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THE SUNBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. IX.]

TORONTO, MAY 19, 1888.

[No. 10.

WHAT IS IT?

The dog and cat in the picture are eagerly trying to find out what the strange creature their young master holds in his hands really is. If it only gets a nip at them they will soon find out.

The young fisherman holds it very carefully. It is a young crab, and its pinchers nip real hard. I guess he knows what it is like, he holds this one so gingerly.

HE THAT HATH EARS LET HIM HEAR.

THERE was a man living in Adwinkle who kept the village inn, or tavern. He was a rough, drunken, swearing, wicked man. Of course he never went to church. He professed to be an infidel, and never read the Bible. But he was very fond of music. He wanted very much to go to church and hear the new organ. But he was not willing to listen to the minister while praying or reading the Bible, or preaching, even for the pleasure of hearing the new organ. What could he do? After thinking



WHAT IS IT?

over it a good while, he made up his mind that he would go to church and hear the organ, and as soon as the music was over would stop up his ears with his fingers, so as not to hear any of the service. He went accordingly. He heard the voluntary and the opening piece played; Then he stopped his ears while the minister was praying. He listened to the hymn after the prayer, and stopped his ears again while the minister was reading the Scriptures. But just in the midst of this part of

the service there came a fly and lighted on his big red nose. He put out his under lip, and tried to send up a blast of air that would blow him off. But the fly held on. Then he shook his head again and again. The fly took no notice of it. He went deliberately crawling about over the drunkard's blossoming nose, and tickled him more than he could bear. At last he removed his right hand from his ear, for a moment to drive the fly away. While doing this, he heard the minister read these words: "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." They had such an effect upon him, that he went home, and began earnestly to read his Bible; and in a short time he became a Christian.

WELL SAID.

ANNIE and Lillie were going to school together one afternoon. Annie was teasing Lillie to go off somewhere and play with her. "But mother told me to come right home from school," said Lillie.

"Well, she has gone away, and would never know if you would go with me for a little while," naughty Annie said.

"But God has not gone away; he would know," Lillie replied, as she ran home,

WHEN MAMMA WAS A LITTLE GIRL

When mamma was a little girl

(Or so they say to me)

She never used to romp and run,
Nor shout and scream with noisy fun,
Nor climb an apple tree.

She always kept her hair in curl—

When mamma was a little girl.

When mamma was a little girl

(It seems to her, you see)

She never used to tumble down,
Nor break her doll, nor tear her gown,
Nor drink her papa's tea.

She learned to knit "plain," "seam" and
"purl"—

When mamma was a little girl.

But grandma says—it must be true—

"How fast the seasons o'er us whirl!

Your mamma, dear, was just like you

When she was grandma's little girl."

—St. Nicholas

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TORONTO, MAY 19, 1888.

COMMANDMENTS.

"I WISH I was a big man, so I wouldn't have to mind anybody," said little Charlie. But do you think the time would ever come when Charlie would not have to mind somebody? If he works for anybody, he will have to mind his employers; then there are the laws of the city, and state, and country; and always there will be the law of God. But it will not be hard to mind all these laws if our hearts are right. If we love mamma, papa, and learn to obey them while we are little, it will be easy to obey God's commandments when we are older. We will wish to obey them if we love him. And that is the way he wants us to feel.

God knew that nobody ever could keep the commandments all of themselves. He sent Jesus to the world to keep them, and to bear the punishment that would have been ours. Ought we not to love him for being so kind? If we do, we will want to mind him

"TAKE HER."

MISS SHARP, an American missionary working in West Africa, has told the following story about her little scholars:

"A few days ago I said to them, 'A poor Congo woman wants me to take her little girl.'

"Take her! take her!' exclaimed the children in chorus.

"But I do not feel as if I could feed more than I have now," I said.

They thought a while, and then the eldest said:

"If we could work and earn something, we could help buy her chop' (they will say chop).

"Yes; but I know of no one who has any work that you could do," I said.

Another pause, and some talk in Kroc, and then one said:

"Mammy, take her, and we will all give her part off each one's plate. Cook same as now, and we take some from all we plate till she have plenty.'

"Are you all willing to do this?" I asked.

"Yes,' was the answer. 'And,' continued the one who led off, 'now take her and teach book and teach her about God.'

"What made it touching to me was that they all had their meals measured out, and no more than they wanted themselves! Never as much meat any one time in their lives as they could eat"—Exchange.

DON'T TELL A LIE.

"LET's play ball," said Teddy.

"Yes, let's," said Dottie.

Teddy had a tennis-racquet; Dottie got a ball, and they had a fine game.

Crash! went a pane of glass in the window.

And then both the naughty little tots remembered that mamma had told them not to play ball in the dining-room.

"What shall we do?" said Teddy.

"Don't let anybody see it," said Dottie. "And when they do, let's say we don't know."

They picked up the glass and threw it away. Then Teddy sat down before the broken place in the window. He grew very tired of sitting there. But he was afraid to get up for fear some one would see it.

At last it got dark and the shade was pulled down. Then Teddy got up.

But when Teddy and Dottie went to bed they both felt very sober.

Mamma heard them say their prayers. Then she kissed them and went down stairs. Then Teddy said, "Let's tell."

"Let's," said Dottie.

They called mamma and said to her, "Mamma, we broke the dining-room window."

"We played ball," said Dottie.

"And we thought we wouldn't tell," said Teddy.

"And then we thought we would," said Dottie.

"My dears," said mamma, "I am sorry you did not obey me about playing ball in the house. But I am very glad you did not make things worse by telling a lie. Our Saviour forgives our sins when we are sorry for them, but a lie leaves an ugly stain on a little heart and a little tongue."

When mamma was gone down Teddy said, "I'm glad we didn't tell a lie; for, don't you see, we couldn't ever untell it."

Dear little children, remember that you can never untell a lie. Be thankful if you can say, "I have never told a lie." And try with all your hearts always to be able to say so.

POOR FELLOW!

YES, and poor mother, poor sister! The burden, the heart-sche, God only knows, and he only knows what the end will be!

Harry J., a well-dressed, good-looking youth, stumbled into a little Gospel temperance meeting a few days ago. What brought him there who can tell? Twice, three times, he rose to leave, but each time a woman's hand was laid upon his arm, and a gentle voice whispered, "Don't go!" He did not go, but the sweet hymns, the tender prayers, the mother-love in the faces about, all proved too much, and before he knew it he was moaning out, "O, I have broken my mother's heart! I am so sick of my sin! Can't you help me somehow?"

Many and many a scene like that described above had Harry's mother witnessed, and it was true—her heart had broken at last!

Poor fellow! Yes, a thousand times poor! Broken in body, sick at heart, with a weakened will and a torturing conscience, what is left for him? Nothing, nothing, nothing, save the grace and power of the Lord Jesus. But the struggle must be a hard one, and many times he will think that he must go down!

Boys, beware of the first glass!

FROWNS OR SMILES.

WHERE do they go, I wonder—
The clouds on a cloudy day,
When the shining sun comes peeping out,
And scatters them all away?
I know—they keep them and cut them down
For cross little girls who want to frown.
Frowns, and wrinkles and pouts—oh my!
How many would make one cloudy sky?

I think I should like it better
A sunny day to take,
And cut it down for dimples and smiles.
What beautiful ones 'twould make!
Enough for all the dear little girls
With pretty bright eyes and waving curls,
To drive the scowls and frowns away,
Just like the sun on a cloudy day.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

A.D. 30.] LESSON IX. [May 27.

PETER'S DENIAL.

Matt. 26. 67-75. Commit to memory vs. 73-75.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. 1 Cor. 10. 12.

OUTLINE.

1. Denying.
2. Repenting.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Where was Jesus taken after his agony in the garden? To the palace of the high-priest in Jerusalem.

How did the Jews treat him there? They mocked him and struck him and spit in his face.

What disciple followed Jesus to the palace? Peter.

What did one and another of the people say to Peter? "Thou also wast with Jesus."

What did Peter reply to them? "I know not the man."

How many times did Peter deny Jesus? Three times.

What happened after this third denial? Immediately the cock crew.

What had Peter declared to Jesus a few hours before? "If I should die with thee, I will not deny thee."

What had Jesus answered? "This night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice."

What did Peter remember when he heard the cock crow? All that Jesus had said.

What did he do? He went out and wept bitterly.

Why was he so false to his promises? He was weak and afraid of the cruel man.

What do we learn from Peter's sin? (Repeat GOLDEN TEXT.)

Did Peter really love Jesus? Yes, but he was boastful and hasty in word and in deed.

What would have given him courage to face his enemies and stand up for Jesus? Prayer in the garden with Jesus.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Do you ever deny Jesus? Before your enemies? Before your friends?

When you hear others making fun of him, do you stand up bravely for him?

Are you doing all you can to show him that you remember his cruel suffering?

Are you ever ashamed of loving him?

"If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed."

"If we suffer, we shall also reign with him."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Human weakness.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

May children receive the Holy Ghost? Yes; for God has promised to pour out his Spirit upon all flesh, and his blessing upon the offspring of his people.

A.D. 30.] LESSON X [June 3.

JESUS CRUCIFIED.

Matt. 27.33-50. Commit to memory vs. 3: 37.

GOLDEN TEXT.

He humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross Phil. 1. 8.

OUTLINE.

1. The Cross.
2. The King.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Where was Jesus crucified? On a hill called Calvary, near Jerusalem.

What is the Greek name for the place? Golgotha.

Who were crucified with Jesus? Two thieves, one on his right hand and the other on his left.

What did the soldiers do when they crucified him? They gambled for his seamless robe.

Who are just as selfish and wicked now? Those who know what Jesus has done for them and refuse to love and obey him.

What writing did Pilate have fastened to the cross? "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

How did the chief priests and the people treat him? They mocked him and laughed at him.

What did Jesus know and feel? All the shame and suffering that sin has brought into the world.

What did Isaiah prophesy concerning him? "The Lord hath laid upon him the iniquity of us all."

How long did Jesus hang upon the cross? From nine o'clock in the morning until three in the afternoon.

What was over all the land while Jesus was dying? A great darkness.

What did Jesus cry out just before he died? "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

What made Jesus feel as if God had forsaken him? His awful suffering of soul and body.

At what hour did Jesus die? At three o'clock Friday afternoon. (Repeat GOLDEN TEXT.)

What was finished when Jesus died? All that God sent him to do for a sinful world.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

Jesus lived and suffered and died for you—that you might be saved from sin and everlasting death; that you might have peace and love here and a happy home in heaven; that you might believe him and trust him now to be kept from sin.

Are you loving him as your friend, or slighting him as your enemy?

"He that is not with me is against me."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The atonement.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

By what sign is it shown that the Lord is the Saviour of children? Children are baptized "into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

DARE TO DO RIGHT.

CHILDREN, did you ever know of a person who did right whom sensible people despised? If no one says, "You have done right," in words so we can hear it, the little voice we all carry within our minds will always say, "You did as you ought to."

When Athens was governed by thirty men, called "tyrants," they wanted a very rich man named Leon killed, so that they could have his riches. They wanted the great philosopher Socrates to help them, but he said, No; he would not engage in so great an "ill as to act unjustly." You see he did right with thirty rulers over him, and all cruel men, too.

Christ was a greater philosopher than Socrates, and he taught us to "do as we would be done by." If we follow that little rule, we shall dare to do right. How much more of joy, and less of sorrow, there would be if everybody loved these words of the Saviour.



WHAT LITTLE HANDS CAN DO.

"Oh, what can little hands do
To please the King of Heaven?
The little hands some work may try,
And do it well and faithfully,
Their Lord and King thus serving.
Such grace to mine be given!

"Oh, what can little lips do
To please the King of Heaven?
The little lips can sing and pray,
And gentle words of kindness say,
The Lord and King thus praising.
Such grace to mine be given!

"Oh, what can little eyes do
To please the King of Heaven?
The little eyes can upward look,
Can learn to read God's holy Book;
His holy will thus learning.
Such grace to mine be given!

"Oh, what can little hearts do
To please the King of Heaven?
The hearts, if God his Spirit send,
Can fear and love their Saviour, friend,
Their Lord and King believing.
Such grace to mine be given!

"Though little can a child do
To please the King of Heaven,
When heart and hands and lips unite
To serve the Saviour with delight,
Our Lord and King will bless us.
Such grace to mine be given!"

MANY have withstood the frowns of the world, but its smiles and caresses have often hugged them to death.

TRUTH BEFORE TACT.

A GENTLEMAN from the country placed his son with a dry-goods merchant in New York. For a time all went on well. At length a lady came into the store to purchase a silk dress, and the young man waited upon her. The price demanded was agreed to, and he proceeded to fold the goods. He discovered before he had finished, a flaw in the silk, and pointing it out to the lady, said, "Madam, I deem it my duty to tell you that there is a fracture in the silk." Of course she did not take it.

The merchant overheard the remark, and immediately wrote to the father of the young man to come and take him home; "for," said he, "he will never make a merchant."

The father, who had ever reposed confidence in his son was much grieved, and hastened to the city to be informed of his deficiencies. "Why will he not make a merchant?" asked he.

"Because he has no tact," was the answer. "Only a day or two ago, he told a lady voluntarily, who was buying silk of him, that the goods were damaged; and I lost the bargain. Purchasers must look out for themselves. If they cannot discover flaws, it would be foolishness in me to tell them of their existence."

"And is that all his fault?" asked the parent.

"Yes," answered the merchant; "he is very well in other respects."

"Then I love my son better than ever, and I thank you for telling me of the matter; I would not have him another day in your business for the world."

LOVING OUR NEIGHBOURS.

DEAR children, here are some of the things we could not do if we loved our neighbours as ourselves:

We could not say naughty things about anybody.

We could not get angry at anybody.

We could not hurt anybody in any way.

We could not hurt anybody's feelings in any way.

We could not take anything that belonged to anybody else.

Here are some of the things we would do:

We would say pleasant things.

We would play without getting angry once.

We would comfort anybody that was hurt in any way.

We would share our playthings, and all the nice things that we had.

We would be such children as God would love.

FROLIC AND FUN.

SHALL I tell you about my two kittens—

My two kittens, Frolic and Fun?

They race round from garret to cellar,
Only resting when daylight is done.

Their colours? Why, Frolic wears always
A coat of the softest gray,
White kerchief, and mittens of ermine;
And this is her dress every day.

And Fun wears a coat of black velvet,
With trimmings of soft snow white;
Black slippers that fit very closely,
And yet that are never too tight.

They drink from the same little saucer,
And eat from the same china plate;
Then each with her paw wipes her whiskers,
All the while looking very sedate.

"ALL FOR JESUS."

"I MUST have some missionary-money, grandma—I must, I must. How can I get it?" Richard was in real earnest.

It was in the springtime and they were sitting on the porch.

"Make a herb-garden and sell the herbs," said grandma, laughing; "I used to."

"Herbs! What are herbs?"

"Plants that are used for medicine—sage saffron, peppermint and such. You can have that border in the garden over there; it is all ready for something. Sow your seeds, and when the plants are grown you can tie them in bunches, and 'most anybody'll buy them of you for a penny a bunch."

"Hip, hip, hurrah!" shouted Richie, "it's as good as done." And so everything was that this earnest little fellow made up his mind to do.

"But it means work, Richie."

"That's all right, grandma."

In the fall when the plants were ripe, grandma showed him how to bunch them.

"If I get twenty cents," he said, talking to himself as he went along, "I think I'll buy a bushel of Farmer Peak's pears—he said he'd let me have them for twenty—and I know I can sell them for fifty. That's like the man in the Bible that had a talent and doubled it. And Mr. Grayson said we must try to make money for Jesus. This isn't for myself a bit; it's all for Jesus."

Richie got his twenty cents, sold his pears for fifty, and then set himself thinking how he could double that before Missionary Sunday. "It's all for Jesus," he kept saying.

Richie is now grown up, and is a smart business-man. He makes a great deal of money, but he keeps before his mind this thought: "We must make money for Jesus; it's all for Jesus."