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THE SUNBEAM

Vol. II.

MARCH 19, 1881.

No. 6.



MADGE MADCAP.

LITTLE Madge Madcap got her second name because she was such a wild, harum-scarum little thing. Her hair always looked as if it had not been combed for a week, and she was a regular romp and tom-boy, tearing her clothes and breaking her toys. Instead of sitting down on the swing, as any sensible child would, she used always to stand up, as you see in the pic-

ture, and one day she got a terrible fall. But nothing cured her, and I am afraid Madcap Madge will come to a terrible end some day if she don't take care.

SEASONED WITH A KISS.

I HAVE brought your dinner, father,"
The blacksmith's daughter said,
As she took from her arms a kettle
And lifted its shining lid.
"There's not any pie or pudding,
So I will give you this,"
And upon his toil-worn forehead
She left a childish kiss.

The blacksmith tore off his apron
And dined in a happy mood,
Wondering much at the savor
Hid in his humble food,
While all about him were visions
Full of prophetic bliss,
But he never thought of the magic
In his little daughter's kiss.

While she with her kettle swinging,
Merrily trudged away,
Stopping at sight of a squirrel,
Catching some wild-bird's lay.
And I thought how many a shadow
Of life and fate we should miss
If always our frugal dinners
Were seasoned with a kiss.

—Pittsburg Commercial.

The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, MARCH 19, 1881.

BABY HAS GONE TO SCHOOL

THE baby has gone to school ; ah, me !
 What will the mother do,
 With never a call to button or pin,
 Or tie a little shoe ?
 How can she keep herself busy all day,
 With the little hindering thing away ?

Another basket to fill with lunch,
 Another "good-bye" to say.
 And the mother stands at the door to see
 Her baby march away.
 And turns with a sigh that is half relief,
 And half a something akin to grief.

She thinks of a possible future morn,
 When the children one by one,
 Will go from their home, out into the world,
 To battle with life alone.
 And not even the baby left to cheer
 The desolate home of the future year.

She picks up garments here and there,
 Thrown down in careless haste,
 And tries to think how it would seem
 If nothing were displaced.
 If the house were always as still as this,
 How could she bear its loneliness ?

FAREWELL TO WINTER.

FAREWELL winter, ice and snow,
 We are glad to see you go.
 Long enough has been your stay ;
 Spring is waiting, haste away !

Spring is coming with its joys,
 Full of cheer for girls and boys.
 God, we thank thee for the Spring,
 Help us all thy praise to sing.—*Ex.*

THE PRAYING CHILD.

"**M**Y children," said a poor widow to her five little ones, "I have no food for you this morning, as all the bread in the house is gone, and I have no money to buy more. Pray to the good God to supply our need, for He has said "Call upon Me in the day of trouble."

Little Christian, one of the widow's children, who was not more than six years of age, went on his way to school sad and hungry.

But as he passed the door of the church he saw that it was open, and determined to enter in and pray there ; for his mother's dwelling was so small and crowded that he was never able to say his prayers quite alone. So he went into the church, not knowing that any one was there ; he knelt down in the middle aisle and said the following prayer :

"Dear Father in heaven, we children have nothing left to eat. Our mother has no food in the house for us, and without Thy help we must all starve. O Lord, help us. Thou art rich and powerful, and to Thee it is an easy thing to help us. Thou hast promised to do so, therefore now fulfil Thy word."

So prayed Christian with child-like simplicity, and then went to school. On his return home he saw the cloth laid for dinner, and bread, meat, eggs, and rice temptingly spread upon the table.

"Thank God," said little Christian, when he saw it. "He has heard my prayer. Mother, did a beautiful angel bring these things for us ?"

"No," replied the widow, "but God has sent them in answer to your prayer. When you were in church you thought no one saw you but God : but there was a lady sitting in one of the pews, and she heard you pray, and saw you through the lattice-work on the side of the pew. She sent us our feast ; she is the angel whom God raised up to help us. Now let us ask his blessing on our meal, and never forget, my children, those sweet lines :—

"Trust the Lord and wait His hour,
 He will aid in love and power."



TEACHING THE CAT TO READ.

MISS Minnie Martin was a very studious little girl, and was very proud that she was able to spell dog, cat, and such like words. So one day she thought she would teach her pretty pussy to spell her own name. So she took puss by the

back and made her come to her lessons. But puss did not like it a bit, and made an awful face over it, and looked very cross about it, indeed. I have seen some little boys and girls do something very much like this, too, when they were sent to their lessons; but I hope none of the readers of the SUNBEAM ever did such a foolish thing as that.

LESSON NOTES.

A. D. 28.] MISSIONARY LESSON. [Mar. 27.
PREACHING THE KINGDOM; or, Sent to Preach.

Luke 9, 1-6.

Commit to memory verses 3-4.

GOLDEN TEXT.

He sent them to preach the kingdom of God.
Luke 9. 2.

OUTLINE.

1. The Call, v. 1, 2.
2. The Command, v. 3-6.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

1. *The Call*, v. 1, 2.—Whom did Christ call? Twelve of those who followed him. What were they called? The twelve disciples. What does the word "disciples" mean? Learners. Why were these called learners? Because they learned the truth from Christ. Would you not like to have Christ teach you his word? For what purpose did Christ call these men? So that they might teach others. For what did he send them? [GOLDEN TEXT.]

2. *The Command*, v. 3-6.—What did Christ command the disciples to do? To go among the people and preach. What were they to take for their journey? Nothing. What did he say to them? "Take neither staff, nor bag, nor two coats, nor money." Why was this command given? That they might learn to trust God. What else did he command them? Not to go about from house to house. Why were they to stay in one place? So that they might spend all their time in preaching. What were they to do when the people would not hear them? To shake off the dust from their feet. Of what would this be a sign? That God had cast them off. How may we avoid being cast off by the Lord? By listening to his word. What power did Christ give to his disciples? Power to heal the sick. Why did they have this power? So that people would believe in them. What did the disciples do after these commands? They went through all the towns preaching. What else did they do? They healed all that were sick.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

1. Be one of Jesus' learners.
2. Try to tell others about Christ.
3. Obey faithfully all his commands.
4. Trust in him for all things.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The divine call to preach.

TINY TEXT

Preach the kingdom. Luke 9. 2.

SECOND QUARTER—*Studies in the Gospel of Luke.*

A. D. 28.] LESSON I. [April 3.
FOLLOWING JESUS; or, Fit for the Kingdom.

Luke 9. 51-62.

Commit to memory verses 57, 58.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God. Luke 9. 62.

OUTLINE.

1. The Leader, v. 51-56.
2. The Followers, v. 57-62.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

1. *The Leader*, v. 51-56.—Who was the leader of the disciples? Jesus Christ. Where was he at this time? In Galilee. Where did he resolve to go? To Jerusalem. For what purpose was he going there? To die on the cross. Why was it needful for him to die? For the sins of the world. Through what country must he pass in going to Jerusalem? Through Samaria. How did the people of one village in Samaria treat Jesus? They would not let him come into the village. Why did they so treat him? Because they did not know him. How did some of the disciples feel at such treatment of Jesus? They were very angry. What did they want to do? To let fire fall from heaven and burn up the village. What did Jesus say to them? That he had come, not to kill men, but to save them.

2. *The Followers*, v. 57-62. What did one man offer to do? To follow Jesus anywhere. What did Jesus tell him? That he had no home. What did Jesus say to another man? "Follow me." What did he wish this man to do? To go and preach to men. What did the man say in answer? "Let me first go and bury my father." What did this show? That he was not willing to follow Jesus at once. What did Jesus say to him? "Let the dead bury their dead." What did this mean? That other people could do this, while he preached the gospel. What did another wish to do before going to preach? To go home and bid his friends good-bye. What did Jesus say to him? That no one should look back from God's work.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

1. Make Christ welcome to your heart.
2. Never wish for evil, even to your worst enemies.
3. When Christ calls, obey at once, without waiting.
4. Never turn back from serving Christ.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The humiliation of Christ.

TINY TEXT.

Lord, I will follow thee. Luke 9. 57.