

BRAVE YOUNG DAVID.

WHEN David kept his father's flock Around his native cot, He met a lion in his walk And slew him on the spot: God helped him in the time of need, And nerved his arm with might: Thus all from danger will be freed Who in his cause to fight!

When David saw the Holy One Insulted by a foe The stripling took a sling and stone And laid the monster low. Another monster he would fight, Intemperance's its name— A foe most odious to our sight, Our country's curse and shame

What boys have done boys yet can do: And though, we're weak and small, We'll fight the deadly battle through And kill base Alcohol. Stern, brave temperance youths are we, Cowards we will not show; But our dread foe we'll never flee But work its overthrow.

Though foes of temperance start around Like lions from their den, We'll fight the foe on equal ground And make them temperance men. And when the victory shall be won, When temperance shall abound, From the rising to the setting sun Our hymns of praise shall sound.

ORIGIN OF HOLIDAYS FOR SCHOOL-BOYS.

THERE lived a philosopher in ancient times who laid a solid foundation for the lasting thankfulness of school-boys. He used to say that he would rather have a grain of wisdom than a cartful of gold, and who, heathen as he was, had strong perceptions of the doctrine of the immortality of the soul. That man was Anaxagoras— not the princely gentleman of Argos, but the far-seeing, yet often wild and fanciful, philosopher of Clazomenae. Just before his death at Lampsacus, three years subsequent to the commencement of the great and protracted struggle of the Athenians and Lacedaemonians for predominance in Greece, 428 B.C., Anaxagoras was asked if he had any particular wish, as it should be fulfilled if he would only give it expression.

"Certainly I have," said the kind hearted old man. "I wish to be remembered with pleasant feelings by all school-boys; and I only ask that, in memory of me, they may always have a whole holiday on the anniversary of my death; and this was decreed accordingly. And this fine, unselfish old fellow was not the mere recommender, but the founder, of holidays for school-boys—which holidays, in further commemoration of his name, were long known by the name of "Anaxagoreia."

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

B.O. 538.] LESSON VII. [Feb. 14.

THE HANDWRITING ON THE WALL.

Dan. 5. 1-12, & 25-28. Commit to mem. vs. 3-6.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. Dan. 5. 27.

OUTLINE.

- 1. A King's Feast, v. 1-4.
2. A King's Fear, v. 5.
3. A Queen's Counsel, v. 10-12.
4. A Prophet's Warning, v. 25-28.

TIME.—538 B.C. In Greece, the 60th Olympiad. Year of Rome, 215.

PLACE.—Same as in Lesson V. EXPLANATIONS.—Praised the gods of gold, etc.—The gods were the idol gods of the Chaldeans. Swords of his wars were wound—He

felt his knees sinking with fear. Astrologers, Chaldeans, and the soothsayers—See note on Lesson V. Third ruler in the kingdom—Belshazzar's father was first (he was away with the army,) he himself was second, so the man who read the handwriting would be third. Ment, mene, tele, upharsin — "Numbered, numbered, weighed, divided." The words are in the Hebrew language

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

- Where, in this lesson, do we find—
1. That detachment makes men bold in sin
2. That wicked boldness makes guilty fear!
3. That defiance of God brings ruin!

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Who was Belshazzar? The last king of Babylon. 2. Who appeared while he was feasting? A hand which wrote on the wall. 3. Who alone could read the writing and its meaning? Daniel. 4. What did the writing mean as stated in the GOLDEN TEXT? Thou art, etc. 5. What took place on that night? King Belshazzar was slain. 6. By whom was his kingdom taken? By the Persians.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The omnipresent God.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

9. Have believers an internal evidence that Christ came from God? They have, according to their faith, the witness and the fruit of the Holy Spirit in their hearts. [John xiv. 20, 1 John iv. 13; Gal. v. 22, 23.]

B.O. 536.] LESSON VIII. [Feb. 21.

THE SECOND TEMPLE.

Ezra 1. 1-4, & 3. 15. Commit to mem. vs. 2 & 4.

GOLDEN TEXT.

They praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid. Ezra 3. 11.

OUTLINE.

- 1. A Charge to Cyrus, v. 1, 2.
2. A Call to Israel, v. 3, 4.
3. A Thanksgiving to God, v. 8-13.

TIME.—536 B.C. The first year of Cyrus alone. 70 years since 606. Captivity ended. 61st Olympiad. Year of Rome, 217.

PLACE.—Jerusalem, Babylon, possibly Susa.

EXPLANATIONS.—Stirred up the spirit—Inspired him with the thought. Trumpets... cymbals—Instruments of music such as were used in the service of the first temple. Ordinance of David—David had selected certain persons to have charge of the service of song; descendants of the same people were chosen for the service. Sang together by course—They, perhaps, sang responsively the one hundred and thirty-sixth Psalm, one part giving the recital, and the other part the phrase of response, "For his mercy endureth forever."

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

- Where, in this lesson, do we learn—
1. That God moves men's hearts to do his will!
2. That God remembers his people in their trouble?
3. That the prosperity of God's house is a joy to his people!

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Who permitted the Jews to return from captivity? Cyrus, the king of Persia. 2. Who led the Jews back to their own land? Zerubbabel. 3. What did they first build after their return to Jerusalem? The altar of the Lord. 4. What foundation did they lay in the second year? The second temple. 5. What is said of them in the GOLDEN TEXT? They praised, etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The call of the Gospel.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

10. What does our Lord say of those who reject him? He declares that they ought to believe in him, and that they would believe in him if they humbly and patiently listened to his words. [John viii. 46, 47; John x. 25-27; 1 John iii. 19.]

"Pa," said a little boy, "a horse is worth a great deal more, isn't it, after it's broke?" "Yes, my son. Why do you ask such a question?" "Because I broke the new rocking-horse you gave me this morning."

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