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THE SUNBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. VIII.]

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 21, 1887.

[No. 20



THE TWO NURSES.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

A LITTLE BOY'S PIECE.

I AM a little temperance boy,
And shall do all I can;
Then when I grow up big
I'll be a temperance man.

I've lately signed the pledge,
And mean to keep it, too;
I'll never drink a bit of beer,
Or swear, or smoke, or chew.

My mother says such boys
Make honest men and true;
We'll fight for home and native land,
And great the good we'll do.

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The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 24, 1887.

THE TWO NURSES.

THIS little girl thinks she can take care of the bluff little chickens better than their own mother can. But I am afraid she will hurt them if she don't take care. The mother hen seems to be very anxious about it. You will remember that our blessed Lord likens his own love and care for his children to that of a hen gathering her chickens under her wing.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

CHILDREN should come to the Lord Jesus. Yes, they should. When he was here on earth some persons brought little children to him that he might bless them. Though the wind and sea obeyed him, and though he was "Lord of all," yet he kindly took them in his arms and blessed them. The Lord Jesus is the same loving one still; and though he is now on his throne in glory, all the angels and the spirits of the just made perfect constantly surround his glorious throne with their praises. Still, a little child may come to him, and will

never be cast out of his presence. A little child may go to him and ask for his blessing. He says to every one, "I love them that love me, and they that seek me early shall find me." If you do not go to Christ it will be very sad for you. You cannot be happy without Jesus. You will enjoy no place in heaven unless you love him. He has said if we die in our sins, where he is we cannot come. If we do come to the Lord Jesus, then we shall enjoy peace with God, and we shall be useful and happy so long as we live in this world. Then when we die our spirits will be carried by the angels to live with him forever. He himself says, "Because I live ye shall live also," and, "Where I am there also shall my servant be."—*Hannah Webb.*

STELLA.—A STAR.

STELLA was a dear little girl in our Sunday-school class. Had she not a pretty name? Her Sunday-school teacher thought so, and wrote her a letter all about the shining stars. "Like one of these, dear Stella, would I have you be!" said her teacher. So, as Stella, in her home, looked out of the window, night after night, and watched some twinkling star,

Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky—

she must have remembered her teacher's words, and asked herself this question: "How can I be like that bright, beautiful star?" Then this sweet Bible verse, hidden in her memory and heart, may, like some still, small voice, have whispered in reply: "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever"; and these verses also: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handy work." "Praise him all ye stars of light!" "I must be wise to do good," little Stella may have said to herself. To God she may have offered a prayer like this:

"I thank thee, and praise thee, for thy loving kindness unto me, dear Father in heaven. Make me wise and useful. Make me thy little light-bearer, a shining-star, for J-esus' sake. Amen."

"As the stars of the skies in multitude" are the righteous in the kingdom of God. "One star differeth from another star in glory," but each star must let its light so shine before men, that they may glorify God. We are to give light, as the stars in our sky. Bye-and-bye we shall, if light-givers on earth, shine as the stars in the kingdom of our Father in heaven.

HOW MANY DAYS IN A MONTH.

THE tables in arithmetic make us say there are thirty days in a month. So there are in some of the months, but in others there are thirty-one, while one of the twelve usually has only twenty-eight. Probably all of our young readers have learned a little verse by which they can easily recall the number of days in any given month, but do you know to whom you owe thanks for that verse?

Many years ago there was a good teacher in the Royal Jubilee School in the city of Newcastle-on-Tyne, England. He found that his pupils remembered rhymes more easily than prose, and therefore he put geography, history and other studies into rhyme. The teacher's name was C. F. Springman. One of the most popular rhymes in the world, and one which is still used a great deal, helps many of us to remember the number of days in the different months. It is this:

"Thirty days hath September,
April, June and November,
All the rest have thirty-one,
Except poor February alone."

Some one has changed the last one of these lines, and added two more, making the three read thus:

"Excepting February alone
Which has twenty-eight in fine,
Till leap year gives it twenty-nine."

SUN ON THE NORTH SIDE.

WE went, one cold, windy day last spring, to see a poor, young girl, kept at home by a lame hip. The room was on the north side of a bleak house. It was not a pleasant prospect without, nor was there much that was pleasant or cheerful within.

"Poor girl! what a cheerless life she has of it," I thought, as we went to see how she was situated; what a pity it was that her room was on the north side of the house.

"You never have any sun," I said; "not a ray comes in at these windows. That I call a misfortune. Sunshine is everything. I love the sun."

"Oh," she answered, with the sweetest smile I ever saw, "my sun pours in at every window, and even through the cracks."

I am sure I looked surprised.

"The Sun of Righteousness," she said softly—"Jesus. He shines in here, and makes everything bright to me."

I could not doubt her. She looked happier than anyone I had seen for many a day.

Yes, Jesus shining in at the windows can make any spot beautiful, and every house happy.—*Guide to Holiness.*

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CHILDREN.

COME to me, O ye children!
 For I hear you at your play,
 And the questions that have vexed me
 Have vanished quite away.

Ye open the eastern windows,
 That look toward the sun,
 Where thoughts are singing swallows,
 And the brooks of morning run.

In your hearts are the birds and the
 sunshine,
 In your thoughts the brooklets flow,
 But in mine is the wind of autumn
 And the first fall of the snow.

Ah! what would the world be to us
 If the children were no more?
 We should dread the desert behind us
 Worse than the dark before?

What the leaves are to the forest,
 With light and air for food,
 Ere their sweet and tender juices
 Have been hardened into wood.

That to the world are children;
 Through them it feels the glow
 Of a brighter and sunnier climate
 Than reaches the trunks below.

Come to me, O ye children!
 And whisper in my ear
 What the birds and winds are singing
 In your sunny atmosphere.

For what are all our contrivings
 And the wisdom of our books,
 When compared with your caresses
 And the gladness of your looks?

Ye are better than all the ballads
 That ever were sung or said;
 For ye are living poems,
 And all the rest are dead.

—LONGFELLOW.

What is a centurion? An officer in charge of a hundred soldiers.
 What did the centurion tell Jesus? That his servant was sick with the palsy.
 What did Jesus answer? "I will come and heal him."
 What is Jesus always willing to do? To help those who come to him in faith.
 What was the centurion's reply? "I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof."
 What did he want Jesus to do? To "speak the word only."
 What did he believe? That his servant would be healed.
 What did this show? His faith in the power of Jesus.
 What did Jesus say? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)
 Why might Jesus look for great faith in Israel? Because the Israelites or Jews knew all about him.
 What did Jesus say? That many who were not Jews should live in heaven with Abraham and Isaac.
 Why so? Because they had the faith of Abraham and Isaac.
 What did Jesus say to the centurion? As thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee."
 What was the reward of his faith? His servant was healed at that moment.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Answer thoughtfully—
 Which would you rather have, a sick body or a sin-sick soul?
 Have you asked Jesus to make your soul well?
 Will he cure all who ask in faith?
 "Heal my soul, for I have sinned against thee."
 DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The power of Christ.

Where was Jesus's home? In heaven.
 Where did Jesus go with "his" disciples? Out on the Sea of Galilee.
 What came suddenly upon them? A great storm of wind and rain.
 Where was Jesus? Asleep in the stern of the boat.
 How came Jesus to be asleep? He had been healing the sick and preaching, and was very tired.
 Why did the disciples wake him? They were afraid.
 What must they have forgotten? How strong and loving Jesus was.
 What did they say to him? "Lord, save us: we perish!"
 How did he answer them? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT)
 What did he do? He arose and rebuked the wind and the sea.
 What followed? All was quiet in a moment.
 What does this show us? That the winds and waves obey God.
 What are far more awful than storms of wind and rain? Angry passions and sinful feelings.
 What is Jesus able to do? To drive them away and send peace.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Christ is your safety in time of danger.
 Christ is your peace in storms of trouble and temptation.
 You need never feel afraid if he is with you.
 "ALL power is given unto ME in heaven and in earth."
 DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Following Christ.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

Why does not God take away the wicked at once? He gives sinners time to repent.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW.

A.D. 28.] LESSON I. [Oct. 2.

THE CENTURION'S FAITH.

Matt. 8. 5-13. Commit to mem. vs. 8-10.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. Matt. 8. 10.

OUTLINE.

1. The Centurion.
2. His Great Faith.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Who came to Jesus at Capernaum? A Roman centurion.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

Will all men be judged hereafter? Yes, we must all be judged at the last day.

A.D. 28.] LESSON II. [Oct. 9.

THE TEMPEST STILLED.

Matt. 8. 18-27. Commit to memory vs. 24-27.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Matt. 8. 26.

OUTLINE.

1. Faith Needed.
2. Faith Tested.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Who came to Jesus and wanted to live with him? A teacher of the law of Moses.
 What did Jesus tell him? That he had no home on earth.

"HIM THAT COMETH."

"HIM that cometh." It does not say when. He may be seventy; if he cometh, he is not cast out. He may be but seven—and, thank God, there have been many boys and girls who have come even at that age—but he will not cast them out. Your candle may be little more than a snuff, but he will not quench it; or it may be newly lit; he will accept either. The full-blown rose or the flower in the bud shall be alike received by his gracious hand. Some came to Jesus when he was on earth; he did not cast them out. A long file of sinners saved by grace has been streaming up from the cross to the crown ever since, and not one of them has ever been rejected.—*Rev. C. H. Spurgeon.*



ROBBING THE TILL.

THIS boy runs a great risk of getting into penitentiary. See, while trusted in the office he robs his master's till. I am afraid he never learned that

"Tis a sin
To steal a pin."

POLLY'S CLOUDY DAY.

"It looks like rain," said mamma: "I don't think we can go to the picnic to-day."

"But I want to go," said Polly.

"Yes, you all want to go," said mamma; "but if you are to be disappointed, I hope you will try to bear it well."

But Polly had no idea of bearing it well, and cried and fretted about the weather. She pouted and would not listen when her mother spoke of the blessing a good rain would be.

Her sister Ruth looked wistfully up at the sky, and then wisely found something to do to help her forget about it.

About ten o'clock the sun peeped over the edge of a cloud and smiled, as if to say, "I believe I'll have to let those folks have their picnic, after all." So he hurried up into the blue sky and shone with all his might.

You may be sure it did not take long to get ready. And soon the merry party came along in big waggons, and all were off for the shore. They rowed and fished and made camp-fires and cooked plenty of good things.

But through all the fun there was a heavy thought at Polly's heart. She could

not forget how badly she had behaved in the morning.

Don't you think Ruth was glad she had shown a sweet temper when it was hard not to fret and complain?

When we are called upon to bear disappointments let us try to remember how many blessings the dear Lord sends, and let us show our thankfulness by taking the trials cheerfully.

A TALK ABOUT SHEPHERDS.

"MARY," said Walter one day, "do you want to learn a hymn about the Good Shepherd? It is very like your Bible verse." So Mary nestled into Walter's lap and began to repeat after him:

"The Lord is my Shepherd, no want shall I know;
I feed in "green pastures," safe folded I rest—"

There she stopped.

"But, Walter, 'safe folded'—I don't like that term. I know I am folded safely under the blankets when the winter wind blows cold; but the little lambs—nobody folds blankets about them; they are not safe folded." Walter took from his pocket a pencil and a scrap of paper. He drew a picture of a large pen, with a close, tall fence all around it; the door was standing open, sheep were going in, and the shepherd was standing ready to close the door.

"That yard," said Walter, "is a sheep-fold; the shepherd will fasten it all tight, then the tired sheep sleep; the wolves and foxes may try to reach them, but the sheep are safe in the fold."

"Yes," said Mary, "safe folded they rest."

A GOOD CHARACTER IS BEST.

"It's a jolly knife," said Ted, admiringly.

"There are three blades, besides the corkscrew," said Tom. "It could not have cost less than half a dollar."

"What made him give it to you?" asked Ted, curiously and suspiciously. "I wish he had taken it into his head to give it to me."

"Why, I'll tell you," said Tom, laughing. "I gave him my red alley for it, and an old medal. I told him the medal was silver, and the alley was real marble; and he thinks he got a bargain. He's awful green."

"Oh!" said Ted, "that alters the case. I would not have it at that price, if you gave me a hundred dollars as well."

"Why not," said Tom, "if he's such a dunce as to believe everything you tell him?"

"He's welcome to sell his knife how he

likes," said Ted, turning on his heel; "but I would not sell my character for all the knives in the world."

THE YEARS PASS ON.

"WHEN I'm a woman you'll see what I'll do—

I'll be great and good, and noble and true,
I'll visit the sick and relieve the poor—
No one shall ever be turned from my door;
But I'm only a little girl now."
And so the years passed on.

"When I'm a woman," a gay maiden said,
"I'll try to do right, and not be afraid;
I'll be a Christian, and give up the joys
Of the world, with all its dazzling toys;
But I'm only a young girl now."
And so the years passed on.

"Ah me!" sighed a woman gray with years,
Her heart full of cares and doubts and fears;
"I've been putting off the time to be good,
Instead of beginning to do as I should;
And I'm an old woman now."
And so the years passed on.

Now is the time to begin to do right;
To-day, whether skies be dark or bright,
Make others happy by good deeds of love,
Looking to Jesus for help from above;
And then you'll be happy now,
And as the years pass on.

LOVE LIGHTENS LABOUR.

ONE day a gentleman found a little girl busy at the ironing-table, smoothing the towels and stockings.

"Isn't it hard work for your little arms?" he asked.

A look like sunshine came into her face, as she glanced toward her mother, who was rocking the baby.

"It isn't hard work when I do it for mamma," she said, softly.

In like manner, when love prompts us to work for Jesus, our toil becomes our pleasure.

HARRY.

HE was a pretty little fellow, but it was his manners, not his looks, that attracted everybody—clerks in the stores, people in the horse-cars, men, women, and children; a boy six years old, who, if anybody said to him, "How do you do?" answered, "I am well, thank you," and if he had a request to make, be it of friend or stranger, began it with "Please." And the beauty of it was that the "Thank you" and "Please" were so much a matter of course to the child that he never knew that he was doing anything at all strange.