

The Warmth of a Word.

BY MARGARET J. PRESTON.

Twain a day in the dead of winter,
And the echo of hurried feet
Struck sharp from the icy pavement
Of the pitiless city street.

Each passer was loath to linger,
Though wrapped in fur clad fold;
For the air was a tingle with frost flakes,
And the sky was benumbed with cold.

The scimitar wind, in its fury,
Bore down like a sweeping foe;
The tempest was waiting the onset,
And abroad were its scouts of snow.

Yet, midst it all, with its tatters
A flap in the whirling blast,
A child who seemed born of the winter—
A creature of pouty—passed.

So tremulous were his accents,
As he shivered and coughed and sung,
That the names of the mumbled papers
Seemed frozen upon his tongue.

He paused for a bitter moment,
As a wondrously genial face
Arrested his voice and held him
With a pity that warmed the place.

"Have a paper?" The kind eye glistened
As the stranger took the sheet,
And glanced at the stiffened fingers,
And thought of the icy feet.

Then dropped in his hand the value
Of his fifty papers sold;
"Ah, poor little friend!" he faltered,
"Don't you shiver and ache with cold?"

The boy, with a gulp of gladness,
Sobbed out as he raised his eye
To the warmth of the face above him,
"I did, sir—till you passed by!"



GOING THROUGH A CANAL LOCK.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. To love God supremely?
2. To study his Word carefully?
3. To praise him for his mercies?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What does Moses say concerning Jehovah? "The Lord our God is one Lord." 2. How should we love the Lord? With all our heart and soul and might. 3. What are we to do with God's Word? Remember it, teach it, and continually talk about it. 4. What did the Hebrews do with sacred texts? Wore them on arm and brow, and fastened them on doors. 5. When we are prosperous what should we do? "Then beware lest thou forget the Lord." 6. What is the Golden Text? "Thou shalt bless," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The unity of the Godhead.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

What is the inward and spiritual grace signified?

Our being cleansed from the guilt and defilement of sin, and receiving a new life from and in Christ Jesus.

Acts 22. 16. Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on His name.

Colossians 2. 12. Wherein ye were also raised with Him, through faith in the working of God.

GOING THROUGH A CANAL LOCK.

Most of you probably have seen a canal, but perhaps some of you have not. It is a sort of artificial river, a passage cut through a strip of land from one body of water to another, to connect the two. The men who have charge of the construction of a canal are called civil engineers, and they require to know a great deal and be very skilful. At regular intervals along the canal there are locks, or gates, which divide the different levels of water from each other. For instance, if you could stand on the bank and see all along the canal you would notice that the water lay in steps, that between the first and second locks being higher than between the second and third, and so on. When a boat comes along and reaches the first lock, it has to wait until the gates are slowly opened, which allows the water to rush down into the lower section until the two steps are level, when the boat can go on until it reaches the second lock, when it must wait again. You may be sure it is very slow, tiresome way of travelling, and passengers are generally glad when they are at last out of the canal.

THE REAL FOUNDATION.

It is a great gain when a man sees the real foundations of success in life with such clearness that he is no longer confused or led astray by illusions. Every conception of success which does not depend on honest work intelligently and faithfully done is an illusion—a conception, that is—which is essentially misleading, and which sooner or later involves disappointment or defeat. It is by no means uncommon to hear men explain the success of others by reference to personal

influence, claims of friendship, luck, or chance. That all these elements at times enter into a man's life is undeniable; but no man ever yet won a true success or kept it who depended on any of these things. Friendly influence sometimes opens the door to a fine position; a piece of what, for lack of fuller knowledge, we call pure luck sometimes brings a man a fine opportunity; but no man can hold the position or prove himself equal to the opportunity without discovering character and capacity. In the severe competition of life, sooner or later a man's claims are adjudicated on the basis of what he really is. The one thing upon which we must all depend for our success is the quality of our work. No man who holds his position by mere tact, by the good-will of others, by friendly influence, or by any of the numerous combinations which may be effected by a skilful tactician, has any real foothold in life; he may be swept away in a moment. There will come a time when tact will prove unequal to the strain of the situation, when friendly influence will be unavailing, when the fortunate combination cannot be made. He only is secure whose work has the quality which makes it essential to the success of an enterprise. A man whose work is stamped with honesty and competency depends for his position in life on something which is a part of himself, not upon extraneous combinations of circumstances. Put your strength into the doing of your work, and the question of stability and success will settle itself.—*Christian Union.*

A TEN YEAR-OLD HEROINE.

THE death of President Carnot recalled to the *Troy Times* that about a month before a medal bearing the insignia of the Legion of Honour was presented by the French Government to Jennie Creek, the little ten-year-old miss who saved a train-load of World's Fair passengers. While walking along the track she discovered that the trestle across a deep ravine was on fire, and the World's Fair express, with several hundred passengers on board, was nearly due. With remarkable presence of mind the little one tore off her red flannel petticoat, ran down the track until she came in sight of the approaching train, and waved her skirt as a danger signal.

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LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN JEWISH HISTORY.

B.C. 1451.] LESSON VII. [Aug. 18.

THE NEW HOME IN CANAAN.

Deut. 6. 3-15. Memory verses, 3-5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.—Deut. 8. 10.

OUTLINE.

1. Loving the Lord, v. 3-5.
2. Teaching his Word, v. 6-9.
3. Remembering his Mercies, v. 10-15.

TIME.—B.C. 1451: the conjectural date when these words were uttered.

PLACE.—Somewhere in the great peninsular wilderness north of Mount Sinai.

HOME READINGS.

- M. The new home in Canaan.—Deut. 6. 3-15.
Tu. "For our good."—Deut. 6. 16-25.
W. Remembering the way.—Deut. 8. 1-10.
Th. Beware of forgetfulness.—Deut. 8. 11-20.
F. The good resolve.—Josh. 24. 13-25.
S. Blessings in the new home.—Psalm 107. 31-43.
Su. The new heaven and earth.—Rev. 21. 1-7.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *Loving the Lord*, v. 3-5.
Upon whom is a call made for obedience? What good had been promised to them? What is the Lord declared to be? How should he be loved? What proof of love does Christ require? John 14. 15.
2. *Teaching his Word*, v. 6-9.
Where were God's words to be hidden? To whom were they to be taught? When were they to be talked about? Where were they to be on one's person? Where were they to be written? What good hiding-place for God's Word can you name? Psalm 119. 11.
3. *Remembering his Mercies*, v. 10-15.
Into what land would the Lord bring his people? What four things would he give them? What were they warned not to forget? Whom were they to fear and serve? After what were they forbidden to go? What is said of God's character? What peril would disobedience invite? What was their duty to their Lord? (Golden Text.)

THE INHABITANTS OF A DROP OF WATER.

Our cut shows what a drop of stagnant water looks like when greatly magnified and its shadows thrown upon a screen. It looks as if it were filled with horrible dragons and beasts of prey. An old lady who saw such a representation for the first time at a public exhibition, jumped up and exclaimed, "Oh, let me go away! what if those horrible creatures should break loose and devour us!"



THE INHABITANTS OF A DROP OF WATER.