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# THE SUNBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. V.]

TORONTO, AUGUST 2, 1884.

[No. 16.]

## DON'T, KATIE!

BY FRANCIS FORRESTER, ESQ.

Two sisters, strolling in the woods one summer's day, came to the bank of a pond on which the beautiful water-lilies floated like charming dryads, tempting all beholders to pluck them and enjoy their sweet perfume.

"How lovely!" exclaimed the elder girl. "I will hold on to this tree and try to reach one."

"Don't, Katie!" pleaded the younger girl, "the water is very deep, and if you should fall in you would be drowned. Don't, Katie!"

But Katie was self-willed—I wonder if the reader is? Pushing her sister aside with a "Hush, Mary!" she reached over after a tempting lily which was floating, as it seemed, within her grasp. It was, however, farther off than it seemed, and as she strained herself to reach it, her foot slipped, she lost her hold upon the tree, and fell headlong into the water with a fearful splash.

A piercing scream from Mary waked a thousand echoes in the forest, and reached the ears of some charcoal burners whose cabin was not far from the pond. Guided by the voice, they rushed to the pond. One of them plunged in, and soon drew the insensible form of Katie from the slimy water. They bore her as speedily as possible to the nearest cottage, where, in due time, she was restored to consciousness and



WATER-LILIES.

life. It was a very narrow escape from death for our beautiful but self-willed Katie.

I think, as I recall this incident from the realms of memory, that there are, perhaps,

many Katies among the members of my beloved SUNBEAM family—sweet misses in appearance, with tempers soured by self-will. Am I harsh in this judgment? If I am, pronounce me guilty, and drum me out of your SUNBEAM columns. But if my opinion agrees with the facts, and it is true that multitudes of my readers do love to have their own way as dearly as they love bright ribbons or shining silks, then let them be warned, by Katie's ducking in the lily-pond, that self-will is sometimes a very dangerous power in the soul of a young girl. It is so, because it is blind and reckless both of its own duties and the rights of others. It sees but one thing, namely, the object it covets, and rushes straight toward it in spite of dangers and cautions. No wonder self-willed girls—aye, and boys too—get hurt and sometimes so badly that their peace and happiness are ruined forever. Girls and boys, permit an old man to teach you:

1. That when you desire to do or obtain anything, your first question should be, Is it right?

2. If conscience replies, It is right, then ask if it is right under present circumstances. You see that it was right in itself for Katie to pull a lily out of the water, but the circumstance of its being out of her reach and in deep water made it wrong for her to do it

then and there, because it was not right to put her life in peril for that beautiful trifle—a water-lily. Do you understand?

#### LUTHER'S CRADLE-SONG.

AWAY in a manger,  
No crib for his bed,  
The little Lord Jesus  
Lay down his sweet head;  
The stars in the sky  
Looked down where he lay—  
The little Lord Jesus  
Asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing,  
The poor baby wakes,  
But little Lord Jesus  
No crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus,  
Look down from the sky.  
And stay by my crib,  
Watching my lullaby.

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## The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, AUGUST 2, 1884.

#### A LESSON STORY.

A RICH man made a supper, and asked Jesus to eat with him. While at the table, Jesus spoke these words about the great supper God has made. Who would not be glad to eat at God's table? But he sent his servant to call men to the feast, and they all began to make excuses! They all had something else to do! See the rich man turning away from God's call, and going to his work. He has not time to hear what God says! Nothing is worth so much as a call to God's feast. He has sent Jesus to call us, every one, and if we want to be happy we must obey his call. When the rich and the wise would not come to the great supper, the servant was sent to call the poor, and lame, and blind. God has enough for all, and no one is sent away

because he is too young or too old, too rich or too poor. All we need is a good and loving heart, that makes us want to do just as God says. Do you not want to ask somebody to come to God's table? Tell some one about Jesus; ask some one to come to Sunday-school, and see if such work does not make you happy.

#### MOTHER'S DARLING.

BOUNDING like a football;  
Kicking at the door;  
Falling from the table-top;  
Sprawling on the floor;  
Smashing cups and saucers;  
Splitting Dolly's head;  
Putting little pussy-cat  
Into baby's bed.

Building shops and houses;  
Spoiling father's hat;  
Hiding mother's bunch of keys  
Underneath the mat;  
Jumping on the fender;  
Poking at the fire;  
Dancing on his little legs—  
Legs that never tire;  
Making mother's heart leap  
Fifty times a day;  
Aping every thing we do,  
Every word we say.

Shouting, laughing, tumbling,  
Roaring with a will,  
Anywhere and everywhere,  
Never, never still.  
Present—bringing sunshine;  
Absent—leaving night;  
That's our precious darling,  
That's our hearts' delight.

—Early Days.

#### THE LITTLE FISHERMAN.

A VERY little boy was fishing. He tried to hide the hook, so that the fish might not see it. "They love to eat worms," he said, "I have fixed this bit of worm so that it shall look as if it were alive. I will wriggle it around in the water; the fish will think it is moving itself about; it will be hungry, and say to itself, 'Here is just the dinner I want;' a nibble, and the hook will enter its jaw; then I shall have my fish."

"Did you ever get cheated like the fish?" asked his father.

"I don't know. Do you mean the day I played truant? The boys said the woods were so cool, and the wild grapes were so thick, and we should have a good time—that was the bait. And I felt so bad, and the grapes made me sick, and I wished I had gone to school. Yes, I guess I got caught by the hook."—Mrs. V. C. P.

#### THE SPARROWS.

THOU smallest bird that wings the air,  
The Master cares for thee;  
And, if he cares for one so small,  
Will he not care for me?  
His eye looks on thee from above,  
He notices thy fall;  
And, if he cares for such as thee,  
Does he not care for all?

He feeds thee in the sweet spring-time,  
When skies are bright and blue;  
He feeds thee in the autumn-time,  
And in the winter too;  
He leads thee through the pathless air,  
He guides thee in thy flight;  
He sees thee in the brightest day,  
And in the darkest night.

Oh! if his loving care attends  
A bird so mean and small,  
Will he not listen to my voice  
When unto him I call?  
Will he not guide me with his eye,  
And lead me by his hand,  
And bring me, in his own good time,  
Into the heavenly land?

Oh! he who feeds the little birds,  
And guides them in their flight,  
Will watch above a little child,  
And guide her feet aright;  
He'll take my feeble hand in his,  
And lead me to the skies,  
And feed me with the pleasant fruits  
That grow in paradise.

#### THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD.

MARY has a pretty picture. It was a birthday present. Her brother Walter bought it, and Willy made the frame. It hangs in her own room by the foot of the bed. Mary has not learned to read yet, but she knows what the picture means. It is a shepherd: he sits under a tree in a green meadow, and the lambs and their mothers rest by him in the shade. Surely little lambs so tenderly cared for are never hungry, for the grass grows tall and thick; and never thirsty, for near by a stream of pure water gently flows.

Since Mary has had the picture she has learned these pretty Bible verses: "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters."

WHEN you truly love any one you are willing to do anything for them. God is love. God's love to us is true love. God so loved us as to give his Son to die for us. Don't you love him?



BABES IN THE WOOD.

## ROBIN REDBREAST.

BY FRANCIS FORRESTER, ESQ.

ROBIN REDBREAST is one of the most popular fellows in the air. Everybody likes him—except in strawberry and cherry time, and then he puts so hard a strain on people's regard that they throw sod, if not stones, at him. Robin does love strawberries and cherries, and—like the greedy epicure that he is—he always feasts on the reddest, ripest, most luscious berries and cherries that are on cherry-tree and strawberry-vine. But when the season for these sweet fruits is past, people return to their old loves. Robin recovers his popularity, and is made welcome as ever when he comes, Lazarus-like, as he does in winter, to pick up the crumbs which fall from our tables.

I scarcely know why it is that Robin retains the special good-will of so many people. You know that even egg-hunting, bird-killing boys will spare him, while they rob or kill birds of all other species. There is nothing in Robin's character which entitles him to this impunity. Many other birds might set up a better claim to good treatment on the score of character. He is an unsocial fellow with his kind, and quite

as quarrelsome and selfish as his worst enemies could desire. Just try him with a few crumbs next winter, if he should visit you, and if a brother or sister Robin should dare to hop up and try to get a brother beggar's share, you will see him fly into a terrible passion, and drive the intruder off. Robin is a jealous, selfish fellow. His redeeming quality is that he loves to eat the worms and insects which destroy our trees, and in the winter when other birds forsake us he sticks to our homes and cheers us with his voice.

Yes, people love the Robin. I suppose this is mainly because an old legend states that when a wicked uncle hired some ruffians to carry his little orphaned nephew and niece away and kill them, that he might seize the riches to which they were heirs, and that when those ruffians quarrelled, and finally left the poor babes to wander in the forest until they starved and died folded in each other's arms, the robins came and covered their dear little dead bodies with leaves. For this loving deed, the story of which has been poured into the eager ears of millions of children for many generations, we all love the Robin. Every time we see him we think of the poor babes in the wood, and that thought

awakens a kindly feeling for him whose ancestors are storied to have done that loving deed.

Thus you see how far-reaching in its influence is a deed of love. Possibly the robins never did the loving act with which they are credited. But no matter. It is theirs by reputation, and we love them, and spare them, and feed them from our windows in the winter season. We thus practically say, "Blessed are they who do loving deeds." I trust you all say these words, but I am very desirous to have you do such deeds. You love Jesus because he did the most loving act that ever has been done on earth, when he died the just for the unjust.

## THE LITTLE BIRD.

A LITTLE bird with feathers brown  
Sat singing on a tree--  
The song was very soft and low,  
But sweet as it could be.

And all the people passing by  
Looked up to see the bird  
That made the sweetest melody  
That ever they had heard.

But all the bright eyes looked in vain,  
For birdie was so small,  
And with a modest, dark brown coat,  
He made no show at all.

"Why, papa," little Gracie said,  
"Where can this birdie be?  
If I could sing a song like that,  
I'd get where folks could see."

"I hope my little girl will learn  
A lesson from that bird,  
And try to do what good she can,  
Not to be seen or heard.

"This birdie is content to sit  
Unnoticed by the way,  
And sweetly sing his Maker's praise  
From dawn to close of day.

"So live, my child, all through your life,  
That be it short or long,  
Though others may forget your looks,  
They'll not forget your song."

## A CHILD'S FAITH.

"WILLIE," said a little orphan boy to his brother, "now we are all alone in the world; father, and mother, and auntie are gone, and there is nobody to take care of us; what shall we do?"

"O, I am not afraid," said Willie; "don't you remember the verse that dear mamma taught us? 'When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up.'"

## IN SUMMER TIME.

FLOWERS and fruits of the summer,  
Can you hear us children shout,  
When, over the fields and hillsides,  
We seek and find you out?

Do you blackberries know how you glisten?  
You raspberries know how you glow?  
Or you gooseberries know how you prickle?  
If not—then you ought to know.

Do you hide from us, ever, on purpose,  
And, deep in the green, keep still?  
Or is it quite social and pleasant  
When basket and pail we fill?

And the bumble-bees—how can you bear  
them?  
Well, sometimes I think it is true  
They have their sharp stings for us people,  
And only their velvet for you.

And how do you berries, I wonder,  
Feel, spread on a beautiful dish,  
All covered with sugar? That strikes me  
As just what a berry would wish.

It's a sort of reward, I am thinking,  
That every good berry should meet;  
And yet, I'm not sure we should like it,  
To be—so delicious to eat!

—St. Nicholas.

## LESSON NOTES.

## THIRD QUARTER.

B.C. 1023.] LESSON VI. [Aug. 10.

## ABSALOM'S REBELLION.

2 Sam. 15. 1-14. Commit to memory verses 4-6.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Honour thy father and thy mother: that  
thy days may be long upon the land which  
the Lord thy God giveth thee. Exod. 20. 12.

## OUTLINE.

1. A False Prince, v. 1-6.
2. A Lying Son, v. 7-9.
3. A Foul Conspiracy, v. 10-14.

## QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What did Absalom prepare for himself?  
Horses and chariots and fifty men.

Why did he do this? To attract the  
attention of the people.

What was a great luxury in those days?  
Horses; only kings possessed them.

Where did Absalom place himself?  
Beside the road to the gate.

Why did he do this? To meet the  
people going to the king.

What did the king hold by the gate early  
in the morning? A sort of court to grant  
judgments.

How did Absalom gain the hearts of the  
people? By flattery and false sympathy.

What did Absalom pretend to David?  
That he wanted to go to Hebron to keep  
his vow.

What was his real object? To call  
the people together and make himself king.

What did David say to him? "Go in  
peace."

How many men did Absalom take with  
him out of Jerusalem? Two hundred.

For whom did Absalom send to help him?  
Ahithophel, David's counsellor.

What did Absalom send throughout the  
tribes of Israel? Spies, to help his cause.

How were the people to know when  
Absalom was proclaimed king? When the  
trumpets sounded.

Who brought the bad news to David?  
A messenger.

What did David do? He fled from  
Jerusalem.

## WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Absalom wanted to be king, so,

He deceived the people.

He rebelled against his father.

He sinned against God.

Do you like your own way?

Would you like to do just as you please?

If you cannot obey your parents, how  
will you obey God?

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord,  
for this is right."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Filial rever-  
ence.

## CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

*Who was Solomon?* David's son, the  
wisest of men, and the king who built the  
temple.

*Who was Elijah?* The prophet who was  
carried to heaven in a chariot of fire.

B.C. 1023.] LESSON VII. [Aug. 17.

## ABSALOM'S DEATH.

2 Sam. 18. 24-33. Commit to memory verses 32, 33.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Whoso curseth father or mother, let him  
die the death. Mark 7. 10.

## OUTLINE.

1. A Father's Anxiety, v. 24-31.

2. A Father's Agony, v. 32, 33.

## QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What took place between the armies of  
Absalom and David? A great battle.

Who were defeated? The Israelites  
under Absalom.

Who was killed? David's son, Absalom.

Where was David watching for news of  
the battle? In the tower-house between  
the two gates.

What did the watchman see in the  
distance? Two men running singly.

Of what was this a sign? That David's  
army had won the victory.

What did Ahimaaz call out to the king  
before reaching him? "All is well."

What did he tell David when he fell on  
his face before him? That God had  
delivered up the men who were against  
their king.

What was David's first question? "Is  
Absalom safe?"

Why did Ahimaaz answer as in verse 29?  
He did not have courage to tell the whole  
truth.

Why did David tell him to turn aside?  
So as to hear the news from the second  
runner.

What was Cush's news? "The Lord  
hath avenged thee this day of all them  
that rose up against thee."

What did the king say unto Cush? "Is  
the young man Absalom safe?"

What was Cush's answer? "The  
enemies of my lord the king be as that  
young man is."

What did this answer tell David? That  
Absalom was dead. [Repeat GOLDEN TEXT.]

What did David do? He went up to  
the chamber over the gate, and went for  
Absalom.

## WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Away from God—

Absalom found sin, trouble, and a shame-  
ful death.

With God—

You will find peace, happiness, and a  
heavenly home.

"The wicked is driven away in his  
wickedness, but the righteous hath hope in  
his death.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Parental res-  
ponsibility.

## CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

*Who was Daniel?* The prophet who,  
because he would not give up praying to  
God; was cast into a den of lions; and who  
was preserved unhurt.

*Who were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-  
nego?* Three young Israelites who, because  
they would not worship an image, were  
cast into a fiery furnace, but yet were not  
burned.

## THE VERDICT OF A LITTLE LADY.

LITTLE Lillie D., just four years old, was  
looking out of the front window the other  
day, and hearing some of the company  
around her remark on the handsome ap-  
pearance of some passing person, gave her  
opinion on this wise: "I sinks any gemman  
wid a cigar in his mouth always looks ugly!"