

WOES OF INTemperance

Lesson IX.

Proverbs 23 : 29-35—Memory Verses, 29-32 November 26, 1899

29 Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?

30 They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.

31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright

32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, and

stingeth like an adder.

33 Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.

34 Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.

35 They have stricken me, *shalt thou say, and, I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.*

THE LESSON RETOLD

King Solomon was the wisest king that ever lived.

For his friends he choose the wisest men he could find, and people came from all over the world to ask his advice and to get his help when they were in trouble.

He was very rich, too, and could have whatever he wanted to eat and drink and wear.

King Solomon wished the boys and girls in his kingdom to grow up to be as wise as he was himself. He knew that soon he must

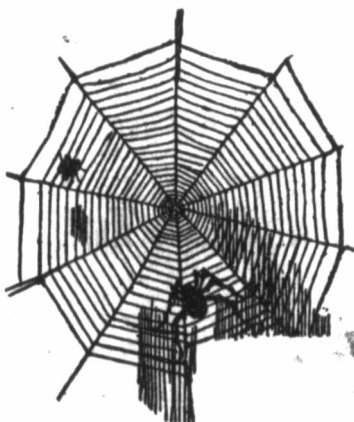
proverb means a wise word that everybody can understand. "The Proverbs" is a picture-book, too, and some of the pictures are lovely to look at.

There is one very pretty picture near the end of the book of a mother sitting in her house spinning. She is making red cloth out of wool to keep her children warm in the winter. By-and-by some poor people come along and she shakes hands with them and gives them some food and part of the cloth she has made.

But there are sad pictures too.

One of the saddest is of a poor, sick man. He is all ragged and bleeding. His eyes are red and he cannot walk straight. He has no hat and you can hear him muttering cross words to himself as he staggers along the road. Once he was a nice little boy, but now his own mother would hardly know him. He is drunk—he has spent all his money for strong drink, and people run away when they see him. He does not know that some one has beaten him. He is foolish enough even to think he could sleep on the top of a high mast or in the deep water.

Underneath this sad picture Solomon wrote some words to keep everybody from getting to be like the man in the dreadful picture. He says, "Look not *thou* upon the wine when it is red, for at the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder."



die and go away, so he wrote in a book some rules for them to keep if they wanted to grow strong and wise and to please God well. His book is called "The Proverbs." A