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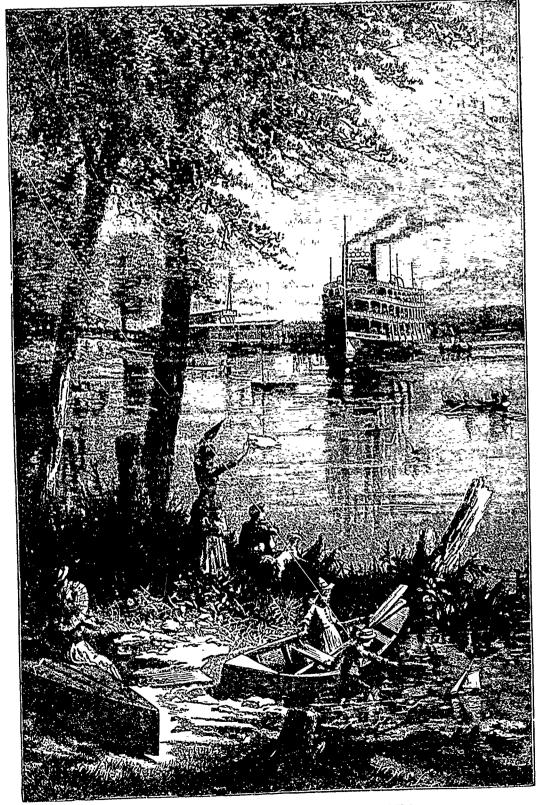
Vol. III.]

TORONTO, DECEMBER 5, 1885.

[No. 25.

Chautauqua. THE beautiful picture on this page gives a view of the busy scene at the steam-boat landing at Chautauqua, the seat of the famous Sunday-school Assembly. The steamer is one of the yery few four-decked passenger boats in the world. It can carry two thousand bassengers. How well everything is shown, even to the light and shadow on the standing figure in the fore-ground, and on the Japan-ese parasol of the lady sitting on the boat. This sitting on the boat. is a specimen of some eight or ten pictures of Chautau-qua which will appear in an early number of the Canadian Methodist Magazine, in the handsomest illustrated article which has ever appeared on this subject in any magazine in any country. We are indebted to Dr. Vincent and to John N. Abbott, Esq., of the Eric Railway, for the use of these elegant cuts. From all points east and west this great summer assembly can be easily reached by the Eric and its connections. Our friend Lewis C Peake, Secretary of the Canadian Branch of the C. L. S. C., has written the following aketch of the scope of this

great assembly:
"The Sunday-school is the centre around which Chautauqua revolves, and toward which everything connected with it converges. The Alumni of the Normal department now number upwards of two thousand; the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle numbers nearly a hundred thousand members, of whom over five thousand have given evidence of having completed the four years' course of study, and are enrolled as members of the 'Society of the Hall in the Grove.' Where is there place upon this where for three another planet, where for three weeks together, audiences of from three to six thousand can be brought out three times a day to listen



FAURPOINT LANDING, CHAUTAUQUA. (On the Vine of the Eric Railway.)

to lectures of the very highest order? and low is it that it can be seen here? It must be that the thousands who throng the avenues of this city in the woods are drawn here by something stronger than the desire for rest or amusement. One common bond unites them, they are mostly Christians and Sundayschool teachers; one common motive animates them, a desire to do more and better work for the Master; they realize that to be a successful Sunday - school teacher it is not necessary to be ignerant or unlearned; they believe that a little knowledge of history, art, science, with a great deal of Bible knowledge, does not lessen their zeal for souls, but on the contrary gives them an immense advantage in their personal hand to hand contact with the members of their classes. The development of this spirit is the 'What' of Chautaugua.

"When Levris Miller and Dr. Vincent laid the toundation of the Chautauqua Sunday-school As-sembly in 1874, they built better than they knew. But with such a wise counsellor and generous patron as the former, and such a consummate architect and builder as the latter, both thoroughly consecrated to God in heart, head, and pocket, nothing is too wonderful to expect in the future. Take the outlook from the present standpoint:

"What of the two thousand Alumni of the Normal department? Does it not mean that two thousand teachers have been sent to their classes better qualified than before for their work? Nor is this all. Think of the vast army of teachers who have been benefitted through the same course of instruction at home, by those who were thus sent back as missionaries; and this process is going on, and will, repeat itself ad infinitum.

the prospect, one hundred thousand persons reciding in carefully prepared lines, on stablects which cannot fail to develop their better faculties. What does it me in for the future? I cannot tell! it is beyond my comprehension. I look upo n the C. L. S C as one of the most fix v-reaching, in its possibilities, of any ins trumentality which has yet been devis d for the intellectual elevation of our race. That the interest in the course is not a transient one is evident from the fact that nearly, if not quite, all of the graduates of the present year have expressed their intention to continue the work in the special con rses provided. This is a result which Dr. Vincent has confidently expected from the outset; it is a life-lon g course of study.

"And so I say, Chautauqua for ever!

and may Clod bless and preserve Dr. J. H. Vincent, the beloved king of Chautauqua."

Maaman the Leper.

BY ROBERT AWDE, ESQ.

[We have pleasure in presenting this admirable poem, which so well illustrates a recent Sunday-school lesson.—Ed.]

Come with nie, reader, over sea and land, Lend car and heart, and all you can com-mand,

And we, perchance, may then with keener

Resume the studies that we love the best.

A Syrian horne, palatial in extent, With ample grounds—where art and culture

A thousand charms of form, of taste and hue A thousand charms of form, of taste and hue,
To make both it and landscape fair to view.
Long galleries limned with scenes of battle
fame,
Where Syrina arms have stamped the vic-

tor's name;
Here trophits hang—spoils of successful war
In Palestine and in Egypt far.
Here costly 17ems and ornaments of gold,
A precious store, too numerous to be told;
While skins, rugs, carpets, spread the

ample space
Where female charas lend their peculiar

grace.
The grounds were kept with more than usual care;

Adorned with trees and flowers surpassing fair: Some, with their fruitage, pleased the pam-

pered teste;
Some rich in foliage, others stately graced
The far extending walks, or stood alone
To charm the eye with beauty all their own.
Here fountains sparkle, rainbow-hued they play; There murmuring streams o'er cascades leap

in spray, To lose themselves in windings through the

dell,
The cool retreats where dryads love to

dwell.

dwell.

Here nymph-like forms, embowered in sylvan shade,

Invite the wanderer to a peaceful glade

Where, undisturbed in meditation sweet,

The midday hours may pass unknown to heat.

Here comes the owner. See his favourite

bower, His loved retreat near by the watchman's tower.

From which the view, extending far and wide,
Commands the plain for miles on either side;

While near at hand, in bright, translucent sheen, Rolls on the Pharpar, set in fadeless green,

Here voicing anthems o'er its rocky bed, There in the plain a belt of silver spread-Behold the man we've come so far to Naaman, lord. A warrior brave is he.
A general bold. A man of high renown.
A royal favourite. King without a crown.
A mighty man in battle. See his shield,
Dinted and hacked on many a hard-fought field

Where Israel's formen met him in the fight, And Israel's king had learned to fear his

might.
For had he not victorious borne away had A host of captives taken in the fray.

train-And Israel wept, her captives worse than

slain These were at rest; those, victims of a fate All might conjecture, none might mitigate.

Yet special grace was not unfrequent shown. And some were treated even as their own. Hence do we find to Daniel and his friends, captive held, the Court made such amenda

As royal favour linked to merit won Tho' jealous princes grieved the justice de So in Naaman's household we shall find

A Jovish malden serving the refined And noble Thesma—proud Naaman's wife— Whose favour won is worth far more than

She reigns an Empress in her own domain, Her word appoints and rules the courtly

Of meck attendants waiting her command; While one alone is privileged to stand Near by her mistress. She is small and

young, And she alone can speak the Hebrew tongue Which Thesma likes, and oft it suits her best

best
To speak a language foreign to the rest.
Besides the child is of such grace and mind,
Of knowledge rare, of manners so refined,
Her mistress loves her, and 'tis plain to see
Restraint has fled, the maid, the' slave, is free.

Her young heart bounds responsive to the

touch
Of kindly feeling, loves her mistress much; And in her converse freely speaks and tells Of all the thoughts that in her bosom dwells.

This wondrous freedom, born of innecence And guileless love that knows of no pretence, Made childless Thesma more acutely feel The hidden grief which time could never

heal.
One day, when sitting at fair Thesma's feet,
Telling of childhood's days and memories

sweet—
Of that dear land the Hebrew loves so well, She spake of plagues and judgments that befell

Their kings and people when their God they grieved

By breaking laws which they from heavon received.

She told of prophets-men who feared not

kings—
Who, quite indifferent to all earthly things,
erved God alone, who made the earth, sea,

The sun and moon, and all the stars on high.

"These men have power with God," the

maiden said;
With His permission they can raise the heah

She told of him who prayed unto the Lord, And at his cry the dead son was restored; How that Elijah prayed it might not rain For three years and six months; and then

again w at Mount Carmel, on that wondrous

day
When Israel's God heard this same prophet pray, First that the fire from heaven might come

and burn The sacrifice; and that the Lord would turn His people's heart from idols. How God

And answered him. Then when he prayed

again
And asked the Lord, He sent abundant rain And asked the Lord, He sent abundant rain. And as the little maid rehearsed the tale, More than romantic, Thesma listened, pale And all absorbed, drinking her every word. The maiden, sighing, said, "O that my lord Were with Elisha, prophet, could it be He would restore him of his leprosy."

This word of faith fell on the listening ears Of Thesma, and her eyes were filled with

The God, who at the brook Elijah fed;
Who raised the widow's son; who sent the

fire; cure Naaman if he so desire. O that my lord would seek the prophet's face !

The God of Israel is the God of grace."
A great hope entered Thesma's heart. She spake

Spake
Unto a courtier, asking him to break
In gentle words the matter to the King
Benhadad. Who said, "Go to, go and bring
Naaman, for him surely will I send
Bearing a letter to the king, my friend;
And with a goodly present in his hand
Bespeak the boon I cannot well command."

· _ |-

"Then t ske the C. L. S. C. phase of | Both male and female swelled the victor's | So journeyed Naaman, with courtly train, oyal chariot, and a guard of mer armour-clad, mounted on sprightly ΛII steeds.

And full provisioned for prospective needs. They reach Samaria, the royal home Of Joram, and announce that they have

From King Benhadad on important quest, Bearing a letter with his scal impressed.

King Joram reads: "Behold, I sent to thee Nasman, to be healed of lept say."
With consternation in his kingly face Jehoram said, "I am in wrotched case, See how this King Benhadad seeks to make A quarrel with me. Wherefore should be

This strange device? My fears again revive. Am I a God, to kill and make alive, That he should send his servant unto me That I may heal him of his leprosy?"

Alas he cried, and rent his clothes in grief,
And Naaman turned and went without relief

Elisha heard what Israel's king had done And sent a message, "Send this seeking of To me, and he shall know there is a God In Israel," Then, leaning on his roc "Send this seeking one In Israel," Then, leaning on his roc Or staff, Elisha prayed, "O Lord God, hear And answer give while yet he draweth near."

So when Naaman came along that way Elisha sent his servant out to say,
"Go wash in Jordan seven times, and then
Thy flesh, e'en as a child's, shall come
again."
Which, when Naaman heard, he fumed in

"I surely thought he'd come forth and

assuage
By word or contact this my foul complaint; But he insults me. And as if constraint Of pride or leathing kept him from my side, Sends me a message, 'Wash in Jordan's Sends me a message,

Must I, in presence of his countrymen, Thus stoop to him to wash, and wash again Even seven times, as the I were impure? I would prefer some less degrading cure. Arbana, Pharpar, our Damascus streams, Are better far than Jordan, the it gleams Through yonder trees with beams of heavenly light.

Turn, horsemen, turn! Lead on! I hate the sight." His servants loved him, and in tears drew

One spake, "My father, would'st thou not

comply
If he some hard thing had required of thee?
Much more, then, this. We near the river,

Behold a pathway leading down, I pray Thee be entreated, turn not thou away."

Naaman's pride was humbled, for he saw That true obedience is the test of law;
And so he gat him down in humble mien
And dipped, and dipped seven times, and
he was clean!

With strange delight he looked upon his

Pure. pinky, soft, a new life coursed within Itis quickened heart the rosy colour throw Into his face; he felt that all was new. Quick he returned with grateful heart to

The man of God; and was surprised when

Refused to take a gift, but gladly heard Him give the glory to Jehovah, Lord Of heaven and earth, whose power all worlds control.

Who answered prayer, and made the leper whole.

Indulgent reader, in this picture see The legrous spot a type of sin in thee;
Thou caust not cure, nor yet thy doom clude.
Then listen to the sweet beatitude:
"Blest is the man of lowly, contrite heart." Christ never says to such an one depart. If thou but ask humbly of Him for aid, Thou out ask numbly of than for aid,
Tho' He come not, nor on thy heart be laid
His hand, yet if in faith thou but obey
His mild command, thy sins shall pass away,
And, like Naaman, thou shalt quickly feel
With mantaneas in He does foreign and And, like Maaman, thou shall quickly loc. With rapturous joy, He does forgive and

real.

Faith and obedience must precede the cure;
But, blessed truth, He makes the tainted

es joy and peace, such as naught else affords— Ours is the bliss; the glory is the Lord's.

TORONTO, Sept. 30, 1885.

Sun-Storms.

ALL things in the universe are conparative. Could one fancy the microscopic boings which inhabit a drop of turbid water endowed with intelligence, they might be supposed to study what they can discover of the great world with much the same sort of wonder that mon have in reaching after the truths of astronomy. To their brief existence the usual term of human life would be countless ages. Not to continue a very fruitful speculation, it may be said that wonderful as is the following account of the prodigious activity of the great forces at work in the sun, these storms are not more furious in comparison with our own than are ours in comparison with those which the animal-ule experiences in his world.

How can we, who are bewilderand appalled by the fury of ar planet's cyclones and volcanic erup-tions, form a conception of the terrible energy of natural operations on the sun ?

Professor Nowcomb suggests that if we call the solar chromosphere an ocean of fire, we must remember that it is an ocean hotter than the fiercest furnace, and as deep as the Atlantic is broad.

If we call its movements hurricanes, we must remember that our hurricanes blow only about a hundred miles an hour, while those of the chromosphere blow as far in a single second.

There are such hurricanes as, coming down upon us from the north, would, in thirty seconds after they had crossed the St. Lawrence, be in the Gulf of Mexico, carrying with them the whole surface of the continent in a mass, not simply as ruin but of glowing vapour, in which the vapours arising from the dissolution of the materials composing the cities of Boston, New York, and Chicago, would be mixed in a single indistu guishable cloud.

When we speak of eruptions, we call to mind Vesuvius burning the surrounding cities in lava. But the solar eruptions, thrown fifty thousand miles high, would engulf the whole earth and dissolve every organized being on its surface in a moment.-Youth's Companion.

The Mistress of the White House to Girls.

THE following is an extract from an article by Miss Elizabeth Cleveland: "I wish some strong, bright angel stood before you just now, whi's you read, girls, to flash before you, as no words of mine can, the power you possess to help or to hinder the cause of temperance; to make you feel your responsibility, because you are girls in this matter; to shudder at its weight, and to never cease trying to fulfil it. Doubtless you have heard a great deal about the value of your smiles; but do you know the value of your frowns? What a man must do by a blow a woman can do by a frown. When the time comes that the young man who now shares his time in your society and the saloons; who jokes about temperanco in your presence, and takes a glass, socially, now and then, is made to feel that these things cannot be if you are to be his companion at party, ride, or church; that good society cannot tolerate these things in its membors; in short, that this kind of man is unfashionable and unnopular, then alcohol will tremble on its throne, and the liquor-traffic will hide its cancerous -Portland Herald.

Two Boys.

BY JOSEPHINE POLLARD.

La chay came into the world one day; In they came into the world one day;

And each gave joy to a mother's heart.

The one was sad, the other gay,

And both were fitted to play their part,
the was sober, quiet, and sad;

Ent quick and bright was the other lad.

One went out with his flag unfurled

I meet the breeze; and was swiftly borne
To the Friendly Isles, and there goily whirled
Over the breakers from night till morn;
Young and careless and full of joy,
All hearts made room for the lovely boy.

His bandsome face and his merry glance,
His ready wit and good-natured wiles,
Made even the distant ones advance
To bask in the light of his sunny smiles,
Ah, he was flattered and much caressed,
And many a glass to his lips was pressed.

Many a class of a poisoned sweet,

Fing uought, did he drain, in truth,
that in slippery places drew the feet

Of the friendly and unsuspecting youth; And down and down he began to go; Caught in the treacherous undertow.

The other boy, of a quiet turn,
Of awkward manners and selemn looks
And surly speech, cared little to learn
The lessons of life not found in books;
Gross, ill-natured, severe and grim,
Little of joy could be had with him.

His friends were few; but 'twas all the same,
What did he care for a smile or a frown?
Hed his way to make—a decided aim;
And no one living could put him down;
Lord of himself, stubborn and proud,
He kept his place 'mid the jostling crowd.

No heed to those who would lead astray, No heed to the siren spell he gave; But went right on in an earnest way Till he rode at ease on the topmost

And those who thought him a churl began To respect and honour the self-made man.

Tis thus that the children play their part And the boys we love for their liveliness Who hold our hearts from the very start, Seldom if over attain success, Easily tempted they are, and so Caught in life's treacherous undertow.

-Independent.

Whatsoever Things are Pure. BY REV. JAMES HASTIE, CORNWALL

"Whatsoever things are pure think on these things."—Phil. iv. S.

THE Band of Hope recently formed in town has a pledge which binds its members to keep free from three things -from intoxicants, from tobacco, and from profanity.

At the first meeting hold a few weeks ago, several of the boys present hesitated to join, and some refused point-blank. And when asked why, they said because tobacco was for bidden. And when asked if any of them used it some said they did, and among them were boys as young as ten and twelve. And when asked if they would give it up at once, some shook their heads and said they would not promise.

The meeting brought out the startling fact that attending day school and Sabbath school are a good many little fellows who now use tobacco and love

it too well to give it up. Now, I have chosen this beautiful text this morning because if you obey it fully not a quid or a cigar shall

enter your mouth. "Whatsoever things are pure, think on these things."

1. The first point I make is this: Tobacco used in any form, in snufling, chewing, or smoking is not a pure

I know that some very good men use tobacco, some of the best and greatest in the world do; some teachers and professors and Sabbath-school superintondents, some judges and members of Parliament and kings, some elders and | too much good sense to begin then.

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deacons, and even ministers of the Gospel do, but they would be far better -ithout it. Many of them wish they had never begun, and almost all would give the advice: "Boys, do not do as I do in this matter."

No, tobacco is not one of the pure things for us to use

Tobacco-breath, is that a pure and sweet smell? Tobacco-juice, as it trickles down the mouth and stains lips and

teeth, is that a pure and lovely colour As it is cast upon floor or carpet or handkerchief, is it a sight for angels to delight in, for Christ to admire?

King James 1, of England thought not. At the beginning of the seven-teenth century it was all the ashion to smoke. The king asked the clergy to preach against it, but no one would venture to speak out against the prevailing custom. So royalty took up the pen himself and wrote a book which he called "A Counterblast to Tobacco." And how strongly he feit you can judge from this sentence:

"It is a custom loathsome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain, dangerous to the lungs, and in the black tumes thereof nearest resembling the horrible Stygian smoke of

the pit that is bottomless."

Pretty strong language is it not? Some may think it too strong, but one thing is certain, if no one would taste tobacco but those who like it naturally, low, very few, would ever use it, for most people only like it after they have sickened themselves into it. And it no one would smake or chow but those who need it as a medicine (which some do) not one pound would be used for a hundred that now are.

But more important than King James' opinion or that of any other mere man is the mind and will of King Jesus. Now, what would He have you do with tobacco? Were He now on earth growing up a lad, say here in our town, would He use tobacco, think you? Would it be like Christ, the holy, perfect Jesus so to do?

To find out you open your B.blo and read His life in the Gospels from first to last, but not a word about tobacco; nor can you find the word

anywhere in His Book.

What, then, is your conclusion?

Are you in doubt on what side to count Christ? If you are, you have simply to ask whether tobacco injures boys in their health, in their intellect. in their religious tendency? Whether it creates a taste for strong drink? Whether it does in any way whatever mar your body, which God has made and given you as the sacred home of your soul?

2. Now, this suggests the second point I make viz.:—That tobacco is very hurtful to the body of young

people and also to their intellect.
You know that what would scarcely affect the health of an adult may ruin the health of a child. Work, for example, which a man would enjoy and which would do him good, would

break down a boy of eight or ten.

A quantity, which would scarcely affect a man of twenty-one, would play havoc with a soft boy of ten or twelve. It will check his growth and change his complexion and tend to liver complaint and heart disease, and create a craving for strong drink.

If one is determined to use tobacco let him not begin before he is of ago

Then the effect on the intellect is alarming in the case of young lads.

It weakens mind and memory, blunts perception, and impairs all the mental faculties.

This has been thoroughly tested by careful examination, and there is no doubt about it.

In a celebrated college in Paris, France, the students, when they entored, and all through their course, were divided into two classes, smokers and non-smokers, and a correct record of all their examinations kept, and it was found that those who did not use tobacco took the lead all through, while they came out with a far higher average of health. The same thing has been tested in Germany and with the same result.

If parents, then, want their children to do their very best at school, let them keep them from tobacco. teachers want their pupils to excel let them war against tobacco.

3. The third point I make is this:-Tobacco is enormously costly, and should be on that account shunned,

In Christian lands to-day ten times as much is spent in tobacco as is given for all missionary purposes and for all Bible Societies put together, and what good comes out of it?

I saw a young man with a cigar and asked him if he smoked much, and he said: "Not now, that he had cut down one-half." "And how much do you use now?" I asked. "Only three cigars a day. I keep to that how.
"What did you average before you cut down?" Well, about six a day."
"And what do they cost you, about cigars a day. I keep to that now.' five cents a piece, I suppose?" the cheapest five cents, better ones ten cents." "Well, say the cheapest, five cents a piece, that is fifteen cents a day now," I said. "Yes." "But you sometimes go beyond that, don't you?" I asked. "Oh, yes, when in company." And you give some away, don't you?'
"Yes, of course," he said. "Now,
what would that amount to? Fifteen cents a day at the very lowest price, and if you never gave one away that is about \$55 a year. But you do use some ten cent cigars you say, and you do go beyond three a day sometimes, and you treat a friend to one occasionally, so you probably run up to \$75 or \$80 a year?" "Well, I guess I do."

Now, just think of it, a young man on a small income spends from \$50 to \$80 a year on tobacco. But ask him to give the half of it for his pew in church or to the missions and he would be shocked. "Can't afford it, nor the halt of it." But he is actually spending that large amount for a thing which neither does himself nor anyone else a particle of good.

Here's my proposal, viz., that every lad and young man in this congregation, who uses tobacco, shall give it up this week, and hand over the amount he has thus been spending to pay for our new church, and I tell you you'll never have reason to regret the change.

Your intellect belongs to God, to-bacco hurts your intellect, therefore

God would have you give it up.
Your body belongs to God, and tobacco is injurious to your bedy, therefore God would have you give it

up.
God would have you all be like
Christ Himself in heart and life. to marry, and by that time few will Christ would not use tobacco, surely, begin at all, as ero that they will have were He now on earth, therefore God would have you give it up.

or of the Sunday School The Times s. n a late issue, in answer to a certain question: "Tobacco is one-fourth poison and three-fourths filth," and does not the text say: "Whatsoever things are pure, think on these things?" And therefore God would have you keep clear of tobacco.

Three Words of Strength.

There are three lessons I would write— Three words as with a burning pen, In tracings of eternal light Upon the hearts of men.

Have Hope. Though clouds environ round,
And gladness hides her face in scorn.
Put off the shadow from thy brow—
No night but hath its morn.

Have Faith. Where'er thy bark is driven— The calm's disport, the tempest's mirth— Know this: God rules the hosts of heaven, The inhabitants of earth.

Have Love. Not love alone for one But man, as man thy brother call; And scatter, like the circling sun, Thy charities on all.

Thus grave these lessons on thy soul—
Hope, Faith, and Love—and thou shalt
find

Strength when life's surges rudest roll, Light when thou else wert blind.

-Schiller.

Self-Sacrifice.

THE tower door of St. Leonard's Church, Budgenorth, England, was left open, and two young boys, wandering in, were tempted to mount up into the upper part and scramble from beam to beam.

All at once a joist gave way. beam on which they were standing became displaced. The elder had just time to grasp it when falling, while the younger, slipping over his body, caught

hold of his comrade's legs.
In this fearful position the poor lads hung, crying vainly for help, for no

one was near.

At length the boy clinging to the beam became exhausted. He could no longer support the double weight. He called out to the lad below that they were both done for.

"Could you save yourself if I were to loose you?" replied the little lad. "I think I could," returned the

"Then, good-bye, and God bless you!" cried the little fellow, loosing his hold.

Another second, and he was dashed to pieces on the stone floor below, his companion clambering to a place of

This is a true story. The record of it is preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. Some tales of heroism excite one to pour forth one's admiration, one's approvation, in many words; but this one strikes us dumb. This little fellow unwittingly had followed so closely in the steps of his most beloved Master.

Listen to the words of our Lord, spoken while the disciple whom He loved was leaning on His breast: love one another as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Surely, this little boy, in this one brief, awful act of self-sacrifice, had found his way to keep his Lord's commandment.—Ex.

"WHAT is philosophy?" It is something which enables a rich man to say there is no disgrace in being poor.

God Save Our Land.

BY MRS. A. F. LAW.

God save our glorious land— Stretching from strand to strand ! God save our land! Long may her banner wave O'er freemen true and brave! And shade each patriot's grave!
God save our land!

God make our Union strong-Untouched by hate and wrong!
God make it strong!
From foes our land release!
Grant us Thy perfect peace!
Thy blessings still increase!
God save our land!

God make our Nation pure!
Through time may she endure!
God make her pure!
Tried by refiners fire—
Blood bought by son and sire—
Let not her fame expire!
God save our land!

God bless our noble land!
With unction from Thy hand,
God bless our land!
Make her in might to grow!
On her rich gifts bestow!
Guard her from every woe!
God bless our land! God bless our land!

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Rev. W. H. WITHROW. D.D. Editor.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 5, 1885.

The Indian Question.

THE articles in the Methodist Magazine on this important subject by the Rev. E. R. Young and the Rev. John McLean, both of whom, as mission-aries of the North-west, became personally cognizant of the needs of the Indians, have attracted much attention. Brother Young's article was read in the Dominion Senate and became the subject of much conversation, both inside and outside of the House. It was copied by a leading London (Eng.) paper, as admirably setting forth the condition and needs of the Indians. Brother McLean's article has been still more generally quoted and commented upon by the Canadian press. We shall be glad to hear further from these brethren. What the country wants is not the one-sided statements of political partizans, but an honest and unbiassed setting forth of facts as they are. The Indians have undoubtedly suffered many wrongs from unprincipled white men The white man's vices have entailed much misery upon their red-skinned victims. As a result of the military movements in the suppression

of the late rebellion many of the Indian tribes are in a state of abject poverty, if not of starvation. The Government should generously supply their wants and thus turn them from enemies into friends. It will be cheaper to feed them than to fight them. A starving Indian is a desperate Indian. He cannot be much worse off than he is, no matter what offence he commits; and the cravings of a hungry man are a strong temptation to raid a farmyard, pillage a store, or stampede a herd of cattle.

Sweeter Far in Heaven.

Ir was evening. We were seated alone at the piano, breathing a song of beauty and joy; and as our fingers glided gently up the silver-keyed octaves, and the music- "soul of beauty," gushed forth responsive to our touch, it seemed that nowhere in this glad earth could there be a heart beating heavily—so light was our own. The sound had died away in the distance, and turning from the instrument, our eyes rested upon the silvered locks and bending form of one whose countenance bespoke a pure and noble heart. We had never before met, but he whispered softly, while a smile of beauty wreathed his colourless lips: "Young maidens, 'twill be sweeter far in Heaven."

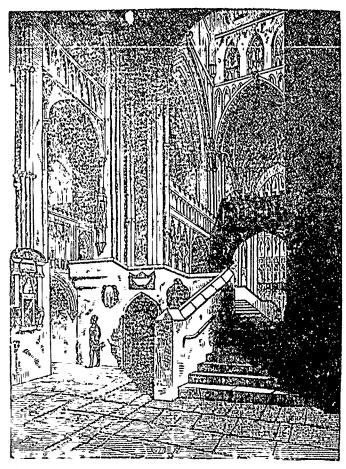
Oh, how these few simple words changed the current of our thoughts; and when, in words of most winning eloquence, he spoke of the comforts of our holy religion, and urged us to consecrate our talents, our all, to the service of our Maker, we thought no sacrifice too great, if, like him, we, too, might see unfolding before our spirits' vision the glories of the Celestial City.

Weeks fled, and that old man, wearied of earth, folded his arms and went to sleep. They laid him to rest away in the church-yard, but we know that there was but the casket; that the spirit, no longer fettered, was basking in the sunlight of the Saviour's smile; and that his voice, no longer tremulous, mingled in the anthems of the "just made perfect." And when, at twilight hour, we breathe a song of "olden times," beautiful indeed, through the vista of the past, comes the remembrance of those joy-inspiring words-"Twill be sweeter far in Heaven!"

The Golden Rule and Bible Reflector. This is the title of a new, semi-monthly, 8-page paper, published in the interests of temperance, systematic beneficence, sound doctrine, and consistent practice in religion; and in opposition to pious frauds, shams and impostures of every kind. \$1.00 per annum. Rev. T. L. Wilkinson, Editor, Parkdale, Ont.

For \$1.00 the paper will be sent for six months, together with the thrilling narrative of the capture of Mrs. Gowanlock and Mrs. Delaney in the camp of Big Bear in the North-west; or the book alone will be sent for 75

We cordially commend this paper to our readers. It contains much interesting and instructive family reading. We are sorry to learn that the worthy editor and his household have been the subjects of severe affliction. Both he and his wife have been very seriously ill, and six of their children were all prostrate with that fatal disease, diphtheria, at once, and three of them died. Our brother and his family have indeed



Scene of Thomas a'Becket's Murder, Canterbury Cathedral.

been in the crucible. We pray that the consolations of God may abound more and more to them according to their need.

Thomas a'Becket.

THE venerable Cathedral of Canterbury is the oldest ir England, and the celebrated Thomas a'Becket was the first native Englishman who was appointed archbishop and primate of all England, 1162—over 700 years ago. He had previously been Lord Chancellor of England, but he incurred the displeasure of King Henry II. on being made primate, by his devotion to the Church and championship of the rights of the people against the crown and For this he was bitterly nobility. persecuted and for a time driven into banishment. The people of England gave him an enthusiastic welcome on his return, which so provoked the jealousy of the king that he taunted certain of his nobles for not revenging him on the over-bearing prelate. Four barons therefore on December 29th, 1170, attacked the archbishop while celebrating evening service in the Cathedral. He declined to protect himself by "turning the church into a castle," and while kneeling at the altar was cruelly slain. For nearly 400 years was cruelly slain. For nearly 400 years Jerusalem, thou that killest the pro-his tomb was a shrine to which pilgrim- phets and stonest them that are sent ages were made from many lands. Chaucer, the father of English poetry, gives an account of these in his "Canterbury Pilgrims," and Tennyson has made the fate of Becket the subject of a magnificent dramatic poem. The picture above is a specimen of some forty, illustrating famous places in Great Britain, which will appear in the Methodist Magazine during 1886.

"Missortunes never come singly." They couldn't. It would be singular if they could. One misfortune might, but Lindley Murray forbide the plural number from acting that way.

Remember This.

Ir you cannot save the thousands Yearly ruined by strong drink, You can reach by friendly warning Some one standing on the brink.

You can give your own example To the safe, abstaining side, Shielding thus from fierce temptation Precious souls for whom Christ died.

As a Hen Gathereth her Chickens.

WHAT a picture of maternal anxiety is shown in our large engraving? The mother hen feels, rather than sees, the shadow of the fierce hawk about to swoop down upon her callow brood With what an anxious "Oluck! cluck!" she calls them to the protection of her wings! How eagerly the fluffy little creatures run to her for shelter! And how tenderly she broods over them. And sooner will that mother hen allow herself to be torn to pieces by the cruel beak and talons of the fierce hawk than yield one of her chickens to his clutch. And this is the beautiful figure used by our blessed Lord to illustrate His brooding, yearning tenderness for the creatures of His love and care. As from the Mount of Olives He looked down upon the guilty city that was about to put Him to death, He exclaimed, "O Jorusalem, unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" Let us not be guilty of rejecting this yearning love of the Saviour of our souls. Let us rather say with the Psalmist, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High, shall abide in the shadow of the Almighty. He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt they trust." His wings shalt thou trust.

IT is the same with a pock as with a man. With a good title the demand for the book or the man will be measurably increased.



"AS A HEN GATHERETH HER CHICKENS."-SRE PREVIOUS PAGE.

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Farmer John.

"Ir I'd nothing to do," said Farmer John,
"To fret and bother me-Were I but rid of this mountain of work, What a good man I could be !

"The pigs get out, and the cows get in Where they have no right to be; And the weeds in the garden and the corn— Why, they fairly frighten me.

"It worries me out of my temper quite, And well-nigh out of my head;
What a curso it is that a man must toil Like this for his daily bread !"

But Farmer John he broke his leg, And was kept for many a week A helpless and an idle man. Was he therefore mild and meek?

Nay, what with the pain and what with the

Of sitting with nothing to do, And the farm-work botched by a shiftless

He got very cross and blue.

He scolded the children and cuffed the dog That fawned about his knee;
And snarled at his wife, though she was kind
And patient as wife could be.

He grumbled, and whined, and fretted, and fumed.

The whole of the long day through.
'Twill ruin me quite," cried Farmer John,
"To sit here with nothing to do!"

His hurt got well, and he went to work, And busier man than he,
A happier man or a pleasanter man,
You never would wish to see.

The pigs got out, and he drove them back,
Whistling right merrily;
He mended the fence and kept the cows

Just where they ought to be.

Weeding the garden was first-rate fun, And ditto hoeing the corn. "I'm happier far," said Farmer John, "Than I've been since I was born."

He learned a lesson that lasts him well-Twill last him his whole life through. He frets but seldom, and never because He has plenty of work to do.

"I tell you what," said Farmer John, "They are either knaves or fools Who long to be idle, for idle hands Are the devils chosen tools."

"Wide Awake" for 1886,

Many of our readers have taken advantage of our liberal offer to club this charming Young Folk's Magazine, at a greatly reduced rate, with the Canadian Methodist Magazine. The full price of Wide Awake is \$3.00; but to those who take our own Methodist Magazine we will send it for \$2.25. We regret that we have not space for its very attractive announcement for 1886. A mother, whose five children have read Wide Awake from its first number to its latest, writes: "I like the magazine because it is full of impulses. Another thing—when I lay it down, I feel as if I had been walking on breezy hill-tops." It will be sump-tuously illustrated, and among many other features we note the following: "Royal Girls and Royal Courts," by Mrs.John Sherwood. This series, especially brilliant and instructive, will begin in the Ohristmas number and run through the year. "Youth in Twelve Centuries." A beautiful art feature. Twenty-four superb studies of race-types and national costumes, by F. Childe Hassam, with text by M. E. B. "Fire-Place Stories;" the rich illustrations include glimpses of Holland, Assyria, Persia, Moorish Spain and New England. "The Princess Pocahontas in England," by Mrs. Raymond Blathwayte. "A Sixteenth Century School Boy," by Appleton Morgan. The life of a lad in Shakespeare's time. "Through the Heart of Paris," by Frank T. Merrill. A

pen and penoil record of a trip down the Seine. Twelve Ballads by twelve of the foremost women poets of America. Each ballad will fill five to seven pictorial pages. The Chautauqua Young Folk's Readings meet the growing demand for the helpful in literature, history, science, and practical doing. D. Lothrop & Co. also publish The Pansy, equally charming and suitable for week-day and Sunday reading, \$1.00 a year. Our Little Men and Women, most admirable for the youngest readers, \$1.00 a year. Babyland never fails to carry delight to the babies and rest to the mammas, 50 cents a vear.

A Good Book for Boys.

Wonders and Curiosities of the Railway; or, Stories of the Locomotive in Every Land. By William Sloane Kennedy. Pp. 254. Chicago: S C. Griggs; Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Illustrated. Price \$1.25.

This is one of the best books we have read for many a day. It tells a story stranger than romance. It describes one of the greatest movements of the age. Next to the printing press, we regard the railway as the greatest material agent of civilization. We would like to see a copy of this book in every village library. Few greater treats could be given an intelligent boy than a copy of this book. The following gives a hint of some of the interesting information this book contains:

The story of the railway is one of the most curious and interesting in the history of civilization. Under the magic spell of this agency men now living have seen almost the whole face of nature changed, almost the whole economy of life revolutionized. It is only fifty years ago that Peter Cooper built the first locomotive constructed in America. Now the 20,000 locomotives of the United States do the work of 40,000,000 horses. In Eng. land 30,000 horses were killed yearly in the attempt to convey the mails at the rate of ten miles an hour. Mr. Kennedy tells the marvellous story of the railways with full mastery of the facts and full appreciation of their

significance.
The prejudice against railways at the outset; the scorn, contempt and ridicule they met with are among the most amusing things in their history. At first the cars were literal coaches set on trucks. The locomotive was a nondescript engine fed with pine knots, and with water from a barrel. The evolution of the Pullman-sleeper and the sixty-ton locomotive, sixty feet long, is one of the marvels of science. Our author traces this remarkable evolution with copious illustration of the strange intermediate, experimental stages. He describes the romance of the first railway, the achievements of banding the continents, piercing the mountains, bridging the abysses, penetrating deserts—achievements ten-fold greater than the building of the pyramids. The railway is revolutionizing the West. In India, Japan, Egypt, everywhere in the East, the snort of the iron horse is waking immemorial echoes, banishing caste, and linking the nations with bonds of brotherhood. Railway curiosities, mountain railways, electric railways, vertical railways, tramways, all receive full treatment. Electricity, it is shown, is destined to Russia; the fastest running has been rosolves would go down like dead done on the Michigan Central in leaves in the wind. And so the dis-Canada. The luxuries of travel, the tance widened, and she suff red much locomotive and its master, railway management, train despatching, postal and press system, etc., are in turn described. No mode of travel is so safe as by rail. Statistics prove that the average man is more likely to be struck with lightning or to be hanged than to be killed on the railway.

Holding the Light.

A DEAR little boy of five years, who had an old-fashioned Spartan mother, was brave enough ordinarily, but was afraid to be left alone in the dark. To cure him of this fear, his mother decided to send him to bed alone, and to have the light taken away, which had usually been left until the little fellow was asleep.

This was a sore trial to the boy and possibly to the mother, but, most of all to the boy's sister, a girl of ten years of age. She could not forget her own times of trembling and of terror; of looking under the bed and hiding her head under the blanket, Her heart ached for the little fellow undergoing such heroic treatment, and she used to steal softly up stairs with her bedroom candle, and stand just

outside his door. "Are you there, sister?"

"Yes, Willie."

"Can I have the light?"

"No, Willie; mother says no."
"Do bring it?"

"No; but I'll let it stay right here." "Will it shine right in?"

"Yes, all across the floor; don't you see? You must go to sleep, or mother will take it away.

Then a pause, and soon the sleepy voice asked:

"Are you there?"
"Yes, Willie."
"Will you surely stay?"
"Surely."

"Till I'm all—every bit asleep? You won't let the light go out till I am gone?

"No, Willie."

"Nor leave me alone?"
"No, never."

And all this is in the briefest whisper possible, and if the mother heard she did not heed, for the children were not forbidden to comfort each other in their fashion, and by-and-by the boy. outgrew his fear.

Years passed, and the lovely boyhood and brilliant youth were left behind. Willie had outgrown his sister in size, strength, and knowledge, but not in goodness or faith. Life parted them early, and their lives went separate ways. Her love and her letters and her prayers followed him, but evil temptations crept closer to him than these, and little by little he became the victim of drink. It did not conquer all the good in him at once, but at intervals he yielded, and slowly and surely went down. Then it was that she failed him. She had been so proud of his talents, of his power to win all the world could offer, and now he had made her so pitifully ashamed. When he repented, she found it hard to relent. She hated the sin so bitterly that she almost included the sinner. She hardened under the shame of it, and lost faith in his efforts and promises; and while she did not give him up, she made him feel ashamed to come with be the great motor of the future. The his bemoanings to her, when she knew wheels which go most luxurious cars in the world are in that before the next temptation his ing last longest.

tance widened, and she suff red much, and he went down and down. At last his health broke, and life drow near us close. Then she found him, and drew near to him, nearer and nearer, till the day that he died. Lying with his hands in hers, he looked up at her as a child might to his mother, and said faintly:

"Do you remember, sister?"
"Remember what, Willie?"

"The light, the light; how I was afraid, and you used to stand by the door and hold the light?"

"Yes, yes, I remember; it was so long ago; and she turned her face away to hide the tears.

"Nover mind, sister; it's all right now. I feel like a little child again, and I'm not afraid."

"Not afraid of the dark. know who goes with us, Willie, when we come to the dark—" she could not go on.

"The dark valley," he finished for her. "Yes, I know. I see Him, sister, and you hold the light, but--"

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"But what, brother?"

"But you didn't keep on holding it always; you left me so many times in the dark. I would have been good, sister, if you had—hold it—every time—but—" suddenly seeming to realize that he was troubling her, he drew her face down as she bent over him, and whispered: "But now I'll be still.
I'm tired—you will stay till I go to sleop?"

"Yes, Willie, yes; I will never leave you again."

"And-and-you will hold the light -for---"

"As long as you need it, dear." "No, no, not for me, not for me—for all the other—" and the old smile lit up his face, "the other little boys in the dark-"

There was no answer to the words. He would not have heard it if there had been, for with his pleading for the boys in the dark his life went out, and he was asleep.

Such lessons need not be repeated to any heart on which such bitter scourging has fallen once. But the boys in the dark are many, and many are the sisters and mothers and wives who ought to be holding the light.-American Reformer.

LADY DUFFERIN is becoming as eminent in philanthropic and Christian effort as is her husband in diplomatic circles. British India affords a grand field for both, and the wife of the Viceroy is throwing herself heartily into missionary effort to elevate the women of India. One who is thrown with her almost daily, in a personal note says: "Lady Dufferin is diligently and with success studying the Hindustani language, so as to be able to converse with the people of India in their leading vernacular, and thus gain a closer access to them than would be possible through the medium of a foreign tongue. This is a thing, I suppose, no Viceroy's wife has ever done before. She intends to make medical work a specialty, and to raise a fund for training nurses and opening dispensaries and hospitals."—Wesleyan.

WHEN you frot and fume at the petty ills of life, remember that the wheels which go round without creak-

The Seasoning

I HAVE brought your dinner, father," The blacksmith's daughter said, As she took from her arms a kettle, And litted its shining lid. And litted its snining liq.
There s not any pio or pudding,
so I will give you this,"
And upon his toil worn forehead
She left a childish kiss.

The blacksmith took off his apron, And dined in happy mood, Wondering much at the savor, Hid in his humble food; thid in his number look;
While all about him were visions,
Full of prophetic bliss,
But he never thought of magic
In his little daughter's kiss.

While she with her kettle swinging Merrily trudged away, Stopping at sight of a squirrel, Catching some wild bird's lay. And I thought how many a shadow of life and fate we would miss, If always our frugal dinners Were seasoned with a kiss.

Germany and Spain.

In that part of the Western Pacific, thickly dotted with tropical islands, which is called on the maps "Polynesia," there is a group called the "Carolines." It consists for the most part of small but very fruitful isles, which lie east of the more famous Pailippines, and north of the equator and of the large island of New Guinea.

The Carolines were taken possession of by Spanish sailors somewhat more than two centuries ago, and were named after Charles, the then reigning King of Spain, as the Philippines were named after King Philip. The Spanish claim is supposed to derive some additional strength from the fact that the Carolines were granted to Spain by one of the Popes.

But as a matter of fact, the Carclines have never been actually occupied by Spain, nor has Spain ever established sittlements or posts upon them. She has claimed them as Spanish possessions, but eleven years ago Germany and England both notified Spain that they did not recognize her claim to the

Carolines.

A few weeks ago Germany suddenly announced her intention to annex the island group. Spain thereupon sent one or two yessels thither, with the intention of forestalling Germany, and occupying the Oarolines herself. But the Spanish captain delayed landing; meanwhile a Garman gun-boat arrived and a German force was landed upon the shores of Yap, or Uap, the most important of the islands.

The news of this event caused intense excitement in Madrid and in other parts of Spain. The old, proud! Spanish blood was roused and vented utself in acts of actual violence. A mob in Madrid tore down the coat-ofarms which was fixed on the German embassy, and carrying it to the residence of the Minister of the Interior, burned it in the street in front of the Minister's house.

King Alfonso hastened to his capital, Cabinet-meetings were hurriedly held, and it seemed for a while as if Spain were about to be rash enough to declare war against the mighty German empire. The Spanish revolutionists, moreover, seized the moment of excitement to try to overthrow the monarchy. It looked as if Alfonso must either go to war with the most powerful of European States, or lose his throne.

But soon wiser counsels prevailed, and the whole affair of the Carolines, and the insult to the German coat-ofarms, was transferred to the calmer regions of negotiation and diplomacy. a generous wholesale tobacconist in it, desperate.

At the time that this is written, it does not seem likely that war will result from the attempt upon the Carolines.

A quarrel between Gormany and Spain recalls the fact, that these two nations have been united in the past by many close ties At one time, the same sovereign were the Imperial crown of Germany and the crown of Spain. The countries were often allies in the wars which grew out of the Reformation and the struggle for religious supremacy in Europe; and later were combined against the ambition of Louis the Fourteenth of France.

Still later, it was an attempt of Prussia to place a prince of the Prussian house of Hohenzollorn on the throne of Spain in 1870, which afforded the pretext of the great Franco-German

war of that year.

Germany is now engaged in a manifest effort to take possession of remote regions of the earth, and to imitate England in planting colonies and establishing naval stations far and wide. In such a career, she has already aroused the jealousy and opposition of Eugland by her attempted settlements or the west coast of Africa, in Zanzibar and in New Guinea, and now she has crossed the path of Spain in the Carolines.

The future of the German ambition in this direction will be watched with keen interest; but it is to be hoped that it will not result, as it has come near doing in the case of the Carolines, in the kindling of a European war. Youth's Companion.

Talmage on Tobacco.

An eminent physician, for a long while superintendent of the insane asylum at Northampton, Mass., says "Fully half of the patients who have come to our asylum for treatment are the victims of tobacco." It is a sad thing, my brother, to damage the mind, and any man of common sense knows that the nervous system immediately acts upon the brain. More than that, nearly all reformers will tell you that it tends to drunkenness, that it creates unnatural thirst. There are those who use this narcotic who do not drink, but rearly all who drink use the narcotic. It was long ago demonstrated that a man cannot permanently reform from strong drink unless he gives up tobacco. In nearly all the cases where men having been reformed have fallen back, it has been shown they first touched tobacco and then surrendered to intoxicants. Ties broad avenue leading down to the drunkard's grave and the drunkard's hell is strewn thick with tobacco leaves. What did Benjamia Franklin leaves. What did Benjamia Franklin say? "I never saw a well man in the exercise of common sense, who would say that tobacco did him any good.' What did Thomas Jefferson say when arguing against the culture of tobacco? He said: "It is a culture productive of infinite wretchedness." Horace Greeley said of it: "If those men must smoke, let them take the horseshed." There are ministers of religion to-day indulging in narcotics,

DYING BY INCHES,

and they do not know what is the matter with them. I might in a word give my own experience. It took ten cigars to make a sermon. I got very nervous. One day I awakened to the outrage I was inflicting upon myself. I was about to change settlements, and

Philadelphia said if I would only come to Philadelphia he would, all the rest of my life, provide me with eigars free of charge. I said to myself: If in these war times when cigars are so costly and my salary is small, I smoke more than I ought to, what would I do if I had gratuitous and illimitable supply? And then and there, twentyfour years ago, I quit once and forever. It made a new man of me, and though I have since then done as much hard work as anyone, I have had the best health God ever blessed a man with. A minister of religion cannot afford to smoke. Put into my hands the moneys wasted in tobacco in the United States of America and I will clothe, teed and shelter all the suffering poor on this continent. The American churches give \$1,000,000 a year for the evangelization of the heathen, and American Caristians expend \$5,000,-000 in tobacco.

Now, I stand this morning not only in the presence of my God, to whom I must give an account for what I say to-day, but I stand in the presence of a great multitude of

YOUNG MEN

who are forming their habits. Between 17 and 23 there are tens of thousands of young men damaging their lives irretrievably by tobacco. You either use very good tobacco or cheap tobacco. If you use cheap tobacco I will tell you why it is cheap. It is a mixture of burdock, lamp-black, sawdust, coltsfoot, plaintain, leaves, fuller's earth, lime, salt, alum, and a little tobacco. You cannot afford, my young brother, to take such a mess as that between your lips. If on the other hand, you use costly tookeco, let me say I do not think you can afford it. You take think you can afford it. that which you expend and will expend, if you keep the habit all your life, and put it aside and it will buy you a farm to make you comfortable in the afternoon of life. A merchant of New York gave this testimony: — "In early life I smoked six cigars a day, at 61 cents each—they averaged that. I thought to myself one day, I'll just put aside all the money I am consuming n cigars and all I would consume if I kept on in the habit, and I will see what it will come to by compound interest." And he gives this tremendous statistic: "Last July completed thirtynine years since, by the grace of God, I was emancipated from

THE FILTHY HABIT,

and the saving amounted to the enormous sum of \$29,102.03 by compound interest. We lived in the city, but the children, who had learned something of the enjoyment of country life from the annual visits to their grandparents, longed for a home among tne green fields, and I found a very pleasant place in the country for sale The cigar money now came into requisition, and I found it amounted to a sufficient sum to purchase the place, and it is mine. Now, boys, you take your choice—smoking without a home or a home without smoking."

"EVERY day," says Bishop Hall, "is a little life, and our whole life is but a day repeated; whence it is that old Jacob numbered his life by days, and Moses desired to be taught this point of holy arithmetic, to number not his years, but his days. Those, therefore, that dare lose a day are dangerously prodigal; and those that dare misspend

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE KINGS AND PROPHETS. B.C. 713.] LESSON XI.

THE SUFFERING SAVIOUR.

Isa. 53. 1-12. Commit to mem, vs. 4-6.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.—Isa. 53. 6.

Jesus Christ by his life, sufferings, and death has made atonement for the sins of the world.

DAILY READINGS.

M. Isa. 52. 1-15. Th. Matt. 8. 5-17. Tu. Isa. 53. 1-12. F. Mark 15. 1-25. W. John 12. 23-41. Sα. Mark 15. 26-47. Su. Rev. 5. 1-14.

TIME.—Written probably in the last half of the reign of Hezekiah, B.C. 713-698, more than seven centuries before it was fulfilled.

INTRODUCTION. —This chapter is a wonderful prophecy of Christ, and was fulfilled in him, and only in him. In the last lesson we studied about the sinfulness of man; in this we consider God's great remedy for sin.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES .- 1. The prophet looks at the distant future when Christ phet looks at the distant future when Christ should appear, and speaks of it as if present before him. We hath believed?—That is, few at first. Our report—That the son of God, the Messiah had come, to save the world. The arm—The symbol of power. 2. Grow as a tender plant—That is small and easily destroyed. Root, etc.—A shoot from the root of a decayed tree. The house of David from which Christ sprang, was then David, from which Christ sprang, was then in a very lowly condition. No form—No beautiful appearance. Not referring to Christ's bodily appearance, but to his state, so different from the outward circumstances. of glory which the Jews expected to surround their Messiah. 4. He hath borne our griefs— Christ did this by his healings (Matt. 8. 17), Christ did this by his healings (Matt. S. 17), his sympathy, and all the ways in which Christianity lessens the sorrows of men. 5. He was wounded for our transgressions—All his syfferings were for our care size. his sufferings were for our sake, to make atonement for our sin. 6. All we like sheep—We have wandered into forbidden and dangerous paths of sin, like sheep without a shepherd. 8. Taken from prison and from judgment—Or justice; rather, he was taken shopherd. S. Taken from prison and from judgment—Or justice; rather, he was taken away by oppression, and the forms of justice. Who shall declare his generation—His family line. He was cut off without children, and with but few spiritual children. His life seemed extinct, but it was not (see v. 10). 9. He made his grave, etc.—He was crucified as a criminal, and appointed to a criminal's grave, but his body was delivered over to the rich man, Joseph of Arimathea (Matt. 27. 57-60). 10. It pleased the Lord—This was not merely the work of wicked men, but was a part of God's plan for the salvation of men. He shall see his seed—His spiritual children, to whom he gives spiritual life. Prolong his days—He was raised from the dead, and ever liveth. 11. Travail—Toil with pain. And be satisfied—Because so many will be saved by him. Justify—Forgive and make holy. Many—Countless numbers will be saved. 12. A portion with the great—He shall be among conquerors, the greatest of all.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS .- The prophecy as a whole—when written.—Its fulfilment in Christ.—Christ as despised and fulfilment in Christ.—Christ as despised and rejected—why?—How Christ bears our griefs.—How he bore our sins.—The necessity of the atonement.—How the atonement saves us from sin.—The fulfilment of the prophecy in vs. 7-9.—Christ's seed.—The success of the work of Christ in the world.—Many saved.

QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY .- When was this chapter written? How many years down the future is the prophet looking in this vision? Where in the book of Isaiah does this prophecy really begin? (Isa. 52. 13.)

SUBJECT: SALVATION TRROUGH A SUFFER-ING SAVIOUR.

I. THE SAVIOUR AS HE FIRST APPRIRED TO MEN (8x. 1-3).—How was the Saviour received at first? What "report" is referred to? Who asks thin question? What is the answer? What is meant by "the arm of the Lord?" Like what did Christ first; seem to men? How did the Jows expect; the Messiah would come? What were hig.

early circumstances? Why did men hide their faces from him and esteem him not? Is Christ sometimes treated in this way in our day?

II. THE SAVIOUR BEARING OUR GRIEFS (v. 4).—How does Christ treat our griefs? In what two ways did he do this when on In what two ways did no do this whole of earth? (1) Matt. 8. 16, 17. (2) Luke 19. 41, 42; John 11. 33-36. In what ways does he still bear out griefs? (1) Rom. 8. 28; Heb. 12. 10. (2) 2 Cor. 4. 17, 18. (3) Heb. 4. 15, 16. (4) Rev. 21. 3, 4.

4. 15, 16. (4) Kev. 21. 3, 4.

III. THE SAVIOUR BEARING OUR SINS (vs. 5.9).—What is said of the condition of men in v. 6? What has the Saviour done to save us? In what way did Christ bear our sins? How can the sufferings of an innocent person take away the penalty of our sins? How can they take away the sins themselves? Repeat passages of Scripture which teach us about the atonement. How was v 7 fulfilled in Christ's life! How v. 8? v. 9?

IV. THE TRIUMPH OF THE SAVIOUR (VS. IV. THE TRIUMPH OF THE SAVIOUR (vs. 10-12).—What will be the final result of Christ's mission on earth? Meaning of "he shall see his seed?" How has he prolonged his days? (Matt. 23. 7; Heb. 7. 25; Dan. 7. 14.) With what shall he be satisfied? Will his kingdom triumph over all the world? Why in each of these three verses is the atonement referred to?

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. The Saviour foretold in the Old Testa-

ment is revealed in the New.

2. The centre of the Gospel is the atone-

ment of Christ 3. Christ is still ready to bear our griefs.
4. If Christ bore our sins on the cross, we should forsake our sins and love him.

5. The suffering Saviour is sure to triumph over the world.

The power and means of the triumph is in atoning love.

REVIEW EXERCISE. (For the whole School in concert.)

in concert.)

10. What great event was foretold by the prophet Isaiah? Ans. The coming of the Saviour, Jesus Christ. 11. How would he be treated at first? Ans. He would be despised and rejected of men. 12. What did he do for men? Ans. He bore our sorrows and carried our grief. 13. What more did he do? (Repeat v. 5.) 14. What would be the fruit of this suffering? Ans. Great numbers saved from sin, and the kingdom of God come on the earth.

[Dec. 20. LESSON XII. B.C. 713.1 THE GRACIOUS INVITATION.

Commit to mem. vs. 6-9. Isa. 55. 1-11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters.—Isa, 55. 1.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

God invites all men to come to him and be saved.

DAILY READINGS.

Th. John 6. 31-58. F. Rev. 21. 1-8; 22. M. Isa. 54. 1-17. Tu. Isa. 55. 1-13.

W. John 4. 1-15. Sa. Isa. Su. Ps. 103. 1-22. Isa. 60. 1-22.

-Written soon after the last lesson. TIME in the latter half of Hezekiah's reign, B.C. 713-698.

-Written in Jerusalem, in the PLACE .kingdom of Judah.

HELPS OVER HAND PLACES. -1. Ho-HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—1. Ho—An exclamation for calling the attention. Every, one that thirsteth—That has longings and desires unsatisfied, especially for forgiveness, and goodness, and God, and heaven. To the waters—Which quench thirst. Jesus Christ existies all the desires and longings of the soul. Wine and milk—The juice of the grape, and milk, were regarded as of the best and most delicious of foods. Christ foods the soul not only with that which is feeds the soul not only with that which is necessary to its life, but which is delightful. necessary to its life, but which is delightful. Without money—The poor here are on an equality with the rich. The best things of God cannot be bought with money,—wisdom, love, knowledge, goodness, communion with God, salvation, heaven, 3. Everlasting, covenant—God's promises of salvation to the believing and obedient. It never ends; it never fails. Sure mercies of David—The promises made to David as king of the people and ancestor of the Messiah (2 Sam. 7. 12-29; Luke 20. 41-44). 4. Thave given him—The Mossiah, included in "the sure mercies of David" just mentioned. A vilness—To testify from God about eternal things. 5.

catt a nation—The Christian Church; a redeemed nation. Thou knowest not—Because not then in existence, Nations—Gentile nations who would be converted. 10. And the snow from heaven—Not only rain, but snow also, is of great importance to the fruitfulness of the earth. It treasures up the waters of winter, and they slowly melt, and bring the moisture gradually to the fields of spring. The snow also protects vegetation from the too severe cold of winter. 11. So shall my word be—(1) It will be fruitful in believed. Call a nation-The Christian Church; a revegetation from the too severe cord of winter.

11. So shall my word be—(1) It will be fruitful in holiness; (2) it will not fail of its purpose. God's word is his truth, his promises, his commands, his Gospel.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—The connection of this lesson with the last.—The thirsts of the soul.—How Christ satisfies them.—God's best gifts without price.—How men "spend money for that which is not bread,"—The sure mercies of David.—Christ satisfies the state of the second with the second se a witness and as a leader.—When is God near?—God's thoughts higher than ours.— Snow from heaven.—"So shall my word be."

QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—What was the main thought of our last lesson? What is that of ch. 54? How does this lesson naturally follow?

SUBJECT: GOD'S INVITATION TO MAN.

I. THE PERSONS INVITED (vs. 1, 2).—To whom is this invitation given? What is the kind of thirst here spoken of? (See Matt. 5. 6.) Are any orcluded? How free is the invitation? What best things in nature are free to all? Why is no price asked for God's spiritual blessings? What must we do in order to receive them?

II THAT TO WHICH THEY ARE INVITED (vs. 1-3).— To what are they invited to come? What are the waters here referred to? (John 4. 13, 14.) What is symbolized by wine and milk? What further shows the excellence and delight of religion? How does Christ satisfy our hunger and thirst? Name some of the thirsts he satisfies. What is referred to by the phrase, "Let your soul delight itself in fatness?" What is meant by "living" in v. 3? What is the "everlasting covenant?" What are "the sure mercies of David?" (2 Sam. 7. 19-24; 1 Chron. 17. 7-27; Luke 20 41-44.) How do some treat these invitations? (Luke 14, 16-21.) What reasons can you give why we should accept him? II THAT TO WHICH THEY ARE INVITED

III. THE ONE WHO GIVES THE INVITATION (vs. 4, 5).—Who is referred to in these verses? Of what is Jesus the witness? (John 3, 11-13.) Why do we need such a witness? What more is Jesus to us? What was the promise to him in v. 5? What was the "nation thou knowest not?" Why should other nations haste to him? Has this promise been fulfilled? been fulfilled?

IV. Accepting the Invitation (vs. 6. 7). -What is our part in regard to this invita-tion? When should we seek the Lord? (Prov. 8. 17.) What is it for God to be near? tion? (Prov. 8. 17.) What is it for God to be near? Is God nearer us at some times than at others? What must the wicked forsake? Why? How will the Lord receive him? How did Jesus illustrate this? (Luke 15. 1-32.)

did Jesus illustrate this? (Luke 15. 1-32.)

V. Reasons for Accepting the Invitation (vs. 8-11).—What is the first reason? (vs. 8, 9.) How do men usually treat those who have wronged them? What is the second reason? (vs. 10, 11.) What do rain and snow do for the earth? Do they accomplish God's will? What is meant by "my word?" What does God's word accomplish? How does the reliability of nature's forces teach us that God's spiritual word will be accomplished?

THE GOSPEL INVITATIONS.

Whoever has any need is invited to God.
 The best things of God are the freest.
 But we must receive them, or they will

do us no good.

4. Jesus Christ is able to satisfy every desire and longing of the soul.

5. There are times when God is specially

6. Those that come to the Lord must

leave their own ways, and walk in his.
7. The certainty of nature's forces, as the seasons, the rising and setting of the sun, are a proof to us that God's word will be certainly fulfilled.

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