

Annie put it away in her bank till it amounted to \$1.85, which I will enclose, and which, I believe, may be truly called a free-will offering.

I trust that little Annie may be enabled to continue her self-denying course; and may God the Holy Spirit bless and sanctify her, and make her meet hereafter for the inheritance of the saints in light. And when the Saviour gathers His own people from the east and the west, and from the north and from the south, may she be found shining among them, washed in *His* blood and clothed in *His* righteousness.

J. S. S.

Illustrations of Sabbath School Lessons for September.

FIRST SABBATH.

Golden Text :—But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me and I unto the world—Gal. 6 : 14.

“The cross of Christ is an object of such incomparable brightness, that it spreads a glory round it to all the nations of the earth, all the corners of the universe, all the generations of time, and all the ages of eternity. The greatest actions or events that ever happened on earth, filled with their splendor and influence but a moment of time, and a point of space; the splendor of this object fills immensity and eternity. If we take a right view of its glory, we shall see it contemplated with attention, spreading influence and attracting looks from time past, present and to come, heaven, earth, and hell—angels, saints, devils—we shall see it to be both the object of the deepest admiration of the creatures, and perfect approbation of the Creator; we shall see the best part of mankind, the Church of God, for four thousand years looking forward to it before it happened; new generations yet unborn rising up to admire and honor it in continual successions, till time shall be no more; innumerable multitudes of angels and saints looking back to it with holy transports to the remotest ages of eternity. Other glories decay by length of time; if the splendor of this object change, it will only be by increasing. The visible sun will spend his beams in process of time and, as it were, grow dim with age; this object hath a rich stock of beams which eternity cannot exhaust.” Maclaurin.

SECOND SABBATH.

Golden Text :—Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy

priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2 : 5.

Illustration—Men who stand on any other foundation than the rock Christ Jesus, are like birds who build their nests in the trees by the side of rivers. The bird sings in the branches, and the river sings below; but all the while, the waters are undermining the soil about the roots till, in some unexpected hour, the tree falls with a crash into the stream: and then the nest is sunk, the home is gone, and the bird is a wanderer. But birds that hide their young in the clefts of the rocks are undisturbed, and after every winter, coming again, they find their nests awaiting them, and all their life long brood in the same place, undisturbed by stream or storm.

THIRD SABBATH.

Golden Text :—What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own—1 Cor. 6 : 19.

Illustration.—The nearer the moon draws into conjunction with the sun, the brighter she shines towards the heavens and the earth; so the nearer the soul draws into communion with Jesus Christ, the comelier it is in the eye of the spouse, and the blacker it appears in the sight of the world. He that is a precious Christian to the Lord is a precious Puritan to the world; he that is glorious to a heavenly saint, is odious to an earthly spirit. But it is a sign thou art an Egyptian, when that cloud which is a light to an Israelite is darkness to thee. It is a sign thou movest in a terrestrial orb, when thou seest no lustre in such celestial lights.

An Illinois farmer was discovered kneeling at the head of a soldier's grave at Nashville. Being asked, “Is that your boy?” he replied, “No: he lived in our town, and I have come to find his grave.” The observer said, “Perhaps you represent his father, who could not come?”—“Yes: my neighbour was glad to have me come; but I came for myself. You see I have seven children all of them small, and my wife is sickly. I was drafted. There was no one to carry on the farm, and I could not hire a substitute. My thirteen dollars a month would not feed the family. It seemed as though I must go, and they must suffer. When we were in our greatest trouble about it, just the morning I was to report at camp, my neighbour's son came over to the house, and offered to go to war for me. He said he had nobody depending on him, and could go better than I. He went, and was wounded at Chickamauga, was brought to