

THE CHILDREN.

BY CHARLES DICKENS.

When the lessons and tasks are all ended,
And the school for the day is dismissed,
And the little ones gather around me,
To bid me good night and be kissed:
Oh, the little white arms that encircle
My neck in a tender embrace!
Oh, the smiles that are halos of heaven,
Shedding sunshine of love on my face!

And when they are gone I sit dreaming
Of my childhood, too lovely to last;
Of love that my heart will remember,
When it wakes to the pulse of the past,
Ere the world and its wickedness made me
A partner of sorrow and sin:
When the glory of God was about me,
And the glory of gladness within.

Oh, my heart grows weak as a woman's,
And the fountain of feeling will flow,
When I think of the paths, steep and stony,
Where the feet of the dear ones must go;
Of the mountains of Sin hanging o'er them,
Of the tempest of fate blowing wild;
Oh, there is nothing on earth half so holy
As the innocent heart of a child!

They are idols of hearts and of households;
They are angels of God in disguise;
His sunlight still sleeps in their tresses,
His glory still gleams in their eyes;
On those trunks from home and from heaven
They have made me more manly and mild!
And I know how Jesus could liken,
The Kingdom of God to a child!

I ask not a life for the dear ones
All radiant, as others have done,
But that life may have just enough shadow
To temper the glare of the sun;
I would pray God to save them from evil,
But my prayer would bound back to myself;
Ah! a seraph may pray for a sinner,
But a sinner must pray for himself.

The twig is so easily bent,
I have banished the rule and the rod,
I have taught them the goodness of knowledge,
They have taught me the goodness of God:
My heart is a dungeon of darkness,
Where I shut them for breaking a rule;
My frown is sufficient correction—
My love is the law of the school.

I shall leave the old house in the autumn,
To traverse its threshold no more,
Ah! how shall I sigh for the dear ones
That meet me each morn at the door!
I shall miss the "good-nights" and the kisses,
And the gush of their innocent glee,
The group on the green, the flowers
That are brought every morning to me.

I shall miss them at morn and at evening,
Their songs in the school and the street;
I shall miss the low hum of their voices,
And the tramp of their delicate feet,
When the lessons and tasks are all ended,
And death says, "The school is dismissed!"
May the little ones gather around me,
To bid me good-night and be kissed!

Correspondence.

OGDEN, May 29th, 1899.
Editor Deseret News.—The unusually heavy fall of rain during the week now closing has had a chilling effect here on business as well as on the atmosphere. But little has been done, and quietude has been the prevailing characteristic of this city during the week. The absence of a class which presents such strongly marked peculiarities to draw the attention of the police, is abundantly evident in the plentiful lack of that recklessness of all law and order which it delights to indulge in. The sounds of the mechanics' labor, as fresh additions to the habitations of the city are being reared, greets the ear of the passer along the streets; but while they play the part of wise men and build up, the citizens are spared the presence of those who like all fools would pull down and destroy.

Business has been tolerably brisk today, with the return of pleasant and comfortable weather, though the roads are yet, in many places, of a waxy consistency which makes traveling more tedious than pleasant.

Sundry and various rumors connected with the future plans of the Railroad Companies, have been current here and have obtained more or less credence on the part of those whose inclination or interests disposed them to place confidence in them. The "switch" was to be removed from Taylor's mill to Deseret; then, again, it was to be lifted and brought to Ogden without delay; then, it was to be moved north of here; and so it has been moved and removed a sufficient number of times, and to so many locations that all might be satisfied it was at some period of the rumors exactly where they desired it to be. Meantime it remains at the mill. The coaches from Salt Lake City continue to leave passengers at that interesting locality, who sometimes are allowed the pleasant task of trying to find bottom in the mud north of the "switch" as they pedestrianize to Ogden—unless they wait indefinitely for a hack; and at other times they are courteously driven in on the coach.

The crops around this city are looking beautiful and promise an abundant harvest. The people are lively and hopeful; and peace, prosperity and good feelings abound.

GREAT SPORTING MATCHES.—Two of the greatest sporting matches which ever came off in this country, if we may judge by the magnitude of the stakes and the skill of the contestants, occurred in Chicago last week. The first was between Bogardus, champion of Illinois, and Ward, champion of Canada, for \$2,500 aside; one hundred single and one hundred double birds. The second was for \$1,000 against five hundred birds were to be killed in six hundred and forty-five consecutive minutes, with one gun. In both of these great trigger contests Bogardus was the winner, and in the last match accomplished a feat which many sporting men thought impossible, having nearly two hours time to spare, and proving himself to be one of the very best shots in America. Our sporting friends will be interested to know that Bogardus used in these matches the celebrated Oriental powder, which is so highly praised by crack shots throughout the country.

The above is copied from the St. Louis Republican of recent date. This powder may be obtained of H. S. Jackson & Co., 138 Farnham street, Omaha, Nebraska, who are Agents of the Oriental Powder Company.



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