

The Youth's Instructor.

VOLUME 19.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., OCTOBER 1, 1871.

NUMBER 19.

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

CHRIST AND THE CHILDREN.

LITTLE children! how He loved them!

Passing all the grown folks by,
Just to raise the little children,
On his breast he let them lie!

Let them "come," that means, to love him,
And to do his bidding sweet;
He has many little errands,
Fitted well for little feet.

Sometimes what he says is harder:

"Let the restless feet be still."

If the little heart is patient,
That is doing Jesus' will.

"He it is," he says, "who loves me,
That will my commandments do."

There are many he has left us
That are plain enough for you.

"Overcome with good the evil."

When some little playmate strikes,
If you give a gentle answer,
That will be what Jesus likes.

Let this loving Saviour, children,
Teach and lead you all your days
In green pastures, by still waters;
Jesus' ways are pleasant ways.

—Morning Light.

Choose Life.

THE Lord has set life and death before us, and entreated us to choose life, that we may live. Has my young reader chosen life? It is more to choose life than faintly to desire it. We cannot choose life, in the sense of Scripture, unless we choose the way to life. There is one way to life, and only one. That is the way of faith and obedience—faith in Jesus Christ, who alone can cleanse us from our past sins, and obedience to the moral law of God. This is the only way to life pointed out in the Bible. It is the way of "repentance toward God," whose law we have violated, "and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ," the only means of pardon.

There is no other name under heaven whereby we must be saved. Have you given your whole heart to Jesus? Have you chosen the way of the Lord? David says a great deal about the way of the Lord. It is frequently mentioned in Ps. 119. The way of the Lord is the way of his commandments. And this is the way to life. Jesus taught the same. He said to the young man, "If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." These are the same commandments that David calls the way of the Lord. Men are changeable; but God has not changed his way.

Have you chosen the way? Then you have chosen life. Have you learned to love the way? Then there is reason to hope that you will gain eternal life. Do you choose life? If you have not chosen it, now is the time to make your choice. Be entreated to choose life, and choose it now.

R. F. COTTRELL.

THERE is a great deal of theology in the idea of the little girl who wished she could be good without obeying her grandmother. She said it was easy enough to read books and pray, but pretty hard to mind grandmother.

HATRED stirreth up all strifes; but love covereth all sins.

She Was a Stranger.

A MISSIONARY, traveling in North America, was requested to go out to a new settlement to address a Sabbath-school. He had preached in the morning, and was wearied, and felt quite unfitted for the task, but reluctantly consented to go.

When he found himself at the spot, he looked around the assembly with great misgivings, not knowing what to say to them. He noticed a little girl very shabbily dressed, and barefooted, shrinking up in a corner, her little sunburnt face buried in her hands, the tears trickling between her small, brown fingers, and sobbing as if her heart would break. Soon, however, another little girl, about eleven years old, got up and went to her, whispered kindly to her, and, taking her by the hand, led her toward a brook, then seated her on a log, and kneeling beside her, she took off her ragged sun bonnet, and, dipping her hand in the water, bathed her hot eyes and tear-stained face, smoothed the tangled hair, talking in a cheery manner all the while.

The little one brightened up, the tears all went, and smiles came creeping all round the rosy mouth.

The missionary stepped forward and said, "Is that your little sister, my dear?"

"No, sir," answered the noble child, with tender, earnest eyes, "I have no sister, sir."

"Oh! one of the neighbor's children," replied the missionary, "a little schoolmate, perhaps?"

"No, sir; she is a stranger. I do not know where she came from; I never saw her before."

"Then how can you take her out, and have such a care for her, if you do not know her?"

Because she was a stranger, sir, and seemed all alone, and needed somebody to be kind to her."

"Ah!" said the missionary to himself, "here is a text for me to preach from, 'Because she was a stranger, and seemed all alone, and needed somebody to be kind to her.'"

The words came to him, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

So, taking the little girls by the hand, he went back to the school-room and told the people the simple story; then spoke of the great love that all should bear to one another, even as the dear Saviour sought out those who were humble and of low estate, making them his peculiar care. The missionary forgot his weariness, and felt that God had put a good word in his mouth.—S. S. World.

Jack, the Unruly Colt.

JACK was a very pretty colt, and possessed a good disposition. His color was dark brown, his head was always held up in a comely manner, and he was a general favorite with his master's family; and had it not been for one ugly trait of character, Jack would have had many privileges and great liberties granted to him.

We are sorry to tell you that Jack was unruly. He did not seem to understand what fences were made for, and he seemed as much at home on one side of the fence as the other; but he generally preferred to be on the side where he did not belong.

Many experiments were made with pokes

and the like, but he despised them all; and finally his owner (fearing the effect of example upon the other animals with which Jack daily associated) shut up the unruly colt closely in yard or stable.

Occasionally Jack was turned loose with his old associates to see if he would not reform; but he only grew worse, until now the unruly colt is closely shut up day and night, and instead of nice, green pasture, he has to eat dry hay.

So it is, children, with us. If we continue to disobey God and break his law, he will be compelled to close up the offer of mercy and pardon, and will shut up those who thus break his law, reserving them to future destruction.

Think of this, dear reader, when you persist in sin. Think of unruly Jack and learn a wholesome lesson. JOS. CLARKE.

A Short Lesson for Parents and Children.

Mrs. H. B. STOWE tells a story of Father Morris, a venerable New England minister, which we think may interest some of our boys.

He had on his farm a fine orchard of peaches, from which some of the ten and twelve year old gentlemen helped themselves more liberally than the old gentleman thought expedient.

Accordingly he took occasion to introduce into his sermon one Sunday, in his little parish, an account of a journey he took, and how he saw a fine orchard of peaches that made his mouth water to look at them.

"So," says he, "I came up to the fence and looked all around, for I would not have touched one of them, without leave, for all the world. At last I spied a man, and, said I—

"Mister, won't you give me some of your peaches?"

"So the man came and gave me nigh a handful. And while I stood there eating, I said—

"Mister, how do you manage to keep your peaches?"

"Keep them!" he said, and stared at me. "What do you mean?"

"Yes," said I, "don't the boys steal them?"

"Boys steal them," said he; "no, indeed!"

"Why, sir," said I, "I have a whole lot full of peaches, and I cannot get half of them (here the old man's voice grew tremulous) because the boys in my parish steal them so."

"Why sir," said he, "don't their parents teach them not to steal?"

"And I grew all over in a cold sweat, and told him I was afeard they did n't."

"Why, how you talk!" said the man; "tell me where you live."

"Then," said Father Morris (the tears running over), "I was obliged to tell him I lived in the town of G."

After this Father Morris kept his peaches.—Sel.

A good conscience is better than two witnesses—it will consume your grief as the sun dissolves ice. It is a spring when you are thirsty—a staff when you are weary—a screen when the sun burns—a pillow in death.

The Youth's Instructor.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., OCTOBER 1, 1871.

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

Encouraging.

WE frequently receive letters of encouragement from true and tried friends of the cause—letters assuring us that we have the prayers and sympathies of those who love the Lord—letters from those who have taken the INSTRUCTOR ever since it was published, and find their interest in it and the truths it teaches increasing with each volume. We cannot answer these letters, neither would it be expedient to publish them all; but do not think, friends, that because of our silence we are indifferent. Far from it. Your cheering words ever find a ready response in our hearts.

We are glad that so many manifest a deep interest in the welfare of the young people. We ask all our contributors to accept thanks for the ready response to the call made a few months since, for contributions, and earnestly solicit a continuance of the same.

We copy the following encouraging words from a letter written from New Haven, N. Y., by Sarah E. Pierce:

It is very encouraging to know that those of mature age, as well as children, are assisted to gain a knowledge of the truth by means of this precious little sheet.

About four years ago, I sent the INSTRUCTOR to my little cousins. They were good girls and soon learned to love their paper so much that they were unwilling to part with it. So their parents have permitted them to subscribe for it ever since. Their mother was a bitter opposer to our faith, so much so that she was unwilling to hear it mentioned. But as she read our little paper with her children, her prejudice gradually diminished, and she became willing to hear. Last winter, she attended our meetings in this place, and herself and daughters commenced keeping the Sabbath of the Lord. The Methodist minister of the church she had formerly attended called upon her, and entreated her not to be so hasty in changing from the keeping of the first to the seventh day. She assured him that she was not hasty, but that the subject had been before her for a number of years. She then handed him a copy of the INSTRUCTOR and told him it was a precious treasure to any who would receive it; that she had often turned to the scriptures referred to, and found them always to the point just as represented; and that by the blessing of God it had been a means of removing prejudice and opening her eyes to the truth.

May the Lord bless the editors and the readers and help us to scatter rays of light and truth by every means in our power.

ANNIE and Lily were going from school together one afternoon, and Annie was teasing Lily to go off somewhere and play with her. "But mother told me to come right home from school," said Lily.

"Well, she has gone away, and would never know if you did go away for a little while," naughty Annie said.

"But God has not gone away; he would know," Lily replied as she ran home fast.

WHEN pride cometh, then cometh shame; but with the lowly is wisdom.

What the Seasons Teach Us.

AUTUMN.

THERE is a softened beauty about autumn. The foliage begins to change from the bright green of summer days to the rich crimson and the sober brown of the closing period of its life; and, as the twinges of frost come sharper and sharper, the trees are shorn of their covering, their leaves falling lifeless to the earth. The flowers which have beautified and blessed our homes during the long, bright days of summer are fast fading before our eyes. We behold them at evening, glorious in their beauty; in the morning, they lie withered and helpless on the ground.

"The melancholy days have come,
The saddest of the year."

Such they truly are. By them our minds are pointed back to the time when by disobedience to God's command, man brought so heavy a curse upon the earth and its inhabitants. He enjoyed the pleasures of sin for a season, but by so doing brought the bitterness of death upon the whole world. As we are thus reminded of man's fall and its resulting evils, may we resolve anew to deny self, and, by the grace of God, withstand the tempter on every point.

Jesus left the glory of his position in Heaven, and suffered untold agonies, gladly offering his life that man and earth might be delivered from the curse brought upon them. He arose from the dead; he ascended up on high, taking captivity captive as proof of his power to save. He took with him the keys of the grave, and left with his sorrowing disciples a promise that he would come again, to unlock the prison-house, and give the captives life, to crown his waiting people with immortal crowns, and to restore earth's faded glory, breathing immortal vigor on all. Earth groans for redemption. The withering leaves seem to plead, Come, Lord Jesus. The faded flowers join in the appeal. Shall man not be interested also? When Jesus returns will he find faith on the earth? May we be renewed in the spirit of our minds, be zealous in repenting of our sins, and in the spirit of love and longing for redemption, join nature in the earnest cry, Come, Lord Jesus, and come quickly. E. R. F.

Do as you Would Be Done By.

A LITTLE boy, in holiday-time, set off to walk to his home. It was some distance off, but the day was bright and clear, and as he walked on in the shade the birds were singing in the branches, and he felt pleased and happy. When he came out into the open fields, he saw young lambs sporting by the side of their mothers, and here and there cows were standing knee-deep in the cool streams. After walking about a mile he began to feel somewhat tired, when he reached a shady bank, where a mossy seat had been made near a spring. He threw himself at his length upon this seat, and was enjoying the rest it afforded, when another boy came along, seemingly much more wearied than himself, and asked him to make room that he might sit down and rest beside him in the shade.

"Oh, no!" said our little boy; "do not ask me to move, I am so comfortable; I have

found this resting place, and if you go on further, I dare say you can find another spot as pleasant, where you can also stretch yourself and rest."

The little traveler thought him, no doubt, very selfish; but he said nothing, and passed on. When our little boy was rested enough, he arose and resumed his walk. The sun was now pretty high, and the heat was great, and it was only here and there that shady places were to be found. He felt more and more tired, and longed to reach a large tree which he saw at a distance, that he might rest himself in its shade. As he drew near he found that the ground all about it was wet and miry, but a rude bench had been formed beneath the tree, and on it was stretched the very same boy that had passed him an hour before. He felt, as he drew near, that he had no right to ask the boy to allow him room upon that bench to rest himself—wary and heated as he was—for had he not refused to render the same kindness a short time before to that very boy? He stood still awhile, and looked wistfully at the seat, and the boy who occupied it sprang up, and making room for him, said:—

"Come, you look as tired as I was an hour ago; know you will be glad to rest yourself in this shady place. Here is plenty of room for both of us. Come and sit down a while."

Which of these two little boys felt the happier? the one who thought only of his own comfort, or he that did as he would be done by, and returned good for evil?

Childhood is the holiday-time of life, and you, dear little ones, are setting off for your home, the house of your Father in Heaven.

While your thoughts are full of cheerfulness and your hearts of innocence and good affections, one of the first evils you must try to strive against, is selfishness. To give way to this evil may seem to be pleasant, but have you ever tried how much pleasanter it is to strive to do to others as we would have them do to us? Now, the first chance you have, try this.—*Children's Hour.*

Vain Thoughts.

I HATE vain thoughts, said the psalmist David. He had good reasons for hating them. They are plagues to every one. Who can calculate the time misspent and abused in the empty, trifling, profitless thoughts that occupy the mind? not wicked thoughts, strictly speaking, but vain thoughts.

How shall we determine what vain thoughts are? Thus: if they are not beneficial, if we cannot connect them with other thoughts that are profitable, and are obliged to contend against them when we would reflect on that which is really useful. Against all such thoughts we should be watchful, lest they too often intrude themselves upon us and lead us captive. When we think how much time in a whole life may be lost by such thoughts, the idea is a startling one. Months and years may thus go from us, leaving no good impressions, no cheering association, no rich improvement, behind. Let us be on the watch against these evil intruders, and be the psalmist's prayer ours also: "Let the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer."—*The Myrtle.*

Study Every Day.

LEARNING will accumulate wonderfully if you add a little every day. Do not wait for a long period of leisure. Pick up the book and gain one new idea, if no more. Save that one, and add another as soon as you can. Says an old Scotch adage: "Many a little makes a mickle."

REMEMBER ME.

[THE following lines were handed me on the Michigan Camp-ground. They were written by a brother who has been a cripple from his infancy. He was left an orphan at an early age, and has had life's battles to fight alone. He desires the prayers of the readers as the following lines indicate.—ED.]

I will give my heart to Jesus
In faith's most trying hour;
I will put my trust in Jesus
When clouds of darkness lower.

I will give my heart to Jesus
When hope is almost dead;
For I know it was for sinners
His precious blood was shed.

O then, dear friends of Jesus,
Who have felt the tempter's power,
Help me cling to my Saviour
In this dark and trying hour.

And O young friends of Jesus,
With spirits pure and free,
When'er you pray, "Our Father,"
In faith remember me.

Wm. C. Coax.

Secret of Success.

A CHRISTIAN merchant, who, from being a poor boy, had risen to wealth and renown, was once asked by an intimate friend to what, under God, he attributed his success in life. "To prompt and steady obedience to my parents," was his reply. "In the midst of many bad examples of youths of my own age, I was always ready to yield a ready submission to the will of my father and mother, and I firmly believe that a blessing has, in consequence, rested upon me and all my efforts."

Sabbath-School Department.

BIBLE LESSONS FOR CHILDREN.

LESSON ONE HUNDRED AND THREE
THE BURNING BUSH.

1. How old was Moses when he visited his brethren, slew the Egyptian, and fled to the land of Midian? Acts 7: 23-29.
2. How long did he keep the flocks of his father-in-law in Midian? Ex. 3: 1, 2; Acts 7: 30.
3. What happened at that time? *Ibid.*
4. Where had Moses led the flock of Jethro? (Ex. 3: 1.)
5. To what mountain had he come?
6. What did Moses notice that was remarkable in the burning of the bush? (Verse 2.)
7. Who spoke to Moses when he turned aside to see why the bush was not consumed? (Verse 4.)
8. What did Moses do when the Lord spoke to him? (Last part of verse 6.)
9. How did Moses know that it was God that was speaking to him? (First part of verse 6.)
10. What did the Lord say to Moses? (Verse 5.)
11. What did the Lord say he had seen? (Verse 7.)
12. What did he say he had heard? (Same verse.)
13. What did he say he knew?
14. Does God take notice of all the sorrows of his people now?
15. What did the Lord say he had come to do? (Verse 8.)
16. What did the Lord propose to do with Moses? (Verse 10.)
17. What did Moses say when he heard this proposal? (Verse 11.)
18. Do you think Moses had a very high opinion of himself?
19. What encouraging promise did the Lord make to Moses? (Verse 12.)
20. Will not God be with all those who do his bidding now?

LESSON ONE HUNDRED AND FOUR.

THE MESSAGE.

1. What did the Lord tell Moses to do? Ex. 3: 16.
2. What was he commanded to say to the elders of Israel? (Verses 16 and 17.)
3. What signs did the Lord give Moses to show to Israel so that they might believe that God had sent him? Ex. 4: 1-9.
4. What excuse did Moses then make? (Verse 10.)
5. What answer did the Lord make to this excuse? (Verse 11.)
6. What promise did he make to Moses? (Verse 12.)
7. Was Moses willing to go then? (Verse 13.)
8. Was the Lord pleased with this? (Verse 14.)
9. Do you think the Lord is pleased now to have men make excuses when he gives them work to do?
10. Whom did the Lord give Moses as a spokesman? (Verses 14-16.)
11. Did the Israelites believe Moses when he delivered his message to them? (Verse 31.)
12. What did they do when they heard how the Lord had looked upon their affliction?
13. What message did Moses and Aaron deliver to the king of Egypt? (Ex. 5: 1.)
14. Had God commanded them to deliver such a message to Pharaoh? (Chap. 3: 18.)
15. What answer did the king make to this demand? (Ex. 5: 2.)
16. What command did Pharaoh give the taskmasters of the people? (Verses 6-9.)

BIBLE LESSONS FOR YOUTH.

LESSON EIGHTY-TWO.

THE BOOKS OPENED.

1. What are the closing words of Dan. 7: 10?
2. Where is further mention made of these books? Rev. 20: 12.
3. To how many books does the revelator seem to allude in this passage? Ans. To two, at least, for "the books, [plural] were opened: and another book was opened which is the book of life."
4. What use is made of these books in the Judgment? Ans. The dead are judged out of those things which are written in the books. Rev. 20: 12.
5. Then what must the books contain? Ans. A record of every work and of every secret thing. Eccl. 12: 14.
6. Does God preserve a record of our words? Matt. 12: 36.
7. Do our secret purposes and motives find a place in the record? 1 Cor. 4: 5.
8. What book of record is kept expressly for the righteous? Ans. A book called the book of remembrance. Repeat Malachi 3: 16.
9. What reference is made to this book by the psalmist? Ps. 56: 8.
10. What by Nehemiah? Neh. 13: 14.
11. What does this book appear to contain? Ans. A record of the good deeds of those who fear the Lord and think upon his name.
12. What will it show them? Ans. All their acts of repentance, confession, obedience, and sacrifice.
13. What does the book of life seem to contain? Ans. Simply a record of the names of all those who enter the service of God. Luke 10: 20; Phil. 4: 3; Rev. 13: 8, &c.
14. Will any of the names once entered in the book of life ever be blotted out of it? Ex. 32: 32, 33; Ps. 69: 28; Rev. 22: 19.
15. What names will be retained there? Ans. The names of all those who make complete work of overcoming their sins. Rev. 3: 5.

LESSON EIGHTY-THREE.

THE EXAMINATION OF THE BOOKS.

1. How will it be determined who are the overcomers? Ans. By an examination of the books of God's remembrance, which will show just how far they have advanced in this work.
2. If an examination of their record shows that they have failed to accomplish this work, what will

be the consequences? Ans. Their names will be blotted out of the book of life and the record of their good deeds will also be blotted out of the book of God's remembrance.

3. What action will be taken in the cases of those whose record shows that they have overcome all their faults, and have perfected in themselves the graces of the Spirit of God. Ans. Their names will be retained in the book of life, and the record of their evil deeds will be blotted out of the books that contain such records.

4. What decision will be rendered in their cases? Ans. They will be accounted worthy to obtain the resurrection from the dead. Repeat Luke 20: 35.

5. What resurrection is here meant? Ans. The first resurrection. Rev. 20: 6.

6. What will be the condition of those who obtain this resurrection? Repeat Luke 20: 36; Rev. 20: 6.

7. When will the righteous dead be raised? Ans. At the coming of Christ. Repeat 1 Thess. 4: 16.

8. What must precede this resurrection which takes place at the coming of our Lord? Ans. The decision that determines who is worthy of this resurrection.

9. What must precede this decision? Ans. An examination of the books by which the conduct of men is brought into judgment.

10. When are these books opened for examination? Ans. When the Judgment is set at which the Ancient of Days presides as judge. Dan. 7: 9, 10.

11. To what conclusions, then, must we come, in regard to the work of the judgment brought to view in Dan. 7: 9, 10? Ans. First, that it embraces an examination of the books, to determine *who shall be accounted worthy* of a part in the first resurrection; and, second, that it must precede the resurrection of which the righteous are accounted worthy.

12. Then will the judgment scene of Dan. 7: 9, 10, transpire before or after the coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven?

Sabbath-school Report.

SISTER TREMBLEY: We are having a good Sabbath-school. The pupils have generally been regular and punctual in attendance. The number of verses committed during the first quarter has been, by the first class, 1043; by the second, 1332; by the third, 1556; by the fourth, 69; total, 4000.

We also get the lessons in the INSTRUCTOR. We all like our paper very much. May the Lord bless the servants. May they reap a rich reward.

GEORGE FOREMAN, Sec.

Northville, Ill.

The Power of Real Piety.

TAKE heed, then, teacher, to *thyself*. Be in and out holy. You will rise no higher in usefulness than the gauge of your inner holiness of heart. Whose image and superscription do you bear? A little child will catch from your eye and manner, when you little dream of it, the spirit that burns in your own soul. Having occasion to change a teacher once, I asked a little girl, "How do you like your new teacher?" "I do n't like her." "Why?" "She never cries!" The child had expressed a principle. To be sure, it is not the teacher who gives the most kisses to her class on coming in, that is the most loving; nor is it the teacher who sheds the most tears, who is the most feeling; yet if the little ones see that the love of Christ fills the teacher's heart, and overflows in look, voice, manner, tears, they will know it, they will distinguish between the real and the counterfeit. Be full of Christ, then, teacher, if you would fill the child's soul with Jesus and salvation.—*Ralph Wells*.

LOVE not the world, neither the things that are in the world.

FAITH in Jesus and repentance will secure to each a home in Heaven.

THE CHILDREN'S CORNER.

THE SABBATH.

A SABBATH well spent
Brings a week of content,
And strength for the toils of to-morrow;
But a Sabbath profaned,
Whatever is gained,
Is a certain forerunner of sorrow.

The Dusty Room.

A YOUNG girl was sweeping a dusty room one day, when she went to the window-shade and hastily drew it down. "It makes the room so dusty," she said, "to have the sun coming in!"

The atoms of dust which shone golden in the sunbeams were unseen in the dimmer light. The untaught girl imagined it was the sunshine which made the dust.

Now, many persons imagine themselves very good people. One poor old man, who had lived all his life without a thought of love to God, said he was all ready to die, for he didn't "owe any man a cent." If the Spirit of God should shine brightly into such a heart, how do you suppose it would look? It would show them sins enough to crush them.

This light of the Spirit is like the sunshine in the dusty room. It reveals what was before hidden. When we begin to feel unhappy about our sins, let us never try to put away the feeling. Do not let us put down the curtain, and fancy there is no dust. It is the Holy Spirit's voice in our hearts. He is showing us ourselves; and better still, he will show us the true way of happiness.—*Sel*

What Mary Gave.

WHEN the contribution is taken up in church, boys and girls throw in money which their parents have given them for that purpose. The money is not their gift, but that of their father and mother. They have just as much money to spend for their pleasure as they had before. And so I once heard a kind-hearted girl complain that she had nothing of her own that she could give. I will tell you what she gave in one day, and you will see that she was mistaken.

She gave an hour of patient care to her little baby sister who was cutting teeth. She gave a string, and a crooked pin, and a great deal of advice to a little three-year-old brother who wanted to play at fishing. She gave Ellen, the maid, the precious hour to go and visit her sick baby at home; for Ellen was a widow, and left her child with its grandmother while she worked to get bread for both. She could not have seen them very often if our generous Mary had not offered to attend the door and look after the kitchen fire while she was away.

But this was not all that Mary gave. She dressed herself neatly, and looked so bright, and kind, and obliging, that she gave her mother a thrill of pleasure whenever she caught sight of the young, pleasant face. She wrote a letter to her father who was absent on business, in which she gave him all the news he wanted, in such a frank, artless way that he thanked his daughter in his heart. She gave patient attention to a long, tiresome story by her grandmother, though she had heard it many times before. She laughed at the right time, and, when it ended, made the old lady happy by a good-night kiss. Thus she had given valuable presents to six people in one day, and yet she had not a cent in the world. She was as good as

gold, and she gave something of herself to all those who were so happy as to meet her.—*Reformed Church Messenger.*

GOOD RESOLUTIONS.—A little girl of six years was called, a short time since, to sleep in the grave. About a year before her death, she had a small writing-desk given her. After her death, her mother unlocked it and found this writing; it looked like her first writing:

"The minute I wake up in the morning, I will thank God.

"I will mind my father and mother always.

"I will try to be kind and not get cross.

"I want to behave like God's child."

These are very precious rules for all children to observe.—*Sel.*

THE BLEEDING HAND.—"How have your sins been blotted out?" was asked of a poor dumb boy.

He wrote: "The bleeding hand of Jesus passed over each page in my account, so that none can read it through the stain of his blood."

Beautiful answer! The bleeding hand of Jesus writing pardons, wiping out accounts.

Letters from Little Folks.

MARY SLOWN, of Illinois, in her first letter to the INSTRUCTOR, says she is reading her Bible through, and trying to be a good girl. She joins with others in saying that she loves her paper and the instruction it gives.

Ida E., and Thirza A., Poling, of Weston, Ohio, write that they are serving the Lord by keeping his commands. They are looking for his appearing, and desire our prayers that they may be ready to stand with the redeemed on Mount Zion.

NORTHVILLE, III.

Although older than many of you, in years, still I love the INSTRUCTOR. There are many precious lessons in it, not only for the little folks, but for those who are older.

I am glad to see that so many of the young are striving to keep all of God's commandments, and to be good boys and girls. May God bless you all. Let us strive on, and not get weary in well-doing; for in due season we shall reap if we faint not. I may never have the privilege of meeting any of you in this life, but let us so live that we may meet on Mount Zion. MARY MARTIN.

CHILDREN, obey your parents, for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

PERHAPS it would be dangerous for us to possess the abilities we covet; it is always safe to consecrate those we have.

FOOLISH fear doubles danger.

IN all thy ways acknowledge Him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Alphabetical Scripture Exercise.

A A good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth forever. Ps. 111:10.

B Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart. Ps. 119:2.

C Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them forever. Ps. 119:152.

D Depart from me, ye evil doers; for I will keep the commandments of my God. Ps. 119:115.

E Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Prov. 30:5.

F For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life. Prov. 6:23.

G Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them. Ps. 119:165.

H He taught me also, and said unto me, let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live. Prov. 4:4.

I It is time for thee, Lord, to work; for they have made void thy law. Ps. 119:126.

J Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face. Ps. 89:14.

K Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye. Prov. 7:2.

L Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. Eccl. 12:13.

M My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments. Prov. 3:1.

N Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children; for blessed are they that keep my ways. Prov. 8:32.

O Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law. Ps. 119:18.

P Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word. Ps. 119:154.

Q Quicken me after thy lovingkindness; so shall I keep the testimonies of thy mouth. Ps. 119:88.

R Righteous art thou, O Lord, and upright are thy judgments. Ps. 119:137.

S Salvation is far from the wicked; for they seek not thy statutes. Ps. 119:155.

T Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth. Ps. 119:142.

U Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live; and let me not be ashamed of my hope. Ps. 119:116.

V Vow, and pay unto the Lord your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared. Ps. 76:11.

W Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. Ps. 119:9.

X Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy. Ps. 99:5.

Y Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life. Ps. 42:8.

Z Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O Lord. Ps. 97:8.

AND And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved. Ps. 119:47.

From the beginning, thus we see,
God's law our rule of life should be;
And to the end, by day or night,
In his commands, find new delight.

ELVIRA B. STEVENSON.

Dover, Ill.

QUESTIONS.

1. Who obtained a wife by taking a city?
2. Who took Bethel?
3. Where was Eleazer buried?
4. How old was Joshua when he died?
5. How many cities were given to the Levites?
6. How was Gideon's army reduced?
7. Who slew six hundred men with an ox goad?
8. Where was Jacob buried?
9. Where did he die?
10. How old was Job when he died?

FRANK HIDDLESON.

11. What woman wrote letters in her husband's name to get possession of a piece of property?

MAHLON T. SNYDER.

12. To whom was Paul committed to be carried to Rome?

LACRA BEE.

13. What is the meaning of Emmanuel?
14. What did the wise men of the East bring to Jesus?

LACRA BEE.

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