



PUNCH AND JUDY IN CHINA.

PUNCH AND JUDY IN CHINA.

I DON'T know whether the Chinese borrowed Punch and Judy from England, or England from China. I rather suspect the latter. As our almond-eyed friends possessed the art of printing, and knew all about the mariner's compass, and how to make gunpowder before Europe, why should they not have known Punch and his termagant wife as well? Certain it is that they have a sort of puppet show worked by a concealed man, quite like the English Punch performance. In the picture the Evil One seems to be after his victim in earnest, which doubtless conveys a wholesome moral to the young Celestials who are such interested spectators.



W. H. WITBROW, Secretary for Canada.

PRAYER-MEETING TOPICS.

OCTOBER 8, 1893.

Junior Epworth League.

THE FREE GIFTS OF GRACE.—Heb. 9. 12; Col. 1. 21-23; 1 Pet. 1. 18; Rom. 3. 19-21; Gal. 2. 16; 3. 11; Heb. 10. 19-22, 1 Peter 1. 18, 21.

Junior E. L. of O. E.

WHAT ARE OUR SINS AND HOW MAY WE GET RID OF THEM?—Jam. 4. 17; Rom. 3. 23-26.

HINTS ON CONDUCTING MEETINGS.

III.

Assign a simple topic each week in advance, and appoint a Leader, who, under the direction of the Superintendent, shall conduct the meeting. Questions may be asked each member on the topic, or previously-given Scripture verses bearing on it recited. The members, however, should be encouraged to express their thoughts, feelings, and experience in words of their own; and as far as possible let the Leaders open with brief talks, rather than recitations, readings, or essays. A short session of sentence-prayer, led by the Leader,

aided by the Superintendents, should always form part of each meeting, in which all should be prompted to take part. Have a select choir to lead in the service of song. Singing should form a prominent feature of each meeting. There should always be a five or ten minutes' address on the topic by the Superintendent or some one secured. The importance of the consecration meeting should be emphasized, and the pledge read and explained. The response to the roll-call should be seriously regarded as a re-consecration and renewal of the pledge. Begin with few committees at first, and increase the number as the Society grows in size and efficiency. As far as possible have every member on a committee, and endeavour to have each one "take some part in every meeting," by prayer, testimony, or otherwise. Let the members be called boys and girls, not children. Have no scolding, but maintain good order. Do not talk or pray too long, but insist on everything being short and to the point.

Always go prepared, be lively, child-like, and hopeful, and let the meetings be simple, natural and cheerful.

DEPARTMENTS OF WORK.

As in the Senior, so in the Junior, the "Christian Endeavour" department is essential and fundamental. The conversion of the children and the development of their spiritual life is the main purpose of the Junior League. The key-word is "Heart," and denotes that the work begins and is in the heart, and regular meetings specially for the promotion of spirituality should be held. To this department belongs the work of the Look-out and Prayer-Meeting Committees. Growing directly from heart-life is "practical Christianity," so the second department is "Religious Work," the key-word of which is "Hand," denoting helpfulness—a hand stretched out "doing good," and the Committees are Temperance and Missionary. Department third is "Literary Work." The key-word is "Head," meaning intellectual life and training—the head as well as the heart for Christ, since intelligent religion is as essential as fervent piety in the formation of Christian character. Bible study will form the chief and important part in this department, together with the history, doctrine, and catechism of our Church. The Committees are Sunday-school and Musical and Literary. Department fourth is "Social Work." The key-word is "Feet," and means a life of busy activity in proper recreation and entertainment, so as to win the children from sinful amusements. It is the children seeking the children for Jesus. The Social and Visiting Committee will carry on this work. The devotional meetings may be held on Sunday, but literary, social, and business meetings should be on a week-day afternoon, and

should rarely continue more than forty five minutes.

BADGE AND MOTTO.

The badge of the Juniors is the same as of the Seniors—a white ribbon with a scarlet thread woven through it lengthwise, emblematic of cleansing through the blood of Christ. The motto is:

"Look up, and not down!
Look out, and not in!
Look forward, and not back!
And lend a hand!"

The Silver Plate.

They passed it along from pew to pew,
And gathered the coins—now fast, now few,
That rattled upon it; and every time
Some eager fingers would drop a dime
On the silver plate with a silver sound,
A boy who sat in the aisle looked round
With a wistful face: "Oh, if only he
Had a dime to offer, how glad he'd be!"
He fumbled in his pockets, but didn't dare
To hope he should find a penny there.

He had listened with wide-set, earnest eyes,
As the minister in a plaintive wise,
Had spoken of children all abroad
The world who had never heard of God—
Poor, pitiful pagans, who didn't know,
When they came to die, where their souls
would go,
And who shrieked with fear when their
mothers made
Them kneel to an idol-god, afraid
He might eat them up, so fierce and wild
And horrid he seemed to the frightened child.

And the more the minister talked, the more
The boy's heart ached to its inner core;
And the nearer to him the silver plate
Kept coming, the harder seemed his fate
That he hadn't a penny (had that sufficed)
To give, that the heathen might hear of
Christ.

As they offered the piled-up plate to him
He blushed and his eyes began to swim.

Then, bravely turning, as if he knew
There was nothing better that he could do.
He spoke in a voice that held a tear:
"Put the plate on the bench beside me here."
And the plate was placed, for they thought he
meant
To empty his pockets of every cent.
But he stood straight up, and he softly put
Right square in the midst of the plate his
foot.
And said, with a sob controlled before:
"I will give myself—I have nothing more!"

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF PAUL.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE EPISTLES.

A.D. 58.] LESSON II. [Oct. 8.

REDEMPTION IN CHRIST.

Rom. 3. 19-26.] [Memory verses, 21-24.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.—Rom. 3. 24.

OUTLINE.

1. Guilty before God, v. 19-23.
2. Justified before God, v. 24-46.

EXPLANATIONS.

"The law"—God's law in the Old Testament. "Under the law"—The Jews, to whom the law was given. "Every mouth may be stopped"—The law shows that no person can boast of his goodness, because none have fully kept it. "No flesh be justified"—No person can be shown to be just or upright. "Knowledge of sin"—The law shows us that we are sinners. "Righteousness of God"—God's justice in dealing with men. "Without the law"—Since man could not be saved by the law, God saves him apart from the law by his mercy. "By faith of Jesus Christ"—On condition of faith in Jesus Christ. "No difference"—Jews and Gentiles are saved in the same way and on the same terms. "Come short"—Have failed to attain unto the standard God has given, as the law. "Redemption"—The death of Christ has purchased us and set us free from the law. "Propitiation"—The death of Christ, the one great sacrifice for sins. "His righteousness"—The death of Christ is here said to be the ground whereby God forgave sins before, as well as after, Christ's coming.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

How are we here shown—

1. That we all need salvation?
2. The only way of salvation?
3. The breadth of salvation?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. To whom does the law apply? "To those under the law." 2. Unto whom is the righteousness of God? "Unto all . . . them that believe." 3. By what have we come short of the glory of God? "By sinning." 4. By what are we justified? Golden Text: "Being justified freely," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Human depravity.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

Man was made to know, love, and serve God. Have all men done so?
No; for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God.—Rom. 3. 23.

Did our first parents continue in the state in which God created them?
No; they fell from that state into sin.

BE HONEST, BOYS.

Sit down and think about it, boys. Do you really want to be honest men? Men who can be trusted anywhere? And with any amount of money? Then you must begin by being honest now. Never allow yourselves to take or retain a single penny that is not rightfully your own. Take nothing without permission, or without giving something in return. Pick no berries that are not on your own side of the fence. Go into no orchards where you do not belong. Plunder no melon patches, nor gardens, nor cheat your little playmates in any trade.

God loves honest boys, and he loves honest men. He says that the man, or boy, "who is faithful in a little will also be faithful in much," and we know that none but the faithful ones will have a place in the kingdom. You stifle the voice of conscience when you allow yourselves to take what does not belong to you. You sear, or burn it as with a hot iron, so that it cannot feel; and if you keep on doing wrong, keep on being dishonest, you will, after awhile, not care at all, and will become, it may be, robbers and murderers, and lose all the bright things God has promised to the good. Be honest, boys!

FOR THE SABBATH-SCHOOL AND THE STUDY.

The Public Life of Christ.

By Rev. C. J. Kephart.

A Chart and Map of Palestine so combined as to present to the mind, by the aid of the eye, both the Chronology and the Geography, and thus the mutual relation of all the recorded events of the public life of our Saviour, along with a Graphic Harmony of the Gospels covering the same period; folded and bound with a complete manual, convenient for pocket carriage.

Cloth, 75c., Leather, 90c.

"An ingenious method of representing to the eye the entire ministry of our Lord. There are many minor features, the value of which will appear to any one who studies the chart. For many persons to whom the life of our Lord appears in historical confusion, Mr. Kephart's work will be very helpful."—S. S. Times.

"A unique and comprehensive production. Every student of the New Testament will find this to be an almost invaluable help."—Philadelphia Record.

"An exceedingly well-designed and valuable help to Bible students. This unique chart is a perfect *tabula mearum* for the earnest Sunday-school worker."—A. M. Beal, President Western College, Toledo, Ia.

"Need only to be known to be appreciated by all earnest student of the Word."—Rev. J. Max Hark, D.D., Chancellor Pennsylvania Chautauqua.

"It will be hailed with delight by thousands."—Bishop Dubs.

LIBERAL TERMS TO AGENTS.

WILLIAM BRIGGS,

Methodist Book and Publishing House,
Toronto.

C. W. COATES, Montreal.

S. F. HUNTER, Halifax.