

The Family Circle.

A BEAUTIFUL EPITAPH.

BY THO. W. PARSONS.

"The handful here, that once was Mary's earth, Held, while it breathed, so beautiful a soul That when she died, all recognized her birth, And had their sorrow in serene control...

A GOVERNOR TAKEN FROM A CRATE.

A benevolent old man of Brooklyn was making the tour of the city, in pursuit of truant and little wanderers, one Sunday morning a score of years ago, when he found a little boy asleep in a crate on one of the wharves...

A BUNCH OF RAGS.

Everybody liked Tom Hall, and everybody was sorry for him. It was sad to see such a fine young man, a victim of drunkenness; and Tom had fallen into the mocker's power, alas!

THE GOOD FATHER.

The father of a family was detained in the metropolis of the kingdom on important business; the mother and children remained, in the meantime, at a small country-seat, very distant from him.

THE KEY TO THE HEART.

When Luther was striving to bring about the great reformation, he did not neglect a humble means of impressing the masses, which have proved a mighty power in all ages and nations.

THE YOUNG BEAVER.

A colony of beavers selected a beautiful spot on a clear stream, called Silver Creek to build themselves a habitation. Without waiting for any orders, and without any wrangling about whose place was the best, they gnawed down some young trees...

THE HARP IN HEAVEN.

One of the sweetest recollections of my girlhood is a beautiful reply my mother once made me, when my heart was swelling with childish grief. I had just returned from the house of a wealthy neighbor, who had kindly given me the use of their piano for a few hours every day...

CHEERFUL WOMEN.

Oh, if "gloomy" women did but know what comfort there is in a cheerful spirit! How the heart leaps to meet a sunshiny face, a merry tongue, an even temper...

MINISTERS AT THE SOUTH.

There is great suffering at the South, no doubt, and many ministers formerly in comfortable circumstances, are now indeed in great straits. One of them writes the following letter to the Southern Gentleman:

POWER OF CHRISTIAN EXAMPLE.

A consistent Christian life carries with it power. It attracts attention and wins regard. By its quiet beauty it removes prejudices, subdues enmity, and opens the heart to truth.

Grace in the kitchen, Grace in the hall; A little piece of bread and meat Must do for us all.

A cunning reason! how silly thou art in spiritual and divine things. Pilate made his conscience a sacrifice to circumstances, which were his gods. The cause of ruin is the evil will of man.—Oleander.