

THE LIGHTS O' LONDON

BY GEORGE R. SIMS.

THE way was long and weary,
But gallantly they strode,
A country lad and lassie,
Along the heavy road.
The night was dark and stormy,
But blithe of heart were they,
For, shining in the distance,
The lights of London lay!
O gleaming lamps of London, that gem
The city's crown!
What fortunes lie within you, O Lights of
London Town!

With faces worn and weary,
That told of sorrow's load,
One day a man and woman
Crept down a country road.
They sought their native village,
Heart-broken from the fray;
Yet shining still behind them
The Lights of London lay.
O cruel lamps of London, if tears your
light could drown,
Your victims' eyes would weep them,
O Lights of London Town!

The *New York Tribune*, in an editorial article on "New Year's Calls," recently gave a telling exhortation in favor of temperance. It narrates the case of a young husband, whose wife wished to have wine upon their table because it was "the proper thing for persons in their class," the result being that—last summer he was going every day through the streets of New York, shoeless and in rags, trying to borrow a dime now and then from the men he had known in the days of his prosperity to buy a drink.

Its application of the subject to the ladies receiving New Year's calls, for directness and pungency, is worthy of one of the ancient prophets:

"Every well bred woman who offers liquor to the crowd of men and immature boys who will enter her drawing-rooms on New Year's day runs the same risk which the wife of B. did when she placed wine in his way, and takes the same responsibility. She is as much to blame as the tavern-keeper who sells whiskey at five cents a glass.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

A. D. 27] LESSON XII. [March 19.
POWER OVER DISEASE AND DEATH.

Mark 5. 21-43. Commit to memory v. 21-23.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Be not afraid, only believe. Mark 5. 36.

OUTLINE.

1. The Father, v. 21-24.
2. The Woman, v. 25-34.
3. The Child, v. 35-43.

TIME. A. D. 27, immediately after the events of the last lesson.

PLACE.—Capernaum in Galilee.

PARALLEL PASSAGES.—Matt. 9. 18-26; Luke 8. 41-56.

EXPLANATIONS.—*The other side*—To Capernaum, on the western shore of the sea. *Ruler of the synagogue*—One of those who were in charge of the services at the sabbath-day meetings of the Jews. *Fell at his feet*—Showing earnestness, submission, and faith. *Thronged him*—Eager to hear his words and see his miracles. *Issue of blood*—A disease which kept her very weak, and must at some time destroy her life. *In the press*—In the crowd. *Touched his garment*—With strong faith in Christ's power. *Plague*—Disease. *Touched me*—many had pressed him, but only one had given him the touch of faith. *Why troublest thou?*—None supposed that Jesus could restore the dead to life, for he had not as yet wrought such a miracle. *Some Peter... James... John*—The three whom he loved most of his disciples, and chosen for witnesses of his greatest events. *The custom*—In Oriental houses people make great noise in their sorrow, and often hire people to mourn with them. *Slumber*—As death

in a sleep, from which Christ can awake. *Dameel*—The little girl. *Tatitha cumi*—Hebrew words meaning "Little girl, arise." *No man should know*—As he had a greater work to do than miracles, and could not give his time to them. *Given her to eat*—To show that she was restored to life.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson do we learn—

1. To come humbly to Christ in prayer?
2. To seek Christ with determination?
3. To believe in Christ's power to save?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What did a ruler ask of Jesus when he returned to Capernaum? To heal his dying daughter. 2. How was a diseased woman healed while Jesus was on his way to the ruler's house? By touching the garment of Jesus. 3. What did Jesus say to the woman? "Thy faith hath made thee whole." 4. What did Jesus say to the ruler when news came that his daughter was dead? "Be not afraid, only believe." 5. What did Jesus say to the people weeping at the house? "She is not dead, but asleep." 6. By what words did he call the dead child back to life? "I say unto thee, Arise."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The omniscience of Jesus.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

31. What was the last of those plagues which procured the release of Israel?

The last of those plagues with which God gave Moses power to smite Egypt to procure the release of Israel was, that, as Moses had declared, an angel destroyed all the first-born of the land of Egypt in one night; but he passed over and did not hurt any of the families of Israel.

FIRST QUARTERLY REVIEW.

March 26.

REVIEW SCHEME.

I. Repeat the TITLES and GOLDEN TEXTS of the lessons of the quarter.

II. Answer the questions in the LESSON CATECHISM.

III. Read each lesson carefully and try to tell about the following

LESSON PICTURES.

LESSON I—*A prophet preaching by a river.*—Who was he? How was he clothed? By what river did he preach? What did he say to the people? What did he see and hear when Christ was baptized?

TEACHING—We should honor Christ as the Son of God.

LESSON II—*The Saviour by the sea.*—Whom did he see fishing? What did he say to them? What did they do? 2. *The Saviour in the synagogue.*—Whom did he there meet? What did the evil spirit say? How did Jesus answer him?

TEACHING—We should promptly obey Christ's call.

LESSON III—*The woman with a fever.*—Who was she? What did Christ do to her? 2. *The Leper.*—What did he say? How did Jesus answer him? What did he command him to do?

TEACHING—We should go to Christ with all our troubles.

LESSON IV—*A man let down through the roof.*—What was his trouble? Why was he let down through the roof? What did he say? 2. *The tax-gatherer at his table.* What was his name? What did Jesus say to him? How did he honor Jesus?

TEACHING—We should look to Christ for forgiveness of our sins.

LESSON V—*In the wheat-fields.*—Who walked with Jesus? What did they do? What day was it? What was said? How did Jesus answer his enemies?

TEACHING—We should honor God's day by worship and doing good.

LESSON VI—*Twelve men with Jesus.*—Who were they? Who chose them? Name some of them? What did he call them to do?

TEACHING—We should bear Christ's message to men.

LESSON VII—*Friends and foes of Jesus.*—What did some of Christ's friends say about him? What did his enemies say? Who tried to see Jesus? Who did Jesus say was his mother and his brethren?

TEACHING—We should be Christ's brothers by doing God's will.

LESSON VIII—*The sower and the seed.*—What is the seed? Who is the sower? How many kinds of ground are named? What became of the seed in each?

TEACHING—We should let Christ's words have fruit in our hearts.

LESSON IX—*The candle and the mustard-seed.*—Where should a candle not be put? Where should it be placed? How should we bear God's word? How is the Gospel like mustard seed?

TEACHING—We should let Christ's light shine in our lives.

LESSON X—*Jesus in the storm.*—Where was it? What was Jesus doing? What did the disciples do in the storm? What did Jesus say?

TEACHING—We should fear nothing when Christ is with us.

LESSON XI—*The wild man among the tombs.*—In what country was he? What was the matter with him? How was he made well? What did he ask of Jesus afterward? What did Christ tell him to do?

TEACHING—We should tell others what Christ has done for us.

LESSON XII—*The dying girl.*—What was her father's name? What did he ask Jesus to do? Who touched Jesus in the crowd? What did the touch do for her? What did Jesus do when he came to the house? How was the dead child brought to life?

TEACHING—We should come to Christ with faith in his power to help us.

SECOND QUARTER.

A. D. 28.] LESSON I. [April 2.

THE MISSION OF THE TWELVE.

Mark 6. 1-13. Commit to memory v. 10-12.

GOLDEN TEXT.

He that receiveth you receiveth me; and he that receiveth me, receiveth him that sent me. Matt. 10. 40.

OUTLINE.

1. The Teacher, v. 1-6.
2. The Twelve, v. 7-13.

TIME.—A. D. 28, soon after the events of the last lesson.

PLACE.—Ver. 1-6, Nazareth; ver. 7-13, Galilee.

PARALLEL PASSAGES.—With ver. 1-6, Matt. 13. 54-58, some commentators regard Luke 4. 16-30, as parallel, but most as a previous event, early in Christ's ministry; with ver. 7-13, Matt. 10. 1-42, Luke 9. 1-6.

EXPLANATIONS.—*His own country*—Nazareth, in Galilee. This was his second visit since the beginning of his ministry. Though rejected once before, he still loves and seeks his own people. *Astonished*—They wondered at his wisdom, yet rejected him because of his humble origin. *The carpenter*—Jesus had worked at the trade of a carpenter with Joseph. *Sisters*—Who were probably married to men living in Nazareth. *Offended*—Opposed to him, and unwilling to believe in him. *A prophet, etc.*—Those who are nearest to a great man cannot see his greatness. *Could do no mighty work*—Because they would give him no chance. *Villages*—The small places around Nazareth. *The twelve*—The twelve disciples, called apostles. *Power*—Power to cast out evil spirits, as a proof that they spoke God's message. *Take nothing*—That they might learn self-denial, and trust in God, and that they might go directly to the people and depend upon them. *Script*—A bag for provisions. *There abide*—They were not to take time from their work for visits of mere friendship or acquaintance. *Shake off the dust*—As a token that they would have nothing to do with the people who refused to hear God's word. *Should repent*—Turn from sin to God. *Anointed with oil*—Healing by divine power, not by medicine.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

How are we taught in this lesson—

1. That Christ brings blessings to those who believe?
2. That Christ expects his followers to work?
3. That Christ's workers must be self-denying?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. How was Jesus treated in his own city, Nazareth. He was rejected. 2. How did Jesus feel at the rejection by his own people? He marvelled at their unbelief. 3. Whom did he send out to preach? The twelve disciples. 4. What did he command them concerning their journey? To carry nothing. 5. What did the disciples preach? That men should repent.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The ministry of the word.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

32. How was this kept in remembrance in following ages?

God—that the children of Israel in following ages might keep in remembrance the passing-over their fathers in Egypt, in the night when the angel destroyed all the first-born of the land—appointed the yearly sacrifice of a lamb in every family, which was called the Feast of the Passover.

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