

# The Orphans' Friend.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, - - 1883.

## ONE OF THESE DAYS.

R. O. H., IN PHILA. TIMES.

Mabel stood up in the window seat;  
Dear little Mabel, dimpled and sweet,  
Down the rain pattered in the dark  
street,  
People were hurrying past thro' the  
sleet;  
Sunlight and music and flowers were all  
dead.  
Oh, for the country to which they have  
fled.  
Mabel looked up with unquestioning  
gaze,  
"Roses will bloom again, one of these  
days."

Dear little Mabel, the winter has gone,  
Birds caw'd blithely all the glad morn,  
Sunlight and music are flooding the air,  
Flowers bold and beautiful, spring ev-  
erywhere.

Sweet little prophetic, now thou art  
dead,  
Grateful they clamber above thy bright  
head,  
So thou has taught me the difficult  
phrase,  
"Roses will bloom again, one of these  
days."

Once for a season, in darkness and  
gloom,  
Slumbered the Son of the world in the  
tomb  
Till the bright morning an angel came  
down,  
Holding His scepter and bearing His  
crown.  
While we were sever'd, Love, only in  
dreams,  
We may cross mountains or swim the  
swift streams.  
Yet we repeat, with our hearts strong  
and brave,  
"Faith hath no sepulchre, Love hath no  
grave."

Long is the winter and cold my sweet  
heart,  
Oft to my eyelids the burning drops  
start,  
Yet in the copses the nightingales sing,  
Deep in the hollow the crocuses spring,  
Violets purple the untrodden ways,  
We shall be happy, Love, one of these  
days.

## GOD'S OBEDIENT SERVANTS.

BY JENNIE HARRISON.

Johnny was shut up, all by himself, in a very quiet room, away off from everybody, where he could not hear little Elsie at her play, nor hear the cook singing cheerfully in the kitchen, nor hear the big hall clock tick, nor—oh dear! worst of all, to Johnny!—he could not even smell way up there!—couldn't tell what cook was getting ready for dinner, nor what there might be in that nice-looking crate, which papa had left in the hall, to be opened before he came home.

"Oranges, may-be!" said Johnny to himself; "or else lemons." 'cause mamma says lemonade is good for 'milarya'—and that's what the doctor said Susan had. Oh, dear! what made me so bad? His mouth watered, thinking of lemonade and oranges!

Sure enough! what was the trouble? It really did seem as if somebody or something had "made" Johnny go in wrong ways that day!

It began, on the way home from school, when Allen Wier 'dared' him to reach over the hedge and pull one of Judge Warren's beautiful roses.

There were not many, and the old Judge was proud of them, and liked to walk out and show them to a friend, now and then. But 'you daren't!' said naughty little Allan, and then Johnny did dare. What a mean thing it was—to dare to steal!

And suddenly he heard the Judge's sorry voice, from behind the bush, 'Your mother would feel badly to see you take my pretty rose Johnny!'

So gentle, and so sad!  
'Why, if he had hit me with his cane, or called me a thief, I could have stood it better, ever

so much!' said Johnny to himself, feeling very much ashamed as he laid the flower down on the lawn, and went on, with cheeks redder than any rose.

He could not rid himself of teasing Allan till he reached his own gate. And there was laughing little Elsie, wanting to be played with.

At most times Johnny was ready for that; for he loved the baby sister. But that day he felt cross, and said, 'Oh, I'm tired, Elsie! run and play by yourself!' 'Poor brother! all tied all sick!' baby called out, patting him with her gentle fat hand, as he threw himself on the grass; and then, running to mamma, she repeated the news: 'Poor brother tied—sick—no play with baby!'

Then the loving mother—thinking that Johnny might be getting that dreadful disease for which he thought lemonade was good—went out to see her boy. But it was a very cross boy that the kind hearted mother found.

'Nothin's the matter with me. I'm only tired, and baby always wants a fellow to be racing 'round after her! I guess if she had to go to school, and—halloo, Sam!' he changed his tone suddenly, as another boy walked slowly past the garden, and looked in.

It was not treating his mother very respectful, was it boys?

'Ripe berries in the field across the road,' called Sam.

'Are they?' said Johnny, forgetting how very tired he was, and jumping up briskly.

'You must not go, my boy,' said mother, in a low voice.

Then she called pleasantly to Sam: 'I cannot let Johnny go. You must go without him.' Sam went off, and mother said: 'You know, Johnny. I do not like you to be with Sam. He is too old for you, and is not a good boy, either!'

Then Johnny felt more cross than ever, and his little heart grew all muddled, just as a clear little pond of water becomes when a stone is thrown into it. You have all seen that. I dare say, you have often thrown a stone into water, just 'on purpose' to see it ripple up and become all muddy. Well, then, just think of a heart like that inside of you! Naughty words came out, rude words—to the good, careful mother.

Then she said: 'I am very sorry, my boy, but you must go away by yourself, until all the bad spirit is out of you. Come, dear.'

She took his hand and went with him, all the way up those long stairs, and back to the big trunk-room with great windows, where you could see far over to the mountains and down to the low, green valley. Then she said a little prayer, and left Johnny to himself and his naughty spirit.

After trying, by the key-hole, to smell something good, he walked across the bare floor to the big window, where the sun was peeping in as if to say: 'Hurry up, Johnnie! I am going down pretty fast, and Mrs. Moon has gone to pay her visit to the other boys, you know!'

He leaned on his elbow and sniffed the sweet, warm air. How lovely everything was! so quiet, and yet so bright and beautiful! 'Oh, yes, I know you!' he said, looking at the sun, drawing closer and closer to the mountains-tops, and making all the valley below, golden and glittering. 'I know you! you never make a

mistake. I almost wish you would, for once, just to see how it would seem!'

Then he began thinking earnestly. 'There was all nature, spread out before his eyes—sun, clouds, trees, mountains, river, birds; and by-and-by there would be stars, and—well, no moon for him, because other boys were having their turn looking up at her—but there would be those gay little fire-flies, or 'lightning bugs,' as we call them, which amused him so, fitting in such numbers among the trees and bushes. Then, too, when the birds had done, the crickets and katydids would begin!'

How nice and orderly it all was! 'They never do make any mistakes,' said Johnny to himself; 'not one of them!'

'Then, after another long deep thought, 'I know they're all good and obedient servants to God, who made them, and tells them what to do! They never disobey! Oh, oh! but we do! naughty boys—and girls, too I s'pose! Well, I'm glad that God has some good children that mind! The sun is the oldest of them all, I guess.'

Johnny's thoughts led him on and on, until he had examined every beautiful thing within reach of his eyes; and calculated how obedient it was; and by that time the sun, which God made to 'rule the day,' had gone away to those 'other boys,' as Johnny would have said; and the darkness began to call forth the sparkling bugs, and the crickets.

Then the door opened, and mamma found her own good boy once more! The obedient servant of God had shamed away the naughty spirit! and Johnny ran quickly to his mother to kiss her and to say how sorry he was for his naughty behavior.

She sat down there by the window, and he told her all about how he had watched everything doing what God had sent it to do.

'But you see, mamma, I must tell you how it was I began to be naughty to-day.'

And he told her about Judge Warren's beautiful rose, and how 'mean he was to be 'dared' by Allen and what the Judge had said—that was 'worst of all,' because it made him think how God, the great Judge in heaven, must be sorry too at having such a naughty boy!

'But I asked him to forgive me—'I did mother! 'fore you came in! And to-morrow mornin' I'm going to Jndge Warren to take him that splendid lily out of my garden.'

Sayings, however excellent, which do not convey in them any self-portraiture are seldom vividly associated with their true authors. How many of our readers will remember who it was that said

"Nothing is certain but death and taxes;" or, "We must all hang together, else we shall all hang separately;" or even, "It is better to wear out the rust out, which last does represent the energy of a certain kind of temperament, but energy so common that it marks rather a class than an individual. Benjamin Franklin said the two first sayings, and Bishop Cumberland the last but we should be surprised to find any one in a company of literary men who could have pronounced on the spot to whom any one of the three was to be attributed.

They who are ignorantly devoted to the mere ceremonies of religion are fallen into thick darkness but they are in still thicker gloom who are solely attached to fruit less speculation.

# THE ORPHAN ASYLUM

IS LOCATED AT OXFORD.

The County-seat of Granville, forty-five miles North of Raleigh; twelve miles from Henderson on the R. & G. R. R.

The Orphan Asylum belongs to (and, of course, is conducted according to the regulations adopted by) the Grand Lodge of Masons.

Its benefits are extended to the most needy orphans, without, ever asking whether their fathers were masons or not. Children are received between the ages of eight and twelve, and discharged between the ages of fourteen and sixteen.

The average cash expenses for each orphan is five dollars a month, but the sum required varies according to the seasons, and does not include what is spent for repairs, furniture and improvement of the premises. The Grand Lodge gives the building and grounds, and \$2000 a year. The State gives \$6000 a year. For the remainder of its support, and for enlargement, the Orphan Asylum is dependent on voluntary contributions from subordinate Lodges, churches of all denominations, benevolent societies, and charitable individuals; and their co-operation is earnestly solicited.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASONRY:

The design of the Orphan Asylum shall be to protect, train and educate indigent and promising orphan children, to be received between the ages of 8 and 12 years, who have no parents, nor property, nor near relations able to assist them. They shall not be received for a shorter time than two years. In extraordinary cases the Superintendent may receive children outside the ages specified.

The larger girls shall assist in the ordinary house work, and in making and mending the bed clothes, their own clothes and the clothes of the boys. The larger boys shall assist in the preparation of fuel, the care of the stock, and the cultivation of the soil.

At least four religious denominations shall be represented among the officers of the Asylum, and the representatives of all religious creeds and of all political parties shall be treated alike.

The Institution shall be conducted on the cash system, and its operations enlarged or curtailed according to the funds received.

Orphan children in the said Asylum shall be fed and clothed, and shall receive such preparatory training and education as will prepare them for useful occupations and for the usual business transactions of life.

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to many benevolent ladies and gentlemen, to the Ministers of the Gospel, to churches of various denominations, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Good Templars, Friends of Temperance and other benevolent societies whose hearty co-operation and liberal contributions have rendered timely and valuable assistance in the great work of ameliorating the condition of the orphan children of the State.

Resolved, That all benevolent societies and individuals are hereby cordially invited and requested to co-operate with us in providing funds and supplies for feeding, clothing and educating indigent and promising orphan children in the Asylum in Oxford.

Resolved, That the Master of each subordinate Lodge appoint a Standing Committee upon raising funds for the Orphan Asylum, and require said committee to report in writing each month, and that said reports and the funds received be forwarded monthly to the Superintendent of the Asylum, and that the support of the Orphan Asylum be a regular order of business in each subordinate Lodge at each Communication.

'Should deserted children be admitted?' was decided in the negative.

'Should children having step-fathers be admitted?' was also decided in the negative. 'Should children be admitted?' This was left to the discretion of the Superintendent. When the deformity is of such a character as to require extra attention, it was thought inadvisable to admit the parties in the present condition of the Asylum.

'Should boys learn trades at the Asylum?' Decided in the negative, it being impracticable at this time to employ suitable mechanics in the various trades, erect work-shops and purchase necessary tools.

'Should collecting agents be appointed in different parts of the State; and if so, what wages should they receive?' This was left to the discretion of the Superintendent; but the meeting advised against employing and paying agents.

## THE ADOPTION OF ORPHANS.

We are always glad to accommodate childless couples who wish to adopt children as their own; but greatly prefer that they should come and make their own selections.

## APPLICATION FOR CHILDREN.

Correspondents are requested to read (and regulate applications for children by) the following resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Masons:

Resolved, I. The Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum shall not consider any application for an orphan until the same has been approved and endorsed by the Orphan Asylum Committee of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction the applicant resides.

2. It shall be the duty of the said committee to make due inquiry into the desirableness of the situation offered before endorsing an application; and also to inquire into the circumstances and treatment of children already discharged, and living in their jurisdiction, and use their best efforts to secure

good treatment, or the return of the children.

3. It shall be the duty of every secretary of a Lodge to send the names of the Committee of the Orphan Asylum to the ORPHANS' FRIEND for publication, in order that persons wishing to employ orphans may know the steps to be taken.

## HOW CHILDREN ARE ADMITTED.

Very often the Superintendent hunts up poor and promising orphans, and informs them of the advantages offered at the Orphan House, and induces them to return with him. Generally it is best that he should see them before they start. When this is impracticable, a formal application should be made by a friend. Here is one in proper form:

I hereby certify that..... N. C. .... is an orphan, without estate, sound in body and mind, and ..... years of age. H..... father died in 18.....; h..... mother in 18..... I being h..... hereby make application for h..... admission into the Asylum at Oxford. I also relinquish and convey to the officers of the Asylum the management and control of the said orphan till 16 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 said orphan to leave without the approval of the Superintendent. Approved by..... W. M. of.....

The application should be sent to the Superintendent, and he will either go for the children or provide for their transportation. In no case should a community take up a collection to send a man with the children, nor send the children before the Superintendent has been consulted.

## ACTION OF EPISCOPAL CONVENTION.

Resolution adopted by the last annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, at Winston, May 13, 1880:

'Resolved, That this Convention does heartily approve the efforts of the Oxford Asylum to alleviate the sufferings and to provide for the welfare of the helpless orphans of North Carolina; and that we commend to the imitation of all, the example of this spirit of active charity and beneficence on the part of the Masonic fraternity in thus fulfilling the Apostolic injunction to ransom the poor.'

## ACTION OF THE N. C. CONFERENCE.

On motion of Rev. J. R. Brooks, the following resolutions were adopted at the Annual Conference held at Durham, in 1881:

'The Committee to whom was referred the communication of his Excellency, Gov. Jarvis, bringing to our notice and commending to our favor, the Oxford Orphan Asylum, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That we reiterate our oft-repeated expression of sympathy with this noble charity, and heartily commend it to the liberal support of all our people.

2. That our pastors are hereby requested to take a collection in all their congregations at such time during the ensuing Conference year as they may think most appropriate and best, and to forward the same to the Superintendent of the Asylum.

3. That the Recording Stewards of our several pastoral charges are requested to report to our Annual conference the amount collected under the head of "For the Orphan Asylum."

JNO R. BROOKS, }  
E. A. YATES, } Committee.

## ACTION OF PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD.

Resolutions adopted by the Synod of North Carolina in session at Raleigh, N. C., November 13th, 1880: "Whereas the Oxford Orphan Asylum of North Carolina is a purely benevolent institution, and is doing great good for the needy Orphans of our State, therefore,

Resolved, That we approve of its purposes and suggest that the congregations within our bounds take up at their own convenience an annual collection in behalf of that institution, and forward the same collected, in connection with any articles of food and raiment which may be contributed, to the Superintendent.

## ACTION OF BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

At the Baptist State Convention, held in Goldsboro, November 17th, 1880, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, We feel a deep interest in the work of the Oxford Orphan Asylum, and believe it is doing an inestimable amount of good; and

WHEREAS, We believe that the Baptist people of the State will feel it to be not only a duty, but a privilege, to contribute regularly to its support; therefore

Resolved, That all our pastors are hereby earnestly requested to take up a collection at each of their churches at least once a year in behalf of this great and important work.

Eldor F. H. Ivey submitted the following resolution, which was adopted at the Convention held in Winston in 1881:

'Resolved, That this Convention feels an undiminished interest in the work of the Orphan Asylum; and that we repeat, with earnestness and emphasis, the recommendation to all our pastors to take up at least one collection during the year in aid of the Oxford Orphan Asylum.'