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THE SUNBEAM

Vol. I.

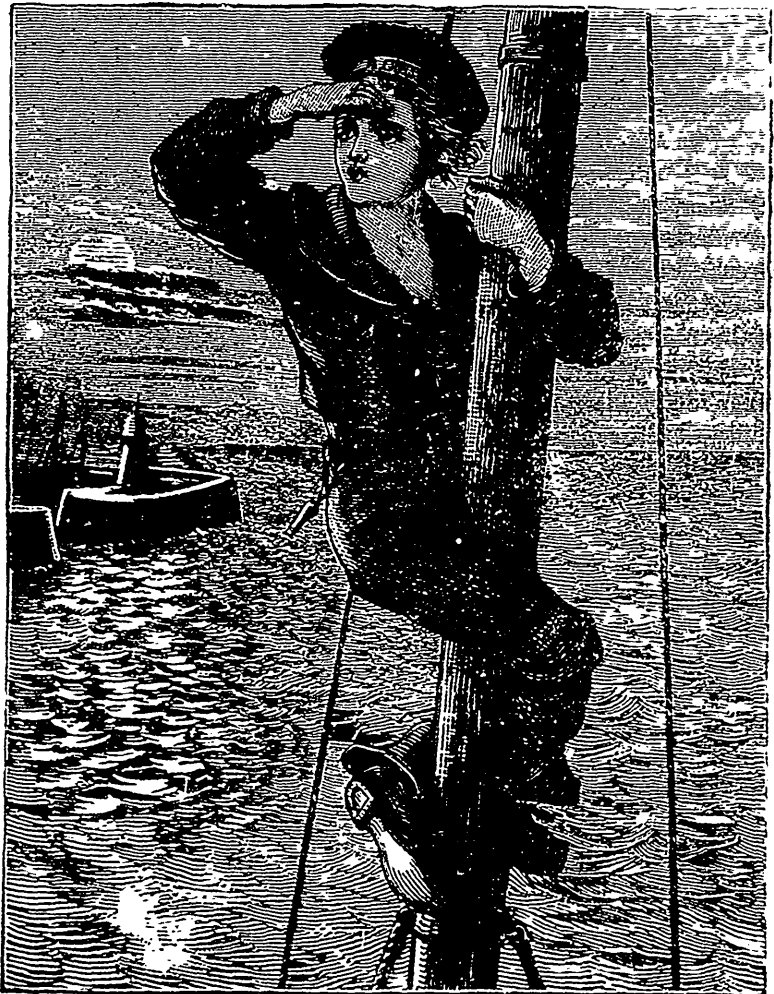
JULY 3, 1880.

No. 13.

THE LAST LOOK AT HOME.

ARTHUR
GULLMAN
went to sea.

He had long wished to go, but his mother and sister begged him to stay at home and comfort them. At school, he told sea-tales and talked much about voyages and foreign lands; at home, he tried to persuade his loving mother and sister to give a willing leave for him to sail. At last they got him a ship, and he was so delighted with his outfit, that he actually printed his name on the front of his cap, though the captain soon made him take that off. Right brave was the lad when he



bade "Good-bye!" to those he loved best. It was hard work to tear himself away without a tear, but he did it. Away sailed the ship; from deck he watched his mother

on the quay; and then, when she was out of sight, he climbed up the mast to get a last look of his old town, and drop a quiet tear or two. That night, when he said his prayers, he told God he would try to be good; and he felt that God heard him, and would help him.

The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, JULY 3, 1880.

THE BABY'S SERMON.

THE children had been up in their mamma's room after breakfast, that Sunday morning, learning their text, and when they had it perfectly, and were coming down stairs again for a run in the garden while nurse was busy, Nannie and Frank fell to disputing. And what do you think about? Why, who should carry the great rubber ball down stairs.

Nannie wanted it because she had thought of it first, and Frank wanted it because he was the oldest. "You're a mean, selfish boy," said Nannie.

"You're a pig," said Frank.

"I'll just tell papa what a horrid boy you are," said Nannie.

"And I'll tell mamma I wish she'd sell you to somebody. I don't want such a sister," answered Frank.

"I don't love you one single bit," said Nannie.

"And who wants you to?" inquired Frank.

So these naughty children went on from bad to worse, saying all sorts of unkind and unpleasant things to one another—so very unkind that they were ashamed enough whenever they remembered them afterwards.

All this time baby Ben was coming down the stairs behind them. Slowly, one foot at a time, holding fast to the banisters with both fat, small hands, the little man made

his way, and wider and wider opened his big blue eyes, more and more surprised he looked, as he heard the angry words.

The children stopped to finish their quarrel at the foot of the stairs. Frank was trying hard to get the ball away from Nannie, and she had got as far as pulling his hair, the naughty girl, when the baby stopped on the lowest stair and preached his sermon to them.

"Ickle chillen," said he, "love one another."

That was every word he said. It was the text the children had been learning in their mother's room such a short time before. Nannie dropped her hands, her face flushed, and she turned half away from baby Ben, and nobody said anything for a moment.

"Here, Frank," said Nannie at last, holding out the ball, "you may have it. I'm going to be good."

"So am I," said Frank. "You shall have the first toss, Nannie. I'm—I'm real sorry I was cross."

So the two went off to the garden, hand in hand, ashamed enough of having been so naughty, while the baby curled himself up in papa's big chair in the study, and there nurse found him, after a long hunt, fast asleep, with his thumb in his mouth.—*Churchman.*

THE GIFT OF GOD.

JESUS is called in the Bible the "gift of God." "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." He is called the "unspeakable gift," because it is impossible to tell its worth.

If a friend were to offer you a handsome gift, what would you do, my little child? Would you not put out your hands and take it, saying, "Thank you," and go away feelin' very happy?

And have you accepted God's precious gift to you, and do you thank him for it every day?



THE HARD LESSON.

WELL, what if it is hard? Grapple with it all the more firmly. Don't look so dreamily away from the book; but stare at the page as if you would bore a hole through it with your eyes. It is by doing hard things that we get strong, in either body or mind. The blacksmith's arm becomes strong and sinewy by swinging the heavy sledge; and the muscles of our mind, so to speak, acquire strength by exercising them. The South Sea Islanders used to think that the soul of every warrior they killed entered into their own bodies and increased their strength by the measure of the slain man's vigour and valour. This was a wicked dream. But it is a blessed truth, that every hard lesson we learn, every difficulty we overcome, every temptation we resist, makes us wiser, stronger, braver to do and to dare, to battle and to overcome. Therefore, dear boys and girls, never give up. Try, try, try again! Stick to it, and you will be sure to be conqueror at last.

"FOREGOES" was the word given out at a written spelling exercise, recently; and one little boy handed in "Go, go, go, go."

"LET ME PRAY FIRST."

A SWEET and intelligent little girl was passing quietly through the streets of a certain town a short time since, when she came to a spot where several idle boys were amusing themselves by the dangerous practice of chrowing stones. Not observing her, one of the boys by accident threw a stone towards her, and struck her a cruel blow in the eye.

She was carried home in great agony. The doctor was sent for, and a very painful operation

was declared necessary. When the time came, and the surgeon had taken out his instruments, she lay in her father's arms, and he asked her if she was ready for the doctor to do what he could to cure her eye.

"No, father, not yet," she replied.

"What do you wish us to wait for, my child?"

"I want to kneel in your lap, and pray to Jesus first," she answered.

And then kneeling, she prayed a few minutes, and afterwards submitted to the operation with all the patience of a strong woman.

How beautiful this little girl appears under these trying circumstances! Surely Jesus heard the prayer made in that hour; and He will hear every child that calls upon His name. Even pain can be endured when we ask Jesus to help us bear it.

A soft answer turneth away wrath.

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ENTERING IN.

THE church was dim and silent
 With the hush before the prayer ;
 Only the solemn trembling
 Of the organ stirred the air.
 Without, the sweet, still sunshine,
 Within, the holy calm,
 Where priest and people waited
 For the swelling of the psalm.

Slowly the door swung open,
 And a little baby girl,
 Brown-eyed, with brown hair falling
 In many a waving curl ;
 With soft cheeks flushing hotly,
 Shy glances downward thrown,
 And small hands clasped before her,
 Stood in the aisle alone.

Stood half abashed, half frightened,
 Unknowing where to go,
 While like a wind-rocked flower,
 The form swayed to and fro ;
 And the changing colour fluttered
 In the little troubled face,
 As from side to side she wavered
 With a mute, imploring grace.

It was but for a moment ;
 What wonder that we smiled,
 By such a strange, sweet picture
 From holy thoughts beguiled ?
 When up rose some one softly,
 And many an eye grew dim,
 As through the tender silence
 He bore the child with him.

And I—I wondered (losing
 The sermon and the prayer)
 If when sometime I entered
 The "many mansions" fair,
 And stand abashed and drooping
 In the portals' golden glow,
 Our God will send an angel
 To show me where to go !

—◆◆◆—
 THERE is now and then a thing which
 the more it is cut the longer it grows. A
 ditch, for example.

LESSON NOTES.

B.C. 4004] LESSON I. [July 4.

THE CREATION ; or, The First Life.

Gen. 1. 1-3; 2. 4-8. Commit to memory verses 1-3.

GOLDEN TEXT.

In the beginning God created the heaven
 and the earth. Gen. 1. 1.

THE LESSON STORY.

Long ago, so long that we do not know the
 time, God created the world. By his word
 everything began to be. At first the earth
 was all dark and desolate. God's Spirit moved
 over it, and God said, "Let there be light,"
 and light came upon the dark world. Then
 God created all the trees and plants, all the
 beasts and birds, all the fishes and creeping
 things. Last of all he made man, his body
 coming from the dust, and his soul from the
 breath of God. Then God planted a beautiful
 garden in a place called Eden, and there he
 placed the man whom he had made, and told
 him to care for it. The first man was called
 Adam, and his wife, whom also God made, was
 named Eve.

B.C. 4004.] LESSON II. [July 11.

THE FALL AND THE PROMISE ; or, The First Sin.

Gen. 3. 1-15. Commit to memory verses 9-13.

GOLDEN TEXT.

By one man sin entered into the world, and
 death by sin. Rom. 5. 12.

THE LESSON STORY.

God told Adam and Eve that they might eat
 of the fruit of every tree in the garden of
 Eden, except one, which was called "the tree
 of the knowledge of good and evil." God said
 that if they ate of the fruit of that tree they
 should surely die. Satan, the evil spirit, the
 enemy of God and man, took the form of a
 snake, and said to Eve that if they should eat
 that fruit they should *not* die, but would be-
 come like God in knowledge. Eve then broke
 God's command, took some of the fruit of the
 forbidden tree, ate it, and gave it to Adam,
 who also ate. At once they knew that they
 were guilty, and were afraid to meet God, so
 that they tried to hide from him. God called
 them, and said, "Hast thou eaten of the for-
 bidden fruit?" Adam tried to place the blame
 on Eve, and on God, who had given Eve to
 him. Eve tried to excuse herself by blaming
 the snake. God told them what each must
 suffer for their sin in disobeying him ; but pro-
 mised that One should come, "the seed of the
 woman," One descended from her, to bruise the
 serpent, and save men from the penalty of sin.