

## Youth's Department.

## BIBLE LESSONS.

Sunday, January 7th, 1866.

JOHN vii. 1-13: Jesus conversing with his brethren.  
1 KINGS v.: Preparations for building the Temple.  
Recite—JOHN vi. 45-47.

Sunday, January 14th, 1866.

CONCERT: or Review of the past months' subjects and lessons.

## The youngest Child of Time.

BY THE REV. JOHN TODD, D. D.

Last Sunday night, at the mysterious hour of midnight, there stepped upon our world a new being—"The Youngest Child of Time!" He was clad in garments woven from the snows, his feet covered in shoes of ice, and he came in a chariot drawn by the fierce north winds. The mantle of midnight covered his face, and so no one could see his countenance. But those who watched his movements aver that his motions seemed like great age and extreme youth mingled—as if thousands of years hung upon his skirts, while the young hours of the present, played around his head.

No sooner had he fairly leaped upon our world than it was plain he had come to do great errands. At once he lifted up his voice, "loud as the voice of many waters," and sweet as the chime of silver bells.

"Mortals! I am sent to you. Three hundred and sixty-five times will I draw aside the curtains of night and open the gates of the morning, and let in upon you the pure light of heaven. My life is numbered, but every hour and moment of that life shall be yours. I will aid you in work, cheer you in trouble, comfort you in sorrow, and lift you gently onward to a better life than this. My heart thrills at the very thought of what I must witness during my stay among you. I expect to witness the shock of battle and carnage of the field of strife, where great armies meet, where great navies give and receive the messengers of death; I expect to see hospitals and battle fields, where the wounded, the suffering and the dying are gathered; I expect to see weddings and funerals, births and death, the assemblies of the gay and the agonies of the sick room; I expect to witness many groans of humanity, many interpositions of Providence, many efforts to alleviate suffering, to mitigate pain, and to bless the human family. And now, before I begin my travels, I want to make proclamation to all classes of men, that I bring opportunity and heavy responsibility to all.

"Ho! ye rulers of our land! Never did not men have greater responsibility laid on them than what I shall lay on you. The destiny of an unborn posterity rests with you. The foot steps of many generations are almost heard, and they will bless or curse, honor or despise you! You need wisdom that is more than human—may you daily seek it! Under God, press onward till government, law and order are victorious over all the land, and then show that our nation is no less magnanimous after victory than powerful in arms!

"Ho! ye noble ones, in our armies and in our navies! Under God, the nation looks to you for salvation. Nobly, nobly have ye fought, and bled and died, and the gratitude which the nation feels towards you is unmeasured. Onward, onward still, must ye press. But first of all, subdue your own passions, conquer your own spirit, look to Jesus Christ, the great Captain of salvation, and don't forget that no temptations will excuse men for sin, and that as you are eminently exposed to death ye ought to be especially prepared to die.

"Ho! ye sick in hospitals! We are coming to you with what will cheer and comfort you, and we will meet you with warm sympathy and fervent prayer. The Holy Spirit will come to you.

"Ho! ye churches of Christ—blood-bought children of light! I call upon you to be up, awake, ready, generous and noble. See that the fires on your own altars burn brightly—see that the home-lot is cultivated—see that these noble soldiers want nothing that you can give them—see that the lambs of the flock are fed—see that every charity is sustained, every place of usefulness occupied, every door of mercy entered.

"Ho! ye teachers in our Sabbath-schools! I call upon you with awe to wrap the mantle about you, for there is a small, still voice near you speaking to the young hearts committed to you. The time I am with you will be a season of great usefulness if you will improve it.

"Ho! ye children of our love! I sow your path with roses, and hopes, and joys, and gladness! I shall often look in upon you while I am here, and you will be better or worse for my coming. May you be good and do good, so that when I come to leave you we may both smile in love and rejoice that we have been acquainted!

"Ho! ye sick and weary ones on the bed of pain! I come to cheer you with the assurance that the great King who sent me hath not forgotten you; that his ear is ever open to your cry, and that he designs good, and only good, to you. He is taking the dross from the gold. Cheer up, feeble one! As a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him."

"Given at my Palace, at midnight.  
1866."  
—Adapted from the *Sunday-School Times*.

## Susie Grey and the white Cloud.

What did Susie Grey want to be? You cannot guess. She wished she was a white cloud. She did not want to be a black thunder-cloud, and growl. She would rather be a beautiful white cloud, and shade the sweet-peas when the sun beats upon them, and the cows and the poor horses, and her mamma when she walks out, and her baby sister; and she would like them to say, "How beautiful this shade is."

Then she would like to rain over the earth, she said, and turn the big water-wheel that grinds the miller's corn, and fill Bridget's tub and the trough for the cows, and make little puddles for the doves to splash in, and wash the leaves, and water the garden. She would not behave like Noah's rain, and drown the world. Oh no, she would only patter down and bless the world; and everybody should say, "What a beautiful rain this is!"

"Should I not be useful then?" asked Susie Grey. That is the way Susie Grey, like many other folks, liked to be useful, by dealing, you see, in fancy stock. They fancy, if they were so and so, or such a one, how much good they would do; but if they wait for impossible or unlikely things, they will never do any good at all.

I am sure Susie will never be a white cloud. But she can rock the baby's cradle; she can tie her shoestrings; she can run errands, and go willingly; she can help being behindhand to school; she can be careful of her clothes; she can do a great deal more than any white cloud to help and to comfort her dear parents, and make her home happy.

And she will get for it what is better than praise, and what will make her a great deal happier than praise. She will find sweet peace in her bosom, which God gives to all who love him.—*Child's Paper*.

## Counsels to the Young.

Never be cast down by trifles. If a spider breaks his web twenty times he will mend it again. Make up your mind to do a thing and you will do it. Fear not if trouble come upon you; keep your spirit, though the day may be a dark one—

Troubles never last for ever,  
The darkest day will pass away.

If the sun is going down, look up to the stars; if the earth is dark, keep your eyes on heaven. With God's promise a man or a child may be cheerful—

A sunshiny morning will come without warning,  
Never despair when fog's in the air.

Mind what you run after! Never be content with a bubble that will burst; or fire-wood that will end in smoke and darkness. But that which you can keep, and which is worth keeping—

Something lasting that will stay,  
When gold and silver fly away.

Fight hard against a hasty temper. Anger will come, but resist it strongly. A spark may set a house on fire. A fit of passion may cause you to mourn all the days of your life. Never revenge an injury—

He that revenges knows no rest,  
The meek possess a peaceful breast.

If you have an enemy, act kindly to him as your friend. You may not win him over at once, but try again. Let one kindness be followed by another, till you have accomplished your end. By little and by little great things are completed.

Water falling day by day,  
Wears the hardest rock away.

And so repeated kindness softens a heart of stone.

Whatever you do, do it willingly. A boy that is whipped at school never learns his lessons well. A man that is forced to work cares not how badly it is performed. He that pulls off his coat cheerfully, stripes up his clothes in earnest, and sings while he works, is the man for me—

A cheerful smile gets on quick;  
A grumbler in the mud will stick.

Evil thoughts are worse enemies than lions and tigers, for we can get out of the way of wild beasts—but bad thoughts wind their way everywhere. Keep your heads and hearts full of good thoughts, that bad thoughts may not find room—

Be on your guard, and strive, and pray,  
To drive all evil thoughts away.

## A New Bonnet in old Times.

A travelling correspondent of the *Chicago Christian Times* gives some reminiscences from Eastern Connecticut. Among others, in passing the site of the old Baptist meeting house in Mansfield, he is reminded of the church discipline of the former days. Here is a case which he cites: "I remember when a child, of hearing an aunt of my mother's relate to her the circumstances of a course of discipline commenced with her by the church, because of a new bonnet she had appeared in on the Sabbath. It was in her young days, and the old lady, then more than eighty, made the recital quite exciting. A grave committee had been appointed to wait upon sister Wright, and inquire into the reasons of her extravagance and vanity. She gave them a cordial reception to her house; and when the subject of the bonnet was introduced, she brought out for their examination the old and the new one. She told them that the old one was too soiled and shabby for Christian neatness, and that in having the new one made a half inch larger, so as to be more comfortable, she could not feel that she had committed any

sin, or set an example of extravagance for others. The committee reported the result of their interview to the church; the case was dismissed; and sister Wright was permitted to wear her new bonnet in peace. What would these Puritan fathers say, could they open their eyes upon the 'bonnets, the mantles, the chains, the bracelets and the muffers' worn by the Baptist sisters of the present day?"

## Temperance.

## As a Medicine.

I have been a guardian of the health of the public for nearly sixty years, and have labored as much as possible to prevent as well as to cure disease. Pecuniary emolument has been a secondary object, having been influenced more by a sense of duty than of interest. I have constantly and carefully studied the constitutions of my patients: constitutional difficulties—a phrase I never heard of before teetotalism commenced. I recollect the first time I heard it about a quarter of a century ago. I was attending a clergyman's wife. On my second visit a maid servant came into the bedroom with a basket containing several bottles of wine—a present from a lady in the neighborhood. I told my patient wine was improper for her. "Oh, no," she said, "my London doctor told me my constitution requires such stimulants, and I have always been in the habit of taking them." I directly saw it was the indomitable force of habit which was her constitutional difficulty.

Dr. Samuel Johnson says: "The diminutive chain of habit is scarcely heavy enough to be felt until it is too strong to be broken." The lady's habit had become too strong to be broken; it would have been in vain to have told her that no constitution ever required an alcoholic stimulant. No; her London doctor's opinion just agreed with her constitution—or to speak truly, with her habit, and depraved unnatural appetite. The doctor had signed her death warrant; her destination and destruction were fixed; my patient was not satisfied with wine, but took brandy, and died of disease of the liver in the prime of life, adding another victim to the many I have witnessed.

The lady who sent my patient the wine died an inveterate drunkard; and she shortened the days of a poor asthmatic patient who lived near her, and whom I attended gratuitously. In this poor woman I was surprised to find disease of the liver, which led me to inquire if she was in the habit of taking spirits; her daughter informed me that the lady had supplied her with rum regularly. The three patients lived only in one small circle, compared with the many large circles of my patients.

None of my medical opponents have tried both ways, with and without alcoholic fluids in their practice, not even for a single year; therefore they have no practical ground to rest upon, so as to enter into any satisfactory controversy upon the subject.

I have amply tried both ways. I gave alcohol in my practice for twenty years, and have now practised without it for the last thirty years or more. My experience is that acute disease is more readily cured without it, and chronic disease much more manageable. I have not found a single patient injured by the disuse of alcohol, or a constitution requiring it; indeed, to find either, although I am in my seventy-seventh year, I would walk fifty miles to see such an unnatural phenomenon.

If I ordered or allowed alcohol in any form, either as food or as medicine, to a patient, I should certainly do it with a felonious intent.—*Dr. Higginbottom*.

Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow?

Who hath contentions? Who

bath wounds without cause?

Who hath redness of eyes?

They that tarry long at the

wine; they that go to

seek mixed wine. Look

thou not upon the

wine when it is

red, when it

giveth its

color in

the

CUP,

when it

moveth itself

aright,

AT

THE LAST,

IT BIRTHETH LIKE A

SERPENT, AND STINGETH LIKE AN ADDER.

## Fourteen ways by which people get sick.

1. Eating too fast, and swallowing food imperfectly masticated.
2. Taking too much fluid during meals.
3. Drinking poisonous whiskey and other intoxicating liquors.
4. Keeping late hours at night, and sleeping too late in the morning.
5. Wearing the clothes so tight as to impede circulation.
6. Wearing thin shoes.
7. Neglecting to take sufficient exercise to keep the hands and feet warm.
8. Neglecting to wash the body sufficiently to keep the pores of the skin open.
9. Exchanging the warm clothing worn in a warm room during the day for the light costumes and exposures incident to evening parties.
10. Starving the stomach to gratify vain and foolish passion for dress.

11. Keeping up a constant excitement by fretting the mind with borrowed troubles.

12. Employing cheap doctors, and swallowing quack nostrums for every imaginary ill.

13. Taking the meals at irregular intervals.

14. Reading the trash and exciting literature of the day, and going crazy on politics.

## Scientific.

**FORETELLING THE WEATHER.**—The late Marshal Bugeaud, when captain in the Spanish campaigns under Napoleon I., met with a manuscript in which it was stated that, from observations made in England and Florence during a period of fifty years, the following law respecting the weather had been found to hold true:—Eleven times out of twelve the weather remains the same during the whole moon as it is on the fifth day, if it continues unchanged over the sixth day; and nine times out of twelve, like the fourth day, if the sixth resembles the fourth. From 1815 to 1830 M. Bugeaud devoted his attention to agriculture, and, guided by the law just mentioned, avoided the losses in haytime and vintage which many of his neighbours experienced. When Governor of Algeria he never entered on a campaign until after the sixth day of the moon. His neighbours at Exadanal, and his lieutenants in Algeria, would often exclaim, "How lucky he is in the weather!" What they regarded as mere chance was the result of much observation. In counting the fourth and sixth days he was particular beginning from the exact time of the new moon, and added three-quarters of an hour for each day, for the greater length of the lunar compared with the solar day.—*Old Jonathan*.

**SHORTNESS OF TIME IN DREAMS.**—One of the most remarkable phenomena connected with dreams is the shortness of time needed for their consummation. Lord Brougham says that in dictating a man may frequently fall asleep after uttering a few words, and be awakened by the amanuensis repeating the last word to show he has written the whole; but, though five or six seconds only have elapsed between the delivery of the sentence and its transfer to paper, the sleeper may have passed through a dream extending through half a lifetime. Lord Holland and Mr. Babbage both confirm this theory. The one was listening to a friend reading aloud, and slept from the beginning of the sentence to the latter part of the sentence immediately succeeding; yet during this time he had had a dream, the particulars of which would have taken more than a quarter of an hour to write. Mr. Babbage dreamt a succession of events, and woke in time to hear the concluding words of a friend's answer to a question he had just put to him. One man was liable to feelings of suffocation, accompanied by a dream of a skeleton grasping his throat whenever he slept in a lying posture, and had an attendant to wake him the moment he sunk down. But though awakened, the moment he began to sink, that time sufficed for a long struggle with the skeleton. Another man dreamt that he crossed the Atlantic, spent a fortnight in America, and fell overboard when embarking to return; yet his sleep had not lasted more than ten minutes.—*The Reader*.

**HINTS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.**—The amount of injury done to the tender stomachs of young children, invalids, and sedentary persons, by eating bad bread day after day from one year's end to another, must be enormous. A cook who cannot make good bread of every description, ought not to be allowed house-room for an hour; and that mother is criminally negligent, whatever may be her position, who does not teach her daughter to know what good bread is; and also to know how to make it. Alum is used to give whiteness, softness, and capacity for retaining moisture. Lime could be employed with equal effect, having the advantage of correcting any sourness in the bread or stomach; besides affording an important ingredient for making the bones strong. Every housekeeper ought to know how to make two or three kinds of bread. The best yeast in the world is made of hops and cold water, nothing else. If lime water is used, it should be saturated with lime, that is, holding as much lime as it can; if it has for a moment more, it goes to the bottom, as sugar in a tea cup, when the tea can be made no sweeter. Use nineteen pounds of flour and five pounds of saturated lime-water made thus: Put stones of quick-lime in water, stir until slack let it settle and then pour off. Soda (an alkali made of sea salt) and saleratus (an alkali made of wood ashes) are used for the self-same purpose to neutralize any sourness in the bread; one is in no respect better than the other; but, as cooking soda is cheapest, it is economy to prefer it.

**SKELETON LEAVES.**—Those exquisite forms, the *ghosts*, as it were, of leaves and seed-pods, which are now often met with, are not so difficult of production as some may suppose. To make them, the leaves are steeped for two or three minutes in boiling water and then placed on a strong, cold solution of permanganate of potash, which is then raised to a moderate heat. Macerated in this medium for an hour or more, they are brought into such a condition that a nail-brush will remove the outer tissues. The "skeleton" may then be bleached in sulphurous acid gas, or, almost as well, in a solution of chloride of lime.

**REMARKABLE COIN.**—Among the most interesting coins acquired of late by the British Museum is one of Simon, Prince of Israel, who, according to the latest authorities, was the son of Gamaliel, Chief of the Sanhedrim, at the period of the Jewish revolt just before the capture of Jerusalem by Titus.