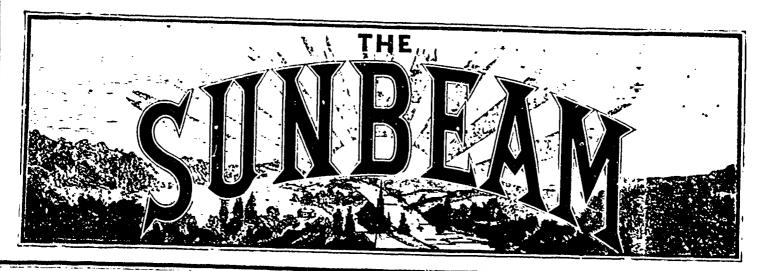
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ENLARGED SERIES .- VOL. VII.]

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 20, 1886.

No. 24

A TRUE RAT STORY.

Two boys of sixteen, ressed in loose, white linen uits, met near the Sabbath chool-room door, one hot nnmer afternoon.

"I say, John, I've been 🖸 Sunday-school ever since could remember, and I believe I've learned about there is to know. We e getting too old to go to Sanday-school, I think. Besides it's too awful hot; le 's go walking."

The other boy, a little younger, was easily persuaded, and for the next hour they sauntered up and down the shady walks of a park near by. As they started out on the street homeword, a huge Norway raddarted from under the plank sidewalk, and running a few steps disappeared in a hole near a primp.

Quick as thought Edward Jones ran, slipped one of his, shiny boots over the hole, and called out, "Get a pail of water and I'll show you more fun in five ninutes than you've had at Sunday-school for a year!"

A man was standing near vith a pail; at the boy's equest he obligingly filled t and poured the water bwn the hole. Edward

splaced his foot for a minute, saying, "Now | walk thronged with people, who naturally | long it will take you to get back, or how sharp and you'll see what a drowned at is like!"

The Sabbath-schools were over, the side-



stopped to see what was going on that so much you will suffer from the thorns and interested those two well-dressed boys.

"Now, watch sharp!" cried Edward, it is to tell the truth at all times!

moving his foot off a little way and peeping down. But Mr. Rat was on hand waiting his chance to escape drowning, and seeing a nice place of retreat up the leg of Ed's pantalous he lost no time in taku- advantage of it, and quoker than I can tell it had dipped under the losse weistband and curled cosily up under Edward's armpit, while that youth was frantically jumping up and down, tearing off his coat and vest, and screaming at the top of his lungs.

Tearing a hole in his shirt-bosom the unwelcome rat dropped out, and hastened gladly to his home under the sidewalk.

While the bystanders laughed at his "fun," poor Ed, shivering with cold, right and disgust, gathered up his clothes and bastened home, a scared, madly youth, saying to John, who couldn't keep from laughing also at the "fan" he had seen, "I'll go to Sunday-school faithfully after this. Ill never try that thing on a rat again so long as I m a boy :"

Telling an untruth is like leaving the highway and going into a tangled forest. You know not how

briers in the wildwoods. How much better

FIVE STEPS.

THOMAS R. THOMPSON.

A LITTLE sip of cider,
A little sip of beer;
A taste that's rather bitter,
But what is there to fear?

A glass of foaming lager,
A choice perfumed cigar,
It's funny what fanatics
Those temperance people are.

Say, boys, here's to our welfare— May none here lack a dime To buy a glass of liquor At any other time.

Say, can't you trust a fellow?
Give us a drop of gin
To stop the dreadful gnawing
That's going on within.

Found dead—a common drunkard!
Alas, how came he there?
It was the beer and cider:
BEWARE! BEWARE!!!

-Temperance Banner.

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The Sunbeam

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 20, 1886.

THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE

God made man with a natural thirst for knowledge. As God could not be God if there was anything he did not know, so man could not be man if there was anything he did not want to know. One of the strongest proofs that man is the offspring, the child of God, is this inherited desire to know everything. If man were not finite he would know everything. Being finite, however, does not prevent him from desiring to know everything. The world is full of seekers after knowledge, impelled by a constitutional thirst for it.

The study of Jesus will lead man into

the perception that the spiritual underlies all the physical, that the material is only the expression of the ideal, that there is a soul to the universe. But man should seek the higher knowledge-a knowledge of the being, character, and work of Jesus of Nazareth. This will push man into the grandest field of plulos phy The universe had a cause, a beginning. The cause was spiritual; and the universe is not an end, but a means. "It is the material for the realization of thought, the field for the operations of moral and spiritual forces." Man must study these forces and pursue them up to one Great Cause, thus unifying the moral and spiritual universe, - Missumary Visitor.

DOING GOD'S ERRANDS.

HESTER was a little girl who was trying to love and serve Jesus. And she showed her love for Jesus by seeking to please him in all she did. She loved to do errands for her mother, and to have her mother say she was a faithful servant when she did them well.

One day she had been talking to her mother about God. As they got through, she looked up with a bright though? beaming in her eyes, and said,—

"Why, mother, then God is sending us on errands all the time. Oh, it is so nice to think that I am God's little errand girl."

"Yes, dear," said her mother; "God has given us all errands to do for him, and plenty of time to do them in, and a book full of directions to show us how to do them. Every day we can tell him what we are trying to do, and ask him to help us. And when he calls us home to himself, we shall have great joy in telling him what we have been trying to do for him."

"I like that," said Hester. "It is very pleasant to be allowed to do crrands for God."

"One of my errands," said her mother, "is to take care of you."

"And one of mine, dear mother, is to honour and obev you. I think God gives us very pleasant errands to do."

You know that nothing makes us more happy than to do anything for a person that we really love. That is what Jesus meant when he said "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." This is what the apostle John meant when he said that "his commandments are not gricrous." His people serve him from love, and that makes everything they do for him light and pleasant to them.—Children's Friend.

HAVE courage to be ignorant of evil,



PUT OFF THY SHOES.

THE shoes which you see in the picture are such as we read of in the Bible, and they were not like ours. They were only a flat piece of wood or leather fitted to the sole of the foot, and fastened on with straps for strings. It was very easy to slip them off and it was the custom in Bible times, and is now in Eastern countries, to put them off as a mark of respect to distinguished persons or in sacred places.

When God talked with Moses at the burning bush he said, "Put off thy shoe from off thy feet, for the place whereof thou standest is holy ground." And he said the same to Joshua afterward when he met and talked with him.

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What are we to learn from this? We cannot take off our shoes: it is not the custom where we live. But when we go into any sacred place we must tread softly and behave with great reverence and seriousness.

Children sometimes go into church in a rude and noisy way, and while there laugh and talk and read their papers or librar. books. This is wrong. The church is God's house. We go there to pray to him to sing his praise, to listen to his words God is there. The Bible tells us, "God 2 in his holy temple, let all the earth kee: silence before him." Therefore we must be s' 'l, and put away all thoughts of work c play or dress, and give close attention to the services. This is like putting our show from off our feet. It would be easy for a to do this if we always remembered the the church is a place set apart where w meet our dear heavenly Father.



TRUE BRAVERY.

A LITTLE boy was going from Chicago to Buffalo, on a lake steamer. In his play on deck, one morning, he ran too near the edge of the vessel and fell overboard into the water. The cry, "A boy overboard," was made. Everyone rushed on deck, but no one knew what to do.

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There was on board a young sailor, a very slender, timid young man, who, because he wouldn't fight, nor drink, nor gamble like the other sailors, went by the name of the "coward." At that moment he came on deck, saw what was the trouble, and saying, "I'll save him if I can," he threw himself overboard to fight with the waves and save a life. It was a desperate fight; but at last he rose near the side of the vessel bearing in his arms the tender young life he had risked his own to save. A shout of joy arose from every lip, as both were brought on board.

That was an example of true bravery—risking our lives for others. We may never have a chance to risk our lives as this young man did, but every day we may show true bravery by doing right, by helping others when we can. Jesus gave us that kind of an example when he came down to earth and died upon the cross that he might save us.

To indulge auger is to admit Satan as a guest,

PIP, POP, AND SKIP,

THESE three are Mand Lind's jet toads. They live in the garden. Mand has built a little brick house for them, where she shuts them up every day for a nap. They will come when she calls them, and will cat out of her hand. They like to have her brush their backs with an old soft brush. They like Mand, and they like Mand's neighbours, Park and Harry White. They will let Gypsy poke them with his nose.

"Papa says the English and French gardeners buy toads," said Harry one day.

"What for?" asked Park, who doesn't care much about toads. He doesn't care much about anything but play.

"Why, to eat the bugs and insects' in their gardens, to be sure. Didn't you know that's what they are good for?" replied Harry.

One day Pip and Skip hopped into their house, and Pop was missing. After a long hunt Maud found him under a currant-bush. What do you think he was doing? He was changing his clothes! Maud watched him.

First he slipped off half his old skin—what you might call his coat. He made it into a neat little bundle, and to save the trouble of packing it, swallowed it. Then, after some pulling and tugging, the rest of his old clothes came off. These, too, were made into a bundle and swallowed. And there was Pop in as fine a new suit as a toad could want.

Maud could hardly believe her eyes, it was all so droll. But when she told papa about it, he said that was the way toads always changed their clothes.

HOW TO BE HAPPY.

It is not what we have, but what we feel about what we have, that makes us happy.

Little Emma had a dress made out of an old one of her mother's, and she thought it was one of the nicest dresses she ever wore. She never thought of envying her little playmate, Sarah, her three new cassimeres that her mother had bought in the city and

hd made in the latest style. But Sarah was always complaining about her clothes, calling them ugly old things, and saying she never had anything fit to wear; she never enjoyed going anywhere, for every-

one looked better than she did; why couldn't she have things like other people? So, with all her nice things, she was never happy because she didn't feel right, and she made others unhappy around her. How much better to be like Emma, and enjoy each pleasure, if it is ever so simple, and you will not only be happy yourself, but you will be shedding an influence around you that will make others more contented and happy — D. E. Daley

CONFESS YOUR FAULTS

HAVE you something naughty done,
Lattle one \(\epsilon \)
Run and tell it right away,
Do not stay!

Have you said what is not true,

Because you

Were afraid of some one by?

Own the lie!

Satan says, "Nobody'll know."

'Tis not so.

God can see your heart within—

Every sin.

If you will your sins confess,

He will bless,
And will help you do what's right
In his sight.

CLEAR THROUGH.

A LITTLE boy only seven years old, who was trying hard to be a Christian, was watching the servant, Maggie, as she pared the potatoes for dinner. Soon she pared an extra large one, which was very white and nice on the outside; but when cut into pieces it showed itself to be hollow, and black inside with dry-rot. Instantly Willie exclaimed, "Why, Maggie, that potato isn't a Christian!" "What do you mean?" asked Maggie. "Don't you see it has a baheart?" was Willie's reply. It seems that this little boy had learned enough of the religion of Jesus to know that, however fair the outside may be, it will never do to have the heart black. We must be sound and right clear through.

WAVE UPON WAVE.

That great gift, 'grace," will come in continuous bestowment to all saints in Christ; wave upon wave, as the ripples press shoreward, and each in turn pours its tribute on the beach, or as pulsation after pulsation makes one golden beam of unbroken light, strong-winged enough to come all the way from the sun, gentle enough to fall on the sensitive eye-ball without pain,—Maclaren.

SHOWER AND FLOWER.

Down the little drops patter,
Making a musical clatter,
Out of the clouds they throng,
Freshness of heaven they scatter,
Little dark rootlets among.
"Coming to visit you, posies!
Open, your hearts to us, roses!"
That is the raindrops' song.

Up the little seed rises:
Buds of all colours and sizes
Clamber up out of the ground,
Gently the blue sky surprises

The earth with that soft, rushing sound "Welcome"—the brown bees are humming: "Come, for we wait for your coming!"

Whisper the wild flowers around.

"Shower, it is pleasant to hear you!"

"Flower, it is sweet to be near you!"

This is the song everywhere.

This is the song everywhere.

Listen! the music will cheer you!

Raindrop and blossom, so fair,
Gladly are meeting together,
Out in the beautiful weather;

Oh, the sweet song in the air.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

A.D. 96-98.] Lesson IX. [Nov. 28. John's vision of christ.

Rev. 1. 4-18. Commit to memory vs. 4-6.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore. Rev. 1. 18.

OUTLINE.

- 1. The Salutation, v. 4-8.
- 2. The Vision, v. 9-18.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Where was John sent as a prisoner in his old age? To the island of Patmos.

Why was he sent there? For telling people about Jesus.

Who appeared to him? Jesus, the Son of man.

What did he tell him to do? To write what he saw in a book.

To whom was the book to be sent? To the seven churches of Asia.

What did John see? Seven golden candlosticks, and Jesus in the midst.

What was the dress of Jesus? A long robe fastened with a belt of gold.

What was white as snow? His head and his hair.

What were like flames of fire? His eyes.

How did his voice sound? As the voice of many waters,

What was in his right hand? Seven stars.

What seemed to come from his mouth? A sharp, two-edged aword.

What was bright with heavenly glory? His face.

To what did John compare it? To the sun when it shone brightest.

How was John affected by the vision of Jesus? He fell, as if dead, at his feet.

What did Jesus do? He laid his hand upon him, saying, "Fear not."

What did he tell him? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

When shall every eye see Jesus 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? Those who love and obey him.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

No one but John ever caught a glimpse of the wonderful beauty, greatness, and power of Jesus after he went up in the clouds.

We can never imagine how beautiful he was, nor can we understand the vision; but, darlings, this wonderful being he saw was the very same Jesus who "died for us," and "came to life" again, and "is alive for evermore," our own Saviour, so we need not feel frightened when we study this lesson. After all he suffered, are you not glad he is so glerious now?

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The glorious Trinity.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

What and the Lord say about children before he went up to heaven? He said to St. Peter, "Feed my lambs."

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. 96-98.] LESSON X. [Dec. 5.

WORSHIPPING GOD AND THE LAMB,

R. v. 5. 1-14. Commit to memory verses 11-13.
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. Rev. 5, 13.

OUTLINE.

- 1. The Book, v. 1-4.
- 2. The Lamb, v. 5-8.
- 3. The Song, v. 9 14.

Whom did John see sitting upon the evermore,

throne of heaven? God, the Creator of all

What did he hold in his right hand? A book scaled with seven seals.

What was written in the book? Salvation for men.

Why did John weep? Because no one in heaven or on earth could open it.

What did the elders tell John? Weep not, for there is one that can open the book.

Who was that one? Jesus, the Lamb of God.

Why had he power to open it? Because he was worthy.

What did he do? He took the book from the right hand of God.

Who fell down and worshipped him? The four living creatures, and the four and twenty elders.

What was the new song they sang? Worthy art thou to take the book.

Why was he worthy? Because he bought with his own blood people of every tribe and nation.

Who joined in the new song? Thousands and thousands of angels,

What did they sing? "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain."

Of what was he worthy? "To receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and honour, and glory, and blessing."

What was the song of every thing that God had made? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

John, in one of his visions, saw the throne of God, and heard the "new song," which they were singing in honour of Jesus. First, nearest to the throne, sang those whose sins Jesus had washed away. The song they sang is the ninth verse of our lesson. Next, he heard the voice of thousands and thousands of angels; their song is the twelfth verse.

Then every creature in heaven and earth took up the chorus, and sang our GOLDEN TEXT. Do you want to sing the "new song?" You cannot if you do not begin it here. What will become of those who cannot sing it?

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—Redemption by the blood of the Lamb.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

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

What is "the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost?" The name of one God in three Persons, blessed for evermore.