

The Family Circle.

The Proclamation.

I order and declare that all persons held as slaves in the said designated States and parts of States are and hereafter shall be free, &c., and I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Saint Patrick, slave to Miloche of the herds
O! Ballymen, sleeping, heard these words:
"Arise, and flee
Out from the land of bondage; and be free!"

He rose a man who laid him down a slave,
Shook from his locks the ashes of the grave,
And outward trod
Into the glorious liberty of God.

He cast the symbols of his shame away;
And passing where the sleeping Miloche lay,
Though back and limb
Smarted with wrong, he prayed, "God pardon him!"

So went we forth; but in God's time he came
To light on Ullin's hills a holy flame;
And dying gave
The land a saint that lost him as a slave.

Dark, and millions, patiently and dumb
Waiting for God, your hour, at last, has come,
And freedom's song
Breaks the long silence of your night of wrong!

Arise and flee! shake off the vile restraint
Of ages! but, like Ballymen's saint,
The oppressor spare,
Heep only on his head the coals of prayer!

Go forth, like him I like him, return again,
To bless the land whereon in bitter pain
Ye toiled for first,
And heal with freedom what your slavery cursed!

—Atlantic Monthly.

mamma, you said it was just the thing in sickness. Didn't I sit in it weeks and weeks most a fortnight, last winter, when I was sick?

Her mother smiled and said, "You shall do as you please, Katy, and never mind about the Central Park. We will have a new dress made for you. She had set the child a brave example when months before, she had gave up her first-born son. At first her heart had cried out, I cannot spare him; but she quieted the voice and told him he might go. And now, one among her many rewards was the sight of the child bravely fitting to her own little shoulders this little cross, for the wrong done."

Katy folded up the chair herself, wrapped it with papers, and tied it with many knots. Then she brought it to her mother and she sent it away. Whether it was sent by steamboat or by cars to the hospitals where her brother had been, or to one nearer home, Katy did not ask, and her mother did not say. It was enough that the chair had gone. And all that day, whenever her mother approached the nursery, she would hear Katy telling to her remaining playthings earnest stories about the sick soldiers whom her camp-chair had gone to comfort.—Independent.

GEN. WASHINGTON AND THE NEGRO.

A STORY FOR THE TIMES.

MANY old persons in Boston and its vicinity can remember a colored man of the name of Primus Hall. He had a good deal of natural intelligence, had amassed a comfortable property by his industry, and was always active in his efforts to promote education among the colored people of that city.

During the war of the Revolution, he was the servant of Col. Pickering, who was the intimate and confidential friend of Gen. Washington. This circumstance brought Primus Hall into frequent relations with the Commander-in-Chief. He had a great fund of anecdotes concerning him, which he was fond of relating. One of them conveys a lesson which may not be without usefulness at the present time. Gen. Washington often held consultation concerning military matters with Col. Pickering. His headquarters were at considerable distance from his friend's tent, and one evening, finding they were late, he occupied till a late hour, he proposed to Primus Hall to take a nap on the sofa provided there was a spare blanket and straw. Primus was appealed to, and being eager to oblige the Commander-in-Chief, stretched the truth, by replying "Plenty of straw and blankets; plenty."

KATY'S CAMP CHAIR.

It was a birthday present from Uncle John, and Katy valued it above all other chairs in the house. It was very small—just the right size for the little four-year-old lady; and when new, the seat of the chair and the strip of the carpet across the back, were bright green, covered with different colored flowers.

Katy enjoyed it faithfully for two years. She generally played it was her laughter Rosa, and her motherly attentions had not improved her little pre-appearance. There was many a mat, where she had plumed head-dresses and every sort of finery upon the patient little daughter; and the smooth wooden arms, from their being grasped so often by her little warm hands, were beginning to need a new coat of polish. But in Katy's sight it was perfect, and she could spare anything out of her nursery better than that.

When it was bought it was probably as good natured as any other chair, but Katy was bringing it up to be, like herself, occasionally naughty. So when it was dissatisfied with its old color, and it was left left at home when Katy wished to go, she folded it up in a stern manner, and shut it in the nursery-closet to wait for good behavior. Of course it was the most wonderful chair in the house. There was not another that could be folded in under those little shelves for punishment without breaking off all the four legs.

Katy had a brother, a man grown, who had marched away from her, months before, with his regiment, and whose letters she thought the most wonderful thing that ever mortal postman left at the front door. Sometimes there would be a few lines on purpose for her, and she would cut them from the rest of the letter and read them to herself and the dolls, until she really read them to pieces. And when there was nothing especially for her, she loved the letters almost as well. They were always read aloud, and she would sit by as solemn as if it were family worship, and, I am afraid, it rather more attentive. One night, when she had a letter, and Katy sat listening, as usual while her mother read these lines:

"I am almost well now, and shall soon be quite out of the hospital, but whether I am here or away, I am afraid I shall constantly be thinking of the poor people who have been suffering by my side for these last weeks. I cannot bear to think how badly some of them have needed little comforts. Thanks to you, dear mother, I have wanted for nothing, and when I could, I have divided with my companions. You have done more than your share, as you always do, but there are plenty who have done nothing, and it's too bad, altogether too bad. We give everything, even to our life, and those who stay comfortably at home ought at least to provide for the sick and wounded. Everybody ought to give something—yes, everybody. And it's very poor charity for people to send us only such things as they don't want, either."

LUCY AND THE CHURCH.

"Mother," whispered a little girl, slipping her head through her mother's arm, and resting it on her mother's shoulder, "mother, may I join the church?"

"You, my child! you are too young," said the mother, surprised into a reply she would not otherwise have made, perhaps. The child blushed, and a tear started in her eye.

"Did not my Saviour die for me, mother?" asked she presently.

"Yes, Lucy."

"I know it," said Lucy, "and I pray to love him, and I love him, and I say to myself over and over again:

"Jesus, I would follow Thee;
I thy little lamb would be;
and, mother, he won't shoo me off, will he?"

"Oh no," cried the mother, clasping her child in her arms, lest she might be thought doing so.

"Mother," continued the child, didn't the minister, last Sunday, call the church Jesus's fold; and isn't it better for me to be inside? for if I stay outside, I might stray away off and be lost; and then, mother, all the dear, good, pious people will be watching me. Oh, mayn't I join them, and get closer to Jesus?"

The child's plea deeply touched the mother's heart. She had prayed for her conversion, and yet when she found her one of Christ's little ones pressing into the same company, she was not surprised, she was so surprised that God would answer her prayers, and so backward too in encouraging her to follow.

The minister, and the elders too, whom she consulted, were afraid lest she was too young to know what she was about.

"Then," said Lucy sorrowfully, "if I die and go to Jesus, and he asks me why I did not do this in remembrance of me, shall I tell him you and the minister would let me, mother?" and a solemn inquiry it was.

Did not Christ make the conditions of discipleship so simple that the humblest and the little ones might understand and perform them? The church is a "household of faith"; and ought we not to bring believing children into its sacred fellowship, and holy responsibilities, thus giving them all the helps to a holy training in the Lord?

Lucy joined the church at eleven, and grew up a lovely Christian woman.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING.

"It is strange, isn't it," said Aunt Alice, "that whatever we may dress ourselves in, it is only second-hand clothing, after all?"

"Why, aunt Alice," said Minnie, with much earnestness, "I never wore second-hand clothing in my life. We give away all my clothes to the poor. I would not go to a party in old clothes, above all things."

"And yet, my dear, every thing you have on comes to you second-hand. Indeed, you would not permit the creatures who first wore them to enter your parlor. You would quite likely shrink away if they came near you. Yet you do not scruple to take their old garments and even take much pride in wearing them."

"I cannot understand you at all, aunty."

"Well, dear Minnie, you know the silk of which that bright tissue is made, was spun by a crawling worm. He made it for his shroud, and when he was quite done wearing it, the silk makers respun and made it over into this fabric. Those white gloves were once the clothing of a poor little animal, whose life had to be taken before his skin could be made over for you. Then another animal must be sacrificed to make even the soles of your fine slippers. Even the pearl ornament you wear was once the property of an oyster. The patient sheep must give his fleeces to make a mantle for about you. So you see, dear, that it is a hard matter to say first claim to any thing we wear, and this reflection may be very useful to us when we are tempted to pride ourselves on our fine raiment. God looks at the heart Minnie, and is more pleased with the 'ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, than all the gems in the world.'—N. Y. Chronicle.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EFFECTS OF THE AMERICAN WAR.

The solidarity, to use an expressive French word, of the human race, and its community of interests, are strikingly brought out by the effects of the present civil war in the United States. That war rages only around the borders of the seceded States, but its effects are felt throughout the world. Is there misery in Virginia and Tennessee? So is there in Lancashire, and the manufacturing districts of France and Germany. Nay, from missionary reports we learn that the native warriors in India are in great distress, on account of the high price of raw cotton, and that the Nestorians in Persia, whose clothing is almost wholly of cotton, find it difficult to sustain themselves on account of the greatly enhanced price of apparel. In a word, every nation that grows, manufactures, or uses cotton, is affected just in proportion to its interest in that universal staple.

THE INDIAN SOLDIERS TO THE FACTI-ONISTS AT HOME.

"What! admit that we are whipped? That twenty-three millions of Northern men are unequal to nine millions of the South? Shame on the State that would entertain so disgraceful a proposition! Shame upon the Democrat who would submit to it, and raise his cowardly voice and claim that he was an Indian! He, and such demagogues, with their obnoxious 'non-resistance' upon which should be built the lordly structure of their Southern aristocracy! And with whom would this unholy alliance be formed? With men who have forgotten their fathers, their oaths, their country, and their God; with guerrillas, cotton-burners; with those who force every man, woman, and child to be a slave or a rebel; with those who strike the blow which is aimed at the death of our wives and babes and are left behind; Men who persecute and hang, or drive from their lines, every man, woman, and child who will not fall down and worship the Southern God. And yet free-born men of our State will sympathize with such tyrants, and dare even to dream of coalition! Indians' proud and loyal legions number at least seventy thousand effective men in the field, and, as with one great heart, we know they would repudiate all unholy combinations tending to the permanent improvement of our Government. In this dark hour of our country's trial, there is but one road to success and peace, and that is, to be firmly united for our Government as the rebels are against it. Small differences of opinion amount to nothing in this grand struggle for a nation's existence. Do not place even one straw in the way, and remember that every word you speak to encourage the South, nerves the arm and strikes the blow which is aimed at the death of our wives and babes and are left behind; Men who persecute and hang, or drive from their lines, every man, woman, and child who will not fall down and worship the Southern God. 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