

## A SWEDISH POEM.

It matters little where I was born,  
 If my parents were rich or poor;  
 Whether they shrank at the cold world's scorn,  
 Or walked in the pride of wealth secure;  
 But whether I live an honest man,  
 And hold my integrity firm in my clutch,  
 I tell you, my brother, that plain as I am,  
 It matters much!

It matters little how long I stay  
 In a world of sorrow and care;  
 Whether in youth I'm called away,  
 Or whether my bones and pate are bare;  
 But whether I do the best I can  
 To soften the weight of adversity's touch  
 On the faded cheek of my fellow-man,  
 It matters much!

It matters little where is my grave,  
 On the land or on the sea;  
 By purring brook or heath stormy wave,  
 It matters little or naught to me;  
 But whether the angel Death comes down,  
 And marks my brow with his loving touch  
 As one that shall wear the victor's crown,  
 It matters much!

## DO IT NOW.

THIS is for you, boys and girls.  
 It is a bad habit—the habit  
 of putting off. If you have  
 something that you are to do, do it  
 now. Then it will be done. That is  
 one advantage. If you put it off, very  
 likely you will forget it, and not do it  
 at all. Or else—what for you is  
 almost as bad—you will not forget it,  
 but keep thinking of it and dreading it,  
 and so, as it were, be doing it all the  
 time. "The valiant never taste death  
 but once;" never but once do the alert  
 and active have their work to do.

I once read of a boy that dropped  
 so in health that his mother thought  
 she must have the doctor to see him.  
 The doctor could find nothing wrong  
 with the boy. But there the fact was,  
 he was pining away, losing his appet-  
 ite, creeping about languidly, and his  
 mother was distressed. The doctor  
 was nonplussed.

"What does your son do? Has he  
 any work?"

"No; he has only to bring a pail of  
 water every day from the spring. But  
 that he dreads all day long, and does  
 not bring it until just before dark."

"Have him bring it the first thing  
 in the morning," was the doctor's pre-  
 scription.

The mother tried it, and the boy got  
 well. Putting it off made his job prey  
 on the boy's mind. "Doing it now"  
 relieved him.

Boys and girls do it now. <

## VARIETIES.

ONE day toward nightfall, and in  
 uncertain light, a man bought an over-  
 coat of pre-ened plum-colour. The  
 next morning it proved to be of a  
 quite too unmistakable green. Re-  
 turning it to the shopkeeper, that  
 worthy regarded the buyer calmly and  
 said, "You must have a little patience  
 with it, my dear sir, it isn't ripe yet."

A LITTLE girl, accompanying her  
 mother on a visit to an old lady, the  
 latter showed the child her parrot in a  
 cage by the window, warning her at  
 the same time not to go too near, lest  
 he should bite. "Why should he  
 bite me?" she asked. "Because, my  
 dear, he don't know you." "Then  
 please tell him that I am Mary Ann."

THERE is nothing that pleases a  
 Washington boarding-house mistress so  
 much as to lodge a man who has plenty  
 of ready money and a claim against  
 the Government. He is good for many  
 months' board before the claim is paid.

GENERAL WOLFE overhearing a young  
 officer say in a very familiar manner,  
 "Wolfe and I drank a bottle of wine  
 together," replied, "I think you might  
 say General Wolfe." "No," replied  
 the subaltern, with happy presence of  
 mind; "did you ever hear of General  
 Achilles or General Cæsar?"

DID you ever notice the warning,  
 "Paint," posted on a door, that you  
 didn't test the matter with your finger  
 to see if it wasn't dry enough to take  
 down the sign? You probably never  
 did; it would be contrary to human  
 nature.

THERE is evil thought in man, God  
 knows! But it is not the mission of  
 every young man and woman to detail  
 and report it all. Keep the atmosphere  
 as pure as possible, and fragrant with  
 gentleness and charity.—*Dr. John Hall.*

I LOVE to think of my little children  
 whom God has called to himself as  
 away at school—at the best school in  
 the universe, under the best teachers,  
 learning the best things in the best  
 possible manner.—*Dr. Pond.*

"How did you like my discourse  
 last Sunday?" asked the person. And  
 the reply was: "To tell you the truth,  
 I was not altogether pleased with your  
 premises; but I was delighted at your  
 conclusion."

NEVER fear to bring the sublimest  
 motive to the smallest duty, and the  
 most infinite comfort to the smallest  
 trouble.—*Phillips Brooks.*

THE proud have no friends; not in  
 prosperity, for then they know nobody;  
 and not in adversity, for then no one  
 knows them.

## LESSON NOTES.

## FIRST QUARTER.

A. D. 52.] LESSON IX. [March. 2.

PAUL AT ATHENS.

Acts 17. 22-34. Commit to memory vs. 29-31.

GOLDEN TEXT.

In him we live, and move, and have our  
 being. Acts 17. 28.

## OUTLINE.

1. God the Creator, v. 22-25.
2. God the Ruler, v. 26-28.
3. God the Father, v. 29, 30.
4. God the Judge, v. 31-34.

TIME.—A. D. 52.

PLACE.—Athens in Greece.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Mars' hill*—A place where  
 the people had brought him that he might  
 tell them about the Gospel. *Too superstitious*—  
 This means here, "devoted to worship."  
*Your devotions*—The people of Athens wor-  
 shipped many idols. *To the unknown God*—  
 There were such altars in Athens, as other  
 writers mention them. *Ignorantly worship*—  
 In their ignorance they yet worshipped God.  
*Dwelteth not in temples*—Athens was full of  
 rich temples to idols. *Of one blood*—All  
 races of men came from one family. *Deter-  
 mined the time*—God has a purpose for every  
 people. *Haply*—Perhaps. *Offspring*—His  
 children. *Winked at*—God allowed it while  
 men were ignorant. *To repent*—To turn  
 from their sins. *By that man*—Jesus Christ,  
 the Son of God. *Some mocked*—Ridiculed  
 the teaching as foolish. *Departed*—He did  
 not establish a Church at Athens.

## TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson do we learn—

1. That our worship to God should be intelligent worship?
2. That God has a claim to the worship of all men?
3. That neglect of right worship will be punished?

## THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. At what place in Athens did Paul preach  
 the Gospel? At Mars' hill. 2. Whom did  
 Paul declare unto the Athenians? The un-  
 known God whom they worshipped. 3. What

relation do we bear to God? "We are his  
 offspring." 4. What does the Lord command  
 all men to do? To repent. 5. How was  
 Paul's preaching received? Some mocked  
 and some believed.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The unity and  
 spirituality of God.

## CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

17. How does the Lord teach us by His  
 Spirit?

All the Scriptures were written under the  
 Holy Spirit's inspiration; and He who in-  
 spired them will show their meaning to such  
 as humbly ask Him.

18. What do you mean by the Holy Spirit's  
 inspiration?

That He put it into the minds of holy men  
 to write, and instructed them how to write.

19. How is it proved that the Holy Spirit  
 inspired the Old Testament Scriptures?

Chiefly by the words of our Lord and His  
 Apostles. Matthew xxii. 43. 2 Peter i. 21.  
 [Acts iv. 25, xxviii. 25; Romans iii. 2;  
 2 Timothy iii. 16, Hebrews x. 15-17; 1 Peter  
 i. 11.]

A. D. 52.] LESSON X. [March. 9.

PAUL AT CORINTH.

Acts 18. 1-17. Commit to memory vs. 9-11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I am with thee, and no man shall set on  
 thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in  
 this city. Acts 18. 10.

## OUTLINE.

1. The Every-day Workers, v. 1-3.
2. The Sabbath Teachers, v. 4-8.
3. The Heavenly Vision, v. 9-11.
5. The Human Opposition, v. 12-17.

TIME.—A. D. 52, immediately following the  
 events of the last lesson.

PLACE.—Corinth in Greece.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Claudius*—The emperor  
 of Rome. *Wrought*—Worked at his trade.  
*Tent-makers*—Probably weaving the cloth of  
 which tents were made. *Reasoned*—Held  
 discussion and arguments. *Came from Mace-*  
*donia*—Where they had remained after Paul's  
 departure. *Pressed in the spirit*—Was made  
 very earnest by his sense of duty to preach  
 the Gospel. *Blasphemed*—The Jews opposed  
 the truth, not with argument, but with curses.

*Shook his raiment*—As a token of separation,  
 shaking them off. *I am clean*—Having done  
 his duty. *Entered into*—For the purpose of  
 preaching. *Joined hand*—Was near to. *Chief  
 ruler*—The officer in control of the synagogue.

*Baptized*—As a token of their faith. *I am  
 with thee*—God's presence is a comfort when  
 men are enemies. *I have much people*—God  
 knew that there were many who would  
 receive the truth. *Deputy*—The Roman  
 governor under the emperor. *Made insur-*  
*rection*—Brought charges and caused his arrest.

*Worship God contrary to the law*—By teaching  
 a religion that was not allowed in the State.

*Levity*—Wickedness of conduct. *Drive  
 them*—He would not hear their complaint.

*Cared for none*—He paid no attention to the  
 acts of either party, the Jews who were against  
 Paul, or the Greeks against the Jews.

## TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. The dignity and duty of labour?
2. That God cares for His workmen?
3. That boldness for the truth is commend-  
 able to God!

## THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Where did Paul go from Athens? To  
 Corinth. 2. What did Paul testify to the  
 Jews? That Jesus was Christ. 3. What did  
 the Lord say to Paul in the night by a vision?

"Be not afraid, but speak." 4. What does  
 Jesus say to His followers every where? Lo,  
 I am with you always." 5. How long did  
 Paul stay at Corinth? A year and six months.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Personal res-  
 ponsibility to God.

## CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

20. How is it proved that the New Testa-  
 ment is inspired by the Holy Spirit?

The Saviour told His apostles that they  
 should be witnesses of Him, and promised  
 that the Spirit should bring His words to  
 their remembrance, and teach them things to  
 come. John xv. 26, 27; John xiv. 26.

21. What other proof is there that the  
 Bible is inspired?

Its wonderful and heavenly power over the  
 human heart. Hebrews iv. 12, 13.

[2 Timothy iii. 16.]

22. How must we, then, esteem the Scrip-  
 tures?

As the true Word of God, the sure and  
 sufficient rule of faith and practice.

## S. S. BOOKS.

Suitable for Prizes or Libraries.

BOOKS AT 45 CENTS.

Home Sunshine; or, Bear and Forbear.  
 On the Seas; a book for boys.  
 Grace's Visit; or, the Wrong Way to Cure  
 a Fault.  
 Little Redcap; a tale for boys.  
 The Log House; or, Adventures in Canada.  
 The Book-Stall Boy.  
 Little Lucy's Wonderful Globe.  
 Sturdy Jack.  
 Sailing Orders.  
 Fanny's Bible Text.  
 Charley Hope's Testament.  
 Robm the Runner.  
 Mabel's Faith.  
 Little Three Year-Old.  
 Alice Benson's Trials.  
 Soldier Fritz, and the Enemies he Fought.  
 The Young Whaler.  
 Every Man in his Place.  
 Ben's Boyhood.

75 CENTS EACH.

Wrecked, Not Lost.  
 Old Friends with New Faces.  
 George Clifford's Loss and Gain.  
 The Fisher Boy.  
 Little Lillie's Travels.  
 Child Life in Many Lands.  
 Haps and Mishaps of Childhood.  
 Papa's Boy.  
 Peter the Ship's Boy.  
 How and Why; or, Search the Scriptures.  
 Percy Raydon; or, Self-Conquest.  
 Neighbourly Love.  
 Walter Neal's Example.  
 Frank Wentworth.  
 Tom Green.  
 Waiting Hours.  
 Digging a Grave with a Wine Glass.

90 CENTS EACH.

Mabel Livingstone.  
 Mountain Historians.  
 Cicely Brown's Trials.  
 Mark Churchill.  
 Carolina, the Hotel-Keeper's Daughter.  
 Sybil's Way.  
 Overcoming.  
 Little Ben Hadden.  
 Little Toss.  
 Fern Glen.  
 Violet Fletcher's Home Work.  
 Bright Days.  
 From Night to Light.  
 Charley Laurel; a Story of Adventure by  
 Sea and Land.  
 The Emigrant Children.  
 Petite; or, Story of a Child's Life.  
 Rose and Millie.  
 Tried in the Fire.  
 The Wentworths; their Home and Friends.  
 Soldiers and Patriots of American Revolution.  
 The Hartz Boys; or, "As a Man Sows, so  
 Must he Reap."  
 Noble Workers; a book for young men.  
 Little Wavie; the Foundling of Glenburg.  
 Alice Sutherland.  
 Lame Bessie; or, Simple Faith.  
 Faithful, but not Famous.  
 The Signet Ring.  
 Captain John.  
 Court and Camp of David.  
 Elm Grove Cottage.  
 Farm on the Mountains.  
 The Faithful Son.  
 Harry Maitland.  
 Kept from Idols.  
 Old Sailor's Story.  
 The Young Apprentice.

\$1.00 EACH.

Knights and Sea-Kings.  
 Myra Sherwood's Cross.  
 Sister Elinor's Brood.  
 First Explorer's of North America.  
 Stories of Success.  
 Story of Four Lives.  
 Will Phillips; or, The Ups and Downs in  
 Christian Boy Life.  
 Mrs. Thorne's Guests.  
 Old Schoolfellows, and What Became of Them.  
 Violet Douglas.  
 Bonnie Aerie.  
 Fabrics; a Story of To-day.  
 Evening Rest.  
 Sure; or, It Pays.  
 The New Commandment; or, Ella's Ministry

WILLIAM BRIGGS,

78 & 80 King St. East, Toronto, Ont.

Or, C. W. COATES, Montreal, Que.;

S. F. HURDIS, Halifax, N. S.