

THE LITTLE OUTCAST.

Nearly four thousand years ago a poor mother, with her boy, was turned out of doors, to wander in the wilderness, and, for aught she knew, to die. Where could she find food and water in that barren place, to keep the old wolf—famine—away?

But the Lord saw her great trouble, and showed her a way out of it. So they both lived, and the little boy in due time became a strong man and an archer, that is, he lived by hunting.

That was a very roving sort of life, and I presume his mother lived with him, for the story says she took him a wife from the land of Egypt, and that was a long way from their old home.

But I dare say Hagar, for this was the mother's name, came to like this sort of life quite well. Certain it is that her grandchildren, and all their descendants liked it. For though they became in time quite a nation, they still live the same wandering lives, with tents for their only shelter besides the starry sky, camels carrying all their worldly goods from place to place.

The little boy's name was Ishmael, and his father's, Abraham. The strange and interesting people who descended from the little outcast we call Arabs.—*Xqung Reaper.*

STUDY THE BIBLE.

John v. 89: Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me.

John viii. 82: And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Psalms cxix. 129: Thy testimonies are wonderful; therefore doth my soul keep them.

Psalms i. 2, 3: His delight is in the Law of the Lord, and in his Law doth he meditate day and night.

Psalms cxix. 140: Thy Word is very pure; therefore thy servant loveth it.

A GENTLEMAN visited an unhappy man in jail awaiting his trial. "Sir," said the prisoner, "I had a good home education. My street education ruined me. I used to slip out of the house and go off with the boys in the street. In the street I learned to lounge; in the street I learned to swear; in the street I learned to smoke; in the street I learned to gamble; in the street I learned to pilfer and to do all evil. Oh, sir, it is in the street that the devil lurks to work the ruin of the young."