



LESSON I.

January 7, 1917.—Jesus, the Life and Light of Men.—John 1: 1-18.

Commentary.—I. Jesus the Word (vs. 1-5). In the beginning—Compare this expression with Gen. 1: 1. Before the work of creation commenced, Jesus existed. He was uncreated. The human mind may run back as far into the past as it can, and it can not reach the point on time when Christ did not exist. In the beginning he "was" and he is to continue the same forever (Heb. 13: 8). The opening verse of John's Gospel clearly sets forth Christ's eternity and deity. The Word—Word express thoughts. They are used to reveal ideas. "The Word" is Christ (v. 14) who in his person and acts reveals the Father. Christ is the embodiment of divine revelation. The Word was with God—the original language indicates not only that the Word was "with" God, but also that he was in union and communion with God. Not only is the Word in Christ proclaimed, but also his complete unity with God. The same—The Word. Was in the beginning with God—This seems to be a repetition of what was said in the first verse; but it is repeated to guard the doctrine, and to prevent the possibility of a mistake. He had said that he was before creation, and that he was with God; but he had not said in the first verse that the union with God was from the beginning. He now expresses that idea and assures us that that union was not one that was commenced in time, and which might be, therefore, a mere union of feeling or a compact, like that between other beings; but was one which existed in eternity, and which was, therefore, a union of nature, or essence.—Barnes. Again the truth is conveyed to us that Jesus is divine. The fact that he "was in the beginning with God" shows that he is both eternal and uncreated.

3. All things were made by him—Here is declared to be the Creator, and this expression affirms his deity, for divine works are ascribed to him. Compare the words, "By whom also he made the worlds" (Heb. 1: 2). Without him—Apart from him. Was not any thing made—This is a denial of the eternity and non-creation of matter, which was held by the whole thinking world outside of Judaism and Christianity, or rather, its proper creation was never so much as dreamed of save by the children of revealed religion.—J. F. & S. The Word was the sole Creator. 4. In him was life—This is a clear affirmation that he is the only source of life. By him both physical and spiritual life are given. After he had created vegetable life and all animal life excepting the highest, he breathed into the body he had formed out of the dust of the earth, and man became a living soul. Jesus himself declared, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14: 6). The life was the light of men—Observe how frequently John's thoughts overlap and run into one another. Creation leads on to life, and life leads on to light.—Flummer. The Word is the light-giver, or instructor, to the world. He said, "I am come a light into the world" (John 12: 46), and "I am the light of the world" (John 8: 12). 5. The light shineth in darkness—The present tense is here used. The light shone and still shines. It shines into the physically dark world, and all animal life into the spiritual. John uses the term darkness to express the sinful state of man, and Jesus came to turn the darkness into light. The darkness comprehended it not.—R. V. The darkness of sin is deep, and is only penetrated by the light of the living Word as he voluntarily, submissively and trustingly receives. To reject the light is to remain in darkness; to receive the light is to be saved from sin, even from all sin (1 John 1: 7). Another allowable translation is, "The darkness overcame it not." The light shines on though he has been rejected by the multitudes during the centuries since he came of earth.

11. The word manifested (vs. 6-17). A man sent from God—John has just shown the existence and nature of the Word, and now he refers to the agency by whom this Word is introduced to the world. John the Baptist was foretold by a long succession of prophets, and now a prophet, the greatest of the list, was commissioned to declare the immediate appearing of Christ. 7. To bear witness of the light.—The mission of John the Baptist was to prepare the way for Christ's coming by preaching repentance and by telling the people of his speedy coming. This was an exalted mission and one that required strong faith and unflinching courage. Through him—Through John the Baptist—John's purpose was to proclaim Christ's coming and to introduce him that the world would receive Him as King and Saviour. 8. It was not that light—John the Baptist came clothed with divine authority, but he was only a man; yet a man was employed to introduce to the world the King of kings and Lord of lords. God chose to commit this important service to a man rather than to angels. 9. Lighteth every man that cometh into the world—The forerunner of Christ was not the true light. He could give light to comparatively few, and to them the knowledge only of the vision of the true light. Christ would give illumination to all the world. He said, "As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world." When he was in his bodily presence, he still remained in the person of the Holy Spirit to give light to the world. 10. The world knew him not—Although he was in the world from the beginning and the world was made by him, yet he was not recognized. The minds of the people were filled with visions of an earthly king and a splendid temporal kingdom, and not with a vision of the humble Galilean. 11. Unto his own—On the human side Jesus was a Jew, and he came first to his own people, the Jews. His own received him not—Involved an inconceivable humiliation for Jesus to leave the glory he had with the Father and take upon him human nature. Even then most of those for whom he humbled himself rejected him. 12. As many as received him—Some received him, acknowledging his Messiahship, yielding themselves to his authority, trusting him for salvation. Power—Right and ability. To become the sons of God—They become the sons of God by the new birth (John 3: 1-8). On the human side there are repentance and faith, and on the divine side there is the impetration of spiritual life. 13. Not of blood, etc.—No human agency, power, or will can bring about the relation of sonship with God, but it is a divine process. Man places himself in an attitude of desire, submission and faith before the Lord and he is created anew in Christ Jesus. 14. The Word was made flesh—in the incarnation Jesus received a human body, being born of a woman, and was possessed of a human soul, dwelt among us—The writer of this Gospel was associated for months and years with Jesus in the flesh. We beheld his glory—He appeared as a man, and he also manifested his glory in the miracles he wrought, in his utterances, and marvelously in his transfiguration and in his resurrection and ascension. 15-17. John the Baptist told beforehand of the coming of Christ and when he came, he declared to the multitudes that it was he. John performed well his mission. He took no honor to himself and highly exalted him, whose forerunner he was. Moses gave the law, but the impartation of grace is from Jesus Christ. III. The Word revealing the Father (vs. 18). Jesus is one with the Father, and therefore in the incarnation was able to reveal him to the world. God had revealed himself in the law, in the prophets, in his dealings with individuals and with nations and in miracles; but he made an additional and glorious revelation of himself in the life and mission of his Son. No man ever saw God in the sense that he saw him, and Christ in the words he spoke, in the spirit he manifested and in the works he performed, has shown us the Father. Through the revelation made to us by the Son, we have a glorious view of the Father. We are led to know what God is and what he would have us to be. Questions.—Who wrote the words we study to-day? Under what names is Christ mentioned? What statements declare his eternity? What statements show that Christ is divine? What kind of darkness is mentioned? To whom did Christ come? What must one do in order to receive him? What is the result of receiving Christ? What was the mission of John the Baptist? What is the purpose of John's Gospel? PRACTICAL SURVEY. Topic.—God revealed to humanity. I. Through the divine Word. II. Through the divine Light. III. Through the divine Word. The apostle John here presents Christ in the glorious activity of his divine nature, as a new communication from the eternal Father. He speaks of the divine Word as uttering forth the thought and will of God in the hearing of mankind. He shows Him to be the source of all the knowledge we have of the divine Being in His relations to us, His infinite love, and the wonderful plan of salvation He has made. He is also the source of all the knowledge we have of the life beyond. John was deeply impressed with the divineness of Christ's mission. We find in these verses the record of his personal observation, and in the closest connection with it his declaration of personal conviction. His statements were advanced with a full knowledge of what they involved. He declared to be equal with the Father. Being eternal he was competent to give the world an eternal revelation of the eternal God. In his own person and life he was the manifestation of God to the world. Without the guidance of revelation none can reach a true conception of the unity, spirituality, and moral character of God. The doctrine of the Trinity is fundamental in Christianity. II. Through the divine Light. Christ's life was undivided and inherent. He is the source of life, as he is the Creator of existence, as the Redeemer of human existence. The history of Jesus shows us divinity and humanity united in one person. Deity shining. The union of Christ's divinity and his manhood made the resources of Deity available for mankind. Christ took a complete and perfect soul and body that he might heal the whole malady of sin, which had infected every member and faculty. Nothing was lacking in him to constitute human nature in its completeness, a fulness of every kind of perfection. Christ is presented as the head of the gospel dispensation, as the founder of a new order of things, as the author and finisher of man's faith. As a Son he came with the keys of God's treasury of grace and truth. His gracious character appears from the great design of his dispensation. He was in tenderest sympathy with mankind, though the unrecognized Creator and Redeemer. The whole world at large is said to have been insensible to the character and incredulous as in the claims of Jesus. There were anarchy and rebellion where there should have been subordination and harmony. There were emphatic and bitter human rejection, because, the more clearly the necessity of a Saviour was evident, Christ is the life and light of men in that he delivers them from ignorance, unbelief and vice, and from the ruin and misery which are their invariable attendants, and brings them to the knowledge of divine things, to faith and purity. The distinctive need of man is met by the distinctive power of Christ. The Light comes into men's hearts as into its proper, natural dwelling-place. The ord asserted his right over all the feelings, instincts, impulses and determinations of those hearts as over his rightful subjects. The new birth is the awakening of dormant faculties, the resurrection of buried powers. The real gospel is God's life through Christ, touching man's life and making it new. This portion of scripture opens before us God's living way of making himself known to us, his way of illuminating our lives. This subject yields in importance to no

conceivable humiliation for Jesus to leave the glory he had with the Father and take upon him human nature. Even then most of those for whom he humbled himself rejected him. 12. As many as received him—Some received him, acknowledging his Messiahship, yielding themselves to his authority, trusting him for salvation. Power—Right and ability. To become the sons of God—They become the sons of God by the new birth (John 3: 1-8). On the human side there are repentance and faith, and on the divine side there is the impetration of spiritual life. 13. Not of blood, etc.—No human agency, power, or will can bring about the relation of sonship with God, but it is a divine process. Man places himself in an attitude of desire, submission and faith before the Lord and he is created anew in Christ Jesus. 14. 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# HOW TO IMPROVE THE HERD

## Relative Value of the Male and Female for Breeding Purposes—Well Bred Grades of Good Type Are Superior to Poor Pure-Breds—A Pure Bred Herd—Bull Essential

This is a subject of great importance as it involves all phases of selection and breeding operations in any herd, flock or stud on any Canadian farm. Before taking up the relative importance of the male and female of the herd it might be well to settle the advisability of pure-breds or grades for a closely allied subject. Having seen the success of many of the older and younger breeders of pure-bred stock, it is undoubtedly the aspiration of the majority of our farmers to own and operate a pure-bred herd of the same quality as these men. However, it is an open question as to what proportion of our farmers can ever hope to operate pure-bred herds successfully. Undoubtedly the best pure-bred stock is the best stock obtainable, and in actual production will be most profitable. Nevertheless it must be remembered that good pure-bred stock is expensive. The grade which a large proportion of Canadian farmers cannot hope to finance. The heavy expense in initial outlay is also accompanied by a heavy risk of mortality and depreciation. Again, the pure-bred business is a special one, which depends not only on the actual production of milk, beef, wool, etc. (depending on the class of stock), but depends even more on the sales of pure-bred breeding stock. Such a business requires good markets, considerable business experience and, above all, great skill in the feeding, rearing and developing of the young stock. BEST TO START WITH GRADES.

In the face of these difficulties the majority of Canadian farmers must for many years to come be content to work largely with grades. The grade is not necessarily scrub, but may be nearly as profitable in actual production as a good pure-bred. Certainly, well-bred grades of good type are superior in every sense to poor pure-breds. Grade are only as good as the pure bred blood which they contain, and under average circumstances may return almost as high interest on investment as average pure-breds. The all too common statement, "Such grades are more profitable or more hardy than pure-breds is incorrect if based on a comparison with good pure-bred animals, but they may be far more profitable than the poor pure-breds, lacking in size, type, constitution and utility, and which are valued solely because they have a pedigree.

The herd bull cannot be too good, no matter whether he heads a pure-bred or a grade herd. There is a very common expression amongst our pure-bred live stock breeders that such and such a bull or ram or stallion is not good enough for a herd of pure-bred females, but would do nicely for grades. This expression is a great mistake, and unfortunately is an example of the attitude of many pure-bred breeders toward herds of grade breeding. Such an attitude is decidedly injurious to the grade herds and even more to the reputation of such misled pure-bred breeders. The sire which is not sufficiently good to go into a herd of good pure-breds should not be reared or sold for breeding purposes. The best sire is the one who is most impressive as a breeder, and surely no herd requires rapid upbuilding more than the common grade. The herd sire transmits desirable qualities usually in direct proportion to his breeding. The following is a fair example of what may be done by the use of good pure-bred sires. Given a bull whose seven nearest dams (three full generations) have given 10,000 pounds of milk per annum. If such a bull were used on a herd of grade cows whose average production is 4,000 pounds per annum, one is safe in calculating that the cows from this mating would at the same age and under the same feed conditions as their dams produce approximately 9,500 pounds of milk per annum, more or less, depending on the individual propensity of the sire. In other words, in the first twenty

mature daughters of such a bull, in one year, would give over 100,000 pounds of milk more than their dams, or more than they had been sired by a bull with only 4,000 pound records behind him. Valuing this increase at \$1.60 per cwt., it amounts to \$1,760 in one year. Allowing for extra feed and labor for the production of this increased milk, such a bull would cause losses in dairying to a good margin of profit, and also pay for his original cost all in one year.

IMPORTANCE OF THE SIRE. If the records of the dams of this bull on the sire's side had been 15,000 pounds of milk per annum, but on his dam's side none had exceeded 4,000 pounds, what then would be the result? According to Mendel's Law, such a bull would probably throw 25 per cent. of 4,000 pound cows, 25 per cent. of 9,500 pound cows and 50 per cent. of 6,700 pound cows. In reality, this would be a most optimistic estimate, for the extremes in his pedigree would detract very seriously from his propensity. On his twenty mature daughters this bull would show at the most an \$880 increase in one year over their dams, but on the other hand an \$880 loss as compared with the true 15,000 pound bull. When it is remembered that a bull may serve 75 to 100 cows per annum, it will be seen that the profit or loss will be greater or less depending on the number of heifer calves. Such a calculation might be criticised as theoretical. If such doubters would enquire

If the farmer can afford to buy good pure-bred females, he will undoubtedly have the most profitable producers, and if there is a ready market for breeding stock he will have the most profitable business. However, the heavy cash outlay makes it impossible for farmers to adopt pure-breds at once. Purchasing one or two good foundation cows or heifers will undoubtedly be the cheapest way for any farmer to work in pure-bred blood in the case of pure-bred sheep and swine the expenditure per individual is so much lighter that it will probably pay every farmer, even although he anticipates systematic cross-breeding for market stock, to adopt pure-breds as soon as possible. This, however, does not apply in the case of horses and cattle, where values are greater and herds increase slower.

from the farmers all over Canada who have herds of grade cows averaging over 10,000 pounds of milk per annum, they will find such a calculation well substantiated. These successful farmers do not boast of the cheapness of the bulls used, but rather of the uniform records behind such a pedigree and their propensity in stamping such characters on the progeny. If all grade bulls and poor pure-bred bulls were sent to the butcher at once it might seriously inconvenience Canadian farmers, but it would be the greatest stimulus to the dairy industry that could possibly be imagined. For the past 5 years experiments on various Dominion Experimental Farms have been conducted to demonstrate the value of the pure-bred sire when used on grade herds and flocks. These experiments are progressing rapidly, and one is almost safe in stating that the above calculations are being well substantiated. The conditions apply to the grade herd they apply equally well to all pure-bred herds and flocks, excepting that the poor sire in the pure-bred is even a greater menace. Bulls from grade cows should never be used for breeding purposes no matter how good the cow may be, but should be vealed or bled most profitably. However, in the pure-bred herd, the temptation is great to sell all pure-bred bull calves

for breeding purposes and, if poor individuals or with poor backing, other pure-bred or grade herds will suffer greatly. The writer is well acquainted with herds of excellent pure-bred females where one or two bulls lacking in type or breeding have ruined these herds as to size, type, quality, particularly of udders and teats, or production, or all combined; while herds of poorer foundation stock have improved in the same proportion during the same number of years by the use of good sires. Such an example of the great importance of the use of only good pure-bred sires will apply equally well to beef cattle, horses or other classes of live stock. The longer the line of good breeding and records behind a pure-bred sire, the greater the chance of being a prepotent, profitable breeder. Even then it is wiser to choose the aged sire, which has proved his power of transmitting desirable qualities.

The above example of the herd of 4,000 pound cows on which is used a bull whose seven nearest dams averaged 15,000 pounds of milk and the progeny of this mating produced approximately 9,500 pounds of milk per annum. The latter example is certainly extreme, but will illustrate a very common practice. It is true that a herd of cows averaging 15,000 pounds of milk is exceedingly rare, and the individuals in such a herd are of great value. By the use of such a poor bull as above mentioned, there would be a reduction in the milk flow of the mature progeny of 5,500 pounds of milk per cow, equal to nearly \$90 per cow per annum on milk alone, and at least \$200 per calf, per cow. In other words, an excellent herd may be raised from very cheap females and a good sire, the rapidly of improvement depending on the excellence of both females and male; while an excellent herd of very expensive females may eventually be ruined by the use of a poor herd sire. No female should be bred to a herd sire which is not better than herself in both type and records of production. The female has, in the case of cattle, only one calf per annum, while the herd sire may have from 50 to 100 progeny per annum hence will do from 50 to 100 times the damage or improvement, as the case may be. Certainly the sire is more than half the herd and deserves greater consideration in selection and maintenance. The same female, other things being equal, are the same. The transmissibility of good or bad type or production is a hereditary character, depending on the uniformity of those same characters in the previous sires and dams as seen in the pedigree. There are many things which we cannot yet explain, such as why females of some families may be more prepotent than the males of the same families, or vice versa. However, the progressive successful breeder of any class of live stock does know and practise the following:

A good pure-bred sire is absolutely essential in herd or flock improvement. The success of such a sire depends on his propensity, and the female is generally the safest and cheapest purchase. Good females, either in the grade or pure-bred herd or flock, are necessary, and the better these females, the more rapid will be the improvement of the generations. If every Canadian stock breeder would do everything in his power to keep the good breeding sire from premature loss and would properly care for and conserve such animals, live stock improvement would be far more rapid. This is a point which demands careful consideration on the part of all Canadian stock breeders. —Canadian Countryman.



### TORONTO MARKETS.

FARMERS' MARKET. Dairy Produce—Butter, choice dairy... \$0.40 \$0.42 Eggs, new laid... 35 60 Live Poultry—Turkeys, lb... 20 Do, spring... 25 Poultry, lb... 11 14 Geese, spring... 12 14 Ducklings, lb... 13 15 Spring chickens, lb... 13 16 Dressed Poultry—Turkeys, lb... 20 25 Do, spring... 30 32 Poultry, lb... 16 17 Geese, spring... 16 17 Ducklings, lb... 16 20 Spring chickens, lb... 17 20 Squabs, per dozen... 3 50 Fruits—Apples, Baldwins, bbl... 3 50 5 00 Do, Spies, bbl... 3 50 7 00 Do, Greenings, bbl... 3 50 4 50 Vegetables—Beets, per bush... 1 10 Carrots, per bag... 1 35 Parsnips, per bush... 1 20 1 30 Onions, per 75-lb. bag... 3 00 3 25 Cabbage, per doz... 60 1 50 Potatoes, per 90-lb. bag... 2 10 2 20

MEATS—WHOLESALE. Beef, fancy Xmas, cwt... \$15.00 \$17.00 Do, forequarters... 11 50 12 50 Do, hindquarters... 13 50 14 50 Carcases, choice... 13 50 14 50 Do, common... 10 25 10 75 Veal, common, cwt... 8 10 10 50 Do, medium... 11 50 12 50 Do, prime... 16 50 17 50 Heavy hogs... 11 50 12 50 Shop hogs... 14 50 16 00 Abattoir hogs... 15 50 16 00 Mutton, heavy... 10 00 12 00 Do, light... 14 00 16 00 Lambs, spring, lb... 19 21

SUGAR—WHOLESALE. Wholesalers quote, per 100 pounds, on Canadian refined sugar, Toronto delivery, as follows: Royal Arcadia, granulated... \$7.58 Lantic, granulated... 7 68 Redstart, granulated... 7 67 St. Lawrence, granulated... 7 68 Dominion, granulated... 7 67 St. Lawrence, Beaver... 7 58 Lantic, Blue Star... 7 58 No. 1 yellow... 7 28 Dark yellow... 7 08 10-lb. bags, 15c over granulated bags. 20-lb. bags, 10c over granulated bags. Two and five-pound cartons, 30c over granulated bags.

LIVE STOCK. Toronto Report.—There was only a small run of live stock at the Union Stock Yards today, and prices were unchanged. Receipts, 181 cattle; 27 calves; 679 hogs, 39 sheep. Butcher cattle, choice... 7 80 8 40 Do, do, medium... 7 25 7 75 Do, do, common... 6 00 7 00 Butcher cows, choice... 6 75 7 25 Do, do, medium... 6 25 6 50 Do, do, canners... 4 00 4 25 Do, bulls... 5 00 7 50 Feeding steers... 6 25 6 75 Stockers, choice... 5 50 6 00 Do, light... 5 00 5 50 Milkers, choice, each... 50 00 100 00 Springers... 50 00 100 00 Sheep, ewes... 9 00 9 75 Bucks and culls... 3 00 8 05 Hogs, fed and watered... 12 00 13 25 Calves... 5 00 12 50

OTHER MARKETS. WINNIPEG GRAIN EXCHANGE. Wheat—Open, High, Low, Close. Dec... 1 72 1 78 1 72 1 74 May... 1 75 1 79 1 75 1 76 Oats—Dec... 55 1/2 56 1/2 54 1/2 54 1/2 May... 58 1/2 59 1/2 56 1/2 56 1/2 Flax—Dec... 2 59 1/2 2 69 2 58 1/2 2 58 1/2 May... 2 69 1/2 2 69 1/2 2 57 1/2 2 6 1/2

MINNEAPOLIS GRAIN MARKET. Minneapolis—Wheat—May, \$1.74; July, 1.68% to 1.69%; cash—No. 1 hard, \$1.74 to \$1.79; No. 1 North-ern, 1.71% to 1.74%; No. 2, do., \$1.66% to 1.72%. Corn—No. 3 yellow, \$6 to \$6 1/2. Oats—No. 3 white, 48% to 49% c. Flour—Fancy patents, \$9.10; other grades unchanged. Bran—\$24 to \$24.50.

Duluth—Linnseed—\$2.85; December, \$2.84 asked; May, \$2.89 asked; July, \$2.88 1/2 asked. BUFFALO LIVE STOCK. East Buffalo, dispatch—Cattle receipts 400; slow and steady. Veals, receipts 150; active; \$4.50 to \$14. Hogs, receipts 9,600; slow. Heavy, \$10.85 to \$10.95; mixed, \$10.75 to \$10.85; yorkers, \$10.75 to \$10.85; light yorkers, \$9.50 to \$10.25; pigs, \$9.25 to \$9.50; roughs, \$9.50 to \$9.65; clogs, \$7.50 to \$9.25. Sheep and lambs, receipts 2,400; slow. Lambs, \$8.50 to \$13.50; fancy, \$13.70 to \$12.75; yearlings, \$7 to \$17.50; weaners, \$9.25 to \$9.50; ewes, \$4.50 to \$8.50; mixed sheep, \$8.75 to \$9.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS. Wheat, spot steady. No. 1 Manitoba, old—18s. No. 3, Manitoba, new—16s, 11d. No. 1 spring—17s 6d. Corn, spot, steady. American mixed, new—13s 9 1/2 d. Flour, winter patents 47s. Hope in London (Pacific Coast)—\$1 15s to \$1 15s. Hams, short cut, 14 to 16 lbs. Bacon, Cumberland cut, 26 to 30 lbs. —9s. Clear bellies, 14 to 16 lbs.—10s. Long clear middles, heavy, 35 to 40 lbs.—10s. Short clear backs, 16 to 20 lbs.—10s. Shoulders, square, 11 to 12 lbs.—9s. Lard, prime western, in tiers, new—94s; old, 95s. American refined lard—97s. Cheese, Canadian finest white, new, 12s; colored, 13s. Australian tallow in London—54s 9d. Turpentine, spirits—53s 6d. Petroleum, refined—is 1 1/4 d. Linnseed oil—6s.

other. The views we take of it will influence those we take of all other doctrines and must terminate in results which affect God's glory. Christianity is a spiritual revelation to the spiritual nature of man. The theology taught by the incarnation is the world's hope. In the world's darkness Christ, the living Mediator, stands an incarnate, luminous manifestation of God. Without this gospel the unfaithful depth, the inaccessible height of the character of the Saviour of the world would be wanting to us.—T. R. A.



PRAYER. Pray for my soul. More things are wrought by prayer Than this world dreams of. Wherefore let thy voice Rise like a fountain for me, night and day. For what are men better than sheep or goats, That nourish a blind life within the brain? If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer Both for themselves and those who call them friend For so the whole round earth is every way Bound by gold chains about the feet of God.—Tennyson. IMPERCEPTIBLE GROWTH. It is often difficult to gauge our advance in holiness. To do so we must employ a measure of sufficient capacity. If we confine our attention to a

few days or weeks, it is likely we shall be disappointed, being unable to perceive any advance. We must rather take in months and years. You shall stand by the seashore and be unable to detect the change in the tide ebbs or flows. It is only after diligent watching for an appreciable period that you decide that the sea is slowly but certainly advancing.

THE GIRL GOAL. The climate, the time, the place, the girl; these are four stages of the playwright and the story writer. We must follow the order of nature: Her 'prentice han' she tried on man, And then, she made the lassies 'O! The last, the best, the most finished flower of all creation. She has been called the Sabbath of man. She is from God, and the man who puts his hand on the shoulder of a woman touches the Kingdom of God. And when a man in his own home shuts the door, he can shut out the world and shut God in, and that is heaven. The climate, the time, the place, the girl. Think of the beautiful city of Florence, think of him who put the crown of glory on her beautiful name, and think of Beatrice ensouled in his poetry, his one superlative ideal, who sanctifies the scene by her august presence. Dante exalted her by his own splendid gifts, and though she was never his wife, yet is she embalmed in the minds of all true lovers as the true and real and lasting partner of his immortality. The girl is the true goal! Think of John Newton. He goes to the rough calling of a sailor. He is wild and reckless and goes down to the depths of sin, but there is one little star in his black heavens, one, only one little germ stored away in the locker of his heart, a thing the devil cannot touch; it is his love for the girl he left behind in old England. This was the saving lifebelt that saved him and lifted him out of the horrors of the slave traffic and that life enlarged itself so as to comprehend life in Christ Jesus. It made him a man, a preacher, a poet; we sing his hymns in the most polite society. And we take breath and say, "What has God wrought?" A man once gazed at a beautiful face in the street. Distantly it became his shrine, consummate beauty printed its own portrait on his sensitive soul, and though he never saw her again, she became his charm, his anchorage, his stay, his better life. There is a wondrous workshop where they are making plans of life; your life and mine included. You did not see behind the veil, how small the trifles were which hindered you in your quest, how small the items which helped you to come into a large inheritance. Oh, the ships that pass in the night, leaving on the water only a glimmer of the stern lights dancing on the waves! Oh, the ships that did not pass without a signal a hail, a sail in company and more. "Only an accident," says a careless one. There are no accidents with God, says the thoughtful soul. The very hairs of your head are all numbered; and he is pilot of the bubble on the breaker. After long searching, we have to confess, "Lo, these are part of His ways, and yet how little is known of him." —H. T. Miller. Bohemia is preparing to buy blooded mares in North and South America, as soon as opportunity arises, and to dispose of them at auction to breeders and farmers in various parts of the empire.