

"REMEMBER NOW THY CREATOR IN THE DAYS OF THY YOUTH."



OUR YOUNG PEOPLE



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In the Sugar Bush.

WE have no doubt but that many of our young readers could tell us more about the work to which our picture refers than we know ourselves. But there are hundreds of little boys and girls reading our paper, who, while they love to eat

tree, about two feet from the roots. Just below this they make another hole, into which they put a little wooden spout, under which is placed a wooden trough. If you look at the picture you see all this on the tree in the right hand corner. When these troughs are full of sap (and they will get full once or twice each day) it is gathered in pails and brought to one central



Maple Sugar, could not tell us how it is made, or where it comes from. Our picture shows a Maple Sugar camp, and in it you have all the operations depicted. Maple Sugar is made from sap, as the water which flows through the maple trees and feeds the leaves is called. In Spring, before the snow is off the ground, and just as the sap begins to run up the tree from the earth, men cut a little slanting nick in the

point in the woods. You see a man coming in with his pails. When a sufficient quantity is gathered, it is placed in large iron kettles and boiled down, as they call it—that is, it is kept in the boiler until the watery part evaporates, leaving a thick, sweet syrup, which, as Maple Syrup, is so much liked by little folks and big folks also. This syrup is then boiled still longer, until at length it is ready to pour into cakes and left

to harden, as we see it when we buy. Many tons of this sugar is made in different parts of America, but you will find in this, as in all other branches of business, that men have learned to cheat, and now there are thousands of pounds of sugar sold as maple sugar, of which but a very small part is genuine.

It is very pleasant to visit a sugar bush and taste the syrup, or warm sugar, but it is not so pleasant to have to work making it, carrying loads of sap through the deep and soft snow, chopping wood, standing over a hot fire to stir the boiling sap, is easier to look at than to do, but then dear children remember that all the good things we enjoy are the result of labor on the part of some one, and if others have to work for our benefit, we should be ready to work for the benefit of others.

Now if you turn to your Bible and read Ps. 19: 10, you will read of something sweeter than maple sugar. Have you tasted of that sweetness? If so do you ever think how much it cost to prepare it for you. It cost the life of the Son of God. He went about, many, many years doing good, and never stopped doing good, till wicked men nailed His feet to the cross. His hands were busy preparing those sweet things until they were pierced with long nails, and in the cross He said "It is finished." The sweetest, most precious, of all things was now ready. Man can be saved. Dear children, if you have not tasted, we say to you as did the Psalmist, "O taste and see that the Lord is good." Ps. 34: 8.

"The Tender Shepherd."

Isa. xl. 11.

HE shall carry the lambs in His Bosom,
For the little feet might fail,
And the wearisome wilderness journey
Is long for the weak and frail.

He shall carry the lambs in His bosom,
They lie nearest to His Heart,
And they cannot suffer a sorrow there
In which Jesus bears no part.

He shall carry the lambs in His Bosom,
For He knows their need of rest,
So He tenderly lays them down to sleep
In the shelter of His Breast.

He shall carry the lambs, in His Bosom
Over the sorrows of life,
Shielding their souls from its battle and storm,
Stillling its terrible strife.

He shall carry the lambs in His Bosom,
Till they reach their Father's Throne,
Where they join the circle of star-crowned souls,
His blood-bought and His own.

The Two Commandments—Love Fulfilling the Law.

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

THOU shalt love
the Lord
thy God, with all
thy heart, and with all
thy soul, and with all
thy mind, and with all
thy strength.

THE SECOND COMMANDMENT.

THOU SHALT LOVE
THY NEIGHBOUR AS
HYSELF.

Nazareth.

WRITING from Nazareth, where Jesus was brought up, one of the Missionaries says:—
You will like to know that forty-two girls were able to write English letters to their supporters, for Christmas. Not one of these girls could write her alphabet this time last year. It shows what sharp, bright girls these are. They learn English very easily. All are learning but twenty very little ones.

Our Young People's Berean Circle.

THE prize for answer to Herbert Clark's Bible enigma, has been awarded to Minnie Jones. The answer is, "Blessed are the Meek," "I am the Bread of Life.

We now offer a neat pocket Bible, illustrated, to the boy or girl sending us the first correct answer to the following questions:

1. Which is the middle verse in the Bible?
2. Which is the longest verse?
3. Which verse contains the whole alphabet except J?
4. What books of the Bible have no mention of the name of God?
5. In what chapter do we find the most frequent repetition of the word "children"?
6. How many times is the word "girl" mentioned, and where?
7. Where do we find "Men, Women, Children, Fathers, Wife, Daughter, Servants, Maid, Priests, Levites, Porters, Singers, Horses, Camels, Mules, Asses, Silver, Gold and Garments, all named in one chapter.

The answer to these must be sought out by the competitors and must be accompanied by a certificate from parent or teacher that the competitor has not been helped by older persons.

Paul at Corinth.

AFTER Paul had told the Athenians about the one living and true God, he went to Corinth. Acts 18: 1. And there, every Sabbath day, he told all who would listen to him, of Jesus and His love.

How earnest he was, too! Everything that was said against Jesus he answered from the Bible; and showed the people that Jesus was sent from God, and begged of them to give up their sinful ways and believe in Him. While at Corinth, Paul gathered together many persons who loved Jesus, and formed them into a church there. The Jews, however, were angry with him, and took him before the Roman governor, and spoke against Paul's teaching. But the governor found that they could not say that Paul was wicked; so he drove them away. Paul was encouraged

to go on in his work in a wonderful manner. As he lay asleep, tired with his day's work, God spoke to him in a dream, "Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace." Have courage, be bold in spite of all who oppose: tell to all men the good news of salvation by Jesus. "I am with thee;" and no man, neither Jew nor Greek, neither judge nor ruler, shall set on thee to hurt thee. How safe are all those who trust in God and do His will!



Only a Pin.

ONLY two or three days ago an overseer in the mills found a pin which cost the company about three hundred dollars."

"Was it stolen?" asked Susie. "I suppose it must have been very handsome. Was it a diamond pin?"

"Oh, no, my dear, not by any means. It was just such a pin as people buy every day, and use without stint. Here is one upon your dress."

"Such a pin as that cost three hundred dollars?" exclaimed John. "I don't believe it."

"But mamma says it's a true story," interposed Susie.

Yes, I know it to be true; and this is the way the pin happened to cost so much. You know that calicos, after they are washed and printed, are dried and smoothed by being passed over heated rollers. Well, by some mischance, a pin dropped so as to lie upon the principal roller, and, indeed, became wedged

into it, the head standing out a little way from the surface.

Over and over went the roller, and round and round went the cloth, winding at length upon still another roller until the piece was measured off. Then another piece began to be dried and wound; and so on until a hundred pieces had been counted off. These were not examined immediately, but removed from the machinery and laid aside. When at length they came to be inspected, it was found that there were holes in every piece throughout the web.

Of course the goods could not be classed as perfect goods, so they were sold as remnants, at less than half the price they would have brought had it not been for that hidden pin.

Now, it seems to me, when a boy takes for his companion a profane swearer, a Sabbath-breaker, or a lad

who is untruthful; and a little girl has for her playmate one who is unkind or disobedient, or in any way a wicked child, they are like the roller which took to its bosom the pin. That pin damaged irreparably four thousand yards of new print; but bad company has ruined thousands of souls for whom Christ died. Remember, "one sinner destroyeth much good;" therefore avoid evil companions. See what the Bible says about avoiding evil company:—"Enter

not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away." Prov. 4: 14, 15.

Duty.

DO everything you have set you to do as if there were no one but you to do it, and as the Bible says, "do it with thy might."

Three Hard Words.

THE three words hardest to pronounce in the English language are, says a learned man, "I was mistaken."

Fredrick the Great once wrote to the Senate, "I have just lost a battle, and it was entirely my own fault."

Never be too proud to own yourself in the wrong, when it is the case with you.

Notes on the S. S. Lessons.

The First Miracle.

John 2 1: 11.

WE are introduced to a company at a wedding feast, at Cana, not far from Nazareth. Apparently it is not a company composed of the rich and great, since Mary, the wife of Joseph, the carpenter of Nazareth, occupies a prominent place in the party. The wine runs short, and the hosts are threatened with serious annoyance. A wedding in those times lasted a week, so it is no wonder the wine gave out. It may be, too, that Jesus and His party made that many more guests than were expected. His mother said to Jesus, "They have no wine." Although Jesus had never yet worked any miracles, yet His mother believed that He could, and perhaps would work one. Jesus said, "My hour is not yet come." But His mother saw that He might help them, and she said to the servants, "Whatever He bids you do, do it." There were standing by six large stone jars in which was kept water for washing. Jesus said, "Fill up the jars with water"; and the servants filled them up to the brim. Then Jesus said, "Draw out now, and carry to the ruler of the feast." They did so, and they found that the water had been turned into wine. The ruler of the feast did not know where it had come from, and said, "Everybody gives his best wine at the beginning of the feast, but you have kept the good wine until now." Instead of poverty there is now plenty; instead of want there is a full supply; instead of shame and annoyance there is wonder and praise.

It was Jesus who did this. The superiority of His gift was admitted as soon as the gift was tasted, but it was not till the guests ceased to take man's provision that they obtained the Lord's provision. Thus our Lord manifested His way of blessing. He "satisfieth the longing soul with goodness." Psa. 107. 9.

Dear children when Mary heard of the failure in the supply of wine she "went and told Jesus." That is what we should do in all our little troubles and trials. I like to think this first miracle was meant, not only to help people then to believe Jesus came from God, but to teach us how truly Jesus is interested in all our pleasures and pain.

Jesus and Nicodemus.

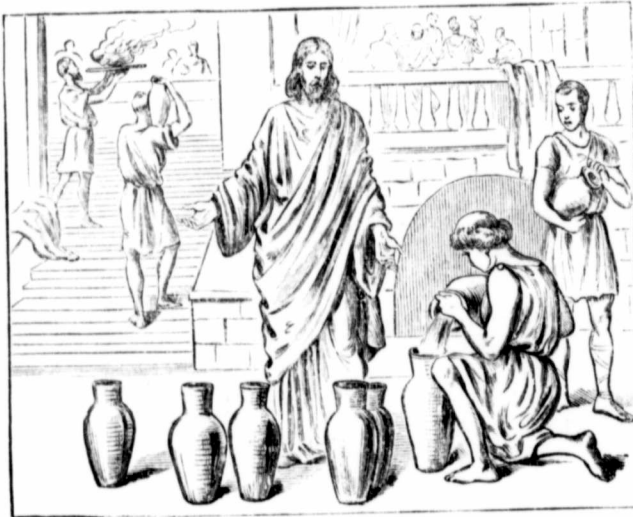
John 3: 1-18.

AFTER the wedding at Cana, Jesus and His mother's family went to *Ca-per-na-um*, on the Sea of Galilee. He did not stay there very long, for it was nearly time for the Passover Feast, and He and His disciples went to Jerusalem. For the first thing He did there, see chap. 2: 14-16. He also taught the people, and did a number of miracles.

But one man wanted to learn more, so he came to Jesus to have a quiet talk. He was a *Pharisee*, very strict about all outward parts of religion; yet Jesus said to him, "Ye must be born again," that is, you must begin all over, and lead a new life.

How surprised Nicodemus was when Jesus said "he must be born again." Of course he believed all the

wicked Gentiles ought to be baptized and join the Jewish church. But Jesus meant more than that. He meant we must have a new heart, a new life within. But how can this be? asked Nicodemus. Ah! he could not, and neither can we, understand *how*, any more than we can tell "whence the wind *cometh*." But we know all who *want* a new heart can have it. Have you read the story of the Brazen Serpent? Nicodemus had; and I dare say he thought



THE WATER CHANGED INTO WINE.

it very strange that all who were bitten did not look right up and be cured. But how many, in his day and in ours, refuse to "look to Jesus" and be saved from their sins.

In this lesson we have the verse which has been called the Golden Text of the Bible. It is the 16th verse. Read it carefully. Note what it says:—God *loved* and *gave*. We *believe* and are *saved*. Read again:—God *SO* loved. The greatest of all wonders presented in the smallest of words.

Have you believed? If not, you are included in the "Whosoever," for it means "You, me, or anybody else." Believe now

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