

**A Junior Hymn.**

BY S. J. DUNCAN CLARK.

*Asr. "There's a royal banner given for display."  
We are Junior soldiers banded for the King,  
Marching onward to the fight,  
While with voices glad we join his praise to  
sing,  
As we battle for the right.*

CHORUS.

*Forward girls! Forward boys!  
King Jesus leads against the foe;  
And in his strength we'll win at length,  
Then home to glory with him go*

*Trusting in our loving Leader for his might,  
To our pledge we will be true;  
Daily read his Word, and pray to him for light,  
As he would have us do.*

*With sunny smiles, and loving word and song,  
Life's pathway we will strew;  
And pass the story of God's love along,  
The story ever now.*

*Come, girls and boys, and join our Junior band,  
Then in Christ's strength endeavour  
With consecrated heart to take your stand  
Close to his side forever.*

*Toronto, Ont. — Endeavour Herald*

**THE LESSON CATECHISM.**

1. What sort of a man did Jesus see as he passed by with his disciples? A blind beggar.  
2. What did his disciples believe? That each man who suffered had sinned. 3. Why did Jesus say the man had been born blind? To show forth the works of God. 4. What did Jesus say of himself? Golden Text: "I am the light of the world." 5. What did he do to the blind man? He anointed his eyes with clay. 6. What did he tell the blind man to do? To wash in the pool of Siloam. 7. What then took place? He washed, and came seeing.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The omnipotence of Christ.

**TWO WONDERFUL GIRLS.**

Did you ever think how terrible it must be to be blind? But what would you say about being deaf and dumb as well, and without the sense of smell or of taste? That was the sad condition of a dear little girl who was born in Hanover, N. H., in 1829. Her name was Laura Bridgman, and in her third year scarlet fever took all

Laura Bridgman lived to be nearly sixty years old. She always had a host of devoted friends, with whom she was so bright and happy as to put to shame those of us who have so much more than she to be happy about. One of her greatest trials was the death, in 1876, of her good friend, Dr. Howe, who had done such wonderful things for her.

For a few years the whole world has been hearing much about another wonderful little girl connected with the same school in Boston. Her name is Helen Keller.

Helen was born in Alabama, June 27, 1880. She is now, therefore, only fifteen years old, and certainly she is the most wonderful fifteen-year-old child that ever lived on the earth. Before she was two years old she became totally blind, deaf, and dumb. When she was almost seven years old she was intrusted to Miss Sullivan, a half-blind assistant of Dr. Anagnos, of the Perkins Institute.

Helen's marvellous mind grasped at once things that even Laura Bridgman had been slow to see. It took Laura three months

river went rushing past to join the stormy ocean. Then I went to the shore and put my bare feet in the water, and felt the waves beating against the shore continually; and God smiled, and the world was filled with light, and there was no evil, no wrong in all the world, only love and beauty and goodness. Just then I felt teacher kissing my lips, and I awoke.

**JESUS AND THE BLIND.**

Our picture shows how Christ treated the poor fellows, who lined the roads of Palestine eighteen hundred years ago just as they do now. And how did he treat them? First, there are some things he didn't do: He never laughed at their misery; he did not turn his head and talk about something else so as not to see their rags and sores; he never spoke harshly to them; he gave them no money, for he had none; he could not give shelter, for "he had not where to lay his head."

Remember this, that the beggars he helped were not tramps—able-bodied men who would rather beg than work; they were poor fellows who were blind or dumb or impotent or paralyzed or leprous, and they must beg or starve. Now how did he help them?

If you will read Luke 18, 35-43, you will see how he gave sight to Bartimeus. Luke 5, 12-16, tells how he healed loathsome lepers. John 9 reports what he did for a man who had never seen a ray of light; and John 5, 1-9, shows his real pity for a man who had been sick for thirty-eight years.

We find from these and other instances that Jesus pitied beggars, forgave their sins, and restored their health. And from his own words we know that he would have us, who love him and who call ourselves Christians, care for the needy, comfort the sorrowful, nurse the sick, and endeavour by word and deed to convince all men and women and children that a loving Christ will forgive their sins.



JESUS AND THE BLIND MAN.

**LESSON NOTES.**

**FIRST QUARTER.**

LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF OUR LORD.

A. D. 29.] **LESSON VIII.** (Feb. 24.)

**CHRIST AND THE MAN BORN BLIND.**

John 9, 1-11. Memory Verses, 1-3.

**GOLDEN TEXT**

I am the Light of the world. John 9, 5.

**OUTLINE.**

- 1. Blindness, v. 1-3.
- 2. Cure, v. 4-7.
- 3. Testimony, v. 8-11.

**TIME.**—On a Sabbath day in the early winter of A. D. 29.

**PLACE.**—Pool of Siloam, Jerusalem.

**RULERS.**—Herod in Galilee; Pilate in Jerusalem.

**HOME READINGS.**

M. Christ and the man born blind.—John 9, 1-11.

Tu. Questions by Pharisees.—John 9, 13-23.

W. Cast out.—John 9, 24-34.

Th. Spiritual sight.—John 9, 35-41.

F. Bartimeus.—Mark 10, 46-52.

S. Light in the heart.—2 Cor. 4, 1-6.

Su. Light of the world.—John 1, 1-13.

**QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.**

1. *Blindness, v. 1-3.*  
Whom did Jesus see by the wayside?  
What question did the disciples ask?  
What reply did Jesus make?  
What promise held out hope to the blind?  
Isa. 42, 6, 7.
2. *Cure, v. 4-7.*  
What did Jesus say about his own work?  
What did he say about the light? (Golden Text.)  
What did he then do for the blind man?  
What did he tell the man to do?  
What was the result of the man's obedience?  
What proof that he was the Messiah did Jesus give to John? Matt. 11, 5.
3. *Testimony, v. 8-11.*  
What question did the man's neighbours ask?  
What answers were given?  
What did the man himself say?  
What did the people then ask?  
What was the man's testimony?  
What testimony did he give later? Verse 25.  
On what day was this cure performed? Verse 14.  
What did the healed man think of Jesus? Verses 17, 25.  
What did the Jews do to the man? Verse 34.  
What noble confession did the man make? Verses 35-39.

**TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.**

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. To do good as we have opportunity?
2. To obey every command of Jesus?
3. To be witnesses for Jesus?

her senses from her except the sense of touch.

She was eight years old before she began to learn of this beautiful world and all the wonderful things in it. Then she was taken to a noble school in Boston, called the Perkins Institution for the Blind.

How could they do it? This was the way they began. They took slips of paper on which were printed the names of different objects, in the raised letters used by the blind. The first of these was "knife." They moved Laura's delicate little fingers over it time and again until she was familiar with it. Then they gave her a real knife on which just such a label was pasted, and tried to make her see, by placing the two side by side, that the first label was the name of the knife.

After doing this a great many times with a great many labels and things, at last the little girl got the idea. She showed it by taking the word "chair," and placing it first on one chair and then on another, while her face glowed with delight.

I wish I could tell you the entire wonderful story of her education,—how her patient teachers, through the long years, gave this poor creature, so shut out from our world, an idea of what is in it, how she was taught to read and write, to know father and mother, to count, to spell, to do many useful things, and, best of all, to know and love God and his Son Jesus Christ.

Why, when you think of it, this is one of the most beautiful and remarkable things ever done in this world by any man,—to make a way into this girl's dark mind, and teach her all these things, with nothing but the sense of touch to use as a road into her soul.

to see how words stood for things. It took Helen only three lessons. In the first three months she learned three hundred words. She could spell long and hard words, like "balustrade," as easily as short words. In four months she could write, and had learned more than Laura Bridgman in two years. And all this was accomplished by that half-blind teacher, Miss Sullivan, who, in her way, is quite as wonderful as Helen Keller herself.

I wish I could tell you more about Helen, who is one of the dearest and sweetest, as well as the most remarkable, of little girls. I want you to read this bit of writing of hers, written a few years ago, and as you read it, remember that the writer lives always in a world of blackness and silence. It is an account of a dream she once had.

Last night I dreamed that long, long ago, when the birds and flowers and trees were first made, the great God who had created all things sat upon a beautiful cloud which looked like silver, and seemed to float in the midst of the blue sky like a throne; and he looked down upon the earth,—the wonderful world he had made out of his own thought. O, how beautiful the earth was! with her great mountains climbing upward to the sky, and her valleys filled with sweet-smelling flowers and delicious fruit. The trees seemed alive with beautiful living things; the little birds' joyous songs made the air vibrate with music. I felt it in my dream.

I knelt on the cool, green moss that crept down to the edge of the merry little brooks, and I touched the water as it rippled past me. The broad, deep lakes were as quiet as little sleeping babies, and I felt the ground tremble under my feet when the

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