

Sunday School Advocate.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!



ANY times these words have been kindly and affectionately spoken by parents, sisters, brothers, and many warm-hearted friends, to the readers of the *C. Sunday-School Advocate*, and have been warmly responded to by our young friends with,—“*The same to you, and many returns of them.*” As this is our first paper since the New Year came in, and the first opportunity we have had of joining in this friendly New-Year's greeting, to our young readers, we join with those who have gone before us in saying with a hearty good-will,—A HAPPY NEW-YEAR TO YOU ALL!

There are two kinds of happiness; the one is *earthly* and the other is *heavenly*—the first is like every thing else that belongs to the earth, short-lived: it no sooner comes than it begins to leave us: no sooner begins to live than it begins to die. The second is from God, and is like God, unending, lives forever.

This heavenly happiness is what we wish you all to possess. To be happy, you must be like God: you must *be* good, and you must *do* good. True happiness is true goodness. God is *good*, and “His tender mercy is over all his works.” “He is rich in mercy.” “God hath given to us eternal life, and that life is in his Son.” God's goodness is also seen in the drops of rain, and in the shining sun. So our Saviour teaches us in his sermon on the Mount, as you may read in Matthew, 5th chapter and 45th verse: “He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good; and sendeth rain on the just and the unjust.” And if you are good like God, you will “love your enemies, bless them that curse you, and do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.”—There are many poor children that have no clothes fit to attend the Sabbath School—many that have no food to eat. You may make them happy by providing them with clothes and shoes, and then getting them into the Sunday-School, where they will be taught to be good and to be happy; and when you make them happy, you will become increasingly happy yourselves.

Do you want to know how you may do this? I will tell you how it was done by the happy children in one of the Sunday-Schools in this city. Under the direction of their Teachers, they held one evening what they called a “*Musical Concert!*” The people came out and filled the church to hear them sing; and each one gave ten cents for the privilege of hearing the children sing their beautiful Sabbath-School Hymns. With this money they clothed the poor children, and gave them shoes, so that they could come through the snow to the School, to unite with them in reading the Bible, and in singing, and in praying. Thus they were made increasingly happy in making others happy. By doing good in this, and similar ways, you will have a happy year; and when you die, Jesus, who fed the hungry and healed the sick, will say to you, “Come ye blessed of my Father, enter into the joy of your Lord.” Read the 25th chapter of St. Matthew, where our Heavenly Teacher speaks of this.

Let this be your constant desire and prayer,—

“I want the witness, Lord,
That all I do is right,
According to thy will and word,
Well pleasing in thy sight”—

Then you will be happy on earth and in heaven.



THE GOOD QUEEN.

NEVER do wealth and greatness prove themselves a universal blessing so truly as when their possessors set an example of humility and good works.

The Queen of England spends a good deal of time on her Balmoral Estate in Scotland. An English paper says: With Highland chief and Lowland laird, she is as popular as she is revered. Those white cottages that send the sun rays across the Dee from their bright walls are the creations of the Queen. What is more, she personally visits her tenements, and takes a lively interest in their comfort and well-being. On Sundays she appears, wet day and dry day, in the little parish church, in the midst of her Highland tenantry and subjects, and joins in the simple service of the sanctuary as devoutly as if it had been the accustomed worship of her childhood.

So good a record cannot be made of many of our rural sojourners from the cities in summer vacation.

THE CHILD'S POCKET ETIQUETTE.



LWAYS say—Yes, sir. No, sir. Yes, papa. No, papa. Thank you. No, thank you. Good night. Good morning. Use no slang terms. Remember that good spelling, reading, writing, and grammar, are the base of all true education.

Clean faces, clean clothes, clean shoes, and clean finger nails, indicate good breeding. Never leave your clothes about the room. Have a place for everything, and everything in its place.

Rap before entering a room, and never leave it with your back to the company. Never enter a private room or public place with your cap on.

Always offer your seat to a lady or old gentleman. Let your companions enter the carriage or room first.

At table eat with your fork; sit up straight; never

use your toothpick, and when leaving ask to be excused.

Never put your feet on cushions, chairs, or table. Never overlook any one when reading or writing, nor talk or read aloud while others are reading. When conversing, listen attentively, and do not interrupt or reply till the other is finished.

Never talk or whisper at meetings or public places, and especially in a private room where any one is singing or playing the piano.

Loud coughing, hawking, yawning, sneezing, and blowing, are ill-mannered.

Treat all with respect, especially the poor. Be careful to injure no one's feelings by unkind remarks. Never tell tales, make faces, call names, ridicule the lame, mimic the unfortunate, or be cruel to insects, birds, or animals.

“I CAN'T.”

NEVER say “I can't,” my dear;
Never say it.
When such words as those I hear,
From the lips of boy or girl,
Oft they make me doubt and fear:
Never say it.

Boys and girls that nimbly play,
Never say it.
They can jump and run away,
Skip and toss and play their pranks;
Even dull ones, when they're gay,
Never say it.

Never mind how hard the task,
Never say it.
Find some one who knows, and ask,
Till you have your lesson learn'd;
Never mind how hard the task:
Never say it.

Men who do the noblest deeds
Never say it.
He who lacks the strength he needs,
Tries his best and gets it soon;
Tries again, and then succeeds:
Never say it.

But when evil tempts to wrong,
Always say it.
In your virtue firm and strong,
Drive the tempter from your sight;
And when follies round you throng:
Ever say it.

When good actions call you near,
Never say it.
Drive away the rising fear,
Get your strength where good men get it;
All your paths will then be clear.
Would you find a happy year!
Would you save a mourning tear?
Never say it.

THE THREE STEPS.

The Rev. R. Hill was once talking to a poor, half-foolish man, when he remarked, “Why, it is a long way to heaven.” “Oh, dear! no, sir; I hope not;” said the man; “Long! no; it's only three steps.” “And pray, what are they?” “Why, they're very simple, if only folk would take them:—our or SELF—INTO CHRIST—INTO GLORY.”

“WHAT IS HOLINESS?” asked a Teacher one day. A little Irish girl jumped up and said, “Praise yer reverence, it's to be *clane inside.*” She was right, as David was when he cried,—“Create in me a clean heart, O God.”