

The next morning this lightness, almost gaiety of heart, was still there. For the time she had really changed places with her husband; for, believing that the end would be good, she felt strong to endure.

Mr. and Mrs. Home went down-stairs to find Hinton regarding them anxiously. He had not spent a long night with the sick child without gathering very clearly how imminent was the peril still hanging over the family. Harold's night had been a wretched one, and he was weaker this morning. Hinton felt that a great deal more must be done to restore Harold to health; but he had not heard what Dr. Watson had said, and was therefore as yet in the dark and much puzzled how best to act. Seeing the mother's face serene, almost calm, as she poured out the tea, and the father's clouded over, he judged both wrongly.

"She is deceived," he said of the one. "He knows," he said of the other. Had he, however, reversed the positions it would have been nearer the truth.

He went away with a thousand schemes in his head. He would visit the doctor. He would—could he—might he, risk a visit to Charlotte? He was resolved that in some way he must save the boy; but it was not reserved for his hand to do the good deed on this occasion. After breakfast he went out, and Mr. Home, feeling almost like a dead man, hurried off to the daily service.

For a brief moment Charlotte was alone. The instant she found herself so, she went straight down on her knees, and with eyes and heart raised to heaven, said aloud and fervently—

"Thy holy, loving, righteous Will be done."

Then she got up and went to her little son. In the course of the morning the boy said to his mother—

"How much I should like to see that pretty lady."

"It would not be safe for her to come to you, my darling," said Mrs. Home. "You are not yet quite free from infection, and if you saw her now she might get ill. You would not harm your pretty lady, Harold?"

"No, indeed, mother, not for worlds. But if I can't see her," he added, "may I have her toys to play with?"

The mother fetched them and laid them on the bed.

"And now give me what was in the brown paper parcels, mother. The dear, dear, dainty clothes! Oh! didn't our baby look just lovely in his velvet frock? Please, mother, may I see those pretty, pretty things once again?"

Mrs. Home could not refuse. The baby's pelisse, Daisy's frock, and Harold's own hat were placed by his side. He took up the hat with a great sigh of admiration. It was of dark purple plush, with a plume of ostrich feathers.

"May I put it on, mother?" asked the little lad.

He did so, then asked for a glass to look at himself.

"Ah!" he said, half crying, half frightened at his wasted pale little face under this load of finery. "I don't like it now. My pretty, pretty, lady's hat is much too big for me now. I can't wear it. Oh! mother, wouldn't she be disappointed?"

"She shan't be," said the mother, "for I will draw in the lining, and then it will fit you as well as possible."

"But oh! mother, do be careful. I saw her put in a nice little bit of soft paper; I saw her put it under the lining my own self. You will crush that bit of paper if you aren't careful, mother."

The mother did not much heed the little eager voice, she drew in a cord which ran round the lining, then again placed the hat on Harold's head.

"Now it fits, darling," she said.

"But I think the bit of paper is injured," persisted the boy. "How funny I should never have thought of it until now. I'll take it out, mother, and you can put it by with the other things."

The little fingers poked under the lining and drew out something thin and neatly folded.

"Look, look, mother!" he said excitedly; "there's writing. Read it, mother; read what she said."

Mrs. Home read—
"For Harold, with his lady's love."
She turned the paper. There, staring her in the face, lay a fresh, crisp Bank of England note for fifty pounds.

(To be continued.)

HINTS TO TEACHERS ON THE CUR-
RENT LESSONS.

(From Peloubet's Select Notes)

September 23.—1 Samuel 3: 1-19.

ILLUSTRATIVE.

I. "Early piety." There are many examples of early piety in the Bible. Samuel, Josiah, John, Timothy, Jesus. Those who become Christians young have a longer life in God's service, are more likely to live long on the earth, and are less likely to fall away into sin. Spurgeon testifies that of the many hundreds of children who have joined his church, he has not had to excommunicate one for bad conduct. The nature of the soul is such that the best time to become a Christian is in youth. Early impressions are the most enduring. As the tracks of birds in the soft mud of ages ago are now hardened on the rock, and are ineffaceable as the rock itself, those impressions can be made in the clay while it is soft, but not after it has hardened into stone. Then an elephant's weight would make no impression, while for the lightest touch of the smallest bird left its mark.—P.

II. "Bad children of good parents." What if some prove naught that are well brought up? It is not the generality of them. Will you say that Noah's family were no better than the drowned world because there was one Ham in it? nor David's because there was one Absalom? nor Christ's, because there was one Judas? What a fool were he that should reason thus! Peter reasons the clean contrary way.—"If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?"—L. Baxter.

PRACTICAL.

1. Ver. 1. Young children can enter upon the service of God, by worship, by prayer, by obedience to parents, by helpfulness at home, by kindness to others, by studying the Bible.

2. Be glad to do the smallest sacrifice for God, as the true preparation for larger service.

3. Ver. 4. God calls children now as he did Samuel. How? By the still small voice of his spirit; by the Bible, by teachers and parents; by meetings; by sickness and trouble; by his daily goodness; by the examples of others who turn to Christ.

4. Ver. 9. The answer of Samuel, when he knew it was Jehovah who called him, should be our example. (1) Speak. We should desire more of the divine communications, and should delight to know what God says. (2) Thy servant. We should place ourselves in the attitude of servants, neglecting to obey that which we hear, and not neglecting it, or studying excuses for its rejection. (3) Hears. We should attentively listen to the voice of God in the Scriptures and in our hearts, reverently cherishing its lightest accent, and ardently endeavoring to perform its behests.

5. We should receive God's truth as little children (Luke 18-17). But to what characteristics of children do we refer when we say this? (1) Their freedom from prejudice. (2) Their eagerness to learn. (3) Their humility. (4) Their disposition to believe and to obey. Let us receive the kingdom of God in the exercise of these dispositions.

6. If the kingdom of God belongs to such little children as receive it thus, it belongs to them not in part, but as a whole; and its ordinances should not be withheld. The Christian ordinances are means of grace to the regenerate child not less than to the regenerate adult; and it should be brought up in the church, the child of the church. Many regenerate children kept out of the church, and denied the ordinances become cold and disheartened, doubting that Christ had accepted them, and bringing forth, in after life, but meagre fruits.—Rev. F. Johnson, Pastor of Baptist Church, Cambridge, Mass.

7. Ver. 13. Indulgent parents are cruel to themselves and to their prosperity. Eli could not have devised so sure a way to have plagued himself and his house as by his kindness to his children's sins.—Hall.

8. Ver. 15. We should be very careful of saying anything which will injure the feelings of others.

9. Ver. 16. But we should do our duty faithfully, and speak boldly what God gives us to say, at whatever cost to ourselves or others.

SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.

In this lesson we can enforce the duty

and privilege of Early Piety. (1) An example of early piety in Samuel (vers. 1-10.) We can impress the fact that children can become God's in their youth, can be at God's house, can serve God, and in what ways. God calls them. Show them the various ways in which that call is made, by the spirit, by the Bible, by conscience, by providence. Point out the example of others who became Christians young. Set before them such events around them or in their past lives as would lead them to Christ. Compare Samuel's boyhood with that of John and Jesus. Show the blessings of early piety. (2) A warning against neglect of early piety. The sins of Eli's sons and their punishment. How they came to be so bad. The effect that bad persons ought to have upon us.

A SUCCESSFUL TEACHERS' MEETING.

BY S. W. BOARDMAN, D. D.

We have enjoyed, for several weeks past, the best teachers' meeting we ever attended. The mode of conducting it has been very simple—so simple as to be worthy, perhaps, of public notice. The leader has given, a week beforehand, one verse to each teacher for special study and comment. We meet on Wednesday evening; there is a full attendance, and all are ready. We begin promptly. After a brief invocation, the leader calls up a teacher to whom the first verse was assigned to read it, and make his remarks upon it. A dozen teachers or more are seated easily around a long table. Each one's exposition, modestly given, shows unmistakable preparation. After each teacher has presented his views, the leader calls for questions or further remarks, and with little delay passes to the next question. Attention is closely held, and the hour quickly passes. We have heard the best thoughts of many minds. The practical lessons come out by the way.

Our hearts burn within us. I have heard a theological professor, an almost perfect scholar and teacher, instruct a teacher's class with the most thorough preparation after work which would be cheaply purchased at ten dollars a week; and yet it did not instruct or benefit the teachers so much as this simple exercise. There he made nearly all the preparation, and did nearly all the talking; here, it was done by the teachers themselves. There the instruction bore the color of one mind; here were blended the hues of many.

The object of a teachers' meeting is to stimulate thought. This is best done by laying the responsibility of vigorous thinking, at least for a single verse, upon each teacher. The spur of latent ambition does no harm.

Some one read the choicest selections from the "Sunday School Times" or other periodicals bearing upon their particular verse. There is a variety of talents, and culture and manner, but not one teacher's contribution could be spared.

The leader makes preparation, and comments, without delay, on any verses which had been assigned to teachers who may be absent, so that there is no break and no hesitation. He has noted many things, but most of his thunder has been discharged by others, and he has need to add very little at the close. Nor is there time, the hour has been crowded with condensed thoughts.

Where shall we meet next Wednesday? A few minutes of cheerful social intercourse. What a good teachers'-meeting we have enjoyed!—S. S. Times.

"OUR FORMER PASTOR used to protect us from such calls," was the chilling remark of a penurious church officer, as he met his rainier after the close of a sermon in which he had made an earnest plea for Foreign Missions. Such "protection" is fatal, and only proves how narrow and selfish may be the views and feelings of a heart that has never opened to a full understanding of giving for Christ's sake.

POACHED EGGS.—Break the eggs (one at a time) in a saucer or small plate; slide them gently into a pan of boiling water; slightly salt them and let them remain in five minutes. Have as many pieces of crisp, buttered toast as you have eggs. Lift the eggs out gently with a large spoon; place an egg on each slice of toast; pour over them a little melted butter. Garnish with parsley or celery leaves.

PUZZLES.

WORD PUZZLE.

Complete, I make a labor of sport;
Behaved, I follow the beauty to court.
Behaved again, I come from heaven,
To good and to evil alike I am given.
Behaved me again, I'm the sweetest word
That ever in Scottish refrain was heard.
Behaved me again, I'm a preposition,
Or else an adverb denoting position.
Behaved me again, before you I set
What a Cockney would call his Brahma pet.

ANAGRAM BLANKS.

Who ever heard of a — made of —?
Why will you — in choosing — for
your dresses?
Both men were very —, also both were
great —
Do you — so high in order to win —

DROP-VOWEL PUZZLE.

S-wh-l-l-v-l-sh-l-l,
Sh-u-l-l and p-r-s-p-r-l,
L-n-g cl-s-t-m-f-t,
Fr-l-b-t-w-rk-d-t-n,
M-d-s-f-r-l-w-l
W-th d-l-c-t-s-p-r-and wh-r-l,
H-w-x-q-s-t-l-m-n-t,
-m-r-cl-f-d-s-gn.

CROSS-WORD ENIGMA.

In talon, but not in beak,
In vapor, but not in reek.
In minute, but not in time.
In guinea, but not in dime.
In mother, but not in ma.
In father, but not in pa.
In naughty (now why do you cry!)
My whole word is plain if you only look sharp.

BEHEADINGS.

Behad a very useful article and leave an apartment,
Behad an article used in building dwellings and leave a girl,
Again and leave an animal.
Behad an article of furniture and leave a part of the human body,
Again and leave one of the elements.
Behad an article of concealment and leave an animal.
Behad an article of apparel and leave a grain.
Behad another article of apparel and leave to possess.
Behad a boy's name and leave to change.
LILIAN A. GREENE.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.—Broad, Echo, Lemon, Lined, Agra, Bella Donna, Belladonna.
OLD FRIENDS WITH NEW NAMES.—1, Hector; 2, Lancelot; 3, Perseus; 4, Achilles; 5, Hercules; 6, Ulysses; 7, Mercury; 8, Tantalus; 9, Orpheus; 10, Caesar; 11, Charon; 12, Agamemnon; 13, Apollo; 14, Ganymede; 15, Socrates.

CHARADE.—Marrow.

DIAMOND PUZZLE.

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CHARADE.—Hoodwink.

SHALL WE KNOW EACH OTHER THERE?

The minister of a fashionable church once preached a beautiful sermon on this subject. He drew the picture of a very beautiful heaven. We would walk in sunlit groves, by the music of waterfalls and gaze out upon Amaranthine fields.

And then, too, "we shall know each other there," said the minister, and then added there'll be no strangers in the new Jerusalem; we'll all be friends."

"Beautiful!" said Deacon Sham, as he trotted down the aisle.
"A lovely sermon!" said Miss Simpkins, as she put her holy hand into the minister's. She was stopped by a poor mechanic, who came up and addressed the preacher:

"Mr. —, I am glad we shall recognize each other up there."

"Yes," said the minister, "it is one of the greatest consolations of our religion."

"Well, I'm right glad we shall know each other. It will be a great change though; for I have attended your church for over four years, and none of the members of this society have recognized me yet. But—we shall all know each other there."