Poetry.

Make Home Pleasant.

More than building showy mansion—
More than dress and fine array—
More than domes or lofty steeples—
More than station, power and sway;
Make your home both neat and tasteful,
Bright and pleasant, always fair,
Where each heart shall rest contented,
Grateful for each beauty there.

More than lofty, swelling titles—
More than fashion's luring glare—
More than mammon's gilded honors—
More than thought can well compare;
See that home is made attractive,
By surroundings pure and bright,
Trees arranged with taste and order,
Flowers with all their sweet delight.

Seek to make your Home most lovely;
Let it be a smiling spot,
Where, in sweet contentment resting,
Care and sorrow are forget:
When the flowers and trees are waving
Birds will sing their sweetest songs,
Where the purest thoughts will linger,
Confidence and love belongs.

Make your Home a little Eden;
Imitate her smiling bowers;
Let a neat and simple cottage,
Stand among bright trees and flowers.
There, what fragrance and what brightness,
Will each blooming rose display,
Here a simple vine-clad arbor
Brightens through each Summer day.

There each heart will rest contented,
Seldom wishing far to roam,
Or, if roaming, still will cherish
Mem'ries of that pleasant Home;
Such a Home makes man the better,
Pure and lasting its control—
Home with pure and bright surroundings
Leaves its impress on the soul.

Literary Notices.

PAUL THE PREACHER; or, A Popular and Practical Exposition of his Discourses and Speeches, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. By *John Eadie, D.D., LL D.*, Professor of Biblical Literature to the United Presbyterian Church. Pp. 458. New York: *Robert Carter & Brothers.* Pittsburgh: *John S. Davison.* 1859.

The Glasgow Professor, favorably known to the American Church by previous publications, has given, in the work before us, the results of a vigorous analysis and close examination of the great Apostle's teaching and character. There is no unnecessary exhibition of verbal criticism or technical exegesis; no formal quotation of authorities, or classified enumeration of conflicting interpretations; but the uniform aim is to bring out the Apostle's meaning in a clear and striking form. The book is full of information, attractive in style, and eminently suited for practical reading. The reader will find his views of Divine truth enlarged, his admiration of the preaching of the Apostle to the Gentiles increased, his own spirit refreshed, and his spiritual energies newly awakened.

LESSONS FROM JESUS; or, The Teachings of Divine Love. Pp. 324. By *W. P. Balfern*, author of "Glimpses of Jesus." New York: *Sheldon & Co.* Boston: *Gould & Lincoln.* Pittsburgh: *John S. Davison.* 1859.

Those who have read that sweet little book, "Glimpses of Jesus," will not be slow to secure this work, by the same author. The writer draws important and instructive lessons from different sayings of Jesus, the circumstances in which he was placed, the persons whom he met, the indignities he received, the sufferings and death he met, and the great purposes of his grace, in such a way as to rivet the attention, touch the heart, and quicken devotion.

SMOOTH STONES TAKEN FROM ANCIENT BROOKS. By *Rev. C. H. Spurgeon*, of New-Park Street Chapel, Southwark. Pp. 269. New York: *Sheldon & Co.* Boston: *Gould & Lincoln.* Pittsburgh: *John S. Davison.* 1860.

One great source of Spurgeon's power in the pulpit, is his acquaintance with the Bible and the old English Divines. These are his constant companions; from them he draws largely his apt comparisons, his quaint imagery, and his forcible appeals. In the book before us, he has made a collection of sentences, illustrations, and sayings of deep and precious import, from the works of that renowned Puritan, Thomas Brooks, whose ministrations were so well attended and so greatly blessed in London, during the third quarter of the seventeenth century. He was one of the King's mighty ones in mind, and soul, and grace. We thank Mr. Spurgeon, for this collection of the dust of gold and precious stones, which Brooks scattered so freely; and we thank Mr. Sheldon, that he has put them in a casement so fitting.

MAGDALA AND BETHANY. By *Rev. S. C. Malan, M. A.*, Rector of Broadwindsor, Dorset, England. Pp. 201. New York: *Robert Carter & Bros.* Pittsburgh: *John S. Davison.* 1859.

The author of these sketches of the Holy Land, is a son of Rev. Cæsar Malan, D. D., of Geneva, so highly esteemed in the American Church. He is a gentleman of the fine feeling, exquisite taste, and fervent piety, necessary to appreciate the scenes he describes so lovingly and so glowingly. As a linguist, this younger Malan is a wonderful prodigy. The preface written by a friendly hand, tells us that he is master of no less than twenty-six languages, for the purposes of familiar thought and speech, while the number of languages and dialects at his command to be read at pleasure, is no less than one hundred and twenty-two.

UNICA; A STORY FOR GIRLS. By the author of "Uncle Jack, the Fault Killer," &c. Pp. 160. New York: *Robert Carter & Brothers.* Pittsburgh: *John S. Davison.* 1859.

The fact that this little book is written by the author of "Uncle Jack, the Fault Killer," will make the girls wish to have it, and those who read it will not fail to derive advantage.

MAY I BELIEVE? or, The Warrant of Faith. By the *Rev. Alfred Hamilton, D. D.* Pp. 188. Philadelphia: *Presbyterian Board of Publication.* Pittsburgh: *Board of Colportage*, St. Clair Street.

Dr. Hamilton has been a successful pastor for many years and has passed through many revivals, and consequently knows well how to meet the inquiries that rise up in the sinner's mind when first truly awakened. In the case of almost every one when first made really sensible of his condition before God, there is an apprehension of some formidable difficulty in the way of accepting Christ as a Saviour. This little book is well adapted to meet the wants of all such in all their different phases, and to lead the inquirer to look to Christ alone for salvation. We can recommend it to pastors and others, as a safe and excellent guide to be placed in the hands of that class of persons for whom it is intended.

THE CHILD A HUNDRED YEARS OLD. By the author of "Scenes in the Indian Country." Pp. 120. Philadelphia: *Presbyterian Board of Publication.* Pittsburgh: *Board of Colportage*, St. Clair Street.

This little work is by a favorite author, and seeks to show the true end and aim of life, with appropriate examples, some sad, and some pleasing.

ALCOHOL; Its Place and Power. By *James Miller*, Professor of Surgery in the University of Edinburgh, &c. Pp. 178.

THE USE AND ABUSE OF TOBACCO. By *John Lizars*, late Professor of Surgery to the Royal College of Surgeons, &c. Philadelphia: *Lindsay & Blackiston.* Pittsburgh: *John S. Davison.* 1859.

These two treatises have a high reputation in Great Britain. The former has already passed through eighteen editions, and the latter eight. We wish them a wide circulation and careful reading in this country, where the demoralizing habit of using intoxicating drinks, and the filthy habit of using tobacco, so fearfully abound.

For the Young.

For the Presbyterian Banner and Advocate.

A Lovely Example of Infant Piety.

To the Children who read the Banner and Advocate.

DIED—July 1st, 1859, at Waukesha, Wis., in the eighth year of her age, Miss ORPHA HARSHA, daughter of the Rev. W. W. Harsha, of Dixon, Ill. Little Orpha was a rare lamb in the flock of Christ. She was not yet eight years old; but, having been for almost a year the subject of severe affliction, she was a truly ripe Christian. She gave, for some time before she died, the most satisfactory evidence of an intelligent and comfortable faith in the Redeemer. And, from her peculiar circumstances, hers was a most growing faith; she matured rapidly. Her increase in spiritual mindedness could be easily perceived from one weekly visit to another. I never saw a more beautiful example of child piety. Though suffering much, she was as gentle and uncomplaining as a lamb. With the calm dignity of an aged Christian, she expressed herself as having no fear of death; "I'm not afraid to die," she said, and said, O! so sweetly. A few hours before her death, she sang without a tear or any sign of fear, and in a calm, clear, sweet voice, the hymn beginning, "I have a Father in the Heavenly Land;" and so remarkable and touching was the scene, that all around her, friends, acquaintances, and strangers, were bathed in tears. Her departure was like a child's falling over into sleep on its mother's bosom. Gently and peacefully Jesus took her in his arms and folded her to his bosom. Thus these devoted and most excellent parents have their fourth treasure in heaven. Very rich are they.

Now, my dear little friends, how many of you can say with this lovely little girl, "Jesus loves me," and "I'm not afraid to die!" Must it not be a most blessed thing for a child to love Jesus and be loved of him? And if you should be called to die in your youth, would it not be most desirable to be able to die so happily and peacefully as she? And how can children be happy and lovely now and at death? By loving and obeying Christ. He will love them that love him, and will make them happy. Many of you are older than Orpha, and yet you have never thought of believing and loving Christ? And what is the reason? You cannot plead you are too young; for Samuel was devotedly pious when but a child; Josiah, the good king, feared the Lord and loved the truth, when only seven years old; Timothy knew the Scriptures from his very youth; and here is Orpha, who is not yet eight years old, who loves Christ, calls him her Saviour, and dies expecting to go and live with him forever. And there are many other little children, whose lives have been written, of four, and five, and six years of age, who have been intelligent and happy Christians. It will do you good to read the lives of Nathan Dickerman and Catharine Haldane, where you will see how even a little boy and girl of only five years, could trust in the Saviour and be happy. No, children, you are not too young to love and obey Christ, as you are not too young to sin and disobey him. Like little Catharine Haldane, then, you ought to pray every day for a new heart until Christ gives you one. Beseech him to help you to love him, and he will, for he loves the love of children. O! they are happy children, who can say with Orpha Harsha, "Jesus loves me;" and with Catharine Haldane, "Jesus has given me a new heart!"

"How sweet are the flowrets
In April and May!
But how often the frost makes
Them wither away.

"Like flowers you may fade,
Are you ready to die?
While yet there is room,
To a Saviour fly!"

A. H. L.

A Child's Faith.

In the Highlands of Scotland there is a mountain gorge twenty feet in width and two hundred feet in depth. Its perpendicular walls are bare of vegetation, save in their crevices, in which grow numerous wild flowers of rare beauty. Desirous of obtaining specimens of these mountain berries, some scientific tourist once offered a Highland boy a handsome gift if he would consent to be lowered down the cliff by a rope, and would gather a little basketful of them. The boy looked wistfully at the money, for his parents were poor; but when he gazed at the yawning chasm, he shuddered, shrank back and declined. But filial love was strong within him, and after another glance at the gifts and at the terrible fissure, his heart grew strong, his eyes flashed, and he said:

"I'll go if my father will hold the rope!"

And then, with unshrinking nerves, cheek unbranched, and heart firmly strong, he suffered his father to put the rope about him, lower him into the wild abyss, and to suspend him there while he filled his little basket with the coveted flowers. It was a daring deed, but his faith in the strength of his father's arm, and the love of his father's heart, gave him courage and power to perform it.

For the Ladies.

Influence of Sisters.

We hear much of *maternal* influence, and its importance cannot easily be exaggerated, but let us not become so much absorbed with the power and beauty of this, the strongest of all domestic forces, as to overlook or forget the gentler yet still potent influence of a sister's presence and example in the household. The good daughter, especially if she be the eldest child, is clothed with responsibilities inferior only to those of the mother herself. She may in a multitude of ways lighten that mother's cares, by giving her the comfort of her quick and ready sympathy; by unobtrusively assisting her in her duties without attempting to supercede her; by anticipating her wishes, and in all the familiarity of affectionate intercourse maintaining that deferential demeanor, which is so rare, and yet so becoming. She may, by her considerate attention, her amiability, and cheerfulness, beguile the anxieties of her father, and withdraw his thoughts from the vexations of business, in becoming herself the object of his consideration and delight whenever, leaving the world behind him, he enters the door of his own peaceful home. But especially important and powerful may be the influence of such a daughter over the younger members of the family. She may assist in their instruction and training without domineering or becoming dictatorial, really aiding in their government, while seeming to give the parent all the control. By her own example of filial obedience she can uphold the authority of her parents; and by firmness, mingled with kindness, she may exert an independent authority of her own, repressing the boisterousness, curbing the waywardness, and rebuking the selfishness of the younger children of the family. And especially potent is the influence of such a sister over her brothers. If they have left home, she can follow them with such letters as will often prove talismans in the hour of temptation; or if the family circle is yet unbroken, she may make home attractive to them; by her plastic gentleness she may soften their rugged natures, charm them back from their coarse haunts and vulgar pleasures, and stimulate them to high and honorable action.

And should the mother be removed by death, then how unspeakably responsible becomes the position of such a daughter!

How dear will that daughter be in the father's eyes as he observes her unobtrusive yet successful exercise of power over all the household; impressing her own pure character upon all the rest; and especially when he sees how she ministers to his happiness, with a face which shines in the light of a sainted mother's countenance!

Or should such a daughter be taken first, and be followed by the parents to an early grave, then, though the light of their dwelling may seem to be extinguished—yet their remembrance of her sweet virtues will soon relume the darkness with a gentle radiance never to expire—her memory will be a hallowed light, evermore to burn on the altar of that household.—*Central Presbyterian.*

Agricultural.

Autumn.

Ruddy as gold is the chestnut tree
When Autumn passes by;
No bleak wind crisps the silent sea
Which is blue as a maiden's eye.

The yellow sun through the forest leaves
Drops a thread of dancing light;
Young children sing 'mid the barley-sheaves,
And shout at the swallow's flight.

Yet earth is lonely. The woodland sere,
And the softly murmuring foam,
Seem ever to bring to the listening ear
Sweet songs of an unknown home.

—*Dublin University Magazine.*

Boys, Help Your Mothers.

We have seen from two to six great hearty boys sitting by the kitchen stove, toasting their feet, and cracking nuts or jokes, while their mother, a slender woman, has gone to the wood-pile for wood, to the well for water, or to the meat-house to cut frozen steak for dinner; this is not as it should be. There is much work about the house too hard for woman. Heavy lifting, hard extra steps, which should be done by those more able. Boys, don't let your mother do it all, especially if she is a feeble woman. Dull, prosy housework is irksome enough, at best. It is a long work, too, it being impossible to tell when it is quite done, and then on the morrow the whole is to be gone over with again. There is more of it than one is apt to think. We wish some busy, all-day housework, the arrangement of whose house is about as inconvenient as it can be, a no uncommon state of things, would count her steps for one day, and let us have the result in miles; let it be noted how many times she goes into the cellar, to the wood-pile, to the pump, up and down stairs, and especially how many times from the stove to the buttery."—*Morning Star.*

Drying and Preserving Apples

Will now be in order, and we advise those who have a supply of this fruit, which cannot be marketed to advantage, to dry as many as possible. There will be a demand for them, not only in cities and villages, and in new sections of the country where bearing trees are not yet secured, but also in many localities where the crop has failed. Remember that *it pays to prepare and dry the fruit* CAREFULLY. Clean, well pared, well cored, and carefully dried apples, sell for double the price of those poorly prepared. Two shillings worth of time and care in preparing a bushel, will not unfrequently add a dollar, or more, to its marketable value. Apples may be quickly dried by shaving them wholly into thin parings, on an implement like that described above, or on any common parer, and spreading them upon plates or earthenware dishes to dry. "Apple leather," as it is sometimes called, is a convenient article. It is made by preparing the fruit as if for sauce, and then, after cooking, spreading it thinly on earthen dishes, and drying it in the hot sun, or in ovens kept at so low a temperature as to avoid all danger of scorching. Then thin dried sheets thus prepared, will keep a long time in a dry room, and be ready for use whenever they are wanted by simply soaking them.

For home use, we have lately preserved our apples in air-tight bottles and cans. The fresh apples are pared, cored, cooked, and seasoned ready for the table, then put hot into the bottles, and corked and sealed. This we find better, by far, and even cheaper, than the dried fruit; and it has the advantage of being always ready for use—six or twelve months after putting up.—*American Agriculturalist.*

To Prevent Rats, Mice, and Insects Working in the Granery.

These live pests are a great eye sore to all farmers and grain dealers, and a little care and trouble will keep them away, and at the same time the remedy will be a benefit to most kinds of coarse grain. For the benefit of those who would like to keep grain all Summer, or a year, I will, in a brief manner, give the course to pursue, that the loss by these little thieves may be comparatively small.

After the grain is in the bin and made level and smooth, put on the top about four quarts of fresh slaked lime; let this be spread evenly over the grain. This will keep out rats and mice in a bin that contains one hundred bushels. This lime must be slaked so it looks like flour fresh from the miller's bolt. If the lime is left upon the surface of the grain, the rats and mice will not skip and play there a great deal before they will have to sneeze some; and further than this, there is always enough grease or oily substance remaining upon the feet of rats and mice to make the lime adhere to them. After they have been once into it they will not return again the second time. You may likewise throw this lime about their haunts with much benefit; but if insects are to be kept out, you must mix the lime with the grain as you put it in the bin, and shovel it through and through until it is mixed thoroughly; then place on the top four quarts of the slaked lime. Four quarts of unslaked lime is sufficient for one hundred bushels of grain; and it will do no hurt in many kinds of grain if it is never taken out, for it is an alkali which is good for botts in horses. It will neutralize the acid in hog swill, and prevent their vomiting; and, in fact, this small quantity of lime would be a benefit to most kinds of stock if it should be ground with the grain.

If you apply the lime to wheat, buckwheat, and corn, or the like, and do not want it in the grain, get out your fanning mill and run it through.

To slake lime perfectly, put it into a tight, stout vessel, and pour on boiling water, about half as much water as lime in bulk; cover up the lime as soon as the water is in, and leave it until cool. Good, unslaked lime will more than double its dimensions when well slaked.—*Cor. Genesee Farmer.*

Miscellaneous.

Familiarity with the Bible.

He who is so familiar with the Bible that each chapter, open where he will, teems with household words, may draw thence the theme of many a pleasant and pathetic song. For is not all human nature and all human life shadowed forth in those pages? But the soul to sing well from the Bible must be imbued with religion as the flower is alternately imbued with dew and sunshine. The study of the Book must have begun in the simplicity of childhood; when it was felt indeed to be Divine, and be carried on through all those silent intervals in which the soul of manhood is restored, during the din of life, to the purity and peace of its early being. He who begins the study of the Bible late in life must indeed devote himself to it night and day, with a humble and contrite heart, as well as an awakened and soaring spirit, ere he can hope to understand what he feels—thoughts and feelings breathing in upon him, like spiritual sounds and scents, as if from a region hanging in its mystery between heaven and earth.—*Wilson.*

The Term "Old Dominion."

Few things are so well calculated to awaken in the mind of the proud Virginian, when wandering in foreign lands, touching reminiscences of home and kindred, as the simple mention of the "Old Dominion." And yet there are comparatively few who are aware of the term which has so long and so generally been applied to Virginia. It originated thus: During the Protectorate of Cromwell, the colony of Virginia refused to acknowledge his authority, and declared itself independent. Shortly after, when Cromwell threatened to send a fleet and army to reduce Virginia to subjection, the alarmed Virginians sent a message to Charles II., who was then an exile in Flanders, inviting him to return in the ship with the messenger, and be king of Virginia. Charles accepted the invitation, and was on the eve of embarkation, when he was called to the throne of England. As soon as he was fairly seated on his throne, in gratitude for the loyalty of Virginia, he caused her coat of arms to be quartered with those of England, Ireland, and Scotland, as an independent member of the empire, a distinct portion of the "old dominion." Hence arose the origin of the term. Copper coins of Virginia were issued even as late as the reign of George III., which bore on one side the coats of arms of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Virginia.—*Notes and Queries.*

Health and a Well-Formed Body.

Take abundant exercise in the open air—free, attractive, joyous exercise such as young girls—when not restrained by false and artificial proprieties—are wont to take. If you are in the country, or can get there, ramble over the hills and through the woodlands; botanize, geologize; seek rare flowers and plants; and chase butterflies. Be a romp, even though you may be no longer a little girl. If you are a wife and a mother, so much the better. Romp with your children. Attend also to your bodily positions in standing, sitting, lying, and walking, and employ such general or special gymnastics as your case may require. Live while in doors, in well ventilated rooms; take sufficient wholesome food, at regular hours; keep the mind active and cheerful—in short, obey all the health laws.

Churches in San Francisco, Cal.

A writer in the *Boston Recorder* says of San Francisco: "The churches of this city are numerous, and many of them very prosperous and efficient. Here are two of Old School Presbyterian (Rev. Drs. Scott and Anderson;) one New School Presbyterian, (Rev. S. H. Willey;) two Methodist Episcopal North, and one South; three Protestant Episcopal, (two High and one Low church;) one Unitarian, (Rev. Mr. Buckingham, lately of Boston;) besides German and Mariners' churches. Two large Roman Catholic churches, the congregation of one at the cathedral, very large, and one Jewish synagogue. The Congregational church, (Rev. E. S. Lacy,) is quite large, and has a good house of worship.

Tyranny of East Indian Women of Fashion.

The upper class of East Indian ladies are making a violent resistance to the introduction of English gowns among the lower classes or female coolies, as the gown enables the poor woman to cover the breast, and that is a privilege hitherto belonging to women of rank only. This has occasioned so fierce a jealousy of classes that the Government has been obliged to interfere, which it has done by passing a law permitting all women to dress as they please.

What we Eat.

A man in active life requires thirty-six ounces of solid food per day—say nine ounces of animal and twenty-seven ounces of vegetable—according to established scales of diet in the English and French army and navy regulations. Of food and drink, a man will consume about one thousand five hundred pounds a year. Of course, many persons consume much more food, but this is the average estimate.

A SAUCER full of chloride of lime, moistened with a few drops of vinegar and water, will purify the atmosphere of a sick room in a few minutes.

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