

The Family Circle.

THE MOTHER'S PRAYER.

By One of the Authors of "Child World." Two little angels—child-angels, you know— Sit on each side of the boy that must die;

Wild on the pillow he tosses his head, Small angel-lips meet above him to kiss; Singing, "He'll kiss us as soon as he's dead;

Silence falls over the room: with a start, Touching each other, they glance in dismay; Oh, his poor mother is breaking her heart!

What will she do for his rough curly head? Eager boy-kisses that come with a will; How can she look at his small empty bed—

Little child-angels stand mute in dismay, All in a flutter they fly from the bed; Weep not, O mother—Oh, weep not, but pray;

WILLIAM HAVERLY.

"About thirty years ago," said Judge P., "I stepped into a bookstore in Cincinnati, in search of some books that I wanted. While there, a little ragged boy, not over twelve years of age, came in and inquired for a geography."

BE KIND TO CHILDREN.

Blessed be the hand which prepares a pleasure for a child, for there is no saying where and when it may again bloom forth. Does not almost everybody remember some kind-hearted man who showed him a kindness in the quiet days of his childhood?

A GREAT SIGHT.

Two elderly ladies, chatting with each other in a low voice, one morning in June, 1869, entered the office of a certain justice of the peace, in Washington, D. C.

THAT WONDERFUL PRAYER.

Which? Why that one which your mother taught you. Did you ever think, short though it be, how much there is in it? Like a diamond in the crown of a queen, it unites a thousand sparkling gems in one.

It teaches all of us, every one of us, to look to God as our parent—"Our Father."

It prompts us to raise our thoughts and desires above the earth—"Who art in heaven."

It tells us we must reverence our Heavenly Father—"Hallowed be Thy name."

It breathes a missionary spirit—"Thy kingdom come."

"And a submissive, obedient spirit—"Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

And a dependent, trusting spirit—"Give us this day our daily bread."

And a forgiving spirit—"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

And a cautious spirit—"Deliver us from evil."

And last of all, an adoring spirit—"For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.—Amen."

Now is it not both a wonderful and a beautiful prayer? Jesus, our dear Saviour, taught it; and who could better tell us how to pray to His Father and our Father, to His God and our God?

THE SCHOOLS OPPOSED BY ROME.

Schools are important in all lands, but in our country, where the maintenance and perpetuity of our free institutions depend upon the intelligence and virtue of the people, they are doubly so. Our Free Schools are the glory of our country. Here the rich and the poor are educated together.

The Archbishop of Ireland, Cardinal Cullen, has ordered all Roman Catholic parents in Ireland to keep their children from the Free Schools, under the penalty of being denied the sacraments of the Church!

THE BURNING OF THE RICHMOND THEATRE.

"I was but a boy, and lived in the city of Richmond, Virginia, when the theatre was destroyed by fire in December, 1811, and seventy-five persons perished. I had a brother older than myself, who resided there at the same time.

"Night came, and my brother attended the theatre, accompanied by a young lady of the city, to whom he was shortly to be married. I returned to my bed at an early hour, and knew nothing of the fire until after sunrise.

The above was related to me by Dr. F., now an esteemed minister of the gospel in North Carolina. Notice, 1. The theatre was new to him, and he might have made this a plea for going.

BUDGET OF ANECDOTES.

When Dr. Blank, of a Western city, was but a candidate for the ministry, he preached his trial sermon before a very orthodox Presbytery. His subject was the Millennium, and when he had announced his text, he shut the Bible and proceeded with a voluble discourse of an hour's length, quoting the opinions of everybody, from Adam down.

—At a Covenanter "fellowship meeting," Paul's voyage was under discussion. One brother remarked how the vessel hugged the shore, because they dare not steer boldly in any but very clear weather, as they had no compass in those days.

—One of the finest retorts on record is that made by an English ambassador to a French king. The king of England had instructed his representative to sue for the release of certain Huguenots, who had been thrown into the Bastille for their religion.

—An old Scotch dame threatened to "session" her husband for the sin of saying that "David was not as good a poet when he metred the Psalms, as when he wrote them in prose."

—For the sake of religion in Indiana, we hope that the following statement in a Western paper is overdone; but we have known some cases almost as hard as this:—"A minister in Clay county, Indiana, whose salary was exceedingly small, having at length, by means of a loan, secured money enough, took his departure.

—The elevation of Dr. Temple to the See of Exeter, in England, is deeply regretted by the pupils of Rugby school, of which he was head master. One of them writes to his father as follows:—"I shall not care a bit for the school with a new master, no more will any one.

—A celebrated divine, who was remarkable, in the first period of his ministry, for a boisterous mode of preaching, suddenly changed his whole manner in the pulpit, and adopted a mild and dispassionate mode of delivery.

—An old miser in Ireland left a will bequeathing "to my sister-in-law, Mary Dennis, four old worsted stockings which she will find under my bed," to a nephew, two other stockings, to a housekeeper, "for her long and faithful services, my cracked earthen pitcher," and other legacies of the same character to other persons.

—When an eminent painter was requested to paint Alexander the Great, so as to give a perfect likeness of the Macedonian conqueror, he felt a difficulty. Alexander in his wars had been struck by a sword, and across his forehead was an immense scar.

—On the other hand, Timanthes, the Greek painter, made the figure of a sleeping Cyclops, on a small canvas, appear very large, by introducing a satyr taking the measurement of the Giant's thigh, with his thyrsus. So we may make another's defect appear very great by that with which we attempt to take the dimensions.