

# THE CHIMBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES—VOL. VII.]

TORONTO, APRIL 24, 1886.

[No 9.]

## GIDEON'S ARMY.

AMONG the men whom God raised up to deliver the children of Israel out of the hands of their enemies was Gideon. These warriors were called judges, of whom Gideon was fifth, who lived about two hundred years after Joshua.

The Lord gave Gideon a sign that he would be with him. One night Gideon spread a fleece on the earth and in the morning it was wet with dew, while the ground around was dry. He spread it again the next night and in the morning the fleece was wet while all the ground around was dry.

That night Gideon divided his men into three companies who surrounded the camp of the enemy. Each had a trumpet, and a torch held under an earthen vessel. Gideon with his trumpet led all the men broke through the camp and blew their trumpets, cried, "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon." They stood still and blew their trumpets and the Lord smote the army. And the men were so frightened that they commenced killing one another and fleeing for life. The children of Israel gathered together as quickly as possible and pursued them. For forty years Gideon ruled Israel in the name of the Lord.

## "SMILES WHEN SHE SPEAKS."

THE power of unconscious influence was illustrated by the following incident:

A lady called at the house of a neighbour on an errand; but, as the family were away, she asked the man in charge of the

"Who was it?" inquired Mrs. H.

"O, I don't know her name," replied the man.

"But you should have asked her," said Mrs. H., "so we should know who had been here. Can't you tell me anything by

which I can tell who came? Where does she live?"

"I don't know," said the man, "but she's the one that always smiles when she speaks."

The pleasant look and the courteous manner in which this lady had spoken to the servant had been noticed, and remembered, leaving a sunbeam in that man's heart. Let us each remember that religion is recommended by the way in which we treat even the servants. The command, "Be courteous," reaches to all with whom we have to do.

## A BRAVE BOY.

SOME boys were once trying to make fun of the Bible and of the people who go to church and try to do as God bids them in the Bible. But there was one brave boy in that crowd. He



GIDEON'S ARMY.

house to tell his employer that she would call again. Being in a hurry, and not thinking but that the man knew who she was, she did not leave her name. The lady of the house returned before the rest of the family, and the man told her that a lady had been there who said she'd call again.

said, "Boys, I don't see anything to make fun of in the Bible or these people. They are far better off than you are who can talk this way about Jesus and his book. And more than this, boys, I don't want to hear any more such talk about him, for he's my best friend, and I can't stand to hear his name abused."

Modesty suppresses no virtue.