

Family Reading.

THE LITTLE FISH.

Old farmer Smith came home in a mist
From his field the other day,
While his sweet little wife, the pride of his life,
At her wheel was spinning away.

And ever and anon a gay little song
With the buzz of her wheel kept time,
And the wistful brow in clearing now,
Under the cheerful rhyme.

"Come, come, little Turk! put away your work
And listen to what I say;
What can I do, but a quarrel brew
With the man across the way?"

"I have built my fence, but he won't commence
To lay a single rail;
His cattle get in and the feed gets thin,
I am tempted to make a sale."

"Why John, dear John, how you do go on!
I'm afraid it will be as they say;
No, no, little wife, I have learned that strife
Is a lawyer's hand don't pay."

"He is picking a flaw to drive me to law,
I have heard that he said he would;
And you know long ago the law wronged me so,
I vowed I never should."

"So what can I do, that I will not rue,
To the man across the way?"
"If that's what you want, I can help you baffle
The man with a spiteful eye."

"Thirty dollars will do to carry you through,
And then you have gained a neighbor;
It would cost you more to keep in the door
Of a court, and much more labor."

Just use your good sense—let's build him a fence
And shame such thoughts out the fellow.
They built up his part and it sent to his heart
Love's dart, where the good lay mellow.

That very same night by the candle light,
They opened, with interest, a letter,
Not a word was there, but three greenbacks fair
Said the man was growing better.

But people often say very sharp things.
Rumors grass stains with water, using no soap.
Kerosene will clean black silk beautifully.
Use a sponge.

SAY FRANCISCO is quietly depriving England
of her tea laurels. Twenty-three million
dollars worth of tea drank last year came
to us through the Golden Gate, and tea traders
say the amount will be doubled within two years.

WHAT TO TAKE HOME.—A loving heart and
a pleasant countenance are commodities
which a man should never fail to take home
with him. They will best season his food
and soften his pillow. It was a great thing
for a man that his wife and children could
truly say of him: "He never brought a frown
or unhappiness across his threshold."

A LITTLE GIRL who had not for fourteen
years once left the third story back room in
which she lived, was among those who participated
in the late children's excursion in this city.
When carried to the park she asked what the grass
and trees were, and had to be told the names of the most
common objects. She lay on the grass all day,
drinking in the air and sunshine, and was
seen to weep softly every little while from
pure joy.—Exchange.

A LITTLE BOY was on a ship with a company
of wicked men. He was a pious praying boy.
The sailors wanted to learn him to drink
rum and chew tobacco and to swear, but he
would not. They tried and tried, but in vain.
At last one of the sailors said to the rest,
"We might as well give up. We cannot
teach that boy, for he is a child of God."

A MAN OF WORTH \$5,000 made into horse
shoes, is worth \$10,000; made into penknives
blades, it is worth \$25,000; made into needles,
it is worth \$32,500; made into balance
springs for watches is worth \$250,000.

What a drilling the poor had must undergo
to reach all that, but hammered and beaten
and pounded and rolled and polished, how
was its value increased? It might well have
quivered and complained under the hard
knocks it got; but were they not all necessary
to draw out its fine qualities and fit it
for higher office?

And so all the drilling and training which
you are subject to in youth and which often
seems so hard to you, serve to bring out your
finer and nobler qualities and fit you for
more responsible posts and greater usefulness
in the world.

A LITTLE GIRL'S ANSWER.—The king of
Prussia, while visiting a village in his land
was welcomed by the school children of the
place. After their speaker had made a
speech for them, he thanked them. Then
taking an orange from a plate, he asked:
"To what kingdom does this belong?"

"To the vegetable kingdom, sire," said a
little girl.

The king took a gold coin from his pocket
and holding it up, asked, "And to what
kingdom does this belong?"

"To the mineral kingdom," said the little
girl.

"And to what kingdom do I belong,
then?" asked the king.

The little girl colored deeply, for she did
not like to say "the animal kingdom," as he
thought she would, let his majesty should
be offended. Just then it flashed into her
mind that "God made man in his own
image," and looking up with a brightening
eye, she said, "To God's kingdom, sire."

The king was deeply moved. A tear stood
in his eye. He placed his hand on the child's
head, and said "most devoutly," "God grant
that I may be accounted worthy of that kingdom."

THE LITTLE FISH.

Two little fishes were swimming one day
In a cool, pleasant river, a few miles away.
Said Scaly to Finny, "Oh, there's a nice day!
I wish I could catch him; I'll just go and try."

"Stop! stop!" replied Finny, "there's danger,
I fear;
I see a long line, and a man watching there;
Don't venture, dear Scaly; be guided by me,
Or else you'll be caught as sure as can be."

But Scaly was headless, the fly looked so nice,
That he soon forgot Finny's kindly advice;
He snatched at the fly, when as quickly as
thought,

Came a jerk! and oh dear! little Scaly was
caught!
Now wasn't he foolish? And yet how I wish
Little children were never like that little fish.

But when snatches how often we
That they yield to temptation as quickly as he.
But they who thus foolishly choose what is
wrong,

Are sure to repent of their choice before long;
For like little Scaly, they find, though too
late,
That a sharp hook is hid in the nice looking
bait.

SCIENTIFIC VENGANCE.—A terrible scientific
revenge was recently taken by a
young chemist in Venice named Orlando
Farnesini. He loved a young lady, but she
loved another, who was a tailor. Orlando
owed him money and sent word he would
pay it if the tailor and his betrothed would
visit him in his laboratory. The invitation
was accepted, and Orlando slyly got them to
take part in electrical experiments. He
bade them give him their hands, put one
pole of a Runkor's apparatus between the
girl's fingers, and the other into the tailor's
hand and then joined currents. The lovers
fell to the ground in convulsive fits, but
Farnesini only laughed. After trying in
vain to disengage themselves from the apparatus,
in five minutes they became distorted
corpses. Farnesini, with the utmost
sang froid, reported the matter to the police
and gave himself up.

THE RAREST EXTRACT OF VESUVIUS.—Believers
in the idea that electricity is the all
pervading influence will be pleased to hear
that Professor Palmieri, who watched the
eruption of Vesuvius from his observatory
on the mountain, says the electric currents
developed in the mountain were very strong.
These phenomena are not produced in every
eruption. Prof Palmieri observed that
during the last a great quantity of lightning
darted and played about the large cone of
smoke and ashes which rose from the crater.
The lightning was produced by the violent
jets of smoke and ashes, by means of which
the electric current is formed previous to
bursting. He further says: "I have analysed
the smoke which rises above lava, and
have been well roasted, but I discovered
that it is soluble in salt water." From this
he inferred that at the depths of the volcano
there was a communication between the sea
and the fire during the terrible convulsions.

Speaking of the appearance of the mountain
during the eruption, he said that the entire
cone seemed as though it were sweating fire
through all its pores. By night these pores
appeared like points of fire nailed on to the
back of the mountain; by day they were
changed into smoke and resembled so many
whitish-colored holes.

AH MAUN TRIUMPHANT.—The Celestials in
Arkansas—Twenty Acres in Cotton—
Twenty Acres in Corn.

Two years ago a number of Chinese arrived
at our wharf and were objects of great curiosity.
The negroes especially gazed at them
with wondering eyes, declaring, "Dem niggers
an' a mighty small sort, dey looks
as if swamp fever was bad where dem folks
come from." Some of these men settled
near here, and among them a small colony
found homes and cotton-picking in the
neighborhood of Marion, Arkansas, some
nine or ten miles from this city. Among
them was Ah Maun, who proved to be a
Chinese of education: gathered up some
knowledge of English rapidly; became
popular, and was called by the country people
John Ormond. He set to work at once.
The first day his cotton picking amounted to
twenty-two pounds. The negroes laughed
at the small specimen with a pigtail under
his hat. In one year not a negro on the
plantation could bring as much cotton to
the gin-house as Ah Maun. Ah Maun took
his triumph as quietly and kept his popularity.
Last spring he and six of his fellow-countrymen
rented a piece of ground near Marion.
Twenty acres they put in corn, and forty in
cotton. Seven times was the ground
ploughed over, until it was in complete order
for a crop. Every bit of grass was obliterated,
every weed exterminated, every fence
corner made clean. The five men had
pointed Ah Maun "boss," and Ah Maun
allowed no slovenly ways. Early morn and
dewy eve saw the six Chinese at their tasks,
patient, plodding, unwearied industry that
never lost heart, never intermitted, brought
a crop of corn and another of cotton that
is the admiration of Crittendon county. It
is visited and gazed at as a wonder of skill,
industry and success. Another wonder was
that Ah Maun and his men not only knew
no such word as fail, but they knew no such
English as "sick," well they were and well
they remain through heat and cold, and
swamp fogs and chilly mornings. When
picking time came Ah Maun hired four more
of his compatriots, and all the year the team
as busy as ants. On Thursday they sent
two bales of cotton to the city. It was
received by Keel & Co., and Mr. Keel says that
better odds of well-grown, clearly picked
cotton he has not seen this year. Ah Maun's
energy and skill, and that of his hard-working
companions is admired, and we hear it
said that if the group choose to break up
next spring, taking new farms and joining
with them new hands, they will be liberally
aided, and much money and supplies as
may be necessary will not be withheld. Ah
Maun is triumphant, the white folks regard
him as a prodigy, but the negroes are not
sure that there is not "a little ob de debil
in him."—Appeal.

SAFARI IN THE THAMES.—Near North
wich, Conn. A boat of old and weathered
Long Island sound a Methodist meeting-
house, which was first discovered on a busy
night by the captain of a Charleston coasting
schooner, riding at anchor in the sound,
near Bridgeport. It is some seventy years
since the captain's "soliloquy" was uttered,
but its simplicity and vividness of contrast
will be as fresh to many modern readers as
if it first saw the light yesterday:
Solemn he paced upon that schooner's deck,
And muttered of his hardship, "I have been
Where the wild will of Mississippi's tide
Has dashed me on the sward; and I've sailed
In the thick night, along the wave-washed
coast
Of Labrador; and by pitiless fields of ice, in
acres,
I have scraped my keel over coral reefs in Mad-
agascar seas,
And often in my lone and midnight watch,
Have heard the warning voice of the lee
shore
Speaking in breakers, and I've seen
The whale and sword-fish glide beneath my
bow,
And when they made the deep, boil like a pot
Have swung into its vortex, and I know
To meet such dangers with a sailor's skill
And brave such dangers with a sailor's heart
But never yet, where the river mixes with
the main,
Or in the chafing anchorage of the bay,
In all my rough experience of harm,
Met I with a Methodist meeting-house!

Cathead, nor beam, nor davit has it none,
Leeward nor starboard, gunwale, stem nor
stern;
It comes in such a questionable shape,
You cannot even question it!

Up, get, Josey, and put away for Bridgeport!
There where Fairweather Island and the Bony
Are safe from such encounters, we'll protest;
And Yankee legends long shall tell the tale,
How that a Charleston schooner was heet,
Riding at anchor, by a Methodist meeting-
house!

Snug us the family where good music is
cultivated, where the parents and children
are accustomed often to mingle their
voices together in song, and we will show
you one, in almost every instance, where
peace, harmony and love prevail, and
where the great vices have no abiding place.

BEFORE you ask a favor of any man, con-
sider three things: First, Can you not avoid
it? Second, Can the one you apply to grant it?
Third, Would you, if your places were re-
versed, do for your friend what you ask him
to do for yourself? It is well to think of
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office rates. We cannot let
 the cash accompanying ads
 these rates. At the end of the
 Fifth Number is our Valuta
 advertiser or agency.

Mississinni

ELDER M. P. LOW

and all communications brought
 should be addressed to the Editor.
 and NATURE.—All money for
 sent to Bro. Graves, at Memphis.
 for money for the paper until it is
 still be responsible for all that it

SUMMER
 Eld. C. E. Baux, Missio
 our State Sunday school
 copy of the minutes of
 this State. They should be

at West Point.
The little Sunday-school
Church, Tippah county,
for the Orphans' Home.
BAPTIST BIBLE AND BOOK
College Mirror says: "Cap

Meridian, Miss., has charged for our State Conventional Association. He will be order any Bibles, doctrinal books belonging to our church, or to invite all to call on him, or whatever they need."

The Male High School, conducted by Prof. Dickins, the Bethel-born Baptist A. well.

ELD. J. H. VANLANDU charge of the church at correspondents are required at that place.

The young ladies of the Baptist Female Seminary for and forwarded to the \$24.20, and a box of good.

MA. JAMES SIMPSON, a citizen, and a merchant of Ripley, died suddenly on

OBITUARIES.—We published from Mississippi that more than one hundred and that could more, and

made for the pay required
regulations of the paper,
to the Editor-in-Chief, or
in the office at Memphis.
lished immediately, or
with or without charge,

or responsibility in the proprietor's terms of publication. *The Religious Post* over ninety words.

MUSKOGEE UNIVERSITY.—The Baptist institution, located near the town of Oklawaha, is in a prosperous condition. The trustees say: "It has sal-

lently invested, amounting
with buildings on the p
worth at least \$20,000.
edifice is probably the mo
adapted building for adve
the South." It has one ju
students in attendance.

Da. D. SHAWAN gives

editorial connection with
Baptist will close the 22
Reason assigned: "The
of the paper." Bro. T.
proprietor, expresses the
necessity of the step dem
testimony to the com
Dr. Shaver. We always

everything connected with
Baptist paper. We request
leave it, who has, for a
and sufficiently presided
but we rejoice that Bro
keep the old banner and
just as good as its

Quarara.—We have not
awasting attention. Sun
We hope to find time, one
days to their coming. ~~death~~
that claim the time of
abscond exercise the mod

THE CLOSING

This is our last issue. We anticipate its disquieting proposal to cast a brief report. One has said: "The wise to talk with us. And ask them what report."

the rolling waves which
by our words and deeds
on with increasing po
in his wise and good
determine. We cannot
our evil deeds and short
confess them before God

... says: "If we come
faithful and just to large
to cleanse us from all
These words point to -
offer a *personal* encoura