

The Family Circle.

COMPLAINT.

River, sparkling river, I have fault to find with thee;
River, thou dost never give a word of peace to me!

MY STEPMOTHER.

[CONCLUDED.]

When the carriage stopped, I forgot all about the grace and repose of manner, I had been practising the last half hour, and sprang to my feet, and stood, holding Willie fast by the hand, in the middle of the room.

I hated her. I wanted to do some desperate thing—to scream, or to go up and strike her. Perhaps you can't understand this feeling, but it is the truth; I felt as if I should die, unless I gave some expression to my passion.

"I am not afraid. I would not die, if I should have it."
"Low do you know, miss?"
"I am not the kind. They don't want me in heaven."

The minister came, as it had previously been arranged, and the two infants received their names and under the rite of holy baptism were consecrated to Him who says, "Suffer little children to come unto me."

Ruth Dent's beauty was that true beauty which passeth not away. It was born of the Spirit, engraven upon the soul, which liveth forever. The young mother who shed tears over the infant whom her sister ridiculed, learned to see an angel light overshadow that dear face, and every hour in the day might she have thanked God for giving her such a treasure.

A CHILD'S PRAYER.

In the winter of 18—, there was a general awakening on the subject of religion in the village of S—. The church, in an especial manner was affected, and became very humble and active.

TRUE BEAUTY.

Everybody wanted to see the baby, the little wee blossom which had so recently opened its eyes to earth, to make, at least one home brighter and happier by its coming.

CONDUCT OF A SABBATH KEEPING PONY.

"BALAAM..... was rebuked for his iniquity; the dumb ass, speaking with man's voice, forbade the madness of the prophet." In a little village in Berkshire, there lived a family, the members of which were in the habit of disregarding the command of God to remember to keep holy the Sabbath-day.