

**Dorcas.***Acts 9:36.*

BY CLARA FHWAITES.

BEAUTIFUL toiler by the sea!  
Visions of love have come to thee,  
Tender handmaid of charity!

Ever she toils, and toiling sings,  
Never her soul to dull earth clings  
Warm human hands 'neath soaring wings.

Tender in word as kind in deed,  
Every act a fruitful seed:  
The love of God her smiling creed.

Sorrow smiles where her footsteps fall;  
Ever she echoes her Master's call:  
"Come unto me," she says to all.

White by the Western Sea she lies!  
Close those tender pitying eyes;  
Open they now on paradise.

Are earth's gentle ministries o'er?  
Toilth our toiler never more!  
Hands are folded, and wings must soar!

"Return!" we cry. "We need the twain—  
Warm human hands for human pain,  
And soaring wings. Come back again!"

She lives! she lives! and toiling sings,  
Warm human hands are 'neath her wings,  
Devising tender, liberal things.

—*British Messenger.***LESSON NOTES.****SECOND QUARTER.**

STUDIES IN THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES.

A. D. 40.] LESSON VI. [May 6.

PETER PREACHING TO THE GENTILES.

*Acts 10:30-44. Commit to memory vs. 42-44.***GOLDEN TEXT.**

On the Gentiles also was poured out the  
gift of the Holy Ghost.—*Acts 10:45.*

**CENTRAL TRUTH.**

God rewards all earnest seekers after more  
light and life.

TIME.—A. D. 40. Within a year after the  
last lesson.

PLACE.—Cornelius's house in Caesarea, a  
city on the coast of the Mediterranean, the  
Roman capital of Palestine, large and flourish-  
ing, built by Herod the Great, and named in  
honour of Augustus Caesar.

CIRCUMSTANCES.—We are now on the eve  
of a new era in the Church, when its gates  
would be thrown open to the Gentiles with-  
out conforming to Jewish rites and ceremon-  
ies.

CORNELIUS.—An Italian of noble family,  
a centurion, i. e., captain of a hundred men.  
His company was called the Italian band,  
because the soldiers were Italians. He was  
a heathen who had learned something of the  
true God from the Jews, was a good man,  
pious, and generous, prayerful, and seeking  
more light.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—30. *Fasting  
until this hour*—The ninth, or three o'clock  
of that day. 31. *Thine alms had in remem-  
brance*—God had not forgotten these tokens  
of his love and desire to be good. 32. *Send  
therefore*—He must do his part in obtaining  
the answer. *To Joppa*—Thirty-five miles to  
the south. See last lesson. 33. *Immediately  
I sent*—That afternoon. The three messen-  
gers arrived at Joppa about noon the next  
day. God sent a vision to Peter to teach  
him what to do. (See *Acts 10:9-23*). 34.  
*Then Peter*—Who had returned from Joppa  
with the messengers, and was now at Corneli-  
us's house. *No respecter of persons*—i. e.,  
treats men according to their character, and  
not according to race, position, circumstances.  
44. *The Holy Ghost fell on all*—As on the  
day of Pentecost, so that they spoke with  
tongues. Probably there was also the same  
appearance of tongues as on Pentecost. (See  
*Acts 10:46; 11:15*). After this they were  
baptized and received into the Church. (v.  
47).

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—Caesarea.  
—Cornelius.—The vision of Cornelius.—The  
vision of Peter.—The new era in the Church.  
—God no respecter of persons.—What a  
good man like Cornelius received from the  
Gospel.—Peter's sermon.—The baptism of  
the Holy Ghost.

**QUESTIONS.**

INTRODUCTORY.—How long was it since  
the founding of the Church? Of what na-

tion were most of the Christians? Why?  
Why was it difficult for them to receive Gen-  
tiles into the Church without becoming  
Jews? The dawn of what new era in the  
Church is described in to-day's lesson?

SUBJECT: THE STORY OF CORNELIUS, OR THE  
REWARD OF EARNEST SEEKING

1. CORNELIUS.—Who was Cornelius?  
Where did he live? Of what nation was he?  
What office did he hold? What kind of a  
man was he? (*Acts 10:2, 22, 35*). Sum up  
all his good qualities. Was he a heathen?  
Why did such a good man need the Gospel?

2. THE VISION OF CORNELIUS (vs. 30-33).  
—What was Cornelius doing when the vision  
came to him? Who appeared to him? In  
what place? Why was this vision sent to  
him? (vs. 4, 31). What is meant by his  
alms being a "memorial," and "had in re-  
membrance"? What is the only way in  
which we can receive more light and help  
from God? (*Matt. 13:12*). How was he to  
obtain the answer to his prayer? How far  
was it from Caesarea to Joppa?

3. THE VISION OF PETER.—Where was  
Peter at this time? How long would it take  
the messengers to reach him? At what time  
did they arrive? (*10:9*). What was Peter  
doing at this hour? What is a trance? Describe  
the vision shown to Peter? (*10:9-17*). What  
was it intended to teach him? What did Peter  
do in response to the mes-  
sage? Who went with him? (*11:12*).

4. PETER'S WELCOME TO THE GENTILES  
(vs. 38-43).—Who were gathered to receive  
Peter? In what place? At what hour? What  
was the subject of Peter's address? Meaning  
of "God is no respecter of persons"? What  
characteristics of a good man  
are given in verse 35? How are such ac-  
cepted? Had Cornelius heard of Jesus?  
Give Peter's summary of his life and work?  
Why are these points specially named? How  
can we be witnesses to Jesus? Meaning of  
"quick" in verse 42. What is the purpose  
of the Gospel? (v. 43).

5. THE WELCOME CONFIRMED BY THE  
HOLY GHOST (v. 44).—How did God show  
that He received the Gentiles into the  
Church? What were the manifestations of  
this gift? (v. 46; ch. 11:15). What was  
the special need of this at this time? Did  
Cornelius join the Church? (ch. 10:47, 48).  
Why?

**PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.**

1. There are good men outside of the Church.
2. But if they are truly good, they will accept of Jesus as soon as they see Him.
3. God will reward all earnest seekers after more light.
4. The best blessings come in answer to prayer.
5. In Christ are found new life, light, peace, assurance, hope, goodness, love, beyond all that the best men out of Christ can conceive.
6. All who possess Christ, should profess Christ.
7. Cornelius an example: (1) doing as well as he knew how; (2) seeking to know more; (3) a man of prayer; (4) obedient to God's commands; (5) joining with others to obtain more.

REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School  
in Concert).

7. Who was Cornelius? **ANS.** A Roman officer at Caesarea. 8. What kind of a man was he? **ANS.** He was devout, prayerful, just, and benevolent. 9. How did God answer his prayer? **ANS.** By a vision bidding him to send for Peter. 10. How was Peter prepared for his message? **ANS.** By a vision showing that God is no respecter of persons. 11. What did Peter do? **ANS.** He went to Caesarea and preached Christ to the Gentiles. 12. How did God show that He welcomed the Gentiles? **ANS.** By giving them the Holy Ghost as to the apostles on Pentecost.

A. D. 40-44.] LESSON VII. [May 13.

PETER WORKING MIRACLES.

*Acts 11:19-30. Commit to memory vs. 21-26.***GOLDEN TEXT.**

And the hand of the Lord was with them;  
and a great number believed, and turned  
unto the Lord.—*Acts 11:21.*

**CENTRAL TRUTH.**

The Gospel is a religion of progress.

TIME.—A. D. 40-44. The Gospel came to  
the Gentiles at Antioch, not far from the  
time of Cornelius's conversion. Paul's year  
at Antioch was in 42 or 43. The famine be-  
gan at the close of A. D. 43, and continued  
till 45. Paul arrived at Jerusalem about the  
time of the Passover, April A. D. 44.

PLACE.—Antioch, the capital of Syria, a  
large luxurious city, one of the three great-  
est in the world at that time. It had a popu-  
lation of 500,000.

PAUL.—At Tarsus in 40-42, aged 38-40  
RULERS.—Claudius Caesar, emperor of  
Rome. Herod Agrippa, king of Judea.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—19. *Phoenicia*  
—Phoenicia, a strip of country 120 miles long  
and 20 wide, along the Mediterranean, con-  
taining the cities Tyre, Sidon, Beirut, etc.  
*Cyprus*—A large island 60 miles west of Pal-  
estine. 20. *Cyrene*—On the coast of Africa,  
south of Cyprus. *Grecians*—Greeks, who  
were Gentiles. 21. *The hand*—The symbol  
of power and action. 22. *Sent forth*—To  
examine the facts, and either (1) to stop this  
admission of Gentiles who did not become  
Jews as well as Christians, or (2) to confirm  
and aid and guide the new movement. *Barnabas*—A native of Cyprus near Antioch, and  
familiar with Greek, and favourable to the  
Gentiles. 28. *A great dearth throughout the  
world*—i. e., the known world, the Roman  
empire. *Came to pass*—In A. D. 44, 45.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—The  
dispersion.—Antioch.—Cyprus.—Grecians.—  
Object of the deputation from Jerusalem.—  
Barnabas.—His character.—Why he was  
glad.—The name Christians.—Agabus.—The  
famine.—Charity of the disciples.

**QUESTIONS.**

INTRODUCTORY.—Over how much time  
does to-day's lesson extend? To what places?  
How far was Antioch from Jerusalem? De-  
scribe Antioch and its people?

SUBJECT: THE PROGRESS OF THE GOSPEL.

1. PROGRESS AMONG THE GENTILES (vs.  
19-21).—How did his enemies try to put a  
stop to the Gospel? With what success?  
Why does persecution aid and not destroy  
the Gospel? How far had the Gospel ex-  
tended? Where in Phoenicia? Cyprus? Why  
did they preach only to Jews? Who began  
to make a change in this? Who are meant  
by Grecians? What was their success?  
How was this a result of preaching Jesus?  
Meaning of the hand of the Lord? What is  
the difference between "believing" and  
"turning to the Lord"? What is the pre-  
sent state of the progress of the Gospel in  
the world?

2. PROGRESS BY THE AID OF CHRISTIANS  
(vs. 22-26).—Who heard of this great reviv-  
al? Whom did they send to inquire into  
the matter? Why did they send? Why  
was Barnabas specially fitted for this mis-  
sion? What did he think of what he found  
at Antioch? Why was he glad? To what  
did he exhort them? What is it to cleave to  
the Lord? (*John 15:1, 10*). What three  
things are said of Barnabas's character?  
How would these lead many to turn to the  
Lord? Whom did he get to aid him?  
Where did we last hear of Paul? (*Acts 9:30*).  
How long did they remain at Antioch?  
Meaning of "Christian"? Why were the  
disciples so called? What is a Christian?

3. PROGRESS IN GOOD WORKS (vs. 27-30).  
—What was foretold at Antioch? When did  
it come to pass? What did the Antioch  
Christians do? On what principle did they  
give? Why is charity a natural fruit of  
Christianity? (*1 John 3:17; 4:20*). Can  
one who does not like to give to the needy be  
a Christian? Why did the Jerusalem Chris-  
tians need help? Who carried it to them?  
When did they reach there? (*Acts 12:4, 25*).

**PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.**

1. All the efforts to destroy the Gospel but  
aid in its growth.
2. True Christians always carry their reli-  
gion with them.
3. The Gospel is meant for all nations,  
races, and ages.
4. A man's character is shown by the  
things which make him glad.
5. First come to Jesus, then cleave to  
Jesus.
6. Three qualities for Christian success:  
(1) goodness; (2) full of the Holy Ghost;  
(3) faith.
7. The desire to help is one of the first  
fruits of the Christian life.

REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School  
in Concert).

13. Where was the Gospel next preached  
to the Gentiles? **ANS.** Among the Greeks at  
Antioch. 14. What was the effect among  
them? (Repeat the Golden Text). 15. Who  
were sent to their aid? **ANS.** Barnabas from  
Jerusalem, and Saul from Tarsus. 16. What  
calamity was foretold? **ANS.** A great fam-  
ine. 17. How did the disciples of Antioch  
show their Christian spirit? **ANS.** By send-  
ing aid to the poor at Jerusalem, each one  
according to his ability.

## THE

**"PANSY" BOOKS.**

(By Mrs. G. R. ALDEN).

"No writer has achieved a more enviable  
reputation than Pansy. Her style is unique,  
and the strong, healthy, natural spirit breathes  
through all her writings, ennobles the mind,  
making the manly more strong and the  
womanly more true."

**\$1.25 EACH.**

Mrs. Solomon Smith.

Man of The House.

Hall in the Grove.

Pocket Measure.

New Graft.

Divers Women.

Tip Lewis.

Sidney Martin's Christmas.

The Randolphs.

Those Boys.

Echoing and Re-echoing.

Modern Prophets.

Household Puzzles.

Wise and Otherwise.

King's Daughter.

Three People.

Eather Reid.

Julia Reid.

Four Girls at Chautauque.

Chautauque Girls at Home.

Ruth Erskine's Crosses.

Links in Rebecca's Life.

From Different Standpoints.

**\$1.00 EACH.**

Cunning Workmen.

Grandpa's Darlings.

Mrs. Dean's Way.

Dr. Dean's Way.

Miss Priscilla Hunter & my Daugh-  
ter Susan.What She said, and People who  
havn't time.**90 CENTS EACH.**

Next Things.

Pansy's Scrap Book.

Mrs. Harry Harper's Awakening.

**60 CENTS EACH.**

Getting Ahead.

Two Boys.

Six Little Girls.

Pansies.

That Boy Bob.

All the above are strongly bound in  
Extra English Cloth, and stamped in Ink  
and Gold.

Address—

**WILLIAM BRIGGS,**

78 &amp; 80 King St. East,

**TORONTO,**

Or—

C. W. COATES,

S. F. HUESTIS,

Montreal, Que.

Halifax, N.S.