



THE WALNUT TREE.

This is a very useful tree, and some of its uses are well illustrated in our cut. First you will notice the two little girls who are taking advantage of the shade afforded by its large, leafy branches. Next we see an arm chair and three guns. These are made of the wood of the walnut tree, which is hard, fine-grained and durable, and takes a beautiful finish. Then we glance to the right of the cut and see the large press. Into a press like this, large quantities of the nuts are put and their oil is extracted. This oil is used for food just as olive oil is used. There is also a kind of painter's oil made from the walnuts by pressing them a second time. On the ground beside the press are some jars. These contain pickled walnuts, which are very delicious. The nuts are taken when they are fresh and soft and used for pickling and for making catsup. The basket is filled with walnuts which those two little girls under the tree would enjoy eating.

RECRUITING FOR MISSIONS.

BY MRS. L. G. M'VEAN.

(THREE boys are looking at a large album, while a lady is sitting in the background.)
Harry—"Whose picture is that, Will? My! ain't he grand! He looks like a general, or something."

Will—"That is my uncle Will,—taken in his uniform. He was a recruiting sergeant when the war began."

Harry—"O! wouldn't I have just liked to live in those times, when there was something going on! I'd rather be a recruiting officer than anything else I know of."

Fred—"So'd I. Nothing to do, but just march through a town, all dressed up, and put down the names of fellows that wanted to go to war; and have the flag waving, and the fifes and drums going. I tell you that is the sort of a life I'd like."

Will—"My Uncle Will did more than that. You have to go and fight, after you recruit. Uncle Will was a grand soldier. I never saw him, but mamma can tell you."

Fred—"O, tell us about him, Mrs. White."

Mrs. White (coming forward)—"There is very little more to tell about my brother, boys. His life, though wide and full, was short. He fell in the first battle of Bull Run. But I know of a recruiting officer, right here in this place, that has a grand life."

Will—"O! do you?"

Fred—"How jolly!"

Harry—"Do tell us; what's his name?"

Mrs. White—"I shall surprise you. This officer wears no uniform and is only a very plain woman, a true lady, and a devoted Christian—Mrs. Wallace."

Fred—"O! Mrs. White, I saw her to-

day, and she is not a recruiting sergeant at all! She came to get mamma to join the Missionary Society, and she had pictures of young lady missionaries to sell and she wanted some good clothes, to pack in a box, to send to a preacher's family in China who lost everything but life, when the news of our anti-Chinese riots reached the place where they taught and preached."

Mrs. White—"What you say, Freddie, explains my meaning. Hers is the great commission, 'Go ye into all the world and preach;' hers is the highest office, not only to fight evil herself, but to recruit others into the Master's service."

Fred—"Well, I never thought of that."

Mrs. White—"And Harry, you wished to live in stirring times. Do you know what is going on, now, in this little world? Not long ago an associated press dispatch announced that in Africa the king of the Zulus fed seventy-five women and children to his imperial golden eagles. A mere matter of news!

"Get up a company of soldiers, a 'Taylor Band,' and raise a fund to help our bravest Bishop, win Africa and flood the Dark Continent with Gospel light!

"I tell you, my boys, you may all be recruiting sergeants, and it is glorious work because it is the Lord's."

Boys—"Let's try it!"

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

ISRAEL AFTER THE CAPTIVITY.

LESSON X.—MARCH 5.

KEEPING THE SABBATH.

Neh. 13. 15 22.] [Memory verses, 17, 18.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.—Exod. 20. 8.

OUTLINE.

1. The Sabbath Broken, verses 15-18.
2. The Sabbath Kept, verses 19-22.

TIME.—About B. C. 434.

PLACE.—Jerusalem.

CONNECTING LINKS.

After the reading of the law, the people kept the feast of tabernacles, and then entered into a solemn covenant to keep all the law of the Lord. Read chapters 9 and 10. Nehemiah journeyed to Babylon, then returned to Jerusalem, and resumed his office as pasha, but found the people disobeying God's law.

EXPLANATIONS.

"Wine-presses"—Ancient wine-vats were constructed in pairs, from the higher of which the grape juice was forced into the lower. They were often erected on hill-sides, and these which Nehemiah saw stood probably on the slopes of Olivet. "On the Sabbath"—This directly violated the ancient law (Exod. 20, 8-11), as well as the recent national oath (Neh. 10). "Lading asses"—It was the custom to bring harvests by donkey loads into the city for fear of robbers, to thrash inside the walls. "Men of Tyre"—Therefore worshippers of Baal. "Nobles of Judah"—Many of whom in each generation were luxurious and profane. "Profaning the Sabbath"—This was one of the greatest crimes of Israel in all its history. "When the gates . . . began to be dark"—When the shadows lengthened, half-an-hour or so earlier than sundown, at which hour the gates were usually closed. The Hebrew Sabbath began at sundown. "Lodged without"—The merchants lingered in hope of illicit sales, and a later modification of the law. "Lay hands on"—Arrest. "Cleanse themselves"—All Nehemiah's political actions were religiously performed.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. The duty of Sabbath-keeping?

2. The sin of Sabbath-breaking?
3. The blessedness of Sabbath observance?

HOMEWORK FOR YOUNG BEREANS.

Was the Sabbath-day kept before Moses received God's law at Sinai?

Find what extraordinary rewards Isaiah promised those who kept holy the Sabbath-day.

What are we often told that Jesus did on the Sabbath-day?

How did it come about that soon after Jesus went to heaven the Sabbath was changed from Saturday to Sunday?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What did Nehemiah see in Judah and Jerusalem? "Men who bought and sold on the holy Sabbath-day." 2. With whom did he expostulate because they should have set a better example? "The great men." 3. What had Sabbath-breaking already brought upon the Jews? "The curse of God." 4. What did Nehemiah do? "Shut the Sabbath-breakers outside the walls." 5. What did he order the Levites to do? "To sanctify the Sabbath-day." 6. What is the fourth commandment? "Golden Text?" "Remember," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION—The sanctity of the Sabbath.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

What blessing does God pronounce on believers?

To Peter he gave it thus: Matt. 16. 17. And to Thomas he gave it thus: John 20. 29.

The Village Cobbler.

BY GERTRUDE E. RIGGLES.

On yonder shelves are shoes, you see; they count an even score,
That must be mended, sure the like was never known before.

The smith's are first, and many a stroke from this right brawny fist,
It takes to drive such nails—to wooden pegs he'll never list.

Then the schoolmaster's are a job, they're worn clear to the welt,
The sting of poverty I'm sure that fellow oft has felt.

Upon the ground the drifted snow a foot or so lies deep,
And that's the reason that my pile of work's so very steep.

Yours, Master Will, I see at once are in a hopeless case—

Why, why, my boy, don't think that you must put on such a face,
You'll quickly see that I am right, consult your common sense;

Go find some work to do, and then be sure to save the pence,

And buy yourself some shoes, my boy, nor waste your money so

On that which only brings to you sorrow and shame and woe.

THE BOY WITH A KODAK.

JOHN and his sister Flora were sitting on the grass in the front yard, playing jackstones. It seemed impossible for these two children to play together for any length of time without having—what their big sister named—their "differences." Across the street stood a large hotel, always well filled during the summer months with people who came to enjoy the sweet country air, and tan themselves on the lakes until their faces looked like mulattoes.

John looked up and saw a tall boy coming across the street. In his hand he carried a curious-looking box. He coolly stepped over the low iron fence that surrounded the yard, and seated himself on the grass a few feet from them. He did not seem inclined to talk, so the game proceeded the same as if he had not been there. Flora was tossing the jackstones when John exclaimed, "There! that's a miss."

"Well, it wasn't but a little one," said Flora, holding it away from his outstretched hand.

"A miss is a miss, big or little," said John, getting very much in earnest, "Come, hand it over. It's my turn."

But Flora only shook her head defiantly and put her hand behind her.

"You're a cheat—that's what you are!" exclaimed John, angrily.

At this Flora raised her hand and struck her brother on the arm. He resented it by making an ugly grimace at her.

Snap, snap, went the box in the stranger boy's hand.

Both turned in wandering surprise. "What makes that thing do that? What is it, anyhow?" John demanded. "I'll tell you to-morrow," said the tall boy, and stepping over the fence he walked quickly away.

"Queer chap, isn't he?" said John, looking after him uneasily.

Next day when they were playing in the yard, they saw the tall boy again crossing the street, but this time he had some cards in his hands.

"Here, sis," said he, holding one toward Flora. She took it curiously, gazed at it in blank amazement, then her face flamed with shame and mortification.

There she was, photographed, her clinched fist raised, and in the act of striking her brother, while on her face was a most unbecoming expression of rage and revenge. Never before had she seen herself in a passion. Her mirror always reflected her face when in a complacent mood, which at such times was not uncommonly. She had no idea it could become thus transformed.

John stood silently looking at it over her shoulder. The tall boy then handed the other card to John.

He would have laughed outright had it not been a photograph of himself. The deep frown and the distorted features were anything but pleasant to look upon. He felt deeply chagrined and humbled.

"You see I took you yesterday when you were fighting," explained the boy, leaning against the fence. "You fight a great deal, don't you? I have tried several times to take you from my window across the street, but failed. Kodaks are getting to be quite common playthings nowadays. We shall have to tidy up our manners, for there's no knowing when we are going to be photographed. I have a stack of pictures of people who little dream that I have photographed them in all their moods and tempers. It's a fine way to study human nature. You may keep those pictures;" and so saying he walked away.

John and Flora looked at each other in shamefaced silence. One could not exult over the other. The defeat was for both of them.

"Say, Flora," said John at length, "Let's don't fight any more."

"I won't if you won't," answered Flora, who stood regarding her picture with decided ill-favour.

Ever after that day, when they felt that they were getting angry, the remembrance of the picture which their sister had tacked up in each room caused them to change their tactics instantly.—*Caroline Mosher, in the Advance.*

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