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THE SUNBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. VII.]

TORONTO, OCTOBER 23, 1886.

[No 22.]

FAST ASLEEP.

BY AUNT MAY.

LITTLE Eva was out among the roses and currant-bushes looking for little birdies' nests. In one of the shady places, sheltered by the long stems and thick green leaves, she found the cunning little nest! It was woven with wonderful skill of bits of grass and long hairs from the tails and manes of horses, and ingeniously fastened to the branches of the bushes. The nest were four small eggs, so pretty that the eyes of the little lady fairly danced with delight when she saw them. And such exclamations of pleasure and wonder! It was all beautiful and strange. Our heavenly Father taught the little sparrow to weave her wonderful nest, when her babies are born will provide food for her carry to them.

But now little Eva has come in from her ramble in the garden, and has set down in the big chair to rest. In the stillness of the house sleep softly stolen upon her lids, and her dolly is dropped from her hands to the



FAST ASLEEP.

of taking a cloth to wipe off the furniture, she whisked a feather duster over the tops of the tables and chairs, filling the room with dust that soon settled down over the room again. Then she ran out to the garden with her book. Very soon her mother came in. Seeing how things looked, she called Mary.

"Do you think this is a good honest piece of work?" she asked.

Mary knew it was not, and hung her head in shame.

"You must do it all over," said her mother. "You should be as careful to clean the places which do not show so plainly, as those which do. If you do not learn to be careful in small things, you can never be trusted with greater."

Dear children, when the Lord comes to make his reckoning, we shall be rewarded or punished according to our works. He has placed us all in this world to do something for him, and he expects us to do the best we can. He wants good honest workers, who will be faithful in all things, great and small.

HONEST WORKERS.

Let us hope that her dreams shall be sweet, and that she will not in her fancy imagine that she sees cruel boys carrying away the precious little treasures of the nests from the currant-bushes.

The greatest blessings in God's book are presently found to be the property of the best persons on God's earth.

MARY had been left to sweep and dust the room. She could do it very nicely, but the day was very warm and she wanted to get out under the cool trees to finish her book. Instead of sweeping the floor carefully all around, she brushed the dirt from the middle of the room, leaving dust in the corners and under the chairs. Instead

DEAR SAVIOUR, as I lay me down to rest,
I would lean upon thy breast;
I pray thee keep me safe this night,
That I may wake to see the light.
If I no more from sleep should rise,
May I wake in yonder skies,
To see thee in thy glory shine
And call thee mine, forever mine.

"YOU CAN'T COME IN, SIR."

If you would not be a drunkard,
You must not drink a drop;
For if you never should begin
You'll never have to stop.

The taste of drink, good people say,
Is hard in driving out;
Then, friends, in letting in that taste,
Why, what are you about?

Out of your house to keep a thief
You shut your door and lock it,
And hang the key upon a nail
Or put it in your pocket.

So, lest King Rum within you should
His horrid rule begin, sir,
Just shut your lips and lock them tight,
And say, "You can't come in, sir!"

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The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 23, 1886.

A WORD TO THE YOUNG.

If you perceive that anything in your ways makes your parents unhappy, you ought to have no peace until you have corrected it; and if you find yourself indifferent or insensible to their will and wishes, depend upon it yours is a carnal, disobedient, ungrateful heart. If you love them, keep their commandments; otherwise love is a mere word in the mouth, a notion in the fancy, but not a ruling principle in the heart. They know much of the world, you very little; trust them, therefore, when they differ from you and refuse compliance with your desire. They watch over you for your good, and are entitled to great deference and cheerful obedience. You may easily shorten the lives of affectionate and conscientious parents by misconduct, bad temper, and alienation from their injunctions. Let not this sin be laid to your charge.

THE NAME IN THE BOOK.

ARTHUR WILLS had received at Christmas-time a new book as a gift from his mother. There it lay when its wrappers were removed, in its pretty binding of gray and gold, with beautiful coloured pictures. He turned to the fly-leaf, and his countenance fell.

"There is no name in it," he said.

"But it is yours," returned his mother.

"Why do you want your name in it?"

"To show other people I have a right to it; to show them who gave it to me. Mother, it is nothing without your writing."

Mrs. Wills smiled affectionately upon her boy, and, taking a pen and ink, wrote his name upon her gift. Then she asked—

"My son, is your name in the Lamb's Book of Life?" The boy hesitated.

"I don't know, I'm sure," he said.

"Then you may know it, dear, if you will but obey our blessed Saviour's call. The Apostle Paul speaks of some whose names are in the Book of Life. They knew it, and he knew it, and told it to others. God offers us salvation as a free gift. If we take it he will inscribe our names in his great record of the saved. I read a beautiful story of a soldier, who, when he was dying, opened his eyes, and looking up brightly, exclaimed, 'Here!' On being asked what he wanted, he said:

'They are calling the roll in heaven, and I was answering to my name!' Dear Arthur, will you pass muster there?"

I think it was not long before Arthur sought by faith to have his name written in heaven.

BE TRUE.

WHEN Bennie was five years old, his mother died; and when he was twelve, he lost his father, and went to live with an uncle. His uncle was not a religious man, and his children were not taught to read the Bible, pray, nor return thanks at the table for their food. Bennie was a good Christian boy, and when his cousins saw him do these things, they looked at him in wonder at first, and then began to laugh at and mock him. One of them even mimicked him, and called him crazy. But Bennie kept on and tried to do his duty, and when they found that he was always truthful, kind and forbearing, they began to feel respect for him, and at last became his warm friends.

Dear children, try to be good and true; just what the Holy Spirit teaches you to be, and do not let any one keep you from doing your duty. Be afraid to do wrong lest the Holy Spirit leave you, for you need his help.

ALFRED'S THREE PRAYERS.

"MAMMA," said Alfred one night, as he was going to bed, "I prayed three prayers, and the Lord has answered two of them. Do you think he'll answer the other?"

"I think he will, my dear. But tell me about these prayers; what were they?"

"One was that he would make you well; and you're not sick any more. Another was that he would make papa more kind; and he has been more kind lately, hasn't he?"

"Yes, dear. Now, what's the third?"

"I prayed that God would keep us children from quarreling. But he hasn't answered that yet, for Daisy and I quarreled dreadfully to-day."

"Ah, my son, you will have to help the Lord to answer that."

"Help the Lord, mamma? Can't he do everything?"

"He won't make you good against your will. If you choose to be a naughty boy, God will be sorry for you, but you will be naughty still. But if you earnestly wish to be a good boy, and when Satan tempts you to quarrel if you turn right to God for strength to resist him, and then fight like a good little soldier to keep down the naughty temper, God will give you the victory. But he won't do the work for you."

"O I didn't understand," said the little boy.

"Yes," continued mamma, "you have something to do yourself, when you pray such a prayer, to help God to answer it. You must watch and pray, and fight against temptation; and if you do this you will be able by and by to come and tell me that God has answered all three of your prayers."

—Kind Words.

BAD BARGAINS.

ONCE a Sabbath-school teacher remarked that he who buys the truth makes a good bargain, and inquired if any scholar recollected an instance in Scripture of a bad bargain.

"I do," replied a boy. "Esau made a bad bargain when he sold his birthright for a mess of pottage."

A second said, "Judas made a bad bargain when he sold his Lord for thirty pieces of silver."

A third boy observed, "Our Lord tells us that he makes a bad bargain who, to gain the whole world, loses his own soul."

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High; to shew forth thy loving-kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night."



JENNY AND GRANDPA.

JENNY and Grandpa are two good friends. Jenny loves to come to Grandpa's chair. She is not quite tall enough to reach up very well. So she stands on an ot-to-man to make her taller.

DAVID'S CONSCIENCE.

You see David knew what was the right thing to do, but he would not confess that it was the only right thing. There was the empty wood-box. His mother was with sick Mrs. Jenks. She would come home at five, and have the wood to bring in herself. "Father told me to meet him at the store at two," David said to Conscience. "But you know he told Mr. Kane afterward that with that tired horse he could hardly get there before half-past two; and you can fill this box in ten minutes by the clock," said Conscience to Davy.

"Well, I don't want to fill that box; and I'll get no credit if I do. Mother'll think father filled it. I've done it lots of times, and had no notice taken of it."

This brought down a storm upon Davy's head.

"How much notice do you take of the dinner your mother cooks for you? or of the clothes she makes and mends? How much did you thank your father for the long ride he took to get your books this morning? How much have you noticed God's sunshine to-day or the strong, well body he has given to you instead of Mrs. Jenks? How much?"

"Never mind, never mind, I'll do it!" cried Davy.

"You'd better!" said Conscience.—*Sol.*

OBEYING GOD.

A BOY, living in a small fishing village on the coast of England, was once carried off by some rough sailors, and put on a French war vessel, far away from home. He felt very badly to leave his father and sister without a word, but he put his trust in God, and tried to do right in his new position. The men on the vessel were wicked and profane, and when they found out that Philip read his Bible and prayed to God, they called him names and treated him very badly. Once he was severely beaten because he would not give up his Testament, and at another time he was commanded by one of the officers to use bad words like the other sailors.

But Philip said he could not do what he knew to be wrong though he would try to obey him about his work, and do everything that was right. This made the officer very angry, and he treated Philip more cruelly than ever. But God took care of him, and in a battle which took place he was spared, while some of these wicked men were killed. At last he was taken prisoner, and put on an English vessel. A great storm arose, and the vessel was wrecked on some rocks, but Philip was saved. He found it was near his own home, and he was soon restored to his father and sister, who received him with joy.

Dear children, God watches over those who do right, and try to please him. We must obey him in all things, and he will take care of us.

A CAT WITH NO HOME.

A STRAY black and white kitty has come to our door every night for several weeks to be fed. One night she seemed very much afraid. A young man, stylishly dressed, standing by, said:

"It is because I strike her with my cane. I like our cat at the store; but stray cats I have no feeling for."

"That is the very reason why we are kind to this one," we answered. "Anything that has a home does not so much need our kindness, possibly; but a person or animal that is homeless or friendless draws out our sympathy."

Don't be rough to homeless things, children. Animals love to be petted; and how must those feel which are kicked away from every curb-stone? Be especially kind to that boy who wears poor clothes, or who is an orphan, or who lives in a rickety house, and to the girl who washes dishes for somebody, and who perhaps often goes hungry and cold.—*Congregationalist.*

"WHICH LOVED THE BEST."

"I LOVE you, mother," said little John. Then forgetting his word, his cap went on. And he was off to the garden swing, And left her wood and water to bring.

"I love you, mother," said tosy Nell. "I love you more than tongue can tell;" Then she teased and pouted full half the day, Till her mother rejoiced when she went to play.

"I love you, mother," said little Fan, "To-day I'll help you as I can. How glad I am that school don't keep," So she rocked the baby fast asleep.

Then, stepping softly, she brought the broom, And swept the floor and tidied the room, Busy and happy all day was she— Helpful and happy as child could be.

"I love you, mother," again they said, Three little children going to bed; How do you think that mother guessed? Which of them really loved her best?

THEY ARE SAFE.

SIX little children got into a boat, and were swept away to sea. All who could put out in search of them. Great anxiety filled the place. All night the children were drifting on the cruel sea. Next day, a fisherman discovered and rescued them. The cry, "They are safe!" ran through the town. The work of the Sunday-school is to rescue not six but millions of children who are drifting to ruin.

FREDDY'S BOX.

FREDDY had a box in his closet, where he put his clothes he had outgrown.

"It shall be your charity-box," said mamma. "When it is full I will pack up the things and send them to some poor children who will be very glad to get them."

One day at Sunday-school the lesson was about "charity." The teacher said that the word meant love, and that we can show our love for God by being kind to the poor.

The next day Freddy said to his mamma, "I'm not going to call my box a charity-box any more; it is a love-box. It's because I love Jesus that I want to save my things for the poor children."

Is not that a pretty name for his box? —*Exchange.*

"HANDSOME IS WHO HANDSOME DOES."

ONE time I met a little girl
Whose face was fair to see;
Of all the pretty girls I knew,
The prettiest face had she.

"A charming little girl," said I.
Aunt Hannah wisely smiled:
"It takes more than a pretty face
To make a charming child."

I wondered what she meant; but, ah!
I knew it very soon.
I said no more, "a charming child,"
But sung another tune.

For she—the girl with pretty face—
Was cross as cross could be;
Her snarling words and pouting lips
Soon disenchanted me.

"You see, my dear," Aunt Hannah said,
"A handsome face alone
Will never make a charming child,
Nor for cross words atone.

"But handsome is who handsome does,
When heart is filled with grace;
And pleasant words are lovelier, far,
Than many a pretty face."

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER

A.D. 30.] LESSON V. [Oct. 31.

JESUS RISEN.

John 20. 1-18. Commit to memory vs. 15-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. Luke 24. 34.

OUTLINE.

1. Mary and the Disciples, v. 1-10.
2. Mary and the Lord, v. 11-18.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What had Jesus told his disciples? That he would rise again on the third day.

Who came to his tomb early on the morning of the third day. Mary Magdalene.

What did she see? The stone rolled away.

To whom did she tell this? To Peter and John.

What did Peter and John do? They ran to the tomb and looked in.

What did they see? The linen clothes lying there.

Who believed that Jesus was risen? John.

Who stood without the tomb weeping? Mary,

What did she see in the tomb as she stooped and looked in? Two angels in white.

Where were they sitting? One at the head, and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

What did Mary tell the angels? That Jesus had been taken away.

Who stood near her as she spoke? Jesus himself.

What did she ask of him? To tell her where they had taken her Lord.

What did Jesus say unto her? Mary.

What did Mary then believe? That her Lord stood before her.

What did he tell her to do? To go and tell the disciples she had seen him. (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

If only the angels had told Mary that Jesus had risen from the dead, we could not be as sure as we are with this true GOLDEN TEXT. You can only just begin to know, as yet, what a blessed thing it was.

If he had not risen, all he said would not have proved true; all he suffered would not have saved us; there would be no Jesus now, he would be dead; there would be no life for us after we died; there would be no heaven."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Victory over death.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

Through whom do we receive the grace of the Holy Spirit? Only through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Does the Saviour care for children? Yes: for he said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not."

A.D. 30.] LESSON VI. [Nov. 7.

THOMAS CONVINCED.

John 20. 19-29. Commit to mem. vs. 26-28.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. John 20. 28.

OUTLINE.

1. Jesus and the Ten, v. 19-23.
2. Jesus and Thomas, v. 24-29.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Who gathered together in an upper room to talk of the resurrection of Jesus? Ten of the disciples.

Who came and stood in their midst? Jesus, their risen Lord.

What did he come to bring them? Peace.

What did he show them? The prints of the nails, and of the spear in his hands and his side,

Why were the disciples glad? They believed that he had risen from the dead.

What did Jesus give them? Power to forgive sins.

Who was away when Jesus came into the upper room? Thomas.

What did the disciples tell him? The Lord is alive, we have seen him.

How did Thomas answer? I will not believe it until I put my finger into the print of the nails.

When did Jesus again stand in their midst? After eight days.

What did he tell Thomas to do? To touch the prints in his hands and his side.

What did he want him to be? Not faithless, but believing.

Did Thomas believe? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

Who are happier than Thomas? Those who believe in Jesus without seeing him.

What do we call believing in Jesus without seeing him? Faith.

What will faith in Jesus give us? Eternal life.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Are you not glad this letter was written? So that you, his little people, might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God? and that believing, you might have life through his name.

Do you believe? Jesus said, "Blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The blessedness of faith.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

Was he once a child himself? Yes, and we read about his infancy in the gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke.

Do we know anything about the Saviour when he was growing up? St. Luke tells us that when he was twelve years old he was found in the temple at Jerusalem.

JIMMIE'S FLOWERS.

ONE day a lady looked out of the window and saw a poorly dressed little boy peeping through the fence at the flowers in her garden. She went to the door and asked if he would like some.

"Very much, ma'am," said Jimmy; so the lady gave him a handful. In a few days he came again and said, "Please give me just one more flower for my mother, who is sick."

The lady was going to break off a rose when Jimmy exclaimed, "Not that kind! I want one that looks like grass and smells like cinnamon?"

What do you think he meant? Pink