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# THE SUNBEAM

Vol. I.

JUNE 19, 1880.

No. 12.



OVER THE FALLS.

**M**ASTER Tom Evans and his sister Alberta lived at the village of Chippewa, on the Canadian shore, a few miles above the Falls of Niagara. They had often been warned not to get into the boats which were tied up to the bank of the river. But one day, heedless of this

warning, Tom got into a boat, and sat rocking in the stern.

"Oh, Bertie!" he cried, "it's such fun, get in."

Forgetting her mother's word she joined her brother, and for a time enjoyed the motion very much. But before they were aware, the rocking of the boat had loosened the rope by which it was held, and it was swiftly drifting down the stream.

"Oh, Tom, see, we're afloat! What shall we do?" she cried.

Tom seized the oars and plied them with all his might; but all in vain. One might as well try to bridle a hurricane as to stem the wild torrent of Niagara when fairly within its sweep. Seeing that his efforts were useless, he dropped the oars and threw himself upon his knees, earnestly praying God to forgive his disobedience and to save his soul. "Oh! how I wish we had minded mother," he said

to Bertie. "We would have been safe at home, instead of hurrying to destruction."

Swifter and swifter swept onward the little boat. The men on the shore shouted and tried to throw them ropes, but it was all in vain. Down the wild rapids they rushed, and just as the boat poised for an instant on the edge of the cataract, Tom

clasped his sister to his heart in an agony of remorse, and, folded in each other's arms, they were hurled down, down the awful abyss into the seething boiling flood at the bottom. Their boat was found afterward all broken to pieces, and the lifeless forms of the children, bruised and battered by their fall, drifted ashore some miles below.

Like this, dear children, is temptation and sin. At first it may seem harmless and devoid of danger; but as one gets within the sweep of an evil habit, it carries him down with a fearful rush, no matter how he may struggle, till, unless God's grace pluck him from destruction, he is swept into the abyss of perdition forever.

## The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, JUNE 19, 1880.

### THE YOUNG SAILOR.

**A**S long as he could remember, Charlie had been fond of a boat. When a mere baby he used to sail chips in a basin, and sometimes would make a boat of his slipper. When he got a little older, his brother made him a real boat with a lead keel, and hollowed out inside. His father's house was near the seashore, and he used to take his boat down and sit on a rock admiring it, and sailing it in the sparkling blue water. One day he wandered over the sands to his favourite rock, and forgot himself till the tide came up and almost surrounded the rock. He had hard work to clamber up the steep rocks out of the reach of the tide, and had to leave his boat behind, which was swept away by the wild waves of the sea.

When he grew older, he persuaded his father, who was a sea captain, to let him sail a voyage in the *Sea Gull* from Hull to Antwerp, in Holland. His mother made him a little sailor suit, and the day he put it on and went on shipboard was the

proudest day of his life. [See the picture on the third page.] But when the *Sea Gull* was tossed about by the wild waves of the German Ocean, he was about the sickest boy you ever saw, and wished himself back in his comfortable home with his mamma.

### MORNING PRAYER.

LORD, make me a clean heart within,  
Close my soul's door 'gainst every sin,  
Drive all things evil from my breast,  
Let no ill spirit in me rest.

To thee my gates I open wide,  
Oh! come, and with my soul abide,  
All wickedness far from it chase,  
And make it virtue's dwelling-place.

### PUSS.

**D**ID you ever think why we call the cat *puss*?

A great many years ago the people of Egypt, who have many idol gods, worshipped the cat. They thought she was like the moon, because she was more active at night, and because her eyes changed, just as the moon changes, which is sometimes full, and sometimes only a little bright crescent, or half moon, as we say. Did you ever notice your pussy's eyes to see how they change?

So these people made an idol with a cat's head, and named it Pasht, the same name they gave to the moon; for the word means *the face of the moon*.

That word has been changed to pas or pus, and has come at last to be puss, the name which most every one gives to the cat. Puss and pussy-cat are pet names for kitty everywhere. Who ever thought of it as given to her thousands of years ago? and that then people bowed down and prayed to her?

OFFER your seat, wherever you are, to an old lady or gentleman who may come into the place.



## A YOUNG SAILOR.

I'M a little sailor  
Starting for a trip,  
And I love our sea-life  
On our own good ship.

Pleasant sights we look on,  
Past us vessels go,  
While the gulls come skimming  
For the food we throw.

Then the sailors tell us,  
As we sit on deck,  
Tales of strange adventure—  
Storm, escape, and wreck.

And they say our country  
Always will be free,  
While she has brave children  
Sailing on the sea.

## GOD'S TIME.

**G**EORGE HEY were talking at Mrs. Ward's dinner-table one day of the sickness that was prevailing in the neighbourhood—diphtheria, of which many little children were dying.

"Why, mamma," said Minnie, "just think of it, Johnnie Foster was only sick a day and a night; and now Hattie is down, and they don't think she'll live. The girls in school are dreadfully frightened."

Minnie's mamma slowly repeated these lines :

"Plagues and death around me fly;  
Till He bids, I cannot die;  
Not a single shaft can hit  
Till the God of love sees fit."

"There," exclaimed Minnie, "that's exactly what I told Janet Shephard. I told her we shouldn't die till our time came; and when it is the right time, why then—"

"Then what?" asked mamma; "are you ready?"

"Yes, mamma, I think I am, and Janet is too; and we are going to trust it all to Jesus."

"You are right, my dear."

Minnie and Janet passed through the trying winter, and were not sick even for a day. God spared their lives, we hope, to grow up good, useful Christian women.

When God wants us in the other life, he will send for us. Are you ready to go at any time?

"OH! it's no trouble, ma'am," said a bright-eyed young lad, to a poor woman, weakly struggling with her bundle, and an umbrella that would go wrong in the wind—"It's no trouble. *I love to help people!*"

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## LESSON NOTES.

[June 20.]

## SECOND QUARTERLY REVIEW.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. John 1. 29.

**REVIEW QUESTIONS.**

How did Jesus show his power over the sea? By stilling the tempest. How did he show power over spirits? By healing men with evil spirits. Why did he declare woe on certain cities? Because they saw his miracles, yet did not repent. How did he invite people to rest? "Take my yoke upon you, and ye shall find rest." What parable did he give concerning the evil in the world? The wheat and the tares. What confession of Peter's did he reward? "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." What took place on a high mountain? Jesus showed his glory. Who were with him there? Moses and Elijah. What did Jesus say about children? "Suffer little children to come unto me." To what did he liken the kingdom of heaven? To a marriage feast. What must each one wear at that feast? The wedding garment. What shall Jesus say to those on his right hand in the judgment? "Come, ye blessed of my Father."

## TEMPERANCE LESSON. [June 27.]

BONDAGE AND LIBERTY; or, Freedom by the Truth. John 8. 31-36. Commit to memory verses 34-36.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. Rom. 8. 2.

**OUTLINE.**

1. Freedom in obedience, v. 31, 32.
2. Bondage in sin, v. 33, 34.
3. Deliverance in Christ, v. 35, 36.

**QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.**

1. *Freedom in obedience*, v. 31, 32. What should we obey? The word of Christ. What will this give us? Freedom. How shall we be free? [Read verse 32.] How does the truth make us free? Because it tells us of Christ's salvation. When should we seek this freedom? Now.

2. *Bondage in sin*, v. 33, 34. What is bondage? Slavery. Who is a slave? Every sinner. How does Jesus declare this? [Read verse 34.] Who is especially a slave? One who uses strong drink. To what is he a slave? To his appetite. Why is he a slave? Because he must submit to his desire for drink.

3. *Deliverance in Christ*, v. 35, 36. Who can set men free from sin? Christ. What does he say in verse 36? [Read verse 36.] How can a drunkard be made free? By calling on Christ for help. What must he then do? He must cease from strong drink.