

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;

Oh, no, I'm not old!—though my footsteps are growing More feeble and slow, and my laugh is less gay;

Oh, no, I'm not old!—though the frame is decaying The heart that's within is still buoyant and strong;

The beauty of nature,—its bud and its blossom, The song of the bird, and the sun-set's deep glow,

Oh, no, I'm not old!—'tis not wrinkles nor furrows, Nor the number of years that should shroud us in gloom;

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.

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.

THE SONG OF THE CHILDREN.

We once heard of a sailor who was a very hard-hearted man. He had lived in wickedness, and at last came to the shore to die.

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.

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.

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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, and 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 Broza, 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."

—The U. P. Record (Edinburgh) makes the following acknowledgment of indebtedness to Foreign Missions, as a stimulus to Christian liberality in general: "We have six Foreign Missions—those of Jamaica, Trinidad, Old Calabar, Kaffrland, Rajpootana, in India, and Ningpo, in China."

—The receipts of the American Board for July, were \$53,731.74. 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 pockets of the givers, which are more open to its calls than ever.

TEMPERANCE ITEMS. —Dr. Tyng met an emigrant family going 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 whiskey jug with a hole in the bottom, and that's it. It is the best invention I ever met with for hard drinkers."

—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 it.

—Dr. Day, Superintendent of the New York State Inebriate Asylum, recently delivered an address before the inmates of that institution, in which he stated that moderate drinking families, more than bar-room or groggery, are the schools in which the fundamental principles of temperance are taught. Among other things he said: "It is my firm belief that no family accustomed to the daily use of ardent spirits ever failed to plant the seeds of that fearful disease which sooner or later produces a harvest of griefs. In every such family you may find the scroll of the prophet which was written within and without, with mourning, lamentation and woe. It is here that the tender digestive organs of children are perverted and predisposed to habits of intemperance. 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 simple failure of an attempt to drink moderately."

—The City Council of Richmond, Indiana, lately raised the fees for license to retail liquor, in less quantity than a quart, from \$50 to \$500. Of course the liquor-dealers were very much exasperated, and determined to have the resolution repealed at the next meeting of the City Fathers. It was known that the whisky party would pack the council chamber, so that the decent people could not get within hearing distance, unless the temperance people did so. The solid men and women of the temperance party, in strong force, took possession, at an early hour, of the seats and most of the vacant standing room near the inclosure occupied by the council, thus checkmating the onslaught of the forces of the whisky men. But no sooner did they discover the hall filling with the temperance men, and a delegation of the leading and most respectable ladies of the city, than they rushed around and rallied their forces to take possession of every remaining inch of space. Thus the city fathers sat down, for the first time, in the presence of the city mothers, and a large delegation of gray-haired veteran temperance men, behind which stood the cohorts of intemperance. The ladies sat four weary hours watching the movements of the council, and till the last scene in the drama was through. The idea of putting the license so high as \$1000 had generally been abandoned before the meeting of the council. The vote for \$500 stood, seven Republicans for, and three Democrats against it. A night or two thereafter the party of whisky roughs went to the residence of E. D. Palmer, the author of the ordinance first passed, tore up and carried off the pipes of a beautiful fountain in his front yard, smashed in his front windows, and hurled stones in his front parlor. One of the principal saloon-keepers has closed his business, and joined the temperance ranks. The temperance people have raised money to take his worthless stock and destroy it, and set him up in the grocery business. His run-shop was closed with a prayer meeting, and the grocery opened in like manner.

—Mr. Hartwell writes from Foochow, 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. All the absurd measures taken by his heathen friends to rid him of the evil spirit having failed, they advised him to go to the missionaries. He seems to be a sincere convert, and has had none of his fits since he began to keep the Sabbath and receive Christianity. About 5000 baptisms have recently taken place in the North China Mission, and one person has been excommunicated.

—Mr. Wolfe of the Church Mission at Foochow, writes: "The chief mandarins here, near to a grand banquet, as a token, I suppose, of their good will towards us. They have already issued cards in grand style."

GOING TO CHURCH.

"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 evening meal.

FOUR IMPOSSIBLE THINGS.

First, to escape trouble by running away from duty. Jonah once made the experiment, but soon found himself where all his imitators will in the end find themselves. Therefore, manfully meet and overcome the difficulties and trials to which the post assigned you by God's providence exposes you.