

whenever I could, I began to fear it had not as much effect on my life as it should. My sister cried 'Look! there is the sign!' and in real agony I exclaimed, 'Oh, where, where?' I cannot see it.' She pointed to the window, but I saw nothing like a sign, and said, 'I don't think that can be a sign.' But now everything was fading, and our hopes died. He was not coming yet. She awakened, but the memory of the dream clung to her, and she began to pray 'Lord, teach me to be ready when Thou comest.' Is there not a lesson for us all here? If He came to-night, or to-morrow, should we be ready to go out gladly to meet Him, like the wise virgins? Or might there not be a hurrying about, seeking for more oil? Read Matt. xxiv. and xxv. and Mark xiii., and see how often we are told to watch and be ready, for we know not when the coming of the Son of Man is. There is only one year more in the century, and there may be even less before He comes. May we be found ready, as faithful servants, each "doing the will of God from the heart."

Some years ago a sturdy Scotchman in an Ohio town had made a fortune in manufacturing oatmeal. But one early morning he was called out of his bed by the cry of fire, and in an hour he saw his entire fortune, about \$700,000, vanish in flame. Then he went home and quietly remarked that he would finish the night's sleep. "How can you go to sleep," exclaimed his wife, "now that we have lost everything?"

"We haven't lost everything," he replied. "We have just as much money now as we had the day we were married, and you remember how happy we were then. Now we must keep our strength to begin again."—*Parish Visitor.*

"That man may last, but never lives, who much receives, but nothing gives, Whom few can love, whom none can thank, The Church's blot, the nation's blank."

The only way to make life easy is to make it service to Christ.

Boys' and Girls' Corner.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS.

International.	Institute.
Mar. 5—St. John viii. 12-36.	Acts xviii. 12-23.
" 12—St. John ix. 1-11	Exod. xx. 1-12.
" 19—St. John x. 1-16	Acts xviii. 23-xix. 8.
" 26—St. John xii. 20-36	Acts xix. 23-35.

BIBLE QUESTIONS FOR MARCH.

1. How many sons had Ishmael?
2. He is said to have died in the presence of all his brethren. What does this mean?
3. Name Isaac's two sons.
4. Give the meanings of these two words.
5. Give the year of Shem's death according to authorized version.
6. Assuming the details of the Creation were orally handed down from Adam, how many persons would be required to convey them from him to Jacob?
7. Where did God appear the second time to Isaac?
8. What other event took place there?
9. How old was Isaac when he blessed Jacob and Esau?
10. Give the reason why Jacob went to Haran.
11. On his way what event occurred at Bethel?
12. What was the name of Bethel before this?

ANSWERS TO FEBRUARY.

1. Gen. xv. 2. When God appeared to him in a vision and told him the destinies of his race.
2. Gen. xxiv. 6. Not to bring Isaac back to the country whence Abram came.
3. Haran; Gen. xxvii. 43.
4. Yes.
5. Keturah.
6. Yes, in 1 Chron. i. 32.
7. Six.
8. Gen. xxv. 6.
9. One hundred and seventy-five years.
10. In the cave of Machpelah.
11. At Beer-la-hai-roi.
12. Because Hagar called Him who appeared to her there—"Thou God seest me."

DUKE'S NEW SKATES.

Religious fellows are awfully tiresome, some of them," said Oscar Ross, one day, as he sat on the kitchen table, watching his sister Harriet preparing pies.

"In what way?" asked Harriet.

"Why, they are forever at you to go to meetings of first one kind and then another. And all the time you know that their object is to do

you good, and make you religious, too."

"I have known a good many of them that were not very tiresome that way," said Harriet drily. "But who is it that you are talking about?"

"Duke Ames. He is now captain in-chief of a missionary society, to which he invites me regularly by postal every month. And, whenever he sees me between whiles, he gets after me to come."

"Duke seems to be a nice boy," said Harriet.

"Why shouldn't he be? He doesn't have to skimp and turn corners continually, and try to keep it a secret, and be respectable. He has lots of good times. I wish he would share some of them with me, instead of his missionary zeal."

A day or two later the boys at school were in great spirits over a change in the weather, which fitted beautifully into a frolic which they had on hand.

"There will be floods of moonlight!" said Duke Ames; "and the ice on the river is as hard as iron and as smooth as glass! A crowd of city people are coming over from the Point. We shall have to do our little backwoods best to entertain them."

And as Duke started for home, writes Sally Campbell in an exchange, his mind was very full of certain bright-eyed maidens among the "city people," and he remembered with complacency the new pair of skates which had been given him on his birthday. He had not gone far, however, when Oscar Ross stopped him.

"I say, Duke," he began with considerable hesitation, "I heard you had some new skates."

"I have," said Duke promptly; "beauties too."

"Well, would you mind lending me the old pair for to-night? My cousin has come, and he didn't bring any with him."

"Not the least bit in the world! Of course not. I am coming back to the village on an errand after dinner, and I will bring them along."

Oscar thanked him, in evident relief at his heartiness.

"What a proud person he is!" said Duke to himself. "Anybody