

THE LITTLE FOOTPRINTS.

CHUBBY little footprints,
Deep in the shining sand,
Of the little feet now treading
Eternity's golden strand.

My tears fell fast on the impress
The delicate pink toes made,
When I think of him who ne'er again
Will play 'neath my garden shade.

So I gather some broken fragments
And silently cover them o'er,
Footprints of the feet that have wandered
Far from my cottage door.

And at morn when the sun is rising,
And at night when the day is done,
I go down the garden pathway,
And silently, one by one,

I uncover the little foot-prints,
And gazing I seem to see
The chubby feet and delicate toes,
The white and dimpled knee;

The face and form of my darling
Rise Phoenix-like from the dust;
On his face the same sweet look,
In his eyes the same sweet trust.

The vision has vanished, and silently
I cover them over again;
Yet a sweet thought born of their memory
Mingles soothingly with my pain.

Oh, foot-prints deep in the shining sand,
May I at last be given
The sight of one little footprint
In the shining sands of heaven.

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Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLKS:
Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, SEPT. 23, 1882.

DR. SUTHERLAND AT CHAUTAUQUA.

THE Rev. Dr. Sutherland ably represented Canada at the late Chautauqua Assembly. His admirable sermon was reported at full length in the *Herald*, and we quote from the *New York Advocate* the following item from his week-day address:

"The Rev. Dr. Alex. Sutherland, of Canada, said: 'I count it no small honour that I am on this platform, summoned to the post of duty by one whose name in my own country is an honoured and familiar household word.' Of the population pouring into this country from beyond the seas, he said, 'we are glad to see them coming, and yet we cannot forget that while they carry with them unknown possibilities, they may also carry with them the facts of great peril to the future of this land and other lands, and so it behooves us to be prepared for their coming to mould them into a strong national life.' He spoke at length of their mission work among the Indians.

Their 'experience had demonstrated that it costs less to enlighten, convert, and civilize the Indian than to shoot him.' They have no Indian wars in Canada."

We have just sent off about several hundred volumes of second hand library books as donations to poor schools in various parts of the country. We have, however, been unable to comply with several requests which we have received from schools that urgently need help. Donations of books sent to the office of this paper will be thankfully received, and will be distributed to the schools in need of them. Enclose books in box or parcel and address by express to the Rev. W. H. Withrow, Methodist Publishing House, Toronto. We will pay all express charges.

A GENTLEMAN writes to the Editor of *PLEASANT HOURS* as follows: "I am pleased to see by the *Banner* that there is a prospect of the establishment of another Sunday-school paper similar to the *PLEASANT HOURS*. The latter is the best Sunday school paper I have ever seen. Our school needs another of a like stamp to fill in the Sundays not supplied by it, and if you intend issuing the next paper soon we will wait for it. Please say when it is likely to appear." In answer to this question we would say that it will appear as soon as possible after the General Conference. We hope that it will receive a very large patronage from the schools.

BOOK NOTICE.

The Chautauqua Text-Book, No. Thirty-Eight. "The Life of Christ" By REV. J. L. HURLBUT, M.A. New York: PHILLIPS & HUNT. Toronto: WILLIAM BRIGGS.

The scope and purpose of this valuable little book which we heartily commend, are explained in the following extract from the Preface: The life which has influenced mankind most powerfully of all lives since time began is that of Jesus of Nazareth. Both friends and enemies must admit that no other man in all human history has proved so mighty a force upon the destinies of so many people as this carpenter of Galilee, whose years on earth numbered but thirty and three, and whose life was spent in a provincial district among a despised people.

At the present time hundreds and thousands of teachers, in the pulpit, and the class, are instructing millions of people in truths which find their inspiration in that wonderful history. All these teachers ought to know thoroughly the main outlines of the life of Him concerning whom they are striving to teach others. Yet there is no doubt that only a small proportion of the Sabbath-school teachers in our land have a clear conception of that life, or of the chronological order of the facts which they are teaching. The International System of Lessons has awakened a deep and general interest in the study of the Bible, and far more teachers and scholars than ever in the past are now earnestly seeking to explore the Word, both for its facts and its truths. This little book has been prepared as a guide to teachers and Bible students. It presents in brief outlines the leading events of the life of Christ, arranged in periods, which will show the history in its various aspects, and aid the memory to retain them.

This little work is commended to Sabbath-school workers and other Bible students, in the hope that, by aiding to fix the facts of our Saviour's history in the memory, it may aid in fixing the truths of his Gospel in the heart.

Fight your own battles—ask no favors. You will succeed a thousand times better than one who is always beseeching patronage.

A SAILOR'S WIFE.

THERE have been heroines as well as heroes on the sea, and of these Mrs. Annie Wilson is one. When she was fourteen years of age she married the captain of a vessel, and for seven years accompanied him on his voyages around the world without accident.

But in 1872 the ship encountered a terrible storm off the banks of Newfoundland. The captain was knocked down and his shoulder was broken. The first mate and several of the crew were also disabled, and the second mate was so frightened that he could not give any orders. The captain was carried down, lashed on a door, into the cabin; and when his wife saw him rendered helpless in this way, instead of yielding to lamentations, she only thought of what she could do to supply his place. She rushed on deck, and called the men around her.

"Boys, our lives are in danger," she said: "but stick to me, and I'll take you into port all right."

She set them to work to clear away the wreck. They manned the pumps; and when the gale had subsided a little, they rigged up a jury-mast, under their new captain's orders, set sail again, and in twenty-one days the ship was safely anchored at St. Thomas.

After the necessary repairs had been made there, and as her husband was still quite helpless, the brave woman worked the ship to Liverpool, and made the voyage in thirty days. After this she settled down in New York, and for seven years supported her crippled husband and her child by working in a dry-goods store.

When her husband died Secretary Sherman appointed her to the post of Inspectress in the New York Custom-house.—*Harper's Young People.*

SPARE MOMENTS.

A BOY, poorly dressed, came to the door of the principal of a celebrated school one morning and asked to see him. The servant eyed his mean clothes, and thinking he looked more like a beggar than anything else, told him to go round to the kitchen.

"I should like to see Mr.——," he said.

"You want a breakfast, more like."

"Can I see Mr.——?" asked the boy.

"Well, he is in the library; if he must be disturbed, he must."

So she bade him follow. After talking awhile the principal put aside the volume that he was studying and took up some Greek books, and began to examine the new comer. Every question he asked the boy was answered readily.

"Upon my word!" exclaimed the principal, "you do well. What, my boy, where did you pick up so much?"

"In my spare moments," answered the boy.

He was a hard-working lad, yet almost fitted for college by simply improving his spare moments. A few years later he became known all the world over as the celebrated geologist, Hugh Miller. What account can you give of your spare moments?



THE COAST GUARDSMAN.

THIS picture represents a type of character that has almost disappeared. During the war against Napoleon, and

indeed till the reduction of tariff made it not worth while to smuggle, bold and desperate seamen used to defy the revenue laws and try to land by night French wines and brandies and other goods. They knew all the nooks and corners of the coast, and on dark and stormy nights would run in cargoes of contraband goods, which they would hide in caves, or in lonely houses till they could cart them away to sell. The coast guardsmen kept a keen look out for these smugglers, and often had sharp conflicts with them, and sometimes lives were lost in these conflicts. John Wesley used to denounce strongly the sin of smuggling, and through the growth of religious opinion and the spread of wise economical laws it is now in England a thing almost unknown.

A WORD TO YOUNG MEN.

LIVE for something. Thousands of men breathe, move, live, and pass off the stage of life, and are heard of no more.

Why? None were blessed by them; none could point to them as the means of their redemption; not a line they wrote, not a word they spoke, could be recalled, and so they perished—their light went out in darkness, and they were not remembered more than the insects of yesterday. Will you thus live and die? Oh, man immortal, live for something! Do good, and leave behind you a monument of virtue that the storms of time can never destroy. Write your name by kindness, love, and mercy on thousands you come in contact with year by year, and you will never be forgotten. No, your name, your deeds, will be legible on the hearts you leave behind, as the stars on the brow of eveninix. Good deeds will shine as bright as the earth as the stars of heaven.—*Dr. Chalmers.*

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of two sums of \$8 and \$7 contributed to the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, by the Sunday-schools of Corbitt's Corners and Schomberg, respectively. These sums have been duly transmitted to the hospital authorities, and the schools receive there for their most hearty thanks.