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THE SUNBEAM

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. VII.]

TORONTO, JULY 3, 1886.

[No. 14.



THIS is the sight that papa sees
When the busy day in town is over,
As the cars glide out of a grove of trees
Into the fields of blooming clover.

O welcome sight to a good man's eyes,
With the dust and heat of the day behind
him;
The wide green fields and soft blue skies
And only the fetters of love to bind him.

And thus when the day of life is done
And we slip the leash in which we have
striven,
May those we have loved and called our own
Be watching for us at the gate of heaven.

JESUS HELPED.

I've news to tell you, mother,
For I am head at school;
I have not missed a single word
Or broke a single rule.

Now, let me whisper, mother—
For I think I ought to tell—
'Twas Jesus helped me study
And keep the rules so well.

I asked him how to do it,
And you see he taught me how,
And I shall ask him always
To help me just as now.

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The Sunbeam.

TORONTO, JULY 3, 1886.

WHY EVERYBODY SHOULD LOVE JESUS.

It is related of one of Dr. Doddridge's children, who was a general favourite, that she was one day asked by her father why everybody loved her? when she simply but beautifully replied, "I do not know, unless it is because I love everybody."

Is not this sweet child's answer the very reason why everyone should love Jesus, because he loves everybody? Was it not a great proof of his love shown in a wonderfully earnest way when he came down from heaven, took upon himself our sins; yea, verily, bore our sins in his own body on the tree, so that by his stripes we are healed? Let us add to this the remembrance that, while we were yet sinners, rebels, cold-hearted toward him; when not a spark of holy love lodged in our hearts, nor a thought was lifted up toward him; nay, more, were hardening our hearts against God's truth and love, even then he loved with a yearning love, and "gave himself for us."

THE WATCH MENDED.

A LITTLE boy had a very nice watch, but it would not go right. It had a very pretty case and face; but it sometimes went too fast and sometimes too slow. He asked his mother what he should do about it. She told him to take it to the watchmaker's. He did so, and he said, "Master John, (the little boy's name was John Wilson,) it has its hands all right, but it will not go right. Therefore, leave it with me, and come again in a few days, and I will tell you what is the matter with it." John went again to him in a few days, and the watchmaker said to him, "I opened your watch, and I found there was the right number of wheels, and pins, and screws; but I found a little part called 'the spring' which was wrong—it had a bad spring—and because the mainspring was wrong it sometimes went too fast, and sometimes too slow."

Boys are like watches. Something within them goes tick—tick—and they have hands, and inside works. But how do they go? Sometimes too fast, and sometimes too slow. Does not the tongue sometimes go too fast or too slow? Are not the feet sometimes too fast or too slow? Are not the hands sometimes going wrong? How is this? Let us examine. We must look at the main-spring—the heart, "for out of it are the issues of life." Everything depends upon the "heart." God always looks most at the "heart."

PLAYING ON THE STREET.

WHEN I was a boy my father moved to a nice house on the outskirts of the city. The neighbours were good ones, and I had plenty of playmates.

One evening, just after dark, we were running races—the other boys and I—up and down the sidewalk. After a while father came to the door, and called "Come in, my son!"

When I went in he told me that I must not be out on the street at all after sunset.

I wondered why. I could not see any harm in running races up and down the walk.

But he told me not to do it, and I had to obey.

Now that I am a man, I have looked to see how those other boys turned out. Their fathers let them spend the evening on the street, and nearly all of them became bad boys and brought sorrow to their parents.

Boys, the place for you after sunset, is at home.



SUMMER SPORTS.

WILLIE, and Fred, and Carrie, are playing "team." Fred has put a string round Willie and Carrie, and he is the farmer driving his team to the market on a Saturday morning. Fido quite enjoys the fun too, for there he runs along beside them, and barks just as if it were a real team. I am afraid Willie is running too fast, for Carrie can hardly keep up to him. He forgets Carrie is a little girl, and not a strong boy like himself.

These are very good horses, for they do just as their driver tells them, and do not run away, or get frightened at things by the roadside.

UP OR DOWN—WHICH?

"Up or down, which way?" Uncle John said to little Harry, as they started out for a walk. One way led up a hill-side; the other down into a valley.

"Let's go up, Uncle John," said Harry.

"But you must climb to go up," said Uncle John.

"I know it, but it's nicer when you get there," was the little boy's answer.

Which way will Harry go on his life-path? we wonder. It isn't so easy to go up, but it's nicer when you get there. Go up, Harry. Be sure and go up. Look up to the good God, and ask him to teach you how to climb, and then do just as he tells you.

WHAT Christ procured at the expense of his labours, sufferings, and death, we are invited to come and receive, "without money, and without price."



AN OLD-TIME LULLABY.

UP the stairs they merrily climb—
Three little white gowns at sleepy-time.
Big brother Benny and baby Grace,
And funny Wee-boy with the happy
face;
And mamma sings, as they mount the stair,
These cranky words to a queer old air:
"Go to bed, sleepy head,
And sleep for money to buy a cow."

Said Benny: "Such a humbug I never
heard;
And I don't believe it a single word.
If I slept all night, and slept all day,
Do you think I'd be any richer, say?"
The Wee-boy nodded his curly head.
"Mamma, sing it aden!" the baby said.
"Go to bed, sleepy-head,
And sleep for money to buy a cow."

Said Benny: "Who made such a silly song?
It tells a story; it must be wrong."
"I can't tell, Benny. I only know
It was sung to me long years ago
By your old Scotch granny, sweet and dear,
When I was as small as baby here.
So go to bed sleepy-head,
And sleep for money to buy a cow."

"If grandma said it, it must be true;
But I don't believe it; now say, do you?
And tell me, mamma, I'd like to know,
When she sent you to bed, did you
always go?"
"Yes, I always went, just as you must now."
Said the funny Wee-boy, "Then where's
your cow?"
"O go to bed, sleepy-head;
The cow jumped over the moon, they said."
—Nancy Patton McLain.

FAITH IN ACTION.

A POOR little street girl was taken sick one Christmas, and carried to an hospital.

While there she heard the story of Jesus coming into the world to save us. It was all new to her, but very precious. She could appreciate such a wonderful Saviour, and the knowledge made her very happy as she lay upon her little cot.

One day the nurse came around at the usual hour, and "Little Broomstick" (that was her street name) held her by the hand, and whispered:

"I'm havin' real good times here—ever such good times! S'pose I shall have to go 'way from here just as soon as I gets well; but I'll take the good time along—some of it, anyhow. Did you know 'bout Jesus bein' born?"

"Yes," replied the nurse, "I know. Sh-sh-sh! Don't talk any more."

"You did? I thought you looked as if you didn't, and I was goin' to tell you."

"Why, how did I look?" asked the nurse, forgetting her own orders in her curiosity.

"Oh, just like most o' folks—kind o' glum. I shouldn't think you'd ever look glum if you know'd 'bout Jesus bein' born."

Dear reader, do you know "'bout Jesus bein' born?"—*Faithful Witness.*

"I DON'T CARE."

"I AM sorry to see my son give way to anger," said a patient mother.

"I don't care," replied the passionate child.

"You will become an ignorant man unless you study better," said his faithful teacher a little later.

"I don't care," he muttered under his breath.

"Those boys are not the right sort of companions for you," said his pastor.

"I don't care," he answered, turning on his heel.

"It is dangerous to taste wine," said his friend, warningly.

"I don't care," was his reply.

A few years after he was a worthless drunkard, plunging into every sort of excess, and finally ending a miserable life of crime without hope. "I don't care" was his ruin, as it is the ruin of thousands.

Look out for it, boys and girls. Keep away from it. Do not let it find a place in your heart, or pass your lips. Always care. Care to do right, and care when you have done wrong. Pray earnestly that you may never lose your soul from a reckless spirit of "I don't care."

PRAYER TO JESUS.

DEAR and blessed Saviour,
Hold our little hands;
Lead us in thy footsteps,
Heeding thy commands.
So shall we in gladness
Spend our earthly days,
Till thy voice shall call us
Home to sing thy praise.

A NEW WAY OF MAKING TIME.

ONCE, when Carol's mamma was very ill, the little one hushed her sweet voice, lest she should "sturb mamma."

A weary time it was for the wee girlie! She missed mamma; and, tired of watchful Mary, she liked to slip away into papa's study, and play quietly beside him while he wrote his sermons. His presence made the study a pleasant place.

Mr. May often made calls in the afternoon; and one day noticing the shadow on his little girl's face, he said: "I shall be home by four, Carol."

Carol watched and waited, and still papa did not come. A thought occurred to her. With a great effort she climbed up to the study clock, and, opening the door, tried to move the hands along, when, alas! snap went one of the hands.

"Where is my little girl?" asked Mr. May, as he entered the house an hour later. But no little girl appeared. When he entered the study, she pointed mutely to the clock.

"But why did my darling touch the clock?" asked her papa.

And Carol sobbed out: "I wanted to make it time for papa to come home." And papa could not find it in his heart to chide her.

HABITS OF OBSERVING.

Who was it that said it? of whom?—that such or such a person had travelled more and seen less than any other man living? No matter. It is true that one can go about a great deal, and observe, hence learn, very little. We ought all of us to cultivate our senses more. How much more a painter sees in a landscape than you do, or than we. How much more a hunter sees or hears in a wood. How much more the sailor at sea. It would be an excellent thing for children once and a while to be sent out together on a walk, and returning be asked to give each an account of the things observed on the way. The comparison and contrast would be interesting and stimulating. Habits of observing should be carefully formed by us all. It would eventually make a vast difference in the sum of knowledge acquired, and in the interest of life.

BABY'S FIRST BIRTHDAY.

WHEN the sun sets and trails
His red robes through the west,
When o'er the sea the daylight pales,
And twilight speaks of rest,
A mother sits and sings
Her first-born babe to sleep,
While every breeze in whispers brings
Good wishes o'er the deep:
"O mother in whose life
This new pure joy has come,
'Mid far-off cities' toil and strife
Our hearts are nowise dumb:
We thank God for the gift
That he has sent to you,
We pray that he may will to lift
All clouds that hide the blue,
And that his love may bless
You and your babe to-day
With that true perfect happiness
Which never fades away!"

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

A.D. 29.] LESSON II. [July 11.

JESUS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

John 10. 1-18. Commit to memory vs. 14-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. John 10. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. The Fold, v. 1-4.
2. The False Shepherd, v. 5-13.
3. The Faithful Shepherd, v. 14-18.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What parable did Jesus speak unto the people? The parable of the good shepherd and his sheep.

What did he call himself? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

Who are the sheep? All who love and follow him.

What is meant by the sheep-fold? The Church of God's people.

Who only can enter in and be saved? Those who believe in Jesus.

Why? Because he is the door of the fold.

What did the good shepherd do for his sheep? He laid down his life for them.

Why? Because he loved them.

What does he give to his sheep? Eternal life.

How does he love them and know them? Even as the Father knows and loves his only begotten Son.

What does Jesus say of his people everywhere? They shall become one flock under one shepherd.

Who sent Jesus to guide and feed the sheep? God, the Father.

Why did the Father love Jesus? Because he was obedient to his will.

What was the will of the Father? That Jesus lay down his life for the sheep.

What power did the Father give Jesus? Power to lay down his life and power to take it up again.

How does the Good Shepherd care for the children, the lambs of his flock? "He shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom."

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

PRAYER.

"Precious Shepherd, full of love,
Look upon us from above;
We thy lambs would ever be,
Teach us how to follow thee.
When the path is rough and steep,
Gently lead our little feet;
And, when dangers near us lie,
Safely guard with watchful eye,
Be our constant guide and stay,
Keep us in the narrow way;
Thus, when perils all are past,
Safe we'll reach the fold at last."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The good shepherd.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

What do you mean by being saved? Through what Jesus Christ has done for us, we may obtain forgiveness of sin, and holiness, and heaven.

But will he save all mankind? We can be saved only by repenting and believing in the Lord Jesus Christ.

A.D. 30.] LESSON III. [July 18.

THE DEATH OF LAZARUS.

John 11. 1-16. Commit to memory vs. 1-4.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may wake him out of sleep. John 11. 11.

OUTLINE.

1. A Troubled Household, v. 1-4.
2. A True Friend, v. 5-16.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

What friend of Jesus lay sick in Bethany? Lazarus, the only brother of Mary and Martha.

How did Jesus feel toward Lazarus and Mary and Martha? He loved them.

What message did Mary and Martha send Jesus? "Lord, he whom thou lovest is sick."

Where was Jesus? In Perea, about twenty-five miles away.

How long did he stay in Perea after receiving this message? Two days.

What did he then say to his disciples? "Let us go into Judea."

Why did his disciples try to keep him from going? For fear the Jews would kill him.

How did he answer them? "Are there not twelve hours in the day? A man will not stumble if he walks when it is light?"

What did these words of Jesus mean? That wicked men had no power to shorten his life any more than they had power to shorten the day.

What must Jesus finish before he could die? The work his Father had given him to do.

When are we walking in the light? When we are doing the work God gives us to do.

How did Jesus speak to his disciples of Lazarus? (Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT.)

How did the disciples understand Jesus? That Lazarus was resting in sleep.

What did Jesus tell them plainly? Lazarus is dead.

Why was Jesus glad for his disciples that Lazarus was dead? Because a greater blessing would come to them through his death than through his life.

What blessing? Stronger faith in Jesus as the Son of God.

Who was willing to die with Jesus? Thomas.

WORDS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE.

If you are Jesus' own dear children, and are trying to live for him, he will take you, full of joy dear little girl, dear little boy, "to the world of light," some day.

"And under the ground where the violet sleep,
Your dear little body safe will keep."

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The humanity of Jesus.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

What is it to repent? To repent is to be sorry for my sins, to confess and turn from them, and to seek forgiveness from God.

What is it to believe in Jesus Christ? To believe in Jesus Christ is to receive his words, and to trust in him alone for salvation.

WHICH WAS THE BEST WAY?

"You are a bad boy, and I'm going to get a big boy to pound you!" said Georgie very angrily.

"I wouldn't, dear; I'd be kind to him and make him love me," said Georgie's mamma.

Georgie thought it over, and tried his mother's plan. Which do you think was the best way?