

The Youth's Instructor.

VOLUME 19.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., APRIL 15, 1871.

NUMBER 8.

"Hear Counsel, and receive Instruction, that thou mayest be Wise." Prov. 19:20.

A SPRING MORNING.

The earth hath felt the vernal tides again,
The upland snows flow down into the glen,
The foaming torrent rushes to the main,
The streaming ground gives pledge of summer rain.

The barn is open, and the cattle stand
And snuff the air blown from the pasture land,
And dream of sunny slopes and grasses sweet,
And winding paths that wait their loitering feet.

The children riot o'er the greening lawn,
Fresh vigor gleaming strength of brain and brow,
While o'er the threshold bars the baby's shout
On quivering wings of rapture flutters out.

In through the open window glide the feet
Of wand'ring winds, laden with odors sweet,
From orchards culled and from the ferny woods
Where spring is weaving, in the solitudes,
The mysteries of bud, and leaf, and bloom,
Hinted to us in whispers of perfume.

Oh! shall the days, when summer blooms are fair,
When bobolink with music floods the air,
When swallow sweeps the azure with his wing,
Bring sweeter life than thou hast brought, O Spring?
—*Ladies' Repository.*

Our Moral Atmosphere.

My dear reader, did you ever think that, at different times and under widely different influences, you are yourself a different person? and that your feelings, thoughts, and views, on many points, are susceptible to great changes? Especially is this the case with the young. The older one grows—the more years ripen character for good or for evil—the less does the influence of those with whom they come in contact have an influence over them.

But probably no persons ever reached such a state of goodness as that those with whom they associated could have no influence over them for good or evil. It is therefore necessary that we should be on our guard at all times, and watch and pray, that we may not be led into temptation.

There are many people who are generous, good-natured, agreeable companions, whose society we enjoy, and yet who, after all, never make us any better. We want to associate with the followers of the meek and lowly Jesus, and who will help us on in our journey to the heavenly home.

Reader, we are in a world of sin, but we shall be out of it in a little while; and certainly we ought to enjoy the good and gracious, the pleasant and beautiful, gifts which are on every hand, given us by our Father in Heaven. We must not lay down the armor, but be on our guard continually, for the enemy is powerful and will lead us to death; but we have a strong place of refuge. Jesus yet lingers in the heavenly sanctuary, and pleads for us, and our Father, for his sake, will hear his children when they cry unto him. Although sin is on every hand, we can, and must, stand nobly at our post, if we hear at last the "Well done" said to us.

VIRGINIE MERRIAM.

The humble soul is like the violet that grows low, hangs the head downward, and hides itself with its own leaves; and were it not that the fragrance of his manly virtues discovered him to the world, he would live and die in secrecy.

"Are You Angry, Pa?"

It was the Lord's-day afternoon, and Mr. Gray had paced the floor until he was wearied with the endless round. The day of rest had no holy charms for him; its hours were always tedious; and now they seemed doubly so, for the grass had not yet covered the grave of his loving and loved wife, and this evening he was very sad and lonely.

The door suddenly opened, and Bessie, his only child, stood before him. Her lip was quivering and her bosom swelling with deep emotion; but she did not speak.

"My child!" exclaimed Mr. Gray, in alarm, "what is the matter? what has happened?"

Bessie was so overcome she could not reply.

Taking her by the hand, Mr. Gray led her to his arm-chair, and seated her upon his knee. Supposing it was only some childish grief, he smoothed her soft curls caressingly, saying: "What has troubled my darling? Has kitty caught your bird, or dolly fallen into the fire? Do not cry, tell me what it is. Dry your eyes, little one—see here!" and a golden coin was slipped into her hand.

"No, no; I don't want any money," said Bessie, sobbing. "I am not going to Sabbath-school any more."

"Has any one hurt your feelings, Bessie? You know you promised your dear mother you would go. Has any one at the Sabbath-school said anything to wound you, my darling?"

"No; not there, pa, but here," and she pointed to the Bible that lay upon her lap.

"How could that innocent book hurt your feelings, child?" asked Mr. Gray, with a smile.

"Because—because—" but Bessie stopped.

"Well, because what?"

"O pa, you will be angry, I know you will," and Bessie wept again.

"No, my child, I will not. What is it?"

"I was reading in it this evening, and it said you were a fool. Just think of its calling you that, pa!"

"Called me a fool, child?"

"Yes, sir, it did; and I'm not going to read it another time."

"Called me a fool," repeated Mr. Gray, slowly. "How can you make that out?"

"It says anybody who says there is no God, is a fool; and I heard you tell Mr. Green the other day that there was no God, so is not that the same as calling you a fool?"

A heavy frown settled upon Mr. Gray's brow, and pushing Bessie from his knee, he walked the floor with a rapid step.

"Are you angry, pa?" asked Bessie, softly.

"No, child, no; bring the book here, and read it to me."

The child read: "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." She paused, expecting a burst of anger; but his voice only trembled a little, as he said, "Go on;" and again the childish voice went on:

"They are corrupt, they have done abominable works"—

"Stop, child!" he exclaimed. "I cannot bear it. Go, leave me now."

"Are you angry, pa?"

"No, darling, no;" and he stooped and kissed her. "No, not angry, my precious one, only waking up. Go now."

The door closed. Swift over the portals of

Heaven an angel flew, shouting, "Behold, he prays!" Ah! there was joy among the glittering throng that night.

Ere another Lord's-day rolled around, a large gilt Bible lay upon the little stand. Upon the first blank leaf were traced the words, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works." It was a strange, but a loved, inscription. There was no terror now in the words, no condemnation, for below was written, "The smile of the Lord is the feast of my soul."—*Sel.*

"In Honor Preferring One Another."

THERE is no sin, perhaps, so universally prevalent as the sin of selfishness. It pervades all classes of society, and every stage of human life; and if not subdued by the power of grace, it will flourish in perennial bloom.

It is not alone in the desire for worldly gain that this propensity of the human heart is exhibited; but in various ways, and in different degrees of intensity, we meet it on every hand. And here I would ask myself these questions, Is my own heart free from this sin? Do I at all times regard the pleasure, comfort, convenience, and happiness, of others, as I do my own? Do I disinterestedly consult the interests of my friends and associates? Do I always endeavor to speak in a manner that shall in nowise injure, offend, or wound the feelings of any? Would that I could conscientiously answer all these questions in the affirmative. But candor compels me to plead guilty, and in the light of heart-examination, I stand convicted. Yet all this, and more, must I do before I can arrive at the point which the words of the apostle enjoin, "In honor preferring one another." Not only regarding the interests, pleasure, and happiness, of others in the same degree as my own, but giving them the precedence.

Let us, dear young friends, strive to cultivate a true Christian courtesy, and develop in our own characters that unselfishness which shall constrain us at all times to "esteem others better than ourselves."

A. I. CHIPMAN.

Battle Creek, Mich.

God Cares for Us.

THIS is good news indeed; but how do we know that he cares for us? He says so. The Bible is God's book, and it says, "He careth for you." 1 Pet. 5:7. I am sure that God cares for us, for I see that he does. If he feeds and clothes us, and gives us a house to live in, and helps us in trouble, and heals us when we are sick, does not this show that he cares for us? He permitted his Son to leave his bright home in Heaven, and come down to earth to spend a life of suffering for us. Does not that show that he cares for us? Then let us open our hearts to him, and ask him to forgive us of our sins, and create within us clean hearts, that we may walk uprightly before him, and bring no reproach upon his cause. Then when Jesus comes, we can hail him with joy, and join in singing the song of Moses and the Lamb forever and ever.

J. N. BRANT.

Hillsdale Co., Mich.

Time and tide will wait for no man.

The Youth's Instructor.

BATTLE CREEK, APRIL 15, 1871.

MISS J. R. TREMBLEY, : : : : EDITOR.
MISS E. R. FAIRFIELD, : : : : ASSISTANT.

Meditations.

"LET the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer." I love to meditate on the joys of the world to come. The night is far spent. Even now the morn is breaking. 'Tis but a brief moment ere the golden rays of sunlight will pierce the thick darkness, changing night into day. Soon it will no more be heard, "Watchman, what of the night?" for the long, dark night of time will be past, and the morn of eternity will have dawned upon us. Oh, glorious hour! Then will the weary, toil-worn pilgrim find sweet rest. Then will the saints be gathered in as jewels, to shine forevermore in the casket of Heaven. Oh, blest abode! "When shall I wake and find me there?"

After pondering long upon the necessary preparation to fit me to enter the heavenly Canaan, I wonder what will be my first thought on entering that place. When I can know that I am forever free from everything that is unholy and impure—when I am made immortal—what will be the first thought? Will I first be captivated by the beauty and grandeur of the place? Will the glorious crown for which I labor here be first to attract my notice? or the golden harps and beautiful garments of the heavenly throng? Will it be the sparkling of the bright waters that flow by the throne? Will Sharon's dewy rose, which fills the entire city with its rich perfume, be the first thing to admire? Will the first thrill of joy be occasioned by greeting the saints, recognizing familiar faces, learning which is Adam, Abel, Enoch, Noah, Moses, the patriarchs, prophets, and apostles? Though I long for the society of these, and desire to see the glories of Heaven—all that is grand and beautiful within and without the temple—yet I think none of these will occupy my first thought.

At the transfiguration, when Jesus touched the three disciples, and said unto them, "Arise, and be not afraid," they lifted up their eyes, and saw no man, "save Jesus only." When I have received the finishing touch of immortality, and understand as I do not now how great was the Price paid for my redemption, I think, for a time at least, I shall behold nothing, *save Jesus only.*

Be Modest.

PERHAPS some little boys and girls may think this is unnecessary advice; but, dear children, we are so frequently met with those who are bold and forward that it is really a delight to the eyes to see one here and there who is modest and retiring. There is so much of the spirit of "young America" abroad now, that brazen faces and pert, saucy tongues are not uncommon. Satan seems determined to take away from the young that modesty which

should characterize them, and in its stead he inspires them with a careless, bold, do n't-care spirit. How often are we pained to see this spirit manifested even with those children who have godly, Sabbath-keeping parents! The world, the flesh, and the devil, combined, make a strong chain to bind them to earth.

You need not be what is commonly termed bashful, in order to be truly modest and retiring. Some who seem timid in the presence of strangers, at home and among those with whom they are well acquainted, are impudent and forward. In 2 Tim. 3, Paul tells us that "in the last days perilous times shall come," and having made this statement, he proceeds to give us a list of sins which will be so common, and will tend to make the last days times of peril. Read that list, dear children, and then think if it is possible for a child who is truly modest to be guilty of even one of those crimes mentioned. Satan is lying in wait for the young. His efforts will not be feeble, by any means. He will labor to bring you in bondage to a spirit of recklessness and carelessness, and it will require constant and strict watchfulness to keep such a spirit from coming over you; for he will bring it upon you so gradually that unless prepared to detect its slightest approach, you will be in his snare before aware of it. Be watchful, be prayerful, live near to God, and when Jesus comes, he will gather you with his jewels.

E. R. F.

What Some Folks Know.

THE readers of the INSTRUCTOR will remember the notice of Uncle John's Letter Box, in number 6, with some questions which had been sent him, and the answers he returned. In his "Letter Box" of March 23, Hattie C., of Blue Earth, Minn., asks him this question: "There are some people in this neighborhood who say that the soul sleeps in the grave with the body till the resurrection, and that then the soul is raised, but the body is left in the grave. Now, Uncle John, please tell me what you think about it."

"Hattie C." makes a mistake in her question. The people she refers to do not believe that at the resurrection the soul is raised and the body remains in the grave, but that the whole person is raised then out of the grave where it had lain unconscious till that time.

But Uncle John says that "some people" in the Bible say things very different from that. Then he refers to Paul's language, "Having a desire to depart and to be with Christ, which is far better." Phil. 1:23. But he failed to notice that Paul does not tell us in that passage *when* he was to be with Christ, which is the important point in this part of the question.

Again, he refers to the words of Jesus to the thief, "This day shalt thou be with me in Paradise." But here again he overlooked the fact that Paradise is where God the Father dwells, in the third Heaven, 2 Cor. 12:1-4; Rev. 2:7; 22:1, 2; and that Christ told Mary three days after his crucifixion that he *had not yet been to his Father.* John 20:17. So he did not mean to be understood that the thief should be with him that very day in Paradise, as Uncle John thinks, else there is a contradiction in his words which cannot be explained. Would not Uncle John do well to think of this? It is all explained when we understand Christ to say, I tell you this day that you shall be with me in Paradise, when I come in my kingdom; which is the time

when the thief wanted to be remembered. "Remember me," he said, "when thou comest into thy kingdom."

Uncle John refers to another scripture, this time to Paul's language, "absent from the body and present with the Lord." 2 Cor. 5:8. But still the important point for him is omitted, namely, *when* are we to be present with the Lord? Paul tells us in other places, that it is to be when the trumpet sounds, the Lord appears in the clouds, the dead are raised, the living saints changed, and all are caught up to meet the Lord in the air; and so, says he, we are to be with the Lord. 1 Thess. 4:13-17. And Christ told his disciples when he was about to go away from them to Heaven, that he would return again for them, and take them to himself, so that they might be with him. John 14:1-3. The only way we are ever to be with the Lord is by his coming again and taking us to himself; and the only time when this is done is when he thus comes for us.

But Uncle John says further, "I not only think that all this talk about the soul's sleeping in the grave with the body is a mistake, but I know it."

This is rather positive. You do not suppose, children, do you, that Uncle John knows more than Solomon knew? But what does Solomon say on this subject? He says, "The living know that they shall die; but the dead know not anything." Eccl. 9:5. And in verse 6 he says that their love, hatred, and envy, are perished; and in verse 10, that there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, "in the grave whither thou goest." And David, Solomon's father, says that in the day a man dies, his thoughts perish. Ps. 146:4. And Paul says that if there is to be no resurrection, then they which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. 1 Cor. 15:18.

So, then, when a person is in the grave, there is no operation of the mind, and no emotion of the heart; he knows not anything, but is in a state of unconsciousness which the Bible so many times calls "sleep;" and if they are never to be brought out of this by the resurrection, they are perished, and that is the last of them. But Uncle John thinks this is all a mistake, and not only thinks it, but says he "knows" it. You have no doubt heard of some who are "wise above what is written." Is he not one of them? "You and I," he says to Hattie, "will stick to what the people in the Bible say." Do you not wish they would? A LOVER OF TRUTH.

God's Ways.

God works not as men work, but often very differently from what they would think or do. He causes the water to gush out of the rock for his needy children, not by a thunderbolt, but by the touch of the rod of Moses. Would he have his gospel made known to men, he does not choose the learned and the wise in this world's wisdom. He sends out his ministers from the shores of Galilee, where they had been known as simple fishermen. If he would have a learned man among his ministers, he takes him from among the enemies of his gospel, and makes him one of the most glorious defenders of the Christian faith the world has ever seen. This great and good man said, "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe."

God can work by very humble means. Little children can speak his praise and make known his truth. Every little Sabbath-school child can say something and do something for Jesus; that is, they can do God's will as Jesus did it, and so make the world better. Let us remember that God works by all means, however small to us they may seem.

Who gives unseen is sincere.

TIME IS PASSING.

How fast the time is passing by!
The green grass mantles earth again,
And birds are warbling in the sky,
Flowers bloom where late the frost has been.

All nature springs to life anew,
And gently speaks to us of God;
Come, children, join the glad song,
And sound his glorious praise abroad.

Oh! does this thought our bosoms cheer,
While the successive seasons roll,
We are, with each revolving year,
Advancing toward the heavenly goal? —Ed.

Little Burden-bearers.

DEAR CHILDREN: I want to say a few words to you about bearing burdens. The Bible says, "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ."

I presume you will think, What can I a little boy or girl do to bear burdens? There are many ways in which every little child can enter into this work. Among your brothers and sisters and other young companions you can watch for opportunities to help and assist them in the performance of their various little duties. You can cultivate a spirit of love and tenderness, and show it out to all around you, and thus make one another's little trials and hardships as light as possible; and in so doing, you will be drawing nearer to each other.

But there is another way to which I wish to call your attention; and that is, by helping your mother. Here is a way in which you can lift or make light a very heavy burden. I presume you do not realize the burden that your mother bears for you all the time. She knows that if you do not overcome and become pure in heart and life, you will not be saved. She knows that time is short, and that you have but a short time in which to get ready for the Lord's coming. If you are disobedient and wayward, and do not heed her counsels, how her heart is pained. She pleads with God with many tears for you; and when she sees you careless and indifferent, you cannot realize how unhappy she is. She cannot bear the thought that you should be lost; but she knows that you will be if you do not overcome your sins. She pleads with God for wisdom to instruct and guide you aright. But when she sees you trying to do right, how glad and happy she is.

Will you not try to think something about this great burden that your mother is bearing, and try to make it light by being obedient, patient, and kind, to all around you—by heeding her instructions? By being diligent and assisting her in her daily labors, you will make her burden lighter. But more than this, by this course of action you will lift, in a great measure, the heavy burden from her heart, and the Lord will bless you, and if you continue faithful to the end, the promise contained in the fifth commandment will be yours; namely, long life "upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." C. M. RATHBUN.

St. Charles, Mich.

The Boy's Triumph.

THERE were prizes to be given in Willie's school, and he was very anxious to merit one of them. As Willie was young, he was behind the other boys in all his studies but writing. As he had no hope to excel in any but writing, he made up his mind to try for the special prize for that, with all his might. And he did try so that his copy-book would have done honor to a boy twice his age. When the prizes were awarded, the chairman of the committee held up two copy-books, and said: "It would be difficult to say which of these two books is better than the other, but for one

copy in Willie's which is not only superior to Charlie's but to every other copy in the same book. This copy, therefore, gains the prize."

Willie's heart beat high with hope, which was unmixed with fear. Blushing to his temples, he said, "Please, sir, may I see that copy?"

"Certainly," replied the chairman, looking somewhat surprised.

Willie glanced at the copy, and then handing the book back, said, "Please, sir, that is not my writing. It was written by an upper-class boy, who took my book by mistake one day instead of his own."

"Oh, oh!" said the chairman, "that may alter the case." The two books went back to the committee, who, after comparing them carefully, awarded the prize to Charlie. The boys laughed at Willie. One said he was silly to say anything about the mistake.

"I wouldn't have told," said another. "Nor I," added a third, laughing. "The copy was in your book, and you had a right to enjoy the benefit of it."

But in spite of all their quizzing, Willie felt that he was right. "It would not have been the truth," he replied, "if I had not told who wrote the copy. I would rather hold fast the truth than have a prize, for truth is better than gold."

"Hurrah for Willie! Three cheers for Willie! Well done for Willie!" shouted the boys; and Willie went home to his work happier than he could have done if by means of a silent lie he had won the prize.—*Phrenological Journal.*

Only One Sin.

DEAR YOUTH AND CHILDREN: Did you ever consider the exceeding sinfulness of sin? Did you ever stop to think that God hates sin, and that he does not look upon even the least departure from his commandments with any degree of allowance? Did you ever realize that it was for only one act of disobedience that our first parents were driven from the beautiful garden of Eden? and that for only one sin, Satan (once an honored angel) was cast out of Heaven, together with all the angels that sympathized with him in his rebellion?

Dear children, if you have never thought of these things, I can assure you they are true. And now I want you to consider this: If the sin of which our first parents were guilty was of such magnitude in the sight of God as to cause them to be driven from their beautiful home in the garden, what will be our condition if we come up to the Judgment with only one sin, breaking even one of the least of God's commandments?

How important that we confess and forsake all sin, and that we do it now. In a little while, probation will close. Jesus will cease pleading his blood in our behalf, and our cases will be unalterably fixed. If we are earnest, and overcome all sin now while probation lingers; if we keep all of the commandments of God, we may, in a little while, see the city, and walk its golden streets. We may behold our Redeemer, whose precious blood was shed for us. I do want to be fitting up for that glorious place. I want to see Jesus, and be made like him. He wants all the lambs of the flock. Dear children, will you meet me there? C. P. WHITFORD.

Berkshire Center, Vt.

INFINITE toil would not enable you to sweep away a mist; but by ascending a little, you may often look over it altogether. So it is with moral improvements; we wrestle fiercely with a vicious habit, or with a slanderous report, which would have no hold upon us if we ascended into a higher moral atmosphere.

BIBLE LESSONS FOR CHILDREN.

LESSON EIGHTY-NINE.

SIMEON RETAINED A PRISONER.

1. What accusation did Joseph bring against his brethren?
2. What are spies?
3. How are spies punished in all countries? Ans. They are put to death.
4. On what condition did Joseph offer to release his brethren that they might return to their homes, with food for their starving families? Gen. 42: 19.
5. What did he require of them to do to prove that they were not spies? (Verse 20.)
6. Why did he keep one of their number a prisoner?
7. What did these guilty brethren say one to another? Verse 21.
8. What did Reuben say?
9. Did they know that Joseph understood their words?
10. In what way did Joseph talk with them? (Verse 23.)
11. What is an interpreter?
12. How was Joseph affected by their conversation? (Verse 24.)
13. What did Joseph do with Simeon?
14. What commandment did Joseph then give? (Verse 25.)
15. What did one of the brethren discover when he opened his sack at the inn? (Verse 27.)
16. How did they feel when they found that the money which they had paid for corn was restored to them? (Verses 28, 35.)
17. What did they say? (Verse 28.)

LESSON NINETY.

JACOB IS UNWILLING TO LET BENJAMIN GO.

1. What did Joseph's brethren do when they came again to Jacob their father, in the land of Canaan? Gen. 42: 29.
2. What did Jacob say after he had heard their story? (Verse 36.)
3. What reply did Reuben make? (Verse 37.)
4. What decision did Jacob then express? Verse 38.
5. What did he say to his sons when the corn which they had brought from Egypt was all eaten up? Gen. 43: 2.
6. What did Judah say? Verses 3-5.
7. What complaint did Jacob make? (Verse 6.)
8. What excuse did his sons offer? (Verse 7.)
9. What plea did Judah then make? (Verses 8-10.)
10. What did Jacob finally tell them to do? (Verses 11-14.)

Be at Home with Your Class.

Yes, teacher, be at home with your class. Do not put on any airs for effect. Be natural. Do not try to give your pupils an impression that you are anything more than you are. They will surely detect you. Do not be stiff and formal with them, but easy and gentle. Love them, and they will soon find it out, and they will love you in return. Only love can beget love. Be so gentle and free with them, show such an interest in them, that they will feel that you are their friend. Show them so fully that you are their friend that they will not feel afraid to express their thoughts and feelings to you. When you have gained the confidence and love of your pupils, you can do almost anything you wish with them. But if you set yourself upon a pedestal, as though there were a barrier between you and them, they will not feel happy under your instructions. Be at home with them, and let the homelike feeling shine in your eyes, and in your countenance, and pervade your whole manner.

Teachers' Blanks.

We now have a supply of Teachers' Blanks, for the use of Sabbath-schools, which can be obtained at 38 cts. per dozen, post-paid.

A Correction.

ON the 24th page of the last INSTRUCTOR, in the article, "God Protects His Children," substitute the word "shot" for "hung," in the second line of the second paragraph. By some oversight, this mistake was permitted to pass, and we regret it much. Bro. Lichtenstein, the writer of the article is a Poland, and until a few months ago was a Jew. About three months since, he came to Battle Creek and soon embraced the Christian faith, and is now an earnest observer of the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. The INSTRUCTOR family will be happy to hear from him often.

THE CHILDREN'S CORNER.

THE SWALLOW.

Its song is full of merriment,
Its laughter bursteth out,
Just like the merry, ringing sound,
Of childhood's joyous shout.

It is the gift of a kind Hand,
To grace our earthly bowers;
The same that gave the stars of eve,
And lovely, blooming flowers.

Letters from Little Folks.

WE find this week a large number of communications for the letter department. There is room for but few each week; yet they will probably all appear in good time. We are glad that so many take so much interest in this. The letters are not confined to the children alone. We have quite a number from fathers, mothers, and even grandparents. We welcome them all.

Very many are writing us for the first time. We say to you, friends, May God bless you, and keep you unspotted from the world. May your hearts glow with the love of Jesus, and may your own souls be watered as you try to do good to others. Be successful in winning souls to Christ, and your crown will be studded with stars that will sparkle with a brilliancy far surpassing the gold and diamonds of this poor world.

INDIANOLA, Iowa.

DEAR LITTLE FRIENDS: Two years ago I was without a hope in Christ—a wanderer from God, in the downward road to ruin. But God in his tender love called me from darkness into light, helped me to seek for pardon through the merits of Jesus, and set me in the way that leads to life. Dear Father! I now find sweet joy and peace in doing his will, although many times my rebellious heart causes me much pain. But, through his grace, I am determined to overcome and do something to lead precious souls to Christ. If his love is in our hearts, we will try to do others good by denying, instead of pleasing, ourselves. But if we would bear good fruit, we must abide in him as he has told us in John 15: 4, 5. Our own wisdom is ignorance; but he has said that we may learn of him.

If we are truly humble, it is our privilege to have the blessed Saviour for a constant companion. To sinful mortals such as we, is not this an honor? Now let us remember, wherever we are, to be obedient, and depend upon him for wisdom, that we may not reproach his cause, but may bring forth fruit to his glory. Soon, very soon, our eyes will be

opened, and we shall see his dear face, and be permitted to dwell with him forever in his home of light and beauty.

SAMUEL O. JAMES.

ADAMS CENTER, N. Y.

DEAR EDITORS: This is the first time I ever tried to write for our little paper, which I love to read dearly. My age is ten years, I am trying to be a good girl, and keep the commandments of God, that I may have a home on the new earth. I am now reading the New Testament through, a present from our beloved elder. Dear young friends, let us be faithful that we may meet on Mount Zion to enjoy one another's society forever.

EMMA BROWN.

CICERO, Ind.

DEAR EDITORS: I have been a reader of the INSTRUCTOR for several years. I like it well, and think it is just the paper for children in these last days. There are many books and papers that children should not read; for they are not true. We have no time to read untruths. The *Review* and INSTRUCTOR are all the preaching we have on present truth. I never have attended but one Seventh-day Adventist meeting. I wish we were where we could go to meeting and Sabbath-school; but I am thankful for the *Review* and INSTRUCTOR. May the Lord bless the Editor and Assistant in the work that is before them. I want to be an overcomer, and my prayer is that I may meet you all in the kingdom.

MOLLIE A. CRUZAN.

HESPERIA, Mich.

DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS: Once more I will try to write a few lines for our good little paper. I have taken it about four years. I take delight in reading its pages, and am well pleased with the new form.

I want to be among those that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. Pray for me, that I may overcome all my sins, and meet you in the kingdom.

ALPHA WATERS.

Mary Alice White, of Durand, Ill., says: Dear Editors: I am trying to keep the Sabbath with my parents. I have a brother and sister sleeping in their graves, waiting for the Lord's coming. Pray for me, that I may meet them in Heaven. I want to be a good girl, so I can be among the number that will be saved.

This is Alice's first letter.

A boy ten years of age writes from Genoa, Mich.: It is now two years since I commenced keeping the Sabbath. I was baptized last July. I am sorry I have not lived nearer the Lord; but will try and overcome my sins, and be obedient in all things. I want to go through to the kingdom. Pray for me.

GEORGE S. GILBERT.

Here is a sweet little letter which the Editor has enjoyed much. We make room for it, feeling sure that others will enjoy it too.

DEAR INSTRUCTOR: I am a little girl most six years old. I love my paper. I can read it to my little brother Frank. I wish I was big enough to sing and stand up in meeting and say, "God is good; I love Jesus; and I want to be good so I can go to the beautiful city when Jesus comes."

My pa is away most all the time; but God takes care of his little children just as well. Sometimes he comes to us a little while; for Frankie and I ask God to keep him well and bring him safe home. Pa tries to have people be good and keep the Sabbath holy. Good bye for this time.

ETTIE L. REYNOLDS.

We think you are none too young, Ettie, to tell in meeting how much you love the Lord,

and of your faith and confidence in the blessed Saviour; for he has said, "Of such is the kingdom of Heaven."

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

Charlie G. Hibbard, of Raisin, sends the following answers to questions in INSTRUCTOR No. 6:

1. I think it means that all our good or bad works will be remembered, and measured back to us again in the day of Judgment.

2. Because we cannot carry any sin along with us. We must leave it all behind if we wish to enter in through the strait gate into Heaven.

3. No; I should think not. They said it because they wanted to find fault with Jesus. They wanted to find fault with his works because they did not love him.

4. He will love one and hate the other, or he will hold to the one and despise the other. That is, he will love the good and hate the evil, or he will hold to the evil and despise the good.

Mollie A. Cruzan, Cicero, Ind., Lois A. Pierce, Carlston, Minn., Florence L. Bartlett, Augusta, Mich., and A. F. Waters, Hesperia, Mich., also send answers to the same. Good. The last one named says, "Please print some more questions in the next paper;" so here they are:

QUESTIONS.

1. Is the fourth commandment repeated in the New Testament? Why?

2. What is the meaning of Mark 4: 25.

3. Could the disciples have stilled the tempest as Christ did, if they had tried?

4. Why did Christ refuse to let the man, out of whom he had cast an unclean spirit, follow him?

5. How many of the children will send in questions for others to answer through the INSTRUCTOR?

Money Received.

Each 25 Cents. Hattie Smith 20-1, Mrs. Esther Kerney 20-1, S C Bushnell 19-13, Willie E Cornell 20-12, Silas N Carpenter 20-13, Eva Hinman 19-20, Geo Worthing 19-13, Adelia Holforth 20-1, Della Casey 19-17, Eddie Bailey 19-1, Phebe Davis 19-20, Mary Francisco 19-20.

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