

The Girls That Are Wanted.

The girls that are wanted are good girls—
Good from the heart to the lips;
Pure as the lily is white and pure,
Pure from its heart to its sweet leaf-tips.
Girls that are fair on the hearthstone,
Ready and anxious to please,
Kind and sweet to their own folks,
And pleasant when nobody sees.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.
STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

LESSON VII.—NOVEMBER 12.
REBUILDING THE WALLS OF JERUSALEM.

Neh 4. 7-18 Memory verses, 15-18

GOLDEN TEXT.

Watch and pray Matt 26 41

OUTLINE.

1. Trials and Temptations, v. 7, 8.
 2. Praying and Watching, v. 9-12.
 3. Watching and Working, v. 13-17.
- Time.—About B.C. 444.
Place.—Jerusalem.

LESSON HELPS.

7. "Sanballat" Governor of Samaria, and as such head of the army. He was serving under the king of Persia "Tebiah" An Ammonite, and joint governor with Sanballat. The others spoken of in this verse were hostile tribes in and around the city. "They were very wroth"—Because they saw that if the walls were rebuilt then the Jews whom they hated would come into power.

8. "Conspired"—Literally the word means, "joined together in one breath" these tribes may have been hostile to each other at times, but now their great hatred for the Jews brought them into harmonious action. When bad men conspire let good men combine. "To hinder it"—The completion of the walls about the city.

9. "We made our prayer unto our God"—For his strength to save them from the persecution of their foes. "And set a watch against them"—Two things are joined, (1) Divine and (2) human help. God helps those who help themselves. God works in us (1) to will and (2) to do. To him then be the glory for (1) the purpose and (2) its execution. Prayer and watchfulness are joined in a holy life.

10. "The strength . . . is decayed"—The workmen worked day and night, and rarely laid aside their clothes (verses 21-23). Earnestness and fidelity are here manifested. "Much rubbish"—The ruins had to be dug away, and the work was exhausting.

11. "They shall not know"—A mistake, for the Jews had set a watch. Do not despise a foe.

12. "They said unto us ten times"—This verse shows the value of earnest information, also the need of repetition sometimes to make truth emphatic. A true friend warns us of threatening dangers.

13. The news did not produce fear, but awakened courage and fresh precautions. "Set the people after their families"—For mutual sympathy added mutual strength. The family tie ought ever to be a strong one.

14. The exhortation came very properly—first to the nobles and rulers, for they were to be examples of daring. The leaders ought ever to lead. "Be not ye afraid of them"—Why should they not be? Because the Lord was on the side of his own people. Jehovah, the Lord of hosts, was often regarded as "a man of war" by the Jews, who had to fight for their liberties, for their homes, and for their sanctuary. The Jews had everything at stake, for had they failed slaughter or slavery awaited them.

16. "Half . . . wrought in the work"—Built up the walls while the other half kept armed guard. "Habergerons"—Coat of mail, or perhaps only the breast-plate. The presence of the rulers gave confidence.

17. Prepared either to work or to fight as there was need.

18. "And he that sounded the trumpet was by me"—The builders were scattered, but when the trumpet was sounded in danger the Jews were to meet in a compact body ready for battle.

Many comparisons may be drawn between building these walls and those of the spiritual Jerusalem.

HOME READINGS.

- M. Rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem.—Neh. 4. 7-18.
- Tu. Tempters unheeded.—Neh. 6. 1-9.
- W. The wall finished.—Neh. 6. 10-16.
- Th. Dedication and rejoicing.—Neh. 12. 27-30, 43-47.

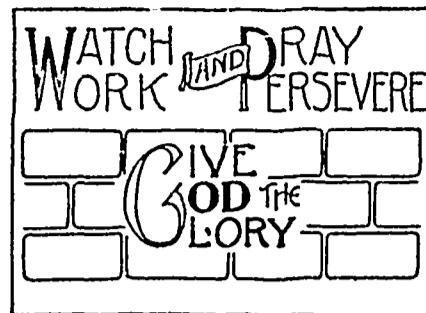
- F. Evil designs frustrated.—Psalm 64.
- S. Able to stand.—Eph. 6. 10-18.
- Su. Watching and prayer.—Mark 13. 23-37.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

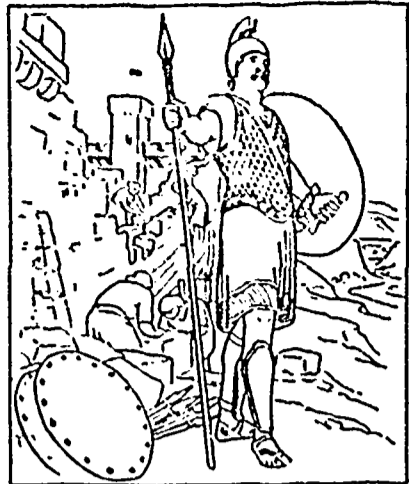
1. Trials and Temptations, v. 7, 8.
What enemies had Nehemiah?
Who was Sanballat?
Who was Tobiah?
Who were the Arabians? the Ammonites? the Ashdodites?
Why were they wroth?
What did they set out to do?
2. Praying and Watching, v. 9-12.
What did the Jews do to prevent it?
To whom did they pray?
What did Judah say in discouragement?
What did the enemies say?
What report did the Jews bring?
What said the Saviour about praying and watching? Matt. 26. 41.
3. Watching and Working, v. 13-18.
Where did the working station guards?
How were these armed?
Whom were the people to remember?

faith, and the sword is the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The strength and success of Nehemiah lay in watching and praying. Enemies were on every hand, and a constant guard



became necessary, lest the wall should be again broken and the work retarded. By perseverance in their task the builders at last completed the wall of the city. They had employed the four elements of



and the rulers stood behind them. The people who carried burdens worked with one hand, while they held a weapon in the other. So built they the wall, "for the people had a mind to work."

French Evidence—"You say, sare, zat you ar-r-o convinced of zee guilt of zee prisonaire. On vat do you base zee confidence?" "I vill toll you, my general. I vas told by a washerwoman of the Rue Sebastopol zat she found in zee insite pocket of zee vito vest of a ho-r-se rubbaire of zee Petit Picpus, a lettre from a scavenger of zee Quartier Latin in wheech he say zat he has just over-r-r-r-heard a boulevardier say to zee crossing sweepaire in front of zee Gr-r-ande Oper-r-ra-house zat hees gr-r-ranmozzaire called out in her sleep zat D-r-r-eyfus vas guilty!" Profound sensation.



MEN ENGAGED TO WALK IN CHINESE FUNERALS.

We have spoken elsewhere of the pomp and parade with which the Chinese celebrate their worship, their public festivals, their marriages and funerals. Our cut shows some of the paraphernalia of a funeral procession—the banners, hal-

berds, state umbrellas, and the like. These stolid-looking fellows in the picture will beat their gongs and clash their cymbals and make a horrible din, and exhibit the most poignant sorrow in proportion to the amount of money paid for their simulated grief.

What were they told to do?
Who defeated the plots of the enemies?
What work was then resumed?
While some worked what did others do?

Where were the rulers?
How were the builders armed?
Where was the trumpeter?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

- Where are we taught in this lesson—
1. Concerning seeking God's help?
 2. Concerning helping ourselves?

The builders spoken of in our lesson had sword and shield, and so have we on'y the Bible tells us that our shield is



success—watching and praying, working and persevering—but to God, who had wrought the work, they gave the glory (Chap. 6. 15, 16).

NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER ANSWERED.

Three days after he reached Jerusalem Nehemiah rode round the city at night and found its walls and gates broken down as he had heard. He said to the rulers, "Come, and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem;" and they answered, "Let us rise up and build."

Doing the Work.—In the third chapter of Nehemiah you will learn how the work was divided among many different families. Some of the women worked, and no doubt the children helped, too. Some repaired the walls, others the gates and locks, and every one did his share.

Opposition.—In verses 7 and 8 of our lesson we learn that some of the Jews' enemies joined together to fight against them and hinder their work. Nehemiah set soldiers, with swords and spears and bows, to watch, and told the people not to be afraid, for God would help them fight for their homes and families. One half of the men worked while the other half held spears and shields and bows,

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