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THE SUNBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. VII.]

TORONTO, AUGUST 28, 1886.

[No. 18.]

HINDU IDOL.

WHAT a hideous looking idol this is. Yet just such idols millions of people in India worship; yes, and they make their little children bow down and pray to them. How thankful you ought to be that you live in a Christian land, and are taught to love and serve the dear Lord Jesus who came down from heaven to die for us. How willing you should be to do all you can to send the blessed Gospel to the poor heathen, that they may learn to love and serve the living and the true God.

THE OLD TREE.

THUD! thud! went the ax, brought down by John's strong right arm; and young Webster stood watching.

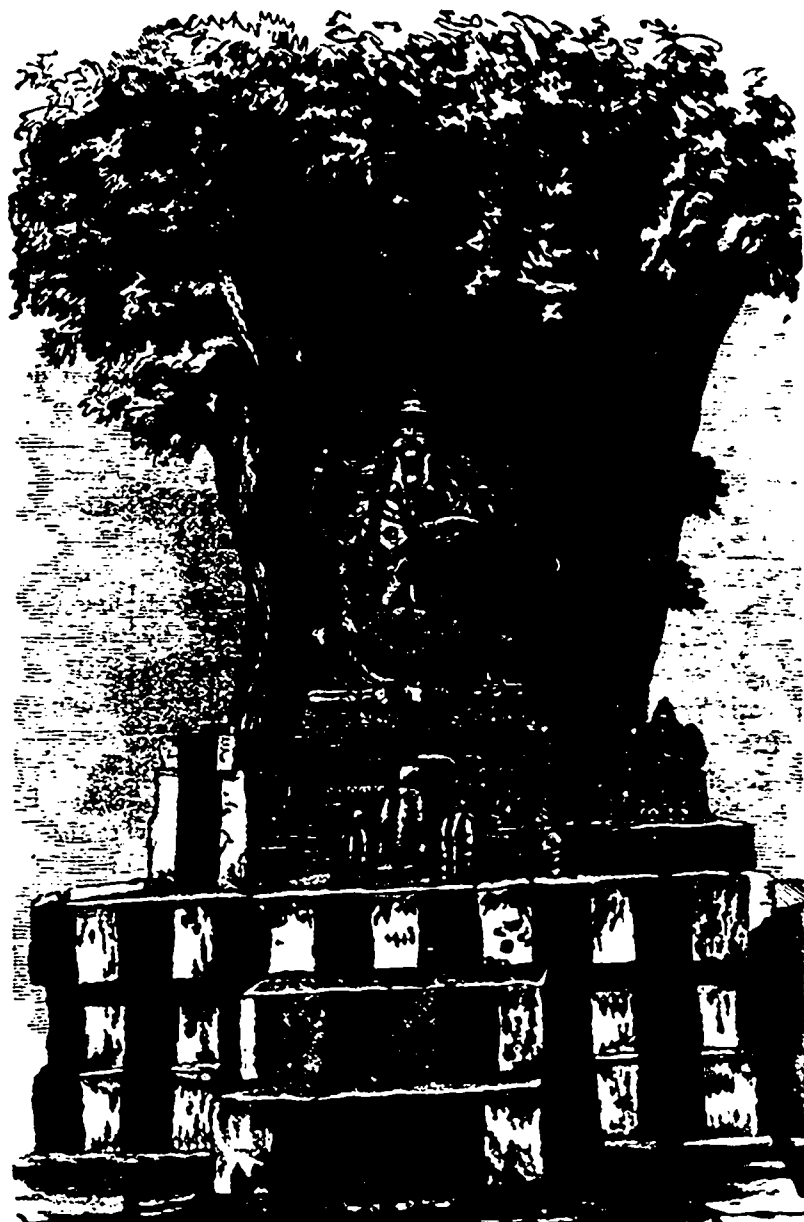
"What are you cutting that tree down for?" he asked at last.

"Dead!" said John promptly—"not worth a red cent. We've coaxed it and buttered around it for weeks, and it didn't do a mite of good—kept getting more dead-looking all the time; and it made the other tree look bad, and kept the sun from it, and was a nuisance generally; so down it comes!"

"What are you going to do with it?"

"Chop it up for kindling wood, it will start the kitchen-fire for ever so long. It is good to burn, and that's about every identical thing it is good for."

"Yes," said Webster; "I read about it."



HINDU IDOL.

exactly what it said, and that's what you are doing."

"That's true enough," said John; and he said not another word, but he thought about it a good deal, for away back in his childhood, one day when he sat in a chair that was too high for him and swung his feet, he studied over and over those words in his Sunday-school lesson; he knew just who said them, what came next, and how Jesus made the trees stand for men, though he had not thought of it before in years.

"John," said Webster, "it wouldn't be nice to be chopped down good for nothing, would it?"

"No more it wouldn't," said John.—*The Pansy.*

"I FORGOT!"

ANNIE had a beautiful canary; but one day she forgot to put fresh seed and water in the cage. For several days in succession she forgot poor birdie. When she thought of it, poor little canary lay dead in the bottom of his cage. She only "forgot!"

Tom lighted his candle one night, and threw down the match. He forgot that his mother had told him to be

"Read about it?" said John, much astonished. "You don't say this old tree has gone into the papers, do you?"

"It's in a book," said Webster. "Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire." That's

careful where he threw a burning match. That burning match fell into a waste basket. In the night the house was found to be on fire. It was burned to the ground, and all because of Tom's foolishness and carelessness. He only "forgot."

IN SORROW.

Is it rainy, little flower?
 Be glad of rain:
 Too much sun would wither thee;
 'Twill shine again.
 The clouds look very black, 'tis true,
 But just behind them smiles the blue.

Art thou weary, tender heart?
 Be glad of pain:
 In sorrow sweetest things will grow,
 As flowers in rain.
 God watches, and thou wilt have sun
 When clouds their perfect work have done.

—Selected.

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The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, AUGUST 28, 1886.

A YOUTHFUL WORKER.

[O]f all the foolish, not to say sinful, notions that young people indulge, one of the commonest is this: that they are not to be good and do good until they are older. There is nothing in Scripture or reason to sustain such an idea, hence we are warranted in saying it is suggested by the evil spirit, the enemy of all that is good. Elbert Hawkins, unlike many other boys who get it into their heads that they must be mean in order to be manly, determined to grow up in the service of Christ; so one Sunday morning he gave his heart to Christ and his name to the preacher for membership in the Church. That very day, as he was looking out of the window after dinner, he saw three new boys sitting on the curbstone in front of the house. The thought occurred to him that he might induce them to go to Sunday-school. Out he went, sat down with them and mentioned the matter. They laughed and tried to make fun at first, but they soon found he was in "dead earnest!" To make a long story short,



THE CONTEST.

they agreed to go; and now there are no pupils in that Sunday-school more prompt and attentive than those same three newsboys. Did you ever try to do anything for Christ? If not, why not?

THE CONTEST.

WHEN Mr. Gordon moved to Montana the children saw many wonderful things, but nothing so interested them as the Indians that came to the village. At first the children were afraid of their visitors, but they soon became much attached to Little Wolf and Screech Owl, the chief's two boys, of whom he was very proud. They astonished the Gordon children by feats of marksmanship with their bows and arrows, and seemed particularly skilful when shooting at a nickel, which was to go into the beaded pouch of the one who first succeeded in hitting it.

But even Minnie Gordon was old enough to see that for all their courage, cunning, and cruelty when on the war-path, the red men must give way before the whites. The contest between the two races for the possession of this great country must end as did the trial upon Mount Carmel. God's purpose is to give the land to the nations who will make the best use of it.

GOODNESS.

BY REV. WILBUR F. CRAFTS.

The fruit of the Spirit is goodness.—Gal. v. 22.

ONE of the pleasantest memories of my boyhood is an old man with white hair and sweet face, who used to speak at children's meetings and give away cards, on one of which were some words about doing good which I have remembered ever since:

"For Jesus Christ's sake,
 Do all the good you can;

To all the people you can,
 In all the places you can,
 At all the times you can,
 And as long as ever you can."

Benjamin Franklin, who was so great and good that many cities have statues of him, when he was a boy, by reading a book about doing good, was made to feel that the grandest thing any one could be was "a doer of good." Trying to do good, he became also great and happy. Reading the Bible ought to make all of us begin now to be "doers of good."

But if you want to do good you must first be good. You think a word before you speak it. You think what you will do with your hands before you do it. So before you can do good with lips and hands you must be good in your heart. If you want to do as Jesus did, you must feel as Jesus felt, you must have "the mind of Christ," the Holy Spirit of God. "The fruit of the Spirit is goodness." A tree cannot bear good fruit unless it is first a good tree. Doing grows out of being. That great and good man, Jonathan Edwards, when a boy, wrote in his diary, "Resolved to live with all my might while I do live." He became a Christian when only seven years old, being led to Jesus by a lady who had been converted when a little girl only four years of age, and so had a long time in which to do good.

God loves even bad children, and if they will let him come into their hearts he will make them good. Let me give you prayer for goodness:

"Make me faithful, loving, dutiful,
 Make thy home within me beautiful,
 Cleanse my heart from sin,
 Let no stranger in."

BUY the truth, and sell it not.



A NUTTING PARTY

A NUTTING PARTY.

EVA, and Nettie, and Jane and Towser are going out to gather nuts. It is Saturday, and school is out. The little girls know where the nuts are found. The hickory nuts lie covered under the leaves, and they know too where some chestnuts yet are left. By evening the nutters will return with their baskets filled with the luscious treasures. Towser enjoys the trip as much as the little girls. They are leading him along, as if to take care of him. But Towser knows that he is going to take care of them, and let nobody hurt them.

FALSE SHAME.

Do not be ashamed, my lad, if you have a patch on your elbow. It is no mark of disgrace. It speaks well for your industrious mother.

For our part, we would rather see a dozen patches on your clothes than to have you do a bad or mean action, or to hear a profane or vulgar word proceed from your lips.

No good boy will shun you or think less of you because you do not dress as well as he does, and if any one laughs at your appearance, never mind it.

Go right on doing your duty. Fear God rather than man; love him early and serve him faithfully, and there shall be laid up for you in heaven treasures that fade not away. As Alice Cary says:

True worth is in being, not seeming;

In doing, each day that goes by,

Some little good, not in dreaming

Of great things to do by and by.

For whatever men say in their blindness,

And spite of the fancies of youth,

There is nothing so kingly as kindness,

And nothing so royal as truth.

EMPTYING THE WHISKEY.

We know of a dear, beautiful little boy in Pennsylvania who signed the temperance pledge at one of the temperance meetings held for children. A short time afterwards his mother was busy in her kitchen preparing cakes and pies. "Davy," she said, "go up to the closet and bring down the whiskey jug. I want some for the mince pies." Davy, as was his habit instantly obeyed. But as he went dancing up stairs, the thought came to him, "Can you, a temperance boy, carry a whiskey jug?" He stopped right there on the stairs and decided the question. Then hurrying back to the kitchen he said: "Oh, mamma! I can't carry a whiskey jug—I've signed the pledge—but I'll stir the batter while you go."

Without a word the mother gave into his little hands the spoon with which she was stirring the batter, and went herself to bring the jug. She felt a strange choking sensation in her throat, but she walked up those stairs with a firm tread, and seized the jug. When she came down the dear little fellow was beating away at the dough with all his might. His eyes followed her as she went to the sink and began to empty out the contents of the jug.

"What are you doing, mamma?" "I'm emptying out the whiskey. We'll not have any more in our mince pies?" "Oh, mamma! do you mean it?" "Yes, I mean to use lemons instead." Goody, goody! I'm glad—then I can eat them too, can't I, mamma?" "Yes, my dear; and mamma will never make anything again that her dear little boy cannot eat." "Goody, goody! we're going to have temperance pies." And Davy fairly danced up and down in the kitchen, as the whiskey gurgled in the sink. Don't you think Davy is a

real good temperance boy. Then follow his example. Touch not, taste not, handle not the unclean thing.—*Everybody's Paper.*

NEST-BUILDING.

REDBREAST Robin, how bold you are!

Up and down my lawn you go,
Picking, and stealing, and hiding away.
That is trespass, don't you know?

Redbreast Robin flits and nods—

"Just some straw and bits of string
For a cradle-bed are all I want:

When the babies are grown you shall hear
them sing."

Where did Redbreast Robin learn

To make his little wicker nest?

You know how to read, you go to school,

But you could not make one, do your best.

THE BETTER WAY.

"HELEN is a cross, hateful girl," said Frank.

"Oh, Frank, what are you saying?" exclaimed Aunt Eunice.

"I don't care," cried Frank. "Helen hid my book, and she would not cover my ball, though I have done lots of things for her. I don't want to speak to her again."

Aunt Eunice was sorry to hear Frank say this; it quite spoiled their walk through the woods.

"Hark! what is that?" cried Frank. He ran and peeped over the bank.

"Come quick, Aunt Eunice; it is Helen's pet lamb. It has wandered off here and got hurt, poor thing!" Then he stopped suddenly and said, "I'll let it find its own way home; that is how I will pay Helen back for the manner in which she has treated me"

"Oh, Frank, cannot you think of a better way to pay her back?"

Frank was a Sunday-school boy. He knew what Jesus says about being kind, even to those who are not kind to us. Would Frank try to please Jesus? Yes, he would; he did. He took the lamb in his arms and ran home.

"Hello, Helen!" he cried, "here is your lamb. I found it down a steep bank in the woods." When Frank saw how happy he had made Helen, he felt just like forgiving her for what he had called her "cross, hateful ways."

"You are right, Aunt Eunice," he said. "It is better to pay people back with kind deeds rather than with angry ones."

PURCHASE not friends with gifts; when thou ceasest to give, such will cease to love.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

I WAS but a little lamb
From the Shepherd straying,
When I heard within my heart
Some one softly saying:
"Follow me, follow me,
I will safely guide thee,
Through the stormy ways of life
Walking close beside thee."
Never turning from the voice,
Never disobeying,
Let me know that unto me
Christ is always saying:
"Follow me, follow me,
I will guide thee,
Through the stormy ways of life
Walking close beside thee."
Early to his loving care
Shall my heart be given;
For each step I take with him
Brings me nearer heaven.
"Follow me, follow me,"
Is the Saviour saying
Unto every little lamb
Who from him is straying.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

A.D. 30.] LESSON X. [Sept. 5.]

JESUS THE TRUE VINE.

John 15. 1-16. Commit to mem. vs 4-6.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I am the vine, ye are the branches. John 15. 5.

OUTLINE.

1. The Vine and the Branches, v. 1-3.
2. Abiding in the Vine, v. 4-6.
3. The Blessedness of Abiding, v. 7-16.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What does Jesus call himself? The true vine.

What does he call his disciples? The branches of the vine. (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

Who is the Master of the vine? The Father.

What does the Master cut off and throw away? The branches that do not bear fruit.

Why does he clean and trim the branches that bear fruit? So that they will bear more fruit.

What becomes of the branch when it is separated from the vine? It dies.

When do we bear much fruit? When we abide in Jesus, the true vine.

What fruit do we bear? The fruit of Christ, joy, love, peace, faith, patience.

What does Jesus promise to those who abide in him? To give them all that they ask.

For what will they ask Jesus? For those things that will give glory and honour to his name.

What are we like when we do not abide in Jesus? Like dead branches.

What is it to abide in Jesus as the branch abides in the vine? To love him and do his will with all our mind and heart and soul.

When does Jesus love us? When we keep his commandments.

What new commandment did he give us to keep? To love one another as he loved us.

What proof did he give us of his love? He laid down his life for us.

What does he call us? His friends.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

You all know that branches, whether they are large or small, cannot live, or bear any fruit if they are cut off from the vine. No more can we keep good and bear fruit unless we stay close to Jesus. (See GOLDEN TEXT.) As long as we are like the branches that get all their life and power to grow from the vine, by being a part of it, we shall not only live, but shall grow more and more fruitful every day.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Mau's end God's glory.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

Why will their joy be perfect? Because they will be always with the Lord.

Will they suffer nothing there? Good men will suffer nothing in heaven: they will have no want nor pain nor sin.

A.D. 30.] LESSON XI. [Sept. 12.]

THE MISSION OF THE SPIRIT.

John 16 5-20 Commit to memory verses 8-11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

He will guide you into all truth. John 16. 13.

OUTLINE.

1. Sorrow, v. 5, 6.
2. Comfort, v. 7-15.
3. Hope, v. 16-20.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Where did Jesus say he must go? To God, who sent him.

Why was he going back to God? That he might send a comforter to them.

Who was the comforter he was going to send? The Holy Spirit.

Of what would the Holy Spirit convict the world? Of its sin in rejecting Jesus.

What would the Holy Spirit show the

world? Jesus sitting at the right hand of God.

Upon whom would the Holy Spirit bring judgment? Upon Satan, the prince of the world.

What did Christ do by dying for the world? He broke the power of Satan.

What is this world to become? The kingdom of Christ.

What did Jesus tell his disciples? That he had many things to tell them that they could not understand.

Who would help them to understand them after he had gone. The Holy Spirit. (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

Why could the Holy Spirit help them? Because he was sent from God to teach and guide them.

When did Jesus say his disciples should have sorrow? In a little while.

What would cause their sorrow? His death on the cross.

What would turn their sorrow into joy? His resurrection.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Jesus knew we could never find our way to heaven with so many forbidden paths lying all about us, alone, and so he promised a guide. (See GOLDEN TEXT, and Psa. 32. 8.)

How good he was to make the way so plain that little feet could walk in it and not lose it! The Bible, with mother, father, teacher, and pastor to make its lessons plain and clear, are a part of the guiding, and the Holy Spirit will do all the rest. Let us ask that he may come and stay with us.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The Trinity.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

What sort of bodies will they have? They will have bodies such as can never die, made like the glorious body of Jesus Christ.

How will they be employed? In praising and serving God.

IMPORTANT ADVICE TO BOYS.

SAY nothing you would not like God to hear. Ecclesiastes v. 2.

Do nothing you would not like God to see. Titus ii. 7.

Write nothing you would not like God to read. Hebrews iv. 13.

Go to no place where you would not like God to find you. Job xxxiv. 21.

Read no book of which you would not like God to say, "Show it me." John v. 39.

Never spend your time in such a way that you would not like God to ask, "What art thou doing?" 1 Thessalonians v. 17.

—Selected.