

NOTICE OF CO-PARTNERSHIP.

I HAVE this day associated with myself in the business of MERCHANT TAILORING my son W. ROBERT MAY, which business will hereafter be carried on at the old stand, 84 Prince William Street, in this City, under the firm name of JAMES S. MAY & SON.

Spring Announcement, 1886.

I IN reference to the above notice of Co-Partnership, JAMES S. MAY & SON would draw the attention of the public to their New Stock of

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Sabbath School.

BIBLE LESSONS.

STUDIES FROM WRITINGS OF JOHN.

Fourth Quarter.

Lesson IX. Nov. 29. Rev. 1: 4-18.

JOHN'S VISION OF CHRIST.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold I am alive forever more.—Rev. 1: 18.

I. INVOCATION OF GRACE FROM THE THREE CHURCHES.

That is, the eternal, self-existing, unchangeable Father, and from the seven Spirits which are before (in the presence of) his throne. The Holy Spirit in his sevenfold (i.e., perfect, complete, universal) energy corresponding to the seven churches.

5. And from Jesus Christ. Each of the persons in the Trinity are thus named. Firstborn of the dead. The first who was raised from the dead not to die again (as Lazarus).

II. AN ASCRPTION OF PRAISE TO JESUS FOR HIS THREEFOLD BLESSINGS.

That he loved us. And proved that love by coming from heaven to teach and to save us, and by giving his life for us that we might have eternal life. And washed us from our sins. The first, most needful, and most difficult work we needed to have done for us. In his own blood. Showing the great cost of our redemption, also how much we owe to Jesus.

6. And hath made us kings. Or, as in Rev. Ver., "He made us to be a kingdom," viz., the kingdom of God or of heaven. This kingdom is one—in which his saints will themselves reign.

7. To him. Who has done all these things for us. Be glory. The honor, the reverence due his name, for he is the source of all this good. And dominion. Let him rule over all, and subdue all things to his perfect rule. It is the same as the prayer, "thy kingdom come."

III. THE ASSURANCE OF HIS COMING. 7. Behold, he cometh. His coming is certain, the redemption of the whole world to himself; the millennial day, the triumph of Christianity is sure. And every eye shall see him. His coming will not be in secret, but manifest to all men. And they also which crucified him. All opposers who have crucified him afresh in the persons of his disciples, and all sinners whose sins pierce his heart. And all kindreds of the earth (of the earth as opposed to heaven, as the scene of worldliness and evil) shall wail because of him. On account of their treatment of him, because they are defeated and overthrown, and will be punished for their sins. Even so (the testimony of the Lord, Amen). The assurance of his coming. All approve of the coming of Jesus to overthrow his adversaries and to complete his triumph.

8. I am, i. e., Jesus, the Son of God, as asserted in ver. 11-13. Alpha and Omega. The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet; hence it is a figurative expression of the next phrase. The beginning and the ending. Jesus is before all things, and the origin of all things, and all things even to the end are controlled by him.

IV. THE VOICE OF JOHN. 9. Companion (fellow-partaker) in tribulation. John was at this time an exile for Jesus' sake, and had all the reasons other persecuted Christians had for being discouraged. For the word of God. Because he was faithful in obeying and teaching the word of God, and testifying about Jesus, he was banished to Patmos by Domitian, the emperor of Rome.

10. I was in the Spirit. In a state of spiritual ecstasy or trance, becoming thereby receptive of the vision or revelation to follow. On the Lord's day. Sunday, the day of the Lord's resurrection, when he would be in a most devotional frame. A great voice, as of a trumpet. Loud, clear, distinct.

V. THE VISION OF JESUS THE CHRIST. 12. And I turned to see the voice. "The voice" is used to signify the person speaking. I saw seven golden candlesticks. Lamp-stands, the stand holding the lamp. These typified the seven churches already mentioned.

13. In the midst. To indicate the perpetual presence of Christ among his churches, with his people. One like unto the Son of man. One like to the son of man, i. e., one having a human form, like that of man. Clothed with a garment down to the foot. A long, full, flowing robe, which was worn by kings, nobles, and priests. Girt about the paps with a golden girdle. He is girded with the golden girdle, not as of one who toils and runs, around the loins (compare Luke 12: 85); but as of one who had passed into the repose of sovereignty, around the breast.

14. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow. The whiteness signifies purity and glory. His eyes were as a flame of fire. Light, brilliancy, energy, thrilling power, all combined, can be set forth by no more pertinent symbol than this.

15. And his feet like fine brass. Polished or burnished brass. As if they burned (as had been refined in a furnace). And his voice as the sound of many waters. Resounding, powerful, musical, and one that can be heard afar.

16. In his right hand seven stars. The stars are explained later on (ver. 20) to be members of the angels (ministers, or representatives) of the seven churches; they are described as stars in his right hand. Out of his mouth a sharp two-edged sword. This figure expresses the fact that Christ overcomes the world with his word, as with a two-edged sword. His countenance as the sun in his strength. At his brightest and clearest; no veil, no mist, no cloud, obscuring his brightness.

17. And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. From fear and awe. And he laid his right hand upon me. His all-powerful hand, in which the cherubim are said (ver. 10). I am the first and the last. The eternal God.

15. I am he that liveth.

The living one, who possessed absolute life in himself, and began to die when he died, and yet he became man, subject to death, and died as man did. This shows that it was Jesus the Messiah who was speaking. And, behold, I am alive for evermore. He is still the eternal God, able to confer life through death on every one.

The Boys Who Are Wanted.

I want all the boys, and all the girls, too, to read this and see if they are like Harry? Do they try to make things easy for mother? Do they help carry mother's burdens? Do you notice if there is any water in the boiler? Do you notice if the dinner is hot, children, do try to make things easy for mother. Now read this slowly.

"Come, Harry! It's seven o'clock, and snowing fast," called his mother from the foot of the stairs.

"Yes, mother. Why didn't you call me before?" "Why be the pains to sweep before school, and I like to do them before breakfast."

"I thought you were tired, dear, and needed a morning nap."

"Please do not humor me in that way, mother; you know I'm the one to take care of you."

It did not take Harry long to dress that morning, although he did not slight his simple toilet; neither did he forget to kneel down and ask God's help upon the beginning of the new day; but he was out of bed before his mother awoke.

"No dross in this life, are there, mamma?" he said, musing down stairs and giving his mother a reounding kick.

"Shall I have time to do anything before breakfast?"

"No, dear; the bell is just going to ring."

"Excuse me, please, mother, this morning," Harry said, as he finished before the rest. "I want everything easy for you before I go to school."

A happy smile was her only answer; but she said, as the door closed behind him:

"Dear boy! I believe that is the motto of his life—I want to make things easy for mother. He's never too tired or busy to help me. He's solid comfort."

"He's solid gold; a boy worth having," said Uncle Ned. "I wish there were more of them."

Harry found the broom and began sweeping the snow away on either side of the path with a will. Suddenly looking up she saw a lady watching him from across the way.

"Good morning, Mrs. Martin," he said, lifting his cap. "Isn't this a royal morning for work?"

"L-should think you thought so, my dear," she replied. "You seem to make easy work of everything. How does that happen?"

"Oh! I don't know, ma'am. Boys ought to be ready for everything, I think. Work comes easy to me; I'm young and strong, you know."

"So is Jamie; but he makes a fuss over everything he does. I wish he could catch some of your spirit. You'll make your mark in the world if you keep on as you've begun, Harry."

"And I mean to, Mrs. Martin, if God spares my life. I must make things easy for mother, you know."

"Eyes me if it isn't work too," he said. "Mother needs me in the house before school. I have to be boy and girl too, you see."

"Don't you find that pretty hard, my child?"

"Oh, no! I don't like wiping dishes as well as sweeping snow; to be sure; but that's no matter. I never stop to think what I like; it's what's got to be done to save mother."

"Bless you, my boy! Don't you ever think of yourself?"

"Oh, yes! I'm a selfish one, anyway; but I'm trying to do better every day, and it's easier since I ask God to help me before I begin."

"Are you a Christian, Harry?"

"Oh, yes! I've belonged to the army of the Lord just a year; and it's been the happiest year of my life. Fighting Satan and sin is great fun when a boy sets about it. I don't mean he shall conquer, Mrs. Martin. I like to knock him a blow whenever I can, Good morning."

Mrs. Martin stood looking after the brave, light boy, who had already begun to be a blessing in the world, until he disappeared out of sight.

"Those are the boys who are wanted," she said. "Those are the boys who are wanted."—Well Spring.

The Faith of Little Hans.

A fierce wind came sweeping around the corner of Pennymania avenue one morning in the winter of 1884, and the deserted street it rushed, whirling the freshly fallen snow into light heaps, then scattering it madly in every direction. Against this storm a young woman was making what progress she could toward the Post office. A pair of dark eyes and a very pink nose were all that was visible above her wrappings. "I must hurry," she thought, as she glanced up at the great clock, and in a few minutes she was at her desk in the Dead Letter office. Her work was to open and read all the letters whose destination could not be found from the envelope, and whose contents often revealed the desired address.

What a mighty pile it was that lay before her! Here was one from a broken-hearted father, begging a wayward son to come home, and telling him that his voice and smile alone could remove the gentle old mother.

Here was another from some queer old gentleman, full of the small talk and scandal of his own village and touching upon political scandal, then rife in the city where he lived, and then, suddenly, abruptly, there were letters full of the virulence of the school girl; letters full of the burning love of the college boy; letters whose print upright hand and gossamer nature suggested spinsterhood; letters to console you with laughter, and letters that would give you the heartache. Yes, strange to say, not one of these eager correspondents had taken the pains to write the correct address on the envelope that contained so much that seemed to be of the greatest importance. Perhaps they were too much absorbed in what they had said for their hearts to take thought for the formal writing on the outside.

The young clerk had worked her way

down through the large heap, and was beginning to think of lunch, when she came upon a peculiar little envelope addressed in German to "Jesus in Heaven"; she tore it open hastily, and found a soiled sheet written all over in a child's cramped hand. Some of the words seemed blurred with tears, and she could scarcely make them out. Here is the translation:

"Dear Jesus,—I have prayed so hard to you, but I guess you could not hear me so far off, so I am going to write you a letter. We came over a big ocean when it was summer-time. My mamma has been taken sick all the time. Can't you send her something to make her well? And, dear Jesus, please send my papa some work to do, so he can buy us some warm clothes and something to eat, and please do it quick for we are cold and hungry."

"Nobody knows I am writing to you. I thought you might send us something for a surprise."

"P. S.—My hands are so cold I can't write any more."

Katrina's eyes were filled with tears as she came to the end. She sat for some time with the letter in her hand; and she folded it resolved to do something to make the little boy happy. She said: "What a poor little child! This dear little child-father must not be destroyed."

That evening after dinner she left several of her friends about the matter, and they were eager to help her make up a box.

It was ready in a few days. There were some flannels for the mother and little Hans, comfortable clothes for the father, and toys enough to make the boy believe that the Christ-child did not live in Germany only. At the very top lay a crisp dollar bill. As soon as the box left the house Katrina wrote a letter to Hans. She told him his letter had been received, and that Jesus had sent one of his servants on earth to help him, and that a nice box was on its way out west.

Not long after there came a letter of warm thanks from the father. He explained how they had been in the country but a few months, and had not yet found work.

As the weeks went by another and another letter came, telling of finer prospects and brighter days. One that they assured Katrina, that they could never forget for kind letter and generous help in the time of saddest need.—Edith Miller, in Harper's Young People.

Curiosities of Science and Nature.

Gold beaters, by hammering, can reduce gold leaves so thin that 282,000 might be laid upon each other to produce the thickness of an inch, yet each leaf is so perfect and free from holes that one of them, laid on any surface, as in gliding, gives the appearance of solid gold. They are so thin that if formed into a book, twelve hundred would only occupy the space of a single leaf of common paper; and an octavo volume of an inch thick would have as many pages as the books of a well-stocked library of fifteen hundred volumes, with four hundred pages in each. Still thinner than this is the coating of gold upon the silver wire of what is called gold lace. Platinum and silver can be drawn in wire much finer than human hair.

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