



AFRICAN HELMET.

Our illustration is a correct representation of a very curious helmet or head-dress which a recent traveller in Africa discovered. It appears to be worn only at the interment of the natives of a certain district, for this traveller tells us that among the men who assisted at the interment of the people of Katon, a village of about eight or nine hundred inhabitants, was a young man wearing this curious head-dress. It was a wooden helmet constructed out of one piece of wood, and blackened by fire. In the front, in a kind of niche, is a representation of a man sculptured in relief, and at each side of the niche is a great horn, on which has been painted great black and white squares, while the top of the helmet is surmounted by a rude sculpture representing a horseman.

The wearer of this odd-looking helmet usually heads the funeral procession and is immediately followed by the women of the village, who sing the virtues of the deceased and carry in the right hands the tail of a cow, which they hold a little above their heads. The body wrapped in a mat, is borne on the heads of two strong men, and is followed only by the parents of the deceased and the gravedigger. As soon as the body has been taken out of the village, the fete, which began at the time of the news of the death of the inhabitant had been duly communicated to the village by the head of the bereaved family, recommences and continues till the following morning, when a second visit from the head of the family terminates it. Evil-doers and strangers, however, are buried without this ceremony.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.
STUDIES IN THE LIFE OF JESUS.

LESSON II.—APRIL 3.

PRECEPTS AND PROMISES.

Matt 7. 1-14. Memory verses, 7, 8, 13, 14.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.—Matt. 7. 12.

OUTLINE.

1. Concerning Severe Judgment, v. 1-5.
2. Concerning Lax Judgment, v. 6.
3. Concerning Prayer, v. 7-11.
4. The Golden Rule, v. 12.
5. The Broad Way and the Narrow Way, v. 13, 14.

Time.—Probably the early summer of A.D. 28.

Place.—A mountain in Galilee, probably the Horns of Hattin.

LESSON HELPS.

1. "Judge not"—In a severe and unkind spirit. "Be not judged"—Not only by others, but by God, who takes account of our hearts toward men.
2. "Mote"—Or measure to others.
3. "The mote"—Something very small. "The beam"—Or "splinter;" something much greater.
5. "Hypocrite"—A pretender. "Cast out the beam"—Take away your own evils before you judge severely those of others.
6. "Holy"—That which is pure and high. "Unto the dogs"—In the East the dogs are vile, homeless, ownerless, and despised, hence taken as a symbol of the wicked and worthless. "Pearls before swine"—Truth given to those who would not understand, but would despise it. "Send you"—Oppose and persecute those who try to do them good.
8. "Every one"—Who asks for the right things in the right way.

9. "Bread . . . stone"—No father would so deceive and wrong his child.
11. "Being evil"—Even the best of men are in comparison with God.
12. "Whatsoever"—That is, what you should justly receive, that give.
13. "Strait"—Not straight, direct, but narrow, close.
14. "Few there be that find it"—Because few seek it.

HOME READINGS.

- M. Precepts and promises Matt 7 1-14
 Tu. Known by fruits.—Matt. 7. 15-29.
 W. Judge not!—James 4 5-12
 Th. Seeking with the heart—Jer 29 8-14
 F. True love—Luke 6 27-36
 S. The mote and the beam—Luke 6 37-45
 Su. The strait gate—Luke 13 22-30

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Concerning Severe Judgment, v. 1-5.
 What fear should keep us from judging others?
 By what standard will we be judged?
 What should caution us against dwelling on small faults in others?
 What often hinders us from helping others to get rid of faults?
 What is our first duty in such a case?
2. Concerning Lax Judgment, v. 6.
 To what use are we forbidden to put that which is holy?
 What warning is given against misuse of pearls?
 What reason is assigned for the warning?
3. Concerning Prayer, v. 7-11.
 What command with regard to prayer is given?
 What promise encourages obedience?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

- Where in this lesson are we taught—
 1. That we should be charitable toward others' faults?
 2. That we should be earnest in our prayers?

CHILDREN DISCOVERERS.

As in many other cases of discovery, that of the telescope appears to have been the result of a playful accident. Several stories are told about it, but they are all similar.

The one most generally accepted tells how about the year 1590, over three hundred years ago, the children of Zachariah Jansen, a spectacle maker residing in Middleburg, Holland, were playing one day in their father's workshop, and observed that when they held between their fingers two spectacle glasses, one some distance before the other, and looked through them at the weathercock of the church, it seemed inverted, but very much nearer to them, and greatly increased in size. Their father, when his attention was called, saw that one of the glasses was convex and the other concave. He made experiments, and ended by fixing such glasses in wooden tubes a few inches long, and selling them for curiosities.

Another account tells how one Lipperschelm discovered the telescope in a similar manner. Descartes, however, a contemporary, gives the credit to James Metius, a glass cutter in Holland, whose brother, a professor in mathematics and a maker of burning glasses and mirrors, hit upon the discovery in the same way that Jansen's children are said to have done.

mlte. By the way, what's that you're putting in your mouth, Rob?"
 "Oh, nothing; just some root that Tom Scott gave me."
 "Let me see. Why, that piece of root is a drug which no one but a doctor ought to prescribe! See here, young man, there is another door which needs guarding as well as that of the arsenal. There's a great deal more danger in stuffing all sorts of things into your stomach, whence they will go into your blood and brain and muscle. What else have you in your pockets? Why, here are some coffee berries, a package of chewing gum, and a bit of alum! You can't put a guard at the door of that chemical laboratory inside you too soon. It's a great deal more dangerous to be mixing all sorts of things together there than in a powder magazine. Halt everything that wants to go in, and keep it out unless you are absolutely sure it will make you a stronger, purer boy."

DRINK HAS CAUSED ALL THIS.

"Drink has caused all this." These were the dying words of the wife of a New York policeman, who in a drunken rage shot and killed his wife, his two children, his mother and himself. A whole family was exterminated by the murderous hand of the father who should have protected it, and "drink caused all this." Just such terrible things are being caused by drink every day. Every year a thousand millions of dollars are consumed, thousands of homes are blighted, multitudes of children go ragged and hungry, numberless accidents, fires, drownings, brawls, riots, suicides, and murders occur, and thousands have their rotten bodies buried in drunkards' graves, and "drink has caused all this." Imagination cannot pile up all the horrors of this curse. In the day of judgment there will be an awful record of sin and crime, against which may be written the verdict, "Drink has caused all this."

The Russian general, Gourko, who is about to start for Pretoria, made the following statement: "I have been offered the command of a Boer army corps. In my own mind I am absolutely confident of the success of the Boers. You may take my word for it that thousands of Russians are now fighting under General Joubert."—Despots will help despots.



VENETIAN GIRL.

What illustration from a father's love? Beyond whose love doth that of our Father go?

What will he give to such as ask? What "good things" has he promised? Luke 11. 13.

4. The Golden Rule, v. 12.
 What rule of conduct toward our brother does Jesus give?

Where is this teaching earliest found? In what one word is the law fulfilled? Gal. 5. 14.

5. The Broad Way and the Narrow Way, v. 13, 14.

What is the meaning of "strait"? Do the narrowness and strain come at the beginning of the road to heaven or at the end?

There is only one way to live healthfully, how many ways are there to be ill?

There is only one way to nourish a large intellectual life, how many ways are there to ruin one's mind?

There is only one entrance, and that is narrow, to holiness, how many thousands of entrances are there to ruin?

VENETIAN GIRL.

This is the picture of Tessa, a little Venetian girl. These little girls of Venice are very pretty, with their dark brown eyes and jet black hair and bright dresses. You see, Tessa wears no hat, for she is not afraid of getting sunburned, although the sun is very strong where she lives, for her face is brown naturally, with a lovely red tinge in her cheeks. She looks a little bit sad, doesn't she? What do you suppose she is thinking about?

NEEDED—A SENTRY.

The sentry made me take off my shoes and leave my cane and the contents of my pocket's outside." Rob's uncle was relating of his visit to a United States arsenal, where armaments of war are made.

"What was that for?" Rob wanted to know.

"To be sure that nothing went in that ought not to go. Great mischief might result from the presence of something which would set off the powder or dynamite."

Rev. J. Jackson Wray's

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