an

Lamity Circle.

Zion's Bank.

I have a never failing bank, My more than golden store; No earthly bank is half so rich, How then can I be poor?

'Iis when my bank is spent and gone, And I am not worth a groat; I'm glad to hasten to my bank. And beg a little note.

Sometimes my Banker smiling says, Why don't you oftener come? And when you draw a little bill, Why not a larger sum?

Why live so niggardly and poor? My bank contains a plenty; Why come and take a one-pound note, . When you may have a twenty? .

Nay, twenty thousand ten times told, Is but a trifling sum.

To what my bank contains for me: Secure in God the Son.

Since then my Banker is so rich. I have no need to borrow. But live upon my notes to-day. And draw again to-morrow.

I've been a thousand times before, And never was rejected; Those notes can never be refused, That are by grace accepted. All forged notes will be refus'd,

The firm will them detect. While those that deal in forged notes Prove they're not God's elect.

'Tis only the beloved of God. Redeemed by precious blood. That ever have a note to bring: They are the gift of God.

Thousands of ransomed sinners fear They have no note at all. Because they feel their misery And ruin by the fall.

The' thousand notes lay scattered round, All sign'd and seal'd and free. Yet many a doubting soul will say. Ah! they are not for me.

Base unbelief will lead the soul To say what is not true; I tell the poor self-emptied soul. These notes belong to you.

Should all the banks in Europe break. The bank of England smash; Bring all your notes to Zion's bank. You're sure to get your cash.

Nay, if you have but one small note. Fear not to bring it in: Come boldly to this bank of grace, The Banker is within.

I'll go again, I need not fear? My notes will be rejected: Sometimes my Banker gives me more Than asked for, or expected.

Sometimes I've falt a little proud, I've managed things so clever. Perhaps before the day was gone, I felt as poor as ever.

Sometimes with blushes in my face, Just at the door I stand: I know if Moses kept the bank, My soul would be condemned.

But ah! my bank can never break, My bank can never fail; The firm-three persons in one God,

Jehovah-Lord of all. Should all the bankers close their doors, My bank stands open wide To all the chosen of the Lord,

For whom the Saviour died. We read of one young man, indeed Whose riches did abound But in the Banker's book of life, His name was never found.

The leper had a little note, "Lord if thou wilt thou can:" The Banker paid the little note, And heard the dying man.

Behold and see the dying thief Hang by his Banker's side. He cried, Dear Lord remember me; He got his cash, and died

His blessed Banker took him home TO EVERLASTING GLORY. There to shout his Banker's grace, And tell his endless story.

With millions more-Jehovah's choice, Redeemed by precious blood. Oh may my soul with him be found, Among the Sons God.

Then will I praise my Banker's grace, And sound his fame abroad: Make heav'n to echo with my voice, Before the Throne of God.

How God Answers Prayer.

together in the parlor one evening after supper. careless then you have been to-day without

opinion?" asked his father.

"He hasn't yet; this day has been no better than any other."

"Suppose you tell me what has been the trouble to-day," said Harry's father, very kind-

Harry drew closer to his father, and laying his hand on his shoulder, said: "Sometimes in the mornings I forget to pray and read my Bible; but this morning I did pray, and then I sat down to read. Just as I did so the breakfast bell rang. I stayed to read a few verses, and then I was afraid I would be late, so I laid the book aside and ran down stairs. Martha was coming along the entry, and just as I jumped off the last step I knocked her arm, and that made her drop the cup of coffee she was carrying up to Aunt Mary; it was that big white cup which Aunt Mary thinks so much off. I told her I did not mean to knock her, but she was dreadful cross, and said I was the most disagreeable boy she ever saw. I think I won't hear the end of that cup very soon either from her or Aunt

A very quiet smile passed over the father's face as he gently said, "Is that all the trouble,

"Oh no, father; that was only the beginning. I do get my copy-book so full of blots and smears, but to-day I took extra pains and kept it very nice. I had only two lines to write when Mr. Murray looked at it. He said, 'Why, Harry, that is a decided improvement; I have some hopes of you yet.' I finished the lines and then went to put the lid on the inkstand. As I did so my sleeve brushed over the last line and smeared it so that the page was spoiled. Of course I was marked for carelessness.'

Again his father smiled, and merely said, "Is that all?"

"No, this afternoon, while I was learning my lessons, little Frank kept bothering me to play with him. I told him I had no time, but that if he would be quiet I would make him a fine cap. I picked up a paper that was on the table and made him the cap. I didn't think Frank would hurt the paper. When he was tired of it he threw it on the floor, and Martha tore a piece off to light the fire. She said she thought it was an old paper that Frank had been playing with. Nelly says she thinks it was so careless in me; it had such a beautiful story that she had not finished. I do not think praying has helped me at all to-day."

"You have had some trouble, Harry, Let me see if I can help you to find where the difficulty has been. You said you asked God to make you more careful; was that it?"

" Yes father."

"Suppose you were to ask God to keep you from being hurt, then suppose you were to go on a road where there were a great many stones and brickbats lying about, and a great many persons passing backward and forward; then, instead of looking around you carefully, suppose you were to shut your eyes and walk along that road, would you escape being unhurt?"

"No father; I would not be so silly as that." "If you asked God to beep you from being hurt, don't you think he would do it?"

Harry hesitated for some time before he answered, "I think not, father, if I would keep my eves shut."

Harry's father-opened the Bible at the twenty sixth chapter of Matthew, and pointing to the forty-first verse, told Harry to read the first line. Harry read, " Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation."

"Our Saviour most certainly promises to answer prayer," continued Harry's father. "He says: 'Ask and ye shall receive.' 'Whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you;" but I think the line you just read, shows that something is required on our part. I think the way that God answers prayer for help to overcome faults is not by doing the work for us, but by his blessing of our own exertions by putting good thoughts into our hearts and keeping us constantly on our guard. Do you lom? understand, my son?"

" Not exactly," replied Harry.

"Perhaps I can make it plainer this way, Harry. This morning you asked God to make you careful: but then when you left your room you ran down the stairs so fast that you did not notice any one in the entry."

" I saw Martha, but I did not think I should

"Well, if you had come down more slowly, and when you saw Martha had waited a ltttle to let her pass the cup would not have been broken. When you had finished your copy, if you had waited for the ink to dry or pushed the book out of the way, your sleeve would not have smeared it. Taking a paper off the parlor table to make a plaything for a little child was the most thoughtless of all. I think you have been walking over stones with your eyes shut,"

Harry seemed troubled; his father threw his arm around him and very tenderly said, " God does answer prayer, my boy. Your thoughtlessness has been a source of great trouble to me. I have tried in vain to make you more considerate, but I have prayed earnestly that your Father in heaven would make you see your fault, "There is no use in trying, or in praying and then give you strength to overcome it. either," aaid Harry Goodwin, in a very des- The first of my prayers has been answered. A ponding tone, as he and his father were sitting few weeks since you might have been more "Why, Harry, how came you to form that feeling any sorrow for it. God has awakened you to see your fault, and given you a wish to "Father, you know I am continually getting do better. The rest of my prayer, I feel assurinto trouble because I am so careless. Mother ed will soon be answered. I am thankful that is always saying 'Harry, do ary to be more you have taken your trouble to God. He only careful; Aunt Mary tells me twenty times a day can really help you. When you go to your room that I worry her to death with my heedlessness, to-night, talk to him just as you have done to Mr. Murray says I am the most thoughtless boy me; tell him every trouble that you have had toin school. I have often made up my mind to day. Tell him how disappointed you have felt. be more careful, but somehow I always forget. Do not merely say to him. 'Make me more You know, father, you told us on Sunday that careful,' but ask him to keep your eyes open, God would answer our prayers if we asked for to keep you constantly on the watch against things which would be good for us; so this your naturally careless disposition-to help you "I have no doubt he will answer that prayer, my son."

your naturally careless disposition—to help you watch and pray.' And then, my dear son, I am sure you will soon find that God does answer

Smiles.

Scene in the Physics recitation room: Profes. sor-Mr. F., will you in your own words, give me a definition of a pendulum? Mr. F.-A in the VI' SITOR of Dec. 25. pendulum is-is a thing that makes a clock go. Rapturous applause from the back seat.]

"Somebody called in my absence. Did he leave his name?" "Oh, yes. sir, he said was immaterial."

Some one asked Snodgrass, if he had ever seen a candle run. "No," said our friend, but I have seen a wal'ding match."

"If there's no monlight will you meet me by gaslight, dearest Juliana?" "No, Agustus, won't; I'm nog s metre."

"I'd like to climb that mountain," said a traveller. "I hear it is full of copper." 'Pshaw' answered a resident. "It isn't worth ascent." A wife having lost her husband, was inconsol-

able for his death. "Leave me to my grief," she cried sobbing; "you know the extreme sensibility of my nerves; a mere nothing upsets

"Here lies Sarah Smithers, the loved wife of Thomas Smithers, marble cutter. This monument was erected as a tribute to her memory and a specimen of his art. Monuments of the same style 25 dols. each." This epitaph is said to be found in a church in London.

Little Freddie was talking to his grandma, who was something of a sceptic. "Grandma, do you belong to the Presbyterian Church?" "No." "To the Baptist?" "No." "To any church?" "No." "Well, grandma don't you think it is about time to get in somewhere?"

The minister who said he could preach without notes has been taken at his word by his congregation which refuses to pay his salary. He sees his mistake.

Do FISHES Go CRAZY ? is a conundrum pro- jun 19 posed by Seth Green. Sometimes they go in

Fireside Pastimes.

CONDUCTED BY WILLIAM H. GRAFFAM.

Contributions of good original puzzles are solicited from every reader of the VISITOR for this department. All communications should be written only on one side of the paper, marked "For Fireside Pastimes," and addressed to William H. Graffam, West Scarboro, Maine, U.S.A.

NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 11 letters. My 4, 8, 7, is a bud. My 11, 2, 9 is a weight. My 1, 3, 5, 11 is an ornament. My 6, 10, 2 is an adjective. My whole is a motto.

Jemseg, N. B.

CHANGES.

C. D. D.

Change the head of a form and have to contain; again and have to double; again and have soored, again and have a precious metal, WILL I AM.

St, Stephen.

1. Behead stellar and leave to remain. 2. Behead to coin money and leave to fill

3. Behead durable and leave a piece of household furniture. 5. Behead a proud step and leave to con-

6. Behead a piece of cloth and leave a mis-

chievous animal. 7. Behead nice skill and leave to perform. UNCLE WILL.

Scarboro, Me.

BIBLE QUESTIONS.

1. What Benjamiite kinsman of Saul insulted king David when fleeing before Absa-

2. What Christian of Corinth, whose family Paul baptized, wasthe first convert to the gospel in Achaia? 3. What spot in the valley of the Jordan in

which Jacob set up his tents on his return from Mesopotamia?

Scarboro, Me.

CHOSS-WORD ENIGNA.

1. In love, but not in hate:

2. In country, but not in State: 3. In dial, also in clock,

4. In turkey, but not in hawk;

5. In trout, but not in eel;

6. In hurt, but not in feel; 7. In wheat, but not in hay;

My whole is the name of a beast of prey." Howard S. Brown. Oxford, N. S.

Answers next week.

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S PASTIMES.

To Bible Questions .-

1. Caiaphas. 2. Ctesiphan. Nothing now remains but th

ruins of palaces and mounds of rubbish. 3. Cuthites.

4. Ebed-Melech.

To Cross-Word Enigma. - Mordecan

To Word Square.-

LINE IDEA NEAR EARS

To Triangl,-

CEDE LIQUID EMINENCE MOUNTEBANK

To Conceuled Proverbs .- A good name is be ter than wealth.

Howard S. Browr, Oxford, N. S., sends the

correct answer to Numerical Enigma in the VISITOR of Dec. 25th.

Annie M., New Jerusalem, N. B., to Enigma, Word-Squa re, Enigma, and Drop-Letter Puzzle

CHAT WITH OUR VISITORS.

A. T. D.-New Year Prize awards will be given next week.

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Howard S. Brown.-Very glad to receive the pastimes. We hope you will become greatly interested in our work.

Annie M.—The pastimes are very acceptable. Write upon only one side of the paper and come often.

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