

and knocks. No one comes. He knocks again, again, feebly, faintly, and down he drops on the step of the almshouse door. He stirs, he breathes heavily, stirs again—then finally all is still.

O pitying angels, veil your faces, and stars in the sky, shroud your brightness in sackcloth, for somebody in the morning, opening the almshouse door, will find a frozen pauper on the doorstep!

Who was his teacher in the Sunday school?

Orientalisms of the Lesson.

CHINESE PROVERBS.

1. LET those who desire to break off drinking habits when sober observe a drunken man.
2. Medicine may heal imagined sickness, but wine can never dispel real sorrow.
3. Wine is a poison which perforates the bowels.
4. Intoxication is not the wine's fault; it is the man's.
5. When drinking wine remember the poverty of your family.
6. Excessive joy breeds sorrow; excess of wine, disorder.
7. Over the wine cup conversation is light.
8. Wine is a discoverer of secrets.

By Way of Illustration.

Verses 15 and 16. *Thine heart. . . Thy lips.* Inward belief and outward confession make up the complete man in Christ Jesus. When heart and lips agree to believe and speak right things, when being and doing are in harmony, we have Christian character. Paul said to the Romans: "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

"Be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long." When there is no direct intercourse between the human mind and the divine, God is no longer our dear abode, but as some distant country reported by foreign ships, or some invisible star testified by magnifiers of the skies. Faith cannot subsist on silence any more than the body upon air.—*Martineau.*

Verses 20 and 21. Of three thousand persons admitted to the workhouse in Salem, Mass., the superintendent states that, in his opinion, two thousand nine hundred were brought there directly or indirectly by intemperance. The superintendent of the almshouse in New York states that the number of male adults in the house is five hundred and twelve, of which number there are not twenty that can be called sober men; that the number of females is six hundred and one, and that he doubts whether there are fifty of them that can be called sober women.

Chaplain McCabe tells a story of a drinking man who, being in a saloon late at night, heard

the wife of the saloon-keeper say to her husband, "Send that fellow home; it is late." "No, never mind," replied her husband, "he is shingling our roof for us." This idea lodged in the mind of the drunkard, and he did not return to the saloon for six months. When passing the saloon-keeper in the street, the latter said, "Why don't you come around to my place any more?" "Thank you for your kind hospitality," replied the former victim, "I have been shingling my own roof lately."—*Northern Christian Advocate.*

Verse 22. There are some children almost ashamed to own their parents because they are poor, or in a lowly station. The Dean of Canterbury, afterward Archbishop Tillotson, was visited by his father, a very plain Yorkshireman, something like those we call "Friends." He approached his son's house and inquired whether John Tillotson was at home. The servant, indignant at what he thought his insolence, drove him from the door. But the dean who was within, hearing his father's voice, came running out, exclaiming in the presence of his astonished servants, "It is my beloved father!" and, falling down on his knees, asked for his blessing. Obedience and love to our parents is a very distinct and important command of God, upon which he has promised his blessing.

Verse 23. It is a well-worn metaphor to speak of people's character as their dress. We see in the glorious apparel the figure of the pure character with which the bride is dressed. The Psalms describe the dress of the righteous as consisting of robes of careful and many-colored embroidery, to suggest the patience with which the slow needle has been worked through the stuff, and the manifold graces with which they are adorned.—*Maclaren.*

The Teachers' Meeting.

It is difficult to make any analysis of this lesson that is not open to the criticism of being mechanical for the separate verses, each a proverb, were written by different individuals, and without any close sequence of thought. These, however, have a close "family likeness," and in this lesson, as has been wisely said, we listen to "the wisdom of the ages speaking to the young."...The outline of the Question Book is, (1) Happiness (verses 15-19); (2) Empty pleasures (verses 20, 21); (3) True riches (verses 22-23)...Another outline is that suggested by Dr. Peloubet: "The young man with a future." (1) Is true to his parents and his home (verses 15, 16); (2) Observes the effects of different courses of living (verses 17-19); (3) Keeps out of bad company (verses 20, 21); (4) He has good principles (verses 22, 23)...Still another is the necessity of earnest study in youth (verses