

# HAPPY DAYS

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TORONTO, FEBRUARY 25, 1905.

No. 4.

## LOTS OF FUN.

Here is what you little folks would doubtless call a jolly good time in earnest. Well, there is enough turning of things upside down and hubbub about it, anyway. Of course, all little people like plenty of this sort of thing in all their sports, and they have a right, too, to a full share. Older persons are wont to forget, at times, the rights and needs of children in this respect. There is much complaint and remonstrance against the noise and disorder in the plays of the little ones. There is something to be said here on both sides. Children must romp to be healthful, but they should endeavor not to interfere thereby with the health or comfort of those who have outgrown childish sports. When you want to have a grand frolic, such as the party in our picture are engaged in, see to it that no one reasonably objects, and that full permission is given.



LOTS OF FUN.

## HEAVEN.

Where is heaven? I suppose every one as at some time in his life asked that question, but no one has ever received a perfectly satisfactory answer. Some have thought that heaven might be all around us, and is unperceived only because our spiritual eyes are not keen enough to see it. Others have thought that heaven was the very centre of the universe, and round

it revolved all the starry worlds. Jesus says, "the kingdom of heaven is within you," and these words contain a truth which very many, I think, quite overlook. They labor under the impression that if they are allowed to enter the place called heaven, they will be happy. Now, if you wait a moment, you will see that no matter how beautiful the place is that we are in, we cannot be happy unless our minds are at ease and our bodies in health. What

comfort do beautiful pictures, soft carpets, luxurious food, and other things of that nature, impart to one who is tortured by a burning fever? Or, what delight is to be derived from living in the most beautiful garden that ever was formed, if one's conscience is continually tormenting him with the remembrance of a sin he has committed? There can be no pleasure under such circumstances.

This teaches us that happiness must begin within us before we can enjoy anything outside of us. Those who have sinful hearts will be in misery wherever they go. In "Paradise Lost," Milton represents Satan as saying to himself, while standing in the midst of the garden of Eden, where he vainly hoped to find rest:

"Which way I turn is hell,  
Myself am hell."

He carried his misery with him wherever he went; whether in Eden or in the world of the damned.

Only those whose hearts have been made clean of all sin can ever be happy in heaven; and only those who with repentance turn to the Lord can ever have their sins washed away.

Whether the memory shall be a beautiful chamber of peace or a torture-chamber of despair will depend upon the soul's obedience or disobedience to the admonition, "Remember thy Creator."

## HEAR THY CHILDREN, GENTLE JESUS.

Hear thy children, gentle Jesus,

While we breathe our evening prayer;

Save us from all harm and danger,

Take us 'neath thy sheltering care.

Shield us from the wiles of Satan,

From the perils of this night;

Safely may thy guardian angels

Keep us in their watchful sight.

Gentle Jesus! look in pity

From thy glorious throne above;

Though we sleep, thy heart is wakeful

Still for us it beats with love.

Shades of evening fast are falling,

Day is falling into gloom!

When our earthly life is ended,

Lead thy ransomed children home.

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## Happy Days.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY 25, 1905.

### LOST WILLIE.

A poor boy, employed in Scotland to keep sheep, was overtaken in the hills by a severe snow-storm. Long and bravely he kept up, and tried to drive his flock toward home by taking note of the landmarks he knew. All in vain; the snow fell, and before night all traces of roads and paths were lost, and poor Willie found himself alone in the hills with his sheep.

As the night wore on, the fatal drowsiness began to creep over him beyond his power to resist, and without a scrap of shelter he laid himself down among his sheep to sleep and die, for he was sure he would never more wake on earth. With a

smothered prayer for help he fell asleep, and, as he lay there, more sheep came and huddled around him. Strange indeed as it may seem, the warmth from their bodies kept him from being frozen to death. A party from home went in search of him, and they found him surrounded by a dozen old sheep, whose instinct saved his life. In keeping themselves warm they had kept warmth and life in him. And he lived many years to tell this anecdote of his boyhood's peril.

### INSTINCT OF AN OLD RAT.

On a very warm day in early summer, I happened to be standing near a chicken-coop in a back yard, when I noticed the head of a very gray and grizzled rat thrust from a neighboring rat-hole, and concluded to watch the movements of the veteran. After a careful survey of the surroundings, our old rodent seemed to be satisfied that all was right, and made a cautious exit from the home retreat. A fresh pan of water had been recently placed before the chicken-coop, and the water looked a friendly invitation to the thirsty old rat, who immediately started towards it.

The rat had not reached the pan before five half-grown young ones rushed ahead, and tried to be the first at the water. The old rat thereupon immediately made a leap like a kangaroo, and was at the edge of the dish in advance of the foremost of her litter. Then ensued a most remarkable occurrence. The mother raised herself on her haunches, and bit and scratched her offspring so severely whenever they attempted to reach the water that they all finally scudded away, evidently very much astonished and frightened at the strange and unaccountable behaviour of their mother. When the little ones were at a safe distance, the reasons for her extraordinary behaviour began to be revealed at once in the intelligent action of the old mother rat. She first wetted her whiskers in the water, looked suspiciously about her, then very cautiously and carefully took a dainty little sip of the liquid. She tasted it as tentatively and critically as a professional tea-taster, and when she was satisfied that it contained no poisonous or other deleterious matter, she gave a couple of squeaks, which quickly brought her young and thirsty brood to her side, and all fearlessly drank their fill. Doc: not this look very like reason?

### THE GRANDMOTHER.

A letter to one of her friends from a lady who spent some time among the peasants of the Tyrol, says:

The morning after our arrival we were awakened by the sound of a violin and flutes under the window, and hurrying down found the little house adorned as for a feast—garlands over the door, and

wreathing a high chair which was set in state.

The table was already covered with gifts, brought by the young people whose music we had heard. The whole neighborhood were kinsfolk, and these gifts came from uncles and cousins in every far-off degree. They were very simple, for the donors are poor—knitted gloves, a shawl, baskets of flowers, jars of fruit, loaves of bread; but upon all some little message of love was pinned.

"Is there a bride in the house?" I asked of my landlord.

"Ach Nein!" he said. "We do not make such a bother about our young people. It is the grandmother's birthday!"

The grandmother in her spectacles, white apron, and high velvet cap, was a heroine all day, sitting in state to receive visits, and dealing out slices from a sweet loaf to each one who came. I could not but remember certain grandmothers at home, just as much loved as she, probably, but whose dull, sad lives were never brightened by any such gust of pleasure as this; and I thought we could learn much from these poor mountaineers.

### ONE OF GOD'S LITTLE MINISTERS.

One night when a family were all gathered around the fire a little girl looked up and asked: "Papa, why does everybody like Eva, our neighbor's little girl? She has got a weak back, and can't play like the rest of us, and isn't often at school, and yet everybody likes her. How's that?"

"Why," said her father, "look at that lamp; it is a very frail thing, and doesn't make any noise, yet it makes this room very bright and pleasant, does it not? The lamp gives light, and little Eva gives love; and that is why people love her."

Yes, that was it; Eva was always "ministering before the Lord," for they who love do always that. Won't you try, each of you, to be one of God's little ministers?

### ABOUT FAITH.

I heard a young lady trying to teach a very little boy geography, the other day. She said, "How do you know the world is round?"

"Oh, because I've been told so."

"But how do you know you have been told right?"

"My Aunt Maggie told me, and she always tells the truth."

This is just the way we know anything about heaven, or the way to get there; we have been told so. God has told us, and he always tells the truth.

Keeping God's commandments is better and more pleasing to him than building churches.

HER GRANDPA.

My gran'pa is a funny man,  
 He's Scotch as he can be;  
 I tries to teach him all I can,  
 But he can't talk like me;  
 I've told him forty thousand times,  
 But 'tain't a bit of use,  
 He always says a man's a "mon,"  
 An' calls a house a "hoose."

He plays with me 'most every day,  
 And rides me on his knee;  
 He took me to a picnic once,  
 And dressed up just like me.  
 He says I am a "bonnie bairn,"  
 And kisses me, and when  
 I ask him why he can't talk right,  
 He says, "I dinna ken."

But me an' him has lots of fun,  
 He's such a funny man;  
 I dance for him and brush his hair,  
 And love him all I can.  
 I calls him Anjrew (that's his name),  
 And he says I can't talk,  
 And then he puts my plaidie on  
 And takes me for a walk.  
 I tells him forty thousand times,  
 But 'tain't a bit of use,  
 He always says a man's a "mon,"  
 And calls a house a "hoose."

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE WRITINGS OF JOHN.

LESSON X.—MARCH 5.

JESUS AT THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES.  
 John 7. 37-46. Memory verse, 37.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Never man spake like this man.—John  
 7. 46.

THE LESSON STORY.

It was the time of the Feast of Tabernacles at Jerusalem, and the people were going from Galilee. The "brethren" (cousins) of Jesus were going and urged him to go, but he did not go with them. They did not believe his Gospel. There would be great numbers at the feast who were unbelievers, and some who would try to destroy our Lord. But when the feast was at its midst Jesus went, and there was much dispute and angry talk about him. Some said, "He is a good man," while others said that he had a demon, and still others said that he was the Christ; so the people were divided.

All this was not like the loving heart of Jesus. He wanted to gather them all into his kingdom of love and peace and truth, but they would not. On the last day, the great day of the feast, he stood and cried to the masses of people who crowded the courts of the temple: "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and

drink. He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, from within him shall flow rivers of living water." This was a little parable, meaning that when the Holy Spirit should be given to his disciples it should be a river of life from God, flowing down through them to all who would receive it. Some believed in his Gospel when they heard this, but others began to quarrel among themselves, saying that no prophet had said that the Christ should come out of Galilee, but from Bethlehem of Judea instead. They did not know that he was born in Bethlehem. Finally, when the Pharisees scolded the officers because they did not arrest him, they said, "Never man spake like this man." They too were ready to believe.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What feast did Jesus go to? The Feast of Tabernacles.

Where was it held? At Jerusalem.

When did he go? About the middle of the feast.

What did the people begin to do? To quarrel about him.

How? Some believed in him, and some did not.

Did this disturb Jesus? No.

What did he do? He called thirsty people to him.

What had he to give them? The water of life.

What did he promise? That it should flow from them like a river.

When was that promise made true? On the day of Pentecost.

What is the water of life? The Spirit of God.

To whom is it given now? "Whosoever will, let him take . . . freely."

LESSON XI.—MARCH 12.

THE SLAVERY OF SIN.

John 8. 31-40. Memory verses 31, 32.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.—John 8. 34.

THE LESSON STORY.

Jesus was many days teaching in the temple, while the priests, the scribes, and the Pharisees were growing more and more angry with him. Their hearts had grown hard with pride and self-love, and they would not listen to the Carpenter from Galilee who acted as if he were wiser and better than they. He had called himself the "Light of the world," and they were sure that he had lost his mind or had an evil spirit. Some, whose minds were not so dark, believed on him, and to these he said some cheering words. He told them that if they kept their faith in him they should be his disciples, and he said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." They did not understand all that he meant, for they thought they had never been the slaves of

any man. Then Jesus explained to them that the only thing that can make anybody a slave is sin, and he becomes a "bond servant," or slave, who commits sin. He told them that a servant did not "abide in the house for ever," but "the son abideth for ever." Then he spoke of himself when he said "If, therefore, the Son shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." He meant that we should be counted in with him—the Son of God—in the great household of faith. Though he was truly God, his human nature was called the Son of God.

There were many there who loved to call themselves the "sons of Abraham," and later Jesus told them that he had lived before Abraham was born, and then they tried to stone him. "He came unto his own, and his own received him not."

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who was the greatest teacher in the world? Jesus Christ.

Where did he often teach? In the temple at Jerusalem.

Who hated him? The priests, scribes, and Pharisees.

Who heard him gladly? The common people.

What did he say a disciple must do? Keep his words.

What did he say about the truth? It will make us free.

What will make slaves of us? Sin.

What has he called himself? The Way, the Truth, and the Life.

What did he come to do? To set his people free.

What have we to do? Only to follow him truly.

What is better than being a servant? Being a son or a daughter.

Who may belong to him? "Whosoever will, let him come."

TRAINING CHILDREN IN BENEVOLENCE.

Parents have a mighty responsibility in this direction. The work cannot be done by making a child merely the bearer of a contribution to the Sabbath-school treasury; nor yet by teaching the child that if he will do a certain thing or yield a certain privilege, he can give a certain sum to a certain object. Children should be taught the duty and privilege of giving, and the responsibility should be on them early of denying themselves for the performance of this duty and the attainment of this privilege, that out of their allowance or possessions of gifts or earnings they may give unto the Lord that which they before counted their own, and for the use of which they must finally be answerable.

Children who roam the streets will learn much that is evil, and that will unfit them for the duties of good citizens.



OH WHAT CAN LITTLE HANDS DO  
TO PLEASE THE KING OF HEAVEN?  
THE LITTLE HANDS SOME WORK MAY TRY  
TO HELP THE POOR IN MISERY  
SUCH GRACE TO MINE BE GIVEN.

OH WHAT CAN LITTLE LIPS DO  
TO PLEASE THE KING OF HEAVEN?  
THE LITTLE LIPS CAN PRAISE AND PRAY  
AND GENTLE WORDS OF KINDNESS SAY  
SUCH GRACE TO MINE BE GIVEN.

### ESTIE'S GHOST.

They had not intended to stay out in the Short Hills so long, but the spring sunshine was bright and warm, and the first thing they knew, down went Mr. Sun behind a hill-top, and lo! right away it was twilight.

"Ho! forward march!" cried Heinrich. He was the tallest of the five children, and mother had put him in command of the party. "We must get out of this," said Captain Heinrich, and he put them all in line of march, single file.

But before they came in sight of the village Estie stopped short and hung back.

"I see a ghost," she whispered.

"A ghost indeed!" said Heinrich, laughing; "there aren't any ghosts, baby."

"But what is that old white thing?" asked Estie, her two feet planted firmly in her tracks.

Nobody could say just what it was, but Jonathan, who was a whole year younger than Estie, started boldly ahead. "I'm doin' home," he answered, "an' if I sees a dhost, I'll dive him some flowers, an' den he won't hurt me."

They couldn't let Johnny go home alone,

so they all followed, even Estie, hanging back and hiding her eyes.

It wasn't a ghost of course, because, you know, there are no ghosts; it was only a white cow lying across the path chewing her cud."

But mamma said when they all got home, that Johnny's plan was a very fine one, and that all along the path of life, if we would give flowers and gentle words and kindness to the bugbears we met, they would be very likely to prove as peaceful as Farmer Clark's old white cow.

### PERSONAL EFFORT.

The Sabbath-school teacher should not feel as though he had done his whole duty by simply going through his routine of work during the Sabbath-school hour. It is certainly necessary and beneficial to do this faithfully and well; but unless it is followed up by earnest personal effort with individual members of the class during the week, a great blessing will be lost.

Become acquainted with your scholars, and show an interest in their welfare. If one or more of them are absent from the school, make it a point to find out the

reason for it before next Sabbath. They may, perhaps, be sick, and a friendly visit from the teacher may do much good and be highly appreciated. Or they may have become much discouraged from some reason or other, and your visit to them may be the means of bringing them light, hope, and joy.

Perhaps some of your class are becoming careless and indifferent; they are not very punctual in their attendance, and their lessons are not well learned. A visit to them is certainly in place, and you may succeed in arousing their interest anew in their work. Still better it would be under such circumstances to meet with the whole class some evening to look over the lesson with them, and to show them how to study and become interested in the Word of God.

What opportunities for good such occasions present. Teacher and scholars become acquainted with, and learn to feel an interest for, each other. An interest is created in the study of the Bible, and the teacher finds opportune moments when a word spoken for Christ may lead some unconverted one to God.

Let us then watch for opportunities to do good, and improve them. If we work with the spirit of Christ and with a love for souls, the Master will bless our efforts to the good of those around us, our own souls will be watered, and we shall reap a rich reward in the kingdom of God.

### WHAT IF YOU ARE LITTLE ?

Little people and little things have often been used to do great good. This big world is made up of little grains of sand; the great sea is composed of small drops of water; the little bee, which you no doubt have watched humming about the flowers in your garden, little by little gathers much honey.

So do not be discouraged, children, because you are little, nor talk only of doing this or that when you are big. A little star shines brightly away up in the sky on a dark night, and yet it may be the means of saving many seamen from shipwreck; and little Christians may do a great deal of good in the world if they try.

Baxter became a Christian when a mere child; Polycarp was converted at nine, Matthew Henry at eleven, Robert Hall at twelve; Spurgeon joined the church at fifteen, was preaching at seventeen, and he testified that of the multitude of children he had received into the church none had become backsliders.

In heaven God's will is done instantly, submissively, rejoicingly, unquestioningly. The angels are ministers of his that do his pleasure! What a good definition that would be of Christian workers!