

SUMMER SILENCE.

BY MARY B. DODD.

HERE is stillness, rapturous stillness, in the August afternoon, Though the low-sung leaflets quiver to the crickets' drowsy tune.

The droning of the crickets—did it break the breathless swoon Of the half-unconscious senses, in this August afternoon!

Oh the echoes of the silence of this strangely vocal hour, Outflowing from the honey-bee that hums above the flower,

Yes, the golden day is dreamful, through the music summer breaths— Her myriad voices quickened like her myriad-flowering seeds—

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

A.D. 30.] LESSON VII. [Aug. 15.

JESUS TEACHING HUMILITY.

John 13. 1-17. Commit to mem. vs. 15-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.—John 13. 17.

OUTLINE.

- 1. A Holy Thought, v. 1. 2. A Lowly service, v. 2-11. 3. A Lordly Example, v. 12-17.

TIME.—Thursday night. The night before the crucifixion.

PLACE.—Jerusalem: the upper room where he kept the feast.

EXPLANATIONS.—Supper being ended—The passover feast which they were observing in the upper room in Jerusalem. Laid aside his garments—Put off his outer mantle, or seamless robe, which was the usual dress in which he appeared.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where, in this lesson, are we taught—

- 1. The divine example of love? 2. The divine example of humility? 3. The divine example of forbearance?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What took place on the evening before the Saviour's death? His last supper with the disciples. 2. What is said of his love to his disciples at that time? "He loved them to the end."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The nature of true service.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

42. How is God righteous or just? His laws and government are righteous; and he will reward and punish justly.

A.D. 30.] LESSON VIII. [Aug 22.

WARNING TO JUDAS AND PETER.

John 13. 21-38. Commit to mem. vs. 30-35.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. 1 Cor. 10. 12.

OUTLINE.

- 1. The Servant of Satan, v. 21-30. 2. The Law of Love, v. 31-35. 3. The Mistaken Disciple, v. 36-38.

TIME, PLACE. See preceding lesson EXPLANATIONS.—Troubled in spirit—Saddened, depressed to the depth of his soul that a friend should be the one to betray him.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where, in this lesson, are we taught—

- 1. The treachery of formal service? 2. The forbearance of Jesus? 3. The duty of brotherly love?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Of what did Jesus forewarn his disciples at the last supper? That one of them should betray him. 2. Who was the betrayer of Jesus? Judas Iscariot. 3. What led him to this act? The love of money.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Deliverance to Satan.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

43. How is God faithful and true? His words are always true, and his promises can never fail. God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent.

A HARD SUM.

ARE you good at arithmetic? I will give you some losses to add up, and calculate how much they come to. They are the losses made by strong drink: Loss of money, time, health, business, character, friends, good conscience, feeling, mind, life, soul.

BEER OR A HOME—WHICH?

MRS. ANNIE WITTENMEYER, referring to the wastefulness of beer-drinking, says:

"Where land is worth twenty dollars an acre, one glass of beer at five cents would represent a piece of land twelve feet long and nine feet wide; and this money duly invested in this land, would be paving the way to a good home and prosperity all around."

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