



THE TWO FORTRESSES

I know a little fortress where
Numbers of people hide.
I wonder, my young friends, if you
Have ever been inside!

Some think it is a fortress sure,
(Although in truth 'tis not,) 'Tis called, "I quite forgot."

You "quite forgot" that mother called,
To-day when you were reading,
You let her wait upon herself,
While you went on unheeding.

You quite forgot to leave your room
As tidy as you ought;
And then, O how ashamed you felt
When visitors were brought.

This morning you "forgot" to pray,
And everything went wrong;
Cross words, unkindness, bitter
thoughts
Have teased you all day long.

And now to shield your character
This fortress is no use,
For those around you plainly see
"Forgot" 's a lame excuse.

For if you always "quite forgot,"
Folks feel they cannot trust you,
You'll lose respect, and forfeit love,
And little good will do.

But there's another little fort
That I shall like to mention,
Conscience and duty are its guards;
'Tis called, "I'll pay attention."

Will you not come and man this fort?
Instead of cure, prevention,
'Twill give you, if you say and mean,
Henceforth "I'll pay attention."

JOHN MILTON.

Perhaps our young readers would like to know something of the celebrated author of *Paradise Lost*—John Milton. With the single exception of Wm. Shakespeare, he is generally considered the greatest poet that ever lived. He was also a very learned man, as he had the best educational advantages, and was always exceedingly studious. When young he studied every night until 12 o'clock, and at seventeen knew Latin, Greek and Hebrew, and could compose beautiful poetry in Latin. His personal beauty was so great that he was called "the lady of Christ's College." His hair was of a light brown color, parted in the middle, and fell in curls upon his shoulders. Though so effeminate looking, he excelled in manly exercises. At twenty-four years of age he left the University and spent five years in "a ceaseless round of studies." His mother then dying, (when he was 29,) he spent the next fifteen months in travel on the continent, and was received with great distinction in Paris, Rome, and other cities. He made the acquaintance of the two learned men, Grotius and Galileo. About that time the English people put Charles I. to death and threw off the monarchy, and these momentous events called Milton back to England. He returned in 1639, and became a famous polemical prose writer, earning for himself a very great reputation, and acquiring honors and high position. One of his articles was to prove that a nation had the right to put their king to death. He was married three times. His first wife, to whom he was married in 1643, left him after one month of married life, and returned to her relatives. They, however, became reconciled in 1645, and dwelt together afterwards. In 1654, when 46 years old, he became completely blind, through excessive use of his eyesight in writing and studying; yet his eyes remained perfectly clear, without a

mark, speck or disfigurement. His wife died in 1653, leaving three little girls. He was soon married again to a lady with whom he was happy for fifteen months; but she died, and his friends made up a third match for him. Amid constant quarrels between his daughters and their step-mother, he wrote his famous poems, *Paradise Lost* and *Paradise Regained*, the former of which was sold to Samuel Simmons, a bookseller, for \$20.00. For twenty years of his life he was the foremost champion of English liberty, and a writer whose learning and splendid rhetoric were unequalled. To the very end of life he was a hard student. On the 8th of November, 1674, he died of consumption, calmly and without pain, at the age of sixty-six, having been born December 9th, 1608. He was quietly buried in Saint Giles Church, Cripplegate, London, by the side of his father. The entry of the poet's burial is, "John Milton, gentleman. Buried November 12, 1684. Consumption Chancel."

In the same church rests the body of John Fox, author of the "Book of Martyrs." The church, a picture of which we give, was named after Giles, who is said to have been a nobleman of Athens, in the Seventh Century, who was noted for his piety and benevolence. Near by the church was, also, the ancient "Cripples' Hospital," which has given its name to the locality, Cripplegate.—*Kind Words.*

HOW THE APOSTLES DIED.

1. Peter was crucified in Rome, and at his own request, with head downward.
2. Andrew was crucified by being bound to a cross by cords, on which he hung two days, exhorting the people till he expired.
3. St. James the Great was beheaded by order of Herod, at Jerusalem.
4. James the Less was thrown from a high pinnacle, then stoned, and finally killed with a fuller's club.
5. St. Phillip was bound and hanged against a pillar.
6. St. Bartholomew was flayed to death by command of a barbarous king.
7. St. Matthew was killed with a halbert.
8. St. Thomas, while at prayer, was shot with a shower of arrows, and afterward run through the body with a lance.
9. St. Simon was crucified.
10. Thaddeus, or Judas, was cruelly put to death.
11. St. Matthias—The manner of his death is somewhat doubtful; one says stoned, then beheaded, another says he was crucified.
12. Judas Iscariot fell, and his bowels gushed out.
13. John died a natural death.
14. St. Paul was beheaded by order of Nero.

THE COLORS OF SUNLIGHT.

It was a beautiful piazza entwined with climbing roses, where Ida and Jane had been sitting with aunt May, looking upon the fine sunset scene which was there presented.

And now the sun had sunk beneath the western hills and left, oh such beautiful colors behind!—crimson and gold and purple. The clouds were radiant with their rich hues, and the river reflected them from its smooth surface.

"Why don't we see these beautiful colors in the middle of the

day?" asked Ida, "instead of only morning and evening?"

"You remember the prism which I showed you yesterday?" replied aunt May, "and how many colors it showed you in the sunlight?"

"Oh, yes," replied Ida; "and you said the prism separated the rays, so that we could see the different colors; but when all are blended together they look white."

"And these colors would be on my hand, or on my dress, or on the wall, wherever the ray happened to shine, said Jane.

"In the same way the air or atmosphere which is between us and the sun separates the rays of light, and causes the colors to appear. But in the middle of the day the sun is higher in the heavens, and the air through which it shines is not dense enough to bend or refract the rays. At morn and in the evening the air is more dense and separates the rays, so that we see their different colors."

"And see! they have tinted the forest on the hill side, and the trees in the meadow," said Ida.

While they were gazing Jane asked, what makes the rainbow, auntie?"

"The rays of sunlight pass through the falling rain drops, which act as a prism to separate the colored rays and show each one distinctly."

"Oh, that is why mother says run look for a rainbow, for the sun is shining and rain falling at the same time," said Janey. "But sometimes I see a rainbow when the rain is not falling."

"That is when it is falling at some distance from you. There cannot be a rainbow without sunshine and rain at the same time. Do you know how many colors there are in a sunbeam, as seen in the rainbow or through a prism?"

Jane tried to count—yellow, blue, red, green—but could not name all;—neither could Ida.

Then Auntie said, "The colors in the order in which they are seen, when separated by prism or in the rainbow, are violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, red, orange; seven distinct colors. Yet there are in reality but three primitive—or original—colors, all the rest being composed of a mingling of two others. Blue, yellow and red, are the originals. Violet or purple is formed of red and blue; indigo is only a dark blue; green is formed of blue and yellow; orange of yellow and red."

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR A BOY.

My residence is in

..... County, and my occupation is

My family consists of

..... I wish to employ a boy

..... years of age, and (Here give description and qualities desired.)

He will be required to

and allowed to

I will furnish

and pay him

..... a month.

..... A. B.

Recommended by

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR THE ADMISSION OF HALF ORPHANS.

..... N. C., }
....., 1877. }

This is to certify that

..... is a half orphan, sound in body and mind, and without any estate. H.... father died in 18.... I being h.... mother, hereby make application for h.... admission to the Orphan Asylum at Oxford, and I also relinquish and convey to the officers thereof the entire management and control of said orphan till the day of

..... (that being the day on which will be fourteen years of age,) in order that may be trained and educated according to the regulations prescribed by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. I also promise not to annoy the Orphan Asylum, and not to encourage the said orphan to leave without the approval of the Superintendent.

..... Approved by

W. M. of

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR THE ADMISSION OF ORPHANS.

..... N. C., }
....., 1877. }

This is to certify that

..... is an orphan, sound in body and mind, and without estate. H.... father died 18...., h.... mother died in 18.... I, being h...., hereby make application for h.... admission into the Orphan Asylum at Oxford, and I also relinquish and convey to the officers thereof, the entire management and control of said orphan till the day of

..... (that being the day on which will be fourteen years of age,) in order that may be trained and educated according to the regulations prescribed by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

..... Approved by

W. M. of

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR A GIRL.

Our residence is in

..... County, and our occupation is

..... Our family consists of

..... We wish to employ a girl

..... years of age, and (Here give description and qualities desired.) She will be required to

and allowed to

She will spend her evenings in

and will sleep in

We will furnish

and will pay

..... a month.

..... A. B.,
..... Mrs. A. B.

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