THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

Poetry.

A YEAR'S RETROSPECT. BY SUSAN COOLIDGE.

Would I go back, if I might, Little one, with shining hair And soft eyes of joyous blue, Raised to mine, which sadder are, Back, and be a child to-night, Such a little child as you?

Would I have it all again-Babyhood's delicious flower. Childish dream and childish glee, Earliest dew of earliest hour-At the price of all the pain Which divides that hour from me?

Ah ! the dawn, the dew were sweet ! Life in bud unstirred by sun Holds all fragrance of the day. You are happy, little one; Yet I would not turn my feet, Though I might, that backward way,

Would not lose one footstep gained, Nor retrace an even-tide

The long slope in morning trod, From whose summit half attained In clear sunset are descried All the shining hills of God.

Nor for all your locks of gold, Or the glad and fearless glee, Or your whitefess, oh ! my lamb, Would I change my place, and be Made again a baby, old, Grieved, and weary though I be.

Now, the wonder in your eyes ! And the puzzle in their blue ! Go back, darling, to your play ; I will come and frolic too, Nor becloud your laughing skies With my shadowy yesterday.

The fireside.

ONE GOOD TURN DESERVES ANOTHER.

BY MRS. BRADLEY. " Lottie Parsons is the meanest girl in this world, and I don't care who hears me say so.' table, and threw herself in a rocking-chair ; meet- thing.' ing her mother's reproachful glance with one of

angry determination.

"You would think so yourself if you knew all know, but a brooch and ear-rings, too, that she is about it, mamma ; so you needn't look at me that losing by this." way," she continued. "I never did see such a

hateful, mean girl in my life." "Suppose you tell me what she has done," said

Mrs. Leigh, "instead of calling names. You from her Uncle Holland. They are very handsome it was found, and put it into Lottie Parsons' desk know how much I dislike that, Lizzie." ones, frosted gold, with her monogram in blue without being observed. She watched Lottie

"Well, mamma, I can't help it if you do,"

girls in the school-and all on account of Lottie and so take your revenge in Scripture fashion. Do Parsons' mean, mischief-making ways ! No, in- you remember where we are told, ' If thine enemy deed," added Lizzie, indignantly, "I shan't forget | hunger, feed him ; if he thirst, give him drink : for that, and it isn't worth while to quote the Bible to in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his me about her. I gave her a piece of my mind after head ? "

school to-day, and if I ever get a chance, I'll pay "Yes, I remember," Lizzie answered, reluctantly. "But I don't see why I should treat people kindly her back for her pickles. That's flat."

She rocked herself to and fro, nursing her wrath- when they have been mean and hateful to me." ful memories. Her eyes sparkled with angry ex- 'You make them ashamed of themselves ; you set citement, and her red lips were shot together with them a better example, and you obey a divine coma determination that her mother felt it would be mand. There are three reasons for doing it," said useless to contend against just now. By and by, Mrs. Leigh, quietly ; "and I might give you anwhen better and gentler feelings had control of her, other to. You make yourself happy when you reshe would try to show her how Christ-like it was turn good for evil ; but when you suffer yourself to to forgive injuries, while it was man-like to resent cherish malice and hatred, and to seek means of them, and fiend-like to revenge them. But just hurting others, you cannot be at peace. You will now it was better to keep silence. be restless and uneasy, and troubled in spirit, as

A few days after this, Lizzie happened to be you are now, Lizzie. I see it in your face that you alone in the class-room at the noonday recess. She have been doing something your own conscience had made so many mistakes in her French exercise disapproves of."

that Miss Harvey had suggested her re-writing it "Mamma, how can you tell ?" Lizzie exclaimed entirely, at intermission, instead of going out to in amazement. "I never saw any body like you croquet or ten-pins with the other girls. She sat for guessing people's thoughts."

at her task in no very good humor, and the merry "So I've guessed yours rightly?" her mother voices of her companions, racing up and down the returned, quickly. "Since you've acknowledged broad hall outside, in some romping game, did not so much, you'd better tell me all about it."

serve to improve it. A little crowd of them rushed "Well, I don't care if I do;" and obeying a noisily into the room presently, and Lizzie looked sudden impulse-the best one she had had yetup from her lesson with a sharp complaint, she told her mother the whole story about the lost "I wish you would'nt make such a racket when sleeve-button. Mrs. Leigh listened with a grave

you see any body trying to write. How am I go- face ; Lizzie saw the look of mingled pain and ing to do my lesson, I wonder, and you girls car- wonder that crossed it when she confessed that she rying on so." had left the button in the desk, and never mentioned

"Why don't you do your lessons in the proper it to any one. The first real compunction came to time. then ? " one of them asked. " We've got to her when her mother said :

come in here, because Lottie Parsons has lost her "You have amazed me, Lizzie, I would not have sleeve-button, and we promised to help her find it. | believed it, if any one else had told me, that a child Have you seen it, Liz ?" f mine could be so malicious.'

"No, I haven't," answered Lizzie, spitefully. And then she thought how much pleasanter in "And if I had, do you suppose I'd take the trouble would have been if she had had a different story to to remember it ?" tell, and could have met the loving approval which "Oh ! it's no use asking her," another girl put in. a generous act would have won, instead of this re

'Don't you know she and Lottie Parsons won't proachful, surprised displeasure. She seemed to speak to each other ?' see all at once how petty and spiteful her conduct "About that pickle? O ! yes, I forgot," laughed

had been, and her cheeks grew hot with shame the first speaker; and then they all went rattling under her mother's sorrowful look. round the room, shoving chairs aside, and peeping It was a wholesome shame, though, and Mrs. under desks and benches, in search of the missing Leigh was glad to see it. She did her best to

deepen it by "setting her sins in order before Lizzie took no part in the search, of course, and her," and showing her how she had, thrown away as it proved quite fruitless, the girls soon gave it her opportunity for a noble revenge ; until poor

Lizzie, who had been all day in a fever of excite-"She didn't drop it here, that's clear," said Lucy ment, broke down entirely in a half-hysterical, Perkins, "and I shouldn't wonder if she'd lost it half-penitent fit of crying, and confessed that she in the street, after all. She's such a careless crea- was sorry. Before the talk between them was

Lizzie Leigh slammed her books down upon the ture, she never knows what she does with any ended, Lizzie promised to restore the button to its owner the very first thing next day ; and she went "She feels awful bad about losing it," said Carto sleep that night with a much lighter heart in

rie Blake. "It isn't only a sleeve-button, you consequence. She did not repent of her resolution after she had slept upon it, but made haste to put it in practice Lizzie Leigh looked up with sudden interest. as soon as possible. She went to school early, and How is that?" she asked, involuntarily. so had an opportunity to get the sleeve-button from "Why, the buttons were a birthday present her desk, enclose it in a little note explaining how

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absignary interiew York, and brother of the late eminent Judge Wilds, of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, writes

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FAMILY GROCERIES! 1883. INTERNATIONAL STEAMSHIP COY W. H. VANWART,

December 28, 1883.

Liz- enamel; and he promised her-because she's so secretly after she came to school, and zie answered, excitedly. "Any body that's been heedless, you know, and always losing things- herself when she saw her dejected looks. treated as I have been, it's no wonder they call that if she could show them safe on New Year's Day, names. Now, just listen to me."

sleeve-button.

he would give her a brooch and ear-rings to match. parcel lying on her writing-book," she thought And then followed a long list of grievances, that That's why she feels so badly about it, and why we merrily ; and she was astonished to find how she went to prove Miss Lottie Parsons a very aggrava- want to help her. You see, Lizzie, if you should enjoyed the anticipations of "that girl's" pleasant ting young person indeed. She was one of those happen to come across it, there's a chance for you surprise "that girl" that she hated so ! But she girls who have no particular regard for their own to do a real kindness." property, or for other people's either. She was "Excuse me," was Lizzie's cold answer. "I changed by doing this simple kindness; and when

cils, rubbers, sponges, penknives-all the little And she bent her head over her writing again, ton, she was almost as delighted herself. movable articles that are so indispensable to school- as if the matter had no further interest for her. her own.

was " the stingiest thing she ever saw."

This was enough, of course, to make a quarrel, ried no meaning to her mind; she could not fix then Lottie said something worse about Lizzie. her book, and flung it violently down. the time "stirred-up" by hearing at second or startled gaze-as if some spirit had brought it in third hand the half-mischievous, half-spiteful answer to her rapping, lay the sleeve-button itself. things that Lottie would say about her.

"She even went to Jenny Gray," Lizzie ex- L. P., twisted together in a pretty blue monogram claimed, emphatically-"my very best friend, you on the fine frosted gold. Lizzie had noticed it know, mamma-and tried to make trouble between more than once, and wished, half-enviously, that her up and down that she didn't belive a word she on them. said, and nobody could make her believe that I She stared at the button for a moment with a with turquoises, which had been bought with Lotwould do such things.

tie's provoking behavior.

ny. The idea ! when Jenny and I have been desk- Parsons ? mates for a whole year ! Well, Jenny just told her She shut the lid down with a sudden terror, and that she was a real mischief-maker, and she ought | ran towards the door to call somebody as this fancy to be ashamed of herself. And then Lottie got possessed her. As it happened, however, there mad with her, and what do you suppose was the was no one in sight when she opened the door, and is all the better for being true : next thing she did ?

" I'm sure I can't guess," said Mrs. Leigh. Well, I'll tell you, and then you'll see if she "Lottie Parsons dropped it there herself," was that Jenny and I had pickles in our desks !"

" Pickles !" exclaimed Mrs. Leigh, haughing at more pickles in, maybe, and the botton dropped there is about it."

she went and told Miss Harvey that Jenuy and 1 mind. pickled cucumbers in our desk that very minute. after the way she had treated me?" she thought, a day at the same trade and at his old wages, and So down came Miss Harvey to our seat, as cross as indignantly. "How dare she come and help her- finding fault with the fate that made his fellow could be, and made us open our desks; and don't self without my leave? Never mind; I've got the workman rich while leaving him poor. Leisure

hidden behind my Parley's History, and another her where her button is ! "

"She will feel better when she finds that little did not hate her now ; her whole feeling had been forever losing or destroying her own things ; pen- don't wish to do any kindness to Lottie Parsons." she saw Lottie's delight at the recovery of the but-

It was before school was opened or Miss Harvey girls had a trick of vanishing under her touch. The girls went out, and she was left in quiet, but had arrived ; for Lottie had come early on purpose Then she borrowed from others, and was no more the thought of that missing sleeve-button interfered to have another search in every possible place careful of their possessions than she had been of strangely with her French verbs and pronouns. And first she had determined to rummage her desk She said to herself, with a revengeful memory of thoroughly ; so she went to it almost immediately. Lizzie Leigh had a pretty pearl-handled pen- Lottie's unkindness to her : "Serve her right if and there, of course, the little white parcel met her knife, which Lottie had borrowed and kept for a she doesn't find it ; I hope she won't." And she eye directly. How quickly she tore it open ; how day or two. When she returned it, the best blade tried to believe that she would really be glad if her eyes sparkeled and her cheeks glowed with was broken short off, and instead of apologizing or Lottie forfeited her Uucle's beautiful New Year's pleasure when she saw the button ; how they burnt being sorry, Lottie only laughed, and said, what is gift. But she was ill at ease while she harbored again with shame when she read the kind little note the use of being so particular ? And when Lizzie such unlovely thoughts ; she knew how wicked Lizzie had written, Lizzie might tell you, for she was vexed, naturally enough, she called her an old they were, and the voice of conscience bidding her saw it all. She could tell you, too, how Lottie maid, and told the other girls that Lizzie Leigh resist such evil promptings filled her with unrest. came rushing across the room to her, half-laughing, The French words danced before her eyes, and car- half-crying, and kissed her, and thanked her, and begged her forgiveness, and owned up about the and one thing followed another from this begin- her attention upon them, and at last, with a sort of pickle, and promised never, never to be so disagree ning. Lizzie said sharp things about Lottie, and angry impatience at the whole matter, she shut up able again-all in a breath. Lottie was not a bad girl at heart ; she was mischievous and thoughtless, She was not a girl who troubled herself to keep to The sudden motion jarred the desk, and some- and to get Lizzie and Jenny into a scrape had the strict truth, and did not hesitate to make a thing fell inside. Lizzie lifted the lid involuntarily seemed only a good joke to her. She we really good story out of small material. So Lizzie was all to see what it was ; and there, directly under her sorry for it afterward, and was glad of the opporampity to confess and make amends ; which she did nonestly as soon as Miss Harvey came in, and took

There was no mistaking it ; there were the letters with patience the rebuke which Miss Harvey adainistered sternly enough, and the loss of a week's

nerit-marks by way of punishment. More than that, when New Year's Day cameus. But that was a little too much. Jenny told she had a pair as handsome with her own monogram this last merry New Year's Day-Lizzie found among her other presents a dear little gold ring, studded

bewildered, half-frightened feeling, and did not tie Parsons' pocket-money, carefully hoarded for "Such things as what ?" asked Mrs. Leigh, half- venture to touch it. All manner of wild fancies that purpose. Inside of it was engraved the old amused at Lizzie's excitement, half-vexed at Lot- rushed through her mind. Were there really spirits, proverb, "One good turn deserves another," and who could see what we were doing and know our whenever she looks at it, Lizzie is glad that she "Why, that I was trying to get Miss Harvey to thoughts? And had one of them put the button followed her mother's advice, and " took the rechange my seat, and give me one away from Jen- in the desk because if knew she hated Lottie venge in Bible fashion."-The Methodist.

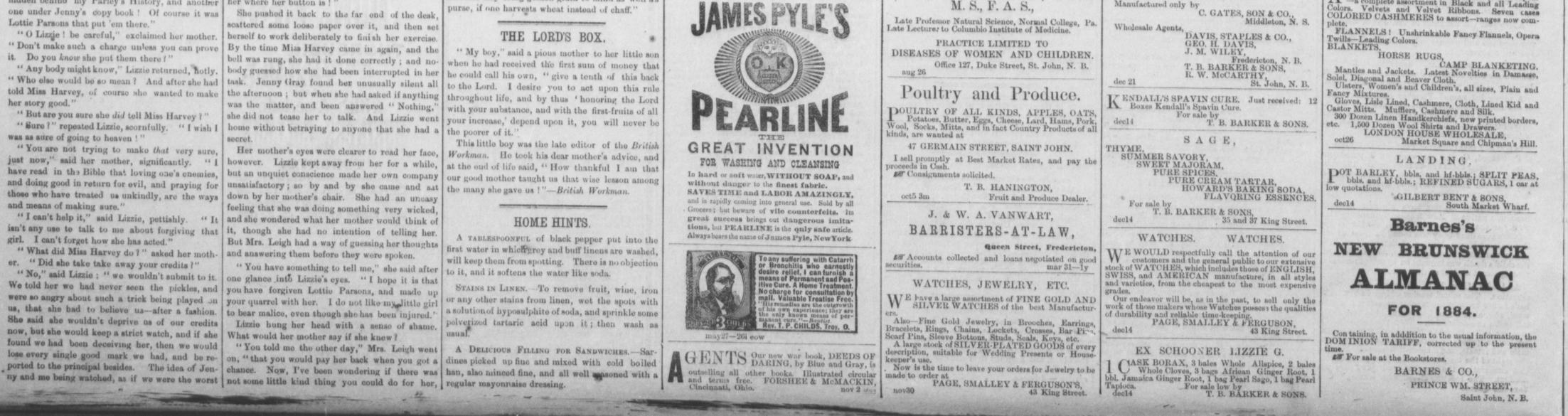
FOR THE BOYS.

The Wide Awake gives the following story, which

a moment's refleciton made her ashamed of her Two men stood at the same table in a large facory in Philadelphia, working at the same trade isn't mean. She went to Miss Harvey and told her the thought that came to her aid. "She's been to undertook to use it in accomplishing a definite pur-Having an hour for their nooning every day, each my desk to get my pencils or something, or to pat pose ; each persevered for about the same number Lizzie's tragic air. "Was there anything dreadful out while she was rummaging. That's all the spirit these two mechanics used his daily leisure hour in of months, and each won success at last. One of "They are forbidden in the class-room," said And upon this conclusion-which was a perfectly a block of wood into almost any desired shape. working out the invention of a machine for sawing Lizzie, "and Miss Harvey punishes us for having true one, as it turned out afterward-Lizzie walked When his invention was complete, he sold the pathem in school sooner than for almost any thing back to her desk, and opened it coolly to make an tent for a fortune, changed his workman's apron else. She made a rule that whoever brought one inspection. The button laid there still, solid and for a broadcloth suit, and moved out of a tenementshould lose six credits, and twelve if they did it real, with nothing ghostly about it, but one of house, into a brown-stone mansion. The other twice, and twenty-four if it was three times. Now, Lizzie's erayon-pencils was missing from its case, man-what did he do? Well, he spent an hour you know yourself, mainma, if there's any thing 1 and the whole mystery was clear to her. An angry each day during most of a year in a very difficult do dislike it's pickled cucumbers ; but that girl, color rose to her cheek, and a bitter purpose to her undertaking of teaching a little dog to stand on his had broken the rule, and that she knew we had "What right has that girl to take my things, tune. At last accounts he was working ten hours

you believe, there was a great, long, green pickle chance to be even with her now. Wait till I tell minutes may bring golden grain to mind as well as purse, if one harvests wheat instead of chaff."

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girl. I can't forget how she has acted."

er. "Did she take take away your credits ?"