THE YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR

AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY MAGAZINE

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They that sealed the covenant.

NEHEMIAH. X.

The points of the covenant.

gavest before them, neither turned B. C. 443. they from their wicked works.

36 Behold, d we are servants this day, and for the land that thou gavest unto our fathers to eat the fruit thereof and the good thereof, behold,

we are servants in it: 37 And it yieldeth much increase Deut. 28. unto the kings whom thou hast set over us because of our sins: also they have dominion over our bodies, Deut. 28. and over our cattle, at their plea- gikin. 23. 1. having knowledge, and having unsure, and we are in great distress.

Ezra 9, 9.

25 Rē/hum, Hā-shāb'nah, Mā-a-sē/iah,

26 And A-hi'jah, Hā/nan, A/nan, 27 Mal'luch, Hā/rim, Bā/a-nah. 28 I And the rest of the people.

the priests, the Le'vites, the porters, the singers, the Neth'i-nims, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one derstanding;



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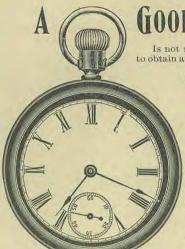
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SIGHTS and SCENES ABROAD



A LEAF FROM THE KORAN.

PROBABLY all our readers know that the Koran is the sacred book of the Mohammedans. It fills very much the same place with them that the Bible does with us. I do not mean to say that it is

capable of giving its followers the true joy and peace that the word of God gives to the Christian; but it is all they have.

We give you here a picture of a single leaf of this book, whose followers are numbered by the million, written in the native tongue of the Mohammedan.

At the World's Fair in Chicago, the writer saw a large, thick-set, blackeyed, bronze-complexioned man behind a stall, where he kept for sale all sorts of curios from his own far-distant India. Among the rest, he offered some leaves of peculiarlooking paper, which appeared yellow with age, covered all over with strange characters in ink, - red and black,-a representation of which you see in the picture.

These little fragments he was parceling out for five cents a leaf to the "heathen infidels," as all good Mohammedans believe those to be who are not followers of Mohammed. On one side he had written his name, "Pundet Golend Purshad; Priest; Delhi, India."

It is in the city of Delhi that the great palace of Shah Jehan stands. This palace is famous for its wonderful inlaid work and delicate carving. In the audience-hall of this building the visitor

reads the following inscription: "If there is a heaven on earth, it is this—it is this!" and considering the beautiful creation that surrounds him, the bewildered reader is not apt to find much fault with the statement.

Of this marvelous structure, "By Land and Sea" gives the following interesting description: "In point of magnificence, the Diwan-ikhas, or Hall of Private Audience, is the most remarkable building in India. It is of marble, richly inlaid, while the windows are marble screens of great beauty. The roof is supported by about thirty-six marble pillars, most of them three and one-half feet square, inwrought with precious stones. The ceiling is a series of gothic arches of marble, frescoed in gold,

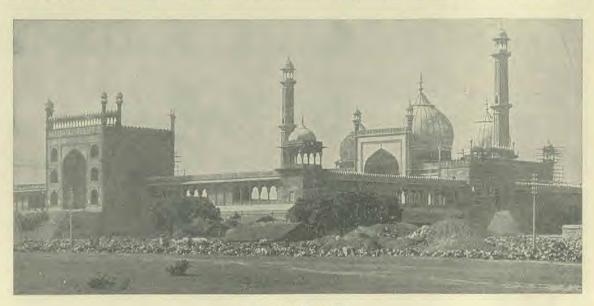
silver, and scarlet. In the middle of this grand room stood a marble platform, now moved to one side, which supported the famous peacock throne. It was called thus because it represented the spread tail of that fowl. Its cost is said to have been nearly thirty million dollars. Of course it disappeared long ago, and the buildings themselves have been marred by robbing them of their most precious gems. . . .

"The Hall of Judgment, though of grander proportions and conception than any of the others, is of baser material, being made of brown stone inlaid with marble. But it contains the emperor's seat of judgment, constructed of beautiful marble

mostly of sandstone, but the floor of the court is composed of black and white marble. In a cloister a priest keeps charge of some precious relics, which he shows for backsheesh. Among them are writings by Mohammed's son and grandson, over twelve hundred years old. He has an old shoe of the prophet, a footprint in stone, and a hair from his beard."

In Delhi, also, stands a massive pillar, called the "Minar," which was erected in the thirteenth century. This is two hundred and thirty-eight feet high, and its stairway, which winds to the top, is draped with inscriptions from the Koran.

This book contains one hundred and fourteen



THE PEARL MOSQUE.

in the form of a pavilion, with the floor raised ten feet. Before his majesty sat the prime minister upon a marble seat; he received sentence from the emperor, and conveyed it to the accused. In those days it was regarded a slight thing to sacrifice life."

In the same book is given also a brief description of the famous Pearl Mosque situated at Delhi, as follows: "The Moti Musjid, or Pearl Mosque, built for the emperor's own use, is a veritable pearl of pure marble. It received its name on account of its costly carpet inwrought with pearls. For the use of the common people the emperor built outside the Fort the Jumna Musjid, or Great Mosque, which will accommodate many thousands of worshipers. Its floor is reached by forty steps from the street, the lower ones being one hundred and fifty feet long. This building is

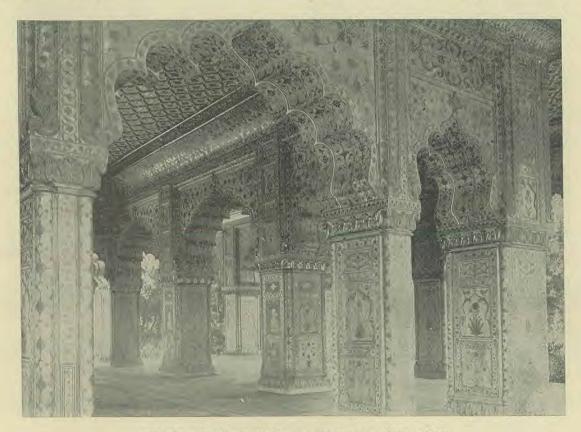
chapters, called suras. The word "koran" means to read, or the book to be read. In some respects we may learn lessons from its followers. Their reverence for this volume is so great that they never allow themselves to carry or to hold it below the girdle, and they will not even touch it unless purified for the occasion. A zealous Mohammedan is, in fact, very much pained to see a copy of his sacred book in the hands of an unbeliever.

However, in this, they would do well to learn a lesson from the Christian, who finds his greatest delight and pleasure in placing God's blessed book in the hands of as many of his fellow men as possible. He reasons truthfully that the lower down man is in the moral scale, the more he needs the blessed gospel to uplift him, and teach him the truth as it is in Jesus.

The Koran teaches that there is "one God, and Mohammed is his prophet;" that Jesus Christ and Moses had the same mission; that is, that they both were teachers and prophets, but that Mohammed was the equal or the superior of both.

Thus you see the beautiful doctrine of the atonement taught in the precious Bible is made of no account. How thankful we should be that we know the truth, that there is "no other name" under heaven whereby we must be saved, but the blessed name of Jesus.

countries, often at the peril of his life, and there spend weary years, far from home and loved ones, with only the one hope before him,—the hope of inducing the people to read the blessed book that he has carefully prepared for them in their own tongue, so that their lives may be influenced by it, and that they may become true followers of the meek and lowly Saviour of sinners. Ah, there is no gospel like the gospel of Christ's love. It will warm the coldest nature; it will break and subdue the hardest heart. There is nothing like



PRIVATE AUDIENCE CHAMBER, PALACE OF SHAH JEHAN.

As I saw this man eagerly trying to sell a few leaves of the Koran to the people who could not read one word of it, for the paltry consideration of a few pennies, I thought of the contrast between this man and a love-inspired missionary of Jesus Christ. The former, for the sake of receiving a little of the wealth that perisheth, was peddling out minute portions of that book which a true Mohammedan believes to be the direct revelation of God, but which was entirely valueless to any who is unacquainted with the language in which it is transcribed; but the latter—the Christian—considers it his highest joy to go to far-off

the cross of Calvary to uplift fallen humanity, to take inherent selfishness out of the heart of man, and to place therein the seeds of purity and love.

Let us thank God every moment that instead of the Koran of the Mohammedan, we have the Bible of the Christian, which opens up for all mankind a pathway of grace and mercy,—a pathway to the shining skies.

MRS. L. D. AVERY-STUTTLE.

HE perverts the Holy Scriptures who uses them only to prove his adversary in mental combat wrong.



A CREATURE OF HABIT.

Ir inanimate nature may be termed a creature of habit, how much more may animated—human animated—nature be so termed! What creatures of habit we are! What seasons of drought and shower, of summer and winter, of heat and cold, of bloom and frost, of cultivating, sowing, and reaping, of garnering in, scattering, spreading, wasting, hoarding, do we pass through! We have our April showers,—mingled sunlight and drops of rain,—our long, steady, down-pouring storms, our zephyrs, breezes, gales, and thunder-storms. There is no phase in nature whose counterpart may not be found in the minds and moods and habits of humanity.

The interest with which the face of the heavens is scanned to read the bulletins of the weatherclerk is like unto, but frequently less than, the interest with which we scan the faces of those about us to take cognizance of the bulletins often written so plainly upon them. The human barometer is generally fully as susceptible to the surrounding mental conditions as is the weather barometer to the conditions and changes of the atmosphere. How often is the key-note of the day struck at the first glance into the mother's or father's face, or by the look of brooding storms upon the face of one of the children-a child who does not think of aught beyond the fact of his own feeling of discomfort or discontent or displeasure.

How often has the day's successful work or the day's failure found its rise, in many sensitive hearts, in the looks of loving belief, confidence, and sympathy, or in the cold glance of doubt, scorn, or lack of appreciation received in its dawning hours.

A whining, peevish, complaining spirit takes speedy root where such seed is allowed to sprout, and a cynical, criticizing, faultfinding spirit rapidly launches out in the wildest luxuriance of dank and fetid growth, which is contaminating, if not poisonous, to all who indulge in, or must associate with, it. If clouds are allowed to overshadow the heart and mind, they drape all thought and action with their clinging, light-obscuring mist.

There are no words to tell of the sweetness and beauty and grace that dispense themselves from a sweet, sunny, loving nature,—one that, although the clouds may exist, the storm winds whistle, can yet look through and above the clouds to the light that is eternal. In this world of humanity, as in the world of nature, it would not be possible, because it would not be best, that there should be no variations of season and of weather.

We must learn to make the distinction between the storms of temper or of evil inclinations, those resulting from the indulgence of evil propensities, and the storms that bring pure, life-giving showers. They are as essential as is the fall of rain upon the earth. Tears of love, of sympathy, contrition, tenderness, and sorrow humanize—nay, spiritualize—the race.

Let us be watchful of the seed we sow; for from the seed comes the forest. "The law of harvest is to reap more than you sow. Sow an act, and you reap a habit; sow a habit, and you reap a character; sow a character, and you reap a destiny."

MOTHER'S GROWING OLD.

"MOTHER's hair is turning white;
More she feels the cold,
And her step is not so light;
Mother 's growing old.
Growing old! each silvered hair
That we 've helped to make
Tells of sacrifices made
For her children's sake.

"Mother tires quickly now,
Less her dear hands hold;
Lines are deep'ning on her brow,
Mother's growing old.
Growing old! Those lines of care
That, alas, we've laid
Tell of heartaches and of prayers
For her children made.

"Mother reads her Bible through Glasses rimmed with gold; Ah, 't is plain and sad to view Mother growing old. Growing old that she might give Us a mother's love, Helping us so we may live In the home above.

"Mother's form is spare and bent,
Illness we behold;
For us life and health are spent,
Making her grow old.
Growing old lest careless feet
In unknown paths might roam;
Growing old to give each day
Us a home, sweet home."

Yes; mother is growing old. Had you noticed it, or are you so much engaged in your pleasures, studies, or work that you have not had time hardly to look in mother's face to note the change the finger of time is tracing there?

Not only is mother growing old, but father as well is feeling the weight of passing years. His locks, too, are whitening, and his form is bending low. O dear boys and girls, do not neglect the dear old father and mother. Yes; I know you are busy; the days are not long enough in which to do all you want to do; but if you are away from home, do not neglect to write often to the parents who are growing old in the home where you were born. If you are still at home, do not neglect the father and mother who have done so much for you. They may be old-fashioned in dress and speech, but never be ashamed to present them to your young friends. Be considerate of their feelings.

This is an age of rush and hurry. The dear old folks can not keep up in the race of life; so dear young people do not crowd or hurry their trembling steps. Remember they are going down the sunset side of life. So lend a hand to guide them safely along.

Never think it a hardship to deny yourself of some coveted pleasure for the sake of the "old folks." Each year that passes over their heads lessens their hold upon this life. Soon their places will be vacant. Soon father and mother will be sleeping in death. Now, while you have them with you, do all you can to make them happy. Then when you are called to bend over their cold forms, you will not have to grieve over neglect. It will lighten the sad blow in your hour of bereavement to know you did all you could to make their last days pleasant.

MARIETTA CARPENTER.

SELF-CONTROL.

A PERSON who is well born has a rich endowment, and he who by nature has a good degree of self-control has a legacy which many do not receive, and one that is of untold worth. There is no time nor place where this quality can not be exercised, and that to good advantage; and without it one's life, in many ways, is maimed and crippled.

In every relation, both public and private, it stands us in hand to exercise self-control, and thus avoid heartaches, embarrassments, and mortification, so often the result of a failure to weigh candidly all matters under consideration, or to control self under all circumstances.

While he who inherits this boon may well be happy, none should become discouraged who

have it not by nature; for it can be acquired by constant watchfulness and a determination to discipline self, and thus become master and not a slave. This has been done before, and can be done again by all who will bravely and boldly put themselves to the task. Others, whose impetuous natures have well-nigh proved their ruin, have rallied, fought bravely, and achieved glorious victory. Shall we not, then, as Instructor readers, one and all, never rest until we have complete control of self? What this world needs, and God wants, is men and women who have minds of their own, can stand stiffly for all that is right, and yet not be obstinate and offensively self-willed.

WILLIAM PERRIN.

YOU WILL NEVER BE SORRY.

You will never be sorry for serving God; you may be sorry for almost everything else. Joseph Berry says: "There are men and women who declare their regret at almost every step in life they have taken. I could find married people who would tell you they wished they had never married, and single people who would tell you they wished they had; I could find carpenters who would say, 'The worst trade you could put a boy at is a carpenter's; ' and doctors who would say, 'Better be a chimney-sweep than a doctor;' and I could find a chimney-sweep who would say, 'Better be anything than a chimney-sweep; mine is the dirtiest trade going.' Now I am going to throw out a challenge: Will some one find me a person who will say, 'I wish I had never loved Christ'? Blessed be God, you can't do it; the consecrated life bears the test of experience. He saved me when I was a lad, and I began to preach the gospel when I was sixteen. He is the friend who has never failed me, who has never left me, who has come close in trouble, and been nearest and dearest to me when I needed him most."-Selected.

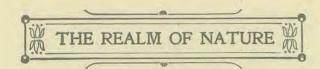
A PRAYER.

Teach me, Jesus. Saviour, how to pray, Teach me what to say; Help me thee to follow day by day; Lead me, lest I stray.

C. F. LADD.

Why fret thee, soul,
For things beyond thy small control?
Do but thy part, and thou shalt see
Heaven will have charge of these and thee.
Sow thou the seed, and wait in peace
The Lord's increase.

- Kate Putnam Osgood.



THE GNAWING ANIMALS.

In our study of the land animals we now come to those with which we all are more or less familiar. Listen! Do you hear that gnawing sound in the granary? Yes; that is a familiar sound; it is a mouse which is biting off small pieces of wood, not to satisfy its hunger, but rather that it may get into some wheat- or corn-bin, where it can find an abundance for itself and family. Sometimes mice make the opening into the bin in such a place that nearly all the grain runs out. Although the mouse makes the farmer a great deal of trouble, it asserts its right to have a life of happiness and freedom, as well as other creatures that God has made. But in spite of this thousands of these creatures are killed every year by the curious little device, the mouse-trap. Will a cry of mercy ever be raised for these little innocent creatures as well as for the birds?

The Gnawing Animals are numerous, and are to be found everywhere, even on board the ships



SQUIRRELS.

that navigate the seas. Mice, rats, squirrels, beavers, rabbits, and hares are the most important

ones, and I shall have a few words to say about each; but before I describe them, I want to speak of their teeth, which enable them to gnaw so readily, and on account of which they receive their class name, Gnawing Animals. You will remember that our last study was about a class of animals that had no teeth, or if any, they were few and poorly developed. It is not so with the Gnawing Animals; for they have very long, sharp teeth, which are well fitted for their work. You have often seen the squirrel sitting on its hind legs, holding a nut between its fore paws. What is it going to do with that hard nut? In a few moments it makes a hole in the nut large enough so that it can extract the rich meat within.



THE BEAVER.

The majority of the Gnawing Animals live upon grains and nuts. Among these may be mentioned the mouse, rat, squirrel, and gopher; but others, such as the rabbit, hare, and beaver, live upon roots and the bark of trees. The teeth of the beaver are not only made to aid in eating, but they are also the tools with which it fells the trees to build the dam. You see that its teeth are an ax, with which it slowly but surely cuts down large trees.

The rabbit does not use its sharp teeth in the summer so much as in the winter. In the winter it lives upon the bark of trees, while in the summer it feeds upon grass and leaves. It is an innocent and harmless animal, possessing no spirit to quarrel and fight. It has long ears, which enable it to hear very acutely. It usually builds its nest under ground, making it out of leaves, grass, and fur from its own body.

The squirrels are a lively family of animals, living mostly in the trees, where they build their nests out of leaves and sticks.

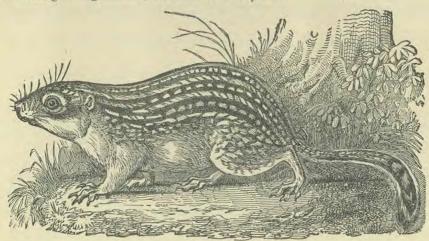
Squirrels and rabbits are often tamed, and become nice pets.

Many chapters could be written about each one of these gnawing animals, but I must leave you to



THE RABBIT.

observe and study the ways and habits of these animals during the summer. M. E. Cady.



GROUND SQUIRREI.

THE success of life,—the only success in the true sense,—lies in the quality of living day by day, and not exclusively in achievements, and still less in acquirement of possessions. We can live in aspirations, in good will, in generosity, in love, amid the most limited, narrow, and trying circumstances.—Selected.

TRUTH, though trampled in the dust, will rise again.



"THE POWERS OF THE AIR."

As the children were ushered into Aunt Ruth's own room for their evening talk, they saw on the table three mysterious-looking glass jars, and other strange-looking vessels with crooked necks and downward-bent tubes, or pipes.

Mama was given the honored seat; for she, too, was anxious to hear Aunt Ruth's talk on the powers of the air.

Walter was into the mystery; for he had been auntie's assistant, all the afternoon, in preparing for the evening lesson. Aunt Ruth was only an amateur chemist, and her equipments only such simple apparatus as would illustrate the elementary laws of natural science.

She smiled at the eager expectation and wonderment portrayed on the sweet young faces before her. The thought of opening "the eyes of their understanding" to the mysteries of God's natural world was an inspiration to her loving heart, and she began to talk in a simple, easy

"We are to learn something of the nature and powers of the atmosphere in which we live, and also something about the water so necessary to our life and comfort. Let us see just how much you already understand about the air and its uses. Edith, what color is the air?"

"Why, auntie, it has no color. We can not see it," said Edith, with some surprise.

"If we can not see it, it is ---?"

"Invisible," supplied Walter.

"Yes. Harold, what does it taste like?"

"I can't taste anything, auntie."

"Then it is tasteless, or insipid. Here are two things, then, that we understand about the air. If we can not *see* it nor *taste* it, how can we know the presence of air?"

"We can see what it does," declared Harold, confidently.

"What can you see that it does?" asked Aunt Ruth, to which the children replied, in turn.

"It rustles the leaves of the trees."

"It blows out the light when we go in a draft."

"It whirls my pin-wheel."

"It takes the kites away up in the sky, and whirls the dust and dead leaves around."

"Good," said Aunt Ruth. "Can you feel the presence of the air?"

"Yes, when the wind blows," answered Harold.

"Yes; and you can feel the soft, billowy pressure of the air at any time by waving your hands through it."

Suiting the action to the word, the children felt the air with their fan-like hands.

"Now, children, you must know that, although the air is invisible, it is a real, tangible substance, yet it is composed of gaseous atoms so minute that millions of them could be crowded into a thimble. These atoms are constantly rolling on one another, which they can do with the greatest of ease, so that the air is constantly in motion. You can notice this very plainly if you will watch a ray of sunshine pouring through a knot hole in the barn, and see the dust atoms float in the constantly moving air. You can not make a motion so slight but it produces little waves, currents, and eddies in the billowy, elastic substance of the air, which will affect every particle of it in the room."

"Is the air elastic, like rubber?" asked Harold.

"Yes; it is much more elastic than anything you can think of. Here is a small glass cylinder—a tiny air pump, with a graded register. It is like your pop-gun, Harold, with the nozzle closed up. Do you see this piston, like the plunger of a common pump, half way down in the cylinder? I have fastened the valve in this plunger, so that the air can not escape through it when I push downward on the piston, as it does in the pumpplunger. You see the air below is a prisoner. Now, Walter, please use this handle, or pistonrod, and push down on the piston, and let us see if we can squeeze, or compress the imprisoned air in the pump."

Walter exerted his strength until the piston descended in the cylinder a full inch. A ripple of satisfaction passed from lip to lip, and Aunt Ruth said: "You see, dear children, that the air is highly elastic, and can be compressed. It is by compressed air that you shoot the wad from your pop-gun, Harold; and it is by the same means the great explosive shells are forced from the cannonbore, and are hurled for miles into the enemy's camp. Now, Walter, pull on the piston-rod, and we will see if air will stretch. Ah, that was easy," as it slipped back to its normal position. Then, with a long, steady pull he brought the piston up in the cylinder an inch above the normal, but it took all his strength to hold it. Aunt Ruth continued: "Now that the air is stretched to fill so much more room in the cylinder, it must be much more thin and rare, must it not? We have learned

by this experiment that air can be compressed, or condensed, and also expanded, or rarefied.

"There are other things to learn about the condensation and expansion of air. I have here a small, deep copper can, filled only with air, and I have tied a web of thin rubber over the top, so that the air can not escape. Now let us see what a little heat will do for the imprisoned air within."

The children watched with intense interest as Aunt Ruth lighted a small alcohol lamp, and held the vessel, by its long handle, over the blaze. Gradually the heated air swelled the thin rubber covering until it seemed as if it would burst. At last, by a puncture from Aunt Ruth's needle, it escaped with a sharp hiss, and the rubber bubble collapsed. This called forth enthusiastic applause from the children, while Aunt Ruth tied another rubber on the top of the vessel, and told Walter to put it out where it would get the benefit of the freezing air. In the morning the rubber top was sunken and hollowed inward.

"Well," continued Aunt Ruth, at last, "we have learned several things about the nature of air. Walter, will you recapitulate, and let us see how far we have gone?"

"Air," said Walter, "is a very elastic gaseous substance, invisible, tasteless, capable of compression and rarefaction by the application of force, and of shrinkage, or contraction, and of expansion, by the action of heat and cold."

"Excellent," said Aunt Ruth, much pleased. "You have learned something of the power of compressed air. Now we will test the weight of the air at its normal, or natural, density. Here is a large air-pump. Place your hand over the mouth of the jar, Edith, while I pump the air out of the jar under your hand. You will then be able to judge of the weight of the air pressing down on the top of your hand."

Edith placed her hand on the mouth of the airpump, and Aunt Ruth gently pumped one stroke.

"O Aunt Ruth, stop, please! It will crush my hand," cried Edith, in alarm.

Walter, who was determined to test the weight of air, bore three strokes manfully, though it seemed as if the great pressure would crush his hand into the jar.

"There, Walter, you have tested that sufficiently. What does this prove to you?"

"Aunt, is that really the weight of the air that bears down with such power on my hand? It seems as if something below was drawing my hand into the jar by suction."

"Suction, Walter, is the removal of the airpressure on one side of an object. You can not feel the weight of the air; for it presses you on all sides alike; but when you remove that equal pressure from one side of your hand, you realize its power on the other side."

"And does the air press upward as well as downward?" asked Edith.

"Yes, Edith, and horizontally as well as vertically. In fact, its elastic pressure is in every direction equally. This we can prove by inverting the air-pump. You will see that the pressure is the same. It is tritely said that 'nature abhors a vacuum; ' and when a void is created by pumping out the air, nature rushes to the rescue, trying to fill up the vacuum, hence the powerful pressure of the atmosphere at that point. This elastic, expansive pressure of the equi-buoyant air is estimated by scientists to be fourteen pounds to the square inch of surface, and God has made this pressure necessary to the preservation of our animal organism. I once heard of a scientific experimenter who cruelly placed a living mouse in a powerful air-pump, to watch the dissolution of its little body as the atmospheric pressure was removed. It literally fell to pieces. Cruel as this experiment was, it proves our dependence on atmospheric pressure for our very existence. But I think we must postpone our further investigation of this subject until to-morrow evening, at seven o'clock. RUTH GARDENER.

WHY NOT SIMILAR ACTION EVERYWHERE?

It is cabled from Egypt that the government has decided to prohibit the sale of alcoholic liquors in the Sudan. Everywhere, and under all circumstances, rum is a curse. There is no element in human depravity that it does not stimu-Nevertheless, the government of Egypt would do well to prohibit hashish. visited the only lunatic asylum in all Egypt, we found two wards entirely filled with hashish patients. A congress of European nations is to be held to discuss the liquor trade in West Africa. The use of liquor by the African negro is death. It is stated that the blacks have lately mastered the secrets of the moonshine still, and readily convert bananas into a fair imitation of applejack. As Christian nations took alcohol to Africa, they ought to do what they can to suppress its ravages. So far as that question is concerned, the Mohammedans present a contrast decidedly favorable to themselves when brought into contact with Christianity .- New York Christian Advocate.

The Youth'S INSTRUCTOR ESTABLISHED, 1852. W. H. MCKEE, - J. C. BARTHOLF,

HABIT OF THOUGHT.

How many young people ever think that it is possible to acquire good and bad habits of mind and thought? Yet it is not only possible but inevitable. It is impossible to live, and breathe, and move, and think without forming habits. There are proper and improper habits of breathing, correct and incorrect habits of walking, and of posture in sitting and standing, wise and unwise ways of eating, and drinking, and sleeping. In every occupation in life and in every situation we are confronted with the possibility of doing everything in a wrong way, and of becoming so fixed in the wrong habit that we at length become unable to do it right. This is just as true of the action of the mind as of the muscles, of the brain as of the stomach. But if all the physical organs of the body are given over to the dominance of bad habits, how can one expect the mind to be free? Indeed, it is certain in such a case that the mind will be under complete thraldom. So to have correct habits of thought one must begin with proper bodily habits. No one is a free man who is enslaved to any bad habit of body or mind. The only power that will enable any one to escape from this universal slavery that threatens every man is the gospel of Jesus Christ. Thus from the mental and physical point of view, no less than from the moral and spiritual, we find the truths of religion to be the foundation upon which life must be built.

CREED AS AN AIM.

As the world grows older, creeds, dogmas, formulas, and catechisms have less and less power to control the actions of men. In this many good people see cause for serious alarm. The marvelous increase of knowledge and its wider dissemination among the masses have resulted in fastening the conviction in the minds of intelligent people generally that most creeds are man-made, and have neither divine authority nor sanction. The unfortunate thing about the general letting-down of confidence in the creeds is that many, while abandoning their one-time faith in them, also relinquish their belief in the fundamental and truly

divine principles of religion. The young especially, through their inexperience and proneness to trust wholly to their own strength and supposed wisdom, are in grave danger of making this sad mistake. To them these words of the apostle Paul should appeal with special force: "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

But no one, either young or old, is in a position to obey this admonition if he has subscribed to, and thereby hedged himself about by, some iron-clad creed, dogma, or formula, religious, political, social, scientific, or otherwise. He who has taken a fixed position that the world is flat is not capable of fairly weighing the different arguments that go to prove its rotundity; he can not "prove all things" relating to this subject. No more can he comply with this wise and beneficent rule in religious affairs, who incloses himself within an impenetrable wall of creed, it matters not how venerable nor how musty with the dank dust of ages that creed may be. He who has yielded himself unreservedly to the doctrine of predestination, - and allows himself to contemplate this tenet to the exclusion of all else, is in no position fully and fairly to consider any reasons that may be deduced from the Bible in proof of the belief in "free grace." He who subscribes to the dogma that any churchly organization or any officials thereof have any authority whatever to withhold him from freely and fully investigating any question of religious belief, has dungeoned himself so completely that it is henceforth impossible for him to do as the apostle enjoins: "Prove all things."

No true man will ever consent to be placed in a position, either by ecclesiastical or political decree, where he can not ever and always have the windows of his soul temple "open toward Jerusalem," the glorious citadel of eternal truth. Whoever allows any dogma or formula of belief, whether it be religious, social, political, or of whatever nature, to intervene so as to intercept his vision of truth, is thus making creed his aim, hence the false deity to which he pays supreme homage and worship.

It is blind adherence to some set statement or system of belief and practise that makes possible the wide-spread evils, arrant abuses, and even high crimes, that often disgrace the annals of both church and state.

Not infrequently do we hear stump speakers and after-dinner orators, with more fervor than sense, propose this sentiment: "Our country right or wrong, our country." So also do those high in ecclesiastical circles, by actions, if not by word of mouth, sometimes declare, "Our church right or wrong, our church." By so doing, the latter dishonor the cause of true religion and its divine author, as the former dishonor their country, and true patriotism as well.

The best, most enlightened, and, it may be said, the most reverential, scholarship of our day holds, and with the best of evidence, that not one of the apostles of Jesus had anything whatever to do with, and in fact knew nothing about, the so-called "Apostles' Creed." This document was devised several centuries after they were all dead, when church dignitaries, conscious of their own barrenness of the spiritual power so abundantly manifested in the early church, devised ingenious dogmas and creeds, with which, if possible, to hold the allegiance of the people.

The truth regarding creeds in the early church is, as Sir John Lubbock has well observed: "Collect from the Bible all that Christ thought necessary for his disciples, and how little dogma there is." How beautifully simple, yet how all-complete, is the creed of Christ: "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." Again, speaking through his disciple James, Jesus defined true religion thus: "Pure religion and undefiled . . . is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." What need of creeds have they who make this divinely inspired sentiment of the prophet Micah their own, both in faith and practise: "And what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

The supreme need of the hour is this: less trust in creeds and isms and a return to the artless simplicity of the gospel of Jesus. Very truly has Dean Stanley observed: "The error of Christendom has far more usually been that it has not thought of Him [Christ] half enough; that it has put aside the mind of Christ, and taken in place thereof the mind of Augustine, Aquinas, Calvin,—great in their way; but not the mind of him of whom we read in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John."

VINE-COVERED WALLS.

THERE is a prevalent notion that ivy and similar climbing plants that cling to the wall by rootlets make the walls which they cover damp. This is an erroneous belief. The reverse is the fact. Quantities of water are evaporated daily from the

extensive leaf surface of these vines. This is in some degree drawn from the soil about the foundations where the roots run, but to a large extent also from the walls themselves, through the little clinging rootlets, which penetrate every crevice. Besides, the leafy covering acts as a thatch to shed the rains and mists and snows from the walls, and protect them also from the direct beating of the storms. This is proved to be true by the practical demonstration of the condition of many of the old European ivy-covered ruins, in which the joints have been found so perfect and the mortar so hard and dry that it was only with much difficulty that they could be torn down.

Climbing vines, if properly cared for, add greatly to the appearance of a house; and upon a stone or brick house there is no reason why they should not be permitted to grow and spread, both for their beauty and their protection. Care should be taken, however, that the vines do not obstruct any gutters or conduits, and by causing them to overflow upon the walls produce dampness. Only a little pruning and training are needed.

The beauty of the spring-time, with all its growing things, will soon be here,—and not the least of these is the vine on the wall.

M.

BLESSED ARE THEY.

How easy it is to see that the apostle John loved Jesus! He takes such a joyful satisfaction in referring continually to the personal presence of the Saviour with himself and his fellow disciples. In the first chapter of his Gospel he says: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth." In the first chapter of his first epistle he reiterates and amplifies the same thought with an added stress of feeling, born of years of meditation and experience, filled with a loving recurrence to the memories of his personal human association and fellowship with Jesus. With what joyful assurance he says, "We have seen with our eyes." "We have looked upon, and our hands have handled" "the Word of Life." "The life was manifested, and we have seen it." "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you." This is "the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you." To all those who read and hear these glad words of John is addressed that promise which Christ incorporated in his gentle rebuke to Thomas, "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

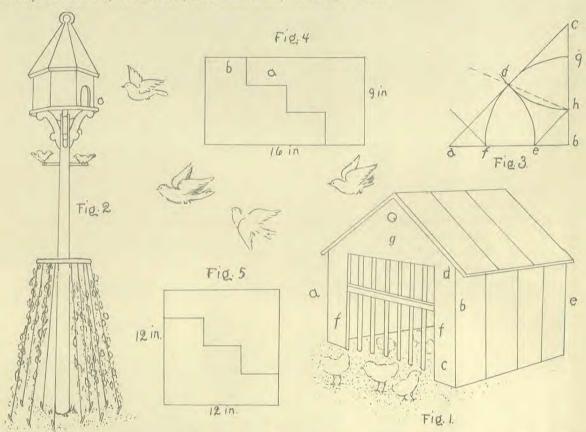
How Things Are Made

HOMES FOR OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS.

Well, boys, in our illustrations this week you will see a dove-cote and a chicken-coop. It is well to provide suitable homes for our feathered friends. The coop illustrated by Fig. 1 makes a comfortable abode for the chicks. In this coop is no floor. The measurements are: from a to b twenty-four inches; from b to e, across the sides,

seven eighths of an inch by one and three-fourths inches. Bore six holes three fourths of an inch in diameter in this stick, and put in six round sticks, letting them run down to within an inch of the ground. This will make a neat coop.

In Fig. 2 you will see a dove-cote. I love to have some place for the birds; for they are great favorites of mine. I never shot one in my life. I have often thought what a happy day it will be when, with the curse removed, we shall hear the little immortal songsters warble their praises in the new earth.



twenty-four inches; and from c to d twelve inches. The roof is what we call a half-pitch roof; that is, it is just as much higher in the center above the sides as one half the width, or twelve inches. The sideboards on the front, marked f, should be two inches and a half wide. Put a board across the top, as seen at g, and bore four holes in it for ventilation. In the back side of the coop make four similar holes, and put in a door about seven inches wide and eight inches high, through which the hen may be let in and out.

Across the opening in front, and about five inches below the board marked g, put a stick

To make the dove cote here shown, you will need a pole sixteen feet long, and three or four inches in diameter at the lower end. If you will burn the lower end of the pole in a fire so that it will be a coal on the outside where it goes into the ground, it will last a good deal longer. I have some three-by-four-inch scantling posts that I served in this way, and set them out for grape-vine trellises twenty three years ago, and they are good yet. Shave your pole smooth, and nail on to the top of it a board about two inches larger than the cote will be. Saw out some brackets, and put under the board. About half-way up

the pole bore two holes, and put two round sticks through, as shown. Nail a nice barrel hoop on to the ends of these, drive some little stakes into the ground, and run some strings up to the hoop, for morning glories.

The floor of the house is octagonal. Fig. 3 shows a simple way of laying out an octagon of whatever size you may wish. Make the lines a b c of equal lengths and a right angle. Draw a line from a to c. Set one point of your compasses at a, and the other on the line a c at d. Then strike the circle down to e. Put the compass point at c, and strike down to h. A line from h to e will give you one section of the octagon.

For the sides get out eight boards six inches wide and about nine inches high. In one board cut a hole about four inches wide and six inches high, for an entrance (see a, Fig. 2). The edges of the boards should be beveled. Set your bevel on the line e h d (see Fig. 3) to get the right bevel. Nail the sides to the octagon bottom. You will need to put two screws through this bottom, to hold it to the board nailed on top of the post, as you could not nail the house on after it was made.

For the roof get out eight pieces about ten inches long and six inches and a half wide at the lower end. Taper them to a point, and nail them on, as shown in Fig. 2. These boards will need to be made narrower on the under side, to let them come together tight upon the upper side. Put a ball upon the top, and the cote will be complete when it is nicely painted. In Figs. 4 and 5 you have an answer to the last puzzle given you. The board twelve by twelve inches and the other nine by sixteen inches each contains one hundred and forty-four square inches. Cut the plank as marked in Fig. 4, and place a over b; you will then have Fig. 5. W. K. LOUGHBOROUGH.

OVERCOMING the world implies overcoming a state of worldly anxiety. Worldly men are almost incessantly in a fever of anxiety lest their worldly schemes should fail. But the man who gets above the world gets above this state of ceaseless and corroding anxiety.— Charles G. Finney.

WATCHFULNESS

"Behold, I come quickly" are words plain and clear; This message will comfort and strengthen and cheer. Be watchful, be prayerful, be honest and true, Be faithful in doing what He's told you to do.

C. F. LADD.



PHYSICAL CULTURE

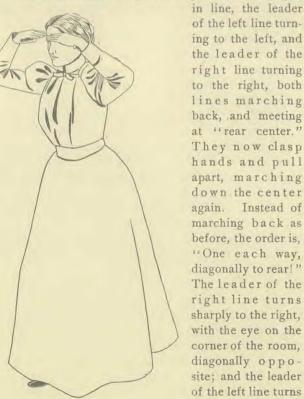


SERPENTINE AND OTHER WALKS.

THE class is marched down the center of the room in twos, then one each way. As they come round to the center, instead of turning to come down to the teacher, they pass on around the room, "weaving" in and out by clasping hands in this way: the ones who lead the lines, clasp right hands first; then they pass on to the next person, clasping left hands. The third persons clasp right hands; the fourth, left hands; and so on until the last person is reached, when the lines will have crossed each other. They can then march around the room until they meet, and the same exercise may again be taken. It is necessary to take short steps, and have plenty of room between the pupils. The special benefit to be derived from this exercise is chiefly in the alertness necessary to keep the line intact, and to act on the moment the individual part required. It is not easy to have this done accurately without considerable practise. When the teacher wishes to abandon this exercise, as the lines meet, she orders, "Down the center, two abreast!" or "Down the center, single file!"

For "statuary walk," class should be in single file; music, very slow march. Class take position with right foot forward and body inclined well forward, but trunk erect, left hand on hip, right hand as shown in the accompanying cut-this on count "one - and." On next count, order, "two-and;" the body is erect, with hands at side. These orders should be given very slowly that there may be time for the body to be poised like statuary, allowing the exercise of muscular control to be manifest. It will be noticed that those who do not have this control, will "wabble" about, unable to hold the body in the attitude described. This movement should be taken with the right foot forward, and right arm poised overhead, for several steps, or until the class has marched around the room once or twice. Then order, "Change hands and feet! one-andtwo - and!" etc. Then the exercise is the same, except the change of left foot forward, and left hand poised over head, and right hand on hip. The third order for the statuary march is, "Right foot forward! Both hands up!" as in the illustration. Care should be taken to be easy in these movements, avoiding strain or stiffness, and to pay attention to the time. The teacher can assist the pupils in keeping time, by sharp spats of the hands, accenting each count. After marching with the right foot forward, change is made to the left, position of hands the same. The teacher should insist upon perfect symmetry of line in this class work, as, when properly taken, this exercise is not only a beautiful one, but is beneficial in many ways.

The "clasp-hand march" is a simple figure, but may be introduced by way of variety and also because of some beneficial movements in its execution. Class marches around the room in On reaching the "rear center" of the room (room diagram will explain this term), the order is given, "Down the center, two abreast!" On reaching the teacher, she orders, "One each way!" As class marches around to "rear center" again, instead of coming close together in twos, the lines turn, on the order, "Down center! clasp hands! pull!" and come down the room about five feet apart, or allowing space enough in which to clasp hands and pull apart as they march down the center of the room. Care should be taken to keep the lines straight, and each should pull hard, but not enough to break the symmetry of the lines. On reaching the teacher, she orders, "Hands drop! One each way! march close to rear!" Each line turns back, marching close to the pupils



to the left, marching diagonally to the rear, each leader then turning about, facing each other, marching on until meeting, when the leaders clasp hands, as follows (the others doing likewise as they meet in couples): the leader of the left line, with the right hand clasps the left hand of the leader of the right line, holding their hands straight up as far as possible, while the other hands are clasped loosely in front. Thus they march down the center of the room, as the order is given, "Down center, together! clasp



hands! upward thrust!" The figure can be repeated if desired. Then order, "Single file! fall in!"

MRS. M. D. MC KEE.

GOOD FRUITS.

CHEERFULNESS, pleasantness, a bright and sunny temper,-these are some of the richest fruits of true religion. If our Christianity is worth anything at all, if it has any potent influence over our lives, if it is anything else but the feeble sentimentalism of a selfish and artificial piety, then it will make us "pleasant." It will brighten our spirits, sweeten our manners, and tame our tempers. Almost the first indication of the new life is the desire to smooth over trivial but ugly difficulties, to promote a general feeling of kindness and simplicity, and thus to rob life of its dulness and bitterness and monotony. . . . And there is a certain kind of Christian effort which no committee can do, no organization can accomplish, no code of rules can help-it requires human touch. It can only be done by a smile, a welcome, a hand-shake. - Frederick A. Atkins.

Thappy Thours at Thome



MAKING HOME PEACEFUL. XVI.

WITH the coming of the sultry days of summer, it was evident to James Beardsley that his father was surely failing. No one else seemed to have either the time or the inclination to note the trembling step, and the pale, worn face of the old man. When, indeed, he mentioned one morning that "father looked as if he had had a poor night of it," Grandmother Sharpe remarked quickly that she had n't rested either, and she guessed other folks felt about as well as she did. It really seemed as if the poor old woman was cultivating the weeds in the garden of her heart, with more and greater success every day. Ah, how true it is that if we would make our gray hairs a crown of glory when age settles down upon us, and throws its hoary mantle over us, we must see to it that we are found in the path of righteousness.

There was a wonderful contrast between these aged people. The old deacon, with his kindly, dim eyes, and white hair, with his form bent, and his step tottering, had yet a voice as soft and gentle as a little child's, and a laugh as hearty as a boy's. A beautiful old man was he; for there is no beautifier like the peace of Christ. Grandmother Sharpe was tall, and straight as an arrow, and her gaunt figure seemed to grow more angular every day, and her voice to acquire an added degree of shrillness. There were two perpendicular lines between the straight brow,-lines plowed deep, more by the fingers of ill temper than by the hand of time, - which gave an additional fierceness to the small, deeply sunken, black eyes. Accustomed for years to speaking words of bitterness and jealousy, at last, perhaps as much from habit as anything else, they fell naturally from her lips, like sharp arrows, and, as the wise man says, like "a continual dropping in a very rainy day." The sweet language of kindness and love was to her an unknown tongue.

Ah, how many Grandmother Sharpes are there in the world, and alas! in the church as well. Did you never meet one of them? did you never form the acquaintance of one of these unhappy people? Let us be kind to them; for God knows they are to be pitied, but they are not all old women; indeed, there are some of them who are still young, but upon their brows little furrows have been plowed by another than the finger of

time; for ill temper is no respecter of persons; she writes her ugly autograph upon the brow of youth and the cheek of beauty. O, there are so many Grandmother Sharpes! Perhaps there is one living under your own roof, aye, more, it may be if you and I look closely into our own hearts, we may see her likeness there.

But, thank God, if there are Grandmother Sharpes, the world is not left without a few Grandpa Beardsleys in it. There are some upon whose shoulders the passing years rest lightly, and upon whose faces the finger of time leaves only a kindly imprint, whose silver hairs rest upon the noble head like a halo of glory, and through whose heart the peace of God flows like a river; whose saintly presence seems a benediction, and whose words, always fitly spoken, are indeed "like apples of gold in pictures of silver." This is the sanctifying effect of years of "walking with God."

One sultry morning in August, Grandpa Beardsley did not get up to breakfast. Janet said he had called to her as she was passing through the hall, and told her that he was so weak he was afraid to try to go down-stairs. "If you will bring me a thin brown slice of that nice toast of yours, Janet, I think I can eat it," he had said, in a voice so weak and altered that the girl was startled, and hastened to tell her mistress.

"Dear me!" exclaimed Mrs. Beardsley, with an impatient frown. "Mercy knows I've got enough to do to-day, and enough for you to do, too, Janet, without bothering with him. It's queer, just because the minister and his wife are coming to tea, and I've got this great ironing on my hands, that I have to be hindered just now. I declare it is positively annoying. I wish, James, you would go up and see if you can't get him down-stairs to breakfast. Tell him Janet has no time to fuss with making extra dishes," she continued, carelessly.

Ellen Beardsley was not as heartless a woman as she seemed; but her better nature had become so warped by selfishness that she did not herself realize how her cruel words rankled and burned in the heart of her husband, who replied, indignantly: "I shall tell him nothing of the kind, Ellen; I intend that my father shall receive attention when he is ill; if Janet can not prepare him a slice of toast, I will do so myself."

It was very seldom that James Beardsley expressed himself so forcibly to his wife, and she was quite stunned for the instant; after standing a moment, with brows elevated in astonishment,

she called after her husband as he was climbing the stairs: "Of course Janet can make the toast; wait, Jimmie!" while she added to herself: "I can't say the least little thing but he's getting so he takes it so hard,—I wonder what's the matter with him."

What, indeed! ah, what will so gall and wear a tender, loving heart, as the perpetual nagging, whining, grumbling tones of those to whom we have given our love, for whom we labor, for whom we sacrifice, and for whom, indeed, we live!

"I'm so glad you came up, Jimmie!" exclaimed the deacon, in a weak voice. "I've wanted to see you alone for a long time," grasping the hand of his son, and eagerly pulling him down to a seat on the bedside.

"What can I do for you, father? I hope you're not suffering. We have another sultry day before us."

"Suffering? O, no,—just weak, so weak; but you know, Jimmie, I've lived out my threescore years and ten, long ago; and by reason of strength I have even gone beyond the fourscore,—but I'm getting to feel that my strength is labor and sorrow."

"I can't bear to hear it, father; see, Janet has brought your breakfast, you'll feel stronger when you've eaten."

"I was just going to say to you, my son," continued the old man when they were again alone, "that I am sure I shall not be with you long. Don't be sad; 't is better so. I am only sorry that I have been so nearly helpless for so long, and that I have caused Ellen worry and trouble by my blindness. But old age will come, Jimmie; it will come."

"I am sorry that our home has not been a more congenial place for you, father; I have felt thus a long time, but I seem to be powerless."

"I know how it is, Jimmie; you have done your best to make it agreeable for me; but, O my son, I may never have another opportunity of talking to you. My heart acted strangely all night, and I feel that the end is near; but I should not die easy if I did not entreat you to lose no time in erecting the family altar,—the altar of the Lord, which has so long been broken down."

By this time the strong man was weeping silently; the gentle, melting Spirit of the Lord was softening his heart.

"I remember the time when I was converted all over again—mother and I. You and Jennie were young then, but I dare say you remember it. I was n't doing right in my family; and now

you're not doing right in yours. O my son, do let the Master make you all over again. He'll make it easy for you to serve him again. He'll carry you and your burden, too,—and—and you've got a heavy one, Jimmie. Yes," he continued, prophetically, "the boy Reginald will give you much trouble; but God is mighty, and I trust the end will be peace." Then clasping the thin hands reverently, and raising the dim eyes to heaven, the soft, trembling voice slowly repeated: "Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee. My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion forever."

"God bless you, father; and God give you rest," said James Beardsley, earnestly. "Your talk has done me good, but I would better go now. I fear you are tiring yourself."

"Wait a little; not yet—don't leave me yet. I must have you a little longer by me, Jimmie. I am thinking of Paul. Will you not get his last letter,—it is there on the table,—and read it to me once more? Paul and Jimmie, Paul and Jimmie," repeated the old man, tenderly, "that's all I've got left now."

With trembling voice the letter was read from the loved and absent son and brother, long a soldier of the cross in far-distant India. The old deacon listened eagerly. These were the closing words: "Father's an old man, brother; and I greatly fear I shall not see him again in this life. I feel that you are specially blessed in having him with you; his presence is a continual benediction. But don't forget, Jimmie, you'll not have him with you long. But the King is coming by and by, and we'll all meet pretty soon, my brother,—my dear, dear father, and mother, and Emma, and brown-eyed Jennie, if we're only faithful over a few things."

"That sounds good, Jimmie; O that sounds good! Now you may go, but promise me first, Jimmie, that you'll not forget about the family altar when I'm gone,—and—about Reginald. God will sustain you, my son,—but O, I entreat you, redeem the past as far as in you lies."

"By God's help, father, I will try," was the trembling answer.

MRS. L. D. AVERY-STUTTLE.

(To be continued.)

What more can adorn the brow of age than gentleness and loving-kindness?



SABBATH-SCHOOL LESSON .- NO. 1.

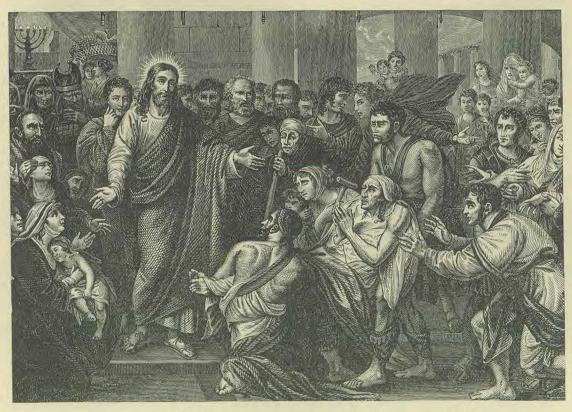
(April 1, 1899.)

HEALING THE NOBLEMAN'S SON AND THE BETHESDA CRIPPLE.

Lesson Scripture. — John 4: 43-54; 5: 1-16. Memory Verses. — John 4: 49, 50.

TIME: A. D. 28, 29. PLACES: Cana and Jerusalem. Persons: Jesus, the nobleman and his sick son, the impotent folk at the pool of Bethesda, the cripple that was healed, the Jews.

- 3. As he was going down, who met him? What message did they bring? V. 51. What inquiry did he make of them? V. 52. What was the effect of this miracle? V. 53.
- 4. For what purpose did Christ again go to Jerusalem? John 5:1. While passing the pool of Bethesda, whom did he see? Vs. 3, 5; note 3.
- 5. What words did Jesus address to the impotent man? V. 6. What despairing answer did he receive? V. 7. After hearing the history of the poor man, what did Christ tell him to do? V. 8. What immediately happened? V. 9.
- 6. Seeing the miracle of Christ, what complaint did the unbelieving Jews offer? V. 10. What



QUESTIONS AND NOTES.

- 1. How long did the Saviour remain with the people of Sychar? John 4:43. Where did he then go? Why were the Galileans ready to receive him? V. 45.
- 2. Coming to Cana, whom did he meet there from Capernaum? V. 46; note 1. What request did the nobleman make? V. 47. With what comforting words did the Saviour finally address him? V. 50; note 2. How did the nobleman receive the Saviour's words?
- answer did the man make? V. 11. Where was Christ at this time? V. 13. Finding the man, soon afterward, in the temple, what did Christ say to him? V. 14. What is the original cause of all disease?
- 7. What testimony did the man now bear to the Jews? V. 15. What did the Jews seek to do with the Saviour? Why? V. 16.
- The news that Jesus had returned from Judea to Cana soon spread throughout Galilee and the region round about. It reached the ears of a nobleman in Capernaum,

who was a Jew of some honor. He was much interested in what he had heard of the power of Jesus to heal the sick, for he had a son suffering with disease. The father had consulted the most learned physicians among the Jews, and they had pronounced the case incurable, and told him that his son must soon die.—" Redemption, or the First Advent," page 15.

- 2. Jesus responds to the demands of the centurion by commanding him, "Go thy way; thy son liveth." These brief and simple words thrill through the heart of the father; he feels the holy power of the speaker in every tone.—"Redemption, or the First Advent," page 17.
- 3. One man had been afflicted by an incurable disease for thirty-eight years, and he had repeatedly visited the pool. Those who pitied his helplessness would bear him to and fro at the time when the waters were supposed to be troubled. But those stronger than himself would rush in before him, and seize the opportunity that he coveted.—"Redemption, or the First Advent," page 20.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON.- NO. 1.

(April 2, 1899.)

THE RAISING OF LAZARUS.

Lesson Scripture. — John 11:32-45.

Memory Verses. — Vs. 41-44.

Outline. — Jesus meeting with the sisters of Lazarus. Vs. 32-38. At the tomb of Lazarus.

References. — John 11:1-16; Luke 19:41; John 9:6; 20:7; 2:23; 10:42; 12:11, 18; Heb. 2:9-18; 1 Cor. 15:50-58.

TIME: A. D. 30. PLACE: Jesus was at Bethabara, beyond Jordan, where John had baptized him, when he received the message that Lazarus was sick. Lazarus's home was in Bethany, on the Mount of Olives, near Jerusalem. Persons: Jesus, Mary and Martha, Lazarus, the Jews.

QUESTIONS.

The Circumstances,—In what part of Jesus' ministry did this lesson take place? What scene of his labors had he left? Matt. 19:1.

The Family at Bethany.—How many members in this family? Name them. By what act was one of them widely known? V. 2; 12:3-7. Why did Jesus love this family? What blessings would this friendship bring? Will Jesus be a member of your family? John 14:17, 20, 21. What must we do to have his presence? John 14:15, 23; 15:10; Luke 24:29. What proofs can you find that this family loved Jesus? John 12:2-7; Luke 10:38-42.

The Sick-Room.—Which one of the family was taken sick? Was it a dangerous sickness? What did the sisters do for their brother? What was the outcome of this sickness?

Jesus at Bethabara.— Where was Jesus at this time? John 10:4) What events had occurred at this place? John 1:28-4; Matt. 3:13-17. How far was Bethany from Bethabara? What did Jesus do after he had received the message from Bethany? Why this delay?

Report the discussion between Jesus and his disciples concerning Lazarus.

The Meeting of Jesus with the Bethany Sisters.—Where did Mary and Martha meet Jesus? What was their greeting? How could they know that Lazarus would not have died had Jesus been there? Had Jesus raised any from the dead before this? Luke 7:11-17; 8:49-56 What was Jesus' reply? V. 23. What did Martha take this to mean? V. 24. What great doctrine did Jesus then teach her? What is the resurrection? Who only are to have this resurrection to life?

What does Jesus mean by saying that he is the resurrection? What message did Martha take to her sister? Does the Master call for us? In what ways? To what does he call us?

At the Tomb of Lazarus,—What two emotions did Jesus express? At what was he indignant? Why did Jesus weep? What does this teach us as to his tenderness and sympathy?

Relate the story of the resurrection of Lazarus. Why did Jesus pray? How was Lazarus bound? What kind of tomb was he in?

What tenderness there is in that one short verse of this lesson, "Jesus wept"! How close it brings Christ's humanity to us! There is in it a touch of human nature which appeals to all, and shows that Jesus is brother to us—every one.

A GOOD PRESCRIPTION.

When times are bad, and folks are sad An' gloomy day by day, Just try your best at lookin' glad; An' whistle 'em away!

Don't mind how troubles bristle;
Just take a rose or thistle;
Hold your own,
And change your tone,
An' whistle! whistle! whistle!

A song is worth a world o' sighs; When red the lightnings play, Look for the rainbow in the skies; An' whistle 'em away!

Don't mind how troubles bristle; The rose comes with the thistle; Hold your own, An' change your tone, An' whistle! whistle!

Each day comes with a life that's new—
A strange, continued story;
But still, beneath a bend o' blue,
The world rolls on to glory!

Don't mind how troubles bristle;
Just take a rose or thistle;
Hold your own,
An' change your tone.
An' whistle! whistle!

- Frank L. Stanton.



NOTE AND COMMENT



Ex-Governor Wm. R. Merriam has been appointed by President Mc Kinley to the position of superintendent of the federal census to be taken in the year 1900.

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A Great Missionary Movement.— The bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church have recently launched an educational and missionary enterprise of great magnitude, being a plan for the raising from among the people of that denomination the immense sum of \$20,000,000, to be used in advancing the educational and missionary enterprises of the denomination.

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The Havoe of War.—The devastation of war has, indeed, been enormous, and yet we are all prone not fully to realize the extent of its ravages. On this subject an ingenious statistician has deduced these figures: "It is estimated that since the days of the Trojan War, B. C. 1184, no fewer than 1,200,000,000 men have been sacrificed on the altar of the god of war. If it were possible to gather together these millions of war's victims into one ghostly army, they would form a column, twenty-seven abreast, long enough to clasp the earth at the equator, with a residue of ten similar columns, stretching from London across Europe to Naples."

36

An Immense Diamond. - A diamond, now on sale in London, is the largest and most valuable ever found, being held at the enormous price of five million dollars. It was discovered about one year ago in the Orange Free State, and is described as follows: "It is three inches long by two inches and a half at its thickest part, has a beautiful blue-white color, in shape and brilliancy resembles the most sparkling of icicles, and is one of the most dazzling objects ever beheld. It is known as the Jaeger-Fontien diamond, as it was found at the mine of that name. Its discoverer was a negro truckman, who, the morning before the mine passed into the possession of a purchasing syndicate, saw the stone, put his foot over it, picked it up as soon as he could do so without observation, carried it to the house of the manager, and delivered it into his hands."

A Rare Old Coin. — Oftentimes things most rare and of the greatest value are found in the midst of the most unfavorable surroundings, and where least looked for. The following incident certainly illustrates this statement: "Some time ago a lot of pennies were received at the Treasury Department for redemption. Among them was a coin that was rejected. The treasury would not give one cent for it. A clerk in the office redeemed it, and gave it to Congressman Johnson, of North Dakota, who sent it to the Smithsonian to be identified, and later he received word that the coin is of the mintage of the year 284 A. D., and circulated in the time of the Emperor Diocletian. It is a very valuable relic, worth many times its weight in gold." In just this same way may be found in the by-ways, hedges, and slums of the world, boys and girls, and men and women, who, to the careless, heedless, and unloving, may seem to be only so much worn-out and worthless coin, but who are in reality gems, in the rough, it may be, but yet of untold value, that shall one day be fit to shine forever "as the brightness of the firmament."

Intelligent Aggressiveness. - One of the marvels of the closing nineteenth century is the wonderful rapidity with which the Mormons are extending a knowledge of their doctrine throughout the world, and are securing proselytes to their faith. Though we dissent radically from their peculiar beliefs and practises, may we not, as Christians, learn valuable lessons from their methods of missionary work? As the Baptist Flag remarks: "It seems that there is no general 'organized work' in reference to the matter, but there is an intense individual earnestness in the work. Over seventeen hundred missionaries are traversing the land, from house to house, scattering literature, preaching in schoolhouses and private families wherever they have opportunity, and they are doing some real work in planting their doctrines in many places throughout the country." Instead of depending almost wholly on the support and backing of some committee or board, hundreds of this sect, without money and without scrip, go to distant parts of this and other countries, and spread abroad a knowledge of their faith. If believers in the special message of the everlasting gospel for this time should exhibit an earnestness and enthusiasm such as this, the glad tidings of our dear Lord's return would soon be heralded to "every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people."

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design in ink, aluminum, and gilt. Issued in two styles. Standard edition, \$1,25; Presentation edition, \$1.50. Address your State tract society, or the Review and Herald Pub. Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Orders for this new book will be filled in about two weeks.

N. 38

IT IS SELDOM

The case that goods are offered free, in every sense of the word; but we can assure our readers that they will not be disappointed if they answer the advertisement. Is the title of a most excellent weekly magaof E. E. Miles found on another page. Mr. Miles will give you something that will please you, and please your friends.

26 36

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Is the title of a splendid floriculture magazine published monthly by the Floral Publishing Company, Springfield, O. Notice our special offers in connection with this magazine, on another page. For sample copy, address the publishers as above. In regard to any of the special combination offers, address the Youth's Instructor, Dep't "H. F.," Battle Creek, Mich.

JE 150

BOYS AND GIRLS

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Those who desire to earn a copy of the dictionary for themselves can do so by complying with the following conditions: We give the copy first described above for one new six months' subscription to the Youth's Instructor; the same book bound in morocco is given for one new yearly subscription; the one which retails at sixty cents will be given for one yearly subscription, and ten cents additional.

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N. 38

AN HONEST METHOD

Of doing business is used by Dr. E. J. Worst, Ashland, O., whose advertisement appears in this issue. He will actually send you the article advertised, upon trial, and after three days you may either send him the price of his inhaler, or return the same to him.

34. 34.

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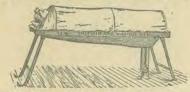
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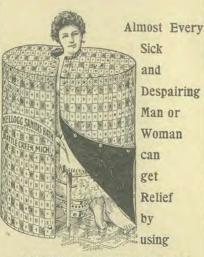
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