

WELCOME TO THE BIRDS.

BY REV. C. LAWSON.

WELCOME, warblers, back again  
To our forests ringing;  
Now with song will wood and plain  
All be set a-ringing

Listening to your cheering notes,  
Fills our hearts with gladness.  
Artless songs from tiny throats,  
Drive away all sadness.

Pleasant now the friendly call  
In the early morning,  
That there's work to do for all;  
Gently giving warning.

Pleasant now the soothing notes  
In the quiet evening;  
Each sweet strain as on it floats,  
Sweet emotions leaving.

Welcome, warblers, back again,  
Joy and gladness bringing;  
Thrilled with each melodious strain,  
Listening to your singing.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

A.D. 29.] LESSON X. [June 6

JESUS THE BREAD OF LIFE.

John 6. 22-40. Commit to mem. vs. 27-29.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Lord evermore give us this bread John 6. 34.

OUTLINE.

1. The True Teacher, v. 22-29.
2. The True Manna, v. 30-36.
3. The True Disciples, v. 37-40.

TIME—Next day after feeding the five thousand.

PLACE.—Capernaum.

EXPLANATIONS.—The other side of the sea—On the east side. Jesus was now on the west, at Capernaum. Took shipping—Engaged the boats to be carried across the sea. Labour not for the meat which perishes—That is, do not make such labour the chief object of life. I had God the Father sealed—Approved or given official consent to. His miracles were God's seal to his claims to be the Son of God. Manna—The food given by God to Israel when in the desert. They called it manna, which means, "What is this?" Bread of God—The food by which the spiritual life is to be supported. At the last day—At the day of final judgment.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where, in this lesson, are we taught—  
1. The need of seeking Christ!  
2. The duty of seeking Christ!  
3. The result of seeking Christ!

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What did Jesus teach the people in the synagogue at Capernaum on the day after the miracle of the loaves? About the bread of life. 2. Who did Jesus say was the bread of life? He who came down from heaven. 3. For what purpose did he come down to earth? To give life to men. 4. What did the people say to Jesus in the GOLDEN TEXT? "Lord, evermore," etc. 5. What did Jesus promise to him that cometh to him? He shall never hunger. 6. What blessing did he promise to all that believe on him? Everlasting life.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Faith and works.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

27. What is an eternal Spirit? One who is without beginning and without end. From everlasting to everlasting thou art God.—Psalm xc. 2.

A.D. 29.] LESSON XI. [June 13.

JESUS THE CHRIST.

John 7. 37-52. Commit to mem. vs. 43-46.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. Matt. 16. 16.

OUTLINE.

1. The Declaration, v. 37-39.
2. A Division, v. 40-49.
3. A Decision, v. 50-55.

TIME—About six months after the last lesson.

PLACE.—Jerusalem in the temple.  
EXPLANATIONS.—In the last day—The eighth day of the Feast of Tabernacles. That great day—The day of the solemn assembly to be observed like the Sabbath. This Prophet—The Elias or Elijah, who was expected to precede the Messiah. Came the officers—Officers sent by the council to arrest him. See ver. 32. Never man spake like this man—His speaking had so much evidence of truth, so much proof that he was from God, and was so impressive and persuasive, that they were convinced of his innocence, and dared not touch him to execute their commission. The rulers—The members of the Sanhedrin. This people... are cursed—The masses who believe in him are ignorant and contemptible.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where, in this lesson, are we taught—

1. That the Holy Spirit is given to believers!
2. That not all who hear the truth receive it!
3. That even his enemies could find no fault in Jesus!

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What Jewish feast did Jesus attend in Jerusalem? The Feast of Tabernacles. 2. What was done among the services of this feast? Water was poured in the temple. 3. What did Jesus say to every one who thirsts? "Let him come unto me, and drink." 4. What did he promise should flow from those who believe? Rivers of living water. 5. What did the disciples say in the GOLDEN TEXT? "Thou art," etc. 7. What was said by the officers who were sent to take Jesus? "Never man spake like this."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The Son of God.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

28. What do you mean by saying that God is infinite? I mean that his nature and attributes are high above all understanding, and without any limit.

Canst thou searching find out God?—Job xi. 7. [Psalm cxlvii. 5; 1 Kings viii. 27.]

THE PINK RIBBON.

IN one of the London hospitals, about a year ago, an assistant surgeon became interested in one of the patients, a poor child of ten, suffering from hip disease. She lay day after day in her little white cot, with nothing to occupy her thoughts but her pain. The young surgeon saw her one day trying to make a doll of her finger, playing with it, and at last, giving it up with a weary sigh, turning to watch the sunlight creep over her bed, as she had done for months.

That afternoon, the doctor, passing a shop, bought a long, soft ribbon, of an exquisite rose-color, and gave it to little Katey. She was breathless with pleasure, smoothed it out, held it up, soft and shining, in the sun, and looked at her friend speechless with tears of ecstasy. From that time she was rich. The nurse told the doctor, a week later, that the child played with the ribbon all day, twisted it about her head, playing that she was a bride, a princess, a fairy; held it in her hand while she slept, and laid it, folded in paper, under her pillow at night.

It was found necessary after two months to perform a capital operation on the child, one which if unsuccessful is fatal. It was done by two of the foremost surgeons in London. When the poor little sufferer was laid upon the table, she cried for Dr. S. "He is all the friend I have," she sobbed.

"Send for him," said the surgeon, and the young assistant, blushing furiously, was brought in. He held one of Katey's hands; the other was clenched tightly over a pink roll, which dropped from her grasp during the operation. When the effect of the

other passed, she opened her eyes and looked at Dr. S.

"My ribbon," she whispered.

He gave it to her, while the surgeons and nurses stood gravely silent. The operation had been unsuccessful. But little Katey smiled happily into the face of her friend, and hugging the faded bit of silk, fell away forever. It was but a trifling gift, yet it had brightened the child's last days with thoughts of beauty and pleasure and loving kindness.

Is no such act within our power?—*Youth's Companion.*

LEARN TO UNTIE STRINGS.

ONE story, of the eccentric Stephen Girard, says that he once tested the quality of a boy who applied for a situation by giving him a match loaded at both ends, and ordering him to light it. The boy struck the match, and after it had burned half its length threw it away. Girard dismissed him because he did not save the other end for future use. The boy's failure to notice that the match was a double-ended one was natural enough, considering how matches are generally made; but haste and heedlessness (a habit of careless observation) are responsible for the greater part of the waste of property in the world.

Said one of the most successful merchants in the north of England, to a lad who was opening a parcel: "Young man, untie the strings; do not cut them."

It was the first remark he had made to the new hand. It was the first lesson the lad had to learn, and it involved the principles of success or failure in his business career. Pointing to a well-dressed man behind the counter, he said:

"There is a man who always whips out his scissors and cuts the strings of the packages in three or four places. He is a good salesman, but he will never be any more. I presume he lives from hand to mouth, and is more or less in debt. The trouble with him is, that he was never taught to save.

"I told the lad just now to untie the strings, not so much for the value of the strings, as to teach him that everything is to be saved, and nothing wasted."

THE ANT AND THE GRASS-HOPPER.

"WILLFUL waste makes woeful want," is a proverb true enough in the main; but when the wasted article is time, the woeful want may lead to bankruptcy that will effect another life than this.

On a cold, frosty day, an ant was dragging out some corn which she had laid up in summer-time, to dry it. A grasshopper, half perished with cold, besought the ant to give him a morsel of it to save him from dying from hunger. "What were you doing," said the ant, "this last summer?" "Oh," said the grasshopper, "I kept on singing all the summer long." "Then," replied the ant, laughing, and shutting up his granary, "since you could sing all summer, you may dance through the winter."

There was no objection to the grasshopper's indulging in song; the grand mistake lay in his doing nothing else.

SMILES are smiles only when the heart pulls the wires.

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