

MAKING A CHAIN.

BY MISS S. M. I. HENRY

SEVEN little lassies
With their temperance badges
In a row together standing hand in hand,
Swing into a circle,
Holding each the other,
So one link we've woven of the temperance
band.

CHORUS.

We will make a chain,
Make a temperance chain,
So we stand together,
Linked into a chain.

Seven little lassies
With their temperance badges
In a row together standing hand in hand,
Make a manly circle;
Join both lads and lassies,
So two links we've woven of the temperance
band.

CHO. — We will make, etc.

Temperance lads and lassies
Loyal to your pledges
Standing linked together in a living chain,
Holding fast together
Strong to help each other;
'Tis a Band of Hope and that is very plain.
CHO. — We will make, etc.

SMALL CHANGE IN MEXICO.

In one of the small towns I bought some limes, and gave the girl one dollar in payment. By way of change she returned me forty-nine pieces of soap the size of a water-cracker. I looked at her in astonishment, and she returned my look with equal surprise, when a police-officer who witnessed the incident hastened to inform me that for small sums soap was the legal tender in many portions of the country. I examined my change, and found that each cake was stamped with the name of a town and of a manufacture authorized by the government. The cakes of soap were worth one and a half cents each. Afterward in my travels I frequently received similar change. Many of the cakes showed signs of having been in a wash tub, but that, I discovered, was not at all uncommon. Provided the stamp was not obliterated, the soap did not lose any value as currency. Occasionally a man would borrow a cake of a friend, wash his hands, and return it with thanks. I made use of my pieces more than once in my bath, and subsequently spent them — *Anonymous.*

A HINT TO THE BOYS.

I stood in the store the other day when a boy came in an applied for a situation.

"Can you write a good hand?" was asked.

"Yaas."

"Good at figures?"

"Yaas."

"That will do—I don't want you," said the merchant.

"But," I said, when the boy had gone, "I know that lad to be an honest, industrious boy. Why don't you give him a chance?"

"Because he hasn't learned to say 'Yes, sir,' and 'No, sir.' If he answers me as he did when applying for a situation how will he answer customers after being here a month?"

What could I say to that? He had fallen into a habit, young as he was, which turned him away from the first situation he had ever applied for.

The best way to keep good acts in memory is to refresh them with new ones.

THE LIVING BIBLE.

It would be folly for any person to deny the antiquity of the Scriptures. The writing of them extended through more than fifteen centuries, and the earlier portions were written more than three thousand years ago. There is no other record so connected and clearly defined, of equal antiquity.

When we consider the character of the times through which the Scriptures have come down to us, how can we doubt that they have been watched over by the all-seeing eye, and defended by the unseen, yet almighty hand of God?

Unnumbered generations have drifted down the stream of time and been swallowed up in eternity; empires have risen and fallen, thrones have been set up and have tottered, crumbling and dissolved, revolutions have marched over the fall of nations with earthquake tread, with the sword in one hand and the lighted torch in the other; and world-famed libraries, containing the gathered learning and wisdom of ages, vanished in smoke, while the Bible came down to us through the whole, unimpaired by Vandal hands, undimmed by the mildew of ages, and unsoiled by the dust of more than thirty centuries.

The Bible was written in Hebrew and Greek, and when these languages became out of date, it seized upon the living languages of the world, and is now read in more than two hundred languages and dialects! The Bible has a stronger hold upon the world to-day than it ever had before, and stronger than any other book, and more copies of it are printed, circulated, and read than of any other, and no other book is read in so many languages and dialects. Is there nothing supernatural and divine in such a book?

A Scotch girl was converted under the preaching of Whitefield. When asked if her heart was changed, her true and beautiful answer was: "Something I know is changed: it may be the world, it may be my heart. There is a great change somewhere, I am sure; for everything is different from what it once was." A very apt commentary on that passage: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

A.D. 27.] LESSON II. [April 11.

THE FIRST DISCIPLES.

John 1. 35-51. Commit to mem. vs. 40-42.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. John 1. 37.

OUTLINE.

1. Pointing to the Lamb, v. 35, 36.
2. Following the Lamb, v. 37-40.
3. Leading to the Lamb, v. 41-51.

TIME.—Probably during the year A.D. 27, and early in the year, as it was before the first Passover of his ministry.

PLACE.—Bethabara, east from Jerusalem, a ford of Jordan, where John had baptized. The place of gathering was across the river; hence, Bethabara beyond Jordan.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Lamb of God*—Jesus, sinless and pure. No other man was ever called the Lamb of God. *What see ye?*—Jesus knew, but he made the way easy for them to follow him if they wished it. *Abode with him*—Stayed with him wherever it was that he tarried. *The tenth hour*—Four o'clock in the afternoon. *In the law*—That part of the Old Testament which the Jews called the law, probably the Penta-

teuch. *Any good thing*—The reputation of Nazareth was very bad. That is why Nathanael asked such a question. *An Israelite indeed*—Really and truly an Israelite in spirit, and not alone in name. See Rom. 2. 28, 29. *No guile*—No deceit, no fraud.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where, in this lesson, do we find—

1. The call to service?
2. The testimony of faith?
3. The reward of faith?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Who came to prepare the way for Christ? John the Baptist. 2. What did he say of Jesus? "Behold the Lamb of God." 3. Who heard John the Baptist say this? Two of his disciples. 4. What did they do, as told in the GOLDEN TEXT? "The two," etc. 5. What did one of these two disciples say to his brother Simon? "We have found the Christ." 6. Who were among the earliest disciples of Jesus? Andrew and Peter, Philip and Nathanael.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The Lamb of God.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

18. How does the New Testament teach his religion? It contains the history of his life and death, the record of his teaching while he was among men, and the doctrine which he taught the Apostles by his spirit after he ascended into heaven.

A.D. 27.] LESSON III [April 18

THE FIRST MIRACLE.

John 2. 1-11. Commit to mem. vs. 1-5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him. John 2. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. The Marriage in Cana, v. 1, 2.
2. The First Miracle, v. 3-10.
3. The Believing Disciples, v. 11.

TIME.—Same year as Lesson II. The first year of Christ's ministry.

PLACE.—Cana of Galilee.

EXPLANATIONS.—*The third day*—The third day after his conversation with Nathanael. *Jesus was called*—We should say was invited. *Wanted wine*—A wedding feast lasted seven or eight days. The first supply of wine was exhausted. *Mine hour is not yet come*—Time for him to make public assertion of his power. *Water-pots of stone*—Large stone jars. *After the manner of the purifying*—Ready for the different wants necessary at feasts for washings and ablutions by which ceremonial purity was preserved. *Governor of the feast*—The one who had charge of the festivities at the wedding feast. He stood at the head of the table and gave general directions for the occasion. *Manifested forth*—Exhibited to the world.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where, in this lesson, are we taught—

1. The presence of Jesus in times of joy?
2. The help of Jesus in our cares?
3. The sympathy of Jesus with human needs?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Where did Jesus go soon after calling his earliest disciples? To Cana in Galilee. 2. At what gathering were Jesus and his disciples present at Cana? At a marriage feast. 3. What did Jesus do at the marriage feast? He wrought his first miracle. 4. What was this miracle? The turning of water into wine. 5. What was the effect of this miracle as stated in the GOLDEN TEXT? "This beginning," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Miracles.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

19. How does the Lord teach us by his Spirit? All the Scriptures were written under the Holy Spirit's inspiration; and he who inspired them will show their meaning to such as humbly ask him.

"WHAT is the first thing you would do, Jones, if you were stung by a hornet?" asked Smith, who had been reading an article on the treatment of stings. "Howl," replied Jones, solemnly. And the conversation abruptly ended.

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