

Prohibition is the Word!

BY J. M'GONAGLE.

COULD we collect in one vast moat
Or sea, the rum and kindred stuff
That has run down the human throat
Since Adam's day, 'twould be enough
To float a large, capacious bark,
Or ship as large as Noah's ark!

If we could really gather up
One-half of all the human race
That have, through rum's delusive cup,
Been brought to shame and deep dis-
We could an army then enrol [grace;
Would span the earth from pole to pole!

And, concentrating all the groans
And lamentations caused by rum,
The noise would drown the worst cyclone
'That ever on our earth did come;
And, in the meantime, cause a shock
Would make old earth and ocean rock.

Could the rum-slain be brought to life,
And the rum-sellers made to face
Each starving child and weeping wife,
That ruin to their door could trace;
The scene, like a dread avalanche,
Would make saloon-men's faces blanch.

Why not at once enact a law
Ignoring rum and all its brood,
And make intoxicants withdraw
To Hades' deep, dark solitude?
For, otherwise, we'll ne'er overcome
The rude, despotic reign of rum!

—Selected.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

A. D. 30] LESSON XII. [MARCH 18

THE SON REJECTED.

Matt. 21. 33-46. Memory verses, 42-44

GOLDEN TEXT.

He came unto his own, and his own re-
ceived him not. John 1. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. The Rejected Heir.
2. The Rejected People.

TIME.—30 A. D.

PLACE.—Jerusalem.

CONNECTING LINKS.—It is the next day
after the events described in the last lesson.
It is the last day, probably, of his public
teaching, and among the many things that
he said come the words of this parable.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Hedged it*—That is, he
inclosed it for security. *Dugged a wine press*
—Dugged a trough, or cut a trough in the
rock after the custom of the times. *A tower*
—A watch-tower for the watchmen who kept
off thieves. *Let it out*—Either for a money
payment or for part of the fruits; probably
the latter. *The time of the fruit*—The time
for gathering. *The heel of the corner*—
Or simply "corner-stone;" the importance
attaching to a corner-stone is very old. *Shall*
be given to a nation—That is, to the spiritual
Israel of the New Testament. *Shall fall on*
a stone—One who stumbles at the doctrine
of Christ as the Saviour shall be bruised.
One against whom Christ comes in judgment
will be destroyed.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. The Rejected Heir.

What is a parable?
What does this parable illustrate?
What part of Israel's history is suggested
by ver. 33?

In what sense were the Jews God's hus-
bandmen?

Who are meant by the servants, in ver.
35 and ver. 36?

As a historical fact, were any stoned? 2
Chron. 24. 20, 21.

Who is meant here by the heir?

As Jesus had not yet suffered, how must
ver. 39 be regarded?

2. The Rejected People.

What ought husbandmen to suffer who
had so acted?

From whom did Jesus obtain the sentence
that should be passed upon them?
How did he at once apply it to them?
How does ver. 42 relate to this parable?
Did his enemies recognize the practical
meaning of his parable?
What action had the Sanhedrin already
taken concerning Jesus?
Why did they not carry it out now?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

The householder's preparations for the
husbandmen was no more bountiful and
perfect than God's care for each of us.
He gives us time, education, influence,
power. All he asks is part of the fruits.
How do we treat his messages?
These Pharisees knew what sin was; they
knew what ingratitude deserves. Yet they
were even then ungrateful to God, and plan-
ning fresh sin.
They feared the multitude. They did not
fear God. Let us "fear God and keep his
commandments."

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Explain this parable. For example:
The Householder represents God.
The Vineyard represents ?
The Time of the Fruit represents ?
And so all through.
2. Take ver 42, and in place of "stone,"
"builders," "rejected," put the proper words
from the parable.
3. Write two lessons which this parable
can teach.
4. Find whether the things said in ver. 35
ever occurred.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. To whom is our heavenly Father likened
in this parable? To a householder.
2. Who are the husbandmen to whom he let
his vineyard? The nation of Israel.
3. How did they treat his messengers? They
beat, and slew, and stoned them.
4. How
did they treat the son? They caught him
and cast him out.
5. How does St. John in
his Gospel record what here Jesus prophesied?
"He came unto his own," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Salvation for
the Gentiles.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

15. How does the Old Testament teach
Christianity?
The Scriptures of the Old Testament were
written by many holy men, who prophesied
that the Christ was coming, and foretold
also what he would suffer and do and teach.
1 Peter i. 10, 11.

FIRST QUARTERLY REVIEW.

March 25.

DIRECTIONS FOR STUDY.

1. Study each lesson afresh. Do not be
content with a simple glance. Study.
2. Master all that is required.
3. Write from memory alone the whole
story of the Quarter.
4. Commit to memory the Titles of the
lessons, so that you can repeat as fast as
you can talk.
5. The same with GOLDEN TEXTS.
6. The same with the Outlines.
7. The same with the names of all the
men and women mentioned in the lessons of
the Quarter.
8. What portion of our Lord's ministry
do the lessons cover?
9. Name all the places to which he went.
10. Tell all the miracles that are mentioned.
11. In what lesson does the word "ho-
sanna" occur? When you have recalled the
number, give also the Title and the GOLDEN
TEXT.
Who said, "Thou art the Christ?"
Who said, "Grant that my sons may sit,"
etc.?
Who said, "All these have I kept?"
Who said, "Be of good cheer?"
Who said, "It is John the Baptist?"
12. Tell the lesson in which each of these
sentences occurs, and give Title and GOLDEN
TEXT.
Who were displeased on the last Sunday,
or first day, that Christ passed on earth?
What family entertained him during his
last week of life?
What could have been the reason for his
transfiguration?

What lesson and what character show the
terrible power of conscience?
What is the great principle of supremacy
in Christ's kingdom?

TEMPERANCE LESSON.

A. D. 56 or 58]

[MARCH 25

THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT.

Gal. 5. 16-26.

Memory verses, 22-25

GOLDEN TEXT.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in
the Spirit. Gal. 5. 25.

OUTLINE.

1. The Works of the Flesh.
2. The Works of the Spirit.

TIME.—56 or 58 A. D.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Walk in the Spirit*—That
is, live from day to day as taught by the
Spirit. *The lust of the flesh*—That is merely
human desires springing from our corrupt
human nature. *Under the law*—That is the
old Jewish ceremonial law. *Witchcraft*—Or
magic; or such acts as were done for money
by those like Simon Magus. *Have crucified*
the flesh—That is, have so overcome such
temptations as spring from corrupt human
nature, that they have no power.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. The Works of the flesh.

Who is the author of the epistle to the
Galatians?

For what purpose was it written?

Whom did Paul honour far above the letter
of the Jewish law?

Whom did Paul claim was the representa-
tive of the Christ, then in the earth?

What did he give as the great law for
Christian living?

What words of the Christ had given him
a warrant for such law? John 16. 13.

If they should attempt to walk in any
other way, what great foe would they
be compelled to fight?

What are the works of the flesh?
What does human history and the present
condition of society teach you concerning
this statement?

2. The Works of the Spirit.

What are the works of the Spirit? John
16. 8-11.

What will the fruits of such work neces-
sarily be?

What is here meant by "temperance?"
What are some of the ways in which men
are intemperate?

When do you think is the proper age to
begin practicing this virtue of temper-
ance?

Many young people are never tempted to
use intoxicating drinks; have they any
temperance battle to fight?

What are some of the ways in which they
must strive to be temperate?

What is the one rule by which to live?
ver. 16.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Life is a constant struggle against tempta-
tion. He who yields becomes more or less
like the wretch that vers. 19, 20, and 21
depict. He who conquers becomes like the
saint of vers. 22 and 23.

Do you want to be clean from evil? Resist,
resist, RESIST.

A pure-minded boy will almost surely
make a pure-minded man.

Let each scholar apply this line of thought
to his or to her own heart.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. How does Paul say one may overcome
temptation? By walking in the Spirit.
2. How
can one walk in the Spirit? By living
as the Spirit teaches.
3. How may we know
what the Spirit teaches? By daily doing
God's will.
4. How may we learn to do
God's will? By diligent study of God's
word.
5. What rule for absolute temper-
ance in all things is given by the GOLDEN
TEXT? "If we live," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The Holy Spirit.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

16. What has our Lord said about the
books of the Old Testament?
He calls them the Scriptures, says that
they testify of himself, and that they will
not pass away.
Luke xxiv. 44, 45; John x. 35; Matthew
v. 17, 18.

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