

The Youth's Instructor.

VOLUME 19.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., JANUARY 1, 1871.

NUMBER 1.

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

“AS WE MAKE IT.”

“THE world is even as we take it,
And life, dear child, is what we make it.”

Thus spoke a grandam, bent with care,
To little Mabel, flushed and fair;
But Mabel took no heed, that day,
Of what she heard her grandam say.

Years after, when no more a child,
Her path in life seemed dark and wild;
Back to her heart the memory came,
Of that quaint utterance of the dame:

“The world, dear child, is as we take it,
And life, be sure, is what we make it.”
She cleared her brow, and, smiling, thought,
“’Tis even as the good soul taught;

“And half my woes thus quickly cured,
The other half may be endured.”
No more her heart its shadows wore;
She grew a little child once more—

A little child in love and trust.
She took the world as we, too, must,
In happy mood, and lo, it grew
Brighter and brighter to her view.

She made of life, as we, too, should,
A joy; and lo, all things were good
And fair to her, as in God's sight,
When first he said, “Let there be light.”

—Sel.

WINTER.

STERN winter comes with his chilling winds whistling through the branches of the leafless trees. Thick, dark clouds begin to gather, and soon the snowflakes fall thick and fast. The boys do not mind the cold, but come laughing and shouting with their sleds to try the “sleighting.” The faithful old dog, after taking a survey of the barn and its surroundings to see that all is right, comes bounding into the entry, shakes the snow from his shaggy back, and takes his place upon the door mat. He seems to say, as he watches the falling snow, I don't enjoy this as much as the boys seem to. The cattle and sheep come marching down the lane, and seek shelter under the shed. Old Malta, wondering what all this snowing and blowing means, humps his back and starts for the kitchen, where he finds a warm corner, and soon purrs himself to sleep. The evergreens in the yard present a fine picture as their slender boughs bend gracefully under the weight of snow that lodges upon them.

Though the winter seems long, and cold, and dreary, yet there are many ways in which we may spend its hours very pleasantly. Do not spend them in seeking for happiness; for happiness is not found in that way. But seek for duty, try to spend your time in blessing others, and happiness will follow. Do not forget the homeless and friendless. Remember the sick and afflicted; share your comforts with them, and God will bless you in so doing.

JANE R. TREMBLEY.

ARE YOU GETTING READY?

I HAVE just been reading the twelfth chapter of Luke; and while reading, there came to my mind the question, Are you getting ready? I want to ask the INSTRUCTOR family this same question. Perhaps some bright eyes grow brighter with curiosity, and little lips are ready to inquire, “Ready for what?” Ready for the return of our Lord from the wedding, children. Do not you remember

that the Bible speaks of the marriage of the Lamb, and invites us all to prepare to attend the marriage supper?

That supper is now almost ready; but are we ready for it? It is a feast which children, as well as older persons, have a hearty, urgent invitation to attend. Jesus bids us come; and both the Spirit and the bride say, Come; and all who hear are commanded to extend the invitation. We cannot go unless we are all ready; we must have the wedding garment on. This robe must be pure and spotless; and we are told that the way to make it so, is to “wash” it in the blood of the Lamb, until it becomes “white.” By this, is meant, that we must have pure and holy characters, like that of Jesus; and if we have any sins staining them now, we must make haste to put them away from us, and seek forgiveness for them through the blood of the Saviour.

Jesus, the bridegroom himself, is soon coming, and all the holy angels are coming with him. They will take every one who has made these preparations, to see the bride, and to eat of the marriage supper. If we want to go with him, we must be ready and waiting when he comes for us. Oh! if you have not yet commenced to prepare, won't you begin now? There is but just enough time for us each to do so, with the help of the Lord; but we've no time to lose, nor waste in serving ourselves any longer. Jesus pleads for us, and angels are anxious to help us, while God himself invites us to come, promising that he will be a father to us. Can you slight so great love as this? Who will strive, with me, to “get ready”? E. R. FAIRFIELD.

BIBLE READING.—NO. 13.

PREPARATION FOR THE COMING FLOOD.

THE Bible, in a very few words, states the reason of the flood; who were saved; why they were saved; and how they were saved.

Noah found grace (favor) in the eyes of the Lord. He was just and perfect. He walked with God.

The Lord told Noah of the coming flood, and why he was about to destroy all living things from off the earth. And Noah had a work given him to do. He was to build an ark, the size and fashion of which, were given him by the Lord. He was to provide food for himself and family, also for the animals which were to be taken by him into the ark.

It must have been a great undertaking, and cost a large sum of money. Besides the sacrifice of his property, Noah must have had to bear the scoffs and jeers of all who witnessed his course. He, no doubt, told them plainly why he was doing as he did, and of the coming flood. So good a man as he, must have urged his wicked neighbors to repent and be saved with him.

The Bible gives no account of the turning of any from their evil ways; yet his building so large a vessel on dry land, must have convinced them that he believed what he said.

The idea of a flood to drown the world, seemed foolish, indeed, to many in that day, when not so much as a shower of rain had ever been seen. In Gen. 2:6, we read that “there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.”

Noah must have been a long time building

the ark, which may have been another reason why the people thought that such an event would never take place. And thus it was: “They ate, they drank, they married wives, and were given in marriage,” disbelieving Noah's preaching, and ridiculing his faith, “until the flood came and destroyed them all.” The scoffs and jeers of his fellow-men did not deter Noah from accomplishing his task. The ark was finished, and provisions were stored away for all who were to find in it a shelter from the coming storm. The animals, two and two of each kind, and the clean beasts by sevens, were gathered therein. The birds also found in it a place of safety.

Noah and his family finally entered into the ark, and waited seven days before the rain began to fall. How this time was spent by them, may be a query with some. Not idly, we presume; for the animals must needs be secured in their proper places, and much else was necessary to be done, to prepare for the coming deluge.

While our minds have been picturing that little company busily preparing for what was to come, we have forgotten, for the moment, those on the outside. There are many looking on, witnessing this last act of Noah. They begin to think that there may be something, after all, in what he has said. But as no cloud is seen, and the sun rises and sets clear and pleasant each day, as usual, they probably conclude that Noah is laboring under a fatal delusion. God's Spirit had ceased to strive with them; and, feeling themselves secure, no doubt they gave way to folly and sin, and joined again in ridiculing Noah for wasting his time and his fortune in building a vessel where there was no water to float it.

But the sequel will show who were the wiser, the few who believed God, or those who rejected his counsel. C. GREEN.

How to Receive Unjust Censure.

“FOR what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.” Patience is one of the Christian graces, if we obtain it by prayer. We all admire it in others—do we seek for it ourselves? When we are reproved for our faults, do we try to profit by the reproof? Though it be not given in a kind manner, by one desiring our good; still, we should receive it patiently; for it may be just the lesson that we need, after all. Yet, after doing this, it is no glory to us, but only exhibiting the spirit of meekness and humility that is enjoined upon us.

But if, when we do well and suffer for it, we take it patiently, this is acceptable with God, if it is done for his sake. Did Christ ever suffer for faults of his own? or was it for doing well? Yet he was reviled and insulted with words and acts of shameful impudence. But he reviled not again; and in this we have an example worth remembering when we receive rebuke for our faults, considering how little we do that is praise-worthy. * * *

SIR WILLIAM TEMPLE said: “The greatest pleasure is love; the greatest ease is sleep; the greatest medicine is a true friend.”

The Youth's Instructor.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., JAN. 1, 1871.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THE INSTRUCTOR wishes you all a "happy new year." Yes, a happy new year to all, both great and small; old and young; rich and poor; high and low. To the sturdy farmer's boy; who builds the fires these frosty mornings; who feeds the cows, brings in the wood, and draws his little sister or brother away to school through the big snow-drifts. To the farmer's girl; who rises early, helps her mother about the morning's work, gets the little ones ready for school, and cares for them through the day. Finally, to all good boys and girls; whether in city or country, town or village, mansion or cottage—boys and girls who obey and help their parents; who have good lessons at school; and who love to study the Bible and do as it tells them.

Yes; and to idle boys; and lazy boys; and cruel boys—boys who do not obey their parents, who are unruly at school, who love nobody but self, who are unkind to their playmates, headstrong, quarrelsome—and to girls who are silly; who care more to know the fashions than to know their duty; who think more of fun and fine clothes than of their friends; who are foolish, and peevish, and vain—to the fretters, and fault-finders, and busybodies, and tattlers—yes; to all, we can, and do, *wish* a happy new year; yet we have no hope that they *will* have a happy new year unless they reform. And if bad children expect it, they will surely be disappointed. We hope they will reform, and become *happy* in becoming *good*.

And whether any of us shall have a happy new year, or not, will depend very much on ourselves. If we make it our business to seek our own comfort and pleasure, we shall not be happy; but if we are noble, generous, and self-denying; seeking to do good to others—to relieve their wants, to cheer their hearts, and to add to their joys and comforts—we can, by the blessing of God, be happy, let come what will. In this way, may you all spend a happy new year.

A SAD STORY.

THE Lord is very good to all his creatures, but especially so to his children. If we were more thankful for his kind care, it would not only be pleasing in his sight, but would add greatly to our happiness.

Do the bright-eyed, active, joyous boys and girls who read the INSTRUCTOR, always bear in mind the favors and blessings which God bestows upon them? Are their hearts filled with gratitude for these blessings? or do they sometimes forget that they receive all these good things from the Lord?

Do they realize what a blessing it is to have good health, kind friends, loving parents, warm clothes, comfortable homes, and warm hearts to greet them there. When you thank the Lord, in your morning prayer, for keeping

you safe through the night, do you ever think what a dreadful thing it would be if your dwelling should be burned some of these cold winter nights?

On Christmas evening, a father and mother, and five children, sat around their humble fireside, as comfortable and happy, perhaps, as any of us. It is quite likely that they went to bed that night with their minds full of pleasant thoughts, and bright expectations for the morrow. No doubt the children were expecting a visit from Santa Claus, and fell asleep with busy fancies running through their heads, of what he would bring them. How different would have been their thoughts and feelings if they had known what was to befall them!

Let us imagine the parents, after their children had retired, filling the little stockings with presents, and thinking how happy the children would be in emptying them in the morning. What would have been their feelings if they had known that those little stockings would never be disturbed, and that the wearers of some of them had already lain down to sleep the sleep of death!

At last the fond parents retire, and all is still. The ground is covered with a heavy mantle of snow, and the cold is severe. The clock ticks solemnly on the wall, and the sleepers are enjoying their rest. Soon, however, smoke begins to fill the room. The house is on fire, but the fated family sleep on. The flames spread wider and grow fiercer; and yet the inmates of the burning building are not aroused. No guardian angel is sent to waken them.

The devouring element comes nearer and nearer to them, till the parents are finally awakened. They spring from their bed, but have only time to save themselves and two of their children. The other three must perish in the flames.

The half-distracted father makes every effort in his power to save them; but all is in vain. After being frightfully burned, he is forced to give up the attempt.

What anguish fills the hearts of the fond parents, as they look on and know that their dear ones are writhing in the agonies of death almost within their reach! There they stand in the snow, with bare feet, and almost devoid of clothing, exposed to the bitter cold and the cutting blasts of that winter night.

It was more than a mile to the nearest house, so the husband and father took the remnant of his family to the barn and covered them with a horse blanket; then mounting the horse, he hurried away for help; but in his almost naked condition, he became so benumbed with cold that when he arrived at the nearest house he could not speak. He was accidentally discovered, however, and his horror-stricken neighbors hastened to his home, where they arrived in time to save the poor mother and her two remaining children. The man was so badly burned and frozen that he probably cannot live, and even while we write he may be passing to his long home.

Dear readers, who protected your dwelling from fire on that Christmas eve? Who saved you from terrible suffering, and perhaps from

death?—And will you not be grateful for such care?

Give your hearts to the Lord, and secure his protection; for without it we are not safe. "Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." The Lord will keep all that are his. Let us be sure that he owns and blesses us every day, and we shall have his protection; for which, may he ever give us a thankful heart.

THE CHILDREN'S CORNER.

OUR GARDENS.

Who has a garden to plant? I know.
Each little boy and girl; and so
Each little boy and girl must get
Good seeds to sow, good grafts to set.
And when they have set and sowed, take care
To trim them and weed them till they shall bear
Such good and beautiful fruit that they
Will be glad for all they have done some day.
Each little garden is each little heart,
Where the good seeds with the bad will start;
And we all must strive to destroy the bad
And protect the good. And lass and lad
Who work the hardest to plant and sow
In their little hearts good seeds, may know
That their future lives will prove what care
They took, and what seeds they planted there.

A Story for the Little Ones.

THERE was no help for it: Daisy must be drowned—little, gentle, two-months-old Daisy,—that was always so good and quiet, and yet so full of life and frolic! Little Katie's heart was quite broken, thinking about it. But mamma, who knew best, had said so; and there was no help for it. Three cats took so much milk! and there were so many little human mouths to feed! and milk at ten cents a quart! Poor little Katie! She saw it was best; but it brought grief to her heart.

"If some one would only buy Daisy," she said, clinging to her mother's dress.

"People don't buy kitties," said her mother, stooping to kiss the little, flushed, tearful face lifted to hers; "but I wish some one would take her as a gift. You would n't mind giving Daisy away, would you, Katie? That would be better than drowning her."

"Yes, indeed! a hundred times better!" answered the child, her face lighting up.

That night a little tear-wet face pressed Katie's pillow. The child was offering up her evening prayer. "Dear Father," she said, "please send some one 'long who wants a kitty. It is so awful to have Daisy drowned! and it hurts so! Please, dear Father, be good to Daisy, and don't let her be drowned,"—and here the little voice grew choked, and great tears fell on the white pillow-slip. Soon, however, she fell asleep; her prayer had quieted her.

"Good-bye, Daisy. Oh! I wish God *had* thought it best. But he did n't, and you must go;" and Katie turned from her brother Reuben, who held Daisy in his strong arms.

"Don't cry, Katie," said the boy, pausing a moment; "I'll do it real quick; she won't suffer but a minute. I'll tie a big stone to the bag, and it'll all be over in a jiffy."

Poor, blundering Reuben! He meant to comfort Katie; but his words only made her cry the harder.

Reuben walked along, far from comfortable. There was the bag in his pocket, and Daisy in his arms, looking up in his face as confidently as though he were the best friend she had in the world. In a few minutes, poor Daisy would be struggling in the water, and he would have to go back and face Katie, and tell her it was all over.

"I declare, I can't do it!" he exclaimed, half aloud. "I'm going in here to Bill Watson's. Perhaps his folks would like a kitten. Any way, I'll see."

A little girl stood in the doorway.

"Halloo, Jenny! want a kitty? I've brought you a beauty—look!"

Jenny's pretty face flushed with delight. "O mother!" she exclaimed, running back into the room, "may I have this kitty? Reuben has brought it a purpose for me!" Reuben had to tell his story—how they had two other cats at home, how there was n't milk enough for them all, and how Katie had cried when mother had said Daisy must be drowned.

"Do n't say another word," interrupted Mrs. Watson. "Leave puss here. I am right glad of her."

So Reuben put Daisy into Jenny's arms, and with a heartfelt "Thank you, ma'am; Katie will be so glad," he hurried home to tell his sister the good news.

Oh! how happy Katie was that evening. "God *did* hear me, did n't he, mamma?"

"Dear little Daisy! I think God must love kitties almost as much as he does little girls; don't you, mamma?"

"His tender mercies are over all his works," murmured Katie's mother to herself; then she turned to her little girl, and said:

"God loves and cares for everything that he has made, dear child. I thank him that my Katie has a tender, loving heart toward his creatures; and I am glad, too, that Daisy has found so good a home."—*Mrs. C. A. Mason.*

Sabbath-School Department.

NOTE TO THE TEACHER.—The pupil need not, in reciting, give the references that are inclosed in parentheses, nor those in the margin. They are intended only as a help to the pupil in finding his answer.—Ed.

BIBLE LESSONS FOR CHILDREN.

LESSON SEVENTY-THREE.

REVIEW.—JACOB SECURES THE BIRTH-RIGHT AND THE BLESSING.

1. What were the names of the twin sons of Isaac and Rebekah? Ans. Jacob and Esau.
2. Which of these sons was the elder? Ans. Esau.
3. What right did this give him? Ans. The birth-right.
4. To what did the birth-right entitle him? Ans. To the larger share of his father's property, and to the most honorable place in the family, next to the parents.
5. How did Jacob get this birth-right from Esau? Gen. 25: 29-34.
6. When Isaac had grown old and his eyes had become dim, what did he ask Esau to do for him? Gen. 27: 1-4.
7. What did Rebekah advise Jacob to do while Esau was gone hunting for the venison? (6-10.)
8. How did she prepare Jacob to deceive his father? (15-17.)
9. What questions did Isaac ask when Jacob brought in the food? (18, 24.)
10. What answer did Jacob make? (19, 24.)
11. What blessings did Isaac invoke upon Jacob? (28, 29.)
12. Did Isaac have the power to bestow these blessings? Ans. He did not, but he pronounced the blessings in faith, believing that God would bestow them. (Heb. 11: 20.)

LESSON SEVENTY-FOUR.

REVIEW.—JACOBS FLIGHT.

1. Why did Jacob flee from his home? Gen. 27: 41-45.

2. Who advised him to go?
3. Did she get Isaac's consent?
4. Where did Isaac tell Jacob to go? Gen. 28.
5. What vision did Jacob have at Bethel on the way? (10-22.)
6. Will you describe his meeting with Rachel at the well? Gen. 29: 1-12.
7. How was Jacob received by Laban? (13, 14).
8. What agreement did he make with him in regard to working for him? (15-20).
9. How did Laban deceive Jacob at the end of the seven years? Ans. He gave him Leah instead of Rachel for his wife.
10. How long, in all, did Jacob serve Laban? Gen. 31: 41.
11. Was Jacob faithful during all this time. (38-40).

LESSON SEVENTY-FIVE.

REVIEW.—JACOB'S RETURN.

1. What caused Jacob to leave Padan-aram? Gen. 31: 1-7.
2. Who pursued him? (17-23.)
3. What prevented Laban from doing any harm to Jacob? (24.)
4. What happened to encourage Jacob as he went on his way? Gen. 32: 1.
5. Where did Esau dwell at this time? (3.)
6. What message did Jacob send to Esau? (3-5.)
7. What word did the messengers bring when they returned? (6.)
8. What preparation did Jacob make, to meet his brother? Ans. (1). He sent forward rich presents to Esau. (2). He divided his company into bands; so that if one were taken, the others might escape. (3). He prayed all night, confessing his sins, pleading the promises of God, and seeking for pardon and protection.
9. Will you describe the meeting of Jacob and Esau? Gen. 33.
10. Do you think the Lord answered Jacob's prayers?

BIRLE LESSONS FOR YOUTH.

LESSON SEVENTY.

REVIEW.—PAGAN AND PAPAL DOMINION.

1. What portion of the world's history is embraced by the vision of Dan. 8? Ans. Medo-Persia, Grecia, and Rome.
2. During what part of this time was paganism the prevailing religion? Ans. During the reign of Persia, of Grecia, and of Rome till A. D. 508.
3. By what power was the pagan worship suppressed? Ans. By the papacy.
4. By what symbol is this papal power represented in the vision of the seventh chapter?
5. Does the little horn of the eighth chapter represent Rome in its pagan, or in its papal, form? Ans. Both. It covers the entire history of Rome, sometimes one form, and sometimes the other, being referred to.
6. By what term is paganism denoted in this chapter? Ans. "The daily." Verses 11, 12, 13.*
7. By what term is the papacy represented? Ans. "The transgression of desolation." Verse 13.
8. How is the suppression of paganism described in this chapter? Ans. As the taking away of the "daily"—Ver. 11.
9. How was the "place of his sanctuary" (Rome) cast down? Ans. The seat of government was removed from Rome to Constantinople.
10. What "host" was given him (the pope) against the "daily"—(paganism)? Ans. probably the barbarous nations that conquered Rome, and were afterward converted to the Roman catholic faith.

* The word *sacrifice*, like all other italicised words in the Bible, is not found in the original, but is supplied by the translators to complete the sense of the passage according to their idea of its meaning, which we believe in this instance to be incorrect. Perhaps *daily desolation* or *continual desolation* would convey the true sense better.

LESSON SEVENTY-ONE.

REVIEW.—THE TIME EMBRACED BY THE VISION.

1. What question is asked in verse 13?
2. What appears to be the main idea, or point, in this question? Ans. That of *time*. "How long shall be the vision?"
3. What two forms, or phases, of religion, covered the entire period occupied by the three kingdoms, represented in this vision? *
4. By what terms are these two forms of religion designated in this verse? See Lesson Seventy.
5. What were these two powers to do?
6. What is meant by the term "host" in this verse? Ans. The people of God—his worshipers.
7. What is the "sanctuary" here referred to? Ans. The sanctuary of God, both type and antitype.
8. How could the sanctuary in Heaven be trodden under foot by men? Ans. In the same sense that the Son of God, the minister of that sanctuary, can be trodden under foot.†
9. How has the pope trodden under foot the Son of God? Ans. 1. He assumes titles that belong only to the Lord. 2. He takes the place of Christ as head of the church. 3. He assumes the attributes of Christ in claiming infallibility and the power to forgive sins.
10. How has the sanctuary been trodden under foot? Ans. By the setting up of rival sanctuaries claiming to be the sanctuary of God.
11. Where has a rival sanctuary existed for many hundred years? Ans. At Rome, which is called the "Holy City," the "Eternal City," &c.
12. How have the host been trodden under foot? Ans. By being treated as heretics and culprits.
13. What appears, then, to be the import of this question? Ans. The inquiry seems to be, How long shall these two desolating powers assume the authority of Heaven and war against the true worshipers of God?
14. What answer to this question is given in the next verse?
15. Are the 2300 days literal, or prophetic? Ans. They must be prophetic or they could not cover the three great kingdoms of this vision.
16. What sanctuary is to be cleansed at the end of the 2300 days (literally, years)? Ans. The sanctuary of the new covenant, which is in Heaven; (for the earthly sanctuary passed away long before the expiration of this prophetic period). See Note.

* Paganism and the papacy; see preceding lesson.

† Heb. 10: 29; 8: 1, 2.

NOTE.—For a full exposition of the subjects of Lessons Seventy and Seventy-one, see "Faith and Hope;" "Thoughts on the Book of Daniel;" &c.

Sabbath-School Intercourse.

A GREAT need in Sunday-schools is union and confidence between teacher and scholar. The school should be, as much as possible, a large home. The teacher should manifest the care and solicitude of a parent for his children, and should study their interests out of, as well as in, school. The scholars should be encouraged to look up to their teacher with esteem and love similar to that of a dutiful child to a kind and wise parent. The teacher should be interested in all that concerns his scholars, and the scholars should have full confidence in their teacher, and learn to seek sympathy, counsel, and aid, on every needful occasion. We might then hope that the scholars would be attached to the place where kind friends interested themselves in their welfare, advised them for their good, and warned them of evil; and in after life, the scenes where good was imparted in a cheerful, attractive form would rise up before their mind, a powerful check upon evil, and a mighty influence for good.—*J. M. Booth.*

NEVER be sorry for any generous thing that you ever did, even if it was betrayed. Never be sorry that you were magnanimous, if the man was mean afterward. Never be sorry that you gave. It was right for you to give, even if you were imposed upon. You cannot afford to keep on the safe side by being mean.

The Youth's Instructor.

Volume Nineteen.

With a neat, plain, new dress, the INSTRUCTOR enters upon its nineteenth year. Having worn the old one, with a little mending now and then, eighteen long years, it was thought best to change it. And we think all its readers will be pleased with the change.

And now to have each number filled with interest and instruction will be the very next thing of importance. Children, write something for the INSTRUCTOR. Young men and young women, write. Children, ask your parents and friends, and our ministers, to write something real good, and instructive, and cheering, for your little paper. And if any of you find good pieces in other papers and books, send them along, and the editor will look them over, and if he thinks best, he will put them in.

And now, one thing more. We shall print about 1000 extra copies of this number of the INSTRUCTOR with the expectation that you will send us new subscribers. Children, and youth, be missionaries in this world, and get your reward in Heaven. Send us new subscribers. To all new subscribers received before the 10th of February, we will furnish the INSTRUCTOR for 1871, for 40 cents, whether it be sent to one address or to many. Let each subscriber get one more. Many of you can get five, or ten, or twenty, or more. Children, ask your parents to let you have money to send the INSTRUCTOR to all your cousins and young friends. Good. Now let the names come right in, and with pleasure we will let the INSTRUCTOR, with its neat, new dress, go out everywhere

JAMES WHITE,
Pres't. S. D. A. P. A.

Another Year.

DEAR children, another year has passed with its burden of records. What has the recording angel written of your life during the last year? Has the angel borne record of an earnest effort on your part to perfect Christian character? Does this record testify of the fruit you have borne of good deeds in imitation of the life of your Redeemer? Are there deeds in your life record, of self-denial, benevolence, and of mercy? If so, you will not be ashamed to meet the record in the day of final account, when all will be rewarded as their works have been.

Another year is before you, and it rests with you to say what the record shall be. You may resolve to be persevering in your efforts, to be right, to be self-denying, and in cheerfulness to perform every known duty. You may resolve to be forward in deeds of charity, and, by your good works, seek to be a blessing to others. All this is good. But have you made your resolution, relying upon the strength of God. If you have felt your weakness, and have surrendered yourselves wholly to the claims of your Saviour, you will have the influence of his grace in all your efforts, and you will be sure to succeed. Your life will be like a fruitful branch in the true and living Vine. If you draw sap and nourishment from the Vine, your life will be adorned with clusters of graces, such as love, joy, peace, gentleness, goodness, meekness, and temperance. The beauty of these graces will reflect their bright and attractive influences upon others. You will possess a sunny, happy spirit, and you will be worthy and correct representatives of the simplicity of the genuine religion of Christ.

But watchfulness and prayer will be necessary on your part. Will all my youthful friends seek earnestly, the present year, to overcome selfishness, pride, envy, hatred, discontent, fretfulness, and ill-temper. These will mar your character, disturb your peace, and cause unhappiness and sorrow to those around you. Outward beauty and adornment will not prove that loveliness exists in the heart. The foundation of a lovely character is a truly-converted, subdued heart. If you are renewed in the image of Christ, you will imitate his life, live to bless others, and you will be blessed.

Good deeds and benevolent actions will reflect soft-

ened luster upon all. A meek and lovely spirit will possess a hallowed power over other hearts, and will be reflected back in love upon you again. The ornament of a meek and quiet spirit is the inward adorning, which, in the sight of God, is accounted of great price. Seek, then, dear youth, to think less of the outward adornment; and faithfully cultivate that which God regards as valuable—virtues which he declares to be of great price. ELLEN G. WHITE.

New Year's Day.

A LITTLE girl awoke one New Year's morning, and said, "I shall be happy to-day; I shall; I know I shall!" She was so positive about it that her cousins were quite anxious to know why she was so sure. After breakfast, a little box came, containing a pearl necklace for her, from her rich grandpa. Rosa had had a hint of this before, and that was the secret of her being so positive. She was fairly wild with excitement, as she shouted, "Oh! oh! oh!" and capered about the room. She showed it to several of the school-girls; but they did not praise it as she expected they would. This displeased her, and she was ill-humored the remainder of the day. In the afternoon, I found her sitting on the table before the looking-glass, twisting the necklace over her ears. "Oh!" she exclaimed with a sigh of discontent, "I do n't think much of this, after all. I would rather have *something else*."

That was Rosa's experience. She had been excited, but not satisfied. And why not, think you? Because that which begins and ends in *self* cannot make people really satisfied.

Now for another case, which was told me by a lady: Her little servant-girl came to her, saying, "Please, miss, may I go and pick some barberries to-day?" "Yes," answered the lady, "you may go; but it is very warm, and they are a long way off; and then, what do you mean to do with them?" "I want to sell them for some yarn to knit my grandma a pair of stockings for New Year's," she answered.

The day was sultry, the walk long, and Sally had a hard time; but no matter; she exchanged the berries for yarn at a neighboring grocer's. Her mistress set up the stockings, and she was going to spend all her spare moments in knitting. And knit, knit, knit, she did; with a diligence that was quite surprising to see. Her mistress prophesied she would not hold out; but in that, she was mistaken; for by New Year's day, they were done, and stout and warm they were. When New Year's came, Sally had permission to carry them to her grandmother. "She's a happy child," said her mistress, as she saw her start off with the mysterious little bundle in her arms. Her cheeks glowed, and her eyes sparkled with delight when she returned. "Oh! miss," she said, "grandma did n't believe at first that I knit 'em; but when she did, she said, 'Lord, bless the child.' I've had the *best* New Year's that ever was; and now I want to begin another pair."

This was Sally's experience; and can you doubt that it was a happy one? Here was a three months' work, and the delight she took in it, ran like a little golden thread through her life, day by day. The greatest happiness is found in benevolent actions—in doing for others. Try it, and see.—*Flowers of Spring-time*.

LETTERS.

WOODMAN, Grant Co., Wis.

DEAR BRO. BELL: I am a little boy, ten years old. I love to read the INSTRUCTOR. We have no Sabbath-school, nor any meetings nearer than eighteen miles; so we can not go very often. I am trying to be a good

boy. The school-children sneer at us because we keep the seventh-day; but we are not ashamed of our Lord or his holy Sabbath.

CHARLIE RAY GARVIN.

That is right, Charlie. Do not be ashamed to own your Lord by keeping his holy day. We read, in Mark 8:38, that "whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him also shall the Son of Man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The time is soon coming when our love for the Lord's Sabbath will be more severely tried than ever before. We hope that you will prove faithful when that time comes.

MANTORVILLE, Minn.

BRO. BELL: You said to us, in a recent number of our paper, Let your letters come in. As I love to read the children's letters, I again attempt to write. Dear young friends, I have been encouraged at times, and feel determined to press onward. I feel, in some degree, that I am weak, and never can overcome without help from on high. Let us awake to a true sense of our duty. When we think of the price that was paid for us, how earnestly we should strive to do our Father's will! Pray for me, that I may meet you on Mount Zion. HENRY Z. MARSH.

Golden Words.

SOLOMON says, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Prov. 25:11. A relative of the celebrated philosopher, John Locke, having once inquired of him what was the surest and shortest way for a young man to gain a true knowledge of the Christian religion, received in reply, these remarkable words:

"LET HIM STUDY THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, ESPECIALLY IN THE NEW TESTAMENT. THEREIN ARE CONTAINED THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE. IT HAS GOD FOR ITS AUTHOR, SALVATION FOR ITS END, AND THE TRUTH WITHOUT ANY MIXTURE OF ERROR FOR ITS MATTER."

Let those readers of the INSTRUCTOR who would receive the most precious of all knowledge, act upon the advice of the Christian philosopher. G. W. A.

JESUS died for us; and, in return, only asks us to *live* for him.

Money Received.

Each 25 cents. Ella Russell 19-13, C Hakes 19-13, M Tener 19-13, J Shepherd 19-13, C Shepherd 19-13.

Each 50 cents. C Whitney 20-1, Z Brooks 20-1, J Sweet 20-1, J C Clark 20-1, M Briggs 19-3, E A Milne 20-6, J Lock 19-1, E Barker 20-9, W H Moody 20-1, L Crabtree 20-1, Miss L Galloway 20-1, P Strong 20-1, F D Dexter 20-1, M J Goss 19-11, M Lawson 19-1, Annie Wilson 19-1, E Eaton 19-1, H E Beebe 19-7, J W Landes 20-1, Willie Chamberlain 20-1, C H Brackett 20-1, M Brackett 20-1, E M Jones 20-1, J R Trembley 20-1, M Staines 20-1, U Affolter 20-1, L Rouseau 19-8, C Fryer 19-24, L R Moore 20-1, G F Gould 20-3, L R Beedle 20-1, J Alvers 20-1, D E Stewart 17-6, J A Merrill 20-1, F C Castle 21-1, T E Arnold 19-19, J Cramer 19-1, J Locklin 20-1, Henry S Priest 20-7, B A Seal 20-2, F Glascock 19-8, E M Clark 20-1, H A Churchill 20-1, J M Moulton 20-1.

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Business Notes.

Freddie Castle will see his money receipted in No. 22, last Vol.

Instructor to Poor.

Nettie and Freddie Priest 25c each.

THE YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR

IS PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY BY THE
Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association

EDITED BY G. H. BELL.

TERMS IN ADVANCE.

Single copy, 50 cents.
For twenty-five copies (to one address) \$10 00.
For fifty copies (to one address) \$18 00.
No subscriptions received for less than one year.
Address, REVIEW & HERALD, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.