The Family Circle.

MY HOME. I have a home, a happy home, And friends to love me there; With daily bread I still am fed,
Have still warm clothes to wear;
I've health and strength in every limb;
How grateful should I be; How shall I show my love to Him Who shows such love to me?

Many are blind, or deaf, or lame;
I hear the sweet birds sing,
Can bound along With joyful song, Can watch the flowers of spring, No wasting pain my eye to dim, From want and sickness free; How shall I show my love to Him Who shows such love to me?

And blessings greater still than these A gracious God has given; The precious word Of Christ our Lord To guide my feet to heaven.

Among the shining cherubim
I trust my home shall be;
How shall I show my love to Him Who shows such love to me?

My God, I am a feeble child; Oh teach me to obey, With humble fear To serve thee here, To watch and praise and pray.

My love is weak, my faith is dim,
But grace I ask from thee,
That I may prove my love to Him
Who loved and died for me.

THE GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY.

A STORY TOLD TO A CHILD. BY JEAN INGELOW.

(CONTINUED.)

were finished, papa came in with his self. My mother sat down by me, hat and stick in hand; he was going took away the toy, and dried my eyes. to walk to the town, and offered to "Now you see, my child," she obtake me with him.

with my father, especially when he good, and those who only wish went to the town. I liked to look in at lightly. You had what you were the shop windows, and admire their various contents.

father was going to the Mechanics' Institute, and could not take me in with to school for one whole year—think him, but there was a certain basket of that, Orris! In one whole year she maker, with whose wife I was often might have learned a great deal about left on these occasions; to this good the God who made her, and who gave woman he brought me, and went away, his Son to die for her, and his Spirit promising not to be long.

And now, dear reader, whoever you would have gone a great way towards may be, I beseech you judge not too teaching her to read the Bible; in one harshly of me; remember I was but a year she might have learned a great child, and it is certain that if you are | many hymns, and a great many useful not a child yourself, there was a time things, which would have been of serwhen you were one. Next door to the vice to her when she was old enough basket-maker's there was a toy shop, and in its window I espied several new have you th own all this good from and very handsome toys.

"Mr. Miller's window looks uncommon gay," said the old basket-maker, observing the direction of my eyes.
"Uncommon," repeated his wife;

handsome sure-ly.22 "Wife," said the old man, "there's paper."

no harm in missy's just taking a look

"Not a bit in the world, bless her," sorry, I am sure I shall never do so aid the old woman; "I know she'll go no further, and come back here when she's looked 'em over."

"O yes, indeed I will: Mrs. Stebbs. may I go?"

The old woman nodded assent, and I was soon before the window.

Splendid visions! O the enviable you but Mr. Miller's shop?" position of Mr. Miller! How wondermagic lanterns, setting out his puzzles, and winding up his musical boxes. to part with them for mere money!

was lost in admiration, when they would play of themselves. Mr. Miller's voice made me start. miss?"

myself quite welcome, and was be another toy of that kind. Are there guiled into entering. In an instant he no temptations against which you are was behind the counter. "What is not on your guard?" the little article I can have the pleasure, miss—"

"O," I replied, blushing deeply, "T do not want to buy anything this afresh, I said to her-"O mamma, do morning, Mr. Miller.'

"Indeed, miss, that's rather a pity. do any good at all?" I'm sorry, miss, I confess, on your account. I should like to have served scarcely think you will. Certainly you, while I have goods about me that you will do no good which will be ac-I'm proud of. In a week or two," and ceptable to God."
he looked pompously about him—"I "Did I try in my own strength toshould say in less time than that, day?" they'll all be cleared out."

What, will they all be gone? all leave it to you to decide.' sold?" I exclaimed in dismay.

"Just so, miss, such is the appreciation of the public;" and he careplayed "The blue bells of Scotland"

ing down the stick, and taking up an worst thing you can do; you need and we can as well walk that way as dresses, and then, when all is well aired, strument is half-a-guinea—equal to child, otherwise all your good resolu-the finest notes of the hautboy." He tions will come to nothing." drew it out, and in his skilful hands it "discoursed" music, which I thought the most excellent I had ever heard.

describing my temptation. In ten away your volatile disposition, and minutes the accordion was folded up make you thoughtful and steady, but opposite the house which he sought; in silver paper, and I had parted with 'with God all things are possible." my cherished half-sovereign.

she dines, and so can you.'

least surprised at the way in which I you have one advantage that all chil had spent his present. This, however, dren are not blessed with." did not prevent my feeling sundry twinges of regret when I remembered all my good intentions. But, alas! ly wish to do good." my accordion soon cost me tears of bitter disappointment. Whether from its fault, or my own, I could not tell, it away, for it only vexes me to see it. but draw it out, and twist it about as I am sorry I have lost my golden op-I might, it would not play "The Blue Portunity."

Bells of Scotland," or any other of my favorite tumes. It was just like the was put away. The silver and the piano, every tune must be learned; copper remained, but there was an end there was no music inside which only of my golden opportunity. wanted winding out of it, as you wind the tunes out of barrel organs.

My mother coming in some time during that melancholy afternoon, found me sitting at the foot of my little bed holding my accordion, and shedding over it some of the most bitter tears that shame and repentance had yet wrung from me.

She looked astonished, and asked,

"What is the matter, my child?"
"O mamma," I replied, as well as
my sobs would let me, "I have bought this thing which won't play, and I have given Mr. Miller my golden opportunity."

"What, have you spent your halfsovereign? I thought you were going to put poor little Patty Morgan to school with it, and give her a new frock and tippet."

My tears fell afresh at this, and I thought how pretty little Patty would have looked in the new frock, and that The next day, just as my lessons I should have put it on for her, myke me with him.

It was always a treat to walk out served, "one great difference between disturbed."

Ab." wishing for—a good opportunity; for a child like you, ap unusual opportunity, for the town therefore we went. My there was going to the Mechanics' Interval of the means of putting a poor little orphanics to the means of putting a poor little orphanics. to make her holy. One whole year you and from her?"

"I am very, very sorry. I did not mean to buy the accordion; I forgot, when I heard Mr. Miller playing on it, that I had better not listen; and I "those new gimeracks from London is never remembered what I had done till it was mine, and folded up in

"You forgot till it was too late?" "Yes, mamma; but O, I am so

inv more." "Do not say so, my child; I fear it will happen again, many, many times."
"Many times? O mamma! I will

never go into Mr. Miller's shop again." "My dear child, do you think there is nothing in the world that can tempt

"Even if I go there," I sobbed, in ful that he was not always playing the bitterness of my sorrow, "it will with his toys, showing himself his not matter now, for I have no halfsovereign left to spend; but if I had another, and he were to show me the Still more wonderful, that he could bear most beautiful toys in the world, I would not buy them after this, not if

"My dear, that may be true; you, "Wouldn't you like to step inside, perhaps, would not be tempted again when you were on your guard; but He said this so affably, that I felt you know, Orris, you do not wish for

> I thought that my mother spoke in a tone of sorrow. I knew she lamented my volatile disposition; and crying you think that all my life I shall never

"If you try in your own strength, I

"What do you think, Orris? I

"I am afraid I did."

not cry and sob this way. Let this word that I was coming. I am a must go unwashed. lessly took up a little cedar stick, and morning's experience show you how stranger here, and have been walking open you are to temptation. To let a long time to no purpose." on the glass keys of a plaything piano. it make you think you shall never "This," he observed, coolly throw- yield to such temptation again, is the ther said we might walk for an hour, accordion, "this delightful little in- help from above; seek it, my dear any other."

"And if I do seek it, mamma?" "Then, weak as you are, you will

certainly be able to accomplish some-But what is the use of minutely thing. It is impossible for me to take folks, and we love to do them a favor."

"It is a great pity that at the very As we walked home, I enlarged on moment when I want to think about you, lest the carriages run over you." the delight I should have in playing | right things, and good things, all sorts | on my accordion. "It is so easy, of nonsense come into my head, those kind children! As they sepapapa: you have only to draw it in Grandpapa says I'm just like a whirli- rated, the old man said, "If you ever and out; I can even play it at dinner | gig; and besides that, I can never help | visit my country, come to the house time, if you like, between the meat laughing when I ought not, and I am of John B., and you shall have a hearty on, would be, to all appearance, the and the puddings. You know the always having lessons set me for run. welcome and as good entertainment as Queen has a band, papa, to play while ning about and making much noise a farm-house can afford."—Mother's in the mud round the fountains.—Vilwhen baby is asleep."

My father abruptly declined the | "My dear child, you must not be liberal offer; so did my grandfather, discontented; these are certainly diswhen I repeated it to him, but I was advantages; they will give you a great relieved to find that he was not in the deal of trouble, and myself too; but

> "What is that, mamma?" "There are times when you sincere-

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

A PLACE TO PRAY IN.

"Mother," said a pious boy the night before going away—"mother, the worst of leaving home is, I am afraid I shall not find a good place to pray in." Secret prayer—prayer by one's self—is to the Christian what oil is to the lamp. There can be no light without it. It is sometimes called "closet prayer," because, when the Lord Jesus laid the duty upon us, he says, "Enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret, and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee

Any one who loves to pray can find some place to be alone with God. "I can always find a place to pray, when I have a mind to pray," said a man-of-war's man. "I can commune with God leaning over the breech of a gun, though fifty men were walking the deck at the same time." "And I," said another, "can crawl out on the forechains, and there I can pray un-

"Ah," said another sailor, "when the Spirit of God got foul of me and showed me my sins, I was miserable indeed. I looked into my Bible, and the more I read, the more it condemned me. Everything in it seemed against me. So it went on nearly two weeks, till one day I was sitting aft on the booby-hatch strapping a block. I was afraid I should become discouraged, and begin to swear again; yet it did appear of no use to try. Then I thought I would make one more effort to get pardon. I threw down the block and strap, and started aloft for the maintopsail yard, and I leaned over the yard and prayed, 'O Lord, if there is mercy for a poor sinner, let me have it now, here on this topsailyard, before I go down on deck. Thou art able; Oh come.' Just at that moment, when I felt, 'I can do nothing; O God, help me! then the answer came; light broke on my soul, and I knew that God is love.

""Oh, happy day,
When Jesus washed my sins awas 12 And I have never since wanted a closet in which to call upon my God." _

spot to kneel by yourself and pray to your dear heavenly Father and divine Redeemer. How often you want to whisper something into your mother's ear that others shall not hear; how often you desire to say something to father alone; and much more will it be sweet and precious to have no ear but that of Jesus to listen to your humble prayers.—Child's, Paper.

GOD BLESS YOU, DEAR GIRLS.

A friend of mine saw at a short dis-He seemed at a loss which way to go. its color and becomes beautifully white. Between my friend and the old man two girls, eight and ten years of age, were walking, and talking about the old man.

"How tired he looks," says one.

the old man; "can you direct me to fastidious appetites, for they have a No. 16 — street? I came to the diet peculiar to their body; and if you city to-day to visit my son. Wishing don't oblige them in this respect, you "I am afraid so, too; but you must to surprise him, I did not send him are left in the lurch, and your linen

"O, we will go with you, sir; mo-

you." "O," replied the little girls, "it is not the least trouble; we love old

They at length brought the old man and he was dismissing them, but they said, "We must cross the street with

What a delightful body-guard were Magazine.

HURRIED DEVOTIONS. Why hast thou left the throne of grace, Why hast thou left the throne of grace,
And quickly turned away?
Hast thou already seen His face,
And strength got for the day?
Hast thou thy ways declared all,
And told Him all thy fears,
That He may save from dangerous fall,
And keep thine eyes from tears?

And is thy conscience clear from sin, Thy heart quite free from care? Hast thou no rankling thorn within,

No burthen hard to bear? Hast thou no friend that needs His aid, No foe that needs His peace, And hast thou for His kingdom prayed, That sin on earth may cease?

Hast thou thy armour girded on, And is thy lamp alight?
Then leave in peace the heavenly throne, Betake thee to the fight.
But, ah! dear friend, that hurried prayer fear portendeth woe; Hadst thou no longer time to spare From minding things below?

Art thou in haste thy God to leave
And seek the world's turmoil,
Where all combines thee to deceive,
And of thy peace despoil?
Beware, beware! that hasty prayer
Will work thee only ill: Will work thee only ill; Turn thee, and seek with patient care, Till life thy spirit fill.

Turn thee again, be not afraid To tell Him what He knows; Turn thee again, He'll not upbraid,
If thou thy heart disclose,
And show Him how to dust it cleaves,
And pants for things of nought, While things of Christ and heaven it leaves

Unvalued and unsought.
Thus pray, and faint not, foolish one, Thy earnest cry repeat,
Till He who sits upon the threne
Has brought thee to his feet.

SWISS LAUNDRESSES.

more than ordinary amount of labor preparing for a lessive, the actual work itself, and the getting up of the linen, is in every household about the most mportant domestic business in each half year. For a large one, six washerwomen are required, and they are such important and much desired personages, that they must be engaged some time before they are wanted you must also bespeak the fountain near which you reside, by nailing on it a piece of paper, on which is written that, on a certain day named, Madame so and so requires the great stone trough into which the water runs, for her lessive, and then no one on that day dare put a finger in it

without your leave. The whole business of the wash lasts four days. On the first day the clothes are steeped in cold water only. On the second they are all put together in an immense tub, over which is laid a So, my children, in this duty as well strong linen sheet; on this a great as in almost everything else, "where there is a will there is a way." Even under the most unfavorable circum stances, you can still find some quiet lye. They are then allowed to lie an hour, when the liquor is run off through a tap; then more boiling water is allowed to filter through the ashes, and this process is repeated until evening. The third day the linen is taken out of the lye and well washed with hot water and soap; and the fourth, it is removed to the fountains to be rubbed and beaten on boards, rinsed and blued. When the linen comes out of the lye, any one unaccustomed to this mode of washing, would be sure to think it irretrievably ruined, so yellow is it; and it is not tance before him an old man walking until it has been well thumped and with great difficulty, and very tired | rinsed in the fountain that it regains

These washerwomen are a peculiar and distinctive race. They are the greatest gossips, the loudest talkers, the biggest eaters, and sometimes drinkers, of any in the canton. They Just then a young man passed by, are all ugly, old, and bent, with lean of whom the old man asked his way hands, wizened faces, and thick legs. to No. 16 - street. A hasty an- All wear immense hats, with a knob swer, not at all clear, was the only at the top, and their old petticoats and reply. In his bewilderment the old jackets look as if they might have man struck against a post, and his been buried some hundreds of years staff fell from his hand. The larger and then dug up again. The three or girl sprang forward to support him, four days that, twice in the year, they while the other handed him the staff, are on a visit to your house, your sersaying, "Here it is, sir."

"Thank you, my kind girls," said ing a variety of dishes to suit their

After all is dried, there is ironing for several days, during which every female in the house is pressed into the service, as well as two or three launmended, and put away, there is quiet "God bless you, my kind girls," said in the house for five months and more; the old man. "I am sorry to trouble and I am not sure that if we had but and I am not sure that if we had but the same immense supply of linen, we should not find it a better plan, both as it regards the bleaching of the clothes, and the comfort of our households, than our everlasting, unsatisfactory, order-destroying, weekly washes. All my life I shall think of these weirdlooking women gabbling and bawling away at the fountain, and I am convinced that if I could return to Switzerland two hundred years hence, the race would be unchanged, and that one of the first things my eye rested same crooked, wizened hags standing lage Life in Switzerland.

A LITTLE TOO RIPE.

the good. An acquaintance of ours tells us that on one occasion he laid in a box of shoes, and distributed them among the negroes. A few days afterwards, "Old Bob," a favorite servant, found that the shoes which had fallen

"Well, whar did de New Orleans people buy 'em?"

"They bought them from the people up North. They bought them from the Yankees."

them off the trees, Bob."

"Well," responded the darkey, holding up his shoes, "I reck'n de Yankee didn't pick dese pair soon enough, ther about it, you will see how angry massa; I reck'n he waited till dey was she was. a little too ripe."

. THE WAY TO THE CROWN.

We must taste the gall, if we are to taste the glory. If justified by faith, down where she lived to find out all we must suffer tribulations. When about it, and I have reason to think Any account of village life in God saves a soul, he tries it. Some that all she says is quite true. Switzerland would be incomplete, believers are much surprised when I hope you, my little friend without mention being made of the they are called to suffer. They thought lessives, or large lye-washings, that they would do some great thing for each family has twice a year, in spring God; but all he permits them to do is and autumn. From the infrequency to suffer for his sake. Go round to of these washings, it may be supposed | every one in glory; each has a differthat the people must possess a large ent story to tell, yet every one a tale quantity of linen, mostly homespun, of sufferings. But mark, all were of all descriptions, and that after lying brought out of them. It was a dark dirty several months, it must take a cloud, but it passed away. The water more than ordinary amount of labor was deep, but they reached the other to make it clean again; so that the side. Not one there blames God for side. Not one there blames God for the way he led them thither. "Salvation!" is their only cry. Child of God, murmur not at your lot. You must have a plain as well as a white robe. Learn to glory in tribulation. robe. Learn to glory in tribulations

For the Little Folks.

FAMILIAR TALKS WITH THE CHIL-DREN.

SECOND SERIES. I.

BY REV. EDWARD PAYSON HAMMOND.*

IN EARNEST.

A few weeks ago, as I got out of the cars at Rochester, N. Y., I saw a crowd cars at Rochester, N. Y., I saw a crowd of people around a very little boy, who looked so small, I thought he was not old enough to talk much. Everybody seemed anxious to get even a look at the little fellow, and so I waited around to find out what it was all about. Soon a young gentleman who knew me came and told me something. knew me came and told me something that interested me very much. And I think it will interest you too, my little think it will interest you too, my little think it will be at the story. friend, when you hear the story.

This boy, who did not look over three years old, had been off alone twenty miles on the cars, and came into Ro- not go with his father; but there never chester on the same train with me.

ran away down to the depot all alone, and got on to the cars himself just as before anybody knew where he was.

world made him do such a strange children there who were led by God's thing?" I will tell you. He loved Spirit to believe in Christ. his father very much, because his father used to be very kind to him, and morning in reading over a pile of letbring him home toys, and playthings, ters from children and youth in that and picture-books, and candies, and city. I wish you, my little friend, lots of good things. He thought there could have read them with me. I am was nobody quite so good as his fa- sure they would have interested you ther, and he felt sure nobody loved | very much. him so much. But his father had some business in California, thousands of miles away. And so one day he ing, Come unto me." Yes, and that is told his wife and children that he just what he is saying to you. Franmust leave them all and go there.

to go with me." This made the little fellow cry bit-

When the time came for the father to take the cars, little Frankie was not allowed to go to the depot with him. But after awhile he found a way to can never save her. He has never get out, and off he scampered to the died for her; and even if he had, it depot with all his might. Just as he would not have done any good, for reached there, he saw a train about ministers and all men needed a Saviour starting, and he thought of course his to die for them, that their sins might father must be on that train; and on be forgiven. to it the little fellow climbed, and went all through the cars, looking for his dear father.

After he had rode about twenty miles, the conductor chanced to get hold of him, and found out his name, and telegraphed back to his mother, and then gave him to a conductor of a train they met. And thus he was taken back to Rochester, to his home. It was his own brother who told me all this.

And what do you think I thought of, when I looked upon the face of that persevering little fellow, and knew how determined he had been to find

* Copyright secured.

his father and go with him to Califor. As many of our readers are doubt. nia? I will tell you. I said to my. less aware, it was the custom for plant | self, "O, I wish that little children, ers at the South to purchase clothing even as young as three or four years for their slaves by the wholesale; and old, were everywhere as anxious to as, of course, they had not the oppor- find and go with One who has done tunity to examine closely each article, ten thousand times more for them tunity to examine closely each article, they were sometimes swindled, by a than that father ever did for little Frankie." I think you know who THAT ONE is. Yes, it is the dear, dear Jesus. And he loves you, my little friend, more than that father loved his little boy Frankie. He has made you a present of every good thing you have had, and he is the only One that to his lot were bursting out. So going to his master, he said:

"Massa, where you buy dese shoes?"

"I bought them in New Orleans, Bob," responded our friend.

"Well when doll it is the only One that can take you home to your Father in heaven. He is willing to give you a new heart, so that you will love God and all good things, and love to pray and read your Blole. I have known some little children who had been about as persevering in seeking for Jesus as was little Frankie.

I think I will let you read a letter from a little girl in the State of New "Well, whar do the Yankees get Jersey. Her father and mother were 'em?" persisted the negro. Very wicked, and did not love Christ; "The Yankees?—why, they pick and so, when this dear child came home from a children's meeting, where almost hundreds of little ones were seeking the Saviour, and told her mo-

I think she found more trials in seeking to follow the Saviour than Frankie did in trying to go with his father. To make sure that the little girl really wrote this letter, I sent

I hope you, my little friend, have a father and mother who pray for you every day, and would be glad to have you become a follower of Jesus. I could hardly keep the tears from my eyes when I first read this letter.

NEWARK, March 18th, 1865.

DEAR MR. HAMMOND :-- I have felt very happy since you spoke to me. I went there Wednesday, and I felt very bad that night, for I thought that I was a sinner. So after ing; and she began to swear at me, and said if I went again, she would beat me almost to death. The next morning I prayed and read two chapters in the Bible, and picked all the nice verses out, and learned them, and I was talking to market and the said to the said talking to my mother about Jesus, and all about what you told me, and she told me that she did not want to hear any more of my preaching, and told me to go along about my business. She didn't want to hear my voice any more. Father came home, and he was mad, and I told him about my feeling as though I was converted, and told him all that you told me, and he began to swear at me and he legisled me is swear at the state of the state of the swear at me, and he locked me up in a room, and he said if I would promise him that I would not go to meeting, for he did not like me to go to meetings. He said it was a bad place to go. He kept me locked up in a room a week, and fied me on bread and water. But one day father went out and mother was sick, and she wanted me to wait on her. So she let she let me out of the room, and let me go to

You remember that poor little Frankie was disappointed because he could was a little boy or girl that really And what do you think took him wanted to go with Jesus, but that he off so far all alone? "How came his was ready to take them, and make mother to let him go?" I can hear you them fit tor a useful and happy life ask. But she didn't let him go. He here, and for a joyful life in heaven forever.

Among hundreds of letters from they were starting. And away went | dear little ones, telling how they came the little man twenty miles from home to Jesus, I find one from a child of only nine summers, who lives in De-But now you say, "What in the troit, Michigan. She was one of many

I have been spending half of the

You see little nine-years-old Anna says. "I have heard the dear Jesus saykie's father drove him back; but the Little Frankie at once said, "Can't loving Saviour says to you, as to go with you, papa?"

Anna, "Come unto me." "I will take I go with you, papa?"

Anna, "Come unto me." "I will take
"No, my child; it is too far for you you as you are, in all your sins, and make you my happy little one, and will give you a new heart, so that you will love God and love to pray to him." I am glad she says, "I love Jesus best of all." It is right for her to love her minister; but her minister

I am a little girl nine years old. I believe have got the first link of the golden chain. love Jesus now, and am sorry I was so wicked as not to love him before. I always loved to sing that little hymn that says:

'I wish his dear hand had been laid on my

His arms had been thrown around me; And that I might have heard his dear voice when he said,

Let the little ones come unto me." I think I heard his dear voice saying Come unto me; and I am glad I've come. One of my sisters that is twelve years old, has loved Jesus four years. And now I want you to pray for our other sister that is older than at the contract of the contract o either of us. I love you for teaching us to come to Jesus, and good Mr. Duffield too; but Jesus I love best of all.