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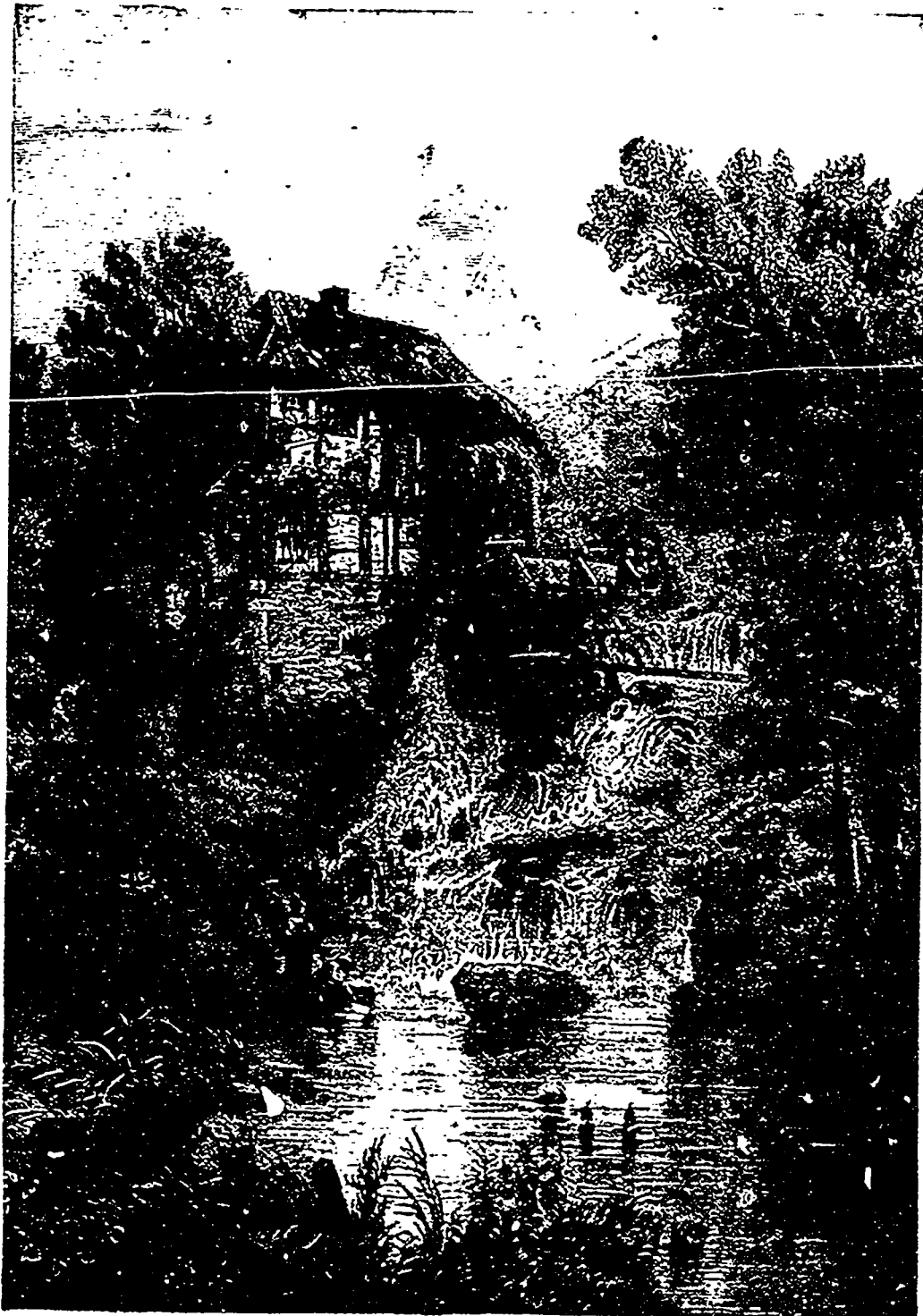
THE

SUNBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. VII.]

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 11, 1886

[No. 1.]



THE WATER-MILL.—(See next page.)

THE WATER-MILL.

LISTEN to the water-mill,
Through the hvelong day,
How the clanking of the wheels
Wears the hours away!
Languidly the autumn wind
Stirs the greenwood leaves;
From the fields the reapers sing,
Binding up the sheaves.
And a proverb haunts my mind,
As a spell is cast—
"The mill will never grind
With the water that is past."

Take the lesson to thyself,
Loving heart and true;
Golden years are fleeting by,
Youth is passing, too;
Learn to make the most of life,
Lose no happy day;
Time will never bring thee back
Chances swept away.
Leave no tender word unsaid;
Love while love shall last—
"The mill will never grind
With the water that has passed."

Work while yet the daylight shines,
Man of strength and will;
Never does the streamlet glide
Useless by the mill.
Wait not till to-morrow's sun
Beams upon the way;
All that thou canst call thine own
Lies in the to-day;
Power, intellect, and health,
May, not, can not last—
"The mill will never grind
With the water that has passed."

Oh, the wasted hours of life,
That have drifted by!
Oh, the good we might have done,
Lost without a sigh!
Love that we might once have saved
By a single word;
Thoughts conceived, but never penned,
Perishing unheard.
Take the proverb to thine heart,
Take—oh! hold it fast—
"The mill will never grind
With the water that has passed."

"WHY, HE PROMISED TO."

A LITTLE maiden, about seven years old,
was once asked: "My little girl, are you a
Christian?"

Looking up with a happy smile, she answered: "Yes!"

"How long have you been one?"

"Ever since last night," she said. "I was at the meeting, and I felt I was a sinner, and I went home and kneeled by the

side of my bed, and I asked God to put away my sins; and he did it."

"How do you know he did it?"

"Why, he promised to," was her reply.

How this dear child's faith took God simply at his word, believing that what he had promised he would fulfil.

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The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 11, 1886.

PRAYING AND DOING.

"BLESS the poor children who haven't got any beds to-night," prayed a little boy just before he lay down on his nice warm cot on a cold, windy night.

As he rose from his knees, his mother said:

"You have just asked God to bless the poor children; what will you do to bless them?"

The boy thought for a moment. "Why, if I had a hundred cakes, enough for all the family, I would give them some."

"But you have no cakes; what then are you willing to do?"

"When I get money enough to buy all the things I want, and have some over, I'll give them some."

"But you haven't enough money to buy all you want, and perhaps never will have; what will you do to bless the poor now?"

"I'll give them some bread."

"You have no bread—the bread is mine."

"Then I could earn money and buy a loaf myself."

"Take things as they are now—you know what you have that is your own; what are you willing to give to help the poor?"

The boy thought again. "I'll give them half my money; I have seven pennies; I'll give them four. Wouldn't that be right?"

TREACHERY.

LONG, long ago there stood upon one of the hills in Rome a mighty fortress. It was besieged by the Sabines, a fierce and warlike enemy. For days they had tried every means of gaining access to the stronghold, but had failed, so vigilant were the defenders. The governor of the fortress had a daughter whose name was Tarpeta. This foolish girl was captivated with the golden bracelets of her father's enemies, and agreed with them to let them into the place if they would give her what they wore upon their left arms. They consented, and before long the unfortunate garrison were surprised and driven from their position. But the traitress was fearfully rewarded. When the Sabines came to fulfil their promise, their commander first handed his bracelet, but with it threw his shield, which he also wore upon his left arm. The others followed his example, and the unfortunate girl was crushed beneath the weight of the treasure which she coveted.

"The wages of sin is death." How often we fail to consider this! It sometimes appears attractive, and charms our fancy, until we desire what is not good for us. To the young the pleasures of the world are like the golden bracelets, and we are willing to join with those who are not on the Lord's side. It is a poor thing to turn our backs on the service of Christ for anything the world can offer. Remember when tempted to do so, "The wages of sin is death."

WHAT STEPHEN DID.

You would like to know what it was. I will tell you.

The church was filled with people. Stephen was there; he kept his eyes and ears wide open, for right up there in the pulpit stood a man who had come all the way over the sea from Syria. He told of the many in that land who did not know the way to heaven.

"Poor people!" thought Stephen; "I wish they could know that Jesus loved them. I cannot go to tell them, though, for I am only a boy."

The man said that fourteen cents would buy a New Testament, and that any boy could make fourteen cents and send one to Syria.

Good news! Stephen tried to think of some way in which he could make fourteen cents.

"How fast the grass grows along the path outside of our gate!" said Mrs. Long. "I cannot find a man in the village to cut it."

"That is my way," thought Stephen. "I'll cut the grass for you, Mrs. Long," he said. And he did.

The result was that he made enough money to buy three New Testaments.



BIRDS.

GOD IS IN HEAVEN.

GOD is in heaven! Can he hear
A little prayer like mine?
Yes, thoughtful child, thou need'st not fear,
He listens unto thine.

God is in heaven! Can he see
When I am doing wrong?
Yes, that he can; he looks at thee
All day and all night long.

God is in heaven! Would he know
If I should tell a lie?
Yes, though thou said'st it very low,
He'd hear it in the sky.

God is in heaven! Does he care,
Or is he good to me?
Yes, all thou hast to eat or wear
'Tis God that gives it thee.

God is in heaven! Can I go
To thank him for his care?
Not yet; but love him here below,
And he will see it there.

God is in heaven! May I pray
To go there when I die?
Yes, seek his grace, and then one day
He'll call thee to the sky.

RUEY AND THE BIRDS.

BY R. M. WILBUR.

"I CAN'T do it, unless you tell me how!" and little Ruey's face snarled up into a knot of wrinkles, till grandpa came near mistaking her for grandma, only her curly locks, without a streak of grey in them, saved her. Besides, "grandma's eyes never looked so fierce," grandpa said.

But that only teased Ruey. So grandpa said, directly: "Come here, puss, and tell me what the trouble is."

So Ruey brought her wrinkled face close to grandpa's chair, and poured her troubles in his ears.

"I wanted to build a house for my children, and the books and blocks keep tumbling down."

"Have to take lessons of the birds, I guess," said grandpa, taking Ruey on his knee.

"Birds can't build houses," said Ruey.

"Can't they, though?" said grandpa.

"Have you forgotten Mr. and Mrs. Robin's lovely home in the cheery tree, last summer, and the pretty Oriole's hanging nest in the elm, half concealed by the branches, that you and I watched so much? Then you haven't forgotten the swallows' houses under the barn-eaves, have you?"

"But I don't call them houses, grandpa," said Ruey.

"But they are birds' houses, and they bring up lots of children in them. They are very wise, too, about building them, and they don't have to be told."

"I guess somebody does tell 'em," said Ruey, looking very wise. "I guess God does."

"You're right there," said grandpa. "God gives them instinct, by which they know just what to do, the very first nest they build. And no two sorts of birds build just alike, either; but each makes the kind best for itself. But," added grandpa, as Ruey slipped down to her play, "the birds never know any more; while my Ruey can keep on learning always, and grow wiser every day."—*S. S. Evangelist.*

PROUD LITTLE ELLA.

ELLA was Aunt Margie's little girl, and had come with her mother and cousins to visit the fair. After they had come within the building, her mamma told her to put her parasol down, but the child did not choose to mind.

"Your mamma says for you to put down your parasol," said Mabel, quite gently.

"I s'an't; I want it up."

Eddie looked with astonishment at a child that could put on such airs and speak so pertly.

The little miss marched on. She wanted the folks to see her pretty parasol. She expected every one to admire her, but they did not. No one noticed her excepting one girl, who remarked as she passed on, "See that little goose!"

By and by Ella got tired of carrying her parasol. She wanted to look at some of the pretty things, and wished it was shut. A man coming along just then jostled against it and knocked it out of her hands. It rolled along the ground, catching up the dust at every turn. Then Miss Ella set up a loud cry.

"Good enough for her!" Mabel was just going to say, but she didn't. Her mother had taught her not to say ill-natured words. She ran and picked up the parasol, saying gently, "Shall I close it now, Ella?" Ella pouted, "Yes."

"And I'll carry it for you; shall I?" asked Eddie, good-naturedly.

"Yes," pouted Ella again.

If she stays much longer with those nice little cousins of hers, she may drop her disagreeable, naughty ways, and copy their politeness and good manners. If she does so, people will have a better opinion of her.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

A.D. 30.] LESSON XII. [Sept. 19.

JESUS' INTERCEDING.

John 17. 1-16. Commit to memory vs. 10-24.

GOLDEN TEXT.

He ever liveth to make intercession for them. Heb. 7. 25.

OUTLINE.

1. The Son, v. 1-5.
2. The Followers, v. 6-19.
3. The Believers, v. 20-26.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What hour had come for Jesus? The hour of his death.

How did he wish his Father to glorify him? By raising him from the dead.

What does Jesus give to all who love him? Life eternal.

What is life eternal? To know God and his Son Christ Jesus.

What did the disciples both know and believe? That God sent his Son into the world.

What did Jesus ask his Father to do? To keep them one in faith and love.

For what did he earnestly pray? That they be kept from the sins of the world.

What had he given them to do? A great work.

What did he want them to be? Holy as he was holy.

What would they show to the world? That they were one in Christ as Christ is one with God.

What would the world believe? That God loved them as he loved his only begotten Son.

What did Jesus will for his disciples? That they should be with him and see his glory.

Why did Jesus make known unto them the Father? That his great love might dwell in their hearts.

For whom did Jesus offer this prayer? For those who believe and trust in him.

Does Jesus still pray for his disciples? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

If your teacher had promised to punish one of your little playmates who had done wrong, and you should go and ask and plead with her not to do it, to forgive him for your sake, that would be interceding for your little friend.

God said he would punish sin, and we have all sinned, but Jesus, precious Jesus, ever liveth to make intercession for us.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The interceding Saviour.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

In what manner will they serve God in heaven? We cannot tell how they will serve him until we go there.

What must you be, if you would go to this glorious and happy place? That I may go to heaven I must be holy in heart and life.

THIRD QUARTERLY REVIEW.—SEPT. 26.

REVIEW QUESTIONS.

LESSON I.—GOLDEN TEXT: One thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see. Who said these words? A man blind from his birth. Why was he born blind? That men might see the power of God. In whom was the power and glory of God. In Christ Jesus. What did Jesus do? He healed the blind man.

LESSON II.—GOLDEN TEXT: I am the Good Shepherd, the Good Shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. Who is the Good Shepherd? Jesus, our Saviour. Who are the sheep? All who love and follow him. Why did the Good Shepherd lay down his life for the sheep? Because he loved them. What does the Good Shepherd give to his sheep? Eternal life. Who sent Jesus to be our Good Shepherd? God the Father.

LESSON III.—GOLDEN TEXT: Our friend Lazarus sleepeth, but I go that I may awake him out of sleep. Of what was Jesus speaking? Of the death of Lazarus. Who sent and told Jesus when Lazarus was sick? Mary and Martha. Why did Jesus tarry in his coming? That he might show them the power of God. What did he tell his disciples? That a great blessing should come to them through the death of Lazarus. What blessing? The strengthening of their faith in him.

LESSON IV.—GOLDEN TEXT: Jesus said unto her, "I am the resurrection and the life." To whom did Jesus say this? To Martha, sister of Lazarus. How is Jesus the resurrection and the life? Because in him is power to raise the dead to life. Whom did he raise from the dead? His friend Lazarus.

LESSON V.—GOLDEN TEXT: Blessed is the king of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord. Who proclaimed Jesus to be the king of Israel? A great multitude of people. Where and when? On his way to Jerusalem to attend the feast of the pass-over. How did Jesus go to Jerusalem? Riding on an ass's colt. What did the multitude strew in his way with shouts and rejoicing? Branches of palm-trees. Who anointed the feet of Jesus with spikenard? Mary, sister of Lazarus.

LESSON VI.—GOLDEN TEXT: And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all

men unto me. To what did Jesus refer when he spoke these words? To his death on the cross. Why was it best for Jesus to die? That all men might see and believe in his great love for them. What does Christ give his followers? Eternal life. Whom does God honour? Those who follow Jesus.

LESSON VII.—GOLDEN TEXT: If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. What things? The things of God. What example did Christ give of one of the things of God? He washed his disciples' feet. Of what was this an example? Of true humility. What did he want to show them? That it was Godlike to be humble. What was his command? That they serve one another as he had served them.

LESSON VIII.—GOLDEN TEXT: Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. What did Jesus tell his disciples? That one of them should betray him. Who was it? Judas. What new commandment did Jesus give his disciples? Love one another even as I have loved you. What did Peter declare to Jesus? "I will die for thee." What did Jesus reply? That he should deny him.

LESSON IX.—GOLDEN TEXT: Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. Why did Jesus speak these words to his disciples? To assure them that they were safe in his love and care. What did he promise to make ready for them? A home in the heavenly mansions. What would he give them? All that they ask for in his name. Who is the way, and the truth, and the life? Jesus.

LESSON X.—GOLDEN TEXT: I am the vine, ye are the branches. Who is the true vine? Jesus. Who are the branches? All who love and serve him. What do we bear if we abide in the vine? Much fruit. When does Jesus love us? When we keep his commandments.

LESSON XI.—GOLDEN TEXT: He will guide you into all truth. Who will guide us into all truth? The Holy Spirit. Why did God send the Holy Spirit into the world? To convict it of sin, of righteousness, and judgment. To whom did he send him as a guide and comforter? To his disciples.

LESSON XII.—GOLDEN TEXT: He ever liveth to make intercession for us. For whom did Jesus pray? For his disciples. What did he ask of the Father? To keep them one in faith and love. What did he earnestly desire? That they be kept from the sins of the world. What did he will for them? That they be with him and see him in his glory.