

and this propitious hour. Heaven bless their happy love! for in the gleam of tranquil joy upon those two young faces we can read that the crisis of life is with them at the present sacred time. Other thoughts are soon aroused within us by the arrival of the next vessel, which is a steam-launch, commodiously fitted for a private party going up to dine at Windsor. Its owner and commander is a resident at Shepperton, who has ably maintained a high position in commercial and Parliamentary life. His fleets of merchant shipping have sailed over the remotest ocean paths of the globe.

The Thames is nowhere dull in the season of summer; and we could fill several pages with local descriptions of the part comprised in this notice bearing reference to Mr. B. WHITMORE'S charming pictures of its scenery. The place where the smaller river Wey, arriving from Guildford, in Surrey, finally joins the Thames, ought to be called Weymouth. It is within half an hour's walk of the Weybridge railway station, and will, perhaps, be found the most convenient port of embarkation for a brief holiday voyage. You may either take your boat down the river, admiring the grand trees and lovely gardens of Shepperton and Walton, as you pass their most important mansions; or you may pull it up through Shepperton Lock and above the weir, thence on to Chertsey Bridge and the Abbey Mills, with their tradition of an ancient hereditary tenancy for many centuries. An hour ashore at Chertsey might be well spent in viewing that quaint, old-fashioned country town, and in recalling its historical or biographical associations. St. Anne's Hill might tempt one to a longer stroll. But it is to an aquatic excursion that we have invited the gentle reader. He will not repent having come with us "Up the River."

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD.

THE tragical fate of this sweet little maid is known to young and old. Who has not loved her, while following her dutiful errand to Granny's bed of sickness with a basket-load of nice things to comfort the poor old woman? Who has not shuddered at the remembrance of the wicked Wolf, that began with eating up Granny, and then got into Granny's bed, there to lie in wait for the dear, good little child, with the same ravenous purpose? Who has not trembled to hear, in fancy, the answers, full of a dreadful meaning, with which that cruel and greedy monster replied to her innocent remarks of wonder! "Granny, what big teeth you have got to-day!" she says at the last of all. "The better to eat you, my dear!" So says the Wolf, and suits the action to the word. Is it all true? Oh! never mind that! The story was told long before you or we came into the world. Look at the pretty picture, and see Red Riding Hood with her little dog, when they first met the savage Wolf in the wood. That was when the Wolf made up his mind to eat her.

"LITTLE LOVES."

HILDA'S picture wants no words—  
Sitting in her silken bower,  
Hilda wastes an idle hour,  
Dreams of Love, and pets her Birds.

Ah! how sweet the Love-Bird's lot!  
He in Hilda's hand may rest,  
He may swoon upon her breast;  
He may do—what I may not!

He may peck at Hilda's kisses!  
"Little Love!" But I must pine;  
Great, she knows, this love of mine;  
The little loves have greater blisses!

"TOO HOT!"

THE saucer-full of father's tea, which this fond old man holds ready, as it seems, within reach of his little Betsy, while she sits upon his knee at the kitchen table, lacks neither sugar nor cream; yet another ingredient is wanted to make it nice. It wants only a little bit of patience, Betsy!—that is all. And you will find, in after life, that the same is true of many other things which you will naturally desire in their due season. But this lesson of waiting and trusting is one of the ways appointed to make Betsy rather wiser than Pussy, who laps her cold milk speedily and safely from a saucer on the floor. And if ever the little maiden should pout and frown at such a dispensation, her kind father or mother will perhaps quote the admonishing verse of nursery morals:—

Patience is a virtue;  
And virtue is a grace;  
Which has a very pretty look  
On little Betsy's face!

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