



THE FAIRY NETS OF THE SPIDER.

John Burroughs, in his "Autumn Tides," thus discourses about the spiders in the fall:

"Looking athwart the fields under the sinking sun, the ground appears covered with a shining veil of gossamer. A fairy net, invisible at mid-day, rests upon the stubble and upon the spears of grass, covering acres in extent—the work of innumerable spiders. . . . At the same time, stretching from the tops and branches of trees, or from the top of a stake in the fence, may be seen the cables of the flying spider—a fairy bridge from the visible to the invisible."

Another writer thus defends the spider: "Strange as many people may think it, the spider is really a very useful creature. We owe to it the destruction of numerous insects that would inflict on us the most serious injury. . . . Even as it is, and in spite of innumerable spiders, as well as birds, farmers sometimes lose largely by the damages inflicted on their crops by particular kinds of small insects. . . . The web of the common garden spider is a very beautiful structure, being composed of silken threads arranged like the spokes of a wheel, crossed at intervals by spiral filaments. . . . These silken threads are in reality composed of numerous threads twisted together in a kind of cable by the spinnerets of the spider."—Aims and Objects of the Toronto Humane Society.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE.

LESSON VIII.—MAY 24.

JESUS TEACHING IN THE TEMPLE.

Luke 20, 9-19.—Memory Verses 13-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner.—Luke 20, 17.

Time.—Tuesday, April 4, A.D. 30.

Place.—The Temple in Jerusalem.

DAY BY DAY WORK.

Monday.—Read the Lesson (Luke 20, 9-19). Tell the story of the last lesson.

Tuesday.—Read the account of an unprofitable vineyard in Isa. 5, 1-7. Recall the Time, Place, and Rulers in this lesson.

Wednesday.—Read in 2 Chron. 36, 11-21, how an ancient people neglected warnings, and how they suffered. Learn the Golden Text.

Thursday.—Read in Jer. 25, 1-11, about God's message unheeded.

Friday.—Read how God's messenger was neglected, in Jer. 26, 8-15. Answer the Questions.

Saturday.—Read John 11, 47-57, showing how the Son of God was rejected. Study the Teachings of the Lesson.

Sunday.—Read the story of the day of Pentecost (Acts 2, 1-21), and review all your study upon the lesson.

QUESTIONS.

1. The Husbandman, verses 9-12.
 9. What is a parable? Who is meant by "a certain man" in this parable? What did this man do? What are husbandmen? Who were meant by the husbandmen in the parable? What is the far country? 10. Who are meant by the servants? How were they treated? How should they have been treated? Who are God's messengers now? 11, 12. How many servants were sent? Why were they treated in this manner?
 2. The Son, verses 13-15.
 13. Whom did the lord of the vineyard send last of all? Who was meant? What is Jesus called in Luke 9, 35? 14. What did these men say when they saw the lord's son? 15. How did they treat him? How should they have treated him? How should we act toward Jesus?
 3. The Lord, verses 15-19.
 16. What did Jesus say that the lord of the vineyard would do? When did this come to pass? 17. What is the Golden Text? How was this fulfilled? 18. What shall become of those who are opposed to Jesus? 19. What did the priests and scribes perceive? What did they try to do? What should they have done?

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

We should remember that all the world is God's vineyard; even the youngest child is one of the workers in it, and

No such prayer is ever unanswered. To-day that fisherman is the grandest man in that little Scotch village. He was asked if he had no struggle to give up liquor. Such a look of exultation came over his face as he answered: "When the heart is thus opened to the Saviour, he takes the love of drink right out of it."

The Sea-Shell.

I was an inland child; the hills Closed round our home their wooded wall; The world beyond was hid from me; I often dreamt what it might be; Longed with a child's impatient feet To tread the city's noisy street, And with yearning heart the call Of the unseen far-distant sea.

For in our quiet farm-house, kept Its ancient mantel-piece to grace, Was one large shell. I left my play, How many times, to steal away, And take it gently from its place, And lay its pink lips to my ear, The captive voice within to hear. How faint, yet clear, how sweet and low, It sang to me its ocean song! I listened till it seemed my own, That whisper from a world unknown! Like one returned from far away, The shell within its place I lay; The hills around rose high and strong; What though their prisoner I might be? I knew the secret of the sea!



TEDDY'S NEIGHBOUR.

should give to God all his heart and a part of his time. We should honour those who bring to us the message of God, whether as ministers or as teachers, and we should listen to their words. Above all, we should love and serve and worship Christ as the Son of God.

SAVED THROUGH A PICTURE.

A striking example of how art may become the handmaid of religion is afforded in a Scotch story related by some one thus:

"I was 'way down with the drink, when one night I went into a 'public,' and there hung His picture. I was sober then, and I said to the bartender, 'Sell me that picture; this is no place for the Saviour.' I gave him all the money I had for it and took it home. Then as I looked at it, the words of my mother came back to me. I dropped on my knees and cried, 'O Lord Jesus, will you pick me up again and take me out of all my sin?'"

little hand was trying to wipe away the tears that rolled over his face. What was the matter with him? Teddy wondered; and what could have happened to his clothes? Suddenly a light of comprehension came to the puzzled little face.

"Did you fall among thieves?" he asked.

"Didn't fall nowheres, an' I ain't baby 'nough to cry for a tumble," answered the young stranger scornfully. "Some big fellows stole my blackin' kit."

Teddy looked doubtful for a moment. "Twas thieves then, and 'course the street's a 'wayside!'" he exclaimed. "I'm your neighbour! Come right along to Aunt Hester. What's your name?"

"Nick," answered the young stranger, forgetting to cry, in his astonishment at Teddy's statement.

"Well, Nick, come to Aunt Hester. She knows all about you."

"No, she doesn't, neither," replied Nick, suspiciously.

"She knows about somebody just like you, 'cause she told us about him Sunday," declared Teddy, "and she'll know how to help you, and get you clothes and things."

That prospect was too tempting to be resisted, and so, a few minutes later, Aunt Hester was surprised, in the midst of her morning work, by the arrival of her strange visitor.

"Teddy Lane! Who have you got there?" she asked, in amazement. This picture is by Mrs. Dorothy Stanley, wife of the great African explorer. She has won a distinguished reputation by painting little tramp figures.

A little girl who is accustomed to the plainest style of living was taken by her mother to dine with a rich friend lately. On her returning to her humble home, she called out to her sister, in an ecstasy of triumph and delight, "O Polly, we had four dinners, all one after another!"

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