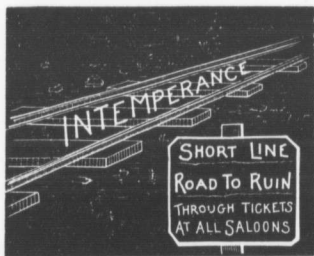


Blackboard.

BY J. B. PHIPPS, ESQ.



This is a temperance lesson. Here is the short line railroad that has more wrecks on it than all the other railroads of the world. It will be interesting for the superintendent to have scholars name the several stations on this road, and also name the conductors.

DIRECTIONS. Draw the rails with blue, the word "Intemperance" with red, the remaining words in white. Make the cross-ties and the sign-board with brown chalk.

LESSONS FOR APRIL, 1889.

APRIL 7. The Triumphant Entry. Mark 11, 1-11.

APRIL 14. The Rejected Son. Mark 12, 1-12.

APRIL 21. The Two Great Commandments. Mark 12, 28-34.

APRIL 28. Destruction of the Temple Foretold. Mark 13, 1-13.

Thoughts for the Quiet Hour.

—None can serve God like a believer, because none can love him as a believer; for the obedience of the heart is the heart of obedience.—*Secker*.

—The moment which brings a duty to be performed or a trouble to be borne brings also a message declaring to us the will of God. The soul has only to follow Jesus, the divine Model, by the way of those crosses and sacrifices which every day brings.—*Huntington*.

—Whoever would look to receive any benefit from Christ must come in faith; it is that only which makes us capable of any favor.—*Bishop Hall*.

—Sometimes a whole number of talents is thrust away because of one talent; the talent of using the others is wanting.—*Parker*.

All our lives are in some sense a "might have been;" the very best of us must feel, I suppose, in sad and thoughtful moments, that he might have been transcendently nobler and greater and loftier than he is; but while life lasts, every "might have been" should lead, not to vain regrets, but to manly resolutions; it should be but the dark background to a "may be" and "will be" yet.—*Farrar*.

—Live in the life which enlarges, live with all your might in the life of God, and you forget that any one has asked whether life is worth the living.—*Hale*.

—Faith is the sail which catches the breath of heaven, while repentance is the ballast which gives us stability in the voyage; and by the two we are made to pursue the steady course.—*McCook*.

—Christ is not valued at all unless he be valued above all.—*Augustine*.

—Set your standard high; and, though you may not reach it, you can hardly fail to rise higher than if you aimed at some inferior excellence.—*Hawes*.

—We know not what we ask, when we ask for the glory of wearing the crown and ask not for grace to bear the cross in our way to it.—*Henry*.

—It is a blessed simplicity when a man leaves the difficult way of questions and disputings, and goes forward in the plain and firm path of God's commandments.—*Thomas à Kempis*.

—It is a vain thought to flee from the work that God appoints us, for the sake of finding a greater blessing to our own souls; as if we could choose for ourselves where we shall find the fullness of the divine Presence, instead of seeking it where alone it is to be found, in loving obedience.—*George Eliot*.

—To-day is a king in disguise. To day always looks mean to the thoughtless, in the face of a uniform experience that all good and great and happy actions are made up precisely of these blank to-days. Let us not be so deceived. Let us unmask the king as he passes.—*Emerson*.

—You have no right to reckon on God's help and protection and guidance, and all the other splendid privileges which he promises to "the children of God by faith in Jesus Christ," until you have this first blessing, the mercy of God in Christ Jesus; for it is "in" Jesus Christ that all the promises of God are Yea and Amen.—*Hazcargal*.

—The promises of God and our own success are not bound to any mere outward performance even of what is duty, but are connected with that inward and spiritual obedience and allegiance which are the outcome of real heart-service to God.—*Eilersheim*.

The Command of our Leader.

CHRIST came to seek and to save. His kindly sympathy went out to the poor and the needy, the down-trodden and oppressed, the weary and heavy laden. He was the friend of publicans and sinners. His invitation to all such was, "Come unto me, and I will give you rest." He did not say, "Come and see our beautiful church; come and listen to our fine-toned organ, our well-trained choir, our learned and eloquent preacher; come and enjoy our gorgeous ceremonies." He did say, "Go—go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. Go into the highways and hedges. Go into the streets and lanes of the city. Go to the lame and the halt and the blind, and compel them to come in. Go to the poor and the out-cast, the sinful and fallen. Go without purse, and scrip, and staff. Go in the full assurance of faith, trusting in God and the word of his grace. Go in the mind of the Master, filled with his Spirit, endowed with power from on high. Go, putting on the 'whole armor of God.' Go determined to know nothing save Christ, and him crucified. Go thus, 'always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.'"—*Christian Apologist*.

Supernatural lessons of School.

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