

My Hero.

BY JENNIE M. BINGHAM.

If ever you'd known my Robert,
You'd wonder not that I call
Him now the first of my heroes,
Noblest and kindest of all.

'Twas a glorious morn of summer,
And only one year ago,
That I lost my heart to Robert,
Listen and you shall know.

The short, sharp clang of the fire-bell,
Rang out to the firemen's band,
That morn as I walked the highway,
Holding my baby's hand.

And soon down the noisy pavement
A widening path was made,
For the firemen's hurrying phalanx,
Already in sight arrayed.

And now they were down upon us,
With clatter and roar so loud;
Enginery, trained men, and horses
Rush through the surging crowd.

My baby had slipped from my fingers,
Where was she? My heart gave a
bound.

Far out in the path of the firemen
She smiling looked around.

I could not stir from the pavement,
Already I saw her dead.
The horses and all were upon her,
The huge engine cart was ahead.

Then Robert, the first of the horses
Who carried the engine, just gave
A push with his head at the baby,
To push her one side, and to save

Her life from the wheels that would
crush her.

Such shouts as went up from the
throng!
But Robert seemed never to hear them,
As faster he hurried along.

My arms were outstretched for my baby,
My arms held her close to my breast,
And then I thanked God for my Robert,
Of heroes the noblest and best.

come to him (Heb. 4. 11-16). Sing the Lesson Hymn.

QUESTIONS.

1. The Father's Plea, verses 41, 42.—41. What office did Jairus hold? What were his duties? How was it shown that Jesus was held in respect? 42. Why did the people throng Jesus? Did the Jews treat daughters better than they were treated by most Eastern nations?
2. Asleep in Death, verses 49-53.—49. Why did the family send a message to Jairus? 50. What did Jesus mean when he said, "Fear not?" Were any miracles wrought without faith on the part of the seeker? 51. Why was the crowd kept out of the death chamber? 52. What were the signs of grief at an Eastern funeral?
3. Restored to Life, verses 54, 55.—54. What proof did Jairus give that he believed in Christ's power? With what words did Jesus call the girl to life? 55. What did he tell them to give her? Why did he do this?

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

In trouble we should go to Jesus. God delays blessing to try our faith. Christ has power over body and soul after death. Because people laugh we must not cease to do good. Spiritual life is to be fed through the means of grace. All who sleep in death will one day come forth at Christ's bidding. The greatest works are done without much noise. Knowing who Christ is, and what he has done, we ought to have strong faith in him.

he looked as if he believed it, too, small as he was.

"Well, why do men and boys do it then, 'stead of girls?" asked Harry, looking very wise.

It was Paul's and Fred's turn now to answer "'cause," and they grew quite serious, for they could think of no good reason.

Just then the factory whistle blew and the boys ran for home and supper.

Harry Gray had a feeling that he had beaten his mates in their little talk, still for some reason every man or boy he now met with a pipe or cigar in his mouth seemed different from what they ever had before. They didn't look so clean and manly, and he could but think how dreadful it would seem if the girls and women he met carried a smoke-stack in their mouths, too.

Before bedtime some older heads were set to work at this puzzle by the boys' questions at the supper table.

Mr. Gray said in reply to Harry, "that he should feel very sorry to see his mother or sisters use tobacco, or Harry either."

"But what makes you and Frank and Tom use it then?"

At this Mr. Gray "'caused" and coughed and told Harry to stop his talk and fill up the woodbox for morning.

"He can't give a good reason," thought Harry, as he went about his task, "and I believe Fred and Paul are right."

The other two boys, we are glad to tell you, got answers that helped them and

for joy, "I'll join, an' so will Fred an' Paul an' a whole lot o' boys."

Now you know that when a lot wideawake boys make up their minds to do a thing it is done; and that is the reason this little society, which they called "A White Life for Two," "White Club" for short, grew and grew and oh, how much good it did, not only among the boys, but the men as well, for it set them to thinking and made them ashamed of their bad habits; and more than one broke from them.—Union Signal.

A THRIFTY PRINCE.

The truly German quality of thrift is an amusing trait of the Emperor William's little sons. Occasionally the press takes the three older princes with her on her shopping expeditions, where the boys are allowed to spend pocket-money just as they please. Short time before Christmas they were to inspect the delights of a large shop in Berlin. One of the princes picked out the object of his choice, and at once proceeded to the cashier's desk. Her Majesty asked him whether this was all he intended to buy, when he retorted in most business-like tone: "No, but I prefer to pay for everything separately, for that I shan't spend more than I've got."—The Lady.

THE WALKING LEAVES OF AUSTRALIA.

There are some funny leaves in Australia, which the people there used to think could walk alone! Whenever there came a gust of wind these queer leaves blew off in a perfect shower. As leaves generally do, they turned over and over, and rested upon the ground. They would seem to crawl toward the trunk of the tree from which they fell. Since that time it has been found that these leaves, as they were thought to be, were real insects, and lived upon the very trees. Their bodies are thin and flat, and their wings veined just like a leaf. If they are disturbed, their legs which are folded away under their bodies leave their whole shape exactly like a leaf of a tree, with stem and all. Bright green in the summer, these singular little insects slowly change their colour to a dingy brown, just like a frost-bitten leaf. Strange that with wings they do not fly, but rather walk or crawl along the ground.—Mrs. G. Hall.

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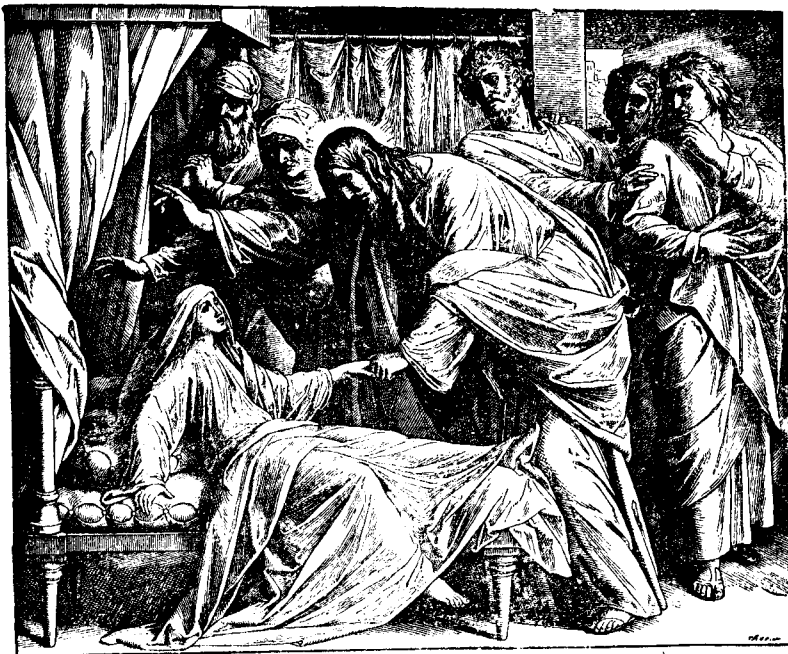
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THE RAISING OF JAIRUS' DAUGHTER.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE.

LESSON VIII.—FEBRUARY 23.

FAITH ENCOURAGED.

Luke 8. 41, 42, 49-55. Memory verses, 49-50.

Golden Text.—Fear not: believe only.

—Luke 8. 50.

Time.—Autumn, A.D. 28.

Place.—Capernaum.

CONNECTING LINKS.

Following the raising of the widow's son came John's two messengers to Jesus, the anointing of our Lord's feet in Simon's house, speaking of seven parables from a fishing vessel. Then Jesus crossed the lake to Gadara on the east shore, stilling a tempest on his way. At Gadara he cured two demoniacs, after which he returned to Capernaum and performed the miracle described in the lesson.

DAY BY DAY WORK.

Monday.—Read how Jesus encouraged faith (Luke 8. 41-56). Prepare to tell in your own words the last lesson and this.

Tuesday.—Read a story of brave becoming Time, Place, and Connecting Links.

Wednesday.—Read a grand honour-roll (Heb. 11. 1-10). Learn the Golden Text. Read our Sketch of the Lesson.

Thursday.—Read of failing faith and a drowning man (Matt. 14. 22-33). Learn the Memory Verses. Read the Parallel Passages.

Friday.—Read the price of a cure, and how it was obtained (Mark 9. 17-29). Study the Notes. Answer the Questions.

Saturday.—Read David's advice about trust in the Lord (Psalm 62. 1-8). Study Teachings of the Lesson.

Sunday.—Read how God wants us to

THE "WHITE CLUB."

BY ESTELLE MENDELL.

"But my sisters don't smoke, nor my ma nor grandma," said Harry Gray, just a trifle angry because his playmates, Paul Bryan and Fred Eaton, said, "it was wicked and awfully nasty to smoke and chew tobacco," and then had told him that his father and brothers did both.

These three boys had been playing leapfrog and were now resting under the shade of a beautiful oak; and they fell to talking about matters and things very much as big folks do—though each was but about ten years of age.

"Most all men smoke," Harry went on, "that ain't anything so dreadful, but my ma and sisters are just as good as yours."

"My father and brothers don't smoke," said Paul Bryan, in a way that showed he was very proud of the fact, "they're just as clean as my ma and my sister."

"Nor mine," added Fred Eaton.

"But men don't have to be so good and clean as women," said Harry, stoutly.

"Why not?" asked his mates earnestly.

"'Cause they don't," was the ready answer; "girls is girls, an' boys is boys."

"Well, my teacher in Sunday-school says boys ought not to be rough or swear or smoke or drink any more'n girls; and when I asked papa about it he said she was about right."

It was Paul Bryan that said this and

made them more sure than ever that boys should be as clean and pure as girls.

"Oh, did you hear about Tom Burke's getting pretty near killed last night?" asked Harry, as the three playmates met the next afternoon under the oak.

"Yes," said Paul, "a horse an' waggon run into him an' his sister both, and the doctor says Tom'll die but Kate'll get well."

"I don't see why, long as they're both hurt just alike," said Harry.

"Well, the doctor told papa that Tom's blood was all poisoned and killed with liquor and tobacco, but Kate's wasn't, so she'd heal quicker."

"An' that's what teacher said, you know," added Fred.

"Well, I'm just going to tell papa," thought Harry, "if he does make me fill up the woodbox before it's time, an' I guess he'll think it's as good for men not to smoke an' chew as women, when he hears this."

But Mr. Gray didn't tell Harry to stop talking and bring in the wood this time, but he said in a very kind and manly way:

"It's all true, my son," for you see he had been thinking over Harry's question, "and what do you say to starting a little society here at home with the motto that boys and men should be pure and good as well as women and girls?"

"All right, papa," cried Harry, dancing