



VIEW OF THE CITY OF CORINTH.

CITY OF CORINTH.

CORINTH was one of the most splendid but also one of the most corrupt cities of Greece. It had an evil reputation in its day akin to that of Berlin, or Paris, or Vienna of the present day. When a man became utterly corrupt he was said to have become Corinthianized. But even here a church was established and all that is left of the worship Paul found are a few mounds. Even the names of the gods sound strange in our ears and there is none to do them reverence.

A LITTLE WORKER.

BY AUNT LIZZIE.

No boy or girl is too young to do good and help other people. Little Charlie Steele is a little bit of a boy, but he has done a big boy some good, and if the big boy keeps his promise, he has a chance to make a useful man.

Charlie lives on an island. All around is water. On this island is a large school where girls and boys are sent who have been bad and who will not obey their parents. They are taught in this school to do different things. They have lessons to learn, and they are made better boys and girls by the kind teachers. Charlie's father is the minister who preaches to these children. A great many of the boys have learned to chew tobacco or smoke. Some of them, I am sorry to say, love to drink beer or whiskey.

One big boy, who has a kind heart, is very fond of little Charlie, and dearly loves to play with him. One day Charlie said:

"See here. If I play with you, you've got to promise you will never drink beer or anything else that is bad. You've got to sign a pledge. I won't play with a boy who will ever drink."

"Well, I'll promise, Charlie, for I've heard your father preach about it. I guess I'll be better off without even beer."

So Charlie ran in the house for a pledge-card, and the big boy put down his name.

That night Charlie got thinking it over, and he said to his papa:

"I say, papa, I guess I didn't do right with John; I guess I ought to make him give up tobacco too."

"I don't believe you can, Charlie, for he will chew it if he can get it."

"Well, then he can't play with me, and I'll tell him so."

The next day Charlie saw the boy and said:

"See here. You've got to give up tobacco as well as beer."

"Oh, no, no; a little tobacco won't hurt me. I can't promise never to use any more."

"Very well, then you can't play any more with me," and Charlie stood up very straight and walked away like a little man.

"But we'll be friends, Charlie."

"No, I won't have anything to do with a boy who uses tobacco. You can't play with me ever again."

"But I like you, Charlie, come back and I'll promise." Charlie turned round with a very bright face.

"All right, then I'll get a new card," and off he ran to his father's study, where he got a pledge-card, which the boy signed, promising to give up tobacco as well as strong drink.—*Water Lily.*

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF PAUL.

A. D. 57.] LESSON V. [July 30.

PAUL AT EPHESUS.

Acts 19. 1-12.] [Memory verses, 2-5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth.—John 16. 13.

OUTLINE.

1. The Holy Ghost Declared, v. 1-5.
2. The Holy Ghost Conferred, v. 6, 7.
3. The Holy Ghost Resisted, v. 8-10.
4. The Holy Ghost Attested, v. 11, 12.

PLACE.—Ephesus, in Asia Minor, the seat of worship of the Asiatic Diana.

CONNECTING LINKS.

The Jews of Corinth brought legal proceedings against Paul, but were unsuccessful. The Jewish opposition then descended to rioting. After "a good while," Paul journeyed to Ephesus, to Casarea, to Antioch, throughout Galatia and Phrygia, back to Corinth, everywhere making converts and strengthening the Churches.

EXPLANATIONS.

"Upper coasts"—The inland provinces. "Not so much as heard"—They had had only the teachings of John the Baptist, like Apollos, who is mentioned in the closing verses of the last chapter. "John's baptism"—With a promise of turning from sin to God. "Hands upon them"—The miraculous gift came with the laying on of apostles' hands. "Spoke with tongues"—Praised God in a new and strange manner, which was

an unmistakable indication of divine power. "Prophesied"—Gave Christian testimony. "Three months"—During these months Paul "reasoned" and taught at the Jewish services on the Sabbath-days. "Disputing"—Trying to prove to the Jews that Jesus is the Saviour. "Divers"—Several people. "That way"—The gospel way of faith. "Separated the disciples"—Holding their meetings apart from the Jews. "The school"—Probably of a Greek rhetorician. "All who dwelt in Asia"—By Asia is here meant the lands on the western end of Asia Minor. "Special miracles"—Miracles even more wonderful than at other times. "From his body"—Clothes which had touched Paul were taken to the sick.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. That we should believe on and receive the Holy Ghost?
2. That the Holy Ghost will confer special gifts?
3. That these gifts should be used for the good of men and the glory of God?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What did Paul ask the disciples whom he met at Ephesus? "Have ye received the Holy Ghost?" 2. When Paul had spoken to these disciples, in whose name were they at once baptized? "In the name of the Lord Jesus." 3. What followed the laying on of hands on those who were baptized? "The Holy Ghost came upon them." 4. What promise had our Lord made concerning the Holy Ghost? Golden Text: "When he, the Spirit," etc. 5. What did Paul do in the synagogue? "Spoke boldly concerning the kingdom of God." 6. What miracles did God do by the hands of Paul? "Cured diseases and cast out evil spirits."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The baptism of the Holy Ghost. Verse 6.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

What is meant by saying that God is holy? That his nature is perfectly good and without the possibility of evil, and that he cannot allow sin in his creatures.

How is God righteous and just? His laws and government are righteous; and he will reward and punish justly.

How is God faithful and true? His words are always true, and his promises can never fail.

GOUGH AND THE CIGARS.

THE least meddling with liquor or tobacco should be avoided. A famous temperance lecturer, who once in a while indulged in a cigar, tells us that, on one occasion, he had engaged to attend a meeting of children. Before he went, a friend said to him.

"I have some first-rate cigars; will you take a few?"
"No, thank you."
"Do, take half-a-dozen."
"I have nowhere to put them."

"You can put half-a-dozen in your cap."

I wore a cap in those days, and I put the cigars into it, and at the appointed time I went to the meeting. I ascended the platform, and faced an audience of more than two thousand children. As it was out of doors, I kept my cap on, for fear of taking cold, and I forgot all about the cigars. Towards the close of my speech, I became much in earnest, and after warning the boys against bad company, bad habits and the saloons, I said—

"Now, boys, let us give three rousing cheers for temperance and cold water. Now then, three cheers. Hurrah!"

And taking off my cap, I waved it most vigorously, when away went the cigars right into the midst of the audience. The remaining cheers were faint, and were nearly drowned in the laughter of the crowd. I was mortified and ashamed, and should have been relieved could I have sunk through the platform out of sight. My feelings were still more aggravated by a boy coming up to the steps of the platform with one of those dreadful cigars, saying, "Here's one of your cigars, sir."

It is hardly possible to taste liquor or have anything to do with it without being found out; indeed all secret sins sooner or later come to light.

SOME one has pleasantly said that the best side of the saloon is the outside. Though a pleasantry, it is as true as true can be. There is no place in or about this haunt of destruction and death like the outside. Our boys and girls should make a note of it, write it with pens of iron upon their hearts, and honestly and sincerely resolve to remain on the outside of the rum saloon for all time to come.

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METHODIST BOOK AND PUBLISHING HOUSE, TORONTO.
C. W. COATES, Montreal. S. F. HUESTIS, Halifax.