

Youths' Department.

BIBLE LESSONS.

Sunday, March 3rd, 1867.

ACTS x. 1-22: Peter's vision. 2 Kings ix. 27-37. Jezebel eaten by dogs.

Sunday, March 10th, 1867.

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

A Child's Hymn.

Through the pleasures of the day,
When I read and when I pray,
Let me ever keep in view
God is seeing all I do.
When the sun withdraws his light,
And I go to rest at night;
Let me never lay my head
On my soft and easy bed,
'Till I lift my heart in prayer
For my heavenly Father's care;
Thanking him for all his love
Sent me from his home above;
Praying him to kindly make
Me his child, for Jesus' sake.

"Everybody but Bob."

A very little boy, after giving everybody a good-night kiss, knelt at his mother's side to say his evening prayer. He repeated, "Now I lay me down to sleep," &c., and continued, "God bless Papa and Mamma, and make them good Christians; God bless little Jimmie, and make him a good boy." His Mamma added, "God bless everybody."

At this last sentence he was silent. His mother repeated it a second, and a third time; when he raised his head, opened his beautiful eyes, and said—

"Everybody but Bob, Mamma. Bob drowned my cat to day."

Are there not some older children who can pray for "everybody but Bob?" Remember that the Saviour has taught us to pray, "For give us our debts as we forgive our debtors."—*Religious Herald.*

A HINT TO YOU, YOUNG MAN.—The line of conduct chosen by a young man during the five years from fifteen to twenty will, in almost every instance, determine his character for life. As he is then careful or careless, prudent or imprudent, industrious or indolent, truthful or dissimulating, intelligent or ignorant, temperate or dissolute, so will he be in after years; and it needs no prophet to cast his horoscope, or calculate his chances in life.

WILL POWER is finely illustrated in the following paragraph from the *Louisville Democrat*. There is a young man named Ronalds, living in town, who can eclipse almost any body in skating and, what is more remarkable, he does it on three skates, and has no legs. His legs were cut off by a train of cars in Ohio, some time ago. His body sits upon one skate, while he uses the others with his hands.

"Hifalutin."

About a quarter of a century ago, a traveller in a private conveyance arrived at a country inn located on the turnpike between Leeds and Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England. The hostler, who was immediately on hand, was accosted in the following simple style of "English unde-fined":

"Boy, extricate that quadruped from the vehicle, stabulate him and devote to him an adequate supply of nutritious aliment; and when the aurora of morn shall illumine the oriental horizon, I will reward you with a pecuniary compensation for your amiable hospitality."

The frightened boy ran into the house, exclaiming, "Master, here is a Dutchman wants to see you."

Recreation and Renovation.

The body is recruited by a change in the form of its exercise; the mind is renovated by sleep, by profound rest; hence the best way of reinvigorating the whole man, whether of the laborer or the literateur is not to go to the springs, or some country house, and lounge, and loiter, and eat, and dose away the tardy hours, but to secure employment which will bring into requisition those muscles of the body which have, in a measure, been lying dormant, and to keep up that exercise in the open air day after day to an extent that the body shall be so fatigued that deep sleep comes within five minutes after the head has reached the pillow. This gives natural rest to the brain, which, for the whole day following, will thrill the whole body with the electrical influences which it distributes through it by means of the nervous system; and if this process is repeated day by day, it will not be a week before a new spring will be added to the step, a new fire will sparkle in the eye, a new energy will be infused into the mental faculties, and the whole physical man will be rejuvenated, while heart and soul will respond to the general invigoration.

THE SECRETS OF HEALTH are six: First, Keep warm. Second, Eat regularly and slow. Third, Maintain regular daily bodily habits. Fourth, Take early and very light suppers. Fifth, Keep a clean skin. Sixth, Get a plenty of sleep at night.—*Dr. Hall.*

Russian Railroad Travelling.

The distances travellers have to perform in this country are so immense, and the weather is frequently so severe, that the idea of giving a sort of domestic arrangement to the cars naturally occurred to a people laboring under such disadvantages. Russian railway carriages are little houses on wheels. In the first, and partly in the second class, their interior may be described as a saloon, with all of the necessaries and some of the elegancies of such an apartment. It is furnished with looking-glasses, heated by porcelain stoves, and lit by lamps and candles. Along the sides soft divans are ranged; the middle is occupied by a mahogany table, and double windows, while red curtains exclude not only the rude touch of the Russian air, but also the aspect of the wintry sky. The company sit or lounge about, chatting, reading, or playing cards, chess, and dominoes. The day passes pleasantly enough, and as night comes the passengers betake themselves to rest almost as comfortably as at home. By a simple process the divans are made into beds, and supplied with pillows by the officious guard. In the first class the carriages are also provided with second stories, so to say, reached by an elegant staircase, and filled with complete beds; in the second, if there are too many passengers to be accommodated in the divans, part of them are lodged in berths, which take the place of the rack in England for hats and caps. At length every one is snugly ensconced, the ordinary good wishes are exchanged, and it is night in the car. The guard and car-driver only keep awake.

During the twenty hours a passenger is whirled along between St. Petersburg and Moscow, the train stops at least twenty times. The stations are elegant buildings, painted red, with broad white facings round the windows and along the eaves. Without, the very picture of cleanliness, they are well stocked receptacles of the good things of this world within. The passenger enters a large vaulted hall, scrupulously whitewashed, and paved with flags. On long tables a sumptuous repast awaits him, every table over a lighted lamp to maintain the warmth equally necessary in this country for taste and wholesomeness. The wines and beers of every clime are represented in numerous bottles, alternating on the neatly covered tables with steaming plates. The hall is in the bare, cold style so often met with in the country when pomp is not intended; but the viands are good, the waiters ready, and their white gloves unexceptionable. I need not say the whole affair is dear. Such luxuries as these are still regarded and paid for as exotic in this distant latitude. The station is an oasis. Round about the aboriginal race of the country live in wooden cottages, including the whole family and their quadrupeds, too, in a single room.—*London Times.*

Who is the Dotard?

Sir Isaac Newton wrote a commentary upon the Prophet Daniel, and another upon the Book of Revelations; in one of which he said that, in order to fulfil certain prophecies before a certain date was terminated—the 1,260 days, or prophetic years of Daniel—there would be a mode of travelling discovered, of which the men of his time had no conception; nay, that the knowledge of mankind would be so increased, that they would be able to travel at the rate of fifty miles an hour! The infidel Voltaire got hold of this, and sneeringly said: "Now look at that mighty mind of Newton, who discovered gravity, and told such marvels for us to admire! When he became an old man, and got in his dotage, he began to study that book called the Bible; and it seems that, in order to credit its fabulous nonsense, we must believe that the knowledge of mankind will be so increased, that we shall be able to travel at the rate of fifty miles an hour! The poor dotard!" exclaimed the philosophic infidel, in the self-complacency of his profound ignorance.

Calvin's residence.

It is not a pleasant thought that the last residence of Calvin, who did so much to overthrow the power of Romanism in Europe, is now occupied by one of the energetic sisterhoods of the Romish communion. Dr. Moore, of Richmond, in a recent visit to Geneva writes:

To our surprise, and I think to the shame of the Genevan Protestants, unless there is some fact to explain it unknown to me, I found it occupied as an establishment of the Sisters of Charity. Before noticing this, our driver had rung the bell, and one of the Sisters came to the door. Mastering what French and courage we had for the occasion, we inquired if it was Calvin's house, and with a very curious look and almost shrug, she demurely replied, "Yes, gentlemen, but its destination is changed," a fact in which we fully agreed with her as we thought of what the stern old reformer would have said had he met such an apparition at his door three hundred years ago.

BAPTISTS, THE LORD'S PEOPLE.—The late Dr. Curtis once said, "The longer I live the better satisfied I am that the Baptists are the Lord's people; they take little care of their own interests, often work against them, and if the Lord did not take care of them, they would long ago have ruined themselves."

WHEN one sin is admitted, it is generally found that it has a companion waiting at the door; and the former will work hard to gain admission for the latter.

Musical.

Pipe Organs and Cabinet Organs. The proper sphere of each.

The use of musical instruments in the services of the sanctuary is most ancient and honorable. The inspired volume records plentiful examples and affords fullest sanction for their employment, which has now become so general that no argument in its favor would be appropriate here.

The best of all instruments for this use is, unquestionably, a good pipe organ; one which is sufficiently large and complete to be well proportioned, and which is skillfully and well made of suitable material. Such an organ has no rival as the instrument for large churches. In power, grandeur, variety and fitness, it is the "king of instruments."

But such a pipe organ is quite out of the reach of most congregations. Only here and there one could afford its great expense, if, indeed, it had a room large enough to afford space for the proper development of its powers, or to require it. It must be remembered that a really complete and well-proportioned pipe organ—one which could properly be regarded as a representative of its kind, and by which pipe organs as a class might fairly be judged—cannot be built for less than five thousand dollars. This is a moderate estimate of what such an instrument must now cost. Undoubtedly pipe organs are built at much less than this; even at hundreds instead of thousands of dollars, and it is not questioned that a very fair instrument, though small in size and limited in capacity, can be afforded for from fifteen hundred to two thousand dollars; and yet, we repeat, that to be a fair representative of its class, and worthy to rank as a "king of instruments," it must cost at least five and may cost fifty thousand dollars. From the nature of its construction, each tone to be produced requiring a separate pipe; and the largest pipe being sixteen or even thirty-two feet long, and some feet in diameter, and gradually diminishing from this; and these numerous and large pipes requiring intricate machinery to operate them; this instrument must be expensive, and when the attempt is made to produce it at a small cost, the result must be failure. In the attempt to produce low-priced pipe organs, various expedients are resorted to. One is to omit the larger pipes, to save space as well as expense. The result of this is, of course, to destroy the proportion of the instrument, giving it power in the upper tones, but no sufficient bass. Another expedient is the use of cheap material. For the best quality of tones from metallic pipes, nearly pure block tin must be used, which is very expensive, and so must give place to baser metal. Thus in other parts, poor material can be used at great saving in cost. In the action of the instrument there is abundant opportunity for the practice of economy, though it must be at a fearful sacrifice of excellence.

In short, a pipe organ is from its nature an expensive instrument, and if built at a small price must be slighted. We have kept within bounds in saying that a fair pipe organ for church use, though small, and lacking the largest and most important pipes, and quite limited in capacity, cannot be afforded for less than fifteen hundred dollars. Even this sum is, however, quite beyond the means of most congregations, out of the larger cities. Not one in fifty can afford it. From one hundred to a thousand dollars is the extent of the means for this purpose, of the great majority.

Pipe organs are, therefore, out of the question for churches generally, and the want has been widely felt of a suitable instrument for this purpose; one which should be within the means of congregations generally, and yet of the best quality and sufficient capacity; occupying, at the same time, but little space. It is not too much to say that this want is fully met by the Mason & Hamlin Cabinet Organs, which entirely answers all these requirements. There can be no rivalry between these and pipe organs; for the field of one may be said to leave off where that of the other commences. While a fair pipe organ cannot be built for less than fifteen hundred dollars, the best reed organ that can be built need not cost, in a plain case, more than six hundred to one thousand dollars. For it has not yet been discovered how to employ more than six or eight sets of reeds with advantage. Reed organs can easily be built with a greater number of sets of reeds than this—with twelve, twenty, or thirty sets, and have been so built—but not with anything like commensurate advantage. The reed organ-builder who attempts to construct a very large instrument is as much mistaken as the pipe organ-builder who builds very low-priced instruments. For three thousand, or perhaps twenty-five hundred dollars, a pipe organ can be built of more power and variety, and a more valuable instrument than could be built of reeds at any price. On the other hand, a Cabinet Organ can be built for one to six hundred dollars, which will be unquestionably better than any pipe organ which can be afforded for double the money—will equal or surpass it in power, quality of tone, variety, and other good qualities, and have important advantages in other respects.

The principal objection to reed instruments of all kinds—organs, harmoniums, melodeons—has been their quality of tone, which was reedy, nasal, thin, sharp, and disagreeable. It is difficult for many to believe that it has been found possible to so improve them in this respect as to render their quality of tone equal to that produced from pipes. Yet this is what has been accomplished in the Mason & Hamlin Cabinet Organs, and it is on this merit more than on

any other single one that their claim to superiority is based. We invite all who are skeptical on this point to take the first opportunity to hear for themselves one of the larger Mason & Hamlin Cabinet Organs—say an eight or twelve stop instrument—feeling very confident that they will be convinced on this point, as so many thousands who doubted have already been. It is not, indeed, claimed that the quality of tone of any of the stops of the Mason & Hamlin Organs is precisely the same with that from the best pipes, but that it is equally good. The tones of each excel those of the other in some respects; those of the Cabinet Organs are more rich, sympathetic, and brilliant, while those from pipes have a more smooth, flute-like quality. The one excels in one good quality, and the other in another. Hence the maker of reed organs may well take the pipe-tone for his model, feeling that the nearer he can approach it, the greater excellence he will achieve; and on the other hand, the pipe organ-maker should strive for the rich, sympathetic, vivacious quality of the Cabinet Organ tone.

We arrive at these conclusions, then:—Any church having space enough for it, and which can afford to expend thousands of dollars, should have a good pipe organ. Any church which cannot afford more than twelve to fifteen hundred dollars will do far better to get a Cabinet Organ, which will not cost half as much as such a pipe organ as is within their means, and will be worth more to them, having at least as much power and variety, and as good quality, with better proportion, and less liability to get out of order.—*N. Y. Musical Gazette.*

Agriculture, &c.,

FACTS FOR FARMING.

There are some things in farming that are established, namely:

That manure must be applied, not only to get up land, but to keep it up. That wet soil must be drained, either by ditching or otherwise. That subsoiling is good. That grain should be sown earlier than it generally is; that it should be harvested earlier than it is done; that grass should be cut when in blossom; and never when ripe, unless for seed. That our soil is not sufficiently worked, especially in hoed crops; that stirring the soil and keeping it well pulverised, is a partial guard against drouth. That the most advantageous grain for horses is the oat; that it improves fodder for cook or steam it. That warm shelter in winter saves fodder, and benefits stock. That the best blood is the most profitable. That there is much advantage in selecting the best seed, the earliest matured and the plumpest. That in-and-in breeding is not good in close and consecutive relationship, but must be carried on by foreign infusion of the same blood. That warm quarters and good treatment are necessary in winter to produce eggs from most hens. That top dressing grass lands should be done with fine, well-rotted manure, applied close to the ground. That it is, in general, best to sell produce as soon as ready for market. That blackberries require rich soil; strawberries and raspberries vegetable mould—such as rotten leaves, chip manure, &c. That more lime should be used. That salt, in some cases, is good for land—also plaster, the phosphates, guano, &c. That fall ploughing is the best for clay lands; that land should not be ploughed wet. That young orchards should be cultivated. That cypress heaps are a good situation. That clay and lime, rather than animal manure, be employed in raising fruit. That manure should be rotted before it is used. That agricultural papers are an advantage to the farmer. That a cultivated mind is requisite to high farming, and that a good reputation exerts a good influence on the farming community.—*Rural World.*

SALT FOR PRESERVING FENCE POSTS.

A writer in the *Trairie Farmer* recommends the use of salt to preserve fence posts from rotting. He mentions the case of a neighbour whose fence posts, erected in this way, showed no signs of decay at the end of twenty-five years. He also adduces another instance, where two lines of fence had been put up as nearly alike in all respects as possible, except that in one case the posts were salted, and in the other they were not. At the end of eight years, these two lines of fence presented a marked difference; those posts which were not salted leaning in all directions, while those which were treated with salt stood firm and erect. The writer referred to gives the following directions for the process:—"Bore two holes in each post with an inch auger—one so that it will be about six inches under ground when set and the other about a foot above the surface—fill the holes nearly full of salt and plug them up with short pins. To have the greatest effect posts should be salted and set while the timber is green, so as to prevent the sap from souring, which I think is the start of decay." As a further illustration of the preservative effect of salt on timber, he adduces the durability of old salt barrel staves, which may often be seen lying about for years, and seem almost indestructible.

Query.—If you give two persons a seat in a cornfield, can this proceeding be called "setting them by the ears?"—*Punch.*

If Life and Health can be estimated by dollars and cents, MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP, for all diseases with which children are afflicted, is worth its weight in gold. It relieves the child from pain, invigorates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic, and carries the infant safely through the critical period of teething.