Spe Family Gircle.

IN AN ATTIC.

BY MRS. ELIZABETH AKERS. [FLOBENCE PERCY.]

This is my attic room. Sit down, my friend, My swallow's nest is high and hard to gain The stairs are long and steep, but at the end The rest repairs the pain.

For here are peace and freedom; room for speech Or silence, as may suit a changeful mood.

Society's hard by-laws do not reach This lofty altitude.

You hapless dwellers in the lower rooms See only bricks and sand and windowed walls But here, above the dust and smoky glooms, /Heaven's light unhindered falls.

So early in the street the shadows creep, Your night begins while yet my eyes behold The purpling hills, the wide horizon's sweep Flooded with sunset gold.

The day comes earlier here. At morn I see Along the roofs the eldest sunbeam peep; I live in daylight, limitless and free, While you are lost in sleep.

I catch the rustle of the maple leaves, I see the breathing branches rise and fall, I hear from their high perch among the eaves The bright-necked pigeons call.

Far from the parlors with their garrulous crowd

I dwell alone, with little need of words; I have mute friendship with the stars and clouds.

And love-trysts with the birds.

So all who walk steep ways in grief and night, Where every step is full of and toil pain, May see, when they have gained the sharpes height,

It has not been in vain.

Since they have left behind the noise and heat And though their eyes drop tears, their sight is clear :

The air is purer and the breeze is sweet. And the blue heaven more near.

AN ALE-HOUSE PLOT DEFEATED.

[From Dr. Gillett's "England Two Hundred Years Ago." Just issued by the Presbyterian Publication Committee, 1384 Chestnut street.]

Already-previous to the passing of the Act-repeated threats were made against Mr. Alleine, and warrants were issued for his arrest. But in some weeks, and"strange way, none could tell how, the "And you've pocketed the fee for malice of his enemies was defeated. it, haven't you?" asked Trump. Now, however, the last difficulty appeared to be removed, and Black Jake nature of Black Jake. There was truth convened his crew at his favorite ale. in Trump's charge, but he thought no see them all. Then he thought that house, to take measures to carry out one knew it. his plans. Enriching his phraseology "Trump," said he, "this is no place with virulent and blasphemous oaths, for you. You always make disturbhe told his associates that they had often been defeated in attempting to mises;" and this time he advanced tocatch "the sacred rogues," but that ward him with the evident purpose to now, if they did not succeed, they would drive Trump out. show themselves fools.

"What do you mean to do?" asked Trump

"We'll bag the old fox first," replied Black Jake.

Trump.

thing. You would have had Mr.

me." "For you!" interrupted Black Jake: have you?" and his eyes gleamed with fury.

"For me, I said," replied Trump, with emphasis but with perfect coolthan lifted against such a man as he of course soon made, and Black Jake perhaps." is. And the reason that the other promised them £5 each on the convicwhen the warrants were out, was be company an evening's entertainment sins so heinous; I read in God's word, cause I told them they had better keep out of the way, and they had the good sense to take the hint."

"You've betrayed us, and you shall sweat for it," said Black Jake, doubling his fists again and stepping up toward Trump.

"Hold, hold," said one of the men. "If the question is about Mr. Alleine, he left him, and at a late hour knocked I have a word to say. You know I at Mr. Alleine's door. was in Ilchester jail when he was there, Late as it was, Mr. Alleine had not only he had state apartments in the retired to rest. He responded to the room overhead. But he was not summons, opened the door, and bade ashamed, when the jailer would let his visitor walk in. him do it, to come down among us to talk as civil and kindly as anybody. came to tell you that for two or three All the winter, when the chaplain was weeks you need not have any fears sick, he took his place, and a good about your meetings. I heard that you can go to your heavenly Father, many of us wished that the chaplain you were going away, and would keep and you need not go far. You can was sick longer; he wound himself yourself five miles off. But you kneel here and say it. Will you do right around a fellow's heart, till you needn't hurry about it." could not help liking him. And then do you see that scar on my wrist? The cold, freezing irons made it, and I have heard your voice before. May he got bandages and bound it up, and I ask your name?" so kept the irons off till it was well. If you are going to do any mischief you have heard my voice before.

You'd better let him alone." "Never!" exclaimed Black Jake, 'he isn't to be let alone. I have pledged my word to Justice Tinkle to | improve the opportunity that was thus have him before him within three

This question roused all the tiger

ance among us; now leave the pre-

No one dared to do more than deprecate Jake's anger, and beg him to keep cool, and Trump was so much more disposed generally to use his tongue than his fists, that no one apprehended "How will you go about it ?" asked any personal encounter. Black Jake had calculated on all this, and felt "Be quiet," answered Black Jake, assured that he could terrify Trump "and I will arrange it all. Mr. Alleine and drive him as a non-combatant off others flowed his eyes were not dry. can't go far afoot. He has to do most the field. He did not expect resistof his haranguing within a mile or two ance, and until he was within a step about three weeks, at the close of one of this. I learn from Justice Tinkle or so of him, Trump made no show of of the meetings, the stranger lingered warning word, as the occasion suggest- tell them how Jesus suffered for their Tuesday and Friday nights, beginning ration of a new purpose, on seeing with you," said he. "It will not b Jake's fist about to descend upon him, times. Now it would not do for me while with the other he hurled Jake or one of them at least, by my means, to try to get into his meetings. Every. | back across the room, and laid him | for some time; but the justices opposed For a few seconds there was unamong the flock, and they would be broken silence. But when Jake rose and you will be sure to be arrested. afraid of me and only keep Quaker's from the floor, his supremacy over his Have you any place to go to?" said one of his men. "What right have acted as a friend," said Mr. Alselves up, and put on the best Puritan had you to attempt to drive him out leine, "and"____ ing along with the others, so as not to first," said another. But heedless of Trump, for he it was, "and I have such remarks, and with vengeance in "A grand plan that," said one of his look, Black Jake turned toward betrayed his resentments: "This matter is not settled yet; will you act with

"You've gone about as far as it would liking. We don't share in any mea- when I was sent to act as an informer And while the storm raged without, who hated him because he told the be best for you to go in this sort of sures against Mr. Alleine."

Black Jake felt as Trump left that Alleine back in prison in two weeks the latter had surrendered the ground, was. I have watched you ever since, singing songs of praise to His name. after he got out if it had not been for and exulted in thinking that he could and I have been determined to defeat Memoir of Rev. Duncan Dunbar. now shape things as he liked. He the plans of your enemies whose countried to pick out the two men who sels I have shared. Your words have then it seems you've turned traitor, would act as informers, but out of burned themselves into my memory, nearly a score there were barely three and I can't forget them, but they make who could be so employed, for Trump | me feel how vile and reckless I have had withdrawn one of those on whom been. I don't think there is any hope Jake had, as he now discovered, im- for me, and at times I think it's best ness, as he fixed his steady, defiant gaze prudently counted. Of the three, one that it should be so. When I feel the on his adversary. "I went to hear refused to serve; another seemed quite hell that is in me, I can preach it to him, as you appointed, and I did hear indifferent, while the third was re- others, and make them tremble, and him, as you appointed, and is be palsied markably zealous. The selection was frighten them out of their wickedness, "Do not speak so," said Mr. Alwitnesses did not appear against him | tion of Mr. Alleine, and to the whole | leine. "What if you do see your 'Though your sins be as scarlet, they

free of cost. But his ascendency was gone. Trump had foreseen who would shall be white as snow, and though be selected, and had arranged to have they be red like crimson they shall be the one who seemed the most zealous as wool.' Only go to Him who is to serve, meet him just as soon as the 'able to save unto the uttermost,' and ale-house company broke up. After you need not despair." conferring with him, and arranging a "Indeed, sir," said Trump, "I would plan to defeat Black Jake's measures. go. I would go to the ends of the earth, if it was necessary, only I don't know how."

came back to his father?" asked Mr. Alleine. "He came with the confes-

sion, 'Father, I have sinned against "Not now," said Trump. "I just heaven and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.' With just such a confession as that kneel here and say it. Will you do so ?"

"Your tone, at least," said Mr. Alleine, "is that of a friend, and I think

"No matter about my name, but for it? Kneel right here with me." They knelt together, and Mr. Al-leine poured out his soul in behalf of to Mr. Alleine, you can't count me in. Good-night," exclaimed Trump, and the convicted, burdened sinner by his hastily withdrew.

Mr. Alleine wondered over the strange incident, but he resolved to afforded him to speak a few parting words to his flock. He dared not meet over twenty of them at a time, perhaps it would be best for him to return to the Devises again, both as a place of security and on account of his health.

Each time that the several groups of his congregation met him, there was a strange face among them. Mr. Alleine suspected it was that of the friend to whom he was already indebted. But he invariably was the last to come and the first to leave. No other stranger intruded upon the assemblies, and no molestation was ever offered. The stranger as well as the others was al visit, in the cars, or on shipboard, deeply affected, and when the tears of he was ever the minister of Christ;

At length, after the expiration of

against you, more than two years ago, they enjoyed a blessed season, speaking they could only be saved, not by the that I was led to see what a wretch I of the glories of Him they loved, and

for the Nittle Kolks.

LETTER FROM MR. HAMMOND.

ZURICH, SWITZERLAND, Sept. 6, 1866. MY DEAR CHILDREN :--- When I last wrote to you I was on the great Atlantic. We asked God to keep us in safety, and He answered our prayers, and we reached Scotland on the 11th of August.

The little boy of whom I told you, I think, was about the happiest one on board. I shall not forget how his eyes sparkled for joy as he bid me good-bye at Greenock. A kind gentleman, you remember I told you, offered to pay his passage across, that he might go home to Scotland to see his mother. I told you that it made me think of how willing Jesus is to take all on board the free Gospel ship. If you come to Him and trust in Him, you will be more glad to get home to

heaven than that boy was to get to his home in Scotland. In Glasgow I saw some dear little children, who had learned to love the dear Saviour when I was there five years ago, and O! how glad I was to find them still clinging to Him, and

showing by their lives that little children, not more than six and eight years of age, can be converted. I was glad to find that "Little Ones in the Fold," which I wrote for children, had been printed in London, and that some of these lambs had been reading

While I think of it, I must tell you that we have endeavored to keep our promise to read one chapter of the Bible daily since June 4th. We are now at Acts vi. I told you, in one of my letters, that a good many children in the places where I was last winter, promised to read a chapter with me every day till we finished the New Testament.

We are now on our way to the Holy Land. I did not dare to tell you this before, for fear something at once to heaven? If not, do not r might happen to stop us. I remember, a tew years ago, when I talked of going to Palestine, I read in a newspaper that I had gone. And I did not want to have any mistakes of this kind made again. But now I think we shall get to Jerusalem in a few "profession." It was in his heart to weeks, where the dear Saviour sufferserve Christ and his fellow-creatures, ed for our sins. We expect to go by not only on the Sabbath, or in the the way of Constantinople, where our pulpit, but during the week, whether good missionaries have been toiling so among his own people or among earnestly to lead the old and young to love the Lord Jesus. I hope some of you, my dear little

friends, will give your hearts to the careless of the set conventionalities of Saviour, and when you grow up, go office, and ready to do a kind deed, to among the heathen, who have never speak a sympathizing, instructive, or heard of the way of salvation, and

that he is apt to have his meetings on any. Suddenly, as if under the inspi- behind. "I wish to speak a few words ed; and especially solicitous, in all his sins, that God might be just and yet actor when he was a venerable

good works, but through faith Christ. In the museum we saw letter which he wrote to his wife.

Nearly all the people in this cantor or, as you would say in America, i this State, are Protestants. Perhan they would not have been, if Z ingle had not given up his life as sacrifice to help spread the true do trines of the Bible. Yes, he loved t Bible. We saw a well-worn copy a Greek Bible, which he used to rea and study.

This is the place, I believe, whe Coverdale printed the first translation of the Bible. Before that, you know the Bible was not printed in a guage that children and the comm people could read. It was in Lati Martin Luther found one chained as if it was a hungry lion. But no the Bible is read all over the Cant of Zurich.

LUZERNE, September 10th, 1866

We have to start in half an hour go over some high mountains, tops of which are covered all with white snow. Since I began the letter in Zurich, we have been by place where Zuingle was killed, we passed the grave of two or the villages, where about four hundr men, women and children were, just a few minutes, destroyed by side of the mountain Rossberg fall on them, in September, 1806. T were told that it was not safe to] there, but they did not mind w was said to them, and so they all ished. They had lived there so lo without being hurt, that they thoug they could stay all their lives with harm; but in an hour when the thought not, a part of the mountain slid down on them, and the g rocks crushed them to death.

God tells us that the wicked in world will all one day be destroy You can read about it in 2 Pet. But if you are Christians and tr love the Saviour, you will not afraid in that day which will be dreadful to sinners. But death come at any moment; are you re till you ask Jesus to make you own dear child.

I have not time now to tell about our going to the top of Rhigi. It is about a mile high, near us were mountains that always covered with snow. I th they must be two miles up in the Perhaps another time I will tell about them.

With much love, Your affectionate friend. E. P. HAMMONI

BREAD AND MILK.

The incident I am about to relate received from the lips of the princi

side. As he closed, he turned to him, and said, "Now, Henry, pray." There was some charm in the sound of his once familiar name, the name once so sweet from a mother's lips, that quite unmanned him. He just and even then ventured only to meet | sobbed out, "Father-I have sinnedthem by night; and it would require sinned against heaven-sinned, sinned two or three weeks before he could sinned-and am not fit-" he could say no more, but found relief in tears. "I will see you again to-morrow, he said, and hastily took his departure.

"Don't you know how the prodigal

"O, pray for me, Mr. Alleine; I

"But you must," said Mr. Alleine.

"Do you expect mercy without crying

can't pray," said Trump."

PREACHING AT A GAMING TABLE.

With Mr. Dunbar, the ministry of

the Gospel was not viewed as a mere

strangers. By the wayside, at a casu-

somewhere about nine or ten o'clock, for they change the hour at different he raised one arm to defend himself, body knows my face and hair, and sprawling on the floor. 'Black Jake' would be a black sheep meeting. I want two as decent fellows gang was gone. "You deserved it," as you can pick out to dress themlook they can, and go into the meet. | without taking a vote of the company be suspected."

the hardest-looking of the group, "only you must look close to find the the 'decent' fellows among us."

"I nominate Trump," said another of the company, "he's kind of respect-able compared with the rest of us."

"No you don't!" said Trump. "You'll do as we agree," said Black

Jake, "or you'll quit this communion.

"J'll do neither the one nor the other," replied Trump.

Black Jake doubled his fist, and advancing toward Trump, exclaimed, | Trump. "Do you mean to say that you'll stay here, when I say you shan't?"

has his reasons for what he says; let's the money. hear him."

his antagonist with a scowl, but waiting to hear what he would have to or seeing it executed," was the reply. say for himself.

with only a slight tone of that irony | shiver in rags, or rot in jail, than touch he sometimes used, "I want to ask one penny of your leprous silver." you some questions.

"Ask away," said Jake, defiantly.

once carried food and fuel to your would you?" asked the man. poor old blind mother, whom you have left many a time to freeze and starve?" asked Trump.

prosecuting Dan and Bill when they broke into his grounds, and were like to be sent to jail, and didn't he talk with them as kindly and gently as a brother, and get them places to work and earn their living?'

"What if he did ?" replied Jake.

"Didn't you tell Mr. Alleine to his face, when he was up before Justice beckoning to the man who had been Tinkle, that he lied when he stated in Ilchester jail, drew him with him how he carried on his meetings?"

"What of that?" answered Jake.

us any longer or not?" he asked. but made no reply.

"In the name of the company, I demand an answer," said Jake. Still Trump was silent.

"Why don't you speak out?" asked one of Jake's friends. "Can we count on you in our plans?"

"What are your plans?" asked your name."

"We want to get money out of Mr. Alleine or his friends," was the reply. "Hold off, hold off," cried several "In fact, we don't care so much about they changed it to Trump; but few men happy." at once, "Trump's a good fellow. He his going to prison as we do about here know me. My home was up the

"And to get it you will act as in-Black Jake drew back, still eyeing | formers, will you?" asked Trump. "We will aid in executing the law,

"You will do a thing then," replied "Jake," said Trump, calmly, and Trump, "so mean that I'd sooner

"Then you'd have Mr. Alleine preach his fire and brimstone all over "Has not Mr. Alleine more than the country, and nobody stop him,

"Fire and brimestone!" exclaimed Trump, "what under the heavens can | ter, the Lord Jesus Christ?" he preach but that, with such a set as "None of your business," said Jake. Black Jake and Justice Tinkle after question, and made no reply, only a "Didn't he keep Mr. Mallack from him all the time, and scores of cowards tear started in his eye. echoing all their abuse ?"

"You are half a Puritan yourself," said another of the company, "and I think you had better cut communion happy, and been my strength and joy with us, and go your own way.'

Trump quietly whispered in the ears of one or two of those whom he could | Trump; "I have been a very wicked count upon as his friends, and then man.' toward the door. "Now," said he, as

safe for you to linger here any longer. The informers have been frightened, new set to carry out their purposes,

"You speak as a friend and you pressions.

"I am your friend," interrupted river, a sudden shower, about sunset, understood that you had nowhere to into the cabin. Here they surprised a go but to the Devises, which is so far only in a great while. Is it so?"

"It is," replied Mr. Alleine. "If I stayed anywhere about here, my ene-

you will be safe, and it is with people | a seat, saying :---you know."

"I think I can trust you," replied Mr. Alleine, "although I do not know

"They call me Trump," was the anriver, beyond Wallington, till a short in the Highlands of Scotland, with its you. time before you came to Taunton, and | wild sports, and its hairbreadth escapes, my sister, the wife of a dyer, is living until quite a group, beside the cardthere yet. They have often heard you. They will welcome you to their house, and they live in such a quiet and obscure neighborhood, that you might have meetings there every week, and not be discovered."

"You have shown yourself my friend," said Mr. Alleine, "and I will for a time at least thankfully accept your proposals. But are you not only my friend, but the friend of my Mas-

Trump seemed overcome by the

"I cannot repay your kindness, but I can invite you to that blessed portion in Jesus which has made me in prison," said Mr. Alleine.

"I am not fit to love Christ," said

"Jesus came to save sinners, great sinners," said Mr. Alleine.

intercourse with his fellow-men, forgive them. lead them to the Saviour.

Jesus, just before he ascended to He had a rare and happy way of heaven, said to his disciples, "Go ye giving a religious turn to conversation. into all the world and preach the Gos- honor on a mother whom he delign The recital of some striking incident pel to every creature." Now, if you to honor. to you have determined to procure a in his own life would often lead the think, as I know some do who will minds of his listeners to themes far read this letter, that you are one of different from what they had anticipated at the outset, and which were to you, and you ought to be thinking bread and milk that morning. calculated to make deep religious imhow you can best obey it. This word

'disciple" reminds me of a little story. Once, when going up the North Dr. Hogarth, of Detroit, once asked a class of boys in a Sunday-school, as shelf. You can run to school." drove all the passengers from the deck they came to that word in the lesson, what it meant? But none of them party of gamblers around a centre could think of an answer for a long a wood, which gave Johnny at Trump, and remarked in a tone which off that your friends could see you table, whither they had drawn two or time. At last, one of them brightened time to call up all his spunk and three unwary youths. After a little up and said, "A disciple is one of strengthen his determination not pause at this interruption, they went Jesus Christ's men."

on shuffling their cards, when, says That was a good answer. Can you Trump looked the contempt he felt, mies would be in pursuit of me, and one who was present, a gentleman rose say that you are one of Jesus Christ's all ready to assert the dignity of b I suppose they would track me out." and went up to them. He looked on, men? If you are, then you must obey hood, and when he drew up to the "Well," said Trump, "if you will as if with interest in the game; and all of his commands. More than half ble and saw the bowl of bread trust me, I will find you a place where soon one of the number offered him of all the people in the world have milk set hefore him, he felt nerved never yet heard of Jesus and of the any desperate course, and decided "Will you try a hand with us, sir?" way to get to heaven. But if you die rather than eat it. "No," replied the gentleman, who I cannot go away off among the heathen, then learned was Mr. Dunbar; "I do can you not find some as wicked as not know the name of a card. When them very near you? Have you ever I was young, I had a great many games gone to them and told them how much swer, "but my name is Henry Tem- which I enjoyed as much as you do easier they will find it to be good if pleton, and from calling me Temp, yours, and I now love to see all young they will only come to Jesus and get a new heart? Pray for them before not resist, to run off to school. He then told them of his early life you go, and then they will listen to

We have been, this afternoon, to see the great church in which Zuin. for his usual sport of pretending players, had gathered round him. gle, one of the leaders of the Reform- | be chased by a bear, climbing, in The young men ceased playing, and ation, used to preach more than three | cied terror, a tree, running out @ gave him all their attention. Soon he hundred years ago. When he was a horizontal branches and droppin spoke of a time when he grew sick of little boy, he was taught to worship the ground, only to gain another these pleasures and was dissatisfied the Virgin Mary and to pray to her; and accomplish the same feat of d with himself; when he felt that he was but as he grew up to be a man, he terity.

at enmity with God, and that, unless got hold of a Bible, and then he converted and reconciled to Him, he learned that he could go at once to giving up, as he knew his mother n must be eternally lost. He told them God and ask Him, for Jesus' sake, to would, and admitted to himself ut the despair into which he fell, and of forgive him all his sins. He did this, he should be glad of that bow and found that Jesus had paid all the bread and milk; and when he and then the manner in which Christ debt, and he found that, without any dragging home at night, and the b revealed himself as the Way of Life, help of the Virgin Mary, God was and of the change this made in all his quite ready to forgive him, and at the without a word of threatening of same time to give him a new heart,

We went also to the house where while the man of God, having gained he lived the last six years of his life. We were glad to find the lower part of the house used for a religious book fused bread and milk, he just tool stances, would have scoffed, now listen- store. We were pleased to stand on ed with interest and attention, and all the spot where he wept and prayed treated him with the greatest respect. for the ignorant Romanists, who were his will in defiance of his mother

"Ah," replied Trump, "you don't Christians present there. They all here and saved at last in heaven. Tohe opened the door for himself and his know what I am, or rather what I gathered round him, like a family, to morrow we are going by the spot judgment, and I love to think he been it was in heaving new been. It was in heaving new been to be been and some and some family, to morrow we are going by the spot judgment, and I love to think he "I'll tell you what," said Trump. associate, "settle matters to your own have been. It was in hearing you talk of home and common interests. where he was killed by wicked people, made me obey her."-Exchange.

most interesting gentleman. story of his wayward boyhood, w he loved to tell because it reflet

One morning Johnny (for that his real name) came to the break Jesus' disciples, then this command is | table and boldly said he would not

"Very well, Johnny," answered mother, quietly and without ras her voice, "I'll set it on this This run consisted of a long p of road and then a long tramp through give in,

Accordingly, on his return, he

"Very well, Johnny," was the ther's calm remark. "I'll set the high shelf until you want it. a decided wave of her hand sent from the table, and in due time he bidden, by an authority which he o

That run was not as spirited a morning run had been. He "dreadful hollow." and felt no 1

On the contrary, he felt a little was lifted down from the high proach, he pretty well understood force of calm and persistent authority

Feeling well assured that he never eat anything else until he swallowed that oft-presented and o as quietly as it was offered and at And after that he said he neve The stand he thus firmly and decid- ready to kill him because he wished saw the tears of fond and appreedly took commended itself to the them to know the way to be happy love gather in his eyes as he "My mother was a woman of

his "fearful looking for of judgment," prospects and pursuits for this world.

By this time the cards had all been and thus make him a Christian. slipped into the pockets of the owners, their ear, preached Christ to them. Even those who, under other circum-