

SNOWFLAKES.

FALLING all the night time. Falling on the day. Crystal winged and voiceless, On their downward way.

Falling through the darkness, Falling through the light, Covering with beauty Vale and mountain height

Never summer blossoms Dwell so fair as these, Never lay like glory On the fields and trees,

Rare the airy wreathing, Deftly turned the scroll Hanging in wood and arched, Crowning meadow knoll

Freest chastest fancies, Votive art, may be, Winter's sculptors feat to Summer's memory.

-J. V. Cheney in The Critic.

A BOY I CAN TRUST.

ONCE visited a public school. At recess a little fellow came up and spoke to the teacher. As he turned to go down the platform the master said: "This is the boy I can trust, he never failed me." I followed him with my eye, and looked at him when he took his seat at recess. He had a fine, manly face. I thought a good deal about the master's remark. What a character had that boy earned! He had already gotten what would be worth more than a fortune. It would surely be a passport into the best firm in the city, and what is better, into the confidence and respect of the whole community. I wonder if boys know how soon they are rated by other people? Every boy in the neighbourhood is known, and opinions are formed of him; he has a character either favorable or unfavorable. A boy of whom the master can say, "I can trust him; he never failed me," will never want employment. The fidelity, promptness, and industry which he shows at school are in demand everywhere. He who is faithful in little will be faithful in much. -Band of Hope Review.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES. A.D. 30.] LESSON V. [Feb. 4.

THE PRINCE OF LIFE.

Acts 5. 12-21. Commit to memory vs. 15-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

In him was life, and the life was the light of men. John 1. 4.

OUTLINE.

- 1. The Rejected One. v. 12-15.
2. The Mighty One v. 16-18.
3. The Saving One. v. 19
4. The Coming One. v. 20-21.

TIME.-A. D. 30, immediately following the events of the last lesson.

PLACE.-The Temple at Jerusalem.

EXPLANATIONS.-Peter saw it - Saw the crowd looking at himself and John as the workers of the miracle. Answered - Answered to the wondering looks of the people. As though by our own power or his - As if God had given this power to work miracles as a reward for their goodness. We had made - The apostles wished all the honour to be given to Christ, none to themselves. God of our fathers - The same God whom their fathers had worshipped was the one who now wrought the miracle. Glorified his Son - Honoured him by working this miracle. Ye delivered up - Peter shows how differently they had dealt with Jesus, in contrast with the honour God gave him. Denied him - Refused to own him as their King. John 19. 15. The Holy One - The Jesus who set apart for God. The Just - The innocent and upright.

Denied a murderer Barabbas. Matt. 27. 21. Killed the Prince of life - The one who gives eternal life to men. Whose of we are witnesses. Witnesses to the fact that Jesus rose from the dead. His name - This word as used in the Bible generally means power. Not the mere name, but the power represented by that name, wrought the miracle. Through faith - The faith of the two apostles was the means of working the miracle. (See Christ's promise to faith. Matt. 17. 20.) Faith . . . by him - Faith which is exerted through the power of Christ. Through ignorance ye did it - Rejected, denied, and crucified Christ, not knowing that he was their Saviour. Peter wishes to hold out hopes of mercy and salvation. God before had showed - The prophecies of Christ's sufferings and death. See Isa. 53, and Psa. 22. He hath so fulfilled - God had allowed the deeds of wicked men and overruled them to accomplish his purposes of salvation. Repent - Confess from sins, especially to sin of rejecting Christ. Be converted - Rather, as in Revised Version, "Turn again" that is, toward Christ. Sins . . . blotted out - By forgiveness. Times of refreshing - The time when God was willing to have mercy and forgive sin, at that time. The Revised Version is, "that so there may come seasons of refreshing." He shall send Jesus - Jesus was now in heaven, but had promised to come back to earth. Restitution - The complete triumph of the Saviour's kingdom. God hath spoken - God had promised that Christ should rule over all the world.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where do we find in this lesson -

- 1. What faith in Christ can do?
2. How our sins may be blotted out?
3. What Christ may be to us? [GOLDEN TEXT.]

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. By what name did Peter call Jesus? The Prince of Life. 2. What did he declare that the people had done to him? They had denied and slain him. 3. How did he say God had glorified him? By healing through his name. 4. What should all men do? Repent and be converted. 5. What will be done to those who repent? Their sins shall be blotted out.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION. - The forgiveness of sins

8. What further witness was given to Christ in his infancy?

Further witness was given to Christ in his infancy by angels from heaven, by wise men from the east, and by Simeon in the temple.

A. D. 30.] LESSON VI. [Feb. 11.

NONE OTHER NAME.

Acts 4. 1-14. Commit to memory verses 10-13.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved. Acts 4. 12.

OUTLINE.

- 1. The Name Feared. v. 1-3.
2. The Name Believed. v. 4.
3. The Name Defended. 5-10.
4. The Name Victorious. v. 11-14

TIME. A. D. 30, immediately following the events of the last lesson.

PLACE - Jerusalem.

EXPLANATIONS. - As they spoke - The apostles Peter and John in the temple, just after the healing of the lame man. The priests - Men who offered the sacrifices and led the worship of the people. Captain of the temple - The officer who kept order in the temple. Sadducees - (See Descriptive Index) Grieved - Offended. The resurrection - The Sadducees did not believe that the dead would be raised, and were displeased at having it preached. Laid hands on them - Took them prisoners. Put them in hold - Under guard. Unto the next day - Intending then to try them. Howbeit - In spite of the opposition of the rulers. Them which heard - The people who had heard Peter's address and seen the miracle. Believed - Believed in Jesus as their Saviour, led by what they had heard and seen. Number of the men - Perhaps the women and children are to be added to the number. Was about - Had now increased in all to the number of five thousand. Elders - The leading men among the people. Scribes - Teachers of the law. All these together made up the great council which governed the Jews. Annas, etc. - (See Descriptive Index.) Knew of the high-priest - Many

of his relatives held high offices. Set them in the midst - The two apostles and with them the lame man. Ver. 14. By what name - They would not themselves mention the name of Jesus. Done this - Healed the lame man. The good deed - A good deed, which it would seem needed no defence. Impotent - Helpless. Whole - By the name of Jesus - That is, by the power of Jesus. Whom ye crucified - These were the very men who, two months before, had ordered Jesus to be put to death. The stone . . . set at naught - Jesus despised and rejected. Become the head of the corner - Jesus, whom God had made the Saviour of the world, like a corner-stone upholding and binding together the wall of a building. Neither is there salvation - There is no Saviour except Jesus. Unto heaven - In all the world. Must be saved - If saved at all, we must be saved by Jesus. Unlearned and ignorant men - That is, men who were without education, but speaking by the power of God in them. Took knowledge - They now began to notice that these were the same men they had seen with Jesus, so Jesus' power was shown in them. Standing with them - The lame man had come to the trial. Could say nothing - Could not deny the miracle.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

How does this lesson show -

- 1. An example of acknowledging Christ?
2. A promise of salvation through Christ?
3. A warning against rejecting Christ?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. How many people now believed in Jesus? About five thousand. 2. Where did the rulers bring Peter and John? Before the council. 3. How did the apostles say that the lame man had been healed? Through the name of Jesus. 4. What did they declare Jesus to be? The only Saviour. 5. How may we be saved? By faith in Jesus.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION. - Salvation through Christ.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

9. How did the angels bear witness to him?

The angels bore witness to Christ by singing praises to God at his birth, and told the shepherds that they should find the child Jesus in a manger at Bethlehem.

OUR FATHER.

BY LOUISE S. DORR.

I SAW a preacher kneeling At hour of morning prayer, With hair of silky texture, And features Saxon-fair.

And fair-faced were the people Before him bowing down; But one had come among them Whose face was dusky brown.

And as they bowed together, And to our Father prayed, These helped to form the unit, All one in Christ are made!

"Our Father," prayed the preacher; "Our Father," joined the rest; "Which art in heaven," he added; All Him in heaven addressed.

"Our Father" to the Saxon, "Our Father" to the black; "And persons I respect not," Our Father answers back.

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