

References. FOSTER'S PROSE: 3973, 671, 1740, 10199, 7685, 10564 POETICAL: 2102, 2311. FREEMAN: The bed, 649; The roof broken up, 736.

Primary and Intermediate.

BY M. V. M.

REVIEW. It is a very easy matter to draw a little map on the board, to remain from Sunday to Sunday, locating places upon it as we come to them in the history, and it will add greatly to the interest of the children. Where was Jesus at the time of our last lesson? On what day? Where did he go? What did he do? What was his work? Now add Capernaum to the places on the map, and explain that Jesus has come to this place, and that he had come to help somebody who was in trouble.

LESSON THOUGHT. "The Power of the Lord."

1. Talk a little about "power"—the power of steam in moving engines, of water in running mills, of the wind in driving vessels. Man has power to do many things. Draw from children some of the things that a man can do. Speak of the different kinds of power—of thought, of love, of faith, etc. Now turn to the Lesson Thought. We are going to hear of the power of the Lord today.

The Lord Jesus had a heart so gentle, that no one, no matter how vile he was, felt afraid to come to him. One day Jesus was in the city of Capernaum, and one poor man, who had an awful disease that no doctor could ever cure, heard of him. He was called a leper, and no one dared to touch a leper, lest he may become one himself. If you were sick, and saw Jesus coming toward you, would you ask him to cure you? Jesus is nearer to us than he was to the leper, and yet we do not ask him, maybe, to cure our sickness—of ill-temper, of selfishness, of disobedience. For you are sick when you sin, though your body may be well and strong. The spirit, which God made to live forever, is sick when you do naughty things, and this is a sickness that will kill your spirit, unless you let Jesus cure it. As soon as the leper came near enough to Jesus he asked him to make him clean. He said, "You can do it if you will." That was faith. He believed that Jesus had power. And right away Jesus put out his hand, saying, "I will." If a man had done this, even a great doctor, it would have done no good, but Jesus was God, and the "power of the Lord" cured him at once.

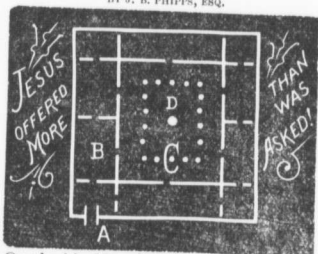
3. Here is another story showing the power of the Lord. [Show a picture of an Eastern house, if possible, that children may get some idea of how a sick man could be let down through the roof.] In telling a

lesson story, it is a great help in holding the attention, to appeal to the children often for an opinion or some kind of expression. Let this story teach the lesson of thought for others. Those who knew and loved the man sick of palsy wanted him to be cured. So they took the trouble to carry him to Jesus. And he was pleased. "He saw their faith." He saw their love, and he did just what they wanted him to do. He will see our faith and love, if we are trying to do something to make others better and happier. Jesus does not like to see a child caring more about his own things, his own comforts, his own pleasures, than about others.

CLOSING EXERCISES. Tell how entirely Jesus cured the sick man—so that he could carry away the light bed on which he had lain. That shows what power he had. Let us close our eyes and think what we want to be cured of, and then in our echo-prayer we will ask Jesus to cure us.

Blackboard.

BY J. B. PHELPS, ESQ.



On the blackboard is the ground plan of an Oriental house, a full description of which can be found on page 198 of *Bible Manners and Customs*, by Rev. J. M. Freeman, D.D., or in *Smith's Bible Dictionary*, article on "Houses." For the purpose of illustrating to-day's lesson the following explanation will be found sufficient:

A—Entrance to house.

B—Entrance to court.

C—Court.

D—Fountain in centre of court.

The small round marks in the court show the position of pillars for a gallery extending around it.

BLACKBOARD SENTENCE.

BRING SOME ONE TO JESUS.

LESSONS FOR MARCH, 1881.

MARCH 6. Witness of Jesus to John; or, A Shining Light. Luke 7. 19-28.

MARCH 13. The Sinner's Friend; or, Sins Forgiven. Luke 7. 36-50.

MARCH 20. First Quarterly Review.

MARCH 27. Missionary Lesson. Luke 9. 1-6.