

# THE YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR

REMEMBER NOW THY CREATOR IN THE DAYS OF THY YOUTH

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## IN MERCY'S NAME

### THE LIGHT THAT IS FELT.

A TENDER child of summers three,  
Seeking her little bed at night,  
Paused on the dark stairs timidly.  
"O, mother, take my hand," said she,  
"And then the dark will all be light."

We older children grope our way  
From dark behind to dark before;  
And only when our hands we lay,  
Dear Lord, in thine, the night is day,  
And there is darkness nevermore.

Reach downward to the sunless days,  
Wherein our guides are blind as we,  
And faith is small, and hope delays;  
Take thou the hands of prayer we raise,  
And let us feel the light of thee.

— John G. Whittier.

### FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

NEARLY two hundred years ago, when Peter the Great went to Holland to learn ship-building, Russia, the "Colossus of the North," began her "march to the sea." Shut in by Sweden and Austria on the west, Turkey on the south, and the Ural Mountains on the east, she had no sea-coast except that on the Arctic Ocean, which the loss of many a gallant vessel and her brave crew has proved to be anything but favorable for commercial purposes. Since then, on one pretext or another, she has gone steadily on toward the coveted possession,—the sea. Every province she has to-day of any value has been gained within a century and a half by conquest and robbery—her very capital stands on stolen ground, and before the death of Nicholas he had selected and educated commanders for the army of India and the army of Constantinople.

Until the middle of the present century, "no power had stayed" her in her onward course, or "moved her iron heart to pity." Then, as the representative of the Greek Church, under pretext of acquiring or protecting the sacred places in Turkey, she invaded the territories of "the sick man" to take him and his under her own domain. This would give her control of the Black Sea and a passage to Constantinople and the Mediterranean; and over the portal of the Crimea is written, "This is the way to Byzantium." Let her build ships and gather a navy on the Bosphorus and discipline her soldiers on its shores, and she becomes potential in Europe and Asia, holding the helm of the Eastern hemisphere.

It was to be a conflict between civilization and barbarism,—another wave of that dark sea which has more than once swept over Europe from the same direction,—the most disastrous for civilization, freedom, and Christianity. All Europe was paralyzed with fear at her advance. Only the allied powers of France and England dared say to the oncoming tide of Russian greed, "Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further," and after fruitless negotiations, the Crimean war was begun.

From this war the name of Florence Nightingale will be forever inseparable. Born in 1823, of wealthy and influential English parents, in the city of Florence, from which she

forth to her chosen work in the schools, hospitals, and reformatory institutions of Europe. During thirteen years, as stated in her report to the English Army Medical Reform Commission, she devoted her attention to the organization and improvement of hospitals, visiting during that time all the hospitals of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, the county infirmaries, and military and naval hospitals; all the hospitals of Paris, where she studied with the Sisters of Charity; the Institution of Protestant Deaconesses at Kaiserwerth on the Rhine, where she was twice in training as nurse; the hospitals at Berlin, and others in Germany; at Lyons, Brussels, Rome, Constantinople, and Alexandria, and the war hospitals of the French and Sardinians.

On her return from the Continent, she became interested in a home for sick governesses, which was likely to fail for want of funds and proper management. To this she devoted her time and her fortune, seldom being seen outside of its walls; and here the outbreak of the war found her. She was prepared for her opportunity, and her opportunity had come. War was declared in the spring of 1854, and an English army of twenty-five thousand men sailed for the Crimea.

Until September 20, when the battle of Alma was fought, the troops remained inactive, decimated by cholera and other filth-diseases, by official neglect, and by want of proper food and care, so that the average of deaths for the first seven months of the campaign reached sixty per cent,—a greater rate than that of cholera epidemics or the great plague in London. When the knowledge of this, to which every mail added new horrors, reached England, it aroused the whole nation to sympathy and indignation. The London *Times* opened a subscription for a relief fund, which in

a short time amounted to twenty-five thousand pounds, and by orders from the war department, the work of organizing and equipping a corps of volunteer nurses for immediate service in the field was committed to Miss Nightingale, who was to act as superintendent. In less than a week the first party, consisting of Miss Nightingale, Mr. and Mrs. Bracebridge, ten Roman Catholic nuns of two different orders, eight Sisters of Mercy of the Church of England, six from St. John's Institute, and fourteen from other hospitals,—forty-one in all,—left England for the Crimea.

Their journey through France was almost an ovation. All classes showed their sympathy and kindly feelings; hotel-keepers made no



FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

derived her name, she received every advantage which money and education could supply, becoming not only thoroughly versed in the ancient languages, an ardent student of the higher mathematics, of literature, and the sciences, but also a proficient in the French, German, and Italian languages, which she spoke as her own tongue. In this way and by constant ministrations to the poor and the sick in her own neighborhood, she laid the foundation of the great work of her life.

From these lowly homes and schools, the highly educated and accomplished Christian girl, graceful, rich, popular, and beloved, with the glory of a soul intent to help a suffering world shining through her face, went



charge for their services, and servants refused their fees. They reached Scutari on November 4, the night before Inkerman, and were assigned quarters in a tower of the great Turkish barracks on the Bosphorus, which had been lent to the English for a hospital. In this one building there were twenty-three hundred sick and wounded soldiers, and in the adjoining buildings nearly as many more—this number being afterward augmented by the wounded from Inkerman and Balaklava, till, as Miss Nightingale says, "Even regulation space was not adhered to. The wounded and sick men were laid on paillasse on the floor, as close as they could lie. There were two rows of beds in the corridors, where two persons could hardly pass between foot and foot, till in a space allotted for twelve hundred there were two thousand, and in that allotted for sixteen hundred there were twenty-two hundred."

Aside from this, there was no furniture of any kind,—no lamp or candlestick but an empty wine or beer bottle; and the men packed into these miles of fetid, overcrowded corridors, without proper beds or bedding, with no change of clothing or facilities for washing, without proper food, medicine, or fresh air, were sick and wounded. No wonder that in the six months after the battle of Inkerman four thousand two hundred and forty-six soldiers died in the Scutari hospital alone, the daily deaths amounting, at one time, to seventy.

Into this house of death, with care, sympathy, and consolation, came Florence Nightingale and her nurses. Within a week, by her talent, energy, and devotion, aided by private funds, she had established a temporary kitchen from which, during the next five months, eight hundred patients were furnished daily with nourishing food and beef tea in abundance. Afterward baths, wash-houses, and kitchens were built, clothing and other necessities distributed, the hospital wards purified, and order brought out of confusion. So successful was this work that at the close of the war the death-rate among the wounded was less than that among the well soldiers at home.

She had an utter disregard of contagion, ministering to the worst cases with her own hands, and assisting at the most difficult operations, where the inspiration of her presence would nerve the men to bear their pain.

Amid all these anxieties and responsibilities, Miss Nightingale found time and means to supply books, games, and recreation for the convalescent, establish a library and lectures, write letters for the sick, forward their savings to their families, and take charge of the legacies of the dying; but the poisoned air of Scutari did its work on the overtasked frame, bringing her down also—down into the valley of death, in her turn to be nursed back to life. She refused to go back to England until the war was over, though she was so prostrated that when ordered to take short excursions by sea for her health, she had to be carried to the vessel.

Only when peace was declared did she consent to leave her post, and then, traveling quietly by night to avoid publicity or any demonstration of welcome, she reached her father's home in old England before it was known that she had left the Crimea.

Yet the death-defying charge at Balaklava had not more stirred the heart of England than the philanthropy and heroism of Florence Nightingale, and the desire of all classes to give some expression of their admiration and gratitude for her services could not be restrained. As she steadily refused any testimonial for herself, a fund of fifty thousand

pounds, to be called the Nightingale fund, to which all classes eagerly contributed,—every soldier in the army giving a day's pay,—was raised by the women of England, and placed at her disposal, to establish and maintain an institution for the training of nurses and hospital attendants.

Since her return from the Crimea, though a confirmed invalid, "our good Saint Florence" has not ceased her work. In labors more abundant she has devoted her time, pen, and fortune to carrying forward her life work for the hospitals of England, India, and the colonies,—for all that concerns the health, comfort, and efficiency of the soldier. There is no one thing an army or a soldier needs that is not noted in her voluminous books. To her work we owe the trained nurses who have almost revolutionized the care of the sick room, and who rendered such efficient service in our own Civil war. By her continued labor she has made it impossible that the army of Great Britain can ever again suffer as in those dreadful corridors at Scutari, that terrible winter after Inkerman. "Wherever a British soldier treads, her influence is felt, and will be eternal." Miss Nightingale recently celebrated her seventy-sixth birthday; but between the living and the dead, as in the hospitals of the Crimea, still stands "the lady with the lamp."—*Harriet E. Banning, in Chautauquan.*

#### MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASPECT OF THE JAPANESE WAR.

GREAT progress has been made in Japan in medicine, and especially in military surgery, in the last few years. The surgeon-general has pointed out that the mortality among the wounded in the Satsuma war was seventeen per cent, while in the present war it has dropped to four per cent. The armies of Japan are accompanied by one thousand three hundred and fifty medical attendants, of whom three hundred and eighty are surgeons. The barrack hospitals in Japan are large, and are equipped with the latest appliances.

The largest of these hospitals is at Hiroshima. The staff consists of fifty-six surgeons and five hundred and one nurses, in addition to one hundred and seventy-three surgeons and nurses from the Red Cross Society, in which many representatives of the Japanese nobility serve. The same society has one hundred and thirty-eight practitioners and nurses in the field. The remarkable results which have been obtained in the present war in Japanese surgery, medical practice, and sanitation are largely due to Dr. Kitasato and other pupils of the great medical schools of Germany.

Dr. Kitasato was one of the most eminent of Dr. Koch's students, and was associated with Dr. Behring in some of the researches which culminated in the discovery of anti-toxin.

The army of Japan has been as fortunate in regard to disease as it has been in the results of its numerous encounters. The *London Times* states that the combined mortality from disease and the loss in battle has been only about one thousand three hundred lives out of the armies, which number fifty thousand men, and the navy, which consists of twenty-nine ships. The comparative immunity from sickness is believed to be largely due to the rice diet. It is probable that such achievements were never before realized in the history of warfare with so small an expenditure of human life.—*Scientific American.*



#### EUROPEAN SELFISHNESS.

SINCE the terms of peace between China and Japan have become definitely known, the cupidity of the powers of Europe is aroused, and they begin to show their selfishness. It has been expected for some time by close observers that the real pinch would come when the arrangements for peace would be made. The thought that Japan will add something to her empire, and that they will get nothing, is not pleasing to the European powers. Although they have had no part in the war, they think their non-interference should be paid for by something out of China. So it is now reported that Russia, France, and Germany have protested against any plan which will give Japan a line of forts from Formosa to Port Arthur unless they shall also receive important concessions of some kind. England has not expressed her desires, but if the other powers join in a grab game, she will undoubtedly show her well-trained ability at the same. Russia, especially, asks compensation for the Japanese acquisitions. That is, China must compensate (?) Russia, for being beaten and losing some of her territory! Poor China! She has been beaten and humiliated by Japan, and now it looks as though she will be spoiled by all. It was a great mistake on the part of the Chinese statesmen to have appealed at all to the powers of Europe. The only motive those powers seem to possess is selfishness. If China had at an earlier date settled the trouble directly with Japan, she might have saved herself from a general spoliation. China has evidently been scheming with Russia in order to beat Japan, but the great Northern Bear will not be satisfied for his non-interference except he receives a large slice from China's bleeding ribs.

#### THE INCOME TAX.

THE last United States Congress passed what is now known as the income-tax law, hoping from it to derive a large amount of revenue, which would be necessary because of the general lowering of duties on foreign imports, resulting from the Wilson bill. This law provided that all incomes amounting to four thousand dollars or over, annually, should be taxed. It was the expectation of those who were instrumental in making this law that it would secure to the government the sum of one hundred million dollars annually.

Since the law was passed, the internal revenue department, through its agents in the several States, has sent blanks to all persons who are supposed to have an annual income of four thousand dollars or more, that they might fill them out, and thus the officers of the revenue would be put in the way of collecting the tax; but many people whose incomes were sufficiently large to come under the provisions of this law refused to submit to it, and some thought the law itself was unconstitutional, and they contested in the courts the right of the government to draw money out of the people by a direct tax. The cases of some parties were finally taken to the Supreme Court of the United States for decision upon the constitutionality of the law, and that body, which is the highest court in the United States, has lately given its decision; that is, it has



given all the decision it can give, for the justices which comprise that court appear to be hopelessly divided in regard to the matter.

The following is a synopsis of the position or positions the court holds in regard to this law: All the members of the court who were present held that incomes derived from state and municipal bonds cannot be subject to the tax, because it would be contrary to the Constitution. Six of the justices held that incomes arising from real estate cannot be taxed by the general government, for the same reason. Four of the justices,—half of them, Justice Jackson being ill and not present,—think the whole law unconstitutional. As they are equally divided upon the general features of the law, the tax will undoubtedly be collected in those cases except where a clear majority of the court held it to be contrary to the Constitution. Great dissatisfaction seems to prevail among the common people, that wealthy men are exempt, while men of less means are to be taxed. The general impression now is that the Supreme Court, instead of clearing up the question, has made it more difficult; and as it is, the expected hundred million dollars will not very likely be secured, and some other way of raising money will have to be devised.

### SILVER.

THROUGHOUT the United States, and to some extent in other countries, the question as to the future use of silver as money is being eagerly discussed. At the present time, the "Silverites," as those are called who favor a large use of the white metal for money, seem to be having the best of the argument; at least they are infecting the people of the country with the opinion that their views of the currency are correct. The prospect now seems to be that the question of money,—what shall constitute the future money of this country, and the system or systems of banking that shall be allowed by law,—will be the great political question of the next presidential campaign.

The large indemnity which China must pay to Japan it is now definitely known must be paid in silver. This will be likely to raise its price, and help to restore it to a place in the currency of the world.

No people can do business without a good and stable currency, which will not be changeable in value. The subject has been studied for ages, but the constantly changing conditions of man make new monetary systems necessary to meet the various circumstances and new demands for the convenient interchange of the commodities of the world. There is an opportunity in the study of this subject for all the wisdom there is in the world, as well as the purest patriotism, and even with this the result achieved would be likely to fall short of what would be desired. M. E. K.

### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS OF ALUMINUM.

THE use of aluminum is becoming common. In Austria-Hungary a short time ago the metal was introduced into the army. The band of the Third Regiment of Infantry (the Archduke Charles's regiment) have used it in the manufacture of drums, discarding the old-fashioned brass metal. The instruments have a neat appearance, and are much lighter, and according to experts their timber is more melodious. The regimental bands in garrison at Vienna have also received the aluminum drum. It is stated that this newly improved drum will shortly be supplied to the whole of the bands in the Austrian army.—*Ram's Horn*.



### A VICTORY WITHOUT THE ENEMY.

"Now, Sandy," said mother, smoothing down the new jacket, and polishing off the brass buttons, "you'll have to quit being a baby, since you have taken off petticoats."

"I ain't a baby," said the small boy, looking with disdain at the little pile of ruffled petticoats out of which he had just stepped. "I helped to fight a bum-bees' nest yesterday."

"Ho!" cried Fenton, the brother, who had been wearing trousers ever since Sandy was born, "they were white-faced bum-bees; they don't sting."

Sandy looked a little sheepish.

"I rode old Mac to water, too," he said.

"And father held the bridle," mocked Fenton.

Sandy walked up and down the carpet to see how big steps he could take, and mother said, in that soft little preaching way mothers have:—

"When a boy puts on trousers, he must do all the hard things that come along, like going to bed at eight o'clock and getting up at six, and washing his face and hands for dinner, and—"

"But his curls ought to be cut off first," interrupted Sandy, who hated his beautiful yellow curls as much as mother loved them.

"Very well," said mother, smiling, "as soon as you win a real, sure-enough victory, you shall have your curls cut off."

Now Sandy was a timid little chap, and very much inclined to hide behind mother's petticoats; and his father was beginning to shake his head, and to say it was time he had some bones in his character.

Sandy had n't an idea what his father meant by having bones in his character, but he knew that when the beetles flew in the room at night, he felt like screaming, and so he screamed; when Mr. Ford's big Newfoundland came about, he felt like running, and so he ran; when the lightning flashed, he hid his eyes. He had never tried to do anything else. But this thing of being a man and wearing trousers was different, and Sandy thought that it was only his curls that hung between him and manhood now.

The trousers had been finished none too soon; for that very evening there was a lawn party at Aunt Ellen's, a whole yardful of children playing "Come" and "Prisoner's Base," and eating ice-cream, and spilling lemonade, and falling out of the hammock, and doing all the rest of the things that children do at a lawn party.

Sandy joined a party of little boys sitting on the big square-topped stone posts at the gate; he felt very big-boyish sitting on a gatepost.

"Yes, sir-ee," Tom Ross was saying, "that dog certainly is mad."

"What dog?" asked Sandy, his heart beating rather fast.

"Why, Mr. Ford's 'Rip'; did n't you know he was mad?"

"Is he, Tom? How do you know?"

"You're blind, ain't you? Did n't you see him run past here just now with his mouth open, and his tongue lolling out, and his eyes glaring?"

Now Sandy had promised to come home at eight o'clock by himself, and he had to pass Mr. Ford's big yard for a long piece of the way; it seemed to him a very long piece. Would the open mouth and lolling tongue and glaring eyes meet him at that low stone wall? He might stay all night with Aunt Ellen, he thought; but then he had promised to come home. He might ask her to send John, the butler, with him. No! he had said he would come by himself, because that would please papa.

Sandy lost interest in "I Spy" and "King George and his Men," while he was sitting on the grass behind the spruce-pine, and wishing he had his petticoats on again, with leave to be a baby.

But he got home on time, flushed with haste and excitement, his curls hanging damp and tangled about his face.

"I did it, mother, I did it!" he cried, eagerly. "Now cut off my curls."

And he told, with many a big word, the story of the mad dog, of the open mouth and lolling tongue and glaring eyes; of how much afraid he had been to come home alone; how he had actually seen the creature at the gate; how he had turned back in terror, once, twice, but the third time had set his teeth and determined to keep his word with papa if the dog "chawed him up."

"But I got away from him, and now, mama, where are the scissors? Quick, I want to hear the old curls go snip, snip!"

"But, little green-pea, Mr. Ford's dog isn't mad at all," said Fenton, coolly. "I've been playing with him all the evening. Tom Ross was just guying you, that's what he was doing."

Sandy looked dazed for a minute, and then burst into tears. Poor little soldier! All his trying to be brave had been for nothing then. He had not earned papa's praise, and they would not cut off his curls, if all he had done was to pass Mr. Ford's big, good-natured Rip.

But papa came and lifted him up from the floor, and called for the scissors, and himself cut every golden brown ring of hair. (He cut is so badly, too, and snagged it so, that the barber had to do it all over.)

"That was just as much a victory, my boy," said the big, kind voice, "as if Rip had been foaming with hydrophobia. The enemy that you got the victory over was not curly and white-pawed and soft-eyed like Rip. He is a cruel, crawling thing, and his name is Cowardice. You've got him down to-day, and, please God, we'll make you a true knight *sans peur et sans tache*. Now go and kiss mama, and ask her what that means."

But mama was in such a hurry, between laughing and crying, to get the little head to look less as if a mad dog had mangled it, that it was a good while before Sandy found out that the queer words meant "without fear and without stain."—*Sunday-School Times*.

OF the five million inhabitants of London, more than one million have to live on less than five dollars a week for each family, while more than three hundred thousand are in chronic poverty.

ANY person found cultivating the tobacco plant in Egypt will henceforth be fined one thousand dollars. The khedive has recently issued a decree prohibiting the culture of this noxious weed.

THERE are no promises of God's protecting care for those who do not follow and obey him.





J. H. DURLAND, }  
M. E. KELLOGG, } EDITORS.

## STUDIES ON THE FIRST EPISTLE OF JOHN.

### FORGIVENESS.

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." John 1: 8-10.

#### QUESTIONS ON THE TEXT.

What can we say? Verse 8.

If we do say this, what will we do?

How will this relate us to truth?

If we confess our sins, of what are we assured? Verse 9.

From what shall we be cleansed?

If we deny that we have sinned, what do we make God? Verse 10.

What relation will we sustain to his word?

*Self-deceived.*—It is the easiest thing in the world to deceive ourselves, yet it is a terrible state in which to be found. When God would have us see our sinful condition, it is very natural for us to hold up some trait that we can pronounce very good. If we do acknowledge that we have sinned, we endeavor to compare our sin with that of others who we think have done much worse. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves." Why is this? "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." We have no need to try to excuse ourselves in that we have not done so badly as others. Those whom we condemn as worse than we, may not have had as much light as we have had. Our sin with our light may be of greater magnitude than theirs. But be that as it may, we know that "he that committeth sin is of the devil." He and all his works are under the death-sentence. If we have but one sin unconfessed, we are already condemned. Let us not be deceived.

*Confession of sin.*—There cannot be any sincere confession without a deep sorrow for the sins committed. The psalmist says: "I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord." Ps. 32: 5. In another place he says: "Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight." Ps. 51: 4. We should go to God first with our sins, and before him we can unbosom our very secrets with the assurance that he will not betray our confidence. He will lead us to those whom we have wronged, and direct us in confessing our faults to them. "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Prov. 28: 13.

*Forgiveness.*—"He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins." The forgiveness of sins necessarily involves the justification of the sinner. This is affirmed in Rom. 4: 6-8, when the apostle says: "Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, saying, Blessed are they whose in-

iquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin." To "impute" is to put to the account of, making the party answerable for the sin committed. Then when God forgives us, he no longer holds us answerable for the sins we have committed, but receives us as though we had not sinned. He who has never broken the law has kept it; and he whom the Judge of all acquits of having ever broken the law, is regarded by him as righteous, and entitled to that life which is the reward of perfect obedience.

"Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? . . . He will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." Micah 7: 18, 19. To "pardon" is to set one free from both the offense and the penalty. And thus agree the Greek expressions for "forgiveness." With scarcely an exception they all convey the idea of something far beyond the mere remission of the curse. The word used about forty times in the Greek Testament for "forgiveness," signifies "the sending away of the sins." His promise is, "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins." Isa. 43: 25. Again: "For thou hast cast all my sins behind my back." Chapter 38: 17. When our sins are forgiven, God and his throne are between us and them. We need not fear, but should rejoice that it is so.

*Cleanse from all sin.*—If we are willing to confess that there is no good in us (Rom. 7: 18), he is willing to cleanse us from all sin that we have confessed that we have. The moment we are willing to give up all we have, and tell him all about it, he is willing,—yes, faithful,—to forgive all. The sins may be dark; they may be of long standing; they may be of a complicated nature; but he is faithful to cleanse us from all of them, and accept us as if we had never committed them. O the joy, the peace, in believing that we are entirely free! Have you yet taken the Lord at his word? If not, why not now?

J. H. D.

## CHARACTER.

WE are living in a fast age. Young men leave home for college pure, and, as is often the case, return polluted from head to foot. How often do we see young women made worse by a year's attendance at some school! They come home thinking less of the old home and the old mother. They may be called smarter girls, yet the tender conscience that they had before leaving home has become seared. They think they know more of the world than do their parents. Young men who, when leaving home, are afraid to use slang phrases, return adepts in the art of swearing. Young people go away with reverence for God and sacred things, and return home with infidel ideas, that take years of contact with the world to eradicate them. Is an education at such a cost a success?

To meet this we have denominational schools which place young people under more favorable circumstances; and yet we are met with disappointment in many cases. All the surroundings intended to direct the mind to fitting for a useful life will not carry a young man over the snares that are set for him. We read in the book of Job that "when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, . . . Satan came also among them." This same adversary of all good, will, if possible, connect himself with all our schools.

While the good seed is planted, the enemy will be present to sow tares.

There may be a deficiency in the course of study that leaves our young people without the most valuable thing in this life. I speak of that without which you cannot be men and women: I mean character. A course of study may be so arranged and closely followed as to fill the mind with technical terms, and the person may pass for an educated man or woman; and yet the individual may have that knowledge so associated with his weak points that it may be a curse to him. Is such an education character-building? I think you will agree with me that there is a deficiency somewhere. The college faculty may have erred in planning and executing their course of study; but may it not be more probable that the student has been so controlled by his own evil tendencies and surroundings that he has misapplied his energies so as to tear down, rather than build up, character?

Character should be placed above knowledge, above riches, above honor, above any and all earthly things. God is no respecter of persons, but he is a respecter of character. Character is not that which can be handed down from father to son. Strength, mental or physical, may be transmitted; but a full, well-rounded character cannot be inherited. A father on his deathbed may will his children his lands, his business, his money; but a finished character he cannot transfer in his last testament. As much as teachers may desire to see each pupil have a good character, they are powerless to impart it.

Character is not what we think of ourselves, or what others think of us. If it were the former, most people would have an excellent one; but self is not often a good judge of self. We might think much less of ourselves if we saw ourselves as others see us. What others think of us may be valuable, especially when founded on a good character. But we must not take this for character; for many men stand high in the estimation of the world who are without character.

We each have God-given powers that were given us for a purpose. Education is the developing and training of these powers so that they may fill the purpose for which they were given; but education alone is not sufficient to bring these powers up to the complete standard. Regeneration is just as necessary as education; for the true standard of character is the life of Jesus Christ. He had a complete character. In regeneration, we receive character, for we receive a new life. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life." It may be wonderful and beyond our comprehension that God would give the poor, weak, fallen, lost creature *new life*, but this does not argue against it. We can comprehend this *giving* of a new life as easily and perfectly as we can the having of life at all; yet but few seem to understand this. Many are looking for a life in the world to come, but do not claim to have it here and now. They pray for the future life, but ignore the thought of having it now.

"The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." It is "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Somehow God comes down into us, becomes a part of us (Rev. 3: 20), takes up his abode with us (John 14: 23), and gives us a divine nature. 2 Peter 1: 3, 4. Nothing short of this can answer man for character. And this is the character of Jesus Christ.

J. H. D.

"Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."



# BIBLE LESSONS AND NOTES

## LESSON 8.—DANIEL'S VISION OF THE FOUR BEASTS.—DANIEL 7.

(May 25, 1895.)

Time: B. C. 540. (See Senior Lesson No. 10, Note 1.)

### SYMBOLS.

1. "Winds."—Strife, war, etc. Jer. 25: 31-33.
2. "Sea," or waters.—Peoples or nations. Rev. 17: 15.
3. "Four beasts."—Four kingdoms. Dan. 7: 17, 23.
4. "Lion."—The king of beasts, or head of the beast creation, occupies the same position as the head of gold (Dan. 2: 38), and represents the first kingdom, —Babylon,—established in prophecy B. C. 677 by the capture of Manasseh, king of Judah.
5. "Eagle's wings."—Power and rapidity of conquest and soaring pride of Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar.
6. "A man's heart was given to it."—The change in Babylon under Belshazzar, compared with Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar.
7. "Bear."—Cruel and rapacious. This beast represented the second kingdom, Medo-Persia, established B. C. 538, at the overthrow of Babylon by Cyrus.
8. "Three ribs."—Three provinces,—Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt,—which were especially oppressed by Medo-Persia.
9. "Leopard."—A fleet beast—the third kingdom, Grecia, established B. C. 331 by Alexander the Great, when Medo-Persia was overthrown by the decisive battle of Arbela.
10. "Wings of a fowl."—Grecia's rapid conquest of the world.
11. "Four heads."—Four divisions of the Grecian kingdom made soon after the death of Alexander, in which the territory was divided between his four leading generals,—Cassander (west), Lysimachus (north), Ptolemy (south), Seleucus (east).
12. "A fourth beast, dreadful and terrible."—The fourth kingdom (verse 23) represented Rome, established in prophecy by the league with the Jews, B. C. 161.
13. "Iron teeth."—An iron monarchy (Dan. 2: 40. See also extract from Gibbon in note on lesson 3.)—cold, lacerating, persecuting character of kingdom.
14. "Residue."—The people of God left from Grecian rule.
15. "Ten horns."—Ten kings (verse 24)—ten divisions of western Rome.

IMPORTANT LESSONS.—1. God continues to reveal "his secrets unto his servants the prophets." Amos 3: 7. 2. The symbolic language of the Bible is explained by its literal language. Dan. 7: 17, 23, 24. Hence the importance of comparing scripture with scripture, instead of taking any one scripture as the basis of a theory. 3. This lesson covers the same ground chronologically as does the third lesson, but the Lord gives us "line upon line." (See Isa. 28: 10.) The true character of nations is represented by ravenous beasts. 4. The history of this world of sin is made up largely of strife, division, overthrow, and destruction. 5. Those who become "saints of the Most High" will soon take the kingdom, forever freed from all these sad consequences which now surround us. We have none too much time to get ready.

MEMORY VERSES.—Dan. 7: 21, 22, 27.

1. WHAT experience did Daniel have in the first year of Belshazzar? Verse 1.
2. What did he see first in his vision? Verse 2.
3. What came up out of the sea? Verse 3.
4. What inquiry did Daniel make concerning the vision? Verses 15, 16.
5. What did the angel say concerning these great beasts? Verse 17.
6. Describe the first beast. Verse 4.
7. What change did he see in it? Verse 4.
8. Describe the second beast. Verse 5.
9. What did it have in its mouth? Verse 5.
10. Describe the third beast. Verse 6.
11. Describe the fourth beast. Verses 7, 19.

12. What did it represent? Verse 23.
13. What was it to do? Verses 7, 19.
14. How did it compare with the beasts before it? Same verses.
15. How many horns did it have? Verse 7, last part.
16. What did the angel say in regard to the ten horns? Verse 24.
17. What was the fate of the beast that had ten horns? Verses 7, 8, 11; Rev. 13: 1; 19: 19, 20.
18. What is said of the other beasts? Dan. 7: 12.
19. What kingdom is to follow these earthly kingdoms? Verses 13, 14.
20. Who will then possess the kingdom? Verses 18, 27.

### NOTES.

The same general field of prophetic history is surveyed in this chapter as in the second of Daniel. To Nebuchadnezzar the four great kingdoms of the world, their degeneracy and the transfer of power from one to the other until the time of the establishment of the kingdom of God, were shown under the figure of a gigantic image composed of various metals. Nothing of their character was presented to him. It was enough for him to know that earthly kingdoms were transitory, and must give place, at last, to the kingdom of God. To Daniel, as the servant of God, and a representative of God's people, these same kingdoms were shown under another series of symbols, which express their character as oppressors of the people of God.

The lion, the king of beasts, stands at the head of the line,—a fitting symbol of the empire under the aggressive and warlike Nebuchadnezzar. But the Babylonians abused the power God gave them. "The children of Israel and the children of Judah were oppressed together: and all that took them captive held them fast; they refused to let them go." Their Redeemer is strong; The Lord of hosts is his name." Jer. 50: 33, 34. So Babylon passed away (538 B. C.) by the power of the Medes and Persians, and a great milestone toward the kingdom of God was passed.

The division of the fourth kingdom, Rome, is plainly indicated by the ten horns. The special work of these horns is not referred to here. This is more particularly done in the book of Revelation. They seem to be introduced here so that the "little horn," which was "diverse" from them, could be located and described. These ten kingdoms were formed by the breaking up of the Roman empire between the middle of the fourth and the latter part of the fifth century. These kingdoms were all political, or civil powers. The little horn was "diverse" from them; it was an ecclesiastical power,—the papacy.

The little horn is a symbol of a last-day power, for it continues until the judgment. In verses 9-11 the judgment is described; and the eleventh verse shows that at the very time of the judgment, this power is still uttering blasphemous words. It also meets a different fate from the others. Thus we read: "I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away; yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time." This is a very important statement. The great and terrible beast, in its last, or little-horn, phase is not merged into another power, as were those powers preceding it, but it goes direct into the "burning flame." Paul's reference to the same event in 2 Thess. 2: 8 makes the final ending of the papacy very clear. It is to be destroyed at Christ's coming.

The persecuting power which the papacy has manifested in the past, and which she now manifests where it is possible for her to do so, is too well known to need extended comment. Rome has literally "made war with the saints, and prevailed against them." In the explanation of the symbol it is said that he "shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws." A more complete description of the general conduct and work of the papacy could not be given. It has warred against God's people; millions of martyrs' graves attest this fact. It has fought against God's law; the mutilated second commandment, the divided tenth, and the expunged fourth, as they are found in Catholic books, and as they are held by that church and taught to her people and to the world, all evidence that the prophet spoke truthfully upon this point also.

Every chain of true Bible prophecy, however dark the shadows through which we may be conducted, has a glorious ending. Cruel kingdoms will not last forever. As one earthly kingdom succeeded another, marking successive steps down the stream of time, so the last earthly power will finally pass away, and the benign kingdom of God will be ushered in. All the other kingdoms were transitory, because there was evil in them, and the permanent continuance of evil cannot be harmonized with the perfect reign of a just God. The kingdom of God will stand forever. The stone will smite the image, and dash it to pieces; the papacy, and all other evil works of darkness, will be destroyed at and by the coming of Christ, and "the saints of the Most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever."

### "IT IS MEAN AND CRUEL."

THE Arabians have a quaint old story that has a noble lesson in it: A haughty favorite of an Oriental monarch, who was passing along the highway—so runs the story—threw a stone at a poor dervish, or priest. The dervish did not dare to throw it back at the man who had assaulted him, for he knew the favorite was very powerful. So he picked up the stone and put it carefully in his pocket, saying to himself: "The time for revenge will come by and by, and then I will repay him for it." Not long afterward, this same dervish, in walking through the city, saw a great crowd coming toward him. He hastened to see what was the matter, and found, to his astonishment, that his enemy, the favorite, who had fallen into disgrace with the king, was being paraded through the principal streets on a camel, exposed to the jests and insults of the populace. The dervish, seeing all this, hastily grasped at the stone which he carried in his pocket, saying to himself: "The time for my revenge has now come, and I will repay him for his insulting conduct." But after considering a moment, he threw the stone away, saying: "The time for revenge never comes; for if our enemy is powerful, revenge is dangerous as well as foolish; and if he is weak and wretched, then revenge is worse than foolish, it is mean and cruel. And in all cases it is forbidden and wicked." —Exchange.

"LET the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer."

EVERY true follower of Christ will be a leader of souls to him.





## ANDORRA.

THIS is the name of a mountain-basin in the

twelve thousand inhabitants, distributed over six civil communities.

The dense bushes furnish an abundance of wood; there are also good pasture lands and rich iron mines. The soil is adapted to grape and fruit culture, but grains are very much raised, so that the people are under treaty with France for annual grain exports to that country. Since 805, during the reign of Louis the Pious, Andorra has been neutral territory,

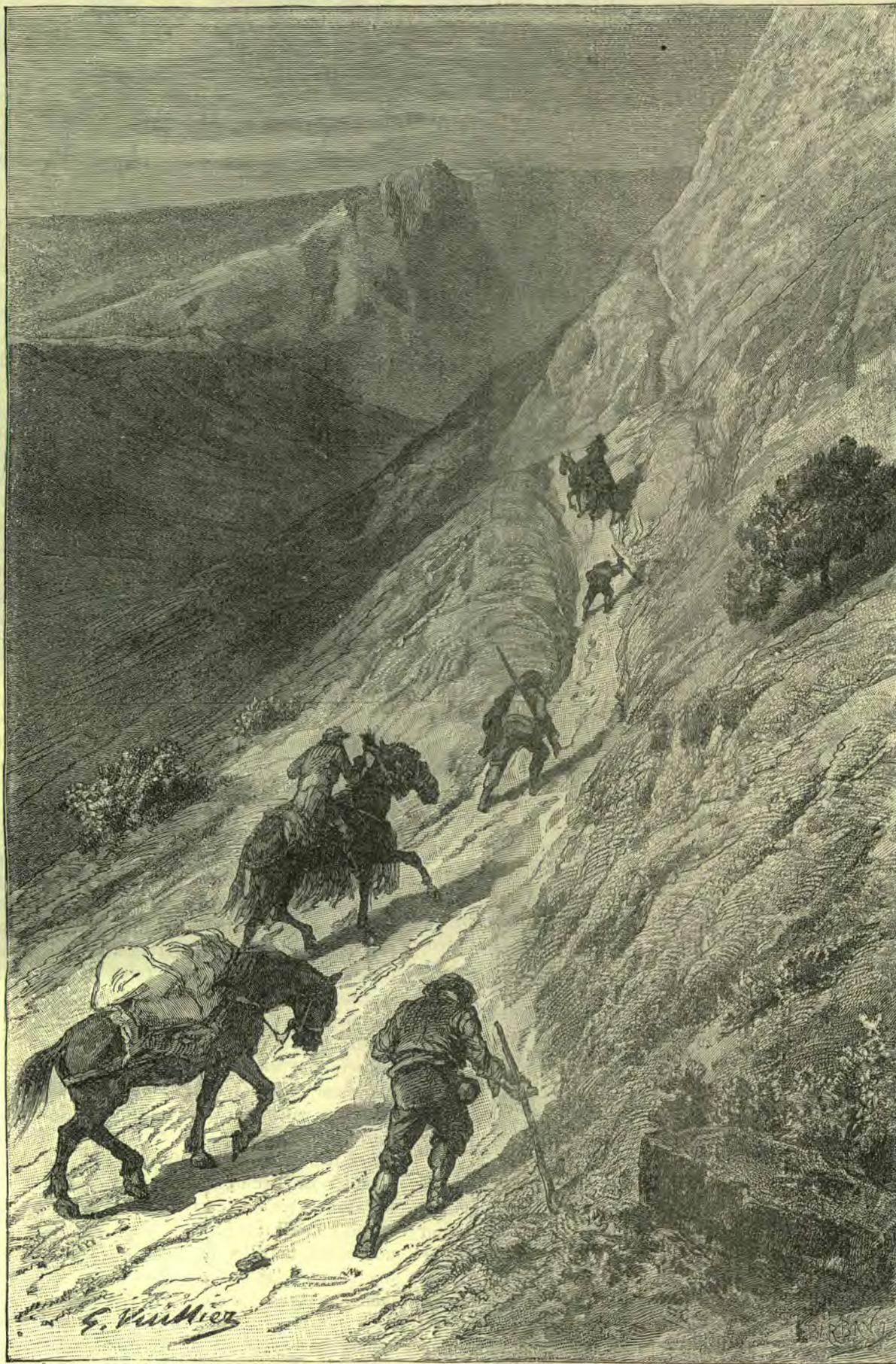
Every male citizen between sixteen and sixty years of age is liable to military service. The Andorrans are a kind, moral, peace-loving, and hospitable people. Their speech is the same as that of the Catalonians and Castilians; their mode of living is extremely simple. The customs and habits of over one thousand years ago are still in vogue here. The chief place in the republic is the village of Andorra.

With these few general preliminaries, I will quote M. Gaston Vuillier, a native of Perpignon, who describes a visit to this very small republic:—

"In the beautiful month of July we started from Perpignon, in south-eastern France, and went by rail to Prades, and the foot of Canigon. Here we found the regular diligence from Mt. Louis in waiting, which took us through the magnificent gorge from Villefranche to Mt. Louis. Part of our journey had to be made at night, and as the moon cast its silver light over the mountains, and these on their part threw gigantic silhouettes of their contour across our track, we found the charm so pleasing that no thought of sleep entered our mind, nor did the eyes refuse to serve us with their best, as we tried to discern what we were passing. For a moment Fontpédrouse loomed up through the night, in the gorge, and its roofs cast a faint bluish reflection through the darkness of the night. About midnight, chilled by the freshness which prevails at all seasons on these heights, we reached Mt. Louis. Spending the rest of the night in comfortable quarters, we set out the next day in a private berlin, the regular conveyance being overcrowded. A storm overtook us on the way, and it seemed as if all the winds were let loose at once. Lightning followed lightning, revealing in its garish glare the outlines of this sad-looking piece of mother earth, where the thunder reëchoes with frightful crashes. The horse, seized with fright, seemed to vie with the wind in speed, and the vehicle creaked like an ancient vessel in the tempest.

"Finally we reached Bourg-Madame, in a drenching rain. We were wetted pretty thoroughly, in consequence of the jolting and tossing of the coach to and fro, which splashed the gathered waters from the top of the conveyance onto us. Never did we appreciate the luxuries of a tight roof and a comfortable hotel more than then, and the refreshments served revived our ardor. After a splendid night's rest we had the great pleasure of looking out from the morning window to see the country flooded with bright sunlight, which the golden orb of day scattered most lavishly

everywhere, a brilliantly blue sky crowning all from above. In an ornate conveyance we soon left for Porté, through the valley of Carol. Puigcerdà lies on the boundary line between France and Spain, a bridge connecting the two countries. On the one side are French 'douaniers' (revenue-collectors), and on the other the Spanish carabineros. After we have traveled for some distance on Spanish ground, the roads again wind onto French



THE ROAD TO ANDORRA.

eastern half of the Pyrenees. It is watered by the Balira, beautifully situated between the French departments, Ariège and Catalonia. Its natural position between France and Spain favors its independence and neutrality, which are recognized by the governments of both countries. The valley is a very singularly constituted, genuinely democratic, farmers' and herders' republic, covering one hundred and fifty square miles, and numbering some

although it has to pay a small sum annually both to France and to the bishop of Urgel,—to the latter for exercising the right of nominating the clergy, etc. The republic received its first judge, or provost, from France, the second from the bishop of Urgel. These "men of authority" are intrusted with the administration of justice. The taxes, however, are imposed by a supreme council of twenty-four persons, who are chosen by a free ballot.



territory at the entrance of the valley of Carol.

"This is a wild gorge of a grand and beautiful character, bristling with a perfect chaos of rocks bearing many traces of glaciers that must have covered them in former ages, enhanced at present by a noisy torrent that foams at a great rate of speed along its dashing way. From the lofty rock-heights of the mountains, with sparkling sprays the waters descend in rainbow colors, forming themselves into long, silvery bands. Before us are the towers of Carolle, remains of the castle of a feudal knight who was afterward conquered by Charlemagne.

"We passed, without stopping, through the little hamlet of Porta and the village of Porté, the last of France in this region, and came in sight of the Puymorens, at the foot of which we stopped till the next day.

"The next morning, before daybreak, we heard the beasts of burden made ready for the continuance of our journey. The muleteers led the beasts by the bridle as we rode them along a rocky footpath up the steep mountain-side. This route, though quite rough, is very much nearer,—yet plenty long for all that, even when riding mule-back, before we reach Solden, the first village of Andorra. The sun darts forth for some time before we leave the rocky declivity; and now, behold, we are on the summit of Puymorens!

"We then traversed a waving plateau covered with short grass. Soon we saw the Andorran muleteers. They arrived clad in short leggings, with red girdles and hats and velvet vests. The beasts of burden, caparisoned in metal plated and trimmed leather trappings and fly-nets of many colors, made a dazzling display in the bright sunlight. There was before us a very enjoyable treat, fond as we are of looking upon bare mountains, abrupt crests, and general outlines of landscapes. Below was the mountain peak of steep Andorra, to the right the valley of Ariège, and much higher up, to the left, the source of the Ariège River,—a blue lake reflecting the sun's rays like a brightly polished surface of glittering steel.

"Having drunk in at the full the varied scenes presenting themselves as we turned our gaze hither and thither in warm admiration, we descended toward the course of Balira, our downward trip having nothing of note to chronicle beyond the appearance of a humble flower-girl, offering her pretty wild flowers,—a sort of white pinks,—that she had gathered on these mountain slopes round about."

AUGUST KUNZ.

## SYSTEMS OF HANDLING THE MAILS IN LARGE CITIES.

### 2.—MAILING DIVISION.

In all large cities, the high business blocks are supplied with long flat tubes with glass fronts extending from top to bottom, with slots for each floor, in which to deposit letters, small papers, etc. At the bottom of this tube is a large iron box, which catches all the mail placed in the tube. This tube, or "chute," as it is called, is supplied by the Cutlers Mailing Chute Company, who have the sole right to make them. In one large building here (Minneapolis) where chutes are placed, I have stood where I could see the letters fall ten floors, and they fall with almost the rapidity with which a shot comes out of a gun.

On the corners of all streets in the business portion of the city, there are iron boxes painted red, and fastened to lamp-posts or posts set

for them, in which to place mail for collection. Papers are usually placed on top of the box, as they are too large to go in it. These boxes used to be painted red, green, blue, or yellow; but recently they are being repainted all one color—red. The number of collections a day was formerly told by the color of the box, but that information is now usually placed on the front.

Over the whole city these boxes are scattered at the most convenient points for the people. In the resident portion they are placed from three to five blocks apart, and in the suburbs much farther apart.

Then there are sub-stations, at which one can get stamps, cards, wrappers, and envelopes, and register mail, as well as deposit mail for collection, to save coming down to the main office. There are ten sub-stations here in Minneapolis, which are numbered from one to ten, and located where most convenient.

Again: in the main office there are also large boxes to receive mail. These boxes are marked "north," "east," "south," "west," and "city," so as to hasten the dispatch of the mail.

Collections are made as follows: 1. In the business portion, where the mail has been deposited, as we have noticed, the collection is made by carriers on foot, making collections every half hour or hourly, as the case may be, where mail is most heavily deposited.

2. In the resident portion foot carriers and carriers with horses and carts make the collections from two to four times a day, and in the suburbs mail is collected only once by horse collectors only.

As the mail comes in, the letters and papers are dumped onto large tables, and the papers put by themselves, and the letters are "faced" up by carriers and clerks. When this is done, the mail is ready for cancellation, which I will tell you about next time.

E. G. BURDICK.

## LIQUID SILVER.

ANCIENT alchemists gave to the metal mercury the name of quick, or liquid, silver, because of its power to flow, or move quickly, at common temperature, and also because they supposed that it really contained some silver,—a mistake easily made, as it is often found in combination with this metal. In this state it forms a native amalgam, called cinnabar, a brilliant red ore found in California and Mexico, and also in Austria, Spain, and several other European countries.

Pure mercury is often found in fluid globules, disseminated throughout the rock within which it is inclosed; but it is sometimes discovered in cavities in such quantities that it may be dipped up by the pailful.

It was first discovered in the Mexican mines by a slave, who, in attempting to climb a steep ascent, caught hold of a shrub to help himself up. The shrub gave away, and from the cavity made by the pulling up of the roots, a tiny stream of what seemed like liquid silver trickled down upon him.

One of the most singular properties of mercury is its affinity for gold or silver. J. R. Nichols, in *Fireside Science*, speaks of a case, which, though clearly understood by the initiated, remained forever an unexplained mystery to the unscientific victim: "Several years ago, while lecturing upon chemistry before a class of ladies, we had occasion to purify some quicksilver by forcing it through chamois-skin. The scrap of leather remained upon the table after the lecture, and an old lady, thinking it

would be very nice to wrap her gold spectacles in, accordingly appropriated it to this purpose. The next morning she came to me in great alarm, stating that the gold had mysteriously disappeared, and nothing was left in the parcel but the glasses. Sure enough, the quicksilver remaining in the pores of the leather had amalgamated with the gold, and, entering, destroyed the spectacles." It is said that gold leaf dropped upon mercury disappears like a snow-flake dropped upon water. One who has watched a magnet gather together the tiny particles of iron from the quartz and other material in a quantity of sand, will understand how mercury has the power to draw to itself the tiniest particles of gold or silver.

The uses of mercury are various. Mercurous chlorid, or calomel, is a tasteless white powder used in medicine. The writer has a vivid recollection of such a remedial agency made use of in her youth, which produced what doctors call "salivation." The blackened tongue and loosened teeth, to say nothing of the excruciating soreness of the mouth, have left an impression upon her mind which time can never efface. The attending physician declared that it saved her life; she is therefore bound to say a good word for the harsh medicine, which later remedies have largely superseded.

Chemists, by different processes, produce from this metal many articles differing materially. One of the most useful purposes to which mercury is put is in the manufacture of mirrors. The process is thus described:—

"Tin-foil is first spread upon a marble table, and the mercury is carefully poured over it. The two metals combine, forming a bright amalgam. A clean, dry plate of glass is then carefully pushed forward over the table, so as to carry the superfluous mercury before it, and also prevent the air from getting between the glass and the amalgam. Weights are afterward added to cause the film to cling more closely. In twenty-four hours the plate is removed, and in three or four weeks is dry enough to be framed." When we look in a mirror, we rarely realize what it has cost others to minister to our comfort. The workmen at this kind of work are short-lived. A paralysis sometimes attacks them within a few weeks after they enter the manufactory, and it is thought remarkable if a man escapes a year or two without serious sickness.

MRS. S. E. KENNEDY.

## ACCURACY AND GREATNESS.

THE wonder of Professor Agassiz's knowledge was the completeness of it. That is the secret of the power of all great naturalists. They see what escapes the observation of others, and are able to discover the meaning of slight differences that ordinary men have not noticed at all. A young artist once called upon Audubon, the great student of birds, to show him drawings and paintings. Audubon, after examining his work, said, "I like it very much, but it is deficient. You have painted the legs of this bird nicely, except in one respect. The scales are exact in shape and color, but you have not arranged them correctly as to number." "I never thought of that," said the artist. "Quite likely," said Audubon. "Now upon this upper ridge of the partridge's leg there are just so many scales. You have too many. Examine the legs of a thousand partridges, and you will find the scales the same in number." The lesson shows how Audubon became great—by patient study of small things.—*Selected.*





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## THE JOY OF MAY.

GAY the orchards full in bloom,  
Flowing o'er with rich perfume;  
Green the turf, and pink the trees,  
Noisy with the hum of bees;  
Purple lilacs' heavy scent,  
With breath of fragrant lilies blent—  
Essence these of merry May?  
"Nay," cry robins, "nay, nay, nay!  
Wooping is the joy of May!"

Full from orchards, groves, and yards,  
Answer fluttering, feathered bards—  
Chorus buoyant, light, and free,  
Led by merry songsters three,—  
Bluebird, robin, mellow thrush,  
Lilting forth with joyous rush,—  
"Ours the song of brightest May;  
Sweet the secret we betray;  
Mating is the joy of May!"

Hang-birds swinging high their nest,  
Safe from squirrel's cruel quest;  
Finches hiding 'mid the leaves;  
Martins nesting 'neath the eaves;  
Russet wrens by sheltering doors,  
Each his very heart outpours,—  
"Ours the wisdom sweet of May;  
Life is work, and work is play;  
Loving is the joy of May!"

—Helen Everton Smith, in *Harper's Bazar*.

## DEATH FROM TIGHT-LACING.

A SHORT time ago an English actress fell dead, from the effect of tight-lacing, while dancing. She called her husband as she fell, and in an agony of pain begged him to loosen her dress. It was too late, and she was dead before a doctor could be found. Such a remarkable case of death from tight-lacing is of course noticed; but there are thousands of cases of lingering death from the same cause that are never mentioned. A few years ago a young woman poisoned herself to death in New York City. The doctor who examined her after death stated that "her internal organs were good, except her liver, which was half cut in two by tight-lacing;" but he added: "That is nothing remarkable!"

## LEARNING WAR.

WE read of a time when men shall not "learn war any more," but it evidently has not yet come, nor will it come so long as the churches cultivate military drill, and train their boys in military science.

There is, however, one important part of military training and instruction which seems to be greatly neglected, even in church circles, and that is the financial aspect of the military question. There is nothing more important to men who seek to learn the art of war than the question of finance; and the "military chest" is one of the most important adjuncts of successful warfare. The longest purse wins in many a conflict. He who can command unlimited wealth is likely to succeed in the contest. The *Michigan Christian Advocate* says:—

"When organizing the boys into military companies for instruction and drill, it would be well to teach them that war is expensive as well as horrible. The armies of Europe cost

the people of those countries *one hour's extra work every day* to sustain the soldiery. A single shell, without the powder, costs more than the average farm laborer can earn in *five months*. One iron-clad ship of war represents the equivalent of a week's wages of a million men, and perhaps more. Why not also teach the boys that military exercise is neither essential to health nor a protection to virtue? Why not impress them with the fact that the worst use to which deadly weapons can be subjected is to use them in killing people? Why not encourage moral war, and discourage the worldly military spirit? The Lord's battles are always worth fighting, and he is the best soldier who allows his sympathies and energies to be enlisted only in a righteous cause."

Mimic warfare is expensive, but the genuine article costs tremendously; and the less that Christians have to do with learning war and making war, the more fit they will be for that kingdom where the Prince of peace shall reign, where there shall be "abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth," and where "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." Ps. 72:7; Isa. 2:4.—*The Christian*.

## FEARS A REVOLUTION.

THE emperor of Germany appears to be haunted with a fear of a revolution, and perhaps the rapid increase of what is known as "socialism" in Germany is an evidence that his fears are not unfounded. Under his direction an anti-revolution bill has been drawn up and presented to the Reichstag, which is intended to give the government the authority to check anything looking like a revolution, in its incipient stages. But the Reichstag has shown a good deal of independence lately, even refusing a vote in honor of Bismarck, and the emperor and those who are with him in this proposed legislation are meeting a strong resistance. The bill cannot be passed without the support of the Centrist, or Catholic, party, and the Catholics will not vote for this measure unless great concessions are made to them. Between the fear of a social revolution and a dread of seeing the pope once more dictating the policy of Germany, Emperor William's path cannot be very rosy.

## NEGRO SLAVERY IN MEXICO.

SEVERAL months ago the newspapers reported an exodus of negroes from the Southern States to Mexico, where a colony was to be formed, and where land was to be obtained at remarkably easy rates. Tempted by these alluring promises, about thirteen hundred men, women, and children left their homes for Mexico. Now it appears that the whole movement is a crafty scheme of a few wealthy capitalists to get the negroes into Mexico, get them into debt to a company, and then keep them there in practical slavery. Two negroes have escaped, and after walking nine hundred miles, they have arrived in Texas. They tell harrowing tales of the privations and sufferings of the would-be emigrants. They are worked under guard, with insufficient food and clothing, and with no prospect of improving their condition. The attention of the United States government will be called to their condition, but governmental matters always move slowly, and these deluded people of color, who have been so unwise as to leave their own country, will undoubtedly suffer many more months of involuntary servitude before they will once more be able to return to home and friends.

## MAN-WORSHIP.

A RECENT writer in a Chicago paper gives an interesting description of the entrance of the pope of Rome, Leo XIII, into the cathedral of St. Peter's at Rome. The great church was crowded, and when the pope reached the center, where all could see him, there was a deafening shout of, "Long live the pope-king! long live the king of Rome!" All this adulation was received very easily and naturally by the pope, as though he were made to be honored and worshiped. Reading this description, one is reminded of the worship paid to the former emperors of pagan Rome by the people, and the difference does not seem to be very great. The whole system of the papacy is placing man before God,—worshipping the creature instead of the Creator,—and that is heathenism.

## THE LAST PENSIONER OF THE REVOLUTION.

UNTIL very lately the United States government has carried upon its pension rolls the names of pensioners from every war that she has fought. The last Revolutionary soldier died in 1867; but widows of soldiers of the Revolution still received money from the government. Quite a good many young women married soldiers of advanced age, and some of these women have lived to be very old. Now it is reported that Mary Brown, of Knoxville, Tenn., widow of a soldier of the Revolution, and the last pensioner of that war, has lately died at the age of ninety-one years. At the age of twenty, in the year 1824, she was married to a soldier, and the government has continued her husband's pension of twelve dollars a month to her ever since he died.

## DO THOROUGH WORK.

THERE are men who shirk their work, and think if they can only get it off their hands and be paid for it, they will never hear of it again.

Let them not be too confident. Their work may be heard from. It may fail to stand the test. It may cost many lives. And the all-seeing God can trace all work back to its authors, and he shall give to every man according as his work shall be.

"Men said the old smith was foolishly careful, as he wrought on the great chain he was making in his dingy shop in the heart of the great city. But he heeded not their words, and only wrought with greater painstaking. Link after link he fashioned and welded and finished, and at last the chain was completed.

"Years passed. One night there was a terrible storm, and the ship was in sore peril of being dashed upon the rocks. Anchor after anchor was dropped, but none of them held. The cables were broken like threads. At last the mighty sheet anchor was cast into the sea, and the old chain quickly uncoiled and ran out till it grew taut. All watched to see if it would bear the awful strain. It sang in the wild storm as the vessel's weight surged upon it. It was a moment of intense anxiety. The ship with its cargo of a thousand lives depended upon *this one chain*. What now if the old smith had wrought carelessly even *one link* of his chain! But he had put honesty and truth and invincible strength into *every part* of it, and it stood the test, holding the ship in safety until the storm was over."

Do your work well. Do it in the fear of God. Do it with the judgment and eternity before you; and your work will abide the test, and the Master will say, "*Well done!*" —H. L. Hastings.