

Virginia's Object Lesson

By HILDA RICHMOND

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"It isn't that Herbert is a bad boy," Mrs. Castle was saying, with a worried look on her motherly face, "or that Virginia is disobedient. They are simply too silly for anything. Mushy, the boys call them, and the word fits very well. Instead of having a good time with the crowd as they always did, they prefer to sit around by themselves at parties, and Virginia is getting so dreamy that you have to speak two or three times before she realizes she is on earth."

"Oh, well," said her sister, consolingly, "all girls have those spells. I remember how Bob Lane and I used to think our folks cruel and unsympathetic because they ruthlessly spoiled our cherished plans by sending us away to school. Virginia will get over her foolishness in good time and be able to laugh at herself. Don't take it to heart so."

"It's all very well for you to take that view, for your girls are too small to give you any trouble yet; but just wait a few years. Virginia's health and lessons suffer while she is moping around, and I really have to force her to eat when she and Herbert have had a little tiff. I wish they would fall out and scratch each other's faces as they did years ago. Then maybe this nonsense would come to an end."

The memory of the childish fights these two young people used to indulge in caused Mrs. Randolph to laugh outright. "Imagine Virginia, with two long scratches down her nose, howling at the top of her voice," she said; but her sister refused to see the funny side.

"I'd rather have her howl than sit around with that woe-begone look on

feet away were utterly oblivious of her presence.

A few days later Cousin Editha and her family made their appearance.

"Give me the baby, Ede," said a young man who had conducted two small boys in dirty linen suits down the car steps. "The brakeman will carry your luggage."

"Ede!" Virginia looked in disgust at the innocent young man, but her disgust changed to astonishment a minute later when her mother kissed the pale young woman with her hat on one side of her head and told her how delighted they were to see them all. Was it possible that this was the beautiful bride of seven years ago? The long train, exquisite veil and white flowers with which Cousin Editha had always been invested in Virginia's memory faded away before this tired, thin woman and her little family.

"And this is Virginia?" said Cousin Editha, as soon as the boys had been packed in the surrey and the baby on Mrs. Castle's lap. "You're quite a young lady, Virginia, and a pretty one, too. No, Carlos mustn't whip the horse! Jack, stop pulling at the lines! Those children were clean when we started, auntie, but only for a few minutes. I suppose I'll have to take the baby. She's cutting teeth and fearfully cross. Yes, mamma is well as usual, but she always seems tired. She helps me a little with the children and—Jack! I have spoken to you for the last time! If you touch those lines again I'll spank you as soon as we get to auntie's."

Virginia sat silent during the short ride. Cousin Editha's husband had walked with Rob, leaving the surrey for the ladies and children, so Mrs. Race had the whole care of the lively infants. Mrs. Castle sat with her in the back seat, and Virginia had the two boys with her in front, so there was little chance for her joining in the conversation if she had wished to. Her cousin's sharp, tired voice grated unpleasantly on her ears as she remembered the soft, low tones that had responded so musically to the momentous questions the day she had been the flower girl.

"Ede hasn't been very well lately, but I think the rest will do her good," Mr. Race was saying to Mrs. Randolph when they drove up to the porch. "I've got to hurry back to the city to attend to some business, but I'm glad to leave the babies in such good hands."

Virginia escaped to her room to examine the extent of the damage two pairs of dusty shoes had done to her dainty white dress, but her mother soon called her down to wheel the baby while Cousin Editha rests a few minutes. The few minutes proved to be two hours, for the tired mother really was not well, and the long car ride had made her worse than usual. She came down to dinner in a white wrapper that made her paler than ever, so Virginia devoted herself to the noisy boys till bedtime.

"A picnic for me? It's very nice of you, dear, but I couldn't go," said Cousin Editha, when Virginia spoke of the plan she and her mother had made. "I couldn't be easy a minute away from baby, and taking her along is out of the question. You go and have a good time, Virginia, and don't worry about me. If I can wear a pair of slippers and an old wrapper, that is all I care for these days. When the children grow up I'll go to picnics again, but I'm afraid, not before."

"But we want to do something pleasant for you," said Virginia. "How about a party? That wouldn't be taking you far from the baby?"

"Ede always says parties begin too late for her," laughed Mr. Race. "She has acquired the habit of going to bed at eight every evening."

"It always shocks Virginia to have you say 'Ede,' but I tell her we haven't time for long names," said Mrs. Race. "If she had three children crying at once she would soon learn to save time every way she could. Yes, I do go to bed at eight when I'm at home, for I'm always tired out. You'll find out what good times you're having now, my child, when they are all past. I feel old enough to be a grandmother sometimes, and I'm only 24."

"That's true," said Mr. Race, with a little laugh. "Whenever I see Virginia and Herbert reading Tennyson together I think of how I used to sit by the hammock and recite 'Lucie' by the hour to you, Editha. I'll try to remember the old name for Virginia's benefit. I don't believe I could call to mind three lines now to save my life."

Virginia slipped away from the young couple sitting in the midst of playthings, little garments and crumbs, for a good hard think in her own room. Cousin Editha's visit came to an end before the lively children were even one out, and when at last they went home Virginia gave an impromptu little party to celebrate the event.

The young people who had shunned the Castles since the house had to be perfectly quiet after seven o'clock every evening, came trooping back, and once more the big house rang with laughter and fun. Virginia was the gayest of the gay, and once when Herbert pressed her hand under cover of the portiere she only laughed joyously and said, "Don't be a goose, Bert."

Jesus the Saviour of the World

Sunday School Lesson for Feb. 2, 1908
Specially Prepared for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—John 3:1-21. Memory verses 14-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."—John 3:16.

TIME.—Sometime in April, A. D. 27, during Jesus' visit at Jerusalem for the Passover, John was still preaching in the wilderness. Early in the first year of Jesus' ministry, he having five or six followers at that time.

PLACE.—Some room in Jerusalem at a house where Jesus was a guest. Reached by an outer stairway.

Comment and Suggestive Thought.

What is the Kingdom of Heaven?—It is that condition or state where God reigns as king, where he is the supreme object of love and service, where his will is the law, and men obey it as naturally as they breathe, and where all his subjects are formed in his holy image and inspired with his spiritual life. It is that for which we pray in the first petitions of the Lord's Prayer. He belongs to God's kingdom.

Who recognizes God as his Father; Who hallow his name; Whose supreme desire and aim is that his kingdom shall come; Who does God's will on earth as it is done in heaven.

And when all men have this supreme choice of God, then this world will have been transformed into the kingdom of heaven.

Paul expresses the essential meaning when he places the "fruits of the Spirit," whose source and inspiration are the Holy Spirit, in contrast with the "works of the flesh."

This kingdom naturally required some form or organization to best accomplish its work. But the two ideas, however closely allied, are distinct, as are body and soul. One may have the form without the spirit; and one may have the spirit without the organization.

What Was Jesus' Teaching About Belonging to the Kingdom of God?—V. 3. "Verily, verily," Repeated for the sake of emphasis. "I," the teacher sent from God, "say unto thee," This is my message, "Except a man be born again," Greek, another, "again," or "anew," as in R. V. and Am. R., from above. Whosoever is born again is born anew and born from above. Except a man have a new spiritual life imparted by the Holy Spirit, in addition to his natural life received through his parents, he cannot see, understand, know the meaning of, feel the motives, realize the presence of, "the kingdom of God."

What Is It to Be Born Anew, from Above?—We have a natural physical life. We live in a world of sense. Our supreme choice may be to enjoy this life, to make its pleasures and desires supreme, to possess the things that minister to it, at any cost, at the expense of other people, at the expense of conscience and duty and love. This is the life of the flesh, of this world. A thousand good, lovely, and charming things may come into this life. But the test of the life is "what is our supreme choice?"

This life is imparted by the spirit of God, enabling one to choose God, and gain the victory over the lower nature. It is by this power, through this inspiration, under this influence that we are enabled to bear the fruits of the spirit which are the virtues of the kingdom of heaven.

V. 5. "Except a man be born of water and of (the) Spirit."—(There is no article in the Greek before "Spirit.") To understand this, note several things in the circumstances: (1) John was baptizing with water as a symbol of repentance. (2) Baptism symbolized the cleansing of the soul from sin. (3) Baptism symbolized the outward profession, the entering into the visible kingdom. (4) Nicodemus was familiar with the rite with this significance.

Water may denote either or both of two allied meanings. (1) The Lord here declares that there are two elements or factors in the new birth; putting away the old life and receiving the new. Water was the natural and familiar symbol of cleansing from sin, of putting away the sinful past, of confession of sin. This act the Pharisees were not inclined to believe as applied to themselves. They refused to be baptized by John, and thus confessed their need of forgiveness.

What Was Jesus' Authority for This Teaching?—It was, first, the authority of the Scriptures. To Nicodemus' exclamation (9) "How can these things be?" Jesus refers him to the Scriptures. Jesus refers him to the Scriptures.

V. 10. "Art thou a Master," a teacher, "of Israel," your business being to study and explain the Scriptures. "And knowest not these things?" You will find this truth in the Scriptures you teach, as, for instance, in Ezek. 11:19; 18:31; 36:26; Jer. 24:7; 31:33.

It was, secondly, the authority of personal knowledge and experience. V. 16. "God So Loved the World."—Not merely heavenly beings, angels and seraphim, and saints, but this poor, sinful, unworthy world, so far from him in character. "Let us quietly ponder the great deep utterance. First there is 'The Lake—God so loved the world'; next 'The River—that he gave his only-begotten Son'; thirdly, 'The Pitcher—that whosoever believeth on him'; and lastly, 'The Draught—should not perish, but have everlasting life.'—W. Robertson Nicoll, D. D.

WORN OUT WOMEN

Will Find Encouragement in Mrs. Merritt's Advice.

Mrs. W. L. Merritt, 207 S. First Ave., Anoka, Minn., says: "Last winter I began to suffer with my kidneys. I had pains in my back and hips and felt all worn out. Dizzy spells bothered me and the kidney secretions were irregular. The first box of Doan's Kidney Pills brought decided relief. I am sure they would do the same for any other woman suffering as I did." Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Object Lesson. "Johnny," said Mrs. Hobbs, severely, "I am going to punish you. Please open the windows."

"What for?" asked Johnny, beginning to cry. "I heard our next door neighbor say I had no authority over my children, and I want her to hear you getting a spanking. Now, come here, sir!"

How's This? We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by him. W. L. KIRK & MARTIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

What Hubby Missed. "I was telephoning the other night," said the girl, "and a voice crossed mine, a whispering voice. I couldn't help wondering what the game was. 'What are you whispering for?' I asked."

"Hush," she said, still in the whisper. "I'm trying to talk under my breath. I don't want my husband to hear. Please get off the wire. Won't you?"

Collecting in New Hampshire.

A New Hampshire man tells of a tight-fisted man of affairs in a town of that state, who until recently had never been observed to take an interest in church matters. Suddenly, however, he became a regular attendant at divine service, greatly to the astonishment of his fellow townsmen.

"What do you think of the case of old Ketchum?" said one of the business men of the place to a friend. "Is it true that he has got religion?" "Well, hardly," replied the other. "The fact is, it's entirely a matter of business with him. I am in a position to know that about a year ago he loaned the pastor \$50, which the latter was unable to pay. So there remained nothing for Ketchum but to take it out in pew rent."—Sunday Magazine.

EXPLAINED.



"I have called," said the captions critic, "to find out what reason you can give for representing the New Year as a nude small boy."

"That is done," responded the art editor, "because the year does not get its close until the 31st of December."

CUBS' FOOD

They Thrive on Grape-Nuts.

Healthy babies don't cry and the well-nourished baby that is fed on Grape-Nuts is never a crying baby. Many babies who cannot take any other food relish the perfect food, Grape-Nuts, and get well.

"My little baby was given up by three doctors who said that the condensed milk on which I fed her had ruined the child's stomach. One of the doctors told me that the only thing to do would be to try Grape-Nuts, so I got some and prepared it as follows: I soaked 1½ tablespoonsful in one pint of cold water for half an hour, then I strained off the liquid and mixed 12 teaspoonfuls of this strained Grape-Nuts juice with six teaspoonfuls of rich milk, put in a pinch of salt and a little sugar, warmed it and gave it to baby every two hours."

"In this simple, easy way I saved baby's life and have built her up to a strong healthy child, rosy and laughing. The food must certainly be perfect to have such a wonderful effect as this. I can truthfully say I think it is the best food in the world to raise delicate babies on, and is also a delicious healthful food for grown-ups as we have discovered in our family."

Grape-Nuts is equally valuable to the strong, healthy man or woman. It stands for the true theory of health. "There's a Reason. Read 'The Road to Wellville,' in pkgs.

AN ADVERTISING TRICK FOR WESTERN FARMERS.

Real Estate "Agents" Go After Men with Land for Sale and Reap Rich Harvest.

A smooth scheme for separating farmers from their money has been worked with much success in South Dakota. An oily grafter calls on a farmer and makes a bid for his land. The figures are absurdly low at first, but by degrees are raised as high as \$60 an acre, and the farmer consents. Then the visitor explains that he is only an agent, but that he can sell the land at the price named if the owner will agree to pay for advertising at the rate of fifty cents an acre. The "agent" promises orally that the advertising money will not be payable until the land is sold, but this stipulation is not contained in a contract that the farmer signs.

In a few days he receives a copy of an ad and not over-courteous demand for money. It is said that twenty-two agriculturists were caught with this bait in Brown County and that one of them gave up \$320. Others declare hotly that they will not pay but they will make a fight in the courts.

HAD LISTENED TO DADDY.

Force of Example Exemplified in Precocious Youngster.

There is a certain man living not far from New York whose temper is not of the longest, and when he feels that his rage is justifiable he is very apt to indulge in fluent, versatile and varied profanity.

And it is when using the telephone that this talent of his is seen and heard at its maximum of speed and endurance. Central has but to say "Wire busy now," or "Doesn't answer," to evoke a flood of language.

One day he had been having an unusually stormy session, and did not notice that his two-year-old son was sitting in a corner of the room, his face rapt and absorbed. A few hours later the child's mother came in and was horrified beyond words to hear her baby giving voice to a stream of expletives, some of which began with a very large capital D—the rest with a variety of letters quite unmentionable in this connection. She descended upon him in righteous wrath.

"Don't you ever let me hear you use such words again," she said in no uncertain tones.

"Why, mother," expostulated the baby in an injured voice, "I'm telephoning!"

COMPLAINTS MANY AND VARIED.

Complete Harmon; Had to Obtain in Organizations.

"All clubs," said the secretary, "keep complaint books, and some of the complaints set down in them are funny. In our book yesterday a member complained that the hot water was always cold, and moreover, there never was any."

"A novelist last week had the nerve to complain that his last new novel hadn't been added to the club library. 'Young swells sometimes complain about the club wines and cigarettes and cigars in order to introduce brands that they are touting for on the sly.'"

"Sometimes anonymous scandal soils the complaint book's pages. Thus, last year, appeared this entry about a very popular member:

"Maj. Hawkins is flirting with too many of our wives. By the way, he still owes that tenner—he knows to whom."

CUTICURA CURED FOUR

Southern Woman Suffered with Itching, Burning Rash—Three Little Babies Had Skin Troubles.

"My baby had a running sore on his neck and nothing that I did for it took effect until I used Cuticura. My face was nearly full of better or some similar skin disease. It would itch and burn so that I could hardly stand it. Two cakes of Cuticura Soap and a box of Cuticura Ointment cured me. Two years after it broke out on my hands and wrist. Sometimes I would go nearly crazy for it itched so badly. I went back to my old stand-by, that had never failed me—one set of Cuticura Remedies did the work. One set also cured my uncle's baby whose head was a cake of sores, and another baby who was in the same fix. Mrs. Little Wilcher, 776 Eleventh St., Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 16, 1907."

Better Qualifications.

"Yes," said the political boss, "we'll have to give Crookley this nomination."

"But," protested the unsophisticated one, "why not Goodley? He's better able to fill the office."

"Perhaps, but Crookley is better able to get it."

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.

DEFIANCE STARCH

exactest to work with and starches clothes nicest.

CUTTING, VERY



Ardent Lover—Can't you see—can't you guess that I love you—adore you? The Girl—Well, I should hate to think this was just your natural way of behaving in company.

Neatly Put.

Homer Folks, the secretary of the State Charity Aid society of New York, referred in a recent address to the awkwardness that charity workers feel in making public appeals for funds.

"And few charity workers," Mr. Folks added, "can carry off that awkwardness with the neatness of the colored preacher who reminded his congregation that: 'Brudren, Ah kain't preach hyah an' board in heb'n.'"

Moravian Barley and Speltz.

two great cereals, makes growing and fattening hogs and cattle possible in Dak. Mont., Ida., Colo., yes, everywhere, and add to above Salzer's Billion Dollar Grass, the 12 ton Hay wonder Teosinte, which produces 80 tons of green fodder per acre. Emperor William Out prodigy, etc., and other rare farm seeds that they offer. JUST CUT THIS OUT AND RETURN IT, with 10c in stamps for packing, etc., to the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., and get their big catalog and lots of farm seed samples. K. & W.

However things may seem, no evil thing is success, and no good thing failure.—Samuel Longfellow.

HOUSE WORK



Thousands of American women in our homes are daily sacrificing their lives to duty.

In order to keep the home neat and pretty, the children well dressed and tidy, women overdo. A female weakness of displacement is often brought on and they suffer in silence, drifting along from bad to worse, knowing well that they ought to have help to overcome the pains and aches which daily make life a burden. It is to these faithful women that

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

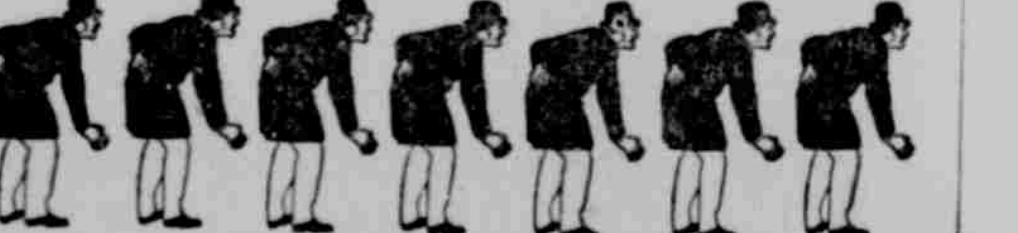
comes as a boon and a blessing, as it did to Mrs. F. Ellsworth, of Mayville, N. Y., and to Mrs. W. P. Boyd, of Beaver Falls, Pa., who say:

"I was not able to do my own work, owing to the female trouble from which I suffered. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound helped me wonderfully, and I am so well that I can do as big a day's work as I ever did. I wish every sick woman would try it."

FACTS FOR SICK WOMEN.

For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness, or nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.



"OUCH, OH MY BACK"

NEURALGIA, STITCHES, LAMENESS, CRAMP TWINGES, TWITCHES FROM WET OR DAMP ALL BRUISES, SPRAINS, A WRENCH OR TWIST THIS SOVEREIGN REMEDY THEY CAN'T RESIST

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