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THE SUNBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. VIII.]

TORONTO, APRIL 9, 1887.

[No. 8.

JESUS ARISEN.

JOSEPH of Arimethea, helped by Nicodemus, having begged permission of Pilate, took the body of Jesus down from the cross, wound it in linen cloths, with sweet spices, and laid it in a new tomb in a garden near to the place of crucifixion. All this was completed before six o'clock on Friday evening, for the Jewish Sabbath began at that hour. The next day, the Sanhedrim, remembering what Jesus had said about rising again, got leave from Pilate to seal up the sepulchre, and to set a watch lest, as they said, the body be stolen, and the disciples say he had risen. Matt. 27: 62-66. Thus Saturday was passed. Early Sunday morning there was a great earthquake; and an angel descending rolled the stone from the opening of the sepulchre, and sat upon it. Immediately afterward Mary Magdalene, and the other women, came



THE RESURRECTION.

with fresh, sweet spices for the body. Beholding the stone rolled away, Mary ran to tell Peter and John. The other women draw nearer, and meet an angel, who tells them that the Lord has risen. Luke. 24: 2-8. Then they go away, and Peter and John, hearing Mary's story, hastened to the sepulchre, but find it empty. Peter, who had gone back to his old love for Jesus,

was the first to enter the tomb, but John was the first to believe. Not knowing where to find Jesus, and bewildered, they go back to their lodgings in the city. Mary would not go home, but stayed behind, weeping. She stooped down and looked into the tomb. She saw two angels, but her thoughts were too full of Jesus for her to be afraid, so she asked if they knew where he was laid.

well what he meant. It was not that."

"What did he mean," asked the mother.

"He meant sin," said the child; "and it is all the same as if he had told us, 'You must not tell lies, nor do what your mother forbids you to do, nor play on Sunday, nor be cross, nor do any things that are bad and wrong.' The Bible means that a sinful thing is an unclean thing, mother."

Then Jesus spake, calling her by name. So, after all Mary Magdalene was the first to see the risen Saviour.

HEARING THE SERMON.

A LITTLE girl used to go to church. She was only between four and five years of age—quite a little girl. But she listened to her minister; she knew that he would tell her about Christ, and she wanted to learn. Once, when she reached home from church, she said, "Mother, I can tell you a little of the minister's sermon. He said, 'Touch not the unclean thing.'"

Wishing to know whether her little daughter understood the meaning of these words, the mother said, "Then if the minister said so, I hope you will take care in the future not to touch things that are dirty."

The little girl smiled and answered, "Oh, mother, I know very

THE LORD IS RISEN.

CHRIST the Lord is risen to-day,
Sons of men and angels say:
Raise your joys and triumphs high,
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply.

Love's redeeming work is done,
Fought the fight, the battle won:
Lo! our Sun's eclipse is o'er;
Lo! he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ hath burst the gates of hell!
Death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ hath opened paradise!

Lives again our glorious King:
Where, O Death, is now thy sting?
Once he died our souls to save:
Where thy victory, O Grave?

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The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, APRIL 9, 1887.

PURITY.

A LESSON FROM GOD'S WORD.

KEEP thyself pure.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart.

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth.

Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure and whether it be right.

Whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, think on these things.

And every man that hath this hope in him (the hope of heaven) purifieth himself even as he (Christ) is pure.

TEMPTED BY DEGREES.

JOHN NEWTON says Satan seldom comes to Christians with great temptations, or with a great temptation, or with a temptation to commit a great sin.

You bring a green log and candle together, and they are very safe neighbours; but bring a few shavings and set them alight, and then bring a few small sticks and let them take fire, and the log be in the midst of them, and you will soon get rid of your log. And so it is with little sins. You will be startled with the idea of committing a great sin, and so the devil brings you a little temptation, and leaves you to indulge yourself. "There is no harm in this," "no great peril in that;" and so by these little chips we are at first easily lighted up, and at last the great log is burned. Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation.—*Anonymous.*

THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE.

TRAVELLERS in the East have often confirmed the aptness of our Saviour's tender illustration of the shepherd and his sheep, his knowledge of them and their recognition of him while fleeing from the stranger's call. But so beautifully was this relation exemplified a little while since, near home, that I am certain the narrative will not be devoid of interest.

One of our farmers, Mr. C——, one morning missed his flock of thoroughbred Southdowns and knew not whether they had strayed or been stolen.

After some time, through inquiry and advertising, he was put upon their track, and traced them, step by step, to the market of a dealer in Buffalo, who had bought them, as he supposed, of their rightful owner. This man had sold the flock to a party in Penn Yan, and thither the owner hastened to claim his lost property. But though easily recognizing his sheep it was more difficult to convince their purchaser of his ownership.

At last he said to him, "If I cannot convince you by the sheep themselves that they are mine I will not claim them."

Whereupon they went together to the field. The purchaser entered first, but the flock, as if frightened at his voice and presence, fled from him. Then Mr. C—— went toward the timid sheep, quietly calling them as he was wont to do, and immediately they came crowding around him and licked his hand held out to them. It was enough, the sheep knew his voice, and they followed him. And though he had many miles to traverse, they came quietly along, never

once seeking to escape by cross-roads, until he brought them home.

Dear reader, may you and I so know our Shepherd's voice, so trust his loving care.

What is it to be a Christian but just to recognize and follow our rightful Master?—*N. Y. Observer.*

LOOK UP, MY BOY.

THERE is hope in the world for you and me; There is joy in the thousand things that be; There is fruit to gather from every tree—
Look up, my boy, look up!

There is care and struggle in every life; With temper and sorrow the world is rife, But no strength cometh without the strife;
Look up, my boy, look up!

There's a place in the land for you to fill; There is work to do with an iron will; The river comes from the tiny rill—
Look up, my boy, look up!

There are bridges to cross, and the way is long, But a purpose in life will make you strong; Keep o'er on your lips a cheerful song;
Look up, my boy, look up!

Speak ill of no one; defend the right; And have the courage, as in God's sight, To do what your hands find with your might;
Look up, my boy, look up!

TAKE HEED HOW YOU HEAR.

A HEATHEN Indian woman once said to a Christian Indian, named Esther: "I often go to your meetings, and always hear something. One Sunday lately the minister exactly described the state of my heart. Indeed, I fully thought he would soon say, 'There sits a woman who is just what I have been saying.' Do tell me how the minister knows, and who is it that tells him?"

"O yes," said Esther, "I will tell you. The minister preaches the pure word of God, and that word speaks to our hearts. If we are willing to listen to it, God works in our hearts by his Spirit, and shows us that it is spoken to us. Then we see and hear what is our real state; and every one thinks, 'That was spoken to me!'"

The word of God is not a mere dead book—it is "living and powerful, and sharper than a two-edged sword;" and those who hear and heed it will find it the word of life and salvation to their souls.

I LOVE them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.—*Prov. 8. 17.*



CANOE IN RAPIDS.

A PERILOUS SCENE.

OUR picture presents us with a romantic and perilous scene. See this torrent rushing madly down these rapids, between towering ledges and among huge boulders. How can these frail canoes pass without being dashed to atoms?

It is wonderful how experienced boatmen will navigate in safety amid such perils.

But there is another peril, more fearful than the cataract. There is a wily Indian with his bow bent, ready to send his unerring arrow to the heart of these boatmen. They may escape the perils of water, but how can they escape the Indian's deadly attack?

GRACE AT TABLE.

In the Hampton Institute, and other schools in the South connected with the American Missionary Association one of the ways of saying grace at table is in chanting the Lord's Prayer, or some sentiment like this:

Thou art great and thou art good;
Lord, we thank thee for this food.
By thy hand must all be fed:
Give us, Lord, our daily bread.

Amen.

THE CRUCIFIXION.

THEN Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged him. And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and they put on him a purple robe, and said, Hail, King of the Jews! and they smote him with their hands. Pilate therefore went forth again, and saith unto them, Behold, I bring him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in him. Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man! When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. Pilate said unto them, Take ye him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him. The Jews answered him, we have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God. When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid; and went again into the judg-

ment-hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer. Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee? Jesus answered, Thou couldst have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin. And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, saying, If thou let this man go, thou art not Cæsar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Cæsar. When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment-seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King! But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Cæsar. Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led him away. And he, bearing his cross, went forth into a place called the place of a skull,

which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: where they crucified him, and two others with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst. And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. This title then read many of the Jews; for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city: and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin. (John 19: 1-20.)

A SONG OF EASTER.

SING, children, sing!

The lilies white you bring

In the joyous Easter morn for hope are blossoming,

And as the earth her shroud of snow from off her breast doth fling,

So may we cast our fetters off in God's eternal spring;

So may we find relief at last from sorrow and from pain,

So may we find our childhood's calm, delicious dawn again.

Sweet are your eyes, little ones, that look with smiling grace,

Without a shade of doubt or fear, into the Future's face!

Sing, sing in happy chorus, with joyful voices tell

That death is life, and God is good, and all things shall be well!

That bitter days shall cease

In warmth and light and peace,—

That winter yields to spring,—

Sing, little children, sing!

THE INQUISITIVE MOUSE.

A LITTLE mouse, unused to the ways of the world, once left its quiet home, and set out upon a journey, and was greatly charmed with many of the strange things that it saw, among which was a dear little house, the door of which stood wide open. As there was no one about, it ventured to look in, and saw a bit of cheese suspended from the ceiling. "That cheese smells very good," thought the mouse, and forthwith walked in, and began to nibble away at the tempting morsel.

Suddenly there was a sharp noise, which greatly frightened the mouse, but when it tried to run home again it found the door shut!

The mouse never saw its poor father and mother again!

There are traps for children, and very tempting are the baits hung up to attract them; but remember—the best side of these traps is the outside.—*Rev. Julius Brigg.*

EASTER LETTERS.

LILIES pure and white,
Born fresh for Easter morning,
Tell me whence ye came:
Who gave you such adorning?
Did the golden sun,
With his magic fingers,
Paint the creamy glow
That o'er your chalice lingers?

In the ground below
When winter's bands were tightest,
Did you dream of flowers
The sweetest and whitest?
Answer, lilies white;
No longer silent be!
Tell my soul its hope
Of immortality.

Long I listened for an answer
From the lily white,
Slowly swaying to and fro
In the fading light.
Faint its perfume, o'er me stealing,
Soothed me into sleep,
While the shadows o'er me settled
Into darkness deep.

I was buried without lying,
And beneath the grass,
Cold and still I now was lying,
Waiting time to pass.
"Death and silence! No; 'twas life—
Life in everything:
Even worms in wonder talked
Of a gauzy wing.

BE KIND TO-DAY.

A LITTLE child may brighten scores of lives every day. There is not one of us who may not gladden and strengthen many a heart between every rising and setting sun. Why should we not live to bless the living, to cheer the disheartened, to sweeten cups that are bitter, to hold up the hands that hang down, to comfort those who mourn, to bear joy into joyless homes? Kind words will not spoil a man. If a sermon helps you, it will do the preacher no harm to tell him so. If the editor writes an article that does you good, he may write a still better one if you send him a word of thanks. If a book blesses you, do you not owe it to the author to write a grateful acknowledgment? If you know a weary neglected one, would it not be Christ-like work to seek an opportunity to brighten and bless that life? Do not wait till the eyes are closed, the ears deaf, and the heart still. Do it now. *Post-mortem* kindness does not cheer. Flowers on the coffin cast no fragrance backward over the weary days.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

B.C. 1706.] LESSON III. [April 17.

JOSEPH MAKES HIMSELF KNOWN.

Gen. 45. 1-15. Commit to memory vs. 13-15.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Overcome evil with good. Rom. 12, 21.

OUTLINE.

1. A Brother.
2. The Son.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Who came from Canaan to buy corn of Joseph? His brothers.

What did Joseph do? He made himself known to them.

Why did he make himself known? Because he loved them.

Why did he say to them? "I am Joseph, whom ye sold into Egypt."

How did they feel when they heard it? They were afraid.

Why were they afraid? Because of their sin.

Of what did Joseph immediately assure them? Of his love and forgiveness.

What did he tell them? "God did send me before you to save your lives."

What did he command them? "Haste, and bring down my father hither."

What message must they bring him? "Joseph is alive, and Lord of all Egypt."

What was Joseph anxious to do for his father? Care for him and all his family during the years of the famine.

What finally convinced the brothers of Joseph's love? His tears and caresses.

Why did Joseph love his brothers after they were cruel to him? Because he loved God.

What command of the New Testament did Joseph keep? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Joseph "paid back" his enemies with love and costly presents.

Jesus "paid back" his enemies with love and the gift of eternal life.

How do you "pay back" when any one injures you?

"Love your enemies, do good to them that hate you."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION. — Human responsibility.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

What has God made? God made everything in heaven and earth; and, last of all, he made man.

B.C. 1706.] LESSON IV. [April 24.

JOSEPH AND HIS FATHER.

Gen. 47. 1-12.

Commit to memory vs. 10-12.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise. Eph. 6. 2.

OUTLINE.

1. The King.
2. The Father.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What did Joseph tell Pharaoh? That his father had come to Egypt with all his family.

Whom did he present before the king? Five of his brothers.

How did Pharaoh receive them? With great favour and kindness.

Why did he so receive them? Because they were Joseph's friends.

What did he give them? The best of the land to dwell in.

What did he tell Joseph to make them? Rulers over his cattle.

What honour did Joseph show his father? He brought him to see Pharaoh. (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

What did Jacob do? He gave the king his blessing.

What was the king's first word to Jacob? "How old art thou?"

What did Jacob answer? "The years of my pilgrimage are a hundred and thirty."

How did he describe his life? As full of trouble and sorrow.

To what did Jacob compare it? To a journey.

What kind of a journey should it be for all of us? A journey from earth to heaven.

Where did Jacob make a home for his father? In the land of Goshen.

What more did Joseph do? He cared for them all during the years of the famine.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Will children who love God neglect and dishonour their parents?

Will they be disobedient and impolite at school?

Will they be cross and impatient at home?

"I will love thee, O Lord, my strength."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION. — The better land.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

How did God make man? God made the body of man out of the dust of the earth.