

Children's Letters.

Dear Editor: I am a little boy nine years old. I live two miles east of Scotland. I live on a farm. We have two lovely calves, three horses, one colt, four cows, pigs, chickens, and a dear little dog we call Collie.

I go to Sharp's school, but I had to miss two weeks and a half because I had an abcess in my head.

I go to Mt. Pleasant Sunday school. My teacher is Miss Kennedy. I hope to see this in print.

Your little friend,

HAYWARD McCLEAF.

"As the Dew."

The world is full of God. Every flower, every bush and every blade of grass is aflame with the glory of his presence. The Bible leads us through paths of nature to find God. "The Lord God is a sun." "I will be as the dew unto Israel."

In the beauty of the dew Jehovah visits his people. Living in the open country where the dew is seen to better advantage, one may see more beauty than city people ever dream of. Who can look upon the fields in summer just as the sun is rising without feelings of rapture? Dew-drops like shining pearls cling to every leaf and flower, to every blade of grass and the growing corn. Millions of gems dancing and sparkling in the sunlight proclaim the presence and glory of God. So is the beauty of the Lord seen bedecking the character of the saint—the church and the people who put their trust in him. "Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us."

The dew is refreshing. The hot sun of a summer day dries up the moisture in the ground, and drinks up the juices of plants and blades of corn. The leaves are curled and withered, as though they were dying. But in the morning the leaves unfold and put on new life. The dew of the morning renews their vigor and beauty. The grass and green herb which in the evening drooped and mourned, lift up their heads and sing with the dawning of the morning. Behold the transformation wrought by the gentle dew! So the people of God sometimes lose the vigor of their spiritual life. Their heads hang down and their hearts are faint. But in their trouble Jehovah visits them with his salvation. He walks among his people as he walked before Adam in the garden. The hands that were hanging down are made strong. The

hearts that were faint are revived. Nothing can inspire new life and vigor like a visit from the Most High.

Note the silence of the dew. During the night something happened which renewed the face of the earth, but no one heard the quiet messenger of Jehovah walking among the trees and flowers. The coming of the dew is so noiseless as not to disturb an infant's slumber, and what magic effects it produces! So does the Lord visit his people. Not with the noise of the rolling thunder, not with the rumbling of the earthquake, but in the silence of the dew he enters and leaves his blessing. Men make a great noise in their work because of the friction of their machinery, and after all how little they accomplish! But silently as the planets roll in space, Jehovah works among the children of men. "The kingdom of God is within you."

Dew does not fall everywhere. One night it fell on Gideon's fleece while the ground round about was dry. Some objects attract the dew. Their nature is such that this gentle agent seeks them. Withering, dying blades of grass and corn seem to be its special favorites. In the morning you will see no dew on the highway or the rock, but you will see it sparkling like morning stars on every green thing. The tender herb needs it, and begs it to come. Hear ye the word of the Lord as spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "Thus saith the high and lofty one that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." "I will be as the dew unto Israel."

A writer in the magazine supplement of the New York Evening Post of a recent issue makes a remark which is of deep significance and profound value. Quoting from Mr. Granville Barker's address to a recent gathering of representative men, he speaks of "the millions of people who get from the theater, night after night, all their mental and moral stimulus, and to whom it is their greatest teacher at the most susceptible time of their lives—between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five." The thought is one worthy the serious attention of all interested in the moral and social welfare of our youth. What an arraignment of them it is to say with even a show of truth—and it is undeniably true in a very large measure—that vast numbers of

our young men and women, at the most susceptible period of their lives, are gaining "all their mental and moral stimulus from the theater." No wonder that the spiritual and ethical status of society is being steadily lowered. No wonder that moral and social reformers are in despair as to how to stem the flood of undesirable and destructive elements in society. Not from education, with its strong and helpful stimulus, not from religion with its ideals and hopes and faith the highest and most enduring that humanity can cherish, but from the theater with its lowering of ideals, with its quibbling with moral standards, with its frequent presentations of indelicate and demoralizing aspects of life and thought—this is the source from which we expect to raise up a generation of morally pure and spiritually earnest men and women with ideals and principles fitted to the real world in which they must live rather than to the mimic world of the stage. It would seem as if this were a reform in modern life to be sought with vigor and determination. More church and school—less theater—result, a generation of youth better equipped for real life, even if less fully acquainted with the unrealities of the stage.

Instead of returning evil with evil, try to return evil with good; to say nothing ill of men; to act kindly even with the ox and the dog. Live thus one day, two days, or more, and compare the state of your mind with its state in former days. Make the attempt and you will see how the dark, evil moods have passed away and how the soul's happiness has increased. Make the attempt and you will see that the gospel of love brings not merely profitable words, but the greatest and most desired of all things.—Leo Tolstoy.

Miles Coverdale's Method of Bible Study.

No better method of Bible study has been discovered than that announced by Miles Coverdale in the preface to his translation of the Bible into the English language in 1535 when he said: "It will greatly help thee to understand scripture if thou wilt mark not only what is spoken or written, but of whom and unto whom, with what words, at what time, whereto, what intent, with what circumstance, considering what goeth before and what followeth after,"—Christian Observer.