

**THE CHILDREN'S PRIZE,  
NOS. 1-12, JANUARY-  
DECEMBER 1868, PP. 4-187**

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**J. ERSKINE CLARKE**

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THE

# CHILDREN'S PRIZE.

EDITED BY J. ERSKINE CLARKE, M.A.



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# THE CHILDREN'S PRIZE

No. I.]

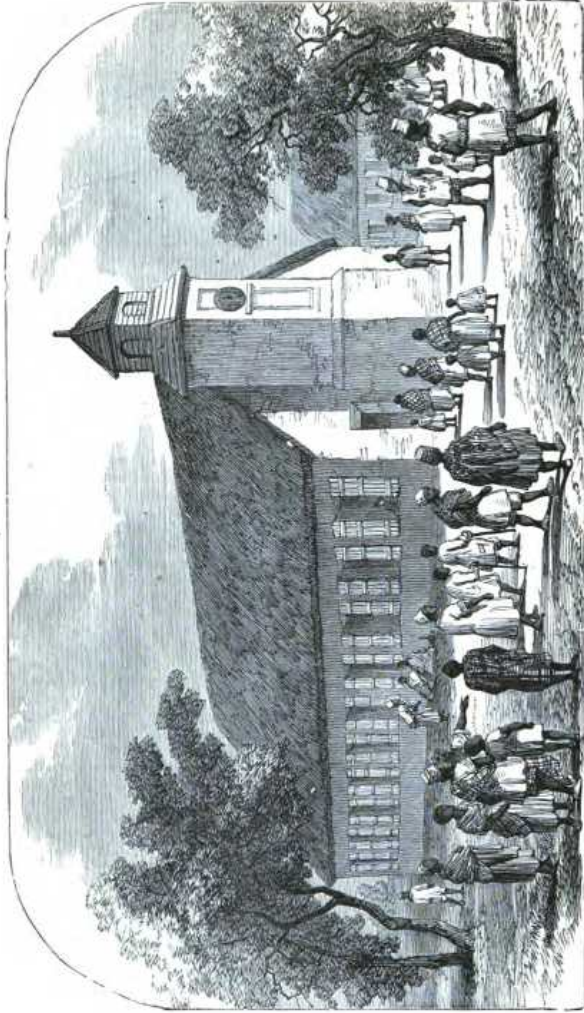
JANUARY, 1868.

[One Penny.



Margaret and little Ernest.





Going to Church in Africa on New Year's Morning.

gled to say the church is being re-built in a similar style. It was erected at the cost of some people in England who, when they heard of the fire, immediately began

to collect funds for the second one. This is no here a roof of iron, which will not burn like thatch in case of another fire. And, now let us remember that if we in

England have neither such hot weather on New Year's Day and all the year round, neither such flowers nor fruits of the earth as they have in Africa, we have **WILT** IS

better,—such seasons as are good for us. In Africa there are always fever and sickness, to say nothing at all about the snakes, scorpions, and other poisonous reptiles which get into houses and churches,

and lie on seats where we are to sit down, or get even into our clothes and boots and beds. Of all these and more we are free, and, after all, "there is no place like home." W.



THE ARCH OF TITUS.

**T**HIS triumphal arch, the beautiful ruins of which are still one of the sights of Rome, was built by the Roman Senate (or Parliament, as we should call it) and the Roman people in the reign of the Emperor Domitian, and was dedicated to Titus in commemoration of his conquest of Jerusalem. The arch is of white marble, and the inscription in clear capital letters is still easy to read. The inside of the arch is

adorned with sculptured pictures. On one side, Titus is shown in his car of triumph, being crowned by the hand of Victory. On the other side, there is a picture of the utmost interest, even to our day, for it represents a procession in which are to be plainly seen both captive Jews, and also men bearing on their shoulders the seven-branched golden candlestick, the silver trumpets, and the gold table of the shew-

bread. Those very things which our Bibles describe as being used in the Temple at Jerusalem are here to be seen pictured in marble by an artist who saw them, and who lived more than 1800 years ago. Thus the arch of Titus is not only a specimen of the grace and beauty of ancient art as it was at Rome in the far back times when Britons were only painted savages, but also it is another of those monuments which prove the truth of what we read in our Holy Scriptures.



#### THE MOTHERS OF THE BIBLE.

OUR Scripture pictures this year are to put before us some mothers of whom we read in the Holy Bible; and we begin, as we are bound to do, with the first mother of the human race.

When God had made the light and the sky—the dry land and the seas—the sun and moon—

the grass and the trees—the birds, the fish, the cattle,—then He created Adam, and gave him dominion over all that was on the earth, and God put the man to live in the beautiful garden of Eden, to dress it and to keep it.

Then the Lord God said, *It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help-meet for him, and God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam; and while he slept God took a rib out of his side, and made it a woman, and brought her to Adam, and she became his wife. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bone, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man; but afterwards Adam called his wife's name Eve (which means 'Life'), because she was the mother of all living.*

Adam and Eve lived in the garden of Eden (or garden of Pleasure, as the word Eden means), but they did not long enjoy its delights. Satan, who once had been a bright and happy angel in heaven, but for

rebellion and disobedience had been cast down to hell, saw our first parents, and he envied their bliss. Under the guise of a serpent, Satan tempted Eve to eat of the fruit of the single tree which God had commanded them not to eat—the one thing that was left them by which they might show their desire to obey God, who had been so good to them.

When Eve yielded to the tempter, she became a tempter in her turn, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. Thus sin came into the world, and death followed on sin, and Adam and Eve were cast out of their beautiful garden.

Yet, even when God was pronouncing their doom, He gave a promise of hope in the future; for He said that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head. (Gen. iii. 15.) That seed of the woman was Christ, who thousands of years after was born of a woman, even the Blessed Virgin, and by His death on the Cross He destroyed him that hath the power of death, that is, the devil (Heb. ii. 14), and so bruised the serpent's head.

Some time after our first parents were cast out of Eden, Eve had her first-born son, and she called his name Cain (which means 'a possession'), and she said, *I have gotten a man from the Lord; or it may be that she thought that this was the seed of the woman who was to bruise the serpent's head—that this was the Deliverer; and so she said, 'I have got a man, the Lord,' that is, 'I am the mother of the promised seed, the God-man—the Messiah!'*

But too soon she found that she was sadly mistaken. She soon learned that the sin which by her means had come into the world took the brightness out of all enjoyments of earth; and perhaps this is shown in the name which our first mother gave to her second son, for she called him Abel, which means 'Vanity.'

We read nothing of the boyhood of Cain and Abel. We are told nothing of the care which we may be sure their mother had for them. But, we read that when Cain and Abel were grown up, they were offering sacrifice to the Lord, and Cain offered the fruits of his ground, while Abel