

quick bark, manifesting¹ its impatience to set off, "Rover, hear me now. You mustn't leave Edwin for any thing; but you must keep with him, and let nothing hurt him."

7. The animal seemed to listen and understand; for he ran to the side of Mrs. Stevens, wagging his tail and whining, as if he wanted to say, "I will not leave my dear young master."

8. Edwin's mother watched him and his dog as they started away across the field toward the spot where the blue smoke could be seen curling upward from among the maple-trees. Whenever Rover found a squirrel's or rabbit's track, he would follow it a little distance, barking fiercely: but he never went far before he appeared to recollect the charge given him by his mistress; so he would bound back again to Edwin, and leap upon him, licking his hands and face to show his own delight and the love he felt for his little master. Then the boy would call him "good fellow," and laugh so loud that his mother could hear him at the house, after he had got into the woods out of her sight.

26. LOST EDWIN—CONCLUDED.

IT was quite dusk when Mr. Stevens came home, and he was all alone; Edwin was not with him, neither was Rover. When Edwin's mother saw this she grew very much alarmed, and began making inquiries. Mr. Stevens replied that he had not seen his son since morning.

2. Then both the par'ents knew that their dear little boy was lost; and it is impossible to tell how badly they felt. They ran to the woods and called "Edwin! Edwin!" a great many times, as loud as ever they could; but only echo answered, and an owl that sat away up in a tall tree kept asking, "Who? who?" as if to mock them

¹ Mån' i fest ing, showing.

3. The poor mother wrung her hands, and cried for her lost boy all that long night; while the father hurried from one neighbor's to another, telling them what a sad thing had happened, and begging them to come and help him search for the child.

4. As you will readily believe, they were all anxious to do so; and at daylight a good many people commenced the search, which lasted all that day, and the next, and the next. On the fourth day after Edwin was lost, his little dead body was found. It lay stretched beside a log in the woods, far away from his home.

5. Poor Edwin! How dreadfully he must have felt when he knew that he was lost, and wandered about, trying in vain to find his way out of the thick woods; and when the dark night came, and he had no kind par'ent near, no warm supper to eat, and no nice bed to sleep in, but, hungry, and tired, and frightened, had to lie down on the damp leaves, with no blanket to protect him from the chilly air. Poor boy!

6. The dog was found lying by his little master's side, still alive, though nearly starved; and when the people approached he moaned most pitifully. He was carried home, and tenderly nursed till he was strong again. Rover was a young dog then; but, though he lived to be old, he never forgot Edwin. Whenever he heard that name pronounced, he would drop down where he stood, and whine as pitifully as he did when watching by his master's corpse¹ away in the thick dark wood.

7. Rover was loved by the family for Edwin's sake, and they felt grateful to him for watching the poor boy's remains so faithfully, and keeping off the ravenous² wild beasts, so his par'ents could look once more upon the face of their darling son, and make him a little grave in the garden among the pretty pinks and roses.

Mrs. GOODWIN.

¹ Corpse, a dead body. — ² Ravenous (rāv' en ūs), hungry even to rage.

27. THE RIVER.

1. RIVER! river! little river!
Bright you sparkle on your way;
O'er the yellow pebbles dancing,
Through the flowers and foliage glancing,
Like a child at play.
2. River! river! swelling river!
On you rush o'er rough and smooth;
Louder, faster, brawling, leaping
Over rocks, by rose-banks sweeping,
Like impetuous¹ youth.
3. River! river! brimming² river!
Broad, and deep, and *still* as Time:
Seeming *still*, yet still in motion,
Tending onward to the ocean,
Just like mortal prime.³
4. River! river! rapid river!
Swifter now you slip away;
Swift and silent as an arrow,
Through a channel dark and narrow,
Like life's closing day.

MRS. SOUTHEY.

28. KNOCK AGAIN.

I REMEMBER having been sent, when I was a little boy, with a message from my father to a particular friend of his, who resided in the suburbs⁴ of the town in which my par'ents then lived.

2. This gentleman occupied an old-fashioned house, the door of which was approached by a broad flight of stone steps of a semicircular⁵ form. The brass knocker was an object of much interest to me in those days; for

¹Im pēt' uous, violent; passionate.—²Brim' ming, filled full.—³Prime, the first part of life.—⁴Sūb' urbs, places near to a city or town.—⁵Sem i cir' cu lar, half round; like a half ring.

the whim of the maker had led him to give it the shape of an elephant's head, the trunk of the animal being the movable portion.

3. Away, then, I scampered in great haste; and having reached the house, ran up the stone steps as usual, and, seizing the elephant's trunk, made the house re-echo to my knocking. No answer was returned.

4. At this my astonishment was considerable, as servants, in the times I write of, were more alert¹ and attentive than they are at present. However, I knocked a second time. Still no one came.

5. At this I was much more surprised. I looked at the house. It presented no appearance of a desertion. Some of the windows were open to admit the fresh air, for it was summer; others of them were closed. But all had the aspect² of an inhabited dwelling.

6. I was greatly perplexed, and looked around, to see if any one was near who could advise me how to act. Immediately a vënerable³ old gentleman, whom I had never seen before, came across the way, and, looking kindly in my face, advised me to knock again.

7. I did so without a moment's hesitation, and presently the door was opened, so that I had an opportunity of delivering my message. I afterward learned that the servants had been engaged in removing a heavy piece of furniture from one part of the house to the other; an operation which required their united strength, and prevented their opening the door.

29. KNOCK AGAIN—CONCLUDED.

AS I was tripping lightly homeward, I passed the kind old gentleman about half way down the street. He took me gently by the arm; and, retaining his hold, began to address me thus, as we walked on together:

¹A lert', active.—²As' pect, appearance.—³Vën' er a ble, deserving of great respect.

2. "The incident, my little friend, which has just occurred, may be of some use to you in after¹ life, if it be suitably improved. Young people are usually very enthusiastic² in all their undertakings, and in the same proportion are very easily discouraged.

3. "Learn, then, from what has taken place this morning, to persevere in the business which you have commenced, provided it be laudable³ in itself, and, ten to one, you will succeed. If you do not at first obtain what you aim at, *knock again*. A door may be opened when you least expect it.

4. "In entering on the practice of a profession, engaging in trade, or what is usually called settling in the world, young people often meet with great disappointments.

5. "Friends, whom they naturally expected to employ them, not unfrequently prefer others in the same line; and even professors of religion do not seem to consider it a duty to promote the temporal⁴ interest of their brethren in the Lord.

6. "Nevertheless, industry, sobriety, and patience, are usually accompanied by the Divine blessing. Should you, therefore,⁵ my little friend, ever experience disappointments of this kind, think of the brass knocker: *knock again*: be sober, be diligent, and your labors will be blessed.

7. "In the pursuit of knowledge many difficulties are encountered. These the student must expect to meet; but he must not relinquish the investigation⁶ of truth because it seems to elude⁷ his search. He may knock at the gate of science, and appar'ently without being heard. But let him *knock again*, and he will find an entrance."

CHILD'S COMPANION.

¹ After (ăft' er). — ² En thû si âst' ic, highly excited. — Laud' a ble, deserving praise. — ⁴ Têm' po ral, relating to this world. — ⁵ Thêrê' fôre. — ⁶ In ves tí gâ' tion, seeking after. — ⁷ Elûde', escape from; or to deceive.

30. TEN RULES OF LIFE.

- NEVER put off till to-morrôw what you can do to-day.
2. Never trouble others for what you can do yourself.
 3. Never spend your money before you have it.
 4. Never buy what you do not want, because it is cheap.
 5. Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst, and cold.
 6. We never repent of having eaten too little.
 7. Nothing¹ is troublesome that we do willingly.
 8. How much pain those evils cost us, which never happened!
 9. Take things always by the smooth handle.
 10. When angry, count ten before you speak; if very angry, count a hundred.

JEFFERSON.

31. ARABIA.

1. O'ER Arābia's² desert sands
The patient camel walks;
'Mid lonely caves and rocky lands
The fell hyena³ stalks.⁴
2. On the cool and shady hills
Coffee shrubs and tamarinds grow;
Headlōng fall the welcome rills⁵
Down the fruitful dells⁶ below.
3. The fragrant myrrh⁷ and healing balm
Perfume the passing gale;
Thick hung with dates, the spreading palm
Towers o'er the peopled vale.

¹ Nothing (nūth' ing). — ² A ra bī a (a rá' be a). — ³ Hy è' na, a very fierce and cruel wild animal. — ⁴ Stālk, walk proudly. — ⁵ Rills, small streams of running water. — ⁶ Dells, narrow valleys between two hills. — ⁷ Myrrh (mêr), the sap of a tree found in Arabia, dried in the form of drops or small balls. It has a strong, but agreeable smell, and a bitter taste.

4. Locusts oft, a living cloud,
Hover in the darken'd air;
Like a torrent dashing loud,
Bringing famine and despair.
5. And often¹ o'er the level waste²
The stifling hot winds fly;
Down falls the swain³ with trembling haste,
The gasping⁴ cattle die.
6. Shepherd people on the plain
Pitch their tents and wander free;
Wealthy cities they disdain,⁵
Poor, yet blest with liberty.

LUCY ALKIN.

32. HOW TO BE HAPPY.

EVERY child must have observed how much happier and more beloved some children are than others. There are some children whom you always love to be with. They are happy themselves, and they make you happy.

2. There are others, whose society you always avoid. The very expression of their countenances produces unpleasant feelings. They seem to have no friends.

3. No person can be happy without friends. The heart is formed for love, and can not be happy without the opportunity⁶ of giving and receiving affection.

4. But you can not receive affection, unless you will also give it. You can not find others to love you, unless you will also love them. Love is only to be obtained by giving love in return. Hence the importance of cultivating a cheerful and obliging disposition. You can not be happy without it.

¹ Oft en (ôf n).—² Waste, the desert.—³ Swain, a young man.—
⁴ Gâsp'ing, opening the mouth wide in catching breath.—⁵ Dis dain',
despise.—⁶ Op por th' ni ty, occasion; chance; means.

5. I have sometimes heard a girl say, "I know that I am very unpopular¹ at school." Now, this is a plain confession that she is very disobliging and unamiable in her disposition.

6. If your companions do not love you, it is your own fault. They can not help loving you, if you will be kind and friendly. If you are not loved, it is a good evidence² that you do not deserve to be loved. It is true, that a sense of duty may, at times, render it necessary for you to do that which will be displeasing to your companions.

7. But, if it is seen that you have a noble spirit, that you are above selfishness, that you are willing to make sacrifices of your own personal convenience to promote the happiness of your associates,³ you will never be in want of friends.

8. You must not regard it as your *misfortune* that others do not love you, but your *fault*. It is not beauty, it is not wealth, that will give you friends. Your heart must glow with kindness, if you would attract⁴ to yourself the esteem and affection of those by whom you are surrounded.

9. You are little aware how much the happiness of your whole life depends upon the cultivation of an affectionate and obliging disposition. If you will adopt the resolution that you will confer favors whenever you have an opportunity, you will certainly be surrounded by ardent⁵ friends.

10. Begin upon this principle in childhood, and act upon it through life, and you will make yourself happy, and promote the happiness of all within your influence.

¹ Un pôp' u lar, not having the favor of others; disliked.—² Ev' i-
dence, that which proves the truth; witness.—³ As so ciates (as sô-
shâtes), companions.—⁴ At trâct', draw.—⁵ Ar' dent, warm; loving.

33. HOW TO BE HAPPY—CONCLUDED.

YOU go to school on a cold winter morning. A bright fire is blazing upon the hearth¹, surrounded with boys struggling to get near it to warm themselves. After you get slightly warmed, another school-mate comes in, suffering with cold. "Here, James," you pleasantly call out to him, "I am almost warm; you may have my place."

2. As you slip aside to allow him to take your place at the fire, will he not feel that you are kind? The worst-dispositioned boy in the world can not help admiring such generosity.

3. And even though he be so ungrateful as to be unwilling to return the favor, you may depend upon it that he will be your friend as far as he is capable² of friendship. If you will habitually³ act upon this principle⁴, you will never want friends.

4. Suppose, some day, you were out with your companions, playing ball. After you had been playing for some time, another boy comes along. He can not be chosen upon either side, for there is no one to match him. "Henry," you say, "you may take my place a little while, and I will rest."

5. You throw yourself down upon the grass, while Henry, fresh and vigorous,⁵ takes your bat and engages in the game. He knows that you gave up to accommodate him; and how can he help liking you for it?

6. The fact is, that neither man nor child can cultivate such a spirit of generosity and kindness, without attracting affection and esteem.

7. Look and see which of your companions have the most friends, and you will find that they are those who

¹ Hearth.—² Capable, able to do a thing.—³ Habitually, by habit: always doing a thing at certain times.—⁴ Principle, reason for doing, or not doing.—⁵ Vigorous, strong.

have this noble spirit; who are willing to deny themselves, that they may make their associates happy.

8. This is not peculiar to childhood: it is the same in all periods of life. There is but one way to make friends; and that is, by being friendly to others.

9. Perhaps some child who reads this feels conscious¹ of being disliked, and yet desires to have the affection of his companions. You ask me what you shall do. I will tell you.

10. I will give you an infallible² rule. Do all in your power to make others happy. Be willing to make sacrifices of your own convenience, that you may promote the happiness of others.

11. This is the way to make friends, and the only way. When you are playing with your brothers and sisters at home, be always ready to give them more than their share of privileges.

12. Manifest an obliging disposition, and they cannot but regard you with affection. In all your intercourse with others, at home or abroad, let these feelings influence you, and you will receive a rich reward.

CHILD AT HOME.

34. CLASS OPINIONS.—A FABLE.

A LAMB strayed for the first time into the woods, and excited³ much discussion⁴ among other animals. In a mixed company, one day, when he became the subject of a friendly gossip, the goat praised him.

2. "Pooh!" said the lion, "this is too absurd.⁵ The beast is a pretty⁶ beast enough, but did you hear him roar? I heard him roar, and, by the manes⁷ of my fathers, when he roars he does nothing but cry bā-ā-ā!" And

¹ Conscious (kōn'shus), knowing; having an inward knowledge.—² Infallible, never deceiving; without mistake.—³ Excited, caused.—⁴ Discussion, talking; conversing with others on any subject.—⁵ Absurd, foolish.—⁶ Pretty (prī'ty).—⁷ Manes, the remains; the spirit or soul which remains after death.

the lion bleated his best in mockery, but bleated far from well.

3. "Nay," said the deer, "I do not think so badly of his voice. I liked him well enough until I saw him leap. He kicks with his hind legs in running, and, with all his skipping, gets over very little ground."

4. "It is a bad beast altogether," said the tiger. "He can not roar, he can not run, he can do nothing—and what wonder? I killed a man yesterday, and, in politeness to the new-comer, offered him a bit; upon which he had the impudence to look disgusted,¹ and say, 'No, sir, I eat nothing but grass.'"

5. So the beasts criticised² the Lamb, each in his own way; and yet it was a good Lamb, nevertheless.

HOUSEHOLD WORDS.

35. WE ARE SEVEN.

1. I MET a little cottage girl;
She was eight years old, she said;
Her hair was thick with many a curl
That clustered round her head.
2. She had a rustic, woodland air,
And she was wildly clad;
Her eyes were fair, and very fair:
Her beauty made me glad.
3. "Sisters and brothers, little Maid,
How many may you be?"
"How many? Seven in all," she said,
And wondering looked at me.
4. "And where are they? I pray you tell."
She answered, "Seven are we:
And two of us at Conway dwell,
And two are gone to sea.

¹ Dis gúst' ed, displeased.—² Crit' i cised, judged; pointed out faults in.

5. "Two of us in the churchyard lie—
My sister and my brother;
And in the churchyard cottage, I
Dwell near them with my mother."
6. "You say that two at Conway dwell,
And two are gone to sea;
Yet ye are seven! I pray you tell,
Sweet Maid, how this may be."
7. Then did the little Maid reply:
"Seven boys and girls are we;
Two of us in the churchyard lie,
Beneath the churchyard tree."
8. "You run about, my little Maid,
Your limbs they are alive;
If two are in the churchyard laid,
Then ye are only five."
9. "Their graves are green, they may be seen,"
The little Maid replied;
"Twelve steps or more from my mother's door,
And they are side by side.
10. "My stockings there I often knit,
My kerchief there I hem;
And there upon the ground I sit—
I sit and sing to them.
11. "And often after sunset, sir,
When it is light and fair,
I take my little porringer,
And eat my supper there.
12. "The first that died was little Jane:
In bed she moaning lay,
Till God released her of her pain,
And then she went away.
13. "So in the churchyard she was laid;
And when the grass was dry,

Together round her grave we played,
My brother John and I.

14. "And when the ground was white with snow,
And I could run and slide,
My brother John was forced to go,
And he lies by her side."
15. "How many are you then," said I,
"If they two are in heaven?"
The little Maiden did reply,
"Oh, Master, we are seven!"
16. "But they are dead: those two are dead
Their spirits are in heaven!"
'Twas throwing words away; for still
The little Maid would have her will,
And said, "Nay, we are seven!"

WORDSWORTH.

36. HOW TO SPEND MONEY.

ONE day, Mr. Sinclair received a letter from his brother, a sea captain,¹ who had just returned from a long voyage to the East Indies. In this letter was inclosed two five-dollar bills—one for Bertram, and one for Theodore. Their uncle wished this money to be given to the boys, and to let each of them spend it as he pleased, but requested Mr. Sinclair to let him know exactly in what manner it *was* spent.

2. The boys had never been possessed of so large a sum before, and of course were made very happy by the generous present of their uncle.

3. After tea, as they were walking in the garden, Mr. Sinclair joined them. "Well, boys," he said, "have you made up your minds yet, how to spend your money?"

4. "Here is mine," answered Theodore, "and if you

¹ Cap tain (kăp'tin).

please, father, I wish you would keep it for me; or, if you think better, put it in the savings bank."

5. "A very good resolution, Theodore: where is yours, Bertram?" said Mr. Sinclair. Bertram felt rather ashamed, and could hardly raise his eyes to his father's face, as he answered:

6. "Well, father, I should like to spend mine, and have the good of it. I don't see the use of hoarding¹ it away, as Theodore wants to. If you please, sir, I would rather buy a few little things."

7. "Very well, boys,—your uncle has desired that you may both do as you please with his present; therefore I shall not use any authority. I must say, however, that while I highly approve of Theodore's course, I am not at all satisfied with yours, Bertram. I am sorry to find you place so little value upon money, as to be willing to waste five dollars, either in useless toys or sweetmeats. But do as you please."

8. That same night, about twelve o'clock, the neighborhood was alarmed with the dreadful cry of "Fire! fire!" Mr. Sinclair and the boys sprang from their beds, and ran to the window. It proved to be the house of a poor Irish laborer, who lived about half a mile from them.

9. Great clouds of smoke hung in the air, in which it seemed as if a thousand sky-rockets were playing, and then columns of bright flames would suddenly dart up into the air. The trees appeared to be all on fire, and the poor little frightened birds flew round and round the flames, as you have seen a miller fly around the lamp; and many of them, overcome by the smoke and terror, fell helpless into the burning ruins.

10. In a very little time, the house of Patrick O'Rafferty was burned to the ground, and himself and his wife, and three helpless children, became houseless and homeless. O'Rafferty was an honest, industrious, and

¹ Hôard'ing, laying up in secret.

hard-working man; but his wife, poor woman, was very sickly, and could not earn much to help support their children,—three little girls,—the oldest of whom was lame, and only seven years old. What was a still greater loss to them, all their small stock of furniture¹ and clothing, their cow and their pig, were also burned; for so quickly had the fire spread to the out-house, that it was found impossible to save the poor animals.

11. When Theodore learned the great distress of this unfortunate family, his heart was very sad. He went to his father, and said, "Are you willing I should give my five dollars to help poor Patrick O'Rafferty?"

12. "Am I willing?—yes, my dear child: it is a noble wish," said Mr. Sinclair, embracing his son. "Here is the money; carry it to your mother, and ask her to buy clothing for this destitute family."

13. Theodore was a happy lad, as he placed the five dollars in his mother's hand. "Ah," thought he, "what pleasure in doing good!"

14. "You foolish fellow," cried Bertram, "to give away your money! I wonder what uncle will say!" "I hope he will think I have done right," said Theodore. "Come, Bertram, I am sure, if you give only half of your five dollars to poor Patrick, you will never be sorry."

15. "I!—I give my money to an Irishman! No, indeed, I am not so green! Let him work and earn it,—he was made for it," replied Bertram, rudely.

16. Mr. Sinclair raised a subscription for the family of O'Rafferty, and in a few days they were comfortably fixed in a little cottage, not far from the spot where the other one had stood.

17. Ah, how merrily the silver bells echoed in Theodore's heart, when, the next Sabbath-day, Patrick and his wife were able to go to meeting dressed in the clothes which his own five dollars had paid for.

¹ Fur ni ture (fēr'ni tūr).

37 HOW TO SPEND MONEY—CONCLUDED.

MR. SINCLAIR had often warned Bertram against the use of guns and pistols, and had, indeed, forbidden him to touch them. But Bertram, like some other boys, who think they know as much as their father, laughed at the idea of not being able to fire a gun without danger. He had long wanted to possess one, and when he received his uncle's present, he was determined to buy one. He told Theodore so, and Theodore, knowing how angry his father would be, begged of him not to do so, and told him he should feel it his duty to inform his father if he did.

2. "Oh, you tell-tale!" cried Bertram, slapping his brother in the face. But he was afraid his father might find it out, so he said no more to Theodore, but bought the gun secretly, and gave it to another boy to keep for him.

3. A few days after this, Mr. Sinclair was called from home, on business which might detain him all the forenoon; and what was still better for Bertram's plan, he took Theodore in the gig with him.

4. "Now," said Bertram, "I shall have a first-rate time!" So down he went to William Jenkins's, who kept the gun, and proposed going into the woods, and having some sport. Then he loaded the gun, and swung it over his shoulder; and William taking a bag of powder and shot, off they started.

5. "There's a fine fat fellow, William," cried Bertram, pointing to a pretty robin-redbreast, swinging to and fro upon a green branch,¹ and calling in sweet tones to his mate, sitting on her nest, close by,— "what will you bet I don't hit him?" He took aim at the innocent bird, and fired! But, alas, in his ignorance, he had overcharged the gun, and it burst, dreadfully wounding him in the face, and tearing off one of his thumbs. He

¹ Brānch.

was completely stunned, and fell senseless to the ground, while William, screaming with terror, ran further into the woods, and hid himself behind a tree.

6. It happened that Patrick O'Rafferty was chopping wood near the spot where the boys were. He heard the report and the scream, and thinking some mischief must have been done, ran as fast as he could to the spot. There lay Bertram Sinclair, covered with blood, and the splinters of the shattered gun all scattered about the underbrush. The honest fellow was very much frightened, when he saw the son of his kind benefactor in such a sad condition. "Och, shure, and it's kilt¹ he is entirely, the poor boy!" he exclaimed, stooping down over the body.

7. He then ran to a little brook, and brought some water in his hat, which he sprinkled in the face, and also poured some down the throat of the senseless boy. But still Bertram gave no signs of life. Lifting him carefully in his arms, Patrick now bore him as swiftly as he could to his own cottage, which was near by, and laid him down on the bed; and then ran with all speed to call Mr. Sinclair and a doctor.

8. While her husband was gone, Mrs. O'Rafferty tried every way to bring Bertram to his senses. She bound up the wounded hand, chafed his temples, and washed the blood from his face; but it was not until after the return of Patrick, with the doctor, that the unhappy boy showed any signs of life. When, at length, he opened his eyes, the first person they rested upon was the Irishman he had so despised: he turned them away; but there stood the woman, whose wants he had so selfishly denied, bending over him as tenderly as a mother.

9. Poor Bertram suffered very much; one of his eyes was hurt badly, but the doctor said he would not lose the sight. How bitterly did he repent, as he lay groan-

¹ Kilt, killed.

ing on the bed, the sin of disobedience—how sorry that he had not followed the example of his brother!

10. In about an hour his father and Theodore arrived, in great distress at the sad accident. The doctor said he must not be moved for twenty-four hours, as it would be very dangerous: so Mr. Sinclair sat down by the bedside of Bertram, while Theodore went home to tell his poor mother, who was too sick herself to go to her suffering son. During all the time that Bertram was obliged to stay at the cottage, the good wife of O'Rafferty waited upon him very kindly, and did all she could to make him comfortable,—never even lying down to get a moment's sleep herself, while he was there, although she was so feeble.

11. The next day after Bertram was able to be carried home, he was taken with a very bad fever, which the doctor said was partly owing to the great quantity of sugar-plums, and other sweet things, which he had so selfishly eaten all by himself. For many days they thought Bertram would die. But God, with mercy, saved his life; and from a bed of pain he arose with a resolution to be a better boy. He had had time to think, as he lay upon his sick-bed, watched over so carefully by his parents and brother, how wicked, how selfish, how cruel, and disobedient his life had been, and he truthfully meant now to do better than he had ever yet done.

12. When Theodore's kind uncle heard to what a good use he had put his five dollars, he sent him a present of a handsome Bible, and a beautiful set of Audubon's History of Birds, with colored drawings; and Theodore was indeed very happy to receive such a token of love from his uncle.

13. Mr. Sinclair wrote to his brother, also, of the very foolish manner in which Bertram spent his money, and its sad consequences; but informed him, at the same time, of his contrition, and wish to become a better boy. Then the old gentleman again sent him

five dollars, to learn whether his desire to be good was indeed real, requesting Mr. Sinclair to let Bertram do just what he pleased with it.

14. "Father," said Bertram, "I wish little Judy and Kate O'Rafferty could go to school. Here is my five dollars, sir, will you please to pay for a quarter's schooling?" "That I will, my dear son," said Mr. Sinclair; "and I am glad to find you are grateful for the kindness you received from the worthy family of Patrick O'Rafferty." Bertram had never felt so happy, as when, in a few days after this conversation, he met little Judy and Kate, cleanly dressed, going to school: he almost danced with joy.

MRS. BUTLER.

38. THE OLD MAN'S COMFORTS.

1. "YOU are old, Father William," the young man cried; "The few locks which are left you are gray. You are hâle,¹ Father William, a hearty² old man! Now tell me the reason, I pray?"
2. "In the days of my youth," Father William replied, "I remember'd that youth would fly fast, And abused not my health and my vigor³ at first, That I never might need them at last."
3. "You are old, Father William," the young man cried, "And pleasures with youth pass away, And yet you lament⁴ not the days that are gone; Now tell me the reason, I pray?"
4. "In the days of my youth," Father William replied, "I remember'd that youth could not last; I thought of the future, whatever I did, That I never might grieve for the past."
5. "You are old, Father William," the young man cried, "And life must be hastening away;

¹ Hâle, in good health. — ² Heart'y, strong. — ³ Vig'or, strength. — ⁴ Lament', to grieve for the loss of a thing.

You are cheerful, and love to converse¹ upon death;
Now tell me the reason, I pray?"

6. "I am cheerful, young man," Father William replied; "Let the cause thy attention engage;
In the days of my youth I remember'd my God!
And He hath not forgotten my age!"

SOUTHEY.

39. DISOBEDIENCE.

YOU have never disobeyed your parents, or your teachers, or any who have been placed in authority over you, without being uncomfortable and unhappy! Obedience, in a child, is one of the most necessary qualities; for it protects him from all the evils of his want of experience, and gives him the benefit of the experience of others.

2. One fine summer's day, I went to spend an afternoon at a house in the country, where some young people were enjoying a holiday.

3. They were running cheerfully up and down a meadow, covered over with yellow crocuses,² and other flowers; and I looked on them with delight, while they gamboled and made posies, as they felt disposed.

"Here sister with sister roamed over the mead,³
And brother plucked flow'rets with brother;
And playmates with playmates ran on with such speed
That the one tumbled over the other."

4. Now, they all had been told to keep away from the ditch at the bottom of the field; but, notwithstanding this injunction,⁴ one little urchin, of the name of Jarvis, seeing a flower in the hedge on the opposite bank, which he wished to gather, crept nearer and nearer to the ditch. The closer he got to the flower, the more beautiful it

¹ Con vèrse', to talk with another. — ² Crò'cus es, flowers of a yellow color. — ³ Mèad, meadow. — ⁴ In junc'tion, order or command.