitated, and then said;

"But how much'll you give for him?" \* Mr. Elliot was too wise to show his horror at the idea of the child being sold by the father, but repeated that he should be completely taken off his hands, and instead of growing up in habits of ignorance and crime, which might end in the gallows, he should learn to be a useful and respectable man.

"Well, well, master, answered the man. "but it's just this-what's good enough for me's good enough for him, I reckon; he'll turn a penny when he gets big, and unless | There were three houses standing upon the

Sue, trembling with agitation. "I tell you his mother won't rest in her grave if ye murder his demolish them; but owing to the short range of his guns and the great distance, could not demolish them. The only thing accomplishbody. Let him go, and be thankful, or she'll ed by this was driving the enemy out of them

a guess what I mean, maybe."

you'd surely give me something for the lad."
Thoroughly disgusted, Mr. Elliot was beginning to repeat his first offer, with the addition of a small bribe, for poor little Ben's do his utmost to rescue him, when the stepmother, who had fortified herself with another

dram, stepped forward with her arms a-kimbe: "Would she allow that gallows' bird of a boy, who was the plague of her life, to be set up like a gentleman indeed, when she and her children were left behind?—not she!" and with a fearful oath she declared that the boy should never set a foot in their grand schools. With a scowl and a curse the man replied: "You'd best be quiet, mistress, pretty gentle folks you and your brats would be, save little Moll, mayhap," and his face softened. "Well," continued he, "I'll think on it, master."

The man was evidently not insensible to

her words, for he looked uneasily round, and

then said in a subdued tone: "Well, but

At that moment a tremendous noise of cheering and laughing was heard below, and loud calls came for "Joe the joker," and 'Tim the tinker." With the love of excitemont common among their class, they were off in a moment, followed by the girl and the woman. She instantly turned to Mr. Elliot: "I'll get him to go to-morrow, and see you anywhere out of this, and he'll maybe come to his senses."

Fernie Lea was too far off, and Mr. Elliot appointed a friend's house in the town, though with little hope of seeing the man

"Now," said Sue, speaking fast and low, "say a word to the child there, and to me, too. Who was it that Ben's mother saw and I couldn't, though I strained my eyes?—who was Jesus, that was near her, and why did she keep saying, and saying, 'I'm a great sinner, but he's a great Saviour?—tell, tell," repeated she impatiently.
Thus urged, Mr. Elliott answered her ques-

tion, with something in his words and manner of the simplicity of a little child. He had never felt the doctrines of his faith so clear whose precincts Ben's father lived. The houses and beautiful, so suited to be what they prowere black and ruinous—many of the windows fess, words of comfort "to them that are lost." were stuffed up with old hats and rags, while The woman's hollow eyes fixed on him, with from others were lolling out idle, dirty, flaunt- an eagerness that would turn to despair if no ing women, talking and laughing loudly. In word of his brought hope to her soul. The the centre of the court was a heap of rubbish, unnaturally bright precocious look of the dyabout which prowled some starved, guilty ing child, turning away from his face to the looking cats and dogs, while children, that blue distant sky, and the wondering gaze of looked like nothing in the world but bundles little Ben, made him feel that he was called of rags and dirt, grovelled in the mire, or to speak a word in season to those for whose started up with fearful unchild-like words to souls no man had cared. If any doubts had blessed be God, there was an infallible Physician; here were the sheep, lost and strayed, and fallen among snares and wolves, but

mad sinned and become altogether hateful

There was a pause: little Moll smiled a

# "I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless lamb of God."

The woman's head was bowed low, low, but no voice came. Little Ben started forward with clasped hands, and said: "Mammy, mammy, is she alive—has she got away from the black box and the ugly black men-O mammy! where is she?" and the child's tears fell fast and warm with his longing to see the old familiar face and form, as dear to him as to the sons of bedecked and jewelled mothers, nay dearer, because it was a memory of the only tenderness he had ever known. Mr. Eliot put his arm round the little fellow. and told him that he must wait till his time came to die. No, he must not kill himself now, that would make God angry: but if he loved Jesus and believed on him, he would then go to live with the bright angel-mother, in the blessed angel-home, which the Lord the face of a friend. Mr. Elliot thought that Jesus had bought for mother and child by there was something like the little prisoned his own precious blood; and the boy's sobs lark in the upward look of the sick child. were hushed, and he longed and resolved to She was murmuring some words over and know and to love that kind and loving Saviour, and to be with him forever. "But it over to herself. He bent down to listen, and was surprised to hear her repeating a verse isn't for me, it isn't for me," murmured poor Sue, with her ragged apron thrown tight over her head. "Ben's mother was never so bad as me, and these children are innocents, bless them! but I tell you that if you've a wife, or a sister, or a daughter, she should shrink from the sight of me; and I've stolen, and I've been drunken, and I've had no pity on the child that was born to me; and I've known of murder and didn't tell it;

and woe is me, woe is me!!" "Listen," said Mr. Elliot again, "I will tell you a story. There was once a woman kept crooning it over before she died. A who had been as great a sinner as you, and when Jesus Christ was alive on earth, she came behind him; she did not dare to speak to him or to appear in his sight, because she hated herself for being a sinner, only she washed his feet with her tears of penitence, and she wiped them with her hair; and the Saviour turned round and said, in loving tones: 'Thy sins are forgiven, thy faith

hath saved thee, go in peace." Something of a happier smile and gentler ing: "You'd best go now. They aren't safe The court was almost deserted but he heard the sounds of drunken fighting and rioting which had caught Sue's quick ear,

# THE SOLDIER'S TRUST.

able alley. - The Motherless Boy.

come surging from the next still more miser-

In the present war, the rebels made an attack upon one of our regiments doing picket duty on the Maryland side of the Potomac. you fork out some tin, I wont part with a bit | Virginia shore which afforded shelter to the enemy, and it became necessary to have them "Are you a fool, Joe Brown?" interposed removed. The colonel tried the effect of

be at you. I know what I know, and you've to the shelter of the woods beyond.

other an orderly sergeant. The colonel gave | the King entreated that it might be compli- | and filial duties and relations tame or tastethe command to the sergeant, and told him ed with.

to select as many men as he needed, and go. to manage the boat and assist him, the brave some of these nights to be told that you are fellows departed on their perilous mission. dead." Ere they reached the middle of the stream, face of fear and doubt made him resolve to they were greeted with a shower of bullets; to the letter, soon proved substantially true. volley followed volley, each passing over After a gay supper at St. Cloud, Monsieur, they neared the shore, the house immediately the world. He, was asking M. de Ventadour accomplished there. The next house was with all his deliberation, could not do more. soon in flames also; but the third stood some distance from the river: to get to it, they must cross a ploughed field directly under fire of the musketry. Here, as in crossing the river, they were made the target for the enemy's bullets. Strange to say, this "for-lorn hope" returned uninjured, and were re-

> brave comrades The young sergeant, upon being complimented upon his courage, and interrogated as to the source of it, replied, "It is not in me; give God the glory. When I started, I committed my beloved wife and child to his fatherly care, should I never return. I breathed a prayer for myself and the little band with me. I went further; I entreated that we might all return in safety; and as I stepped from that boat, these words of the ninety-first Psalm came forcibly to my mind: A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the Most High, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.' I received it as an answer to my prayer; and though we could hear the bullets whizzing by almost touching us, I felt no more fear of them than if they had been hailstones."

for you if you love him.

the lost soul!

ready to receive you. He will send none language of the precision and expression away empty. Only believe on him—believe that he died for you. Take him at his word: say, on the whole, which has the advantage "Though your sins be as searlet, they shall in euphony.—Blackwood. be as white as snow." Let the language of

"Just as I am, without one plea, But that thy blood was shed for me, And that thou bidst me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come." Premium Tracts.

# Miscellaneous.

## ANECDOTES OF BLOOD-LETTING.

From "A Book about Doctors."

LORD CHESTERFIELD, wanting an additional vote for a coming division in the House of Peers, called on Lord Radnor, and after a little introductory conversation, complained of a distressing headache. "You ought to lose your blood then," said Lord Radnor.

"Do you indeed think so? Then, my dear lord, do add to the service of your advice by performing the operation. I know you are a most skillful surgeon." Delighted at the compliment, Lord Radnor, in a trice pulled out his lancet-case, and

opened a vein in his friend's arm. "By-the-by," asked the patient, as his arm was being adroitly bound up, "do you go down to the House to-day?"

"I had not intended going," answered the noble operator, "not being sufficiently in-formed on the question which is to be debated; but you, that have considered it, which side will you vote on?"

In reply, Lord Chesterfield unfolded his view of the case; and Lord Radnor was so delighted with the reasoning of the man (who had held his surgical powers in such high estimation), that he forthwith promised to support the wily earl's side in the divi-

"I have shed my blood for the good of my country," said Lord Chesterfield that evening, to a party of friends, who, on hearing the story, were convulsed with laughter.

ELSEWHERE mention has been made of thousand pounds ordered to be paid Sir Edmund King, for promptly bleeding Charles the Second. A nobler fee was given by a French lady to a surgeon, who used his lancet so clumsily that he cut an artery instead of a vein, in consequence of which the lady died. On her death-bed she, with charming humanity and irony, made a will, bequeathing the operator a life-annuity of eight hundred livres, on condition "that he never again bled anybody so long as he lived." In the Journal Encyclopedique of January 15, 1773, a similar story is told of a Polish princess, who lost her life in the same way. In her will, made in extremis, there was the following clause:-"Convinced of the injury that my unfortunate accident will occasion to death, I bequeath to him a life annuity of two hundred ducats, secured by my estate, and forgive his mistake from the heart: I

upon him."

"You will find," said Louis, "what your Selecting three men from his own company obstinacy will cost you, We shall be awoke

The royal prediction, though not fulfilled their heads without touching a man. As just as he was about to retire to bed, quitted in front of them, which was a large brick for a glass of a liquor sent him by the Duke one, offered them shelter for landing; and it of Savoy, when he dropped down dead. Anywas not many minutes after, ere the smoke how Monsieur went out of this life thinking issuing from the roof showed their work was of something nice. The Marquis of Hertford,

A FAMOUS French Marechal reproved the clumsiness of a phiebotomist in a less gratifying manner. Drawing himself away from the bungling operator, just as the incision was about to be made, he displayed an unwillingness to put himself further in the power of a practitioner, who, in affixing the fillet, ceived with enthusiastic cheers from their had given him a blow with the elbow in the

> "My lord," said the surgeon, "it seems that you are afraid of bleeding."
> "No," returned the Marechal, "not of bleeding-but the bleeder."

Steele tells of a phlebotomist who advertised, for the good of mankind, to bleed at "threepence per head:" Trade competition has, however, induced practitioners to perform the operation even without "the three-pence." In the Stanford Mercury for March 28, 1716, the following announcement was JOSEPH BERNHARD, made:- "Whereas the majority of apothecaries in Boston have agreed to pull down the price of bleeding to sixpence, let these certifie that Mr. Clarke, apothecary, will bleed anybody at his shop gratis."

#### THE HIGH AND THE LOW IN LANGUAGES.

One of the strangest phenomena connected with the history of languages, is the prevalence of two characters in the same lan-My dear soldier, what is the source of guage side by side like the major and minor your courage? Is Jesus your strong tower, keys in music. These characters have rewour refuge in the day of battle, as well as ceived the names of High and Low. They amid the storms of life? Is he your fortress, appear to belong to all the languages of the your shield, your defence? If not, haste to highly organised races. We have high Celmake him such to you. True, without him tic in the Welsh, Breton, and extinct Cumyou may go to the cannon's mouth, you may brian and Cornish languages; low Coltic in rush to the thickest of the fight without fear; the Irish, Gaelic, and Manx. We have the you may have no fear, because at the moment old high German and, the Gothic, and the you do not think of your danger, or that mother of the Scandinavian, Anglo-Saxon, "after death cometh the judgment." and present Platt Dedisch, Dutch, and Fle-If Jesus is your friend, the battle-field mish. We have high Pelasgian in the Helnay be to you the very gate of heaven; the lenic language; low Pelasgian in the Latin bullet which pierces your heart will be but and Etruscan; and we have bifurcate subdithe friendly messenger to call you home; and visions of these branches, one dialect of the such a home! The earthly mansion dwin- same language more approaching the high, dles to a miserable hovel as we contem- and the other the law key. In the languages plate the glories of that mansion where Christ | derived from the Latin, we have high Latin has gone to prepare a place for you—yes, in French and Italian, low Latin in Spanish and Portuguese—the Portuguese being pitchor you if you love him.

If Jesus is not your friend, if you do not ed still lower than the Spanish. In Greek love him, the deadly missile would be your we have high Hellenic in the Ionian and Atdeath-warrant, both of soul and body. The tic dialects, low Hellenic in the Dorian and death of the soul! The unutterable woe of Alolic. And then again, we have high French in the Langue d'oi, low French in Would you stand before the face of the the Langue d'oc; high Anglo-Saxon in Eng-Judge of all the earth with the mighty weight lish, and low Anglo-Saxon in Lowland Scotof all your sins upon you? Would you rush ish. The general features are not easy to into his presence without a Mediator? If define, but the low languages leve the broad not, come to the fountain opened in Christ Jesus, and wash in his blood. Take Jesus

for your Advocate and Redeemer. He stands is a greater richness and fulness in the low

## WASHINGTON'S VIEWS ON SLAVERY.

WASHINGTON, while faithful still in his duties to his God, was not unconcerned in regard to the welfare of his country. Especially he manifested his true patriotism, as well as his unrestricted philanthropy, by his solicitude for that unhappy class whose wrongs and woes a retributive Providence sooner or later must avenge, if not redressed. At this crisis in our country's life, it is gratifying indeed to find that Washington was no friend to slavery. He thus expresses himself on this subject in a letter to Lafayette, who, inspired with the true principles of liberty, had made arrangements to emancipate the slaves on an estate in one of the French colonies: "The benevolence of your heart," he says, "my dear Marquis, is so conspicutions ous on all occasions; that I never wonder at fresh proofs of it; but your late purchase of 10 x 12 inches, Orn'd Gilt Frame, complete, \$500 to 12 inches, Orn'd Gilt Frame, complete, \$500 to 17 x 20 "" " " " " " 1500 to 1500 view of emancipating the slaves, is a generous and noble proof of your humanity. Would to God a like spirit might diffuse itself gene-rally in the minds of the people of this coun-try." At another time he says to Robert Morris: "I hope it will not be conceived that it is my wish to hold the unhappy people who are the subject of this letter in slavery. I can only say there is not a man living who wishes more seriously than I do, to see a plan adopted for the abolition of it." In a letter to General Mercer, he says: " It is among my first wishes to see some plan adopted by which slavery in this country may be abolished by law." In his will he provides for the emancipation of all the slaves whom he held in his own right.—Rev. Dr. Wylie.

THE FAMILY AND REVIVALS

Many persons are for ever running around for revivals, careless of home, neglectful of children, and seeking their own pleasurable excitement, frequently, in a kind of religious carnival. The regularity of the family, often, is almost lost in the tumultuous exhilarations of religious excitements. Now, any rations of religious excitements. Now, any conception of religious culture and life that leaves the family out, or that is at the expense of the family, is fundamentally wrong, and in the end cannot but be mischievous. Genial and general religious excitements have their benefits. The world could not get on without them. Man is a social being, religiously, as much as in any other respect; religiously, as much as in any other respect: and revivals of religion are normal. But, good as are religious excitements, they have evils and dangers, which must be watched a-gainst; and this is one of them: when they do not spring as the proper streams out of the family; or when they go forward only as church movements, and not as family move.

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S. W. corner of Eighth and Walnut streets, the unhappy surgeon who is the cause of my ments. The divinity of revivals may be tested by their effect on the family. If they turn the heart of the parents toward their children, and the hearts of the children towish this may indemnify him for the discredit, which my sorrowful catastrophe will bring upon him."

ward their parents, they are of God. If they and the public generally, and will endeavor to serve them with courtesy and fidelity.

H. C. RI ATD the tendrils of love to draw the members of Monsieur, brother of Louis XIV., had an the family closer and closer to each other; insuperable aversion to the operation, howev- if under their influence blossoms and clusters er dexterous might be the operator. At of love hang in abundance on the family-tree, Marly, while at table with the King, he was then you may be sure that it is the true redemoiss them. The only thing accomplished by this was driving the enemy out of them to the shelter of the woods beyond.

The colonel then asked for volunteers to cross the river and burn the buildings. Only two men came forward, one a private, the

less, they may be suspected of being spurious, carnal, worldly.—H. W. Beecher.

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#### THE FIRE IN CHESTNUT STREET. Letter from Theo. H. Peters & Co.

Letter from Theo. H. Peters & Co.

Philadelphia, January 19, 1860.

Messrs. Farrel, Herring & Co.,
629 Chestnut Street.

Gentlemen:—We have recovered the Herring, Patent Champion Safe, of your make, which we bought from you nearly five years ago, from the ruins of our huilding, No. 716. Chestnut street, which was entirely destroyed by fire on the morning of the 17th inst.

So rapid was the progress of the flames, before we could reach the store, the whole interior was one mass of fire. The Safe being in the back part of the store, and surrounded by the most combustible materials, was exposed to great heat. It fell with the walls of that part of the building into the cellar, and remained imbedded in the ruins for more than thirty hours.

The Safe was opened this morning in the presence of a number of gentlemen, and the contents, comprising our books, bills, receivable money, and a large amount of valuable papers, are all safe; not a thing was touched by fire.

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