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THE SUNBEAM

Vol. I.

AUGUST 7, 1880.

No. 15.

THE BAREFOOT BOY.

BY J. G. WHITTIER.

BLESSINGS on thee, little man,
Barefoot boy with cheek of tan!
With thy turned-up pantaloons,
And thy merry whistled tunes;
With thy red lips redder still,
Kissed by raspberries on the hill;
With the sunshine on thy face,
Through thy torn brim's jaunty grace.
From my heart I give thee joy,—
I was once a barefoot boy!

Let the million-dollar-
ed ride!
Barefoot, trudging at his side,
Thou hast more than he can buy
In the reach of ear and eye—



THE BAREFOOT BOY.

Outward sunshine, inward joy:
Blessings on thee, barefoot boy!

Cheerily, then, my little man,
Live and laugh as boyhood can!
Though the flinty slopes be hard,
Stubble-speared the new-mown sward,
Every morn shall lead thee through
Fresh baptisms of the dew;
Every evening from thy feet
Shall the cool wind kiss the heat:
All too soon these feet must hide
In the prison cells of pride,
Lose the freedom of the sod,
Like the colts for work be shod,
Made to tread the mills of toil,
Up and down in ceaseless moil
Happy if their track be found
Never on forbidden ground;
Happy if they sink not in
Quick and treacherous sands of sin.
Ah! that thou couldst know thy joy,
Ere it passes, barefoot boy.

The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, AUGUST 7, 1880.

HOLIDAY TIMES.

No doubt the little folks are having a merry time these long vacation days. We are glad that you who have been so long shut indoors can now "sing the song of rambles, long rambles in the sun;" but we hope you will not give all your time to pleasure seeking. You need physical strength, it is true; but the out and indoor exercise you will have in helping papa and mamma, together with recreation, will develop the muscles of your bodies. Have your parents fix you a time for your work, and a time for your play, and whichever you do, do it well; and when the vacation is over, you will have a satisfied feeling, which is a sure reward for the use of time.

DO YOU LOVE BACK?

BACKWARD and forward in her little rocking-chair went Alice Lee, now clasping her beautiful waxen doll to her bosom, and singing low, sweet lullabies; then smoothing its flaxen curls, patting its rosy cheeks, and whispering softly, "I love you, pretty dolly;" and anon casting wistful glances towards her mother, who sat in the bay window, busily writing. After what seemed to be a very long time to the little daughter, Mrs. Lee pushed aside the papers, and, looking up, said pleasantly, "I am through for to-day, Alice; you may now make all the noise you choose." Scarcely were the words uttered ere the little one had flown to her, and nestling her head on her loving heart, said earnestly, "I'm so glad! I wanted to love you so much, mamma!"

"Did you, darling?" and she clasped her tenderly. "I am very glad my Alice loves me so; but I fancy you were not very lonely while I wrote; you and dolly seemed to be having a happy time together."

"Yes, we had, mamma; but I get tired after awhile of loving her."

"And why?"

"Oh! because she never loves me back."

"And is that why you love me?"

"That is one why, mamma, but not the first one or the best."

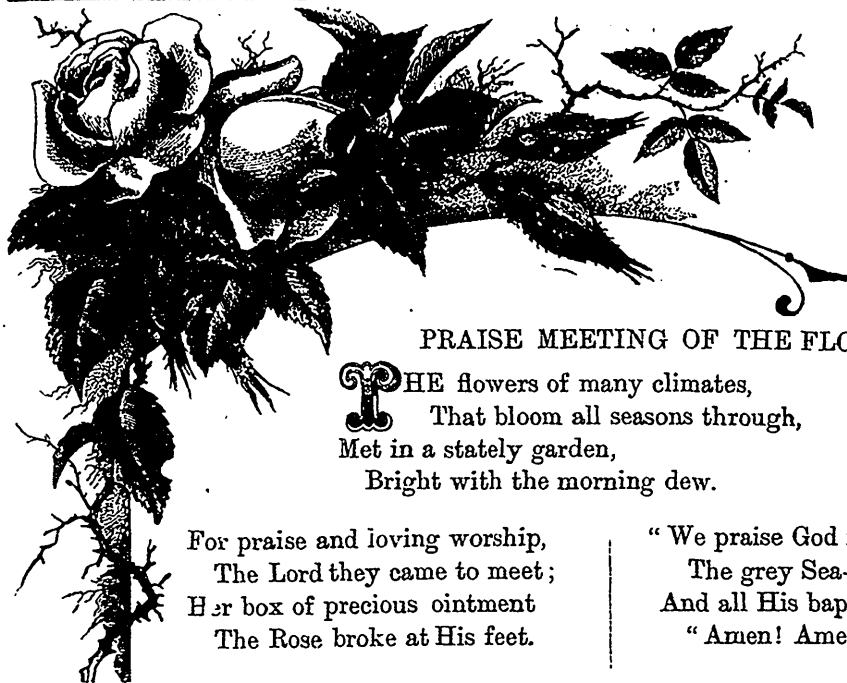
"And what is the first and best?"

"Why, mamma! don't you guess?" and the blue eyes grew very bright and earnest. "It's because you loved me when I was too little to love you back; that's why I love you so."

"We love Him because He first loved us," whispered the mother; and fervently she thanked God for the little child-teacher.

Reader, God loves you; do you love back?—*Sel.*

Most of the shadows that cross our path through life are caused by our standing in our own light.



PRAISE MEETING OF THE FLOWERS.

THE flowers of many climates,
That bloom all seasons through,
Met in a stately garden,
Bright with the morning dew.

For praise and loving worship,
The Lord they came to meet;
Her box of precious ointment
The Rose broke at His feet.

"Thy words are like to honey,"
The Clover testified,
"And all who trust thy promise
Shall in thy love abide."

The Lilies said, "Oh, trust him;
We neither toil nor spin,
And yet His house of beauty,
See how we enter in!"

"And let us follow Jesus,"
The Star of Bethlehem said;
And all the band of star flowers
Bent down with reverent head.

The glad Sun-Flower answered,
And little Daisies bright,
And all the cousin Asters,
"We follow toward the light!"

"We praise Him for the mountains,"
The Alpine Roses cried;
"We bless Him for the valleys,"
The Violets replied.

"We praise Him," said the Air-plants,
"For breath we never lack;"
"And for the rocks we praise Him,"
The Lichens answered back.

"We praise God for the waters,"
The grey Sea-Mosses sighed;
And all His baptized Lilies
"Amen! Amen!" replied.

"And for the cool green woodlands,
We praise and thanks return,"
Said Kalmias and Azalias,
And graceful feathery Fern.

"And for the wealth of gardens,
And all the gardener thinks,"
Said Roses and Camellias,
And all the sweet-breathed Pinks.

"Hosanna in the Highest,"
The Baby-Bluets sang;
And little trembling Harebells,
With softest music rang.

"The winter hath been bitter,
But sunshine follows storm;
Thanks for his loving kindness
The earth's great heart is warm."

Thus spoke the Pilgrims' May-Flower,
That cometh after snow,
The humblest and the sweetest,
Of all the flowers that blow.

"Thank God for every weather,
The sunshine and the wet,"
Spake out the cheery Pansies,
And darling Mignonette.

MAKE YOUR MOTHER HAPPY.

CHILDREN, make your mother happy;
 Make her sing instead of sigh;
 For the mournful hour of parting
 May be very, very nigh.

Children, make your mother happy;
 Many griefs she has to bear;
 And she wearies 'neath her burdens;
 Can you not these burdens share?

Children, make your mother happy;
 Prompt obedience cheers the heart;
 While a wilful disobedience
 Pierces like a poisoned dart.

Children, make your mother happy;
 On her brow the lines of care
 Deepen daily; don't you see them?
 While your own are smooth and fair.

LESSON NOTES.

B.C. 1918.] LESSON VI. [August 8.
 ABRAM AND LOT; or, Kindness.

Gen. 13. 1-12. Commit to memory verses 14-18.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee.—Gen. 13. 8.

OUTLINE.

1. Choosing for self, v. 1-13.
2. Receiving from God, v. 14-18.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSONS.

1. *Choosing for self, v. 1-13.*—Where did Abram go after leaving Egypt? Into Canaan, near Bethel. What did he bring with him? Flocks of sheep, herds of cattle and much treasure. Who came out of Egypt with him? His nephew, Lot. What did Lot own? "Flocks and herds, and tents." What came from all these riches? There was a quarrel between the servants of Abram and Lot. What caused the quarrel? There was not room to feed both their flocks. What did Abram say to Lot? [GOLDEN TEXT.] What choice did he give Lot? The first choice of the whole land. What part did Lot choose? The plain beside the river Jordan. Why did he choose it? Because the land was rich. What people lived in it? The people of Sodom, who were very wicked.

2. *Receiving from God, v. 14-18.*—Where did Abram go? Near Hebron or Mamre. What did God promise him? To give it to him, and

his children after him. What did he promise about Abram's family? That the people descended from him should become very many.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

1. Avoid all quarrels.
2. Be always ready to make peace.
3. Be generous with others.
4. Seek heavenly promises more than earthly riches.

B.C. 1913.] LESSON VII. [August 15.
 ABRAM AND MELCHIZEDEK; or, Self-denial.

Gen. 14. 12-24. Commit to memory verses 18-20.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Jesus, made a high-priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.—Heb. 6. 20.

OUTLINE.

1. The victory, v. 12-16.
2. The blessing, v. 17-20.
3. The vow, v. 21-24.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSONS.

1. *The victory, v. 12-16.*—Who made war against Sodom? The king of a country to the eastward. What did he do? He carried away all the people and their goods. Whom did he take among the captives? Lot, the nephew of Abram. What did Abram do when he heard of it? He armed his servants and went after the enemy. Where did he find them? At a place called Dan. What did he do to them? He fought against them, and drove them far away. What became of the people and goods which they had taken? Abram took them all again. What did he show? Boldness and willingness to help others.

2. *The blessing, v. 17-20.*—Who met Abram after his victory? Melchizedek, the king of Salem. Who was he? A holy man, and priest of God. What did he do? He gave to Abram food and drink. What else did he give to Abram? The blessing of God. What did Abram give to him? A tenth part of all that he had taken. Why did he give this? To honour God with offerings. Who was Melchizedek like? [GOLDEN TEXT.]

3. *The vow, v. 21-24.*—What did the king of Sodom propose? That Abram should keep all the goods and let the people go. What did Abram say? That he had made a vow to God. What was his vow? Not to take anything from the people of Sodom. Why was this? Because they were wicked.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

1. Try to help others in their troubles.
2. Be bold and prompt in doing right.
3. Seek God's blessing and rejoice in it.
4. Be liberal in your gifts to God.