THE FREE PRESS.

THURSDAY MORNING, Feb. 17, 1881.

YOUNG FOLKS CORNER.

A LITTLE LAMB ASTRAY.

Dear pastors and parents, will you not stop the little ones and speak loving words for Jesus? They expect it.

Oh, I wonder if there ever
Was a little girl like me,
With so many, many heartaches,
That nobody seems to see.

Oft I've heard the great wise preachers,
And the elders good and kind,
Tell about the way to heaven,
And how easy 'tis to find.

And I've thought—thought upon it—
For I long to know the way,
But I'm such an awful sinner
That sometimes I can not pray.

How I wish they'd come and tell me
—How their Jesus I might seek,
For they say he loves the children,
And will guide their tender feet

Into pastures green and pleasant,
And by waters calm and still,
Make them gems of brilliant beauty
Their Redeemer's crown to fill

But 'twas just the other Sunday,
When our pastor preached so good,
That I thought he saw me listening
And would stop and speak a word;

When he only said, "Good-morning,"
With the usual, "Are you well?"
Though I pressed the hand he gave me,
Hoping thus my grief to tell,

Then I stole away in secret
And I cried so very long
That mamma was greatly troubled,
For she feared I had done wrong.

And at night she tucked me snugly
In my little trundle-bed,
And so softly pressed the tear stains
With a loving kiss, but said

Not a word about her Jesus—
I was hungering so to know!
Oh, my poor, poor heart was breaking,
For I long to find him so.

I have tried so hard to find Him,
But I do not know the way,
And nobody seems to notice
There's a little lamb astray.

Does Jesus care, I wonder,
If I never find his fold?
I am almost sure I love him,
Though I'm not so very old.

I should think the grown up people
Would so love to speak His name,
When He did so much to bring them
To the home from which He came.

And when I'm a Christian mamma,
I will tell my little girl
Just how to come to Jesus—
How to find the priceless pearl.

Then I'll tell the dear, good pastors,
Who know the way so well,
To stop the little children
And the sweet old story tell.

True and Obedient.

"Charlie, Charlie!" clear and sweet as a note struck from a silver bell, the voice rippled over the common.

"That's mother," cried one of the boys, and he instantly threw down his bat and picked up his jacket and cap.

"Don't go yet! Have it out!"

"Finish this game. Try it again!" cried the players, in noisy chorus.

"I must go—right off—this minute. I told her I'd come whenever she called."

"Make believe you did not hear," they all exclaimed.

"But I did hear."

"She won't know you did."

"But I know it, and—"

"Let him go," said a bystander, "you can't do anything with him; he's tied to his mother's apron strings."

"That's so," said Charlie, "and it's to what every boy ought to be tied, and in a hard knot, too."

"But I wouldn't be such a baby as to run the minute she called," said one.

"I don't call it babyish to keep one's word to his mother," answered the obedient boy, a beautiful light glowing in his blue eyes; "I call that manly; and the boy who don't keep his word to her will never keep it to anyone else—you see if he does," and he hurried away to his cottage home.

Thirty years have passed since those boys were on the common. Charlie Gray is now a prosperous business man in a great city, and his mercantile friends say of him that "his word is a bond." We asked him how he acquired such a reputation. "I never broke my word when a boy, no matter how great the temptation, and the habits formed then have clung to me through life."

The Little Sweep.

Several years ago an effort was made to collect all chimney-sweeps in the city of Dublin, for the purpose of education. Among others, came a little fellow, who was asked if he knew his letters.

Oh, yes, sir, was the reply.

Do you spell?

Oh, yes, sir, was again the answer.

Do you read?

Oh, yes, sir.

And what book did you learn from?

Oh, I never had a book in my life, sir.

And who was your schoolmaster?

Oh, I never was at school.

Here was a singular case—a boy could read and spell without a book or master. But what was the fact? Why another little sweep, a little older than himself, taught him to read by showing him the letters over the shop-doors which they passed as they went through the city. His teacher, then, was another little sweep like himself, and his book the sign boards on the houses. What may not be done by trying!

A Good Stimulant.

I was standing in the "City of Brotherly Love," near Broad and Prince streets, as a regiment was passing. A man came out with a pitcher of ale and glasses, and, passing it round, came to a soldier: "Maybe you'll have something stronger, since you are a big fellow! How tall are you? A big glass of beer, eh?"

"No, sir, none."

"What's the matter?"

"Nothing."

"Well, you need it; it's a stimulant."

At this the soldier put his hand in his pocket, and, pulling out a Bible, said, "That is my stimulant, sir."

A Good Hit.

To the soulless, staring apes, who sport the habiliments and assume the appearance of men, only to stand on the street corners and watch the ladies passing by, frequently indulging in ribald comments in tones sufficiently loud to reach the ears of the objects of their blackguard remarks, we commend a perusal of the following *moreeaux*:—

WHO WAS IT?

He was standing on the corner,
In the place where loafers meet,
And he watched the dressy damsels
As they waded o'er the street.
From his mouth came insendoes,
And his eyes were opened wide,
As on tip-toe they came dancing
O'er the muddy, sloppy tide,
When a lady and her daughter,
Stepping carefully along,
Closely veiled from street inspection,
Heard his slimy, venomed tongue.
Then the little veils were lifted,
And with shame his head he hung,
For his mother and his sister
Thus had struck the speaker dumb.

A Shrewd Farmer.

A city gentleman who had just purchased a farm in the country, wished to buy some cattle with which to stock it. He therefore attended an auction where cows were to be sold. One of them, a remarkably fine animal, soon attracted his attention, and he bought her at a fair price. He was examining his purchase, when a farmer, who unfortunately had arrived too late to buy the cow himself as he had intended, drove up, and thus accosted him:

"I say, friend, did you bid off that cow?"

"I did," was the reply.

"Well, did you know that she had no front teeth in the upper jaw?"

"No," replied the gentleman, indignantly.

"Is that so?"

"You can see for yourself."

The gentleman examined the mouth of the cow, and finding no upper teeth, immediately went to the auctioneer and requested him to sell the cow again.

"What's the trouble?" asked the auctioneer.

"She hasn't any upper front teeth," was the reply.

"Very well," replied the auctioneer with a smile, "I'll put her up once more."

He did so, and the shrewd farmer who had given the information to the city gentleman, bid her off at the same price.

Things to be Remembered.

That a little vinegar put into sausage meat improves the flavor.

That salt fish are quickest and best freshened by soaking in sour milk.

That in icing cakes, the knife should be frequently dipped in cold water.

That clear boiling water will remove ink and other stains from white cloth.

That fish may be scaled much easier by dipping in boiling water about a minute.

That a small piece of charcoal in the pot with a boiling cabbage removes the smell.

That cool rain water and soda will remove machine grease from washable fabrics.

That parsley eaten with vinegar will remove the unpleasant effects of eating onions.

That oil cloth should be cleaned with milk and water; a brush and soap will ruin them.

That if your coal fire is low, a tablespoonful of salt thrown on it will help it very much.

That a tablespoonful of turpentine boiled with your white clothes will aid the whitening process.

That a tablespoonful of stewed tomatoes in the gravy of either roasted or fried meat is an improvement.

That fresh meat, after beginning to sour, will sweeten if placed out of doors in the cool air over night.

A pair of lovers were married on an express train lately. The minister remarked that he was never before engaged in the manufacture of car couplings.

A Philadelphia girl smeared glue on her lips and then invited her laggard of a lover to kiss her. She had previously arranged that her father should come into the room about that time. She is now engaged.

A lecturer once prefaced his discourse on the rhinoceros, with:

"I must beg you to give me your undivided attention. Indeed it is absolutely impossible for you to form a true idea of the hideous animal of which we are about to speak unless you look at me."

STILL GREATER REDUCTIONS IN PRICES AT THE "RIGHT HOUSE."

Watkins has been busy this week marking down goods to still lower prices. Just see the Black Cashmeres, good and wide, all wool fast French dyed blacks at 35 45, 50 60, 70, 80c. and $1. His black Cashmere trade has more than trebled. His Blankets have enormous sale. Remember these Blankets were bought late in the season after the great fall in prices of Blankets, and he has marked them down far below their former prices. His sale of Bed Quilts is fabulously large. During January he sold over 100 Quilts, and as for Blankets, they have gone case after case. The Silks and Velveteens are going off in splendid style. An immense reduction made on Silks in both black and colors for dress lengths. The flannels are at such low prices as convince customers that they cannot be beaten in Hamilton, and they are going off lively. Dress Goods are still selling at a great reduction in prices. Just see the 7, 12½, and 15c Colored Lustres. The all-wool French Serges are being sold off fast. The sale of corsets has more than trebled lately. Good Corsets for 25c, excellent Corsets in all sizes, up to 25, at only 37½c. Crompton's and Dr. Warner's Corsets in all makes and styles. Be sure to see Crompton's Countess Corsets at only 50c. The Watkins Corset is a marvel of cheapness, and the sale of them at 75c is astonishing. Horrockses far famed White Cotton at only 9c. The Rising Sun White Cotton is beautiful, fine, well made goods, full yard wide at only 10c. Both fine and heavy makes of White Cottons at all prices, from 5c up. Coats' best cord Thread at only 5c. Remember Coats is considered to be the best maker of thread in the world. The Prints have been marked down from 11½ to 10c, from 17 and 18 to 15, from 16 to 12½c. A splendid lot of Mourning Prints very cheap. Excellent Brown Duck at 15c, very heavy at 20c. Blue and Brown Denims, superior value. The Wincoys have been reduced very low. Be sure to see the 5c Wincey marked down to 4c, the 10c to 6c the 15c to 12½c, the 18c to 15c. The Ladies' and Gents' Underclothing have an enormous sale. Remember the stores are on King st., close to Hughson st., and the name on the sign is

THOMAS C. WATKINS, HAMILTON.

Hamilton, Feb. 17th, 1881.

SUBSTITUTES!

☞ The public are cautioned against a custom which is growing quite common of late among a certain class of medicine dealers, and which is this: When asked for a bottle of **Pain-Killer**, they suddenly discover that they are "sold out," "but have another article just as good," (not better,) which they will supply at the same price. The object of this deception is transparent. These substitutes are made up to sell on the great reputation of the **Pain-Killer**; and being compounded of the vilest and cheapest drugs, are bought by the dealer at about half what he pays for the genuine **Pain-Killer**, which enables him therefore to realize a few cents more profit per bottle upon the imitation article than he can on the genuine.

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