

Months' Department.

BIBLE LESSONS.

Sunday, September 13th, 1868. Concert. Or Review of the past three months' lessons.

Sunday, September 20th, 1868. MATTHEW vi. 19-34 The sermon on the Mount, continued. Recite.—LUKE xii. 29-32.

Earning a Wife.

"And so you want to marry my daughter, young man," said Farmer Burton, removing the pipe from his mouth, and looking sharply from head to toe.

Despite his rather indolent, effeminate air, which was mainly the result of his education, Luke Jordan was a fine looking fellow, and not easily moved from his self possession; but he colored and grew confused beneath that sharp, scrutinizing look.

"Yes, sir. I spoke to Miss Mary last evening, and she—she referred me to you."

The old man's face softened. "Molly is a good girl, a very good girl," he said, stroking his chin with a thoughtful air, "and she deserves a good husband." What can you do?

The young man looked rather blank at this abrupt inquiry.

"If you refer to my ability to support a wife, I can assure you—"

"I know that you are well off, Luke Jordan, but I take it for granted that you asked my girl to marry you, not your property. What guarantee can you give me, in case it should be swept away—as it is in thousands of instances—that you could provide for her a comfortable home? You have hands and brains—do you know how to use them? Again I ask, what can you do?"

This was a style of catechism for which Luke was quite unprepared, and he stared blankly at the questioner without speaking.

"I believe you managed to get through college—have you any profession?"

"No, sir; I thought—"

"Have you any trade?"

"No, sir. My father thought that, with the wealth I should inherit, I should not need any."

"Your father thought like a fool, then. He'd much better have given you some honest occupation, and cut you off with a shilling—it might have been the making of you. As it is, what are you fit for? Here you are, a strong, able-bodied young man, twenty-four years old, and never earned a penny in your life! You might be ashamed of yourself."

"And you want to marry my daughter," resumed the old man, after a few vigorous puffs at his pipe. "Now I have given Molly as good advantages for learning as a girl could have, and she hasn't thrown 'em away; but if she didn't know how to work she'd be no daughter of mine. If I chose I could keep more servants; but I don't; no more than I choose that my daughter should be a pale, spiritless creature, full of dyspepsia and all manner of fine lady ailments, instead of the smiling, bright-eyed rosy-cheek lass she is. I did say that she should marry no lad that had been cursed with a rich father; but she's taken a foolish liking to you, and I'll tell you what I'll do. Go to work, and prove yourself to be a man; perfect yourself in some occupation—I don't care what, so it be honest; then, come to me, and if the girl is willing, she is yours."

As the old man said, he deliberately knocked the ashes out of his pipe against one of the pillars of the porch where he was sitting, tucked it into his pocket, and went into the house.

Pretty Mary Burton was waiting to see her lover down at the garden gate, their usual trysting place. The smiling light faded from her eyes as she noticed his sober discomfited look.

"Father means well," she said, as Luke told her the result of his application. "And I'm not sure but what he is about right," she resumed, after a thoughtful pause; for it seems to me that every man, be he rich or poor, ought to have some occupation."

Then, as she noticed her lover's grave look, she added softly:—"Never mind; I'll wait for you, Luke."

Luke Jordan suddenly disappeared from his accustomed haunts, much to the surprise of his gay associates. But, wherever he went he carried with him in his exile these words, and which were like a tower of strength to his soul—"I'll wait for you, Luke."

One pleasant sunshiny morning, late in October, as Farmer Burton was propping up the grape vine in his front yard, that threatened to break down with the weight of its luxurious burden, a neat looking cart drove up, from which Luke Jordan alighted with a quick, elastic spring, quite in contrast to his former easy, leisurely movements.

"Good morning, Mr. Burton. I understood that you wanted to buy some butter-tubs and cider barrels. I think I have some that will suit you."

"Whose make?" inquired the old man.

"Mine," replied Luke, with an air of pardonable pride; "and I challenge any cooper in Canada to beat them."

Mr. Burton examined them one by one. "They'll do," he said, coolly, as he set down the last of the lot. "What will you take for them?"

"What I asked you for six months ago to-day—your daughter, sir."

The roguish twinkle in the old man's eyes broadened into a smile.

"You've got the right metal in you, after all," he cried. "Come in, lad—come in, I shouldn't wonder if we made a bargain."

Nothing loth, Luke obeyed.

"Molly!" bawled Mr. Burton, thrusting his head into the kitchen door.

Molly tripped out into the hall. The round white arms were bared above the elbows, and bore traces of the flour she had been sifting. Her dress was a neat gingham, over which was tied a blue checked apron; but she looked as winning and lovely as she always did wherever she was found.

She blushed and smiled as she saw Luke, and then, turning her eyes upon her father, waited to hear what he had to say.

The old man regarded his daughter for a moment with a quizzical look.

"Molly, this young man—perhaps you've seen him before—has brought me a lot of tubs and barrels, all of his own make—a right good article, too. He asks a pretty price for 'em; but if you are willing to give it, well and good; and hark ye, my girl—whatever bargain you make, I'll ratify."

As Mr. Burton said this, he considerably stepped out of the room, and we will follow his example. But the kind of bargain the young people made can readily be conjectured by the speedy wedding that followed.

Sunday School Concert Exercise.

BY REV. O. F. A. SPINNING.

Theme—The Tongue.

No. Question by the Boys. Ans. by the Girls.

- 1. Is the tongue an index of the heart? Matt. 12 : 34, 35.
2. What great power has the tongue? Prov. 18 : 21.
3. Does keeping the tongue save the soul from trouble? Prov. 21 : 23.
4. What benefits come of using tongue wisely? Prov. 15 : 23.
5. What comes of an un-governed tongue? Prov. 12 : 13.
6. Is the tongue ever deceitful? Jer. 9 : 8.
7. Is it ever full of mischief? Ps. 10 : 7.
8. Can the tongue be tamed? James 3 : 7, 8.
9. What weapon of war is it likened to? Ps. 57 : 4.
10. Is it ever used in blasphemy? Luke 22 : 65.
11. What worthy name does the tongue blaspheme? James 2 : 7.
12. Can such blasphemy find pardon? Mark 3 : 28.
13. Is there a blasphemy which hath never forgiveness? Mark 3 : 29.
14. Is the tongue ever used in flattery? Ps. 12 : 2.
15. What is the penalty for using flattery? Job 17 : 5.
16. Is the tongue ever used in lying? Ps. 109 : 2.
17. Is a lying tongue among the six things God hates? Pr. 6 : 16-19.
18. What shall be done to the forward tongue? Prov. 10 : 31.
19. How is the tongue described by James? James 3 : 6.
20. Is it called "a burning fire"? Prov. 16 : 27.
21. How does the tongue of wise man and of a fool differ? Eccl. 10 : 12.
22. What is said of right words on the tongue? Job 6 : 25.
23. How can the tongue be a peace-maker? Prov. 15 : 1.
24. What law is in the tongue of a virtuous woman? Prov. 31 : 26.
25. What is the tongue of the wise called? Prov. 12 : 18.
26. How was the tongue of Jesus? I Peter 2 : 22.
27. Who shall dwell in God's Holy Hill? Ps. 15 : 3.
28. What kind of a tree is a wholesome tongue like? Prov. 15 : 4.
29. What kind of a well is a good tongue like? Prov. 10 : 11.
30. What kind of a brook is a wise tongue like? Prov. 18 : 4.
31. What is the tongue of the just like? Prov. 10 : 20.
32. What are pleasant on tongue like? Prov. 16 : 24.
33. From what must the tongue be kept? Ps. 34 : 13.
34. May it be used in swearing? Matt. 5 : 34.
35. What is the man like who bears false witness? Prov. 25 : 18.
36. What use of the tongue must we shun? II Tim. 2 : 16.
37. May we use it in slander? Ps. 101 : 5.
38. May we use it in bearing false witness? Prov. 24 : 28.
39. May we use it in unnecessary censure of others? James 4 : 11.
40. How ought we to use the tongue? Titus 3 : 2.

- 41. What is said about tale-bearing? Lev. 19 : 16.
42. What is said about jesting? Eph. 5 : 4.
43. What is said self-praise? Prov. 25 : 14.
44. What is said about too much talking? Prov. 10 : 19.
45. What is said of un-profitable disputes? I Tim. 1 : 4.
46. How should all our speech be seasoned? Col. 4 : 6.
47. What is the doom of the wicked tongue? Ps. 52 : 4, 5.
48. What will become of our idle words? Matt. 12 : 36.
49. Does God know every word on our tongue? Ps. 139 : 4.
50. What was the rich sinner's first prayer? Luke 16 : 24.
51. Superintendent read Luke 16 : 25-31.

Explanation.

The manner of using the above exercise is as follows: The questions are to be copied and numbered, and then cut nearly apart. This copy is for the pupils. Another copy of the same is to be made, for the teachers, with a blank space left between the number and the question. This blank is to be filled in each case with the name of the pupil who has that question. Thus: "No. 8 (James H.), Can the tongue be tamed?"

This is done so that if any pupil, having a question, is absent on concert day, his teacher may know what question would be wanting, and at once prepare to act the part of his absent pupil, and thus make the exercise perfect.

The answers are to be copied and numbered in the same manner as the questions—two copies made, and for the same purpose.

The slips are to be distributed on the Sunday preceding concert day.

The theme is not to be announced until concert day. At one time the boys have the questions, at another time the girls.

Of course, care must be taken to give each teacher numbers for his class and for himself, which correspond.

The numbers and the questions and answers, with book, chapter and verse, are to be committed to memory, and recited.

In conducting the exercise, the superintendent simply calls the numbers. For instance, he calls No. 1. These having question and answer No. 1, arise, repeat the question, and give the answer, and so on to the end of the exercise.

THE SECRET OF HEALTH.—First, keep warm. Second, eat regularly and slowly. Third, maintain regular bodily habits. Fourth, take early and very light suppers, or better still, none at all. Fifth, keep a clean skin. Sixth, get plenty of sleep at night. Seventh, keep cheerful and respectable company. Eighth, keep out of debt. Ninth, don't set your mind on things you don't need. Tenth, mind your own business. Eleventh, don't set up to be a sharp of any kind. Twelfth, subdue curiosity. Thirteenth, avoid drugs.

HOW TO DESTROY A FALLEN BROTHER.—Look shy at him; speak harshly and unkindly; accuse, blame, criminate, and threaten. Speak ill of him in his absence. Lose sight of all his excellencies, and magnify his faults.

HOW TO RESTORE A FALLEN BROTHER.—Thou art in the boat. He has fallen overboard into the water, therefore don't push him with the oar, for he will only go from thee, or sink to rise no more; rather sail round him, enclose him in the gospel net, or take him up in thy hands, and lift him into the boat, and speak kindly and comfortably to him, and remember that, by doing so thou shalt "hide a multitude of sins."

Mrs. Stowe, in her Chimney Corner papers, quotes the story of a young Methodist who felt that he had a call to preach, and who was crushed by the question of an elder, who asked him, "Hast thou noticed whether people seem to have a call to hear thee?"

Actions are immortal; and our deeds now and their deservings hereafter must be the twin companions that shall walk eternity hand in hand.

MARRIAGE is the best state for man in general; and every man is a worse man in proportion as he is unfit for the marriage state.—Dr. Johnson.

Scientific.

VEGETABLE GROWTH FROM PAPER.—Take a sheet or piece of ordinary writing paper, say commercial note, and saturate it in a solution of bi-chromate of potassium, 1 oz., with water 3 oz., and dry it in the sun. Cut the paper into squares of about three inches, and double them back and forth until the form—a zigzag section—will stand on a table, and ignite the top of the slip. The result will be slow combustion, the products of the combustion growing out of the edge of the paper like spears of grass, and curling over to represent very faithfully the curving and depending leaves of the palm and cane. If the process is carried on without

drafts of air the final result will be a bunch of beautiful blue-green filaments, while the process of combustion itself will prove a means of pleasant recreation.—Scientific American.

DEPTH OF MILK IN PANS.—My own experiments have demonstrated that to put the milk more than three inches deep in the pans entails a loss in the amount of cream; the cream is so near of the same specific gravity as the milk, that it cannot rise through a great depth; again, in a large body of milk it requires a longer time for it to lose its animal heat, which must all be destroyed before the cream commences to rise; any one will take the trouble to set a shallow pan with not more than three inches of milk, away with a bucketful from the same kind, he will find that the pan will raise nearly if not quite as thick cream as the bucket. I would not put away milk deeper than from two and one-half to three inches, and have found that the increased outlay for pans is more than made up the increase in butter.—American Farmer.

A NEW CLOTHING MATERIAL.—The Ramie Fibre, which is destined, according to many believers, to take the place of cotton, is being experimented with quite liberally in various portions of the South. In New Orleans they are favored with the exhibition of a shirt made from it. The fabric takes fine sewing well. The garment alluded to has been "done up" a number of times to test its wearing qualities. It is altogether satisfactory, both as to durability, easy and pleasant wear, and neat appearance. In these, and in all respects, it is equal to linen, and the New Orleans people see no reason why it should not become the leading fabric for shirts and life under-clothing, and for ladies' summer wear. It seems, in its texture, to be a cross between silk and linen, having the glossiness of the former, and the cool and pure looks of the latter. So, we may prepare to hear farther gratifying reports from the Ramie plant.

CHEAP ICE PITCHER.—We last year saw this item, the republication of which is warranted by the hot weather: "The following simple method of keeping ice-water a long time in a common pitcher is worth knowing:—Place between two sheets of paper (newspaper will answer, thick brown is better), a layer of cotton batting about half an inch in thickness, fasten the ends of the paper and batting together, forming a circle, then sew or paste a crown over one end, making a box the shape of a stove-pipe minus the rim. Place this over an ordinary pitcher filled with ice-water, making it deep enough to rest on the table, so as to exclude the air, and the reader will be astonished at the length of time the ice will keep, and the water remain cold after the ice is melted."

BAKED BEANS.—Few people know the luxury of baked beans, simply because few cooks properly prepare them. Beans generally are not cooked half long enough. This is a sure method: Two quarts of middling sized white beans, two pounds of salt pork, and one spoonful of molasses; pick the beans over carefully, wash them, and add a gallon of soft water, boiling hot; let them soak in it over night; in the morning put them in fresh water, and boil gently till the skin is very tender, about to break; take them up dry, put them in your dish stir in the molasses, gash the pork and put it in the dish, so as to have the beans cover all but the upper surface; turn in boiling water till the top is just covered; bake with a steady fire four or five hours; watch them, and add more water from time to time as it dries away.

INFLUENCE OF LITTLE THINGS.—Chemists tell us that a single grain of the substance called iodine will impart color to seven thousand times its weight of water. It is so in higher things: one companion, one book, one habit, may affect the whole of life and character.

In several mines in Cornwall, England, there are galleries which extend under the sea, where the sound of the waves is clearly heard when the sea is agitated, rolling the pebbles and boulders over the rocky bottom of the ocean.

In 1829, but three miles of railway existed in the United States; to-day, there are 38,500 miles, costing with their equipments and rolling stock \$1,700,000,000. If extended in a straight line, the rails would go around the globe more than one and a half times.

A man who won't take a paper because he can borrow one, is like one who has invented a machine with which he can cook his dinner by the smoke of his neighbor's chimney.

A MEDICAL FACT WORTH REMEMBERING.—Simple purgatives are useless in bilious cases. They have no effect on the liver. Railway's Regulating Pills are the only unmercurialized medicine in existence that directly influences the biliary secretion, relieves the bowels and strengthens and nourishes the system at one and the same time.

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

Thick wind, broken wind, and roaring, are sometimes produced by bronchitis or catarrh. If not cured, the disease may be greatly palliated by administering Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powders.

Formerly the prejudice against patent medicine was much greater than at present. People begin to find out that many of them possess much intrinsic merit. This is particularly the case with Blood's Rheumatic Compound.