· C. , a contraction WEEKLY OBSERVER.

DURLIN & SLOAN, PUBLISHERS.

\$1 50 A YEAR, IN ADVANCE.

B. F. SLOAN, EDITOR.

her presence the old affection of their childle

second to revive-the old kindness and lave.

Beemed to revive—the old Einquess and new Baby extended her thin pale hand and took Helen's; and the young lady at down build her, and covering her face, oried in silence. "Are you crying? What are you crying for?" mid Baby. "Please don't. Mr. Chusles, tell

her not to ory." Charles only gased from Baby to Helen with

suffused eyes. "I thought from the way you looked you wer friends," said the child feebly-are you?"

"Oh, you must not feel bad toward each other,"

said Baby, in a weak voice; "you must love said

And taking Helen's hand, she placed it in Charles's. The young girl did not withdraw it ---she only covered her face more cleasely, and continued to ery, looking now and then at the pale, thin face of Baby Bertie.

"We were."

other, for I love you."

ERIE, SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 5, 1856.

image where she can not look upon my agony!"

once in a lifetime.

NUMBER 34.

LITTLE CHILDREN.

VOLUME 26.

BY REV. J. JANES BANKIN

Oh' tripping through the basy street, And patt'ring'like the min. I hear'the noise of children's feet. In the morning aprons trim and neat. And bound for school again.

Such packages of neathess now. Done up and sent with care' They lotter unward anyhow, Then scamper, from some vagrant cow,

That turns up unaware. t seat me in my study door. Before the clock strikes nine I want again at half past four. West a list once they homeward pour

to noisy straggling line. perso from town on holidays. T meet the groups so fair Return ng from their woodland plays, With heals arrayed in comic ways. And iroll. fantastic au

I never see them, but my heart Is full of love for life And moisture in my eyes will start, It at te of a half Stoic art, Aud an unmanly strife. Angels sow blessings in their eyes, And kiss their golden hair, And how would they the lesson prize 1 w rid worn souls were only wise, To read what's written there

From Harper's Magazine. BABY BERTIE'S CHRISTMAS.

- HARLES FORREST, ESQ , ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

retined indication of the young gentleman's nearly the fact. Helen certainly had a very you never had for me any sentiment warmer from the bottom of her heart. n means to prove that he had been for a whose arm had supported her so often in their me." agthy period "at the bar;" and yet the "shingle," | rambles, and whose frank and open character was | There was so much earnestness and sadness in she was thus engaged, and at last said, period active oil, and yet the shingle, land bes, and whose links and open character was a land of these words, that a slight blush came ; professional parlance, was not entirely new. perfectly well known to her. As he grew into a the tone of these words, that a slight blush came vas much such a sign as might have been ex-ine young fellow, and she ripened more and more it to the young girl's checks, and for a moment she stel under the circumstances; had indeed hung into a blooming maiden, this affection increased, gased at her companion with an expression which you so much."

mes Forrest's legal experience As the wind blew more and more drearily, makthe sign creak upon its binges, and threaten-

actery moment to precipitate it into the white affectionate words to build implicit hopes upon. kindness and good feeling our friendship, which said nothing. In fast failing snow upon the door step, the That he had not "spoken" was attributable to has jasted from our very childhood, should be "I know ver upant of the chamber rose from his seat and his modest and unpretending nature-in truth, interrupted."

and around him. It was a pleasant to look he had not had the courage to place his whole "It is not interrupted, I hope," she said, in a "an a, the face of Charles Forrest, Esq, with its happiness upon one throw of the dice. He felt low voice, and turning away with a flush in her is." ming the healthful checks, and the smile which an affection for himself such as he felt for her,

"Why then treat me thus?" he said, with an med habitually to dwell upon the lips. This and she were to listen to his avowal, and declare expression of pain.

- became very distinctly marked as the young herself unable to return his love, that from this "It is your imagination; that is-"Why do you treat him so coldly, Helen? the looked around him, dwelling for a moment mode in the bare and finitiarity he destroyed, and the bare and finitiarity he destroyed, and familiarity he destroyed, and the bare and sim-the four integration; that me saw what is bad for us, in an altered voice "you must not think that is bad for us, in an altered voice "you must not think that is bad for us, in an altered voice "you must not think that is bad for us, in an altered voice "you must not think that is bad for us, in an altered voice "you must not think that is bad for us, in an altered voice "you must not think that is bad for us, in an altered voice "you must not think that is bad for us, in an altered voice "you must not think that is bad for us, in an altered voice "you want, because we often want, because we often want what is bad for us, in any the constitution upon the President to want, because we often want what is bad for us, in the constitution upon the President """. rtment; on the dusty table, piled He had. toward you. were colder to him than other the lawbooks displayed with ostentations intru- therefore gone away with a last look, in which "But something must have occurred," he said, the large built of the stars and the bundles of doubtful-looking twist as last look, in which thereas, and the bundles of doubtful-looking twist tee carefully with red tape, and the bundles of doubtful-looking twist tee carefully with red tape, and the for-throw measures and even the source of the source beside the plaims in the source of the source the a sigh, he resumed his seat again—which in the idea that she returned his own feelings them; but you must have known that you were tell you what the relations between Charles and back in the evening." transent—and betook himself anew to a con-traplation of the gradually expiring fire in the traffer interview after interview took place, and he grew traffer interview took place interview took place interview took place interview took p bition of them. Helen grew cooler and cooler. --- company been absorbed by the performer at the duty. You know how we were brought up to- Between certain persons there seems to be a heaven, tranquilly and happily. After such "Well." he said at last, in a half-audible tone. "Well, he said at last, in a nait-audible tone, bitton of tasm. Here grow observed and wondered gether, and I am afraid Charles has been led to species of magnetical attraction, by means of conversations, in which the child stated her feel-The that prospects for the future are not brill familiar companion; and, one by one, she denied at the deep blush which suffused the countenance think of me differently than in old time. In which they recognize each other, and which dishat This is certainly not precisely what I him all the privileges he had begun to enjoy.— of Helen. Exped for myself when I left Shady Oaks and When he asked her to accomyony him to a con-Charles felt that he had now advanced too far not come to the knowledge of his feelings before ies and Baby Bertie were on the best possible to recode; and in spite of the unfitness of the occasion, his emotion drove him onward, and compelled him to give utterance to his thoughts (or y way to discourage this attachment.") is come to use anowing the second of the child's voice, like her face and be and flaby Bertie were on the pest possible almost began to snare paper and his whole nature felt the salutary influence of the compelled him to give utterance to his thoughts (or y way to discourage this attachment.") is come of the child's voice, like her face and be and flaby Bertie were on the pest possible almost began to snare paper and his whole nature felt the salutary influence of the child's purity. Baby Bertie seemed to be not long destined 22 to town. I thought at that remote period oert, she had some ready excuse to offer for reis existence that the world was a place un- fusing; if he asked her to permit him to escort the found himself received as a stranger, with a stranger Emaily splendid visions; real Arabian Night's "not at home" when he made a call in the morn-was I thought the Grand Vizier would come ing. Helen seemed resolutely bent upon not me as I did toward you, Helen. We had been courage him?" as' I thought the Grand Vizier would come tell me that the Caliph requested me to ac-tell in the presence of others. We have heard the comments of the young man upon this state the comments of the young man upon this state the comments of the young man upon this state the comments of the young man upon this state the smile with which these words commenced the parties towards each other on the evening the parties towards each other on the evening the parties towards each other on the terminant of the parties towards each other on the evening the parties towards each other on the terminant of the parties towards each other on the terminant of the parties to the think of any one but you and Lam loging all our part and Lidi not wish to mersure indicates partiality on think that such a course indicates from a sentiment of propriety, and the fear that think of any one but you, and I am losing all our part, and I did not wish to encourage feel-an opposite course would seem strange. unuainted with a young lady answering to description, but it really does seem to me a description, but it really does seem to me a lam neither expected nor desired to espouse the young man paused in his soliloquy, and a shadow passed over his brow and dimmed right of his eyes. He remained for a time the young man a year, his assiduous attentions, and returns and stangerous rival, with his solilogue attentions. They say I an the young man paused in his soliloquy, and a shadow passed over his brow and dimmed to this eyes. He remained for a time to thousand a year, his assiduous attentions, and a year, his assiduous attentions. They say I an the young man paused in his soliloquy, and dimmed to the young man approached her, she hope of my winning your affection! I must hope of (a) and motionless, paying no attention ap-and studied elegances of conversation and deport-intro the wind cutting its antics without, ment; Charles found himself engaged in the upon a sudden avowal for which you are not pre-think that I was wrong in denying him occasions the driving snow, or the forlorn creaking despondent amusement of comparing himself with pared; but this suspense is killing me. Helen! of seeing me and continuing to think of me." the driving show, or the fortion creating despondent an usement of comparing number with parts, but this superior is an one of a start of a start of the start of "Mr. Vane and myself were talking of the weather," said Helen, after returning the young man's salutation: "It is a new mafel which the weather," said Helen, after returning the young your own lips something!" weing probably from a band returning after possession and unconcern. raiting to earth some member of the order 4400s prother fraternity. The music was load Carried away by his emetion, the young man do under the circumstances. It was plan to me ubilant; and when the wind shifted and blew man's salutation; "It is a very useful subject to ommence with." "I'm sure I am delighted to converse with you bending toward her and endeavoring to look into I ought, if possible, to make him forget me.--" the proper quarter, the tune played by the commence with." was distinctly heard, like a loud gush of on any subject," said the gallant Tom Vane in a ber downcast eyes. Helen's checks were cover-This is the explanation of my coldness. You ed with blushes, and she in vain tried to speak. will not say I was wrong." At last she said, in a low voice, which trambled Helen spoke now with a

Charles Forrest turned the note over and over, the country, Helen," said the young man; "don't suppose, as she no doubt has some slight resol-smiled, sighed, re-read, read it again, folded you like them too?" you like them too"

it, opened it a second time, again read it, and ended by placing it in his private portfolio, among his most precious archives. The manner in which he performed these different ceremonies "Oh yes, very much!" said the young lady, arranging her sloeve. "Do you ever recollect the happy days we spent at Shedy Oaks a long time ago?" continu-ed Charles, gasing with and tenderness on the

would have clearly indicated to an astute obwould have clearly indicated to an assure of the server, that any thing upon which the hand of the face of his companion. fair writer had rested was henceforth sacred in his eyes. The young man at once proceeded to the small we had there, all of us—Anna Clayton and all we had there, all of us—Anna Clayton and all the server is the server is the server.

as he spoke. "No?" he said, wiping his forehead, which was bathed in perspiration in spite of the bitter cold of the night—"no, I will not do her that injustice! I will not let my wretchedness carry me away and blind me. She is a noble, tender adjoining room, which served as his bed-chamber; of us. Have you spoken to her this evening? and making an elaborate toilet, which neverthe- You know she is staying with me now. She less dealt in nothing gaudy, or exceeding the bounds of the most severe good taste, wrapped his cloak around him, went out, and took his way toward the residence of Miss Helen Burnaby. girl, and it's not me to say a word against her. What right have I to find fault with her for not loving me! I thought I had touched her heart

11 .--- THE COUNSEL FOR THE PLAINTIFF UNGES and tender recollections of old days, when they company among his intimate friends. He very and her head-dress. soon found himself, after paying numerous com-pliments in his passage, by the side of Helen ward them, and now exchanged a smiling salu-Burnaby. She was a fresh-looking and attractive tation with Charles —after which, as he surned

young lady, with fine dark eyes, hair like the again to Helen, she continued to look at them. wing of a raven, and "coral lips," which had a The young man sat for some moments silent, great tendency, it would seem, to satirise the ob- gasing at the floor absently: then he said, with ject of their mistress' dislike. Helen seemed to an imperceptible sigh, be one of those sensible and rational young ladies "Helen, I am afraid you have lost all your

who look at things in their real light without the regard for me, and forgotten our friendship.----least inclination toward romance and poetry; and Our relations have in some way changed since yet there was a world of good feeling and kind-ness in her eyes, which indicated a warm and af-upon me as an ordinary acquaintance, and almost

less dealt in nothing gaudy, or exceeding the

neas in her eyes, which indicated a warm and at-fectionate nature. Charles Forrest and herselt were cousins, and had been brought up together, it might almost be said. Helen had gone every year, from her earliest childhood, to spend the indicate that the accusation gave her pain. But

year, from her earliest childhood, to spend the summer months at Shady Oaks, the estate of the ber back to town, and staid for several weeks at Mr. Burnaby's. They had here companied at the adjustic that the adjust in the formed at the second to the seco -HARLES FORREST, ESQ, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. At the close of a freezing December day, writes Forrest, and Charles had frequently accompanied in spectrum of Deceds for the States of, etc., in agre fire, engaged in the profitable or un-mathe occupation of reflecting The oblong of blue sanded board upon which the above-in agre fire, engaged upon which the above-in agre fire, engaged in the profitable or un-mathe occupation of reflecting The oblong of blue sanded board upon which the above-in agre fire, engaged in the profitable or un-mathe occupation of reflecting The oblong is and when Charles visited Helen's; and at last this verdict of the little town misses became very in agrin for sumber, sanded board upon which the above-this verdict of the little town misses became very in agrin for the solution of the volum control of the volume control of the volume

red under the circumstances; had indeed nung into a biooming made, one and contour into and in a bio and finally when the time for Charles to go to made his heart leap. The exposed to the weather just six months; and finally when the time for Charles to go to made his heart leap. The evaluation of the start and actual term of Mr college arrived, the feelings of the young man "Oh, Helen!" he music again rose, "Grieves me!" replied Helen; "why do you college arrived, the feelings of the young man "Oh, Helen!" he said, as the music again rose, became the deep and earnest passion of the lover. drowning his voice, "what has happened to cause think any thing grieves me?"

"Because you have been sighing as if your heart would break." They parted without any mutual explanations, this misunderstanding between us? It makes however, and Charles had only chance looks and me unhappy and wretched to think that our A slight blush came to Helen's cheek, but ab

"I know very well that something has occur red this evening to trouble you," mid her friend, a "and I think Charles Forrest knows what it

Helen turned round and looked at her companion so sadly that it was very plain she had not missed the truth.

"Helen, I wish you would be more communi-

and easy while we are suffering! What is my disappointment in comparison with this child's The agony of the young man, sitting in his often; and I suppose it will make her feel un-chamber, wassearcely greater than her own; but lot? There she lies, as feeble and frail as a lily, pleasantly for the next half hour_after which he was pale and still.

pain, and looking forward to a few weeks, al-IV .--- GOOD NEWS FROM HOME. most a few days, of life only: and she is happy. I have health, and strength, and competence, and am miserable! She is poor, and sick, and tranquil under all. I am well and hearty, and For some days Charles seemed to be living dream-life in an unreal and unsubstantial world, with which he had nothing to do, and whose pursuits had no connection with himself or his life. think that no suffering is like my own! I must have been led there by the hand of Providence, The sunshine seemed black to him, and he wan-dered about searcely returning the node of his acquaintance, and muthering to himself as forlors lovers have done in all ages. Like others who that I might see that others besides myself sufthat I might see that others besides myself suf-fer, and far more deeply. Well, I will try to profit by the lesson. Dear child! she shall at least have every comfort I can give her, and I had passed through the same emotions before him, he was growing older, hour by hour, and pray God to make me as happy as she is."

his careless character, becoming serious and The young man entered his lonely room with lighter heart than he had done for days; it no onger seemed to be a sort of refuge for his des pair, leading, him to avoid the face of man.-Henceforth it was lighted up by Baby Bertie's smile—by her large blue eyes, full of sweetness and tranquility; he felt the contact of her heart with his, and his life was no longer full of gloom. As he closed the door, he heard the band of music again, load and rejoiceful, and it was playing the same old tune, "Good news from Home." It now seemed to him infinitely sweet, no longer sad, and in some way it seemed connected

rith Baby Bertie. V.-BABY BERTIE'S OTHER FRIEND.

Charles manfully carried out his resolution; once in a lifetime. III.—THE CONFESSION. The company had all left Mr. Burnaby's, and Helen and her friend, Anna Clayton, who, as we have seen, was staying with her, had retired to their chamber. Charles, cap in hand, and begged a small loan of to their chamber. Charles inhality darried out ins featured for numerous offices, making the fires and putting things to rights—old Obadiah appeared before to their chamber. Charles inhality darried out ins featured for nothing. They grew to be fast friends, and he would go and sit by her bedside for hours, and often read to her, not only from the Bible, but such tales as she liked to hear. In the child's presence he seemed to forget much of his grief, As Christmas came on every thing was high, and he never left her without feeling a sensation he said, and the prices had taken all his savings. of purity and content, which enabled him to go back to the performance of his duties cheerfully

do not look happy, and something troubles you

"What Toakes you think that, Baby?" said the young man, smiling. "Do I ever groan?" "I'don't know if you grown, but you look sor

ry. I wish you would not look sorry. "Suppose I have reason to "

"Then you ought to pray more, and you will not be sorry " Charles sighed.

"I bardly know how to pray," he said, "and t does Lot do much good." "Oh yes, it does!" said Baby. "Every prayer

does good, and it must. God, you know, would not tell us to ask for what we want and we should have it, if he did not mean to give it to us."

The young man looked at the sweet face of the child, and felt a pang at the thought that he did ed and he entered. The room was very poor not possess her faith.

bed in the corner lay a child apparently six or Baby?" he could not help saying; "why do you seven years of age. not pray for health and strength?"

"I do," said Baby, tranquilly; "but I pray at the countenance of the child, which wore an 'Thy will, not mine, be done,' too. It would

dim eyes for her grandfather. Very soon the old man came in, and a smile, like a beam from heaven, lit up Baby's countenance. "Please light the tree, grandfather," said she faintly. The old man, with a heavy and foreboding

The child seemed to be looking with her faint.

heart, did as she asked, and soon the brilling tapers threw their light upon the occupants of the room and the bed-lighting up the pale sweet face of the child as with a glory. As the

tapers flamed out, Baby seemed to be listening, and soon from the distance came the music the band-playing as before, "Good news from home.'

Baby's thin hand best time to the music as it approached, and then died away, and her large blue eyes seemed to be fixed upon another land, where there is neither snow, nor cold, nor poverty, nor suffering. Her gaze then returned to weeping faces round her bed, and slowly made the circuit. She smiled faintly, and her wan lips moved.

"Good news from home!" " she murmured "from my home in heaven! I dreamed that I

And the frail thread partod gently, and Baby Bertie was in heaven. Her Christmas was there, not upon this cold earth; and having made herself the link which bound the hearts of Helen and Charles forever, she passed away, pure and beautiful, in the holy light of the Christmas tree. whose leaves are for the healing of the nanion.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow citizens of the Senate and

of the House of Representatives. The Constitution of the United States provider that Congress shall assemble annually on the first Monday of December, and it has been naual for the President to make no communication of a public character to the Senate and House of Representatives until advised of their readiness to receive it. I have deferred to this usage until the close of the first month of the session, but

loving me! I thought I had woohled her heart in all these years, but I am mintaken, wretched-ly mistaken, and it was ridicalous for me to speak as I did—unfeeling, for I know she is feeling pain now at my unhappiness! Oh, why couldn't I leave this terrible question for some Bleep did not seem to refreeb; him, and he would sit hour after hour with but one thought, one image in his beart, obliterating every other. It seemed to him that be had monopolized the whole suffering of the workl, and that compared other occasion, or never ask it! All is now end-ed between us-things are changed. I am now which his agony all the grief, and want, and pov-erty, and pain which he had read of in books such into insignificance, and was unworthy of ather persecutor, and she will always dread a re-currence to the subject. She need not-I will sanoy her no longer with my troublesome affec-tion. I can at least break my heart with her

tention. Day after day passed thus, and at last his pain began gradually to decrease, and better thoughts to come to him. Suffering had purified him, and

And hurrying along the young man reached his apartment, threw himself into a chair, and resting his face upon his hand, remained for hours enduring that agony which happens but

he was destined soon to see that others besides

himself were unfortunate, and to profit by it. One morning old Obediah, the wood sawyer,

comforts for his grand-daughter, who was sick.

looking and attractive head. The face of the would soon repay it, and his grand-daughter and willingly. young lady was, however, dimmed by an ex-pression of grief and disquiet, and as she combed him with what he needed, and then entered into her manner of addressing him—"I think you

old man drew so curious a picture of his "ways often " the liltle sick grand-daughter, that Charles found himself deeply interested, and what was better. fire, looked round at her two or three times as

diverted from his possessing and absorbing thought. He promised to come and see the old man,

whose humble dwelling was not far from his office, and then they parted.

Charles had despatched all the business of the day early on the forenoon, and then he bothought him of the promise he had made. He proceed-

ed toward the spot designated, and soon found the obscure hut in which Obsdiah lived. In reply to his knock at the door a feeble but perfectly self-possessed little voice bade him come

in, and pulling the leather string, the door open-

and mean, but scrupulously nest, and in a small oven years of age. Charles stood for a moment gasing in silence

"Ihnes God give us what we pray for though

off.'

-do you?"

"Are there better ways?"

The young man nodded, and said:

"I was thinking of an old anwyer I met near

to suffer from the best, inasmuch as his cost was

"Oh yes! old Obidiah! I know him very well

"He makes my fires, and attends to the of-

your door, an acquaintance of mine, who seemed away with it.

⁴ xod news from home!" said Mr. Charles gallant toue. The signification of this obvious the second secon

thing of that sort? They're all well at Shady compliment and mid: You were well wrapped up, I hope, cousin 4 I know, and that's very good news from "You were well wrapped up, I hope, cousin "This is wrong—you ought not to speak thus tears quivered on her eyelids." to me here—the company will look at us, Anna seemed however to be and sore throat." of only get some good news from what 'home'

to be, when Helen and myself had not had "inhappy misunderstanding! Every thing was "I have a very warm overcoat, which serves me you dearly—as no man ever loved you or the between us then, and if any body had said excellently in default of better ways of keeping love you! Tell me if you can ever return would now be on terms of actual constraint, warm." and have laughed at them. I love her more vever-and I have the right to love her!and been more to me than any one but my er, and there is not a lovelier character in "ide world. Oh, why has this miscrable 'y made us change toward each other! I will "" myself think for a moment that the lovewho made every one devoted to her when ame to see us at Shady Oaks, can have had cellings changed toward me by my ill success fice?" hy protession. Yet I could not blame her,' "usued the young man sighing, and looking I like him very much. He cause a good deal of disappeared "d at the cheerloss apartment; "this would wood for us, as pape likes an old-fashioned coun- upon him. "a pretty place to bring a delicate and tenderly | try log-fire in his study." wedgiri. I am like the poor poet I read about a newspaper the other day, sitting on his stool, | insted the matter of fact conversation, in which

"His great thoughts had moved tehm Moved millions to tears, Through years, To joy and to tears."

Helen spoke now with a sort of craving agitation which changed her whole countengace, and

Anna seemed however to be unconvinced by her logic. "Why, then, did you invite him this even

"I have a very warm overcoat, which serves me you dearly—as no man ever loved you or can ing?" she said. "I have a very warm overcoat, which serves me love you dearly—as no man ever loved you or can ing?" she said. "I could not help it." "Oh, I can not, Charles-I can not-"

"Well, that is true; but when you do see him, Suddenly the music stopped, and the agitated Helen, I declare you ought not to be so cold to him. You make him suffer more than he would and broken voice of the young girl mingled itself with the concluding crash of the base, and died if you were kind; and you might give him an tionate word, I think, in return for his own Charles drew back pale and silent, and Helen

passed har white handkershief ever her face to cool the burning of her chesks. He rose and "An affectionate word!" "Yes. I mean you ought to be what you ways were to him---familiar and kind." changed his seat, and as soon as common peliteness would permit, made his how and retired She scareely looked at him as he inclined beagitated voice:

"Does he? He is a very pleasant eld man, and fore her; and then the whole assembled company disappeared from his eyes, and the door closed "What madness it was for me to think of

Helen turned to Mr. Vane as she thus term-Igarret. The writer says he was destitute and a word. Old Obsdiah was apparently out of his we were alone together, and might have been "fowing, though "fills great thoughts had moved tehm "fills great thoughts had moved tehm Morel million to tears."

and scarcely was audible:

and--'

brilliant auburn, and lying in profuse masses and it would not be love in God to give it to us, bowed to you on going away you scarcely looked upon the poor pillow. The large blue eyes were | because we ask for it "

"You know what Paul suid---don't you remember: 'Having a desire to depart and to be

deed I know it. I could not help it, and I did penses with words. From the first moment Char- away, and ponder sadly, but hop-fully too. He almost began to share Baby Bertie's feelings,

> to affect hun, however, for her form became thin-She could scarcely take any nourishment now and seemed to need none. She appeared to be quite simply and tranquilly, that she didn't think | fading softly away like an autumn evening, and the thread upon which her life hung was so frail

"What, Baby Bertie!" said Charles, looking that all felt that it might at any moment gently part asunder, and the child pass from them.

"Pshaw, Baby!" said Charles, taking the thin

hand lying half out of the covering, "you must He found the hand resist his grasp, and the

"If you shake hands, Sir, you will make me lose my place."

In fact, the finger which Charles had tried to capture was inserted between the leaves of on old Bible, which was concealed by the coarse counterpane of the poor bed. "I was reading about the daughter of Jairus,

mid Baby, by way of introducing a new topic of conversation; "I like that very much." "It is very interesting," said the young man.

gazing sadly at the thin free of the child. "It is very sweet," was the reply; they though:

that the Saviour could not do it, but he said, 'Be not afraid, only believe.' How sweet that is, "Only believe!" and that is all he asks." After uttering these words Baby Bertie seem ed to reflect for a time. At last she said with a

"I was thinking that the daughter of Jairus

"Nothing. I am seven on Christmas day." After this Baby Bertie closed her book and looked through the low window with a smile. This smile, however, disappeared in a few min. utes, and the thin lips were contracted painfully The child at the same moment raised her hand to her breast, and breathed with difficulty.

pointing to the table. Charles hastened to hold it to the child's lips,

she second much relieved. noor, he dedicated to Baby Bertie, whose pale "Mrs. Johnson sits with me when grandfather's face and loving smile were now a part of his dai-

ly life. tumber near me. I feel better now-I felt as if gan to descend. As he entered, a lady, who had

'to give to the Congress information of the stat of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary

It is matter of congratulation that the Repu blic is tranquilly advancing in a career of pros

FOREIGN RELATIONS. -CENTRAL AMERICA

Whilst relations of amity continue to exist be tween the United States and all foreign powers. with some of them grave questions are depend-

which has arisen out. of the negotiations with Great Britain in reference to Central America. By the convention concluded between the two governments on the 19th of April, 1850, both parties covenanted, that "neither will ever" "oscupy, or fortify, or colonize, or assume or exer cise any dominion over, Nicaragua, Costa Ries. the Mosquito coast, or any part of Central

America. It was the undoubted understanding of the United States, in making this treaty, that all the present States of the former republic of Central America, and the entire territory of each, would thenceforth enjoy complete independence; and that both contracting parties engaged equally, and to the same extent, for the present and for the future; that if either then had any claim of

At this time a lady came frequently to see right in Central America, such claim, and all Baby, whom she grew to love and look for, as occupation or authority under it, were anreservmuch as for her grandfather or Charles. This edly relinquished by the stipulation of the lady made her delicate dishes and draughte--bathed her brows with cooling liquids, and convention; and that no dominion v:. . reafter to be exercised or assumed in any part of smoothed her bed and pillow. Baby talked much with her, and told her all Central America, by Great Britain or she United

States. about her friend Mr. Charles-how attentive and This government consented to restrictions in kind he had been-what kind friends they were. regard to a region of country, wherein we had and how he had read to her, and told her stories. specific and peculiar interests, only upon the and scarcely missed a day in calling to see her. conviction that the like restrictions were in the The lady listened to all this prattle of the child same sense obligatory on Great Britain. But for with evident pleasure, and when she related some this understanding of the force and effect of the instance of delicate kindness on the part of her friend, the lady's obsek colored slightly, and she would be more tender than ever to Baby. She by us.

So clear was this understanding on the part of only endeavored to find the hours when Mr. the United States, that, in correspondence con-Charles was expected, and at these times she netemporaneous with the ratification of the convention, it was distinctly expressed, that the mu-

ver made her appearance. Christmas drew on thus, and the streets began tual covenants of non-occupation were not into be more and more filled with merry wayfarers tended to apply to the British establishment at -the houses of relations began to roar with huge the Balize. The qualification is to be ascribed to fires, and smell of roasted meats-children every the fact, that, in virtue of successive tratiles with previous sovereigns of the country, Greek where rejoiced and made merry with toys, and candy, and noisy trumpets, and snow-balling; Britain had obtained a concession of the right to and finally. Christmas eye came, and the whole cut mahagony or dye-woods at the Balize, but town thrilled with laughter and rejoicing. with positive exclusion of all domain or sover-Charles determined that Bedy Bertie too should eignty; and thus it confirms the natural construehave a merry Christmas, and he busied himself tion and understood import of the treaty as to all to procure a little cedar tree, which he hung with the rest of the region to which the stipulation all sorts of variagated paper, baskets full of toys, applied. and candies, and nice things-and this magical

tree made its appearance at Baby's, and was

erected nobly there, decked out with tapers for

VI.-THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

dine with him on Christmas day, and this invi-

tat ion he had accepted, though he doubted about

the propriety of again annoying Helen with his

Ele determined, however, to put it off to the last

poss ible moment, and the fore-part of the after-

He accordingly made his appearance at the

les-this is Mr. Charles." Bady's face was so full of pleasure as she ut-

Charles had been invited by Mr. Burnaby to

the illumination.

pre sence.

It, however, became apparent, at an early day after entering upon the discharge of my present functions, that Great Britain still continued in the exercise or assertion of large authority in all that part of Central America commonly call. ed the Mosquito-coast, and covering the entire length of the State of Nicaragua, Last a part of Costa Rica; that she regarded the buiss as her absolute domain, and was graduely extending its limits, at the expense of the State of Hosduras; and that she had formally celemined a considerable insular group known as the Bay Islands, and belonging, of right, to that State.

All these acts or pretensions of Great Britain, being contrary to the rights of the States of Central America, and to the manifest tener of child's bedside before the shades of evening be- her stipulations with the United States, as understood by this government, have been made been aitting by Baby's side rose, and abruptly the subject of negotiation through the American dropped her veil, thereby concealing her features. Minister in London. I transmit herewith the instructions to him on the subject, and the cor-She then made a movement to retire, but the child's voice arrested her. "You must not go yet if you please, Miss He-len," she said, "I want you to know Mr. Char-ceive that the two governments differ widely and irreconcilably as to the construction of the con-irreconcilably as to the construction of the convention, and its effect on their respective rela tered these words in her feeble and broken voice,

tions to Central America. Great Britain so construes the convention, as that Charles remained gazing upon her almost with tears in his eyes. She resembled an angel more than a mortal child, and the voice sounded like the breathing of an Æolian harp.

affection when you do see him." Helen's cheeks fushed, and she said, in an

"Familiar and kind! How one you advise me to be so, under the circumstances, Anna? It would be wrong! Oh, I never could reconcile it with my ideas of duty! Bamiliar and kind!-

speaking to her thea!" he muttered, with pale Encourage him!" she said, in a voice of excite-lips and gloomy eyes. "What demon get into ment; "do you know that I was so this evening, be fell, on his three-legged stool, in his frees- that elegant gentleman in vain tried to introduce me! To pass over a thousand consistent when Anna, and can you guess what the result was? Anna turned with great exgerness towards her I was choking." companion.

"His graut longhts had moved tahm Novel millions to tears, Tojoy and to tears, tears "He-"

"What of that?"

"If you will please give me that tumbler with the drink in it," she said, in a low voice, and

and she slowly drank the contents, after which

away," she said at length, "but she was called home. I'll ask her the be at time to leave the

And Baby smiled quite happily and tranquilly.

smile. "It is all the same." "What is all the same, Baby?" was twelve years old, Sir."

