

WIDOW'S SON.

"William, my boy, you're not getting on again to-night?" pleaded Mrs. Donald, rising and laying her hand gently on her son's arm, as he took up his hat and was preparing to leave the room.

"I have business," he replied, calmly averting his face, that he might not meet his mother's glance of anxiety.

"Come, Willie, stay with me, there is a good boy, you would not like to see your mother's grey hairs fall down with sorrow to the grave, when you are likely enough to do, if you continue the reckless course you have chosen to follow."

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There, beside the little mound of earth, he resolved never again to partake of that which had led to his friend's destruction—and he kept his vow, and years after, when surrounded by merry, laughing children, he used to point to Willie's grave and relate to them the tale of Willie's death.—British Workman.

Odds and Ends.

The things that are ready for us, naturally gravitate to us. Submission to unnecessary evils is cowardice or laziness. A noble thought, embodied in fit words walks the earth a living being.

A man wedded to an idea may have a happy marriage, and a rather interesting family. He submits to be seen through a microscope, who suffers himself to be caught in a fit of passion.

A horse-dealer, describing a used-up horse, said he looked as if he had been editing a county newspaper. Miss Lovely says that the males are of no account from the time that ladies stop kissing them as infants till they kiss again as lovers.

There is such an immense difference between the man who has his fortune all made and the one who has it to make, that they are not two beings of the same kind.

An old lady, when she heard her minister say there would be a nave in the new church, observed that she knew well who the party was to whom he applied such an opprobrious epithet.

Too Many Hoops.—One day, a person pointed out a man who had a profusion of rings on his fingers, to a cooper.—"Ah, master," said the artisan, "it's a sign of weakness when so many hoops are used."

NEAT REPORT.—A lady, sitting in the same box at an opera with a French physician, was much troubled with ennui, and happened to gaze.

A reverend sportsman was once boasting of his infallible skill in finding a hare. "If," said a Quaker, who was present, "I were a hare, I would take my seat in a place where I should be sure of not being disturbed by thee from the first of January to the last of December."

THE GRAVE.—It buries every error, covers every defect, extinguishes every resentment. From its peaceful bosom spring none but tender recollections. Who can look down on the grave of an enemy and not feel it compassionate those that he should have warred with the peaceful hand of earth that lies before him?

YOUTHFUL LOVE.—It is only in early youth, in the first freshness of the spring of life, that love can be trusted in its intensest rapture. Youth looks upon everything with fond and credulous eyes, and the air seems one universal rainbow. The emotion will not bear analysis, and what is more, will not bear the test of time; it is but too frequently its own snail.

CUTTING REPLY.—Said one student to another, when he caught swinging a scythe most lustily in a field of stout grass, "Frank, what makes you work for a living? A fellow with your talent and abilities should not be caught engaged in hard labor. I mean to get my living by my wits." "Well, Bill, you can work with duller tools than I can," was the cutting reply.

A man who sees a heron streaming through the tranquil summer sky and only wishes for his gun, or who sees the beautiful bond of a deer in the woods, with no other wish than that of killing it, does not show his manhood in those wishes. The bravest and most robust manhood does not imply nor require the least wanton cruelty. It is not necessarily developed nor proved either by sticking pins into grasshoppers or firing shot into deer.

A few days since a traveller stepped into a bank, and immediately pulled off his hat, coat, and cravat. This done, he cast a look at the cashier, who was seated in a corner calm as a May morning, and with a commanding shake of the head, said—"Hain't you better getting that hot water ready?" The teller informed him he was in a bank, sir; and not in a barber shop.—"Bank! what!" ejaculated the astonished stranger. "Blame it, they told me there was a place where they shaved people."

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QUEEN EPITAPHS.—In a churchyard at Frodsham, in Cheshire, is the following:— Here lies J. J. J. Killed by a stray Rocket, in my eye.

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