

SUNDAY  
SCHOOL

## The Quiet Hour

YOUNG  
PEOPLE

## AENEAS AND DORCAS.\*

The church . . . had peace, being edified (Rev. Ver.), v. 31. Last November, on the one hundred and forty-ninth anniversary of General Wolfe's burial, a memorial tablet was unveiled over his grave in the parish church in Greenwich, England. It is within a few months of a century and a half, since Wolfe died victorious on the Plains of Abraham, just outside the walls of Quebec. For a hundred and fifty years, the people of the two seas which contended in that famous battle have lived together in peace, building up together a great nation on this northern portion of the western continent. Peace within our borders is a priceless boon, and we shall best show ourselves worthy of it by striving to do our part to make this land the home of an upright, God-fearing people. And in no better way can we do this than by helping forward the work of the church, which stands for the best and nobles' things alike in national and individual life.

Was multiplied (Rev. Ver.) v. 31. It is easy to gather steel when you have a good magnet. In the dark, or from a heap of rubbish, a secret, unseen power draws the metal and holds it fast. The holy, happy, cheerful lives of Christians make the religion of Jesus Christ so beautiful, that people are attracted to it. We can each be a magnet to draw others to Jesus and His church. But first, we must come to Him, and ask Him to touch our lives, making them like His own. Those about us, seeing what He has done for us, will eagerly seek Him, that He may do the like for them.

Jesus Christ healeth thee (Rev. Ver.) v. 34. After a disastrous battle, word was sent to a father that his son had been wounded. The father hastened to the hospital, only to be met by the doctor, who said, "Your boy is asleep. If you go in and wake him the excitement will kill him. By and by, when he awakens, you may see him." The father said, "He may never awaken. If you will let me sit by his side, I promise not to speak to him." The doctor consented. The father crept to the side of the cot, and looked into the face of his boy. How he longed to speak with him! He could not resist laying his hand on his brow. The moment his fingers touched the boy's brow, he, without opening his eyes, said, "Father, I am glad you have come," and began to recover strength. The human touch, when we are in weakness or need means blessing; but the touch of Christ means more. There's life, and peace, and lasting joy in that touch.

Nigh to Joppa, v. 238. At Joppa is the rock to which an old legend says, that Andromeda, the beautiful daughter of the Ethiopian king Cepheus, was bound by Neptune, the god of the sea, and left as a prey to a horrible sea monster. But the hero Perseus slew the monster, and received Andromeda as his wife. It was a far more wonderful deliverance that Peter brought to Joppa. He showed how people may be set free from sin and death, by the power and grace of Jesus. And that power and grace are the same today as when Peter went to Joppa.

Delay not to come on unto us (Rev. Ver.) 38. A man whose bad habits in-

terfered with his duty, was in the company of his careless associates one night, when a messenger came running with a summons for him from his home. "Come at once, for the sake of all," it read, and was signed by his wife. He would go in ten minutes; and before the glasses must be filled again. The ten minutes ran into an hour, and then the man started in a half intoxicated state for his home. When he got there, the doctor met him with the news that his only son had just died, and his latest breath was a cry to see his father. He had been injured on the street and carried home only an hour before. We do not know the moment when we may be called upon to do something for the help and comfort of others. The call, when it comes, should ever find us ready.

He gave her his hand, and lifted her up v. 41. The Principal of one of the large educational institutions of Canada tells of his start in his life's work. Fifty years ago, when he had qualified for teaching, he got the idea that it would be presumption for him to "keep school;" and he resolved to earn his living as a farm hand. He got a job at a threshing barn one day, and was hard at work tossing straw, when a man drove up who knew him. "I am surprised to see you here at this sort of work, when the country needs young men like you in the schools," said the man. "You have ability as a teacher, I am sure, and I will get you a school, if you will take it. Will you?" With a glad heart he said he would, for the speech had put confidence into him. If we have real fitness for some useful work, it is sure to be found out, and we shall set the start we need. The important matter is that we fit ourselves for the task; then the task will come fast enough.

## A LOOK AT THE CROSS.

A young man was undergoing an examination before an ecclesiastical body preparatory to his entering upon missionary work in Central Africa. One of the examining board said to him in the course of the examination, "Suppose, young man, that when you get to Africa, some high business concern should offer you a salary ten or twenty times larger than we are able to pay you. Suppose because of your superior advantages and your college education, you should be tendered a high position under some foreign government, what would you do?" "Well, said the young man in a clear, resonant voice, "I would take one more look at the cross and say no." This is thorough consecration. This is the sacrifice upon which the Church of Christ is built, and upon which she is going forth conquering and to conquer. The cross of Christ, the emblem of the greatest sacrifice ever made for humanity, will ever have its right of way in the heart of man. The story of sacrificing love is the story that melts hearts and wins souls. God's great love story which had its center in Calvary's cross, will ever have the greatest charm for men. When we look at the cross the best that is in us rises to the surface. The glitter and fascination of the world vanish in the vision of Calvary's sacrifice. When you are deciding your life's work you will not go far astray if you keep your eyes fixed on the grand old cross. In your weak hours, when assailed by hot passion and overwhelming temptations, you will find strength and help in a look at the cross.

## LIGHT FROM THE EAST.

PAISY—In common speech, now means a shaking of the hands or head, but in the older English it means paralysis, which seems to have been fully as common in Bible times as it is now. It is a loss of power in one muscle, or a loss of feeling in the nerves of a certain part, or the loss of both motion and feeling. It is caused by an injury or by disease in some part of the nervous system. In some cases it depends on removable causes, but most commonly on an alteration of structure, which involves permanent loss of function. The difference of temperature between the day and the night in Palestine, combined with the custom of sleeping outside upon the ground, caused inflammatory affections, which sometimes produced it.

WIDOWS—The constitution of family life in the East, which involved the exclusion of women and affected all industrial activity, made it harder for a woman left without means of support to provide a livelihood for herself, than it is amongst us now. There were no public institutions for the support of such persons, nor any organized charity for their relief. Unless the widow was a woman of very exceptional gifts and resourcefulness, she could only solicit help from her neighbors.

## BLESSED PRODIGALITY.

Efforts to set a limit to one's Christian activity are suicidal. Loyalty qualified is disloyalty. A mother might as well attempt to measure and restrict motherly love, as a Christian try to moderate the claims made upon him by his faith. He must simply do his utmost. When sister Dora went to nurse poor unfortunate far below herself in the "social scale," her cultured friends said it was too much. So they said also when Keith Falconer devoted his brilliant talents to carrying the gospel to forsaken Arabia. So the world is always saying. But the Christian answers, "If there are limits to set, God will set them." This is what Jesus tried to show the rich young ruler. This is what he meant when he told another, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead;" and another, who wished to bid farewell to his loved ones, "No man having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." Those alone are true who hold nothing back. One cannot be cautious in love and faith. One must be prodigal in the service of Christ.

## THE GLORY OF GOD.

God's glory will be increased the more we develop according to His purpose. Those glorify Him the most who are working most efficiently according to His design. God has set us in the world; He has established the course of nature, in the midst of which we are moving, and His glory is accomplished the more we fulfill His purpose and carry on the work to which He has called us. If we are to aim at this one object of glorifying God and doing His will we must each aim at one particular way, according to the particular gift and character and endowments. He has bestowed upon us. Let each put before himself the fact that he has a particular calling to which he has been directed by God, and let him fulfill that calling to the best of his ability.—The Dean of Ripon.

\*S. S. Lesson, March 14, 1909—Acts 9: 31-43. Golden Text—And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole; arise, and make thy bed. And he rose immediately.—Acts 9:34.