

TIM'S DAISIES.

HE was only a little "street Arab!"
Ragged and friendless! Ah, yes!
Unused to life's sunniest pathway,
Unused to its love and caress;
For she who had loved him—the mother
Whose arms round him once, long ago,
Had clasped themselves closely—all winter
Had lain 'neath the beautiful snow.

But the months passed away, and the spring-time

Came on with its bud and its bloom,
And the zephyr of May, softly blowing,
Scattered far o'er the earth their perfume.
And then came a day dawning brightly,
When soldiers brought flowers to spread
With love and with honour of loyal,
O'er the graves of the hero dead.

And poor little Tim, sadly thinking
Of his loved one, whose grave was unknown,
Wandered there 'neath the pleasant spring
sunshine,

With tears in his eyes, all alone;
And he gathered the pretty white daisies,
For no other flowers had he,
And on the dear grave of his mother
He scattered them tenderly.

Only the simple white daisies!
Only the tears falling fast!
Only a boy's sad heart yearning
For mother-caresses long past!
Oh, fair were the buds and the blossoms
Laid over the soldier-dead!
But as loyal and sweet were Tim's daisies
Over his mother's low bed.

—*Youth's Companion.*

THE MILKMAIDS OF DORT.

GIRLS often declare that boys have all the fun. Well, they certainly do seem to get the larger share of it in a good many ways. Then, when they grow up, they are very apt, too, to carry off all the honours, the literary fame, the military glory, the professional success, while the girls are left at home to do worsted-work.

Now and then, however, the girls come to the front in art, in literature, in science and even in war. You all know how Joan of Arc led the armies of France to victory, and how Moll Pitcher stood at the mouth of her cannon, pouring confusion into the British ranks.

Not so great as these women of martial fame were the "Milkmaids of Dort," but still they have their place in history. If any of you ever go to Holland, the land of wooden dikes and windmills, it is quite possible that you may find yourselves some day in the ancient town of Dort, or Dordrecht. It is a grand old city. Here among these antiquated buildings, with their queer gables and great iron cranes, many an interesting historical event has taken place.

In the centre of the great market-place of Dort stands a fountain, and if you will look close you will see upon the tall pyramid a *relievo* representing a cow, and underneath, in sitting posture, a milk-maid. They are there to commemorate the following historical fact:

When the provinces of the United Netherlands were struggling for their liberty, two beautiful daughters of a rich farmer, on their way to the town with milk, observed not far from their path several Spanish soldiers concealed behind some hedges. The patriotic maidens pretended not to have seen anything, pursued their journey, and as soon as they arrived in the city, insisted upon an admission to the burgo-master, who had not yet left his bed. They were admitted, and related what they had discovered. The news was spread about. Not a moment was lost. The Council was assembled;

measures were immediately taken; the sluices were opened, and a number of the enemy lost their lives in the water. Thus the inhabitants were saved from an awful doom.

The magistrates in a body honoured the farmer with a visit, where they thanked his daughters for the act of patriotism which saved the town. They afterward indemnified him fully for the loss he sustained from the inundation, and the most distinguished young citizens vied with each other who should be honoured with the hands of the milkmaids. Then, as the years went by, the fountain was erected, and the story commemorated in stone.—*Harper's Young People*

GO HOME, BOYS!

Boys, don't hang around the corners of the streets! If you have anything to do, do it promptly, right on, then go home. Home is the place for boys. About the street corners and at the stables they learn to talk slang, and they learn to swear, to smoke tobacco, and to do many other things which they ought not to do. Do your business and then go home. If your business is play, play and make a business of it. I like to see boys play good, earnest healthy games. If I were the town I would give the boys a good spacious play-ground. It should have plenty of soft green grass, and trees and fountains, and broad space to run and jump, and to play suitable plays. I would make it as pleasant, as lovely as it could be, and I would give it to the boys to play in; and when the plays were ended, I would tell them to go home. For when boys hang round the street-corners and the stables, they get flouchy and listless. Of all things, I dislike a listless boy or girl. I would have a hundred boys like a hundred yachts, with every spar straight and every rope taut, the decks and sides clean, the rigging all in order, and everything ready to slip the cable and fly before the wind, when the word comes to go. But this cannot be if you lounge about the streets, and loaf about the corners, and idle away your time at the stables and the saloons.—*Anon.*

HOME INFLUENCE.

THE future of our country depends upon the youth of the land. While education, then, in the usual sense of the word, should be highly valued, at the same time our people should not forget the most important education of home influence, and home discipline.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

A.D. 66] LESSON VIII [May 24.

THE FAITHFUL SAYING.

1 Tim. 1. 15-20; 2. 1-6 *Commit to memory vs. 15-17.*

GOLDEN TEXT.

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Tim. 1. 15.

OUTLINE.

1. A Faithful Saying, v. 15, 16.
2. A Solemn Charge, v. 17-20.
3. An Earnest Exhortation, v. 1-6.

TIME.—A. D. 66, when Paul was at liberty after his first imprisonment.

PLACES.—Perhaps written from Macedonia, to Timothy, who was at Ephesus.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Faithful saying*—"A full,

trustworthy proposition." *All acceptance*—Acceptation entire and by all. *I am chief*—"A chief, one of the first"—(*Whedon, Com.*) *For this cause*—Having this in view. *King eternal*—Literally, king of the ages. *This charge*—Namely, to war a good warfare (v. 18.) *Holding*—Emphatic, in no case surrendering. *Delivered unto Satan*—A form of Christian excommunication declaring the person reduced to the state of a heathen. *Supplications*—The expression of felt need. *Prayers*—Asking divine favour. *Intercessions*—In more immediate and personal entreaty.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. That there is salvation for the chief of sinners?
2. That a godly life is pleasing to God?
3. That all men have a mediator in Jesus?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What saying is faithful and worthy of all acceptance? That Christ came to save sinners. 2. What should we hold? Faith and a good conscience. 3. What should be made for all men? "Supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks." 4. What will God have? "All men to be saved." 5. What did Christ do? "Gave himself a ransom for all."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The mediation of Christ.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

10. What more does the New Testament teach us about our tempers and dispositions? To be meek and lowly, patient under sufferings, and kind to all men. Matt. xi. 29; Gal. vi. 10; James i. 4. [Rom. xii. 12-18; Eph. iv. 32; 2 Peter i. 5-8.]

A. D. 67.] LESSON IX. [May 31.

PAUL'S CHARGE TO TIMOTHY.

2 Tim. 3. 14-17; 4. 1-8. *Commit to memory vs. 15-17.*

GOLDEN TEXT.

The holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation. 2 Tim. 3. 15.

OUTLINE.

1. The Holy Scriptures, v. 14-17.
2. The Faithful Teacher, v. 1-5.
3. The Crown of Righteousness, v. 6-8.

TIME.—A. D. 67, while Paul was a prisoner in Rome the second time, and expecting martyrdom.

PLACES.—Paul at Rome, Timothy at Ephesus.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Holy Scriptures*—The Old Testament. *All Scripture*—Literally, "Every Scripture inspired by God is also useful." *Doctrine*—Positive truth. *Reproof*—Refutation of error. *Before God*—This charge has the nature of an oath; the disciple being bound before God to do certain things. *Quick-living*. *Itching ears*—Desiring to be gratified with something pleasant. *Full proof*—"Fully perform thy ministry." *To be offered*—"I am already poured out," pointing to the drink-offering of wine which accompanied the sacrifice. *Good fight*—Not a good fight, but the good fight; that is, the maintenance of the Christian faith.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. The right time to begin the study of God's word?
2. The right use of God's word?
3. The reward of faithful service?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What are the Holy Scriptures able to do? Make us wise unto salvation. 2. How is Scripture given us? "By inspiration of God." 3. For what is Scripture profitable? Doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness. 4. What did Paul charge Timothy to do? "Preach the word." 5. What is laid up for those who love God? "A crown of righteousness."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The inspiration of Scripture.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS

11. Does the gospel give rules for outward conduct? Yes; it gives us precepts for a godly life in all states and conditions. [1 Tim. vi. 3; 2 Tim. iii. 16; Titus ii. 1-12.]
12. What precepts are there for husbands and wives? Eph. v. 25; Eph. v. 22; Titus ii. 4, 5.

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