

Edited by Mrs Harriot T. Clarke. AMONG THE THOUSAND ISLANDS.

The misty air like amber seems,

Like melting gold the sky o'erhead. Athwart the ivory gate of dreams Surely our bark is piloted. For this is the enchanted realm,

The fairy-palace reared by sleep; Through emerald chambers glides our helm, And in our wake flame-opals leap. I need but lift my heavy eyes To South or North, to East or West, To see, as at my bidding, rise A wave-charmed island's tufted crest.

Here a tall headland draped with fern, Pine-crowned and honey-combed with cave There, just above the river's u.n. A low soft nest of grasses waves.

Now narrowing cliffs inclose our prow. Fantastic rocks streaked blue and rose; The channel eddies swift,—and now Broad as the sea the river flows.

Thrilled by the water's long embrace, The slender silver reeds are stirred, And sway with slow, voluptuous grace. Like dancers to a waltz unheard.

There where the crystal floor scarce shines, So thick the velvet leaves unfold, Superb the lily-queen reclines, A miracle of snow and gold.

Here is Miranda's island-look ! 'Twixt tree and cloud still Ariel flies, Behind the hill, beyond the brook, The whelp of Sycorax yet lies.

But duke and princes, clown and seer, - Have voyaged forth to other seas, And fathom deep, since many a year, Are buried book and wand and keys.

No ribboned grass is floating there, Along our smooth, pearl-paven path, But hidden faces' pale green hair Of nymphs and nereids at the bath.

On ! we shall find in sober sooth, From some clear well-head bubbling up, The fountain of eternal youth To brim the thirsty pilgrim's cup.

Enchanted world ! enchanted hour ! Hail and farewell, enchanted stream, That hast the unimagined power

To make the real surpass the dream ! —Emma Lazarus, in December Century

CHRISTMAS GIFTS. For Big Folks and Little Folks.

For sig Folks and Little Folks. Especially the little folks, for the big folks can look out for themselves. If you have not already held a private consultation with Santa Claus, we advise you to set about it without delay, for Christmas is coming. If you have any doubts about the matter just take a peep into the shops where the counters are piled high with suntable articles for holiday gifts, and you will be convinced that Santa Claus is making active preparations for the merry Christmas time. We hadn't thought much about the approach of Christmas until the about the approach of Christmas until the

found out that it is almost time for the annual visit of Santa Claus, and if you still remember the disappointment of your chillhood, you will see that he does not forget them.

will see that he does not forget them. We are well aware that in many farmers, families one dollar is often obliged to do the work of three, and for that reason the bulk of holiday gifts must consist of useful articles; but stretch that dollar a little more and smug-gle in some bit of beauty and brightness for the children, a book or toy, something to gild the edge of the useful articles. We well re-the diago of the useful articles. We well re-the fruit. Fickled in this way tomatoes will keep for any length of time desired. the edge of the useful articles. We well re-

especially for little girls, we notice toy wash sets, consisting of tub, pail, washboard, wringer and clothes-horse; kitchen sets containing from ten to forty pieces of tin ware; toy stoves completely furnished with cooking utensils; toy furniture sets, and toy tea sets of china painted in colors. All of these articles Once a Mouse, a Frog and a little Red Hen were reasonable enough in price to come within the reach of ordinary pocket-books.

For the girls who are out-growing dolls and doll playthings there are paint boxes, each box containing colors, cups for mixing, and brushes; beautiful little writing desks; glove boxes, handkerchief boxes, and neat little work boxes completely furnished. Any one of these articles would be useful as well as ornamental. But bless me! I must not forget the little boys. There is such a bewildering array of articles suitable for boys that I really don't know where to begin. There are the balls, tops, kites, trumpets, drums, toy reins, toy guns, whistling locomotives, toy military equipments, toy tool chests, boats, all kinds of animal toys, box toys, building blocks, hot air toys and magnetic toys, all of which are suitable presents for the little chaps. For the older boys there are printing presses, magic lanterns, fret saws, and the youth's tool chests. Especially do we recommend these articles for the older boys; provide such things and very likely you will have no trouble in keeping 'that boy at home" evenings.

Then there are the parlor games which are suitable for presents for either boys or girls; parlor croquet, parlor quoits, parlor sets of nine-pins, puzzles, checker and back-gammon boards, bagatelle boards, and many other games, any of which will help to make the long Winter evenings pass pleasantly for both

young and old. Well, well, this is so long that I cannot say a word about holiday gifts for the big folks FANNY FIELD. after all.

A Chapter on Pickles.

A very good recipe for a plain, sweet pickle is this: To every quart of good cider vinegar-and nothing except good vingar should ever be used-add two heaping teaspoonfuls of white or best brown sugar, with two level tablespoonfuls of ground cinnamon and one of cloves. The the spices up loosely in a thin piece of muslin and put them along with the sugar into the vinegar and heat all together. Add some of the fruit and cook till tender, then remove to a fruit jar; add more of the fruit and so continue till all has been cooked

putting into the vinegar. For the latter a vinegar that is more sour is preferable. About

other day, when a bright-eyed little damsel said : • vinegar that is more sour is preferable. About one coffeecupful of sugar to every quart of vinegar will be found to make a very delicate and toothsome sauce. Green tomate z make think of that he might forget us." You may be sure that the little ones have found out that it is almost time for the annual

vinegar is abundant and cheap, this dimentity is easily obviated. Gather large, well grown tomatoes that have turned white, but none that are beginning to soften or turn red; slice through the middle and put into a weak brine. Let them lie in this over night; then

Foy The Children.

Together kept a house; The frog was the 'aziest of frogs, And lazier still was the Mouse.

The work fell on the little Red Hen, Who had to get the wood And build the fires and scrub and cook, And sometimes hunt the food.

One day as she went scratching around She found a bag of rye; Said she, "Now who will make some bread?"

Said the lazy Mouse, "Not I !" 'Nor I!" croaked the Prog as he dozed in the

shade. Red Hen made no reply, But flew around with bowl and spoon,

And mixed and stirred the rye. 'Who'll make a fire to bake the bread ?"

Said the Mouse again, "Not I ! carce opening his sleepy eyes Frog made the same reply.

The little Red Hen said never a word. But a roaring fire she made; And, while the bread was baking brown, "Who'll set the table ?" she said.

'I will !" cried the Frog. "And I !" squeaked

the Mouse, As they near the table drew. 'Not much you won't!' said the little Red

Hen, And away with the loaf she flew.

OUR LETTER BOX.

We must apologize to Leonard this week cleaning up correspondence for the year.

something left undone that should be attended

finish up these matters. As to learning trades, every child has a talent for some one particular thing, and if when occupation would suit, then the parents ought will watch and observe in what direction the

mind of the child turns. Many a good farmer or mechanic has been lost to the world because the fond parents thought he must have a profession, and so many professional and artistic minds have been buried in obscurity, because there has been no opportunity for development. Isaac Watt was one of nine children, and was thought by his teachers to be rather difident, and his parents felt him to be the dunce of the family, and yet of those nine chil-dren Isaac was the only one whose name has been preserved in history as the writer of the most beautiful hymns; so the judgments of parents are at fault sometimes. Some boys like to handle machinery, and soon show that taste. In these days of invention and machinery the working of metals is always a good business, and commands good wages. Just they sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty look at the map of the United States and notice how it is cut up with railroads, and think of the immense number of men that must be employed in the management, and it would

eem as if there would be a never ending call for engineers, and at good wages, too. Now and then there is a boy who loves to study animals and their ways; such should become naturalists and should have a chance to de

WILLAMETTE FARMER: PORTLAND, ONGON, DECEMBER 16, 1881 a few line When I got the last FARMER I letter, I will try and write another one. I live was ver hot to find any letters in the in the mountains, and never went to school Home? om the little boys and girls, but three months, and that was since I wrote Now ti lots of boys and girls that read my first letter. My teacher's name was Mr. the FAL and if they would all write there Wm. Guerin; he was a very good teacher; would be nty of letters for the Home Circle there were eleven scholars. As all the other every we Last week old Jack Frost made little girls tell about their pets, I will tell an appearance, and bit down all our flowers in about mine. I have a pet cow, and she is the flower garden, and it is freezing now. In white, and her name is Snowflake, and I also the last FARMER Aunt Hetty speaks about have three pet sheep. I am now 11 years old. trades for boys. I would like to have her ad- We are milking four cows. Now, with much vice and the advice of some of the boys in re- success to the FARMER, I remain your little gard to what trade is the best to learn. I friend would like to have the young folks tell about HUBBARD CREEK MILLS, Nov. 24, 1881. the different kinds of wild flowers that may Editor Home Circle: grow around in the fields where they live. All I see so many letters from the little girls the little boys and girls must be sure and and boys printed in the FARMER that I thought

> other letter. So good bye for this time. LEONARD ROBBINS. LA GRANDE, Or., Oct. 30, 1881.

> Editor Home Circle: As I have never written to the FARMER, I thought I would write a few lines. I like to read the little folks' letters. Our school will commence Monday week. I have two sisters and three brothers. I am 11 years old. I like

write again, and answer the questions in my

to write to the FARMER. I live about two miles from La Grande, and about a quarter of a mile from the school-house. Pa has been taking the FARMER for some time, and that is the paper I read. I will have to quit for this time; I will write more the next time. Long

life to the FARMER. Yours truly, MOLLIE MCALISTER.

JEFFERSON, Or., Nov. 16, 1881.

so you see he is good for something. Now as regards playing, I would like to see any one Editor Home Circle: It has been such a long time since I wrote have much time when they lived at the poor to the WILLAMETTE FARMER, that I thought house, but once in a while I give my dolls. I would try again. I am going to school at chickens and calves a general stirring up, and present; we have quite an interesting school;

have what we little girls call a good time. for his letter not appearing sooner, but it got there are about thirty-six scholars; school is slipped out of sight for a while, and kept out being taught by Mr. Staten. I am studying of the way till we happened to find it while the Fourth Reader, Normal Written Arithmetic, Third Geography, spelling and writing. The new year is soon coming, and it is well I think the little boys and girls keep up a Editor Home Circle: to begin-all of us-to think if there is not splendid Letter Box; so many nice letters. 1 haven't any pets except a pretty little pony; basket I will try and write a better letter this time. We have had some very cold weather to belonging to the old year, so that the new he is black; I take lots of nice rides. We have for so early in the season; there has been a year can be commenced with a clear record; had preaching at our school house every night and especially is this a good idea in the way of in the week (for two weeks), and singing big snow here. We have a nice hill just in letters, which have not been important and so school every Sunday. Singing school is taught front of our house, and the boys broke a nice left lying unanswered. Now is the time to by Mr. Doerty. Well, Miss Katie, what is road down the hill, and we had a splendid the reason you don't write again; it has been time sliding down hill; ma said it put her in such a long time since you last wrote. Pa has mind of times in Illinois, when she was a little girl. As Aunt Hetty was so kind as to a lot of Chinamen at work grubbing for him. that child grows up and cannot judge what I have started to make me a scrap book; I promise me some pieces for my Friendship quilt, I will send her a pattern. I would be think it is so nice to have a book you can put to be able to judge, for a mother generally all your scraps in. Girls, how many of you so pleased to have some pieces like Aunt Hethave started to read the Bible through ? I ty's dresses for my quilt, and I would like to have, and have got a good way in it. There have her come and see us when the railroad isn't any Sunday School this Winter. I do is done, so the cars can run to Jacksonville, wish there was, I love to go to Sunday School then it is not far to our house, and everybody so well. I will tell you what I do to help my would like to take a trip in the mounmamma. I wash dishes, make beds, wash and tains. Josephine county is a nice place to do all the sewing; my mamma has not made come to, there are such big mountains here, a dress for me for eight or nine years. I was and such mee cold springs. Can any of the 13 years old the 8th of last October. That little writers to the Home Circle tell me just dreaded disease, small-pox, is around again up how to take care of canary birds; I have two, in Eastern Oregon. Many people are dying and I am sometimes afraid that I do not take with it. In the FARMER dated November π_{i_1} and mough care of them; their names are there was a little girl named Daisy Geisen-dorfer wanted a few questions answered: Who his father's favorite? Joseph was his friend. KATIE T. favorite, and he wore a coat of many colors, and his brothers cast him into a pit; the pit was empty; there was no water in it; and

> pieces of silver. You will find it in Genesis, pieces of silver. You will find it in Genesia, Chapter 37, verse 23. Well, I guess I will close for this time, for fear this letter will be so long and tiresome that you will not print it. I will send Aunt Hetty one of my cards. Hoping to see this in print, I remain your friend, EFFIE L. MILLER. CRESSWELL, Or., Nov. 20, 1881.

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CLARINDA LEE WILSON.

I would write one. You will know that I

the 24th of November. Well, I suppose I

must write and tell you what I do and what

play with; well, my time is pretty well oc-

cupied in helping my sisters in doing house-

work. Pa keeps the poor house, and we have

plenty of work to do. I go to school about

six months in the year and the balance of the

time I have to work. I go to writing school

now-one of the paupers is a writing teacher,

From your little friend.

As my other letter did not find the waste

MARY JANE CLARKE.

FOREST HOUSE, Nov. 25, 1381.

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I would write one. You will know that I am not a very large girl when I tell you that I am eleven years old to day, and weigh fifty-four pounds. I was born on Thanksgiving day, and would like for some little girls and boys to write to me and tell me when my next birthday will come on Thanksgiving day; thursday in November as a day of thanksgiv-ing; now when will that day come again on

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THE LITTLE RED HEN.

We always cherished a secret hope that some time Santa Claus would put a real wax doll in them our stocking; but he never did, and we have always held a grudge against the old fellow till the other day when we stood before the doll counter in a great city store; then we almost forgave him. Such a wonderful array of of dolls ! enough for every little girl in the land. Big dolls, little dolls, dolls of all sizes; wax dolls, indestructible dolls, china dolls, rubber dolls, rag dolls, and paper dolls; dolls with real hair, and dolls without hair; dolls that would cry. and dolls with thrning heads and moving eyes, dolls dressed in the height of Parisian fashion, and dolls without a rag to their backs: dolls that cost all thous a rag to their backs; dolls that cost all the way from ten cents up to ten dollars; so you see that there is no reason why every little girl in our land, rich or poor, should not have a dolly to

You can hardly go amiss in selecting a doll; from the dainty French doll down to the home-made rag doil, they are dear to the heart of childhood-every one. But still if you will listen to the "voice of reason" you will not invest in china dolls; the heads, legs and arms have a way of breaking that is quite exasper ating to the average child-mother of dolls. The patent indestructible dolls with wooder legs and arms are very durable; they will stand almost any kind of treatment and come out all right. For the little ones whose chief aim in life seems to be to get something in their mouths, we would recommend the rubber dolls, which come in all sizes, and at prices ranging from twenty-five cents up to one dollar and a half.

If your daughter already is the mother of a numerous family of dolls, and is old enough to learn to sew, get a full set of doll patterns, which cost but five cents, and with a little help, she will learn to cut and make every garment properly. A little girl will learn to sew much faster when fashioning dainty garments for her dollies, than when laboring up the apparently endless seams of sheets and pillow cases.

Among the other numerous articles designed interests.

the edge of the useful articles. We would not member that in the days of our childhood Santa Claus' contributions to our particular stocking generally consisted of strictly useful articles, things that we had to have anyhow. cumbers from the vines; wash them carefully, and put into a jar; pour boiling water over them for three or four days in succession; then put into the jar in which they are to be kept, and pour boiling vinegar over them. Let them stand for a week, then turn off the old vinegar and add new, boiling hot. Cover with horseradish leaves, and if the vinegar be good they will keep for a year. Or they may be laid down in salt; then when wanted for the table freehened with boiling water turned over table freshened with boiling water turned over them several successive days; then put into cold vinegar with a very little sugar, and in a couple of days they will be ready for the table.

Squeeze out this juice, put in fresh water and drain off. Chop one firm head of cabbage, then chop all together fine. Put into a kettle, cover with equal quantities of water and vine-gar, bring to boiling heat, and drain off. Add

and, rich or poor, should not have a dolly to dress and kiss, coo and cry over. Dolls are always suitable presents for little girls; no matter how many dolls a little girl may have she always wants "just one more."

The Seventh Comet of the Year.

Director Swift, of the Warner Astronomi cal Observatory, Rochester, N. Y., at 11 o'clock F. M. of the 16th inst., discovered a it might send a ray of comfort into some poor faint, round, tailless comet in the constellation Cassiopoia, which has a right ascension of 1 hour 50 minutes, and a declination north of 71 deg., with a motion slowly westward. This is the seventh comet which has been discovered since the lat of May last, four of which, meeting the conditions of the fund, have received the Warner prize of \$200, Prof Swift procuring the first and last award. In-Swift procuring the first and last award. In-asmuch as the comet of 1812 is expected in the quarter in which this one appeared, Prof. Swift is not sure at present that the stranger may not be the familiar comet which was dis-covered by Pons. In 1878 Director Swift, at Denver, claimed to have discovered an intra Mercurial planet. In May, 1882, he will visit Egypt, under the munificent provision of Mr. H. H. Warner, to observe the total eclipse, at which time he hopes to verify his intra Mer-curial planet discovery. Mr. H. H. Warner's generous patronage of science has given astro-nomical study a wonderful impulse during the past twelve months, and the country has to

nomical study a wonderful impliese during the past twelve months, and the country has to be congratulated on having so broad minded a man so "substantially" devoted to the op-building of her intellectual as well as physical

elop that talent. Leonard should know what he likes to do best, and whatever it is, he will ucceed in.

Nora is one of the little helpers doing all she can towards the housework, but finds time to answer the questions, too.

Mollie does her part towards making this column interesting, and she must write again if she likes the paper so well.

Ida writes a very good hand for a little girl, and shows that she has improved in her writing lessons, besides spelling correctly. She is a lucky little girl to have invested her money so well in the stock business; she will be able to look out for herself one of these days and be an independent woman, if she keeps in the right way.

Mary Jane must be a stirring sort of a girl, and if her tather keeps the poor, she will have many chances to show kindness to the unfortunate, while doing her duty at the same time in helping with the work necessary in such an establishment. To be sure, it is often the case that people come to be cared for by charity by their own habits, and often it seems as if it was from no fault of their own. It must be a very humiliating and awful life, and we who are fortunate must try and make these lives as comfortable as we can; a kind word or a kind act need not cost anything, and yet soul who feels as if there was nothing to live for.

Mary is another little blessing and helper to mother, and writes a very neat litlle letter Clarinda has a cow and three sheep, which are pets worth something, and will soon give her something to do to care for them if she has to pay for what they eat.

Effic writes a long letter, which all will enjoy, and she has commenced a scrap book, too, which pleases Aunt Hetty, for she knows it and two sisters are away from home going to will be such a pleasure to Effic as long as she school, but I am not going; I am studying lives, to look it over and read it. Be sure and put some pictures in it to enliven it. Katie T. has also commenced a scrap book,

and has a quilt on hand, for which we will be I will tell of mine; it is a calf. I will tell you glad to send some pieces, and when the rail- what I do to help father and mother; I help

DORA, Or., Oct. 23, 1881.

Editor Home Circle:

Not seeing any letters from the young folks Ed for Home Circle: n the last FARMER, I thought I would write I you were so kind as to publish my last d9-2m in the last FARMER, I thought I would write

Editor Home Circle I am a little girl twelve years old. I love to read the letters from the little folks, and

thought I would write one. We live on a farm four miles west of Cresswell. I have sin brothers and two sisters, my oldest sister is going to school at Eugene. As all the rest o the little folks tell what they do to help their mother, I will tell what I do to help mine; wash and iron and help to do all the rest of the house-work. Will answer Daisy's ques-

tion: Joseph was his name, and you will find it in the 37th chapter of Genesis. NORA J. DAY. Yours respectfully,

HUBBARD CREEK, Or., Nov. 21, 1881. Editor Home Circle:

As all the little folks are writing letters to the Home Circle I thought I would write one. I am a girl thirteen years old: my father has a saw mill on this creek; there are two dams and a tunnel through the hill, and we have lots of fun going through there when there is not much water in it. One of the dams was washed around last Winter and caused a great deal of work. I am not going to school this Winter; I am taking writing lessons at home; I like to write very much indeed. As all of the little folks tell about their pets I will tell about my pets. I have three geese and some chickens, and two cows and two calves. will tell you how I got my cows: one of my mother's uncles gave me \$10, and my father wanted it, and he gave me a calf, and now I have two cows and two calves.

IDA CLARKE. From your friend,

MOLALLA, Or., Nov. 23, 1881. Editor Home Circle:

I am a little girl eleven years old and like to read the little folk's letters. I have three brothers and four sisters; one of my brothers some at home; I study the Fifth Reader, spelling, arithmetic, geography and writing.

MARY L. ROBBINS. ours truly, BRUSHY PRAIRIE, Or. Nov. 24, 1881.

solid court, the plantal in the complaint, to wit, the dissolution of the marriage bonds now existing between you and the plantaff. This summons is published by orteo of Hon. Raleigh Stott, Judge of the above entitles court, made at chambers on the 15th day of November A. D. 1881. S. R. HARKINGTON, Attorney for the plaintiff. THE NEW SILENT, NO. 8. SIBSON, CHURCH & CO., No Shuttle to Thread! Makes the Lock Stitch? Embroiders, Daras, Mends, Letters, and makes Insertion. Shipping and Commission

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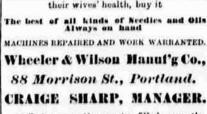
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The other little folks are telling of their pets,

