THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN, THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1867.

Clite fizmily Cutric.
there are no teabs in hbaten.







 And thall she be so soon forgo Sustain thy hart, with anguish rive
Strive thou to meet thy bride alove,










Be finter erembirer, atd the leasigive

## JEssioa's first prayer

IT. $A N$ OLD Fhiend in $A$, MEW PREss. Week aftor weak, all throygi the three
ast months of the year, Jessica appeared
 brakkfasting businosss, received her pittance
from the eharity of her. new. friend. After



 her to ask bim any more questiobss and oft and
fen' but very few words passed between
 Ait to Jessian's home she siade in secret
 le of an old inn, now in use for two on
hree donkeys, the property of costermonnode of entrance was by a wooden ladder Whose rangs were crazy and broken, and
which led up through a trap-door in the
floor of the loft was as desolate and comfortless as, that of the stable below, with only a litter of stanaw
for the bedding, and a few bricks and boards for the bedding, and a few bricks and boards
for the furniture. Everything thati could be for the furniture. Everything that, could be
pawned had disappeared long ago, and Jes-
sica's mother often lamented that she conld iea's mother often lamented that:she oconld
hot thus dispose of her ohild. Yet Jessica
was hardly a burden to her. It was a long not thus dispose of her child. It et Jessica
was hardy aburden to her. It wab long
time since she had taken any care to proNide her with food or clothing, and the gro had to earn : or beg for herself' the meat
Which Kept a scanty life within her. Jess
was the drudge and errand-girlof the court. was the drudge and errand-girl of the court,
and what with being cuffed and beaten by her mother, ar numerous employers, her lifé was a hard one. But now there. was Weddenesday morn-
ing to count upon and look forward to ; and ing to count upon and look forward to; and
by and by a second scone of amazed delight
opened. apon tier opened. puon toin .
Jessica had wandered far away from home in the early darknesi of a winter's evening mother and she was still sobbing now and
monen with long-drawn sobs of pain and weariness, when she saw, a little way before her he
the tall, well-known figure of her friend Mr the tall, well-known figure of her friend $\mathrm{Mr}^{2}$
Daniel. He was dressed in a suit of black with aiwhite neck-cloth, and he was pacing
with brisk yet meastred steps aloris he with brisk yet meastred steps alo ing in
ligh ed streets. Jessica felt apraid of speak
ing to bim, but she followed at a little dis ing to him, but she followed at a littlle disiron gates of a large buildin, and, yulock-
ing them, passed on to the arched doorway and with a heavy leyopened the folding
doors and entered in. The child stole ifter him, but praused for a few minutes, trembling upon the threshold, until the gleam of ${ }^{\text {un }}$, few steps forward, and to purb a:litttle way
open an iuner door, covered with crimson baize, only so far as to enable her to peep
throgh at te inside.- Then, growing bold through at the inside. Then, growing bold
er by degrees, she crept througb berreself,
drawing the door to noiselessly behind her. The place was in partial lioom, but Daniel
was lindlinge every gasight, and each min-
ute lit it up in more striking grandeur. She ute lit it up in more striking grandeur. She
stood in a carpeted aisle, with high oaken
 lars, behind one of which she was partly concealed, gazing with eager ayes at Daniel,
as hó mounted the pulpit steps and kindled
the lights there disclosing to her curioas the lights there, disclosing of her curious
delight the glititering pipes of an organ be-
hind it. Before long the slow and soft-footed chapel keeper disappeared for a minute or
two into a testry; and Jessica, araifing her
self of his short absence, stole silently up

| golden shows. But at this moment Mr. Daniel appeared again, arrayed in a long gown of dalack serge;rand as she stoud spell- bound gazing at the strange appearance of her patron, his eye feit upton her, and he also wasidruck speechless for a minhte, with an air of amazement and dismay upon his Conce. <br> "Come, no ${ }^{\prime}$,, , he exclaimed,' harshly, as soon as he could recover his presence of mind, "you muse take yourself out of this, This isn't any place for such as you.. It's for ladies and gentlemen; so you midet run away sbarp before any body comes: How ever did you find your way here? ? <br> He bàd come very close to her, and bent down to whisper in her ear, looking nervously round to the entrance all theitime. Jessica's eager tongue was loogened. <br> "Mother be me into the streets, and I see you there, so |
| :---: | do the ladies and gentlemon do when they

come there? Thell hef and Til be ont biarp."
"They Daniel. cats come here to pray," whispered
"What is pray? " asked Jessica. "What is pray\%?" asked Jessica.
"Bless the child plexity. "Whys they kneel down in those
pews, most of them sit, though and the
miniter up in the pulpit tells God whiz minister up tin the pulpit tells God whit
thay wate
Jossica gazed into bis face with such an
girof beviderment that a Jiressica gazer mitt bew that a faint smile orept
over the sedate features of the pew-opener U What sedae aninister and God pew he phid
"and do dadies and gentiemen Want any thing? thought they everything they
wanted, Mr Daniel."
"Oh! "cried Daniel, "you must be off Oh! "cried Daniel, "you must be off
you know They'li be coming in minte
and theyd be shocked to see a argged little and they be shocked to see arragged wittle
heathen like you. This, is the pulpit, whene
the minister stands and preaches to the minister stands and preaches to em
and there are the pawse where they sit to
listen'to him or to to to slee mat be 'tind histen to him, or to yo to sleep, mid be, anid
thith' the organ to play music to their sing.
ing. There, Ive told you every fining, and


ly: "we couldn't do with such a. littite
heathen, with no shoes or bonnet on. Come
now, it's. only now, it's. only an quarter to the time, Anid
sometiody will be here in a minute. Run Jessica retraced her steps Alowly to tho
crimson door casting many a. Ioot backwrimson door casting but Mr. Daniel stood at the end of ha aise, frowning upon her whenever she that, but already some one was approaching
the chapel door, and beneath the lamp. at the gate stöd Onie of fier gatural eaemies,
a policeman. Her heart beat fast, but she was quickwitted, and in a nother instant sh spied a place of concealment "bebind one of
the doors, into which she cret for safety
until the path should be clear, and the policeman passed on upo his beat. The quick-
The congreationtoeza to rive
 pass by the niche hetween the door and the post Once she, ventured to stnetch out
thin iftele finger and touch a welvet mantle
as the wearer of it 'swept by but no one
 could see, whs very busy ushering the peo
pe to theirsseats; but there was?a startled ook lingering ipon his face, and overy'now gloom and darlkiness, and "evenonce called to
 ing downin her Kiding pace listened en
tranced to the meet musio. Sho could not tell what made her cey, byt, the tears cane
so rapidly that was of no wie to rub the
corners of her eves with her liatd knuckles so she la har down whith her hard knuckles
ied her the in bround, and bu ied her tace in her hands, and wept, with
out restraint Which the singing was over
she could only, eatch a confused sound of she could only catck ac confused sound of
vice speaking. The lobby was empty niow and the crimson doors closed, The police
man, also had walked on on this wa the
minomeñt to escape. She raised herself from
 sorrow; and thinking sady of the ligbt, and
warmith, and minsic that there withion thit
closed doors, she stepped out into the cold and darkness of the streets, and loitered homeward with a heavy hearty,
Iv. PEEPS INTO FAIRY-LAN
It was not the last time that Jessica con She gould not overcome the urgent desire to
enjoy gaini and again the seceret and peril ous pleasure, and suday after Sunday she
watéed the dariz ptreets for the moment
 ee occupied in lighiting up, before, the po
lieeman would take up bis station the en trance, and again, the very minut at which
it would be wise and vafe to take Toi depar
ture. Sometimes the child lawhed ture. Sometimes the child laughed noise pressed merrimont, ass she saw Daniel. stand
ing unconsiouisly in the lobby, with hi solenn face and grave air, to receive the
congregation, much as he faced his custom ers at the coffe-stall., She learned to know
the minister by sight, .the tall, thin, pale gentlomen, who passed through a side door
with tis head bent as if in depe ithought,
while the two little girls about her own while the two little girls, about her own
age, followed him with sedaté sét ploasan faces. Jessica took a great interest in the fair, and the elder one was about 'as tall as
herself, and had eyes. and hair as dark
but.oh, how cared for, how plainly waited
on by tend
 were gone by, she would close her eyes, and
wonder what they would do in one of the

| high black pews inside, where there was no place for a ragged, bare-footed girl like her; and now and then her wanderings almost ended in a sob; which she was oomilelled to stifle. <br> "It was an untold refief to Daniel that | the birth-day presents. <br> A hard time of it had Kitty Warner: so | took Kitty to see the hiens, and ducks, and geese, and pigebns. <br> When sbe was in her own reom, Alice |
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| he feared, when she came for breakfast every Wednesday morning; but she was too shrewd and cunnine for that. She wished |  |  |
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| him to forget that she bad ever:begn there, and by and by her wish was'decomplighed, and Daniel whie no longer uneasy, while he was lighting the lamps, with the dread of Beeing the child's wild face starting up befare him. |  |  |
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|  saim with distiay that ber Suhday treatis |  |  |
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| would soon be over: The, risk of discovery increased every woek, for the pun was later |  |  |
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| rijbt móment in the grey twillght but still sfe could not give it it, and fit had not been for the fear of oftendipg Mr. Dabiel, Bhe, would bave resolved upon going until she wasi found out. They yould iniot punishher very much for standing in the lobby of |  |  |
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| 2 Jesapel was found out, however, before |  |  |
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| happenod one night that the ministerts clitdren, coming early to the chapel, saw a simall toittered figure, bafe-hefode dad barre- |  |  |
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| apd disappear wìthenthe dobby Theryenised and Iooked at one another, and thev, |  |  |
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| faces, they foll:owed this strange new member of their fither's congregation. The pew-opener was nowhere to be"seèn büt |  |  |
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| their quick eyes detected the prints of the wet litite feet whicb bad trodden the clean pavement before them, and, in an ingtantthey discovered Jessica crouching behind |  |  |
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| but she bad spoken aloud, and Jessicic operheard hër, añ d' before they conld Btir a'stëp she stood before them" y ith am eariest and imploring face |  |  |
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| ciel |  |  |
| all the plea and I didn't thínk you'd liaze me drove |  |  |
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| away. I' don't do any larm behind the door, and if Mr. Daniel tinds no out, tio won't give me any more coffec.? |  |  |
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| stLittle girl," said the elder child, in a composed ind demure voice, il we don't mean to be unkind to yout but what do you come hêfe for, ad why do yuthde yourself "behind the door? <br> "I like to bear the music", answered 'Jes- |  |  |
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| sica, and 1 want to tind out what, pray, is,and the minister, and God, I know it's on for ladies and gentlemen, and fine childrea |  |  |
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| like you ; but Id like to go cinside just for once, and sae what:you do." |  |  |
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| © ", You shall come with us into our pew," cried Winny in an eager and impulsito tone; |  |  |
| but Jane laid her hand apon her outstretêh. ed arm, with a "glance at Jestica's ragged gothes and matted latur It was a question |  |  |
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| difficult enough to perplex them, Thelittlo outcastwas phazaly too dirty and neglected |  |  |
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| for them to invilue her to sit side by side with them in their crimson-lined pew, and no poor people attended the "chapel:with |  |  |
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| looked reproachfally at her elder sister. <br> "Jane,"s she said; ; pening ber Testament, |  |  |
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| there come into yourjassembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and ther come in also a poor man in vile raiment; |  |  |
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| and ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto lim, Sit |  |  |
| thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thonithere, ovsit hefauder my footstool; are ye not then jartiar in your- |  |  |
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| selves, and are become judies of evil thoughts? Jf:we don't take this hitticegminto our pew, we haye not the faith of tour Loiord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persous. |  |  |
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| I' don't know what to do'" nnstered Jane, sighing the Bible seems plain but 'r'm sure papa would sot like it. Let, qs ask the chapel"keeper." |  |  |
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| Mr Oh, no, no" cried Jesica, "don't tet |  |  |
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| again, indeed; and Thl promise nöt, try"to find out about God and the minister, if you'il only lut méso." |  |  |
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| "But, lititle girl," said Jane, in a sweet but grave manner, " we ought to teach you |  |  |
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| about God, if you dort know Him. Our papa is the minister; and if jou'll come with us, we'll ask him what we nust do.' |  |  |
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| "Nobody but papa is in the vestry;", an swered $W_{\text {ane, " "and he'll tell ns all, you and }}$ |  |  |
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| afraid of him, will you? ? <br> "No," said Jessica, cheerfuly following |  |  |
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| the minister's children, as they led her along the side of the chapel towards the vestry: <br> "He is not such a terrible personage," |  |  |
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| said Winny, looking encourragingly, as Tane tapped softly at the door, and they heard a voice saying "Come in." |  |  |
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| What excellent graces do adorn some souls. How are the rooms richly hanged with divine and cobstly bangings that God may dwell in them! This makes it like the carved works of the templo, onerdaid with pure gold ; here is glory uppn glory, a new creation upon the old in the innermost parts of sone souls'ss a spititual altar erected, with this inscription Holiness fo mie Liord. |  |  |
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