

"BUT JESUS HELD HIS PEACE."

Amid his people stood the King:
False witnesses brought forth their lies,
The High Priest hurled his questioning
Against the calm of those sad eyes;
The surging crowd mob pressed near,
Where wrath and hate made swift increase
And brutal insult, gibe and sneer
Fell fast—but Jesus "held his peace."

And we—the follower of the King—
Thrust back the words we may not speak,
But swift beneath a sudden sting
The fire leaps up to eye and cheek!
We clench our lips above the roll
Of passion-waves that will not cease,
And name it Christian self-control,
But he—our Master—"held his peace."

It is too high for us, dear Lord:
We mark the pattern's line of gold
But dimly to our lives accord.
We have so little peace to hold,
Oh, give us thine, thou art of Love!
Thy inner rest from self and sense,
For "perfect peace" is from above,
And thou alone hast brought it thence.

The Fireside.

"TRUTH."

BY MRS. ANNIE A. PRESTON.

"He told me all about the affair, and he said the version of it I have given you was the truth, whether it was believed or not," said Mr. Snow, the wealthy manufacturer to the guest with whom he was conversing.

"Truth dwells at the bottom of a well," replied the young man addressed, laughing heartily.

Four-year-old Marion Snow, sitting on her papa's knee, opened her blue eyes at this remark; and at once before her childish mind a picture presented itself of the dark, deep well, with its mossy curb, its dripping bucket, and its long, high sweep cleaving the summer air in the cool, shady, grassy yard of her grandfather's farm-house away up among the New Hampshire hills.

She treasured the picture, often pondering over it and wondering what "Truth" was like, and if she should ever succeed in getting a sight of her.

When, a few months later, an invitation to her Cousin Eliza's wedding came from the country homestead to the city mansion, Marion clapped her tiny hands in delight exclaiming:

"Oh, now I can look for Truth! What a pity it will be if she gets out of the well before we arrive there!"

It was late in the June evening preceding the wedding day when the lumbering stage-coach set them down at the homestead. Marion was too sleepy to think of Truth that night, but the next morning she was early awake, and slipping out of bed and peering from the vine-shaded casement, she spied the old well, and, following a childish impulse, she resolved to ascertain at once whether Truth was concealed in its mysterious depths.

Her little bare feet carried her silently down the winding stairs, through the big parlor where the presents were displayed and everything was ready for the wedding, and out upon the back stoop.

"I am going to look for Truth," she called sweetly to her grandmother, who was busy in the dairy, and like a bird she flitted in her long white nightgown across the yard, climbed upon the well-curb, leaned over, and seeing her own charming reflection in the crystal depths, she shouted joyfully:

"Oh, I see her, I see Truth! She is ever so far down. Will she not come up to the wedding?" and losing her balance, over she went into the well.

By a singular providence she went down feet first, and grasping a strong rope by which a pail of cream was suspended, she kept her head above water until she was drawn up to the arms of her agonized parents.

The accident so frightened and excited the whole family that throughout the day nothing went on quite as it had been arranged.

In looking over the presents after the guests had departed, the bride missed a string of heavy gold beads, an heirloom in the family, that had been given her by a great aunt.

Marion, hearing the talk about them, piped up: "Oh, let me tell you where they are. I had them on when I fell into the well, and now Truth has them."

"That is impossible," they all said. "That is just a chimera of the dear child's overexcited brain." Some of the elders were positive they saw the necklace after breakfast, but every one had been so wrought upon that they were not sure of anything.

They all united, however, in laughing at Marion's story, and Grandpa Snow said: "The well is very old and very deep. The water is deep and cold. It is not worth while for any one to risk his life to prove the accuracy of a baby's prattle."

The bride made up her mind that her Cousin Martha, who lived on the adjoining farm, had stolen the beads out of spite, for she had been heard to say that she had just as good a right to them as Eliza had. Having abruptly arrived at that conclusion in her first chagrin at the

loss of her necklace, she repeated her conviction to every one without charity or prudence, until poor, innocent Martha was branded as a thief by the whole community.

Mr. and Mrs. Snow and their child Marion soon after this event took up their abode in the then Far West, and Marion did not come East again until she was married and came on her wedding tour.

She had not been long in the square parlor of the old homestead before she said to Cousin Eliza, now a rosy matron:

"I want to go and look in the old well. I want to see 'Truth' again. I wonder if she wears the gold beads I carried her when I went down to make her a call, you know, on the morning of my wedding day. I shall never forget that experience. The time seemed interminable, after I lost my balance, before my bare feet struck the icy-cold water."

"Do you still believe that you had on my gold beads at that time?" asked Eliza, laughing heartily.

"To be sure I do, my dear cousin; I know I had them on. They lay on some pink cotton in a little box on the parlor table there in that corner. I put them on, and came here and stood on tiptoe to look in this very same gilt-framed mirror. I remember just how they looked over my white night-gown. Has the well never been cleaned since then?"

"No. It has not been considered safe to go down into it. The well is only used to hang things in that we want to keep cool, and the beads are not there. Cousin Martha stole those beads. I have never had the least doubt upon the subject."

Visiting around among her relatives Marion found that her Cousin Martha, a sweet, gentle, Christian woman, had been all these years under social ostracism on account of the report circulated at the time that she stole her Cousin Eliza's necklace.

Marion's young husband was a minister of the gospel. "I mean to know the truth of this matter," he said, "and in this instance 'truth' certainly lies at the bottom of the well."

One day, Grandma Snow, who was still living, made a party for the young couple. After the guests were assembled, many of them being the same who were at Eliza's wedding, the young man introduced the story of the gold beads, and announced that the event of the afternoon was to be their recovery if they were in the well.

He called the men he had engaged to assist him, and putting on a pair of long fishing boots he descended into the mossy depths.

As each bucketful of sand and water was drawn up it was scanned by anxious eyes. After a while, when they had almost given up the quest, Marion cried:

"Oh, there is a shining gold speck. Eureka! It is one of the beads. We have found one of them," she shouted down the well to her young husband.

"There were twenty-five of them," said Eliza, and it was not long before she held them all in her hand. Marion was delighted, of course, and Eliza knew not whether she was more gratified or chagrined.

She went for her Cousin Martha, who had not been invited to the party, asked forgiveness in the presence of the company for the wrong she had done her, and presented her the necklace. Upon that everybody cried and kissed Martha, and asked her forgiveness for believing such a foolish report.

"I knew I was neglected by everybody, left out in the cold, as it were," said Martha at last, "but I never knew why. I was never told of the unjust suspicion resting upon me, but as I lost my friends one by one, I drew nearer to God, so the years have not been as weary to me as you may suppose. I can not take the necklace. All this suspicion is a punishment for my unkind remark in saying I had just as good a right to it as Eliza."

"Marion shall have it as a wedding present from us both," said Eliza, and the beads having been restrung, they were fastened about the neck of the youthful bride. She has always worn them in memory and in praise of "Truth," she says.

Several summers ago I met her at the old homestead. The gold necklace sparkled and shone on her white, plump throat as, standing by the old well and looking down into its crystal depths, she told me this story.

BROTHER SMITH.

In a recent meeting of Christian workers, one of the number, filled with emotion, several times broke out in hearty "Amen's." Some one asked the presiding officer to keep him quiet. Instantly the leader was on his feet, saying:

"I am requested to keep Brother Smith quiet. Before I make the attempt let me tell you that Brother Smith was a prisoner at Andersonville. News came to him in his starving condition that he was exchanged. He turned to a comrade whose private history he had learned and said:

"You have wife and children; I have none. Take this exchange and go to your family. I can stand it a little longer." And so he stayed and sent the other away. After a time another exchange came, and this same prisoner walked up to one who was almost delirious in the longing to see his dear ones, and said: 'Here, brother, take my place. I can wait a little longer.'

"And so he stayed and the other went home. A third offer of release came while he was bending over a sick comrade, to whom he had ministered for many weeks. The invalid looked up and said: 'You are going away. If you leave me I shall die. You are my only hope.' 'Well,' said the other, 'I won't leave you. You shall go in my place. I will stay. I can stand it a little longer.'

"And so this man stayed again. Now," said the leader, "does any one object to Brother Smith saying Amen?" And the whole audience broke out into hearty applause.

Mr. Smith came forward before the great assembly, and said, as he took another person by the hand: "This is Capt. Lovelace, of Marion, Ala., the very man who captured me and put me in prison. We were fighting on opposite sides then. He is now in the Christian army. We are on the same side at last. I want you to sing 'Best be the tie that binds.' And so the two soldiers stood holding each other by the hand, while the hymn was sung.

It was the writer's privilege recently to hear this man telling his experiences of Andersonville. Not a word against the Southern people; indeed, he was careful to say that they, as a people, were brave, chivalrous, kind-hearted. He was careful to lay the blame only on those to whom it belonged.—*Boston Peace Advocate.*

HINTS FOR THE SCHOOL ROOM.

Arrange the desks and seats in some way, so that each pupil can find support for his back and rest for his feet. It need hardly be supposed that this is impossible.

"Tinker" the window-frames, so as to be able to lower the upper sash a few inches. Get calico curtains if there are no blinds; they will cost about ten cents each.

Cover all holes and ink-spots in the hall with white paper, neatly pasted on; but cover up no dirt that can be washed off. Let the floor be clean and the windows clear.

Tack engravings on the walls, the best you can find; wood cuts from newspapers are better than nothing. Inland boys like ships and steamers, and sea-scenes generally, while boys who live near the coast prefer hunting scenes, and rocks and woods. Maps of the country, the state, the county, the town, ward and block are desirable.

On the ceiling, draw neatly—in charcoal, if you can do no better—the solar system. Make the sun in red chalk, give the planets their relative size and orbits; let a bushy, red-tailed comet enliven the sketch. On the side walls, draw a long black line, five and-a-half yards long, to represent a rod. Divide the line into yards, one of the yards into feet, and one of the feet into inches. In various spaces otherwise unoccupied, draw distinctly, a square yard, a square foot, a cubic foot, and equilateral triangle, and other similar outlines. Let the walls be covered with instruction and amusement for the eye. At first, these figures will attract attention from studies, but in a few days the novelty will have worn off, and although they may attract, they will not distract.—*Selected.*

AN HONEST BOY.

In a country school a large class were standing to spell. In the lesson there was a very hard word. I put the word to the scholar at the head, and he missed it; I passed it to the next, and so on through the whole class, till it came to the last scholar—the smallest of the class—and he spelled it correctly; at least I understood him so, and he went to the head, above seventeen boys and girls all older than himself. I then turned round and wrote the word on the black-board, so that they might all see how it was spelled, and learn it better. But no sooner had I written it, than the little boy cried out, "Oh, I didn't say it so, Miss W—; I said 'e' instead of 'i';" and he went back to the foot, of his own accord, quicker than he had gone to the head. Was not he an honest boy? I should always have thought he spelled it right if he had not told me; but he was too honest to take any credit that did not belong to him.

In all your enjoyments, whatever, be moderate. Set your heart in the love of God and the faith of Christ, and difficulties will disappear. The inner life in you will assimilate to the divine everywhere, and return its own blessed and consecrated influence to all your work and all your amusements.

OLD-TIME BEDS.

Two hundred years and more ago, the beds in England were bags filled with straw or leaves, but not upholstered or squared with modern neatness. The bag could be opened and the litter remade daily. There were few bedrooms in the houses of ancient England. The master and mistress of the Anglo-Saxon house had a chamber or shed build against the wall that enclosed the mansion and its dependencies, their daughters had the same. Young men and guests slept in the great hall, which was the only noticeable room in the house, on tables or benches. Woollen coverlets were provided for warmth; poles or hooks on which they could hang their clothes projected from the wall; perches were provided for their hawks. Attendants and servants slept upon the floor.

Young Folks' Column.

Conducted by C. E. BLACK, Case Settlement, Kings Co., N. B.

PUZZLE DEPARTMENT.

The Mystery.

No. 266.—ENIGMA.

(FROM "RANSACKER," KINGS.)

In cake, but not in pie;
In oats, but not in rye;
In ant, but not in cricket;
In ball, but not in wicket;
In tramp, but not in walk;
In yell, but not in talk.

The whole is the name of a well-known bird.

No. 267.—TRANSPOSITION.

(FROM "MINA," KINGS.)

Tienocap si a teuriv,
Sassope ti fi ouy nac;
Ist model doum ni omenw,
Easl tenof undof ni enm.

No. 268.—BIBLE QUERIES.

(FROM "CORNWALLIS," CANNING, N. S.)

1. Who slew 85 priests?
2. What king had his life prolonged 15 years in answer to prayer? What sign was given to him that he should recover from his sickness?

No. 269.—TWO EASY PUZZLES.

(FROM "PRAIRIE," CANNING, N. S.)

1. DIAMOND.—A vowel; a conjunction; a consonant.
2. SQUARE WORD.—A small animal; what all do; a shrub.

No. 270.—BIBLE QUERIES.

(FROM "PUG NOSE," UPPER BRIGHTON.)

1. Where is "razor" mentioned?
2. Where is "anvil" found?

No. 271.—DROP-LETTER PUZZLE.

(FROM "MARIANNE," KINGS.)

T-e-r-s-w-t-e-e-h,
-h-f-o-e-f-d-t:-u-
t-e-o-d-f-u-G-d
-h-l-s-a-d-o-e-e-

No. 272.—DROP-LETTER PUZZLE.

(FROM L. A. KERR, STANLEY, YORK.)

Thrf t hm tht knw t d gd nd
dth t nt, t hm t s sn.

No. 273.—PI PUZZLE.

(FROM H. DAGGETT, GRAND HARBOR.)

Nda bjcoa nste dna laedc aroelh dan
elha ot eth ifide ontu ihs lfeko.

No. 274.—DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

(FROM "AMERICA," QUEENS.)

The father of Seth; a large reed; a list; a continent; great numbers; a king of Israel; a peninsula of Europe. The initials, read downward, give the name of one of the sons of Terah; the initials, read upward, one of David's sons.

(The Mystery solved in three weeks.)

The Mystery Solved.

(No. 37.)

No. 242.—"And the inhabitant shall not say I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity."—Isaiah xxxiii. 24.

No. 243.—1. Lot. 5. Heber.
2. Herod. 6. Levi.
3. Abel. 7. Amos.
4. Peter. 8. Babylon.
9. Matthan.

No. 244.—Ecclesiastes x. 19.

No. 245.—"Love your enemies."—Matt. v. 44.

No. 246.—Job xi. 2.

No. 247.—2 Kings xxii. 14; also, 2nd Chron. xxxiv. 22.

No. 248.—One day a young girl named Lydia went for a walk with her sister Sarepta and her brother Dan for some iris, which grew some distance from their home. When they started forth, they met a man dressed in a tweed suit and morocco shoes, looking for a nice long branch of Virginia creeper. They were in hope of soon meeting Lewis and Albert with some fern for them, which they did; and then thought a race would bring them quickly to a little rock where they could see a wolf, a bear, a beaver, a deer, and a moose, while there finding some yellow, black, and red wild flowers. And having at some sandwich they said farewell and returned home, having spent a pleasant day.

(N. B.—The words italicised are the words supplied.)

CHAT.

HELEN R., St. John, has returned home again from her visit. Glad to earn that you "had a nice trip."

"MINA," Kings, sends us an excellent batch of puzzles. Thank you, "MINA." Come again soon, and always send your name.

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