

MOTHERS, WATCH THE LITTLE FEET.

**P**ATTER, patter, all day long.  
 \* What an eager, restless throng,  
 Out among the birds and bees,  
 Out among the flowers and trees,  
 In among the toys and books,  
 Spying out the quiet nooks;  
 Hither, yon, and everywhere—  
 Who shall guide each busy pair?  
 Who shall curb the sports and plays,  
 Teach the ladies gentle ways,  
 Help them as, with noble will,  
 On they strive up Learning's hill?  
 Teach them their brave strength to share  
 For the weak, the old, to care;  
 Lead them, till in turn, they stand  
 Leaders in a royal band.

Who shall on the lassies wait,  
 Knocking at youth's morning gate?  
 Guide their hands to deeds of love,  
 Keep their hearts all wrong above,  
 Teach them kindly words and ways,  
 How to help and when to praise;  
 Guide them, till they make of home  
 The brightest spot 'neath heaven's blue dome!  
 Mothers, who could wish or ask  
 For a sweeter, holier task!  
 Yours it is to guide youth's feet  
 Through life's meadows, pure and sweet;  
 Yours to make fair, bright and good,  
 Gentle tender womanhood,  
 And remember, while you plan,  
 As the boy so is the man.

Mothers, lest their feet may stray,  
 Walk beside them while you may.  
 Sports and plays are wiser far  
 Under love's pure guiding star.  
 Books will sweeter meaning take  
 When they'll read "For mother's sake!"  
 Hither, yon, and everywhere,  
 Mothers, watch with prayerful care.

WHAT IT COSTS.

It is an easy thing in the early stages of missionary work in any field to cavil at the large outlay of money as compared with the small results. But the same thing may be done in any important enterprise. The first steel rail made in America was rolled in Chicago in 1865. It cost those who made it, in experiments and outlay, over \$500,000. When only four rails had been made, each had cost the manufacturers over \$125,000. To-day the cost of a ton of steel rails is only \$40.

It is so in mission-work. It was not till the missionaries in Madagascar had worked ten years that the first convert was baptized. It would have been easy to say that the convert had cost so many thousands of dollars. But four years after that there were two hundred converts. The cost was much diminished. Now there are 75,000 Christians in Madagascar, and the Church among the Hovas, in the bloody and relentless persecution through which it passed, gave to the world one of the noblest examples of Christian heroism and devotion that the world has ever seen. When all the money spent in foreign missions is compared with the present results, how small does the outlay appear!

PUSSY.

Did you ever think why we call the cat pussy?  
 A great many years ago the people of Egypt, who have many idol gods, worshipped the cat. They thought she was like the moon, because she was more active at night, and because her eyes changed, just as the moon changes, which is sometimes full, and sometimes only a little bright crescent, or half-moon, as we say.  
 Did you ever notice your pussy's eyes to see how they change?  
 So these people made an idol with the cat's head, and named it Pasht, the same name they gave to the moon, for the word means the face of the moon.

That word has been changed to puss or pus, and has come at last to be puss, the name which most every one gives to the cat. Puss and pussy cat are pet names for kitty everywhere. Whoever thought of it as given to her thousands of years ago, and that then people bowed down and prayed to her!—  
*Morning Light.*

AN ANIMAL APPLE-GATHERER.

GATHERING fruit is a frequent practice of animals, and yet there is a stratagem attributed to that "walking bunch of tooth-picks" called the hedgehog, which is curious enough to deserve special mention. It seems that fruit is frequently found in the hedgehog's sleeping-apartment, and its presence there is explained in this remarkable way: It is known that hedgehogs often climb walls, and run off upon low boughs, and instead of scrambling down in the same manner, they boldly make the leap from the top to the ground, sometimes ten or twelve feet. They coil into a ball in the air, strike upon their armour of spines, and bound away unharmed. In taking this jump, they have been seen to strike upon fallen fruit, which, thus impaled upon their spines, was carried away by them; and this has given rise to the opinion that in some such way they may have stored their winter homes.—*From "Animal Traps and Trappers," by C. F. Holder.*

I'm going to enlist, boys,  
 I'm going to enlist,  
 To battle with the enemy,  
 His legions to resist.  
 The conflict has begun, boys,  
 Our banner's lifted high;  
 We'll fight them till they die, boys;  
 We'll fight them till they die.

A RICH miser was offered the plate on the occasion of a charity collection. "I have nothing," said he. "Then take something, sir," said the lady collector; "you know I am begging for the poor."

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

A.D. 68.] LESSON XII. [June 21.  
 CHRISTIAN PROGRESS.  
 2 Peter 1. 1-11. Commit to memory vs. 5-7.  
 GOLDEN TEXT.

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. 2 Pet. 3. 18.

OUTLINE.

1. The Christian Salutation, v. 1, 2.
2. The Christian Plan, v. 3, 4.
3. The Christian Graces, v. 5-7.
4. The Christian Reward, v. 8-11.

TIME.—Supposed to be about A.D. 68.  
 PLACE.—Perhaps Rome, or some place on the way thither.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Precious faith*—Faith is of value when we consider the cost of that which Christ offers to it, and of value also as the instrument by which the soul is saved. *Life and godliness*—Perhaps eternal life as the end and godliness the way to it. *Whereby*—"By his own glorious power," (Clarke, Com.) *Besides this*—The Christian is not to rest in conversion, but to grow in the graces of the Spirit. *Faith*—That faith by which you have been led to accept Christ. *Virtue*—Manliness, courage. *Temperance*—A proper and moderate use of all earthly enjoyments; self-control. *Barren*—Literally, idle, unemployed. *These things*—The virtues which the apostle urges should be added to faith.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson are we shown—  
 1. That faith is the foundation of Christian growth!

2. That Christian growth follows Christian diligence!
3. That the reward will be in accord with the diligent service!

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What should we add to our faith? Virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, charity. 2. What is he that lacketh these things? "Blind, and cannot see afar off." 3. To what should we give diligence? To make our calling and election sure! 4. If we do these things, what is said [as to the result]? "Ye shall never fall."  
 DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Growth in grace.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

17. What end does the the law of God serve?  
 The law of God serves, in the first place, as the rule of our conduct; and in the second, to convince us of sin. Psalm xix. 11, 12; Rom. iii. 19, 20.  
 [Matt. v. 17, 18; Romans, vii. 7; 1 Timothy i. 8.]

SECOND QUARTERLY REVIEW.

June 28.

REVIEW SCHEME.

Lesson I. *Paul's Voyage.* Acts 27. 1, 2, 14-26.—Why did Paul start for Italy? In whose company? What event befell them in their journey? What counsel did Paul give his fellow-passengers? What reason did he urge? [GOLDEN TEXT.]

Lesson II. *Paul's Shipwreck.* Acts 27. 27-44.—How long was the vessel in the storm? What reason was there to think land was near? What befell the ship? How were the passengers saved? What refuge have men in peril? [GOLDEN TEXT.]

Lesson III. *Paul going to Rome.* Acts 28. 1-16.—On what island were Paul and his companions cast? How long did they remain there? Where did he finally land? With what feelings did he greet his Roman brethren? [GOLDEN TEXT.]

Lesson IV. *Paul at Rome.* Acts 28. 16-31.—What liberty was granted Paul at Rome? To whom did he preach? How was his message received? To whom did he then declare the Gospel to be sent? [GOLDEN TEXT.]

Lesson V. *Obedience.* Eph. 6. 1-13.—What exhortation did the apostle give? [GOLDEN TEXT.] What divine commandment did he urge? What is the true spirit of obedience? How may strength be obtained for victory?

Lesson VI. *Christ our Example.* Phil. 2. 5-16.—What example of humility did Christ give us? What does the GOLDEN TEXT urge us to possess? What exaltation did Christ receive? What honour will he receive from all men?

Lesson VII. *Christian Contentment.* Phil. 4. 4-13.—What three rules for contentment are given? What will follow their obedience? [GOLDEN TEXT.] What lesson had the apostle learned?

Lesson VIII. *The Faithful Saying.* 1 Tim. 1. 15-20; 2. 1-6.—What is the GOLDEN TEXT? What does Paul declare himself to be? For what purpose did Paul find mercy? What Mediator have men now?

Lesson IX. *Paul's Charge to Timothy.* 2 Tim. 3. 14-17; 4. 1-8.—What exhortation did Paul give to Timothy? What were to be his guides? [GOLDEN TEXT.] What charge did Paul give? What testimony did he offer?

Lesson X. *God's Message by his Son.* Heb. 1. 1-8; 2. 1-4.—By whom did God first speak to men? By whom afterward? To what should men give earnest heed? What is the danger of neglect? [GOLDEN TEXT.]

Lesson XI. *The Priesthood of Christ.* Heb. 9. 1-12.—What marked the first covenant? What was contained in the tabernacle? Who interceded for the people? Who is our high-priest? What does the GOLDEN TEXT say of him?

Lesson XII. *Christian Progress.* 2 Pet. 1. 1-11.—What are given as helps in Christian progress? What is the foundation of Christian life? What is to be added to this? What is the rule of Christian progress as given in the GOLDEN TEXT?

CATECHISM QUESTION.

18. Are all transgressions of the law equally great?  
 Not equally great; for some sins in themselves, and by reason of the way in which they are committed, are worse in the sight of God than others. John xix. 11.  
 [Luke vii. 41-47.]

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