

# THE SUNBEAM

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## CHRIST AND THE CENTURION.

How confident and earnest is this officer, as he kneels before Jesus, telling Him of the sick servant who was dear unto him and whom he wanted to have made well. He makes known the great trouble and asks for help. See how kind and loving Jesus looks as he talks with him: "I will come and heal him," he says. But the Captain, with true humility, replies: "Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; just speak the word only and my servant shall be well. I tell one of my soldiers to go, and he goes; and to another come, and he comes; and to my servants do this, and they do it."

He implied that the great and good Master had just such authority over sickness and death, and he had only to speak the word of command and it would be obeyed.

This greatly pleased Jesus, who immediately told the people that this man had more faith than any one he had yet found; He says to the kneeling officer: "Go thy way; as thou hast believed so shall it be."

If we had been in the sick-room of that suffering servant at the time these words



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were spoken we should have seen a strange sight. A man lying very ill, unable to stir, full of pain and weakness, several persons standing by watching him die. when, suddenly, the man exclaims, with a strong voice: "Why! my pain is gone—see! I can move

my feet and hands. What does it mean! I don't feel sick any longer." Then he jumps up off from his bed, crying out: "I am well! O, I am well and strong!"

What a thrill of gladness would they all feel! When the Centurion returned what a story they would tell him, and he would say: "That's just what Jesus said would take place." Then, too, they would all admire and praise Jesus. The man himself—how would he feel toward Jesus, and what would he say to others about it?

Jesus is the same strong and compassionate friend to-day as then. He it is who now "forgives our iniquities and heals our diseases," if we but ask him for such blessings. How much he will do and how much he will do to us if we will but come to him.

## THE VERDICT OF A LITTLE LADY.

LITTLE LILLIE D., just four years old, was looking out of the front window one day, and hearing some of the company around her remark on the handsome appearance of some passing person, gave her opinion on this wise: "I sinks any gemman wid a cigar in his mouth always looks ugly!"