

## Months' Department.

### BIBLE LESSONS.

Sunday, June 9th, 1867.

CONCERT: Or Review of the past month's subjects and lessons.

Sunday, June 16th, 1867.

ACTS xvi. 22-40: Paul and Silas imprisoned. 2 Kings xviii. 1-16: Hezekiah destroyeth idolatry. *Recite—ECCLESIASTES viii. 12-13.*

### A bad foundation.

Passing along the street the other day, I saw a crowd collected around an unfinished building. I stopped, and soon learned that the side wall of the house had fallen, killing two men and wounding several others. The questions passed from lip to lip, "How was it?" "Why did it fall?" "Who is to blame?" "The cause is plain enough," said a man, evidently a builder, pointing to the base of the building, "it had a bad foundation—too weak by half for such a wall."

I passed round to the front; it was tall and stately, of beautiful red brick, with white marble cappings and ornaments—altogether a fair and noble house, and, but for the terrible gap, pleasant to look upon.

With a sad heart I went on my way. Two souls gone to their last account, and wounded sufferers left to drag out weary days and nights, all because somebody laid a bad foundation. What folly, nay, what guilt, thus to endanger human life! Ah yes, it is not only a thoughtless, but a wicked thing to lay a bad foundation; and yet how many every day are guilty of it.

The school boy who is only studious and quiet when the teacher's eye is upon him; who will get the answers of his problems by the "key," or from another boy's slate, instead of working them out himself; who will break rules whenever he can do so without being punished; or who will spend the day in the street playing truant when his parents think he is at school, is laying a bad foundation.

The girl who is careless and untidy as to her dress, who is in too much haste to set her room in order neatly and thoroughly, is laying a bad foundation.

Worse still, the boy or girl who is ill-tempered or sullen when asked to assist at home, to fetch a pail of water or a stick of wood, to amuse the younger children or rock the cradle; the boy or girl who says, "I don't want to," when such little services are needed, or goes grumbling to do them, is laying a bad foundation.

The boy who is tempted by the open shop on Sunday to spend his missionary money, and yields; who is tempted on a bright day to take a walk, a ride, or sail, instead of going to Sunday school, and yields, is laying a bad foundation.

The boy who turns over for another little nap after he is called in the morning; who thinks "it will do just as well to-morrow" when there is anything unpleasant to be done, forgetting that to-morrow never comes, is laying a bad foundation.

All these boys and girls are builders, and character is the structure they are rearing. Ah, there are thousands who make sad mistakes; idleness; delay, want of resolution, dishonesty in small things, Sabbath-breaking, brinking, falsehood, theft—these are all laid in the foundation.

Fatal errors they often prove. Late in life, what should be the strong and noble character of a man, beautiful to contemplate, falls with a sudden crash that buries him forever from the respect of good men, and leaves his soul a wreck for eternity.

Little builders, lay the foundation firm and sure and strong. Look well to the little weak places; make them secure. Ask daily help from God, and he will aid you to build a good and true character, such as even his pure eyes many look upon with pleasure.—*Child's Companion.*

### Always behind.

When farmer Milton's boy went after the cows, there was one who was called "Old White Face," that always stayed behind. No sooner were the bars let down, and the call made, "Co! co! co!" than "Brindle" and "Brighteyes" and "Broken Horn" would stir their stumps at once, and make their way to the road home. But "Old White Face" would keep cropping and cropping a bit more, as if nobody had called for her, and nobody wanted her milk.

Sometimes it was needful to go to the very further part of the pasture, and crack the whip pretty smartly, before she would stir a peg. "Lazy old brute!" muttered the farmer's boy, "why can't you come when you're called, as other cows do? I have to go after you almost every day. Why can't you come when you're called?"

"So I say, Tom," said farmer Milton, who was just on the other side of the fence, and heard what he said. "I often call you in the morning, and you snooze and snooze till I come up close to your bed and hawl out as loud as I can. You used to hear at first, and start at the first call, but you thought you would lie still a minute longer one day, and two minutes the next, and now the habit is very hard to break."

"And there's another call, Tom, that you have heard many a time. It is a more import-

ant call than mine. It is God's call! Have you not heard it from your Sunday school teacher, and from the minister, and from the good books you got from the library. Oh, my, boy, if the poor dumb beast could speak as the ass in the Bible story, she might say: 'Obey your Maker's call, my lad, before you beat a poor old cow for not obeying yours.'

Tom drove the cows home without saying another word, and I hope he remembered what farmer Milton said to him.

### The New-comer.

Through the winter wild, a tender child  
Hath come to find a resting place;  
Of much love and care, the babe so fair  
Hath need in starting in life's race.

Never fear,  
Baby dear,  
Little thing so dainty;  
From mamma  
And papa,  
Love you will have plenty.

To his wants,  
Baby's aunts,  
And his uncles many,  
Grandmamma,  
Grandpapa,  
Eagerest of any.

Will attend,  
And defend  
From accident the baby,  
Lest he should,  
As he could,  
Hurt himself it may be.

Father's boy,  
Mother's joy,  
"Comfortable trouble,"  
Little mite,  
Tiny sprite,  
Light as any bubble.

Oh! the king of our hearts is the baby boy,  
Bringing to all of us gladness and joy;  
And lord of the house is this being small,  
Ruling, controlling, and conquering all.

**WARNING FROM THE STAGE.**—The great tragedian Macready would never allow his daughters to enter a theatre. A recent memoir of an actor of brilliant genius, written by his daughter, states that his children during their childhood were carefully kept from every thing connected with his profession. "Occasionally," says she, "we were permitted to visit the theatre, but were never allowed a free indulgence of promiscuous plays. A son of this actor, who himself is quite distinguished in the same line, on being recently consulted by a soldier's orphan daughter in reference to going upon the stage, earnestly entreated her to abandon the idea, on account of the immorality of such a life. Another eminent actor, George Vandenhoff, on quitting the profession for the bar, gave the following gratuitous advice to any "ingenuous youth" thinking of becoming an actor: "Go to sea; go to law; go to court; go to physic; go to Italy, and strike a blow for liberty; go to any thing, or anywhere that will give you an honest and decent livelihood, rather than go upon the stage. To any young lady with a similar proclivity, I would say, Buy a sewing-machine, and take in plain work first; so shall you save yourself much sorrow, bitter disappointment, secret tears."

Every one who has a heart to pray, a tongue to speak, or a penny to give, may be a "worker together with God." And who has not one of all these to work with?

### GOLDEN WORDS FOR DAILY USE.

Selected from C. H. Spurgeon's "Morning by Morning."

**JUNE 9.** And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, Acts ii. 4.

The consequences of this sacred filling of the soul it would be impossible to over-estimate. Life, purity, and power, and many precious blessings are inseparable from the Spirit's benign presence.

**10. Monday.** The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple, Psa. xiv. 7.

The simple mind—those who are willing to renounce their own wisdom and trust in his.

**11. Tuesday.** He will not always chide, Psa. ciii. 9.

No, not always; but He will chide, ever when necessary and always in love, and for our good.

**12. Wednesday.** Ye are complete in Him, Col. ii. 10.

A hard but most blessed thing to believe; real faith only can keep us to this.

**13. Thursday.** Lord save me, Matt. xiv. 30.

There was no faithlessness in that petition. Even at his lowest estate the true believer still. The cry of fear with him will also be the cry of faith.

**14. Friday.** We do not present our supplications before Thee for our righteousness, but for thy great mercies, Dan. ix. 18.

It is not good for us to trust in our merits or virtues, but only in God's free pardon and unmerited mercy through faith in Jesus.

**15. Sunday.** Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar, Mal. i. 7.

When Christians reflect how frequently the language of prayer has flowed from their lips while scarcely one devout aspiration has arisen from their hearts, what humiliation and self-abasement must such a review bring without!

## Scientific.

**A NEW REMEDY.**—A French physician has composed, on the authority of the *Standard*, a liquid which he calls gazeol, and which is said to produce remarkable and certain cures in cases of whooping-cough. A tea-spoonful of it is placed in an open phial, which is put into a water-bath always kept at the same temperature. Children suffering from the whooping-cough are taken into the room, and are cured by inhaling the emanations from the gazeol as it mixes with the air of the room. It evaporates very rapidly. The remedy is said to have used with complete success in the Orphan Asylum at Paris.

**SWEEEPING CARPETS.**—Persons who are accustomed to use tea-leaves for sweeping their carpets, and find that they leave stains, will do well to employ fresh cut grass instead. It is better than tea-leaves for preventing dust, and gives the carpets a very bright, fresh look.

A steel rail on an English railway is said to be wearing out the twenty-fifth face of iron rails contiguous to it, and subjected to the same amount of wear.

An English machinist, instead of casting his steel cranks, obtains them by sawing them out of smooth slabs.

The salmon has been actually transplanted with practical success to the antipodes of its habitat—to the rivers of Tasmania in Australia.

A machine intended to level railroad tracks, lay ties, deposit rails, lay them in their places, and almost construct a railroad, has been successfully experimented with in San Francisco.

THE difference between "mind" and "matter": What is mind, no matter; what is matter, never mind.

LITERARY TRUE.—By an Algebraist.—What is the worth of woman? Double you—O, man!

The best bon-bon for smokers: Don't smoke!

**A REMARKABLE ORGANIST.**—At the annual vestry meeting at Rye, a statement was made by the vicar that Mr. Thomas had held the position of organist to Rye Church for fifty-four years, and it appeared that he had never missed a single service.

**SAGACITY IN A PONY.**—A recent issue of the *Mark Lane Express* contains the following:—"I had a pony once which very frequently exhibited the following peculiarities: Whenever the pony had been turned out to graze, upon being fetched up and put into the carriage, it invariably turned lame after going a few yards—so lame, in fact, that frequently I had to turn back, not having the shame to drive an animal in such apparent pain. I say apparent, because no sooner had the pony been relieved of its harness that it used to canter round the field perfectly sound. The same pony, when fetched from the stable, would go perfectly well as long as it wished, but when I drove it in any direction contrary to its inclination, it became lame directly; as soon as its head was turned homeward, his lameness entirely disappeared."

**A YEAR'S WORK OF DRAM-SELLING.**—Carefully compiled statistics show that sixty thousand lives are annually destroyed by intemperance in the United States.

One hundred thousand men and women are yearly sent to prison in consequence of strong drink.

Twenty thousand children are yearly sent to the poor-house for the same reason.

Three hundred murders are another of the yearly fruits of intemperance.

Four hundred suicides follow these fearful catalogues of miseries.

Two hundred thousand orphans are teared each year to private and public charity.

Two hundred million dollars are yearly expended to produce this shocking amount of crime and misery, and as much more is lost from the same cause.—*Young Reaper.*

**VENTILATION OF CHURCHES.**—"If in the place of one large opening, the same air could be secured by numerous smaller ones, the draft would not be felt, and the entire air would mix with and pervade the atmosphere of the edifice. But must we have a thousand minute ventilators, with valves and ropes to each, and half as many sextons, perhaps, to tend them? Not so fast. There is a much simpler and more economical plan, and one worthy to be generally understood. It is this: Cover your windows that are to be opened with a net work of wire. The entering air will be divided by the meshes into small portions, which will not unite again into a solid body, but will interfuse themselves throughout the building, freshening the air and purifying it, to the annoyance of none, and to the health and enjoyment of all. The rationale of this phenomenon is less understood than the actual fact. Of the latter there is no doubt whatever. The doubters—if such there be—can try it at small expense, and will never repent the outlay."

"Pompey, said a good natured planter to one of his slaves: "I did not know until to-day that you had been whipped last week." "Didn't you mass?" replied Pompey, "I knowed it at the time."

## Agriculture, &c.

### Seed Corn.

To produce the best seed corn, select a good piece of ground not less than 40 rods from any other growing corn; plant it 4x4 ft. with the best selection you can get, of such variety as you desire; cultivate well, leave not more than 8 stalks in a hill, and at any time previous to tasseling, or blooming, if there should be any stalks (which there will be—here lies the great secret), indifferent with regard to developing their proper size, form or color, pull them out of the ground. Do this by pulling square out from the nearest stalk to the one drawn; aim to get a perfect uniformity, if it takes half the crop.

Then, as soon as you can get hold of the top of the tassel, pull out about one third of all the tassels in the patch. This ensures a more vigorous growth in those ears, from which you will select seed for the next season.

To select the best seed, choose the longest and most perfect ears, the grain carrying itself well to the cob, its entire length—the "eye" broad, deep and well carried up, the nearer the crown the better.

The grain, or kernel, is fertilized from the flower or pollen of the tassel. If you select a large ear of corn from a field of nubbins or small ears, you will get only what kernels were impregnated from the stalk the ear grew on. Thus, if you plant from a field that has no small ears, or nubbins, all things being equal, you grow all large corn.

My practice is, to select the upper ear, where there is two or more on a stalk, and refuse about one fourth the point of the ear; when preparing to plant, also, for the largest yield I prefer equal parts of two pure varieties.—*Cor. Prairie Farmer.*

### HOW TO KEEP HAMS THROUGH SUMMER.

—After your hams have taken salt, hang them up and smoke them well, then take them down and dip them in boiling water for a few seconds; that will kill all the eggs of insects, if there should be any on them; then roll them in dry ashes while wet and hang them up again; smoke them more if you choose. I know this to be a good way to keep them, for I have tried it for two or three years; it is cheaper than canvassing, and a great deal better. This will do also for shoulders and sides; also, those that do their bacon in this way will never have any bugs or skippers on their meat.—*Cor. Rural World.*

### HOW TO FIX THE CLOCK.

—When the clock stops, don't take it to the repair shop till you have tried as follows: Take off the pointers and the face; take off the pendulum and its wire. Remove the ratchet from the tick wheel and the clock will run down with great velocity. Let it go. The increased speed wears away the gum and dust from the pinions—the clock cleans itself. If you have any pure sperm oil, put the least bit on the axles. Put the machine together, and nine times in ten it will run just as well as if it had been taken to the shop. In fact this is the way most shopmen clean clocks. If instead of a pendulum the clock has a watch escapement, this latter can be taken out in an instant without taking the works apart, and the result is the same. It takes about twenty minutes to so clean a brass clock, and saves a dollar.—*Cor. Co. Gent.*

### LEACHED ASHES.

—The *Maine Farmer* knows a farmer who went into the soap making business some years ago for the purpose of securing the ashes, after having been leached, to apply to his land. He owned a large farm, the soil being chiefly a clayey loam, and any one visiting the farm now, who was acquainted with it before its owner began to apply the ashes, would be astonished at the results they have accomplished. He applied them at the rate of from 150 to 200 bushels per acre, to different crops, and in every conceivable way.

### VALUE OF FARMERS' CLUBS.

—It is an established fact that since the farmers' club was established in Leominster, Mass., the average yield of corn per acre has been increased from fifty bushels to near sixty bushels. Many other products have been augmented in nearly the same ratio. This is but a single instance of the practical value of farmers' clubs.—*Ex.*

### A CURIOSITY WANTED.

—A gentleman advertises for a horse "for a lady of dark colour, a good trotter, and of stylish action! The horse must be young, and have a long tail, about 15 hands high!"

### A FACT WORTH KNOWING.

—Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powders given occasionally to sheep and cattle, are of incalculable advantage.

For the benefit of Farmers we repeat that a small quantity of Blood's Rheumatic Compound mixed with the water they drink, in the hot weather, will prevent all ill effects.

**THE MOTHER'S REMEDY.**—For all diseases with which children are afflicted is Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It relieves the child from pain, cures wind colic, regulates the stomach and bowels, and, during the process of teething, it gives rest and health to the child, and carries it safely through the critical period.

For Coughs and Throat Disorders, use "Broun's Bronchial Troches," having proved their efficiency by a test of many years.

"I have never changed my mind respecting them from the first, excepting to think yet better of that which I began thinking well of."

REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER.