

The Family

NOT IN VAIN.

"I have labored in vain," teacher said.

"I have labored in vain," she bowed her head.

"I am weary and worn, and my hands are weak.

And again with a sorrowful heart she wept.

For her spirit with grief was stirred.

And a whisper of "Peace" was heard.

And she thought, in her dreams, that her soul took flight.

To a bliss and bright abode;

And harps were ringing, and robes were white—

Made white in a Saviour's blood.

And she saw such a countless throng around

As she never had seen before;

Their brows with jewels of light were crowned,

And sorrow and sighing no place had found.

For the troubles of time were o'er.

Then a white-robed maiden came forth and said:

"Joy! joy! for thy trials are past!

I am one that thy gentle words have led

In the narrow path of life to tread;

I welcome thee home at last!"

And the teacher gazed on the maiden's face;

She had seen that face on earth,

When, with anxious heart, in her worsted place,

She had told her charge of a Saviour's grace,

And their need of a second birth.

Then the teacher smiled; and an angel said:

"Go forth to thy work again;

It is not in vain that the cross is spread;

If only one soul to the cross is led

The labor is not in vain."

At last she woke, and her knees she bent

In grateful, child-like prayer;

And she prayed till an angel's face was seen,

And Faith and Hope, as a rainbow, bent

O'er the clouds of her earthly care.

And she rose in joy, and her eyes were bright—

Her soul was calm and her heart was light,

For her hands were strong in a Saviour's might,

As forth to her work she sped.

Then rise, follow-teacher, t' labor go!

Wide scatter the precious grain;

Though the fruit may never be seen below,

Be sure that the seed of the word shall grow;

Toi on in faith, and thou soon shalt know

"Thy labor is not in vain."

Steady School Work.

BEREAN NOTES.

BY REV. G. H. WHITNEY, D. D.

I. GENERAL STATEMENT.

Abih or Nisan, B. C. 1491. The death of

"all the first-born in the land of Egypt"

is quickly followed by Pharaoh's permission

for Israel's departure. Exod. 12, 29-31.

II. NOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

1. THE PILGRIMAGE COMMENCED, vers. 17-

20. 1.) God their leader. Many looked upon

Moses alone as their leader. "The steps of a

good man are ordered (margin, established) by

the Lord." Ps. 37, 23. 2.) Prepared for the

journey. HARRISSEK. Provided with gar-

ments, flocks, herds, silver and gold. Exod.

12, 35, 38; Psa. 105, 37. The margin reads

"five in a rank." Methodically organized by

the skill of Moses (under divine instruction)

into five great divisions, with competent offi-

cers. 3.) The pilgrims. The number of men,

women, and children was doubtless not far

from 2,400,000. A great crowd. "rabble," "ra-

bble"—went with them, some Egyptians, some

foreigners, of the lower grade of society. Ex-

od. 12, 37; Num. 11, 4; Deut. 29, 11. 4.)

The starting-place. "From Rameses." Exod.

12, 37. A city of Goshen where the Hebrews

doubtless convened in great numbers in ex-  
pectation of the pilgrimage. Thence to SUCCOTH

(Succoth), memorable as the first halting-place.

Num. 33, 5. This was probably not a city, but

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