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THE SUNBEAM

Vol. II.

JUNE 4, 1881.

No. 11.

SUMMER IS COMING.

AS soon as we hear the birds sing, we know that summer is coming. All winter long we cannot hear them, unless we have them in cages; but when summer comes, the air is just full of their songs.

There is a tree just by my window, and early in the morning I hear quite a concert, for a whole tribe of birds sit on its branches. If one flies away to a neighboring tree, all the rest follow. One day I put some bread-crumbs on my eave-trough, and next morning they were all gone, so I supposed my friends the birds had eaten them up. About the first birds that ap-



pear in the spring are, I think, the robins. We see them sometimes hopping about on the snow, looking for crumbs, or something to eat. The other day, as I was walking up the street, there sat a robin on a gate-post, and a boy was standing by the post, and suddenly I thought I heard the robin sing, but it turned out to be only the boy whistling.

The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, JUNE 4, 1881.

THE FLOWERS ARE COMING.

A POET, feeling tired of a long dreary winter, wrote the following lines :

“From halcyon seas,
And purer skies,
O Southern breeze !
Awake, arise.
Breath of heaven, benignly blow,
Melt the snow ;
Breath of heaven, unchain the floods,
Warm the woods,
And make the mountains flow !”

I daresay many of you felt the same longing for spring after the long, cold months of the past winter. Well, your longing has been met. Winter is gone, and you can now sing with the same poet :

“Winter’s gloomy night withdrawn,
Lo ! the young romantic hours
Search the hill, the dale, the lawn,
To behold the snowdrop white
Start to light,
And shine in Flora’s desert bowers ;
Beneath the vernal dawn,
The morning star of flowers.”

Now, if you do not love flowers you will not care for these lines. You won’t feel them. But you ought to love flowers, all of you, for God made them to be admired, and to remind you of his love, which is the most beautiful of all things in the universe. It is the flower which outshines all things in earth below, or in heaven above, and the

pretty flowers of the garden should always put you in mind of it. Will you invite them to do so ?

X.

LITTLE GLEANERS.

WE are a little gleaning band ;
We cannot bind the sheaves,
But we can follow those who reap,
And gather what each leaves.
We are not strong ; but Jesus loves
The weakest of the fold,
And in our feeble efforts proves
His tenderness untold.

We are not rich ; but we can give,
As we are passing on,
A cup of water in his name
To some poor, fainting one.
We are not wise ; but Christ, our Lord,
Revealed to babes his will ;
And we are sure, from his dear word,
He loves his children still.

THE DWARF AND HIS BROTHERS.*

THERE is a little man
Much shorter than his brothers,
But nothing useful can be done
Unless he helps the others.

The rest are tall and fine,
And make great claim to beauty,
While he, a common thick-set dwarf,
Lives only for his duty.

The brothers dress in gold,
And pose and play the master ;
Ah ! little would their jewels help
To save them from disaster,

Did not the sturdy dwarf,
So useful and so slighted,
Stand ever by to lend his aid,
And keep them all united.

MRS. M. W. BUTTS.

* The thumb and fingers.



WHAT CAME OF TEASING.

BY UNA LOCKE.

CAN'T I go in the boat and get lilies with Julia and Augustus? Say, ma. Pauline is going. Say, ma; I want to go too."

"But I am afraid to have you go, Curly-head; I am afraid you will reach too far after the lilies, and will fall into the pond."

"No, I wouldn't, ma. O dear, I want to go."

"You are so little to trust away with the children. If you should fly about in the boat as you do at home you would upset it."

"O no, ma, I will sit as still—as still—"

"As a grasshopper," suggested Thomas.

"Now, ma, don't say I musn't. I want to go and get lilies 'long with Pauline," pleaded the little witch.

Mrs. Howell could not bear to disappoint the child, and as she looked up anxiously into the bright mother-face she saw it.

"Now, ma, you are going to let me go!" she exclaimed joyfully.

"Well, if I say you may go, you must promise to sit perfectly still in the boat,

and let the other children reach out for the lilies; but I am afraid you will forget, and if you *should* fall into the pond, I might never see my little Curly-head again."

"No, I won't fall in. Wait, Pauline, I am going too. Wait till I get my sun-bonnet."

"Now remember," said Mrs. Howell, tying on the sun-bonnet, "you must sit quietly in the boat and not reach for lilies."

"No, I won't ma, I won't reach out," replied Curly-head, firmly.

Curly-head's sharp, black eyes, set under a mass and tangle of black curls, were sure to see the largest, and her suggestions were always ready, you may be sure. At last she saw a splendid lily just within the reach of her own little chubby hands, and the temptation was as sudden as a flash of light. She forgot her promise to her dear mamma, and darted over the end of the boat like a humming-bird. Ah, it was as Mrs. Howell feared! She plunged head and shoulders into the pond. There was a feeling of being drawn down, down to the roots of the water-lilies. Every naughty thing she had done, as it seemed to her, rushed into her mind. How clearly she remembered little affairs at school, trifling quarrels with her brothers, sharp words spoken to Pauline, but especially many times when she had not obeyed her mamma! Her dear mamma! She would never see her again, and how she would cry! And how distressed her good father would be! All this, and much more, had come into Curly-head's thoughts before she found herself lying in Pauline's lap wet only to her waist, but so weak and frightened! For Pauline had caught her, and she had not gone to the roots of the water-lilies as she thought she had. She could scarcely believe it, but she was not drowned.

She was taught one good lesson by it, which was this: *Mamma knows best*. I wish all the little girls and boys who are given to teasing their mammams might learn Curly-head's lesson without her punishment.

LESSON NOTES.

A.D. 29.] LESSON XI. [June 12.

THE WALK TO EMMAUS; or, The Burning Hearts.

Luke 24. 13-32. Commit to memory verses 25-27.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the Scriptures? Luke 24. 32.

OUTLINE.

1. The Walk, v. 13-24.
2. The Word, v. 25-29.
3. The Lord, v. 30-32.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

1. *The Walk*, v. 13-24.—How long was Jesus in the grave? From Friday evening until Sunday morning. What then took place? He rose from the dead. How did his disciples receive the news that he had risen? They could not at first believe it. Where did two of his disciples walk on the day of his resurrection? To Emmaus. What did they talk about as they walked? About the things which had happened. Who came near while they were walking? The risen Christ. Did they know him? No; for he would not let himself be known. Why did he keep himself unknown? Because he wished to teach them. What did he ask them? What made them so sad?

2. *The Word*, v. 25-29.—What did Jesus say to them? "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things?" What did he show them? All the teachings of the Old Testament about himself. What did he do at the end of their walk? He was about to leave them. Did they not wish him to stay longer? They urged him to stay.

3. *The Lord*, v. 30-32.—Did he stay with the two disciples? He went into the house with them. What took place at the supper-table? He took bread and blessed it. What then happened? All at once they knew him. What did he do? Suddenly, he went out of their sight. What did they say to each other?
GOLDEN TEXT.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

1. Remember that you have a risen Saviour.
2. Talk about him to others.
3. Read about him in the word.
4. Ask him ever to be with you.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The fulfilment of prophecy.

TINY TEXT.

Jesus saith, I am the way. John 14. 6.

SECOND QUARTERLY REVIEW.

June 19.

I. Repeat the Golden Texts for the Quarter.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. And Jesus— | 7. The wicked— |
| 2. Thou shalt— | 8. Ask, and— |
| 3. But do not— | 9. So then— |
| 4. Take heed— | 10. And I— |
| 5. Likewise— | 11. And they— |
| 6. I will— | |

II. Repeat the TINY TEXTS.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Lord I— | 7. The Lord— |
| 2. Love is— | 8. Ask, and— |
| 3. Provide -- | 9. Every tongue— |
| 4. Thou shalt not— | 10. I will— |
| 5. Christ died— | 11. Jesus saith— |
| 6. Father, I— | |

III. REVIEW QUESTIONS.

1. What does Christ require of those who follow him? That they shall not turn back.

2. What does he teach in the parable of the Good Samaritan? That we should help those who are in trouble.

3. What does he teach us in his words to the Pharisees? That our hearts should be pure.

4. What does he teach in the warning against covetousness? That we should not live for ourselves only.

5. What do we learn from the parable of the lost sheep? That Christ seeks to save the lost.

6. What may we learn from the parable of the prodigal son? That God welcomes all who turn from sin.

7. What are we taught in the parable of the rich man and Lazarus? That only the good can enter heaven.

8. What are we taught in the parables on prayer? That we should pray earnestly and humbly.

9. What are we taught in the parable of the pounds? That each one must give account to God.

10. What do we learn from Jesus on the cross? That we should forgive our enemies.

11. What do we learn from Christ in the walk to Emmaus? That the Bible is full of Christ.

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