

The Builders.

BY H. W. LONGFELLOW.

All are architects of Fate,
Working in these walls of time,
Some with massive deeds and great,
Some with ornaments of rhyme.

Nothing useless is, or low;
Each thing in its place is best;
And what seems but idle show,
Strengthens and supports the rest.

For the structure that we raise,
Time is with materials filled.
Our to-days and yesterdays
Are the blocks with which we build.

Truly shape and fashion these;
Leave no yawning gaps between;
Think not because no man sees,
Such things will remain unseen.

In the elder days of art,
Builders wrought with greatest care
Each minute and unseen part;
For the gods see everywhere.

Let us do our work as well,
Both the seen and the unseen;
Make the house where God may dwell,
Beautiful, entire and clean.

SHIPS AT SEA.

It would be difficult to make any near guess at the number of vessels of all sorts and sizes that, at this very moment, are scudding along before wind and storm over the great expanse of ocean. On the Atlantic's broad bosom the "greyhounds" of the ocean pass and repass every day on their rapid journeys from port to port. Here it is chiefly the monsters of the ship-building art that are to be seen—the giants that fly along regardless of all winds, whether for or against them; but nearer the coasts of America and Great Britain thousands of lovely white sails may be seen gracefully skimming over the green waters in all directions and on every variety of purpose. On the banks of Newfoundland, where the bottom of the sea rises up in a great flat plateau and makes the water comparatively shallow, numbers of fishing boats are engaged every year catching fish for consumption all the world over. Thick fogs of the worst description almost invariably hang over this region, and the poor men are often in great danger of their lives. The larger vessels engaged in this work are packed with numbers of small boats called "dingies," and when a good spot has been reached the men turn out in these smaller boats, and often the fog comes on so thickly that they are unable again to find the mother-craft and are lost—engulfed by the first big wave that comes along with the freshening breeze.

GOOD FOR EVIL.

When Madame Sontag first began her musical career in Vienna, she was hissed at the stage by her rival, Amelia Steininger. Years went by, and one day, in her glory, Madame Sontag was riding through the streets of Berlin, when she noticed a little girl leading a blind woman along the walk, and she called to her and said, "Who is that you are leading?"

"Why," said the little girl, "don't you know? That is my mother, Amelia Steininger. She used to be the great singer once, but she lost her voice; and then she cried so much about it that her eyes went blind."

"Give her my love," said Madame Sontag, "and tell her that in a few days an old acquaintance will call upon her."

The next week, in the city of Berlin, a vast multitude gathered at a benefit for the poor blind woman, and it is said that Madame Sontag sang that night as she never sang before; and to the day of her death she took care of Amelia Steininger, and then she took care of her child after her.

THE MOST NORTHERLY SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

The most northerly Sunday-school in the world, it is thought, is that connected with a Methodist Episcopal church at Hammerfest, in Norway, in seventy degrees north latitude. Rev. Ole C. Olson, the pastor of the church, in a letter written some time ago to the Methodist Sunday-school Board, at New York, says: "At certain times of the year, the school is kept by lamplight, but in the summer time they can, if they like, keep it at midnight by the light of the sun." Hammerfest, being located nearer than 23 1-2 degrees to the north pole by 5 1-2 degrees, enjoys for a little

while the interesting experience of a sun that is above the horizon during the entire twenty-four hours, just as in mid-winter for some time the sun is not seen at all. But how beautiful the thought that in those inhospitable climes the sun of God's Word shines with the same brightness and beauty as with us. And in their school the same lesson is studied each Sunday upon which we are engaged in our schools.

A LAND WITHOUT TAME ANIMALS.

Japan is a land without domestic animals. There are no cows—the Japanese neither drink milk nor eat meat. There are but few horses, and these are imported mainly for the use of foreigners. The freight carts in the streets are pulled and pushed by coolies, and the pleasure carriages are drawn by men. There are but few dogs, and these are neither used as watchdogs, beasts of burden, nor in hunting, except by foreigners. There are no sheep in Japan, and wool is not



SHIPS AT SEA.

used in clothing, silk and cotton being the staples. There are no pigs—pork is an unknown article of diet, and lard is not used in cooking. There are no goats or mules or donkeys. Wild animals there are, however, and in particular bears of enormous size.—London Tid-Bits.

OUR SINS HELPED.

A little girl in a mission school sat upon the front seat, and when the superintendent was telling about how they nailed Jesus on the cross the tears came into her eyes and she had to get up and go out. In the afternoon she came back smiling. The superintendent asked her: "Mary, where did you go this morning?" She replied: "Oh, teacher, I couldn't stand it when you spoke to us about Jesus being nailed on the cross, for I felt just as if I had helped to pound the nails in, and I went off a little piece from the school and got down on my knees and told Jesus that my sins had helped to nail him on the cross, and I asked him please to forgive me, for I was very sorry; and now I feel happy, for I am sure that he has forgiven me." The Holy Spirit had changed the child's heart, so that she saw how sinful she was and what a loving Saviour Jesus is.

"What time is it, my lad?" asked an American traveller of a small Irish boy, who was driving a couple of cows home from the fields. "About twelve o'clock, sir," replied the boy. "I thought it was more." "It's never any more here," returned the lad, in surprise. "It just begins at one again."

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON VI.—NOVEMBER 7.

PAUL IN MELITA AND ROME.

Acts 28. 1-16. Memory verses, 3-5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

We know that all things work together for good to them that love God.—Rom. 8. 28.

OUTLINE.

1. Saved, v. 1-6.
2. Honoured, v. 7-10.
3. Welcomed, v. 11-16.

Time and Place.—Close to those of the last lesson.

HOME READINGS.

- M. Paul in Melita and Rome.—Acts 28. 1-6.

Willing Servants.

BY LIZZIE DE ARMOND.

Twenty-six servants here are we,
Just as willing as we can be;
Some of us swift, and others slow;
It makes no difference, off we go.

Hither and thither, at beck and call,
Speeding away to cot and hall;
Speaking only as we are told,
Many a message we unfold.

Nations totter, and kingdoms lie
Shorn of their ancient majesty;
War ridos rampant over the land,
Famine and Death walk hand in hand.

Then in a twinkling tumults cease,
Quelled by the loving words of peace
You, our masters, have bid us say,
Gladly your summons we obey.

Twenty-six letters, small and spry,
Over the land and sea we fly,
Bearing news at a lightning pace;
Nothing to us are time and space.

Willing servants, O bid us do
Only things that are good and true!
Stars in your crown then may we be,
Bright jewels for eternity.

JESUS A FRIEND.

"What do you do without a mother to tell all your troubles to?" asked a child that had a mother of one that had none.

"Mother told me whom to go to before she died," answered the little orphan. "I go to the Lord Jesus. He was mother's friend, and he's mine."

"Jesus Christ is in the sky. He is away off, and he has a great many things to attend to in heaven. It is not likely that he can stop to mind you."

"I do not know anything about that," said the orphan. "All I know is that he says he will, and that's enough for me."

"Klondike and the Yukon Country."

A Description of our Alaskan Land of Gold, from the Latest Official and Scientific Sources and Personal Observation." By L. A. Coolidge. With a chapter by John F. Pratt, chief of the Alaskan boundary expedition of 1894. Now maps and photographic illustrations. Philadelphia: Henry Altemus. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, 50 cents.

Many things have conspired to advertise Canada throughout the world as she was never advertised before. One of the most striking of these is the discovery of gold in vast quantities in the Klondike river. Many of the newspaper reports of these rich finds are exaggerated or inaccurate. It is, therefore, of much importance to find a well digested book giving trustworthy information with maps and photographic illustrations. Both the author and publisher of this well-printed pamphlet have supplied a keenly felt want by this seasonable issue.

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S. F. HURSTIS, HALFAX.

Tu. Paul in Melita and Rome.—Acts 28. 7-16.

W. Desire to visit Rome.—Rom. 1. 7-16.

Th. Power over serpents.—Luke 10. 17-22.

F. The Lord a deliverer.—Psalm 34. 15-22.

S. Trust in the Lord.—Psalm 37. 5-18.

Su. Miraculous deliverance.—Psalm 124.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Saved, v. 1-6.

How were the shipwrecked crew and passengers received by the people?

What happened to Paul?

How did the sight affect the people?

What did Paul do?

What then did they think of Paul?

What is our Golden Text?

2. Honoured, v. 7-10.

How did Publius treat Paul?

What did Paul do for Publius' father?

How were Paul and his company treated?

3. Welcomed, v. 11-16.

How long did they remain in Malta?

In what city did they tarry three days?

Where did they disembark?

Whom did they find in Puteoli?

Where did other brethren meet them?

How did their kindness affect Paul?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Where does this lesson teach—

1. God's care of faithful servants?

2. The fickleness of public opinion?

3. The helpfulness of Christian communion?

When you decide to go the right way in everything, don't depend upon the people to follow you unanimously in anything.