



THE FIRST PALM SUNDAY.

## Palm Bearers.

WHEN Christ, as King, descended  
The slopes of Olivet,  
The gladdest of all visions  
His sacred gaze that met,  
Were throngs of Jewish children  
That came in singing bands,  
And pressed about him, bearing  
Palm branches in their hands.

"Out of the mouths of children  
Thou perfectest thy praise,"  
He said, as their hosannas  
Rang o'er the crowded ways.  
"Out of the mouths of children,"  
The same dear lips may say,  
These hosts of happy children  
Who meet him here to-day.

We come with songs of triumph,  
No doubtful Christ to own;  
The Galilean Prophet  
Is King upon the throne!  
With greater gladness bearing  
Our palms than those he met,  
That day when he descended  
The steeps of Olivet.

O Saviour! may we children  
Strive on till life shall cease,  
To send to all the nations  
The palm branch of thy peace!  
And own our service, saying,  
As in Judean days,  
"Out of the mouths of children  
God perfecteth his praise."

AMERICA FIRST DISCOVERED BY  
A BOY.

Almost 450 years before Christopher Columbus was born America was discovered by a Norwegian boy named Biorn, son of Hergolf. He was known by no other title, for in those days sons did not share the father's name.

In the year 1002, Hergolf, an Iceland colonist, fitted out two small vessels for a trading voyage to the Greenland settlement, and placed one of these under the command of his son Biorn, a youth of sixteen years, who, having been bred to the sea almost since infancy, had mastered the details of his profession by the time that he arrived at an age when other boys usually commence their apprenticeship.

When near the Southern coast of Greenland, Biorn's ship encountered a heavy north-easterly gale, which lasted several days, and drove his vessel far to the south and west. The storm broke in the night, and when morning dawned he discovered a strange land close aboard. Sailing along the coast for some distance, he found a large bay, into which he steered and dropped anchor. Upon landing, the country

was seen to be clothed with vegetation, and the streams swarming with fine salmon. Trees of large growth grew in great numbers just back from the shore, and the climate was balmy and delightful. Of natives they saw nothing, and believed the land uninhabited.

Rejoiced over his important discovery, Biorn returned to Iceland, and communicated the news to his friend Lief, son of Eric the Red, who had founded the colony on the coast of that island. The two ambitious young men immediately entered into an agreement to share the expense of equipping a suitable vessel, sailing to this newly-discovered land, and bringing back whatever cargo promised to reimburse them for fitting out the ship.

Their first sight of the new land was not calculated to impress Lief with a promise of its fruitfulness, for it was rocky, barren, and gloomy. This gave rise to openly expressed dis-

satisfaction on his part, but Biorn assured him that further south they would meet with green fields and woodlands. After the fashion of the early navigators in naming geographical discoveries according to the features first presented, this place they called Helleland, and to the low, sandy shore, which they observed beyond it, and which was covered in spots with clumps of small trees, they gave the name of Markland. Two days later they fell in with a new line of coast, and sailing along this for several hours Biorn made out the bay in which he had anchored on his previous voyage. Into this harbour they brought the ship and moored her.

This Vinland of the early voyagers is known at the present day as Newfoundland. After making several short cruises to the southward and westward, and sailing through the Gulf of St. Lawrence until the river of that name was reached, the ship returned to her first anchorage, where the explorers passed the winter.

In the account of this remarkable voyage, made five centuries before King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella bade God-speed to the Italian navigator in the Spanish harbour of Palos, it is recorded by Biorn and Lief that the length of the shortest day during the winter of the year 1002-3 was eight hours. This proves conclusively that this Vinland of theirs was no further north than Newfoundland, otherwise the length of the day would have been shorter.—*Harper's Young People.*

## LESSON NOTES.

## SECOND QUARTER.

LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF OUR LORD.

A.D. 30.] LESSON I. [April 7.

THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY.

Mark 11. 1-11. Memory verses, 9, 10.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.—Mark 11. 9.

## OUTLINE.

1. The Lord's Approach, v. 1-7.
2. The Popular Welcome, v. 8-11.

TIME.—April 2, A.D. 30.

PLACES.—1. Bethphage (pronounced *Beth-ja-jee*) and Bethany, villages or neighbourhoods near the Mount of Olives; 2. That mount itself, over which the triumphal procession passed; 3. The courts of the temple at Jerusalem.

RULERS.—Tiberius Cæsar, emperor at Rome; Pontius Pilate, procurator of Judea; Herod Antipas, tetrarch of Perea and Galilee; Caiaphas, high priest of the Jews.

## INTRODUCTORY.

On the Friday before the fourth passover of his ministry (March 31, A.D. 30), just one week before the crucifixion, Jesus came to Bethany, where he lodged in the home of Lazarus, Martha, and Mary. From Friday sundown to Saturday sundown was the Jewish Sabbath, set apart for rest and worship. On Saturday evening a feast was given in honour of Jesus, and Mary anointed him. On Sunday (which was not then in any sense sacred) the events of this lesson occurred.

## HOME READINGS.

- M.* The triumphal entry.—Mark 11. 1-11.  
*Tu.* Praises of children.—Matt. 21. 10-17.  
*W.* A reason for the joy.—John 12. 12-19.  
*Th.* Sorrow for Jerusalem.—Luke 19. 37-44.  
*F.* "Thy king cometh."—Zech. 9. 9-17.  
*S.* "In the name of the Lord."—Psalm 118. 19-29.  
*Su.* Worthy is the Lamb.—Rev. 5. 6-14.

## QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. *The Lord's Approach*, v. 1-7.  
To what city did Jesus come nigh?  
From what place did he send two disciples?  
What did he bid these disciples do?  
What answer were they to make if anyone objected?  
What did the disciples find and do?  
What was said to them, and by whom?  
What was their answer, and the result?  
What was done with the beast?  
What Scripture was thus fulfilled? See Matt. 21. 5, and Zech. 9. 9.
2. *The Popular Welcome*, v. 8-11.  
What marks of honour did the people pay to Jesus?  
With what salutation was he greeted? (Golden Text.)  
What kingdom was pronounced blessed?  
What city did he enter in triumph?  
What noted building did he visit?  
Where did he then go, and with whom?  
What miracle did Jesus do on the next day? Verses 12-14.  
What act of authority in the temple? Verses 15-18.  
What lesson did he teach from the barren fig tree? Verses 20-26.

## TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

- Where in this lesson are we shown—
1. The humility of Jesus?
  2. The authority of Jesus?
  3. The royalty of Jesus?

## THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. From what village did Jesus start on his royal entrance to Jerusalem? From Bethany.
2. How did he make his entrance? Seated upon a colt.
3. By whom was he attended? A multitude before and behind.
4. How did they show him honour? They spread their garments in the way.
5. What was their song? Golden Text: "Blessed is he," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The royalty of Jesus.

## CATECHISM QUESTION.

What are we taught on the subject of transgressions of the law?

That the law requires complete obedience; so that he who breaks one commandment falls into condemnation.

James 2. 10. Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is become guilty of all.

## A HERO OF OUR DAY.

MANY years ago there was a great fire that burned down a large portion of Chicago. Hundreds of homes were swept away, and many strange events occurred while the flames were raging.

A rich lady was hurrying through the crowd of frightened people, and trying to save a few of her household goods. She saw a small boy, and called him to her, saying: "Take this box, my boy, and do not part with it one instant until I see you again. Take care of it, and I will reward you well."

The boy took the box, and the lady turned back to save more of her household goods, if possible. Soon the crowd came rushing between them; they were separated. All that night and the next day passed. The lady took refuge with friends outside the city, and heard nothing more of her boy or box. Her diamonds, a large

CHEAP DRINKS AND THEIR  
RESULTS.

THE sot was once a child, the child may become a sot.

amount of choice jewelry, and all her valuable papers were in the box, and of course she was in great distress at losing them. But on Tuesday night a watchman found the boy sitting on the box, and almost buried in the sand and dirt that had fallen about him. He had been there all through the long hours, without food or shelter. At times he had covered himself with sand to escape the terrible flames. The poor child was almost dead with fright and fatigue, but had never once thought of deserting the precious box that had been entrusted to his care.

Of course he was amply rewarded by the grateful lady, but the boy who could be so faithful to a trust would be rich and noble without any gift.

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