## The Family Circle.

## OH, NO, I'M NOT OLD!

Oh, no, I'm not old!-though the age-frost is cresting With silvery line my once brown, curling hair;
And wide and deep furrows are quietly resting
On my brow, just to tell that long years have been

Oh, no, I'm not old!—though my footsteps are growing More feeble and slow, and my laugh is less gay; And the red on my cheek has long since ceased its

And my eyes grow more dim, and my strength ebbs

Oh, no, I'm not old !-though the frame is decaying The heart that's within is still buoyant and strong; And I trust while on earth 'tis my lot to be staying, That virtue and love will its freshness prolong.

The beauty of nature, -its bud and its blossom, The song of the bird, and the sun-set's deep glow, Are as sweet to my eye and as dear to my bosom, As they were in the spring-time of life, long ago.

Oh, no, I'm not old!—'tis not wrinkles nor furrows, Nor the number of years that should shroud us in gloom; But the blighting of hope mid life's thraldom and

May wither the heart till it longs for the tomb.

## MRS. WILFRED'S JEWELS.

BY MRS. S. T. PERRY. The baby had been troublesome all day. The first tooth was just getting ready to exhibit itself through the gum, and the pain attending such an introduction to the world had kept baby in a state of nervous wakefulness. Its poor mother's arms ached, for the unknowing little one had seemed to suppose that mother was proof against weariness, and had taxed those devoted arms to their ut, most strength. Soothed at last by its mother's sweet voice, singing "Nearer my God, to Thee," it had fallen asleep. So fearful was Mrs. Wilfred that it would wake up again soon, that she had sent the children to bed, had turned down the gas, and seated herself by the window. Having drawn the cradle up to her side, she kept jogging it with one hand, for the sleep so long looked and wished for, must not be broken until baby had had a good rest. Mrs. Senator Wells lived next door to Mrs. Wilfred; the stately mansion was brilliantly lighted, for there was to be a grand party there that night, and Mrs. Wilfred could see from her little cottage windows the graceful lady in her dressing-room unlocking a casket of jewels. As she took them out their magnificent light shone through Mrs. Wilfred's window, and she saw that they were diamonds. The lady hung the earrings in her ears, fastened the cluster of sparkling gems upon her bosom, and clasped the necklace about her white neck. Then she disappeared from the dressing room, and went down to the parlors to receive her guests. How beautiful those diamonds are, thought Mrs. Wilfred, and how much they must have cost! Then she fell to musing,

and wondering why she had not been Mrs.

Senator Wells. She had no jewels or jewel-

ry, except a gold breastpin with her mother's hair in it, which was given her on her wed-

ding day. John, thought she, ought to have succeeded better with his business, and have

been able to place her in a higher position.

"E'en though it be a cross That raiseth me! Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee !"

Soothed by the sweet voice, it became quiet. Again Mrs. Wilfred looked through the window of her neighbor's house. That is the world, thought she, and I only get a glimpse of its beauties. Always at home; with the children, no position, no outer life; what a lot is mine! The baby stirred agais, and again she sang

"Nearer, my God, to Thee !

Just then she heard her husband's step on the walk. There comes John, she thought, now I will show him the contrast between Mrs. Senator Wells' life and mine. Poor John! he had come home tired, too, had been bending over the books in the office all day, balancing the month's accounts, and had, for the last two hours been looking for ward, with happy thoughts, to the cozy sit-ting-room where he always found rest from, his labors, for John Wilfred was one of the ing in heaven. few who turn the key on their business cares when they lock up the office at night, He came into the sitting room door and smiled upon his wife, but she did not return the smile; she was leaning her head upon her hands, getting a glimpse tofather the shearted man. He had lived in wicked world; and home and the dear ones were better the shearted man. He had lived in wicked world; and home and the dear ones were better to die. hind her then she saw them not. Her husband came and took a seat beside her

What the baby been fretful to day?" he asked in a low tone of voice as he looked

into the cradle.

"Yes," replied his wife, "she has cried nearly every minute, and I am perfectly

"Where are the other children?"

even to think of touching them. Alice cried a half-hour because her doll has not been dressed yet; she wants to take it to a doll's party at her cousin Ella's to-morrow. One pair of hands can't do everything."

"Do, John," she continued, "look through the Senator's windows; they have a party there; see Mrs. Wells' diamonds, are they not beautiful?"

"They are beautiful," he replied. "What a happy thing it must be to be rich," she said. "Mrs. Wells goes and comes when she pleases; she has plenty of hands to wait on her."

"Riches do not always bring happiness, Mary. Mrs. Wells is not as happy as you are, and you know it; she has no little ones to love her, as you have. What, my dear, is the homage of the fickle world compared to the disinterested, pure love of your three. little children? Did I not hear you singing Nearer, my God, to Thee? Do you think you would be drawn any nearer to God,

if you were the hostess next door to-night?" Mrs. Wilfred made no reply, but in her heart she knew that she would be drawn farther from God.

"You are tired to night," he said. "The

constant care of the children is very wearying and taxing to the nervous system, and I think it is owing to physical weakness, instead of your usual good, noble heart being diseased, that you are so discontented to

John was a considerate, loving husband; very tenderly he lifted the slight form of his wife from the chair before the window, and laid her on the sofa. "Now," he said, "rest,—try to sleep if you can, and I will

rock the baby." Mr. Wilfred took his place by the cradle. He was thinking of his wife, who, so weary, had already fallen asleep, and not of Mrs. Wells' grand party or her diamonds. She has been a good, patient, faithful wife and mother, he thought, but she is overworked to night, or she would not talk and feel as

she has man most restless, the little feverish arm was thrown over the blanket in the cradle, and its father gently lifted it and put it back in its place. Then he looked at his sleeping wife, and wished he was able to give her more help. I must try It is private duty to read it prayerfully to save money enough next month to buy. And it ought to be read thoroughly, and was able to give her more hope to be to save money enough next month to buy And it ought to be read thoroughly, and her a new breastpin and a nice ring, too, if studied, and taught till it becomes, not only in theory, but in practice, a lamp unto our the baby broke out in san agonizing cry. Mrs. Wilfred sprang from the sofa.

"Where is the baby?" She said, "dear precious baby!" she snatched it from the cradle and pressed it to her bosom. "O John, she said, "I have had such a

strange dream." " her husband her husband

askedwing warstyeeden "I dreamed that I had all Mrs. Wells' dia monds. I felt so happy while putting them on. I seemed to be getting ready to go somewhere, but as I was going I looked for the children to take with me, but they were all gone. /I called and called each by name, but not one of them came to me. I looked through the Senator's window and saw them all there. I tried to get in the house, but no one would open a door for me. I was in despair, when all at once I thought of the diamonds. I said to the servant, Tired, weary mother! she did not realize that in the sight of God her position was diamonds and brought the little ones out folks. But you ought to have seen the ladies of they were so glad to see me. Alice wound in their winter rigs!" she continued. "I wish that in the sight of God her position was of the were so glad to see me. Alice wound the highest which He bestows upon a mortal. That he had given her in charge of three immortal souls to train to live forever, either in happiness or woe. Oh dear whispering, first in one ear, and then in the charge of the curtains were thought Mrs. Wilfred, as the curtains were drawn up to lower the windows from the drawn up to lower the window into the from the drawn up to lower the window in the drawn up to lower the windows from the top, how beautiful everything is in there!

What elegant furniture, and what beautiful dresses! She then cast her eyes upon her own room, and, in the dim light, she said. "How plain, how common!" Just then the baby stirred, and she sang where she had left off before—

What elegant furniture, and what beautiful dresses! She then cast her eyes upon her dresses! She then cast her eyes upon her to belong to the same church with her; and to go there Sunday just a writes to the Herald: "He has allowed with turquoise eyes, but here the head with turquoise eyes, but here the head with turquoise eyes, and her front pew, and sich, for let to the more spiritual movement directed by the missionaries. The Variabed, instead of per failed to plant the seeds of that fearful disease which sooner or later produces a harvest of secuting; is trying to control the people in their which sooner or later produces a harvest of the behald its little herd on my bosom— and to go there Sunday just a writes to the Herald: "He has allowed with turquoise eyes, thought an angel said to me, 'Those are every Sunday of my life. Husband," she which, among other things, the Bible is read and left of women and what beautiful disease which sooner or later produces a harvest of the missionaries. The Variabed, instead of the missionaries. The very such failed to plant the seeds of that fearful disease which me to belong the missionaries. The variabed, instead of the missionaries. The Variabed, instead of the missionaries. The Variabed, instead of the missionaries. The variabed is securing; it is ridiculous for the missionaries. The variabed of the missionaries. The variable of t thought am angel said to me, 'Those are your jewels.' Mrs. Wilfred kiesed, baby over and over again, and baby forgot its new tooth, and laughed aloud.

"Little blue eyes," said its mother, "you are more precious to me than all the precious stones money could buy : 210 1074 The music and dancing at the stately mansion went lon, but Mrs. Wilfred pulled down the curtain, turned on the gas, and while Mrs. Wells received the homage of the not knowing how to overthrow it, she drop increased." All this is attended with the bitter ped the conversation—Advance.

Nearer, my God, to Thee !""

THE SONG OF THE CHILDREN. mess, and at last camer to the shore to die.

While upon his death bed many approached him with the object of doing his soul some good. But they failed. Whenever they assailed that heart they were repulsed. But the same tree growing in the open While thus lying in pain, with the window open, he heard some children, sing. He listened. His eye became moist. He was softened and could be addressed. The walls own resources forms an independence of of his hard-heart had crumbled away he character to which he could not otherwise of his hard heart had crumbled away be-

NEGLECT OF THE BIBLE.

One of the strangest books, it has been remarked, to the general Protestant reader, is the Bible. It is so little read, that many things in it, if printed in a popular form, and generally circulated without reference being made to the source from which they are taken, would not only be the strangest. but the freshest reading, which an enterprising publisher could, perhaps, issue. Yet, more strange than this, is the great degree of truth in the fact here declared. It is a sad fact, that the Bible is not generally a well read book. The general taste of the age is not in that line. It is too true and solidly doctrinal for the modern type of re-

ligion and popular notion. Thousands of Protestants, who would be the very first to cry out for their right to read the Bible, have never read it carefully through. The great privilege of an open Bible is not enjoyed as much as one might expect, from the outcry against those who are opposed to its use by the common people. It were safe to say, that no one is harmed by too, faithfully and prayerfully reading the Word of God.

Go for proof of this into the most popular Sunday-schools. Ask the children big and little as to their knowledge of the Bible. Kew will be able to tell you anything about some of them have answered. Peter may be

inp. from childhood in the Sunday school, have not. And very few read as much of the Bible weekly, even in detached parts, as

they read news in the secular papers.

The reading of the Bible ought to become more general. It ought also to be more thorough. And the teaching of the family and the Sunday-school, and the reigning spirit of the times ought to inculcate this grace. For it is a grace. It is a Christian privilege. It ought to be more generally enoyed. It is a family duty to read the Bible. feet and a light to lead us in the way of life. Reform is needed and called for here; that the Christian life may be fed and nourished, and grow strong in the truth of the Lord -Reformed Church Messenger. with the control of t

"I've a good mind to say I'll never go to church again!" said Mrs. Ball, wife of an industrious mechanic, that day at the even-

ing meal.
"What's up?" inquired her husband, who was not like his wife, a member of the

"Oh! well, nothing that ought to be, I s'pose," said she. "I dare say fit's all my wrong feeling; only I worked all the week as tight as I could spring, every spare min-ute I had, to turn my old cloth sack, and 'Here, take these back to Mrs. Wells, and to fix over my bonnet, and went to Church give me my children.' He carried in the feeling as if I looked spruce and a little like church where poor folks was as good as rich for women and gurls, and all who wish it are folks! I don't mind it week days; but Suntaught to read the Bible, not, as formerly, only days I should like to feel that the Lord in the old language, but in the spoken language. loves me as much as He does any body if I The schools are free! the expenses being paid 'could !"

Mrs. Ball did not like this conclusion; but,

FOUR IMPOSSIBLE THINGS.

alloyed lustre. Third, to form an independent character except when thrown upon their own resources. The oak in the middle of the forest, which is surrounded on every side by

own resources forms an independence of character to which he could not otherwise

MISSIONARY ITEMS.

-Mr. H. H. Jessup says that the most bitter enemies of the Gospel in Syria now, are the European priests and nuns. A Romish padre has just been burning Testaments, and Protestant books, in Mukhtara.

-A new church was dedicated in Beirut, in March. The congregation was the largest ever assembled to hear a Protestant sermon in Syria, butions over last year. The average contribuand since that time the congregations have been too large for the number of pews.

-Mr. Schneider, the patriarch of the Aintab mission, who has lately retired to his earlier charge at Brooza, thus reviews the progress made in the 21 years of his stay with former places: "I preached my first sermon in Aintab, to a company of 25 or 30 individuals, in the year 1848. Now, the average audience is near 1,000, and often rises to 1,200 and 1,500. Then there was a little church of 8 members; now there are two churches, embracing 373 members. Then the entire community of Protestants numbered only missionaries; A native licentiate; 4 European some 40 souls, while at present, there are to medical missionaries; 5 European male teachers; wards 1,900, small and great. The number has become so large, that a division into two separate chists or evangelists; 44 congregations; 5,408 congregations became a necessity; and while there was then hardly any native laborer, now schools; having \$16 native male teachers, 6 native male te congregations became a necessity; and while there was then hardly any native laborer, now two excellent and able native pastors are settled over these two churches and communities. In its main truths. Perhaps here and there, by of their number, next to nothing was done in rote, they may know something about iso the way of self-support and general benevolence, the beginning, too, on account of the smallness lated facts in Bible history. Daniel may be while now, both these churches and communities to them Dan Rice, in the animal cage, as are entirely self-supporting, the salaries of their some of them have answered. Peter may be pastors and school teachers, and all other expension other than what the nursery rhyme tells ses, being wholly defrayed by themselves; and of the pumpkin eater.

Scarcely one in a hundred can honestly \$464.77 were given for general benevolence, and tell you, that he or she has read the Bible \$911 towards the erection of a second church editheranch. through. Some teachers themselves, grown fice. All this in gold; and in a community where a day-laborer receives 131 cents per day, and a mason or carpenter 32 cents. In view of their poverty, and the exactions of the Government, this is extraordinary liberality. More than one half the male members of these churches give a tithe of their income to benevolent ob-

> "In the beginning we worshipped in a small room, in a private house; but for many years a large church edifice has been used, and a second one, for the benefit of the second church, will be completed in a few months. At first there was no school, while now there are seven common schools, with towards, 400 pupils. Then there was no Sabbath-school at all, but at present the Sabbath-school contains an average number of about 1,000, and it has been as high as 1,300, and even 1,600. Over twenty pastors, and a multitude of teachers, colporteurs, &c., have been trained at Aintab, most of whom are still employed in the Master's vineyard; while a large number of native laborers of a lower grade, such as teachers and colporteurs, have been sent forth into the surrounding regions, often eight or more being engaged in labor at the same time. Finally, when the gospel was first preached in Aintab the Protestants were despised and persecuted, while now they are not only recognized as a regular community, with all its rights and privileges, but they have acquired for themselves a name, respect, and influence. Protestantism is considered a power there. Connected with Aintab there are also now several out stations, in which are five churches with 120 members, and average audiences, on the Sabbath of 375; and seven schools containing 124 pupils. These results in the out-stations are wholly the fruit of the la-bors of the Aintab church."

from the public treasupy!: He has established a simple failure of an attempt to drink moderate weekly meeting for the instruction of such we ly. "Better do like me," replied her husband weekly meeting for the instruction of such women as cannot attend the schools, somewhat, active and meant for, one horse folks like cording to his idea, in imitation, of our weekly women's prayer-meeting. The character of the schools is improved as rapidly as the number is increased. All this is attended with the bitter-

Before she went to sleep she visited the little beds up stairs and kissed the tears from Alice's cheek and kissed the brow of poble wee Tommie, whose patched pants had only endeared him more,—for laboring for those we love makes them dear to us. Therefore, manfully meet and overcome the might not spain faint by the way; and also the ones to be jewels in her crowing statistic of the leading and a searching examinations, have unless the temperance that the desiration and searching examinations, have unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people could not get within hear themestory unless the temperance people could not get within hear themestory unless the temperance people with the ment; but so

-Mr. Hartwell writes from Foothow, June 5th, that two new out-stations, one seventy-five and one sixty miles distant have just been taken. He tells of a recent convert, who, while in heathenism, was regarded as "possessed by the fox," and was subject to violent and destructive fits.

—There are 56 churches in the  $Haw_{ali_{aq}}$ Evangelical Association, all but seven having pastors. 888 additions were made last year, 313 were suspended, and 83 excommunicated. The rolls have been cleared of unknown names, reducing the nominal strength from 17,397 to 12 497 members. There are 45 ordained Hawaiians in the Association, including 9 missionaries, tion to their own Foreign Missionary Board, is not far from a half a dollar a member. They have a converted Chinese laboring among his 1300 countrymen on the Islands.

-The U. P. Record (Edinburgh) makes the following acknowledgment of indebtedness to Foreign Missions, as a stimulus to Christian lih. erality in general: "We have six Foreign Missions those of Jamaica, Trinidad, Old Calabar, Kaffreland, Rajpootana, in India, and Ningpo, in China. In these missions we have 34 or dained European missionaries; 7 ordained native tive female teachers; with 6,846 pupils; and have thus an educated foreign mission agency of 199 persons."

-Medical missionary women are called for and a wide field of usefulness among their own sex is promised.

-The receipts of the American Board for July were \$53,781,74. The receipts of the Am. and For C. U. for the month ending July 6, were \$9,993 45. No want of confidence in this institution has yet reached the pockers of the givers, which are more open to its calls than Teat we do ply sympethize course

## TEMPERANCE ITEMS.

West. On one of the wagons there hung a jug with the bottom knocked out. What is that?" asked the Doctor. "Why, it is my Taylor jug," said the man. "And what is a Taylor jug?" asked the Doctor again. "I had a son in Gen. Taylor's army in Mexico, and the General always told him to carry his whisky jug with a hole in the bottom, and that's it. It is the best invention." invention I ever met with for hard drinkers."

-The British Temperance League, at their recent session in London, resolved :-- " That this conference has heard with great satisfaction of the enlightened policy pursued by the Chinese Government in forbidding the growth of the poppy plant, with a view to suppress the destructive intoxication existing in their country; but has heard with grief and concern that the British Executive in India is adopting measures to increase the production of opium for the Chinese market, and hereby enters its protest against so immoral and unrighteous a policy."

-At a late meeting of the N. Y. State Temperance Committee it was resolved to demand of the next Legislature a law, which shall enable the majority of the legal voters of any town, city, village, or ward to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors therein, and a committee was appointed to prepare an address to the voters of the State setting forth the object to be sought and urging their hearty co-operation in securing

-Dr. Day, Superintendent of the New York State Inebriate Asylum, recently delivered an —At Oorfa ("Ur of the Chaldees") probably address before the inmates of that institution, in which he stated that moderate drinking families, more than har-room or groggery, are the schools in which the fundamental principles of intemperance are taught. Among other things he said: "It is my firm belief that no family accustomed to the daily use of ardent spirits ever perance. From long observation I am convinced that one or more of the members of every wine-drinking family become, sooner or later, drunkards. Drunkenness, in every instance, is a

The City Council of Richmond, Indiana, lately raised the fees for license to retail liquor, increased. All this is attended with the bitter ereised, and determined to have the resolution est opposition to the missionaries and their followers.

Fathers. It was known that the whisky party would pack the council chamber, so that the december and pastor, at Bidlis after the cent people could not get within hearing distance. that she might have grace to train those little ones to be jewels in her crown of rejoic ing in heaven.

If A That we way apply also your by God s providence exposes to the time to study and prepartic the hall filling with the temperance men, and a delegation of the leading and most respectable ask ourselves, whether ministers at home, if they railied their city, than the presence of the duty of being missionaries, in the remaining field of space. Thus the city fathers and makes the gold shine forth with undergoing severe as would see like results."

What fire is to gold, that is afflicated the duty of being missionaries, in the remaining field of space. Thus the city fathers and makes the gold shine forth with undergoing severe as would see like results."

Mr. Hartwell writes from Footbow. The city mothers and allowed here to the time to study and prepartic the hall filling with the temperance men, and a delegation of the leading and most respectable ask ourselves, whether ministers at home, if they remaining field of space. Thus the city fathers and makes the gold shine forth with undergoing severe as would see like results." the city mothers, and a large delegation of grayhaired veteran temperance men, behind which last stood the cohorts of intemperance. The ladies sat four weary hours watching the move-ments of the council, and till the last scene in All the absurd measures taken by his heathen friends to fild him of the evil spirit having failed they advised him to go to the inissionaries. The vote for \$500 stood, seven Republicans to, and three Democrats against it. A night or two none of his fits since he began to keep the Sabbath and receive Christianity. About a dozen bapt the residence of E. D. Palmer, the author of the order of the party of whisky roughs went to the residence of E. D. Palmer, the author of the vides of a beautiful fountain in his front yard, the drama was through. The idea of putting the license so high as \$1000 had generally been abandoned before the meeting of the council. "I sent them to bed an hour ago," she and swered, "for the baby would not go to sleep while they were in the rooms. Tommie has worn holes in both knees of his pants play in marbles; they are the only gair he has to wear to school, and must be patched to make a swed; Room doubtless used this difficulty, but I am so tired that I can't bear simple song to do him good. It is hard heart had crumbled away be character to which ne could not otherwise municated.

Smalled in his front winding, and hurled stones municated.

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Fourth, to be as growing man when you have have have attained. and the grocery opened in like manner.