

Youths' Department.

BIBLE LESSONS.

Sunday, March 1st, 1868.

MATTHEW i. 13-17: MARK i. 9-11: LUKE iii. 11-23.
The Baptism of Jesus.

Sunday, March 8th, 1868.

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

A good Lesson to a little boy.

A thoughtful father was once taking a rural walk with his son Thomas. As they walked slowly along, the father suddenly stopped.

"Look," he said, "there's a bit of iron—a piece of a horse-shoe; pick it up, and put it in your pocket."

"It is not worth stooping for," answered the child.

The father, without uttering another word, picked up the iron, and put it in his pocket. When they came to a village, he entered the blacksmith's shop and sold it for three farthings, with which sum he bought some cherries. Then the father and son set off again on their ramble. The sun was burning hot, and neither a house, tree or fountain of water was in sight. Thomas soon complained of being tired, and had some difficulty in following his father, who walked on with a firm step. Perceiving that his boy was tired, the father let fall a cherry as if by accident. Thomas stooped, and quickly picked it up and ate it. A little further, the father dropped another, and the boy picked it up as eagerly as before, and thus they continued, the father dropping the fruit, and the son picking them up. When the last one was eaten, the father stopped, and turning to the boy, said—"Look, my son! If you had chosen to stoop once and pick up a piece of a horse-shoe, you would not have been obliged at last to stoop so often to pick up the cherries."

Frank and Susie.

"There! that kitten's run into the pantry," said Mrs. Lee, as she was hurrying about her dinner. "Children, one of you get her out, won't you?"

"I will," said Frank, clattering into the pantry: "Here! scat! clear out!"

Poor Kitty, frightened with the noise, ran wildly in every direction but that of the door, and finally crept behind a barrel. Frank, of course, could not move it, and as little could he get the kitten out. When he found that she would certainly stay where she was as long as he scolded, he tried coaxing, but it was too late for that; Kit would not trust him.

"Here, Kitty, Kitty, come, little Kitty," said Susie, in gentle tones, as she came with quiet footfall into the pantry. Kitty knew that pleasant voice, and she put her head out, but hesitated.

"Come, Kitty, dear little Kitty," said Susie again, and she came. Mrs. Lee had heard it all.

"Which do you think the better way, my boy?" she asked, laying her hand on Frank's shoulder—"Susie's or yours?"

"Susie's," Frank replied.

"Remember, then, little ones, always, that gentleness and kindness are better than roughness, and the rule of love better than that of fear."

Different kinds of Givers.

A little boy who had plenty of cents, dropped one into the missionary box, laughing as he did so. He had no thought in his heart about Jesus, the heathen, or the missionary. His was a tin penny, light and worthless.

Another boy put a penny in, and, as he did so, looked around with a self-applauding gaze, as if he had done some great thing. His was a brass penny. It was not the gift of a "lowly heart."

A third boy gave a penny, saying to himself, "I suppose I must because all the others do." That was an iron penny. It was the gift of a cold, hard heart.

As the fourth boy dropped his penny in the box he shed a tear, and in his heart said: "Poor heathens! I'm sorry they are so poor, so ignorant, and so miserable." That was a silver penny. It was the gift of a heart full of pity.

But there was one scholar who gave his cent, saying to himself: "For thy sake, dear Jesus, I give this penny, hoping that the poor heathen whom thou lovest will believe in thee, and become thy disciples." That was a golden penny, because it was the gift of love.

How many of our readers give golden pennies?—*Spirit of Missions.*

Hearing a will read.

A gentleman once said to Rowland Hill: "It is sixty-five years since I first heard you preach, and the sermon was well worthwhile remembering. You remarked that some people are very squeamish about the manner of a clergyman in preaching, but you then added: 'Suppose one was hearing a will read, expecting to receive a legacy, would you employ the time in criticising the lawyer's manner while reading it? No; you would give all your interest to ascertain if anything were left to yourself, and how much. Let that, then, be the way in which you listen to the gospel.'

Are you happy?

A correspondent of the *British Workman* says:—Rothschild, who was supposed to be the richest man in the world, was once asked this simple question: "Are you happy?" "Happy?" he answered. "When just as you are going to dinner, you have a letter placed in your hand, saying, 'If you don't lend one five hundred pounds, I will blow your brains out.' Happy, when you have to sleep with pistols under your pillow? No, indeed; I am not happy."

Astor, another very rich man, was once asked the same question. "Ah!" he answered, "I must leave it all when I die. It won't put off sickness; it won't buy off sorrow; it won't buy off death." And so it was plain to see he was not happy.

But I went once to see a poor, lame, and aged woman who lived in one small room, and earned a part of her scanty living by knitting; for the rest she had to depend on the kindness of others. I asked her this same question:

"Lydia, are you happy?" "Happy?" she answered, with a beaming face: "I am just as full as I can be. I don't believe I could hold another drop of joy." "But why?" I asked; "you are sick and alone, and have almost nothing to live upon." "But have you never read," said she, pointing to the Bible, "all things are yours, and ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's?" And again, "Ask, and receive, that your joy may be full."

Advertising

In Religious papers is very justly regarded by shrewd business men as superior to that of other medium, even of greater circulation, for the following reasons, which will commend them selves to the business public:

First. Subscribers much more highly esteem their Religious paper. It is not merely glanced at and thrown away, but treasured up and loaned to friends and neighbors, thus augmenting considerably the nominal circulation.

Secondly. The conscientious care which religious editors exercise, to keep out of their columns everything of injurious or immoral tendency, gives weight to advertisements that are allowed to appear.

Thirdly. The class of subscribers which Religious papers address, is, of course, the very best, as regards intelligence, character, and social standing.

Fourthly. They circulate almost entirely among those who always buy the best of every thing, and are willing and able to pay for it, and who encourage improvements and articles of value.

Fifthly. As many families bind their Religious papers, an advertisement paid for now, may bring custom even years hence.

We do not mean to say that other journals are not good advertising media. We presume that advertising in any paper will pay a good interest on an investment. In many instances the leading political and monetary papers are the best, where it is the sole aim to reach other business men, but in eight cases out of ten; the extensive advertisers will find more profitable returns from advertising in the religious press, than from double the amount invested elsewhere.

SHARP PRACTICE.—The late storm so filled one of our new and smaller streets with snow that it became almost an impossibility to pass through it, but as only two houses were on that street, and only two persons had occasion to pass through it daily, the task of breaking a path became a formidable one, and the expense of having one broken would by no means be trifling. One of its two inhabitants, however, had an eye for business. In the *Republican* he inserted an advertisement offering his house for sale at a mere song. The plan worked like a charm. From immediately after breakfast until late at night, and on the next day also a stream of hungry speculators of all sexes and nations, on foot and in sleighs and carriages, poured down the blockaded street to secure the great bargain. Of course they were all just too late, as they were told, but long before the last snow drift had vanished and the street was smooth and hard as a plank floor—and all for half a dollar!—*Springfield Republican.*

THE SHIPMENT OF ELEPHANTS FOR AFRICA.—Nineteen elephants were recently shipped at Bombay. An iron ship of 1,000 tons had her main-hold especially fitted up for reception of the unwieldy animals, which were placed on each side, with their heads towards the sides of the vessel. The *Bombay Times* says such a large shipment of elephants was probably never made before. The hoisting tackle required was of immense strength. The elephants were brought from the place where they were picketed, one by one, and on reaching the *Coma's* side were fettered and placed in slings, consisting of the stoutest canvas secured by thick lashings. The height to which the animals had to be hoisted before they were lowered away into the hold was some twenty or thirty feet, and a small regiment of kallas was employed in working the lifting tackle. The operation was really an extraordinary sight well worth witnessing, and it was curious to observe the different moods in which the levathans submitted to it. Some, when they found themselves suspended in mid-air, shed tears copiously, and were affected in a remarkable manner; others became vicious, and roared and plunged about most alarmingly.

A machine which will remove the pits from one hundred cherries per minute, has been invented in Germany.

JAVA.—The island of Java must be a pleasant place to live in. According to the latest official statistics published, 148 persons were devoured by tigers in one year; and, in another, the same fate befell 131 persons. The crocodiles during the same period ate about 50 people a year, and between 30 and 40 a year were killed by serpents. The inhabitants, however, do not seem to allow their habitual equanimity to be much disturbed by the fate of their fellow colonists. The Governor General some time since offered for every tiger that was killed the sum of 22 guilders (£2), but this did not tempt the Dutchmen to action.

DR. CHALMERS was wont to say, a house-going minister makes a church-going people; as the people are sure to show the courtesy of returning the minister's week-day visits by their Sabbath-day attendance.

Scientific, &c.

Electrical Countries.

In a paper addressed to the Academy of Science, M. J. Fournet treats of a new and curious subject, viz.: the electric state of certain regions. From the report of this paper in *Galignani*, it appears that in the mountains of the basin of the Rhone and their offshoots, there are some spots distinguished for their evolution of electricity, which is sometimes very remarkable; while others, though apparently identical in surface, are in a state of absolute electric neutrality. Some very striking instances of this are quoted by M. Fournet. On the night of August 11, 1854, when Mr. Blackwell was on the Grand-Mulets, at an altitude of 3,455 meters, the guide, F. Couëtter, on leaving the hut, perceived the surrounding regions apparently on fire. He immediately called to his companion to witness the scene, which was owing to a tempest. Their clothes were literally covered with electric sparks, and their fingers, when held up, were phosphorescent. At that very time Lyons was visited with a deluge of rain, and the whole day had been exceedingly stormy. In 1841, as the same guide was accompanying M. Cheval up Mont Blanc, they were overtaken by a violent storm, and found themselves enveloped, as it were in thunder and lightning. All the stones and rocks around them emitted electric flames, and yet the summit of Mont Blanc, and the sky around it, was perfectly clear. In 1867, Saussure, Jalabert, and Pictet, were on the Breven, at an altitude of 2,520 meters. They soon experienced a strange, prickling sensation at their fingers' ends on stretching them out. This sensation became stronger and stronger, and at length electric sparks could be drawn from Jalabert's hat-band, which was of gold lace, and even from the knob of his cane. As the storm was raging above their heads, they had to descend some twenty-five or thirty meters, where the influence of this electricity was no longer felt. Another instance of this occurred on July 10, 1863, when Mr. Weston and several other tourists ascended the Jungfrau, and there the snow itself, which fell during the storm, which overtook them, proved to be electric.

SURPRISING TELEGRAPHING FEAT.—We are informed by Mr. Dwight, Manager of the Montreal Telegraph Company, that on Friday night last direct communication was maintained between Valentia, Ireland, the eastern terminus of the Atlantic Cable, and San Francisco, California. The only repetition in the entire journey was at Heart's Content, Newfoundland, where the courtesies passed between the telegraph operators at the places, distanced about one-third of the circumference of the globe from one another, had to be changed from the sea to the land wire. The conversation lasted for some time, and was of a highly animated and pleasing character. The time was Valentia, 6.55 on Saturday morning; Heart's Content, 3.15 on Saturday morning, and San Francisco, 11 p. m., on Friday night. Consequently, the dispatches reached the latter place nominally some hours before they left Valentia.

RICH WITHOUT MONEY.—Many a man is rich without money. Thousands of men with nothing in the pocket, and thousands without even a pocket, are rich. A man born with a good sound constitution, a good stomach, a good heart, and good limbs, and a pretty good head-piece, is rich. Good bones are better than gold—tough muscles than silver; and nerves that flash and carry energy to every function, are better than houses and lands.

A DELICATE DESSERT.—Lay half a dozen crackers in a tureen, pour on enough boiling water to cover them. In a few minutes they will be swollen to three or four times their original size. Now grate loaf sugar and a little nutmeg over them, and drop on enough sweet cream to make a nice sauce, and you will have a simple and delicious dessert that will rest lightly on the stomach, and it is easily prepared. Leave out the cream, and it is a valuable receipt for "sick room cookery."

Stair Carpets may be preserved a much longer time by placing strips of paper nearly as wide as the carpet and five or six inches broad, on the edge of each stair, which prevents the wearing at that place.

Our sunniest hours have their flickering shadows, and our happiest days their petty cares to disturb our peace.

Agriculture, &c.

Packing Snow upon Wheat.

Last winter we suggested the experiment of packing snow upon winter wheat by rolling it down with a common hand roller; but it was rather late in the season to be of any practical use at the time. This hint was taken from reading an account of an accidental experiment of the kind. A man having occasion to haul wood, one winter, across his neighbour's field of winter wheat, he engaged to pay him whatever damage it might do to the wheat, presuming that more or less damage would accrue. The road was staked out, so that it could be accurately distinguished at harvest time. But there was no need of stakes, for all through the season the wheat upon the track was a whole head and shoulders above any other part of the field, and the yield of grain was proportionably larger.

The difference was so marked that it seemed impossible that it should have been the result of the little manure dropped upon the track as the teams were passing, and the cause of the difference was regarded as a mystery. It is well known that snow well packed will resist the spring thaws and remain on the ground much longer than snow left as it falls, and it is early bare ground in the spring that injures the wheat. Hence the suggestion to take opportunities when the snow is soft enough to pack well and roll it down on fields of winter wheat. It is certain that it will cause the snow to remain on the ground longer and hold the soil more firmly in its place and protect the roots of the grain from some of the early freezings and thaws, which are supposed to be the chief cause of winter killing.—*Wisconsin Farmer.*

LAND OCCUPIED BY FENCES.—The materials and labor required to build and keep fences in repair are among the heavy items of farm expense. The cost of the land on which they stand is another item, on which J. Harris, of Rochester, discourses as follows in the *American Agriculturist*:

How much land does an old-fashioned fence occupy? I have always thought it took up a good deal of land, but never had the curiosity to measure. But this summer we have been building a stone wall along the whole west side of the farm, and after it was completed, and the old fence removed, I was surprised at the quantity of land we had gained. The ground, of course, might have been ploughed closer to the fence, but taking the case as it actually was, the old rail fence, with stones, weeds, rubbish, &c., occupied a strip of land one rod wide, contains about six acres. If surrounded by such a fence, it will occupy a little over three-quarters of an acre of land. A farm of 160 acres so fenced would have twenty acres of land taken up in this worse than useless manner. Not only is the use of the land lost, but it is, in the majority of cases, a nursery of weeds, and, in ploughing, much time is lost in turning, and the headlands and corners are seldom properly cultivated.

"WHAT FINE DONKEYS!"—Miss Burdett Coutts, among other benevolent undertakings, has done much to improve the breed and usefulness of the Donkey. It has been demonstrated that care and kind treatment effect a great change in this much abused and despised creature. Other ladies of rank and wealth are espousing the cause of the oppressed donkey. Hon. Miss Russell often takes a morning drive through the village of Chelsea with a pair of donkeys for her team. Hon. Miss Grosvenor may be seen driving in her carriage, with donkeys "four-in-hand," round Rickmansworth. These noble ladies are often rewarded for their painstaking by hearing spectators exclaim:—"What fine Donkeys!"

A few days ago a car loaded with barrels of cider was thrown from the track at West Cornwall, Ct. The weather was so cold that the cider became frozen, and was taken away in paper bags by the people.

The Vermont Legislature have caused "inextinguishable laughter" by enacting that paupers straying into towns in which they do not belong shall be punished with a fine.

WHAT CANDID PHYSICIANS SAY.—Get Radway's Almanac and see what our leading physicians say of the anti-bilious, aperient and stomachic properties of Radway's Regulating Pills. They are daily curing liver diseases that mercury has failed to relieve, and cases of Chronic Indigestion for which all the medicaments of the pharmacopoeia have been prescribed in vain.

Price 25 cents per box, coated with sweet gum, free from taste. Sold by Druggists.

There are many who from negligence or criminal delay, put off the use of appropriate remedies till too late. This is wrong. On the first appearance of pain, use Blood's Rheumatic Compound, and you will find relief.

"Their Name is Legion," may be applied to those who die annually of Consumption. Science has of late years sensibly diminished the number, and it is gratifying to know that *Dr. Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry* exerts a potent influence in attaining this end.

WORMS TROUBLE HORSES. Symptoms—coat stares, eyes dull and glaring, great appetite. Cure—Sheridan's Cavalry Powders.