



THE CAMEL.

### THE CAMEL.

EVERY one is interested in the camel. It is like looking at the elephant, or monkey; one never gets done. Camels are so very different from our familiar animals that they cause us to stand in awe as we study their peculiar build, and the uses to which they are put, and the adaptation to the times and places they occupy. They are specially adapted for carrying burdens, and their endurance enables them to make long journeys across the desert.

The hump on the camel's back is a wonderful provision of nature, to adapt the animal to the endurance of long abstinence from food, or subsistence on very scanty supplies, to which it is often subjected in the desert, and without a capacity for which it would be comparatively of little value to man; and the wide deserts across which he journeys and transports his merchandise by its aid would be altogether impossible. The hump is in fact a store of fat, from which the animal draws as the wants of his system require; and the Arab is very careful to see that the hump is in good condition before the commencement

of his journey. They often carry from a thousand to fifteen hundred pounds. The use of the camel for transporting passengers and merchandise has given it the name of the "ship of the desert." A caravan sometimes contains 1,000, and sometimes even 4,000.

The pace of the camel is very uniform, but slow. Its power of endurance is great, and hence, makes long journeys with comparative ease. It lives from thirty to forty years.

### THE RICH MAN AND THE POOR MAN.

A PARABLE is a short story told to teach a lesson.

The story of Lazarus was told by our Lord to his disciples.

Lazarus was a poor sick cripple who lay by a rich man's gate to beg.

He held up his bowl to the proud rich man; and the rich man would not look at him, but held away his mantle as if he did not wish to touch him.

When these men died, Lazarus, after all his sufferings, was taken to Heaven, but the

rich man went to the place of torment and there he who would not help poor Lazarus on the earth begged that he might come to bring him a drop of water.

What do you think Jesus meant to teach in this parable?

That he wishes those who are able, to help the poor and sick; that he waits with tenderest love to take his people who are poor and suffering here to be with him; that we should not think much of fine clothes and rich living, which we must leave when we die.

Read Christ's own words in Luke xii and perhaps you can learn still more from his lesson.

### THE BABY.

ONE little row of ten little toes,  
To go along with a brand-new nose;  
Eight new fingers and two new thumbs—  
That are just as good as sugar-plums,—  
That's Baby.

One little pair of round new eyes,  
Like a little owl's so big and wise;  
One little place they call a mouth,  
Without one tooth from north to south,—  
That's Baby.

Two little cheeks to kiss all day,  
Two little hands so in his way;  
A brand-new head, so very big,  
That seems to need a brand-new wig,—  
That's Baby.

Dear little row of ten little toes!  
How much we love them nobody knows,  
Ten little kisses on mouth and chin;  
What a shame he isn't a twin!—  
That's Baby.

### SPEAK GENTLY.

A YOUNG lady had gone out for a walk but forgot to take her purse with her. Presently she met a little girl with a basket on her arm.

"Please, miss, will you buy something from my basket?" said the girl, showing a variety of book-marks, watch-cases, needles, books, etc.

"I am sorry I can't buy anything to-day," said the young lady. "I haven't any money with me. Your things look very pretty." She stopped a moment and spoke a few kind words to the girl, and then, as she passed, she said again, "I am very sorry I can't buy anything from you to-day."

"Oh, miss," said the little girl, "you have done me as much good as if you had. Many persons that I meet say, 'Get away from you!' but you have spoken kindly to me and I feel a heap better."

That was "considering the poor."