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dren Teething. Its value is incalcul-  
able. It will relieve the poor little  
sufferer immediately. Depend upon  
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take no other kind. jun16ly.

### The Book of the Year.

Of all the beautiful fancies,  
That cluster about the year,  
Tiptoeing over the threshold  
When its earliest dawn is here.

The best is the simple legend  
Of a book for you and me.  
So fair that our guardian angels  
Desire its lines to see.

Is full of the brightest pictures,  
Of dream, and story, and rhyme,  
And the whole wide world together  
Turns only a page at a time.

Some of the pages are dazzling  
With the feather-flakes of the snow;  
Some of them thrill to the music  
Of the merriest winds that blow.

Some of them keep the secrets  
That make the roses sweet;  
Some of them sway and rustle  
With the golden heads of wheat.

I can not begin to tell you  
Of the lovely things to be,  
In the wonderful year-book waiting,  
A gift for you and me.

And a thought most strange and solemn,  
Is borne upon my mind,—  
On every page a column  
For ourselves we'll surely find.

Write what we may upon it,  
The record there will stay,  
Till the books of time are opened,  
In the court of the Judgment Day.

And should we not be careful  
Lest the words our fingers write  
Shall rise to shame our faces  
When we stand in the dear Lord's sight?

And should we not remember  
To dread no thought of blame,  
If we sign each page that we finish  
With faith in the dear Lord's name?

### The Sabbath-School.

#### INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

First Quarter—Lesson 1.—Jan. 1.  
HEROD AND JOHN THE BAPTIST.—  
Matt. 14: 1-12.

GOLDEN TEXT.—And his disciples  
came and took up the body, and  
buried it, and went and told Jesus.  
—Matt. 14: 12.

For the next six months we con-  
tinue to study the Gospel of  
Matthew, begun last year.

Jesus had sent his twelve dis-  
ciples throughout Galilee to preach  
the Gospel of the kingdom. They  
proclaimed everywhere the works  
and words of Jesus, and wrought  
miracles in his name. Thus the  
fame of Jesus was spread abroad.

HEROD,—THE FOREBODINGS OF A  
GUILTY CONSCIENCE.—Vers. 1, 2.  
At that time. At this period of  
Jesus' ministry. Herod the tetrarch.  
Herod Antipas, the son of Herod  
the Great, and tetrarch of Galilee,  
and of Perea beyond Jordan. His  
yearly revenue was 200 talents  
(\$328,500). A tetrarch meant  
originally "the ruler of a fourth  
part," but later it came to mean any  
tributary prince. Herod the Great  
divided his kingdom among three of  
his sons.

Herod was a light-minded, un-  
reliable, prodigal, and luxurious  
prince; and on certain occasions,  
utterly heartless, cruel, and callous.  
Heard of the fame of Jesus. The  
report about Jesus' marvellous  
works and teachings. Till Herod's  
conscience troubled him for murder-  
ing John, he had taken no thought  
about Jesus.

And said unto his servants.  
Officers, courtiers. This is John  
the Baptist, whom just before this  
he had wickedly put to death. He  
is risen from the dead. Herod's  
guilty conscience made him fear.  
And therefore. Because he is risen  
from the dead. Mighty works do  
shew forth themselves in him. The  
powers of the spiritual world, into  
which he had gone, and from which  
he has come.

Conscience may be silenced for a  
time, but there comes a time when  
it awakes. We cannot escape its  
power nor fly from its presence.

JOHN THE BAPTIST,—THE MARTYR  
PREACHER. He was the son of an  
aged priest, Zacharias, and  
Elizabeth, the cousin of Mary the  
mother of Jesus. Hence he was the  
second cousin of Jesus. He was  
six months older than Jesus. He  
was a Nazarene, pledged to drink no  
wine or strong drink, and to let his  
hair and beard go untrimmed, as a  
sign of consecration to God. His  
early life up to 30 years of age was  
passed in the solitudes of the wilder-  
ness of Judea, where he was prepared  
for his great mission as the fore-  
runner of the Messiah. He began  
to preach in the summer of A. D. 26,  
and preached for nearly two years.  
Then he was shut up in the castle of  
Macherus by Herod, March, A. D.  
28. He was a courageous, faithful  
preacher of righteousness, living as  
he preached, fearing God, and there-  
fore having no fear of man.

THE RIGHT DOING WHICH LED TO  
MARTYRDOM.—Vers. 3-5. Herod  
had laid hold on John. A year be-  
fore the opening of our lesson. And  
put him in prison. At Macherus,  
in Perea, on the eastern side of the  
Dead Sea. For Herodias' sake.  
Because Herodias wanted John put  
out of the way.

For John said unto him, It is not  
lawful for thee to have her. He  
reproved Herod not once, but  
habitually. He reproved him for  
other sins as well as this crowning  
one (Luke 3: 19). It is uncertain  
whether John's reproof was a private  
and personal one, public denuncia-  
tion, before the people.

And when he would have put him  
to death. He imprisoned John to  
stop his public reproofs of his crime.  
He knew that John was right  
and he was wrong, and therefore  
feared him the more.

He feared the multitude: lest his  
slaying of one they regarded as a  
prophet should arouse them against  
himself and his plans. Clark says  
that he also feared John himself.  
There is nothing so cowardly as a  
guilty conscience, or so to be feared  
by evil-doers as a holy man who  
voices the truth of God.

Herod's birthday. Either his  
birthday, or the anniversary of his  
accession. The daughter of Herod-  
ias, by her former husband. Her  
name was Salome, and she after-  
wards married her uncle, Herod  
Philip II. Danced before them.  
She had been sent by her mother to  
gain an opportunity for killing  
John (Mark 6: 21). And pleased  
Herod: the voluptuous Herod, and  
those with him; all, quite likely,  
more or less intoxicated.

THE RASH PROMISE.—Ver. 7.  
Whereupon he promised with an oath  
to give her whatsoever she would ask.  
A jewel, a bracelet, a palace, or a  
city, were probably in his thoughts  
as what she was likely to ask, and  
he would gladly give.

THE WICKED REQUEST.—Vers. 8,  
9. And she, being before instructed  
of her mother. The long-looked-for  
opportunity had at length come to  
Herodias when her grudge against  
John the Baptist could be gratified.  
Give me here. Without delay.  
John Baptist's head in a charger, or  
large dish or platter.

And the king was sorry. Not  
penitent, but worried and troubled.  
Because he was outwitted, and  
forced to do what he had repeatedly  
refused. The act was too horrible  
even for his conscience. Neverthe-  
less for the oath's sake. Herod had  
to make a choice,—to break a rash,  
wicked oath, or to commit murder.  
And them which sat with him. Pro-  
bably if the oaths had been secret,  
he would not have hesitated to break  
them.

THE MARTYR'S FATE.—Vers. 10-  
12. And he sent, and beheaded  
John in the prison. Mark says he  
sent an executioner, one of his body-  
guard.

And his head was brought. Pro-  
bably while the feast was still in  
progress. And she brought it to her  
mother, who was the most guilty  
one. She feasted her eyes on her  
dead enemy.

And his disciples came, And went  
and told Jesus. To whom John had  
ever pointed them, as the Messiah.  
The death of John appears to  
have put an end to the doubts and  
jealousies which his disciples enter-  
tained concerning Jesus.

THE MARTYR'S SUCCESS. There  
is a lesson of marvellous impressiveness  
in the contrast between the  
success of Herod and that of John.  
Herod seemed to succeed, and John  
to fail; but in reality the exact  
opposite is the truth.

PRACTICAL HINTS.—A guilty  
conscience gives perpetual unrest  
and fear. There is no escape from  
it except in the love of Jesus.

The true minister will reprove  
the sins of the great and the power-  
ful who are bringing injury upon the  
people.

Men often do not dare to do all  
the evil they would like to.

Many a person gives away his  
peace, his virtue, his soul, for a  
temporary pleasure.

Note the difference between  
sorrow and repentance, and the  
worthlessness of sorrow that does  
not lead to repentance.

Temporary success is often the  
supremest failure.

A short life which fulfils its  
mission is a success.

Go and tell Jesus all your  
sorrows.

### The Boys Who Succeeded.

Boys whose parents are rich are  
to be pitied. You don't think so?  
Well, I know they have a better  
time while they are boys, but they  
are not half as likely to make suc-  
cessful men as those who have to  
work for what they need as well as  
for what they want, and have little  
time to spend in play.

Abraham Lincoln, as you all  
know, was a poor boy. He chopped  
wood and kept a grocery then, but  
he was ambitious, persevering and  
industrious, and became a great and  
much beloved man.

General Grant was a poor boy,  
and he, too, rose to the highest  
position in our Government.

Vice President Wilson was so  
poor that he never spent the amount  
of one dollar in money, counting  
every penny from the time he was  
born until he was twenty-one years  
old.

Horace Greeley was poor and at  
first unsuccessful; but he finally

world and death; it goes on in its  
warfare and increases its conquests  
until crowned with glory.

Gratitude is the homage the  
heart renders to God for his good-  
ness; Christian cheerfulness is the  
external manifestation of the  
homage.

Contentment is a pearl of great  
price, and whoever procures it at  
the expense of ten thousand desires  
makes a wise and happy purchase.

Be not the fourth friend of him  
who had three before, and lost them.  
—Lavater.

Flesh is but the glass which holds  
the dust that measures all our time,  
which also shall be crumbled into  
dust.—George Herbert.

Religion cannot pass away. The  
burning of a little straw may hide the  
stars of the sky; but the stars are  
there, and will reappear.—Carlyle.

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