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# THE SUNBEAM

Vol. I.

FEBRUARY 21 1880.

No. 4.



SADIE AND HER BIRD. (See next page.)

## The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY 21, 1880.

### SADIE AND HER BIRD.

**H**OW pretty it looks to see little birdie taking the crumbs of sugar from between his young mistress's lips. He must be pretty tame to do that. But love begets love and trust. Birdie knows that Sadie would not hurt him for the world; that she lovingly cares for him and gives him food. So he loves her in return, and sings her his sweetest song, and plays for her his merriest pranks, and is as happy as the day is long. And, little as he is, his gladsome song and mirthful tricks help to make everybody in the house happy too. I hope, dear children, that you are fond of pets, and are good to them. They are your little fellow-creatures, created and cared for by the same good and loving God who made and cares for you. "Your heavenly Father," said Jesus, "feedeth them." I want you to learn these pretty lines—

"He prayeth best, who loveth best  
All things both great and small;  
For the dear God who loveth us,  
He made and loveth all.

### OUR COMFORTER.

"The Comforter is come." (John 15. 26.)

**L**ITTLE children often want comforting. Something troubles you, and the grown-up people do not know or do not think it much to be troubled about; and so nobody comforts you, and you feel very sad. Sometimes they try, and it does not seem to comfort you; and sometimes you have even "refused to be comforted."

What a beautiful name this is for the Holy Spirit, "the Comforter"—so gentle, so kind, so loving. When He comes, He is true to His name, and brings sweet comfort even for the little troubles of His little ones.

Is He come to you? Your heavenly Father has promised to give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him. So, if you ask He is sure to give. Then ask that the Holy Spirit may come into your heart, and dwell there always.

Is He come to you? Are you not quite sure whether He has come yet or not? The rest of this verse tells you how you may know. Jesus said, "When the Comforter is come, He shall testify of me." That means, He will tell you about Jesus. He will put thoughts of Jesus into your mind and love to Jesus into your heart; and He will make you see and understand more about Jesus than you did before. If you are thinking about Him, and trying to please Him, I think the Comforter is come, and is beginning to testify of Jesus in you. Is He come to you? Then you will never be without a comforter, whatever troubles come. If they are little vexations or disappointments, He can make you see the bright side, and be patient and trustful and happy; if they are great troubles, perhaps illness or the loss of some dear one, still He can so comfort you that you will wonder and find out for the first time what a very precious gift He is, and what sweet peace can hush your sorrow "when the Comforter is come."

"Our blest Redeemer, ere He breathed  
His tender, last farewell,  
A Guide, a Comforter bequeathed  
With us to dwell.

"And His that gentle voice we hear,  
Soft as the breath of even,  
That checks each fault, that calms each fear,  
And speaks of heaven."

THEY that believe have Christ in their heart, heaven in their eye, and the world under their feet. God's word is their teacher, His Spirit their guide, His fear their guard, His providence their inheritance, His people their friends, His promises their cordials, holiness their way, and heaven their home.



### TOTTY ON THE SWING.

**C**OME for a holiday! Gladly we  
sing,

Come to the garden, now jump on  
the swing.

There, Totty, not too high, up, up you go;  
Is it not pleasant to swing to and fro?

When you are used to it, and don't feel  
afraid,

Then I will send you right up overhead.  
While I'm away at school, often I say,  
"How I would like to swing Totty to-day."

### DRINK NOT A DROP.

**I**F I would not be a drunkard  
I must not drink a drop  
Of wine that looks so tempting

Within the ruby cup;  
For such a small beginning,  
Though innocent it seem,  
May lead me on to sinning  
More fearful than I dream.

If I would not be a drunkard,  
I stoutly must refuse  
All the sorts of beer and cider  
Which other people use.  
They may not steal my reason,  
But they will give the taste,  
And lead me on when older  
To desire for the rest.

### "DOES JESUS CHRIST LIVE HERE?"

**A** FEW years' ago, as a lady was  
sitting on the verandah of her  
Burmese house, a jungle-boy  
came bounding through the opening in  
the hedge which served as a gate-way,  
and, approaching her, inquired with  
eagerness, "Does Jesus Christ live  
here?" He was about twelve years  
of age, his hair matted with filth and  
bristling in every direction like the  
quills of a porcupine, and a dirty cloth

of plaid cotton disposed in a most slovenly  
manner about his person. "Does Jesus  
Christ live here?" he asked, as he hastened  
up the steps of the verandah and crouched  
at the lady's feet.

"What do you want of Jesus Christ?"  
she asked.

"I want to see Him and confess to Him."

"Why, what have you been doing that  
you want to confess?"

"Does He live here?" he continued, with  
great emphasis. "I want to know that.  
Doing? Why, I tell lies, I steal, I do  
everything bad. I am afraid of going to  
hell; and I want to see Jesus Christ, for I  
heard that He can save us from hell. Does  
He live here? Oh, tell me where I can  
find Jesus Christ!"

"But He does not save people from hell  
if they continue to do wickedly."

"I want to stop doing wickedly," said  
the inquirer, "but I can't; I don't know  
how to stop. The evil thoughts are in me,  
and the bad deeds come of evil thoughts.  
What can I do?"

"Nothing but to come to Christ, poor boy, like all the rest of us," the lady softly murmured; but she spoke this last in English, so the boy only raised his head with a vacant "B-ha-lai?"

"You cannot see Jesus Christ now," she added, and was answered by a sharp, quick cry of despair. "But I am his humble friend and follower," said the lady, at which the face of the little listener brightened. She continued: "He has commissioned me to teach all those who wish to escape from hell how to do so."

The joyful eagerness depicted in the boy's countenance was beyond description. "Tell me! oh, tell me! Only ask your master the Lord Jesus Christ to save me, and I will be your servant for life. Do not be angry; do not send me away. I want to be saved—save me from hell."

The next day this boy was introduced to the little bamboo school-house, in the character of the wild Karen boy; and such a greedy seeker after truth and holiness has seldom been seen. Every day he came to the white teachers to learn something more concerning the Lord Jesus and the way of salvation; and every day his feelings enlarged, and his face gradually lost its look of indescribable stupidity. He was at length baptized, and commemorated the love of that Saviour he had so earnestly sought. He lived a while to testify his sincerity, and died in joyful hope. He had "confessed," and had found a deliverer from those sins from which he could not free himself. The lady died also; and she and the wild Karen boy have met in the presence of their common Redeemer.

If Christ humbled Himself to honour our nature, we should humble ourselves to honour His name.

SICKNESS should teach us what a vain thing the world is,—what a vile thing sin is,—what a poor thing man is,—and what a precious thing an interest in Christ is.

LESSON NOTES.

A. D. 27.] LESSON VI. [Feb. 8.  
THE TRULY RIGHTEOUS; or, The Christian Standard.  
Matt. 5. 17-26. Commit to memory verses 17-29.

THE LESSON STORY.

Jesus, while sitting on the mount in and talking to his disciples, spoke to them about the Old Testament books of the Bible. He told the people that he had come to teach them not to neglect the Old Testament, but rather to fulfill its commands better than ever; that while the Old Testament forbade wicked acts, he forbade wicked thoughts; and while it called for holy lives, he called for holy hearts. He told them that not only the one who killed or injured a brother-man should be punished, but all who are angry with others without cause, and all who call each other hard names. He told them that those who came to make an offering to God should have kindness to others, and be reconciled to their enemies before coming to the Lord; and that only those who can forgive and love each other may expect to receive mercy.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts. Psa. 51. 6.

TINY TEXT.

Buy the truth, and sell it not. Prov. 23. 23.

A. D. 27.] LESSON VII. [Feb. 15.  
THE TONGUE AND THE TEMPER; or, Christian Conversation.  
Matt. 5. 33-48. Commit to memory verses 34-37.

THE LESSON STORY.

In his sermon Jesus spoke to his followers about swearing. He said, "Swear not at all;" not by anything in earth or heaven, because all things belong to God. He told them that a simple "yes" or "no" is all that is needed, and more than this comes of evil. Then the Saviour showed how we should treat those who are unkind to us; not trying to do them harm, but rather to do them good. He told his disciples that if a man should take away from one of them his cloak or outer garment, not to resist him, but to let him have also the other clothing. He said, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you," and pray for those who do you wrong. Just as God gives his sunshine and his rain to evil and good alike, so we should be kind to all, and try to be perfect, like our heavenly Father.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. Matt. 5. 48.

TINY TEXT.

Keep thy tongue from evil. Psalm 34. 13.

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