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THE SUNBEAM

Vol. II.

MARCH 5, 1881.

No. 5.

ITALIAN FLOWER GIRL.

THIS is a picture of little Margharita, an Italian flower girl. One may see lots of these little creatures in Rome and Naples. They look so pretty, with their large black eyes and bright coloured dress, that it is almost impossible to help buying their flowers. They are no way backward about selling them either, but will run up to a traveller as he sits in the public park, and put a nosegay in his hand or in his button hole. And when you buy, they smile so prettily and say "*grazia*," — pronounced "*gràtzi*," "thanks," that it is



quite a pleasure to buy their pretty wares. But they are very poor, and are often very hardy treated. I saw at Naples an Italian mother, a passionate, black-eyed creature, rush up to a little girl like this and raise her arm to her teeth and bite it. I thought it the most cruel thing I ever saw.

The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, MARCH 5, 1881.

"IS IT YOU?"

THERE is a child, a boy or girl,—
I'm sorry it is true,—
Who doesn't mind when spoken to:
Is it you? It can't be you!

I know a child, a boy or girl,—
I'm loth to say I do,—
Who struck a little playmate child:
I hope that wasn't you!

I know a child, a boy or girl,—
I hope that such are few,—
Who told a lie; yes, told a lie!
It cannot be 'twas you!

There is a boy, I know a boy,—
I can not love him, though,—
Who robs the little birdie's nest;
That bad boy can't be you!

A girl there is, a girl I know,—
And I could love her, too,
But that she is so proud and vain;
That surely isn't you!

—*Early Days.*

"ARE you lost, my little fellow?" asked a gentleman of a four-years-old one day. "No," he sobbed; "b-but m-my mother is."

"LEMMY," you're a pig," said a drunkard to his son, who was five years old. "Now, do you know what a pig is, Lemmy?" "Yes, sir; a pig is a hog's little boy."

"TELL ME, IS THAT TRUE?"

WILLIE had been brought home terribly scalded by the explosion of a boiler, and the poor little fellow begged so piteously to see some one from his Sunday-school that his mother went for the minister, who accompanied the poor woman to her home in an alley in a remote part of the city.

On reaching the locality they ascended a long dark stairway, and entered a low attic room. In one corner of the room, on a cot, lay the form of little Willie, now suffering such terrible pain from his burns that he did not notice the entrance of any one. The clergyman knelt down and lifted the worn quilt from the face of the little sufferer, who moved, and recognizing him, gave a long, thankful sigh.

"My little friend, do you wish to see me?"

"Yes, sir," and the pale face was illuminated by a bright smile. "My Sunday-school teacher told me last Sunday that Jesus came down to save sinners. Oh, sir, tell me, is that true?"

The man of God was startled by the earnestness of the question, and brushing away a tear, he unfolded to him the simple story of the Cross in all its wondrous beauty.

"But," said the little one, "do you think He came to save me, a little boy?"

"Yes, Willie. If you were the only little boy on earth, Jesus would have left his bright home on high and come on earth to save you."

The little face was turned away, and a deep calm took the place of agony. With a sigh of rest, the spirit of Willie soared to the bosom of Jesus.

TOMMY went fishing the other day without permission of his mother. Next morning a neighbour's son met him and asked, "Did you catch anything yesterday, Tommy?" "Not till I got home," was the rather sad response.



LOUISA AND MAY.

BY THE QUERIST.

I WOULD never speak to her again, the ugly thing!" said Louisa to her friend, who had been ill-used by their play-mate, Caroline Lee.

"No, Lou, I would not do that for anything," replied May. "I shall forgive and forget just as soon as I can."

Dear May, we all love you for that sweet spirit. As for you, my vengeance-loving Louisa, we advise you to study these words, "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath!" and then ask yourself how dear little May could follow your counsel, and then at evening prayer say, "*Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us.*"

THE Bible has never made a good man bad; but, by the blessing of God, it has made millions of bad men good.—*Fletcher.*

GOD'S CHILD.

DO you feel that you are one of God's children?" asked a lady of a Sabbath-school scholar.

"I do not know," he answered; "I only know that once my Saviour was a great way off, and I could not see him. Now he is near, and I love to do things, and love not to do things, for his sake, like as I do for my father's or my mother's sake."

Here, indeed, was that sweet spirit of obedience which is the root of all true piety in the heart.

THE BEE.

BO and fro there quickly flew,
Once a little bee that drew
Sweetness rich from all the flowers.

Thus beneath the garden bowers,
Rose a kind, inquiring strain:
"Poison many cups contain,
And you sip from all the flowers?"

"Yes," the bee replied with care,
"But I leave the poison there."

SLUMBER SONG.

WHEN courting slumber,
The hours I number,
And sad cares cumber
My weary mind;
This thought shall cheer me,
That thou art near me
Who-e ear to hear me
Is still inclined.

My soul Thou keepest,
Who never sleepest;
Mid gloom the deepest
There's light above.
Thine eyes behold me,
Thine arms enfold me,
Thy Word has told me
That God is love.

LESSON NOTES.

A.D. 27.] LESSON XI. [March 20.

THE SINNER'S FRIEND; or, Sins Forgiven.

Luke. 7. 36-50. Commit to memory verses 47-50.

GOLDEN TEXT.

He said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.—
Luke 7. 48.

OUTLINE.

1. A Pharisee, v. 36.
2. A Penitent, v. 37, 38.
3. A Parable, v. 39-46.
4. A Pardon, v. 47-50.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

1. *A Pharisee*, v. 36.—Who were the Pharisees? People who thought themselves very good. What did one of them do? He invited Jesus to dine with him. What was this Pharisee's name? Simon. Why did he invite Jesus? To see if he could find any fault with him. How did he show his lack of love for Christ? By not showing him any kindness in his house. What did people generally do for visitors at that time? They gave them water to wash their feet. Why did they do this? Because they wore no shoes, but sandals. What else did they do? They poured some perfumed oil on their heads. Did Simon do any of these for Jesus? He did not.

2. *A Penitent*, v. 37, 38.—What is a penitent? One who is truly sorry for his sins? What penitent came to Jesus in Simon's house? A woman who had been a sinner. What did she bring with her? A box of very precious ointment. What did she do? She covered the feet of Jesus with her tears. What then? She wiped them with her hair. What did she do besides? She poured the ointment upon them. Why did she do all this! To show that she loved her Saviour.

3. *A Parable*, v. 39-46. What is a parable? A story which teaches a lesson. To whom did Jesus tell this parable? To Simon, the Pharisee. Why did he tell it? Because he knew Simon's thoughts. What were Simon's thoughts? That if Jesus knew about this woman he would send her away. What was the parable or story? About two people who owed money to another, but could not pay. How much were the debts? One owed a great deal, the other very little. What did the one do to whom they owed the money? He gave up the debt to both, and asked nothing. What, then, did Jesus ask? "Which of these two will love him most?" What did Simon say? "I suppose, the one to whom he forgave most."

4. *A Pardon*, v. 47-50.—What did Jesus say of the woman? "She loved much." What did he say to her? [GOLDEN TEXT.] What did he say had obtained forgiveness? Her faith.

FIRST QUARTERLY REVIEW,

MARCH 20, 1881.

GOLDEN TEXT.

There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4. 12.

REVIEW TEXTS.

1. See if you can repeat the GOLDEN TEXT of each lesson.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. And they— | 7. Bring forth— |
| 2. My soul— | 8. He hath— |
| 3. The dayspring— | 9. The power— |
| 4. Glory to— | 10. He was— |
| 5. For mine— | 11. He said— |
| 6. And the child— | 12. There is— |

2. See if you can repeat the TINY TEXT of each lesson.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Many shall — | 7. Repent ye— |
| 2. My soul— | 8. He hath— |
| 3. He hath— | 9. The Son— |
| 4. Peace to— | 10. The life— |
| 5. Salvation is— | 11. Thou Lord— |
| 6. The grace is— | |

3. Learn the answers to these REVIEW QUESTIONS.

1. What do we learn from Zacharias and Elisabeth? To be righteous before God.
2. What do we learn from the song of Mary? To praise God for his mercies.
3. What do we learn from the prophecy of Zacharias? To rejoice in our Redeemer.
4. What do we learn from the shepherds? To seek Christ as soon as we hear about him.
5. What do we learn from Simeon? To trust in God's promises.
6. What do we learn from the boyhood of Jesus? To love God's house.
7. What do we learn from the preaching of John the Baptist? To repent of sin.
8. What do we learn from the preaching of Jesus? To take him as our Saviour.
9. What do we learn from Christ's healing the sick? To seek his saving power.
10. What do we learn from Christ's witness to John the Baptist? To tell all our fears to Jesus.
11. What do we learn from Christ at the Pharisee's table? To show our gratitude for our salvation.

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