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THE SUNBEAM

VOL. I.

MARCH 6, 1880.

No. 5.



"KNOCK, AND IT SHALL BE OPENED UNTO YOU."

IN these words of Jesus the Kingdom of Heaven is likened to a house—the house of many mansions. If we would enter in we must earnestly strive. We must come like the pilgrim in the picture, with true humility, and implore forgiveness, and, says Jesus, the door shall be opened unto us. He never turned any poor penitent sinner away from mercy's door, and He will not turn you away. Go to Him, therefore, in humble, trustful, prayer. Ask, and it shall be given you. Seek, and ye shall find. Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

"THIS little fellow," said Martin Luther of a bird going to roost, "hath chosen his shelter, and is quietly rocking himself to sleep without care for to-morrow's lodging, calmly sitting on his little twig, and leaving God alone to think for him."

The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, MARCH 6, 1880.

"THOU GOD SEEST ME."



LITTLE boy, as he walked home from school, saw a ripe pear lying on the ground in the front yard of a large, fine house. It was a nice yellow pear. The little boy was hungry.

"How I should like that pear!" thought he. "I might reach it through the slats of the fence. No one sees me." Then these words came to his mind, "Thou God seest me."

He at once turned his head away from the pear, and walked bravely on. But he had not gone far when a little girl came running after him, and said, "My mother sent me with this pear to give you, little boy. Through the blind she saw you look at it, and sends it to you with her love."

WHERE CONVICTS COME FROM.

A SHORT time since a young man condemned to die for murder, lay in a prison-cell awaiting the day of execution. A kind lady, who had heard of his condition; visited him several times, and sought to lead him to penitence and faith in Jesus as his only hope. On one occasion the lady was accompanied by her little son, who spoke kindly to the poor prisoner, and offered him some fruit. The man seemed much affected by the grace and gentleness of the child, and drawing him toward him said as the tears ran freely down his cheeks:

"My dear child, let me tell you what brought me here. It was disobeying my parents, then breaking God's holy day,

drinking and gambling, and at last murder that grew out of the other two.

"Never forget this if you would not be where I now am, and tell all your playfellows to take warning by my sad fate. Always obey your parents, never drink a drop of anything that can intoxicate, keep holy the Sabbath-day, and turn, as from the evil one himself, from any who would persuade you to enter a gambling-house or engage in a game of chance. These are the things that fill the prisons of earth, and crowd the gates of hell with victims."

A MISTAKE.

JITTLE Rosy Red-cheek said unto a clover:

"Flower! why were you made?
I was made for mother,
She hasn't any other;
But you were made for no one, I'm afraid."

Then the clover softly unto Red-cheek whispered:

"Pluck me, ere you go."
Red-cheek, little dreaming,
Pulled, and ran off screaming,
"Oh, naughty, naughty flower; to sting
me so!"

"Foolish child!" the startled bee buzzed crossly.

"Foolish not to see
That I make my honey
While the day is sunny;
That the pretty little clover lives for me!"

THREE VALUABLE LESSONS.

AND what valuable lessons are they? Fidelity in all things; do your best for your employers; carefulness about your associates. Let every boy take these three lessons home and study them well. They are the foundation stones of character and honourable success.



SHADOW-PICTURES.

PAPA is amusing his baby Lilian by making funny shadow-pictures on the wall. While he makes a rabbit, with his long ears and bright eyes, the little child is putting up her fat little fingers, and trying to do the same.

Oh, how busy fathers and mothers do love to stop in their work to please their little children !

But this picture is all so plain, we will leave it to tell its own story to each young reader ; only don't overlook the curious shadow that papa's *face*, as well as his fingers, gives us. Isn't it perfect ?

JESUS.

LET us sing to Jesus,
Let us bless His name ;
For to seek and save us,
To our world He came.

Let us pray to Jesus,
He will hear our cry,
And will send to help us,
From His throne on high.

Let us all love Jesus,
For He loved us so
That He died to save us,
From our sin and woe.

Let us trust in Jesus,
He alone can save,
And He waits to give us
Life beyond the grave.

Let us follow Jesus,
In the path He trod ;
This will upward lead us,
To the throne of God.

There we shall see Jesus
Sitting on His throne ;
He will smile upon us,
Calling us His own.

TAKE the sunshine that may be
In the skies spread over thee ;
Take the little bursts of bliss
Possible in worlds like this ;
Take with songs of grateful praise,
Love that blesses any days.
These are parts of one great whole ;
But for that which fills the soul
Wait awhile.

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LESSON NOTES.

A.D. 27.] LESSON XI. [March 14.

THE FALSE AND THE TRUE; or, Principles of Life.

Matt. 7. 15-29. Commit to memory verses 24-27.

THE LESSON STORY.

Jesus next warned his disciples against people who pretend to a goodness which is not real. Just as a tree can be known by its fruits, so these people can be known by their acts, for a good person, like a good tree, cannot show evil fruits. He told them that not those who call themselves Christians, but those who do right, will enter into God's heavenly kingdom. Then he ended his sermon by showing a picture of two men: one who built his house on a rock, where the storm could not shake it; the other who built his house on the sand, where the waves washed it away. The house on the rock was like him who heard and obeyed these words of Jesus; the other was like him who heard, but did not obey them, sure to fail and be lost at last. Then after his sermon Jesus came down from the mountain, while all the people wondered at the good words which he had spoken.

GOLDEN TEXT.

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only. Jas. 1. 22.

OUTLINE.

1. Fruits, v. 15-23.
2. Foundations, v. 24-29.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

1. Show good fruit in good actions.
2. Try always to do God's will.
3. Obey the words of Jesus.
4. Build up your character on Christ, the Rock.

B.C. 5. A.D. 27.] LESSON XII. [March 21.

FIRST QUARTERLY REVIEW:

GOLDEN TEXT

I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. Psa. 116. 13.

REVIEW QUESTIONS.

Who came seeking Jesus? Wise men, led by a star. Where did they find Jesus? At Bethlehem. What did they give him? Gifts of gold and spices. Where was the child Jesus taken? To Egypt, to escape from King Herod. Who came preaching in the wilderness? John the Baptist. What took place at the baptism of Jesus? God said, "This is my beloved Son." By whom was Jesus tempted? By Satan in the wilderness. Whom did Jesus call blessed? The poor in spirit. What did Jesus call his disciples? The light of the world. Whom did Jesus call great in the kingdom of heaven? He that obeys and teaches God's commands. What did Jesus command concerning swearing? "Swear not at all." How did he command us to treat our enemies? "Love your enemies." How did he tell us to give alms and to pray? In secret. What did he say should be our first object in life? The kingdom of God. To whom did Jesus liken those who obey his words? To a wise man, who built his house upon a rock. What becomes of the house built on the sand? It falls in the storm.