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# THE SUNBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. VII.]

TORONTO, DECEMBER 18, 1886.

[No 26.]

## CHRISTMAS CAROLS.

WHAT more charming Christmas custom is there than that of singing Christmas carols? See how Aunt Mary and her little nieces and nephew in the picture enjoy it. We have filled this number of the SUNBEAM with Christmas hymns and carols, and hope our little friends will have a good time singing them, and that this may be the best and happiest Christmas that ever they have known.

### WHAT THEY DID.

"HALLO!" cried Tom.

"What is it?" asked Rose

"Come into the corner and I'll tell you," said Tom.

Then Rose and Tom put their heads together and whispered.

"Next Saturday will be Christmas," said Tom.

"We shall get lots of things," said Rose.

"The poor children over the way will not get anything," said Tom. "Just think, Rose, they never heard of hanging up stockings."

"Poor little tots!" cried Rose.

Then Tom and Rose whispered many other things. They ran to the playroom, and counted their toys, and put ever so many of these in a heap on the floor.

"We meant to keep them all our lives," said Rose,



CHRISTMAS CAROLS

"But now we have found something better to do with them," said Tom. "I wish that we had money enough for the other thing."

The night before Christmas they ran over the way and asked Grandmother Rule to

lend them four stockings. They filled the stockings with toys and games and picture-books, and hung them at the foot of the bedstead where the four children were asleep.

"Won't they be glad?" said old Mrs. Rule. "I will waken them at daylight."

"Grandmother Rule will open her eyes wide when she sees what is on the chair," whispered Rose. Mother and father had helped them with "money for the other thing," so that Rose and Tom could buy a big turkey too for the family over the way.

Hurrah for Christmas! What a glad day it was for all! But I should not be surprised to hear that Rose and Tom were made more glad by what they gave than by all the fine gifts that came to them.

Rose said, "Mother, I have chosen a beautiful text for the New Year—what Jesus said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'"

### RULES FOR TO-DAY.

Do nothing that you would not like to be doing

when Jesus comes.

Go to no place where you would not like to be found when Jesus comes.

Say nothing that you would not like to be saying when Jesus comes.

THE LORD IS AT HAND.

## CHRISTMAS DAY.

O TELL me, children, who have seen  
The Christmas tree in bloom,  
Which is the very brightest thing  
That sparkles in the room?

The candles? No. The tinsel? No.  
The skates and shining toys?  
Not so, indeed; nor yet the eyes  
Of happy girls and boys.

It's Christmas day, itself, my dears;  
It's Christmas day alone—  
The brightest gift, the gladdest gift,  
The world has ever known.

—St. Nicholas.

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## The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 18, 1886.

## THE SUNBEAM FOR 1887

Will be brighter, better, and more beautiful than ever, with a superior grade of pictures. It is just what the little folk of the primary classes need—full of pretty pictures, poems, etc.

Teachers will please send their orders at once, that there be no interruption in sending the SUNBEAM for 1887.

SUNBEAM every fortnight, when less than twenty copies, 15 cents; twenty copies and upwards, 12 cents.

## BE POLITE.

"Hush!" whispered a little girl to her classmates who were laughing during prayer; "we should be polite to God." Dear children, do you ever think how wickedly rude it is to laugh and whisper in your class, or while the superintendent is engaged in prayer? Be careful how you laugh during God's service, lest some time he laugh at you and "mock when your fear cometh."



THE FIRST CHRISTMAS.

## "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST."

HARK! the herald-angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King,  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild;  
God and sinners reconciled."

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies!  
With angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die;  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.

Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace!  
Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

My dear little Sunbeams—for that I hope you all are—bright and cheery, and giving joy and gladness, just like the beams of the blessed sun, I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a very happy New Year. I hope you will have lots of fun during your holidays, lots of presents in your stockings, and plenty of cake and plum-pudding; only don't eat too much of it and forget the poor, who have none of the pleasant things you have; and if you will spare some of your own things to give to some poor boy or girl, you will enjoy your own ever so much better. Remember God's great Christmas

gift to you—the gift of his dear Son—and give him your young hearts, and resolve with the New Year to love him all your lives. Try to let your lives henceforth be like the snow in the fields, pure and spotless, not defiled by sin, like the snow on the roads, all marred and soiled by trampling feet.

I hope, too, you will do all you can for the Mission cause. Ask your friends to give a Christmas present to God to extend the preaching of his Word throughout Canada, and throughout the world.

## CHRISTMAS.

THERE is no part of the world in which Christmas is not kept. Even in pagan lands are found some Christians who do not forget when the day comes which celebrates the birth of Christ. Though doubtless everywhere there are those who see in it only a day for feasting and merry-making, yet many others in the midst of the feasting remember what the day means, and thank God for the heaven-sent Babe and for the angels' song. Let every heart unite in the chorus of "Glory to God in the highest."

A SCHOOLMISTRESS, while taking down the names and ages of her pupils at the beginning of the term, asked one little fellow: "What's your father's name?" Oh, you needn't take down his name!" was the reply; "he's too old to go to school this year."



CHRISTMAS IN THE HOSPITAL.

## CHRISTMAS DAY.

BY MRS. HELEN E. BROWN.

TELL me, why is Christmas day  
The day for songs and mirth?  
It calls to mind the happiest  
That ever dawned on earth;  
The day when God sent angels down  
To sing the Saviour's birth.

What's the song for Christmas day,  
The glad, the sweet refrain?  
"Glory to God" in heaven above,  
"Peace and good-will to men;"  
Let all the joy-bells peal it out  
Again, and yet again.

How shall children keep the day  
To please their Lord above?  
By singing songs of thankfulness,  
And doing deeds of love;  
By bearing high the olive branch  
Of peace, like Noah's doys,

Will he let such little ones  
His wondrous mercy tell?  
Yes, we may carry wide the news,  
And this will please him well—  
The blessed news that Jesus came  
To save our souls from hell.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS.

A MERRY Christmas to all the boys and  
girls! May the joys of this happy time  
last all the year, and grow deeper, and  
stronger, and sweeter, with every new day!

This can only be the case where the true  
Christmas spirit is found—the spirit of  
love and helpfulness.

What but this sent the Holy Babe, whose  
birth we celebrate at this glad time, into  
our cold, sad world? Surely, if he had not  
loved us very dearly, and wanted to help  
us, he would not have left his bright home  
in the skies to be born in a manger, and to  
grow up to suffer the scorn and ill-treat-  
ment of wicked men!

## A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

LISTEN, children, to the music  
That the old church bells do make,  
Ringing out this Christmas morning,  
For the dear Redeemer's sake,  
'Tis his birthday, and we keep it  
In this lovely land of ours,  
In the farm-house, cottage, mansion,  
Pleasantly we pass the hours

Long ago, in Bethlehem's stable,  
Christ was born, the baby King;  
"Peace on earth," the watching shepherds  
Heard the holy angels sing,  
And the music has not ceased,  
But has through the ages rolled,  
And "good will" among the nations  
Has increased a thousandfold.

Let our hearts be full of sunshine,  
Though the frost is on the pane,  
And old Winter, keen but kindly,  
Comes to visit us again,  
As with snowy robe he covers  
All the bleak and barren ground,  
And makes fairy forms of beauty  
Where the leafless trees abound.

Ring, ye bells! 'tis sweet to listen;  
Sing, ye waits, outside the door,  
Echoes of that wondrous music  
That was heard in days of yore,  
Decorate the house with holly,  
Let the bright red berries shine,  
While we celebrate the birthday  
Of our loving Lord divine.

## CHRISTMAS TREES.

MERRY Christmas! Why do we keep it  
with so much joy and gladness? Is there  
a little child anywhere who does not know  
that it is the day when our dear Lord was  
born? "Christ the Prince of glory slept  
on Mary's knee." The whole beautiful  
story is familiar to every one of us, and the  
sweetest thing about Christmas is that it  
belongs to every one of us, to the poorest  
as well as the richest, for the infant Jesus  
came to save the whole world.

The custom of hanging gifts on Christmas  
trees comes to us from Germany. There,  
for days beforehand, great preparations are  
made, and when the eve of Christmas  
arrives, the tree is lighted with tapers, and  
its boughs are loaded with presents for  
parents, children, teachers, friends and ser-  
vants. We are glad that many of our  
Sunday-schools follow the pretty home idea  
of the Fatherland, to a wider conclusion,  
and have Christmas-trees in the Sunday  
school.—*The Child's World*.

## CHRISTMAS.

DAINTY little stockings  
Hanging in a row,  
Blue and gray and scarlet,  
In the fire-lights glow.

Curly-pated sleepers  
Safely tucked in bed;  
Dreams of wondrous toy-shops  
Dancing through each head.

Funny little stockings  
Hanging in a row,  
Stuffed with sweet surprises  
Down from top to toe.

Skates and balls and trumpets,  
Dishes, tops, and drums,  
Books and dolls and candies,  
Nuts and sugar-plums.

Little sleepers waking;  
Bless me, what a noise!  
Wish you merry Christmas,  
Happy girls and boys!

## LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTERLY REVIEW. DEC' 25  
REVIEW QUESTIONS.

Lesson I.—GOLDEN TEXT: The Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Who betrayed Jesus? Judas, one of his disciples. Where was he betrayed? In the Garden of Gethsemane. Who was angry when they took Jesus? Peter. What did the Jews do with Jesus? They bound him and led him to the high-priest.

Lesson II.—GOLDEN TEXT: I find in him no fault at all. Who found no fault in Jesus? Pilate, governor of Judea. What did the Jews want Pilate to do? To condemn Jesus to death. What did Pilate try to do? To set Jesus free. What did the Jews cry out? Not this man, but Barabbas. What was Barabbas? A robber and a murderer.

Lesson III.—GOLDEN TEXT: Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. Who delivered Jesus to the Jews to be crucified? Pontius Pilate. Why did Pilate do this when he found no fault in him? To please the people. What was the determination of the people? That he must die. What did Pilate know? That Jesus was innocent. What should he have done? Protected him from the people.

Lesson IV.—GOLDEN TEXT: It is finished. Who uttered these words? Jesus, when he hung upon the cross. What was finished? The work he came to do to save the world. How long did Jesus suffer on the

cross? Six hours. Why did he suffer and die? To save us from our sins.

Lesson V.—GOLDEN TEXT: The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. When did Jesus rise from the dead? On the morning of the third day. Who came to his tomb early on the morning of that day? Mary Magdalene. What did she tell Peter and John? That it was empty. What did John and Peter see when they looked into it? The linen grave-clothes lying. What did Mary see? Two angels in white. Who appeared to Mary as she wept at the tomb? Jesus, the risen one.

Lesson VI.—GOLDEN TEXT: And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Who refused to believe that Jesus was risen from the dead? Thomas. What did he tell the disciples? That he must see the prints of the wounds before he would believe. What did Jesus show him? The wounds in his hands and his side. Why did Thomas then believe? Because he had seen Jesus and his wounds. Who are more blessed than Thomas? Those who believe in Jesus without seeing him.

Lesson VII.—GOLDEN TEXT: He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. To whom was this charge given? To Simon Peter. Where? On the sea-shore. Before whom? The disciples. What had Peter done? Denied his Lord. What did Jesus wish to show Peter? That he loved him still. What did the Lord tell Peter? That he should be counted worthy to die for the name of the Lord Jesus.

Lesson VIII.—GOLDEN TEXT: If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin. What does Jesus tell us? That God is light. Why is God light and without darkness? Because he is pure and holy. What must we do? Try to be like him. What will take away all our sin? The precious blood of Jesus. If we love God, how will others know it? By our love to each other.

Lesson IX.—GOLDEN TEXT: I am he that liveth, and was dead, and, behold, I am alive for evermore. Who spoke these words to John on Patmos? Jesus the risen one. Describe him as he appeared to John. When shall every eye behold him in his glory? When he comes to earth upon the clouds of heaven. For what shall the earth tremble and mourn? For its sins. Who will be glad to see Jesus? All who have loved and obeyed him.

Lesson X.—GOLDEN TEXT: Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the

Lamb for ever and ever. Who sang a new song of praise unto God and to the Lamb? Every created thing in heaven and earth and sea. Why was the Lamb worthy of the new song? Because he was slain for the salvation of the world. What had he power to do? To open the book with the seven seals. Why was God worthy of the new song? Because he gave his dearly beloved Son to die for the sins of the world.

Lesson XI.—GOLDEN TEXT: Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple. Who stand before the throne of God and serve him? Those who wear white robes and carry palms in their hands. Who only can wear the white robes? Those who are washed in the blood of the Lamb. What must every one bear on earth before they can wear a white robe in heaven? Sorrow and pain for Jesus' sake. What does God promise them? To wipe away all tears from their eyes.

Lesson XII.—GOLDEN TEXT: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. Who says he is coming quickly? The Lord Jesus. What will he bring with him? A reward for every man according to his work. What will he give to those who love him? A right to enter into the city and eat of the tree of life. To whom does he say "Come?" To every one. How will he give to all who come to him? Freely, without money and without price.

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING.

THANK God for Christmas! It has a face so cheery that our own faces brighten as we look into it. It is so merry with bell-music and carol-singing that we find ourselves joining in its songs. And it is a friend true and warm that we welcome it with our hearts.

Christmas is coming; let us make it merry one. Let sorrow chasten and subdue, but not render us selfish and hard. Rather let us be more tender because of his presence—more anxious to lighten the burden of it for others. Let us do without something that a sick child may be fed, a cold room warmed. Let us invite as a guest of the festival some solitary individual; let us send parcels to the poor, and greetings to the aged. Let us think what he whose birthday we celebrate would do if he were in our place, and then let us do it joyfully and for his sake. What did he do? Feed the hungry? Heal the sick? Yes; and when he could no longer do that he said, "Nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done."

Dear friends, God give you a happy Christmas!