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From the New York Observer.

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

BY REV. E. P. ROGERS, D.D.

JANUARY 23.

Lesson 4:

The Birth of Jesus.

LUKE 2: 1-20.

GOLDEN TEXT:—“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men.”—Luke 2: 14.

Central Truth:—A Saviour comes to redeem his people.

Six months have passed since the date of our last lesson, and Mary has remained in her quiet home at Nazareth. Then the Emperor's decree, which commanded an enrolment of the people, obliged her to go to Bethlehem, the residence of her family, which was about ninety miles from Nazareth, to be enrolled for the tax which was to be laid on the people. This circumstance establishes the fact that Joseph and Mary were not very poor people, but that they had at least a comfortable estate, on which they paid taxes. The journey occurred at the last of December, and was made by easy stages, as was necessary to Mary's delicate condition.

On their arrival at Bethlehem they found the village inn, or caravansary, was filled with guests, and that they could not be accommodated there. This was probably owing to the fact that the Emperor's decree had summoned many people to journey to the place of legal enrolment, and it was very natural that there should be scanty accommodations in a small town or hamlet. It was not uncommon in Palestine to use the limestone caves, with which the country abounded, for the housing of the cattle, and frequently the inn was connected with these dry caverns which could be used in a strait for the entertainment of travelers. Thus Joseph and Mary found their quarters among the cattle, and here our Lord was born and cradled.

The most ancient traditions locate the place of our Lord's birth in a cave, and a stately church and convent now mark the spot assigned by the old legends as the scene of that most stupendous of all earthly events.

At this time, about a mile from Bethlehem, a company of shepherds were watching their flocks, as is said, on the spot where, in a grove of olive trees, now stands a chapel, known as the “Angel to the Shepherds,” and said to be the identical spot where the shepherds encamped. The Jews say that the sheep intended for the temple sacrifices were pastured in the fields of Bethlehem.

While the shepherds were engaged in their ordinary occupation, they were surprised by a vision of a very remarkable and glorious nature, which overwhelmed them with surprise not unmixed with fear. An angelic messenger appeared to them and made a grand communication. This was no less than the birth of Christ the Lord, which was announced as being “good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.” They were told that they should find the facts proven at Bethlehem by the sight of the new-born babe, dressed and cradled in a manger. The good tidings were confirmed by the appearance of a heavenly chorus, who were visible to the shepherds, and who sang the grand Doxology, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” Some of the Alexandrian and Latin versions of the angels' song render the last phrase, “On earth peace to men of good will,” which does not change the sense, as it is generally interpreted to mean, “God's good will as shown to men.”

The shepherds at once determined to go to Bethlehem, and verify this wonderful story, which they did, and were filled with amazement by what they saw and heard there.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. Christ is the great central fact in the world's history.

To him everything looks forward or backward. All the lines of history converge upon him. All the march of Providence is guided by him. All the great purposes of God culminate in him. The greatest and most momentous fact which history records is the fact of his birth.

2. This fact is of far greater consequence than that we should keep any particular day in its commemoration. It is quite impossible to prove that Jesus was born on the 25th of December, yet there is great propriety in observing our Christmas Festival. The fact that he was born, is all that we need and it is such a stupendous and glorious fact, and of such everlasting interest for man, that it is but a morbid and bigoted spirit which refuses to join in its celebration. We are not afraid of too much Christ worship!

3. The humblest souls are sometimes chosen to receive the most august revelations from heaven.

It is so all through the Sacred History, and not more so than at the birth of Christ. That grand event was not announced to mighty princes, or great scholars, or profound philosophers, renowned conquerors, but to a handful of Jewish shepherds, “keeping watch over their flocks by night.”

John Bunyan, a captive in the jail at Bedford, had a vision of the pilgrim's progress to the Celestial City, second only in its power for good to the revelation made to those simple shepherds at Bethlehem.

Lowly walks in life, trodden by faithful men, may be lighted with heavenly glories.

That is the best way which leads directly to Christ.

4. The scheme of Redemption, while it brings the highest glory to God, also secures peace and good will to men.

Sin aims a deadly blow alike at God's glory and man's good. Redemption secures both, and in the song of the angels both worlds can unite.

5. The greatest power in the world at this day is the “Babe of Bethlehem.”

Infidels scoff at Christianity as a weak thing. But nineteen hundred years of progress and triumph bear testimony to its power.

6. That is a poor house where there is no room for Jesus.

The inn at Bethlehem found no apartment for him who made the world theirs. There might have been a reason for that in the unusual crowd of travelers which was peculiar at the time.

But there are many homes and houses now where there is room for all but him. But that family is without its best friend where he is not a welcome guest.

To parents and children, to kindred and friends, to masters and servants his coming brings nothing but good. Home blessings and heart blessings, blessings in joy or sorrow, sickness or health, prosperity or adversity, will never be wanting in that house where Christ abides.

As we write this commentary on this lesson the air is beginning to tremble with the vibrations of Christmas music, and the coming of the Christ-child festival is waking joy in many homes. But what is Christmas without Christ? And what a mockery it is to celebrate Christ's birth on the calendar, when we shut Christ as a Saviour from the household and the heart.

Population of Cities having over 30,000 Inhabitants.

The following is an approximate statement of the population of cities and towns having 30,000 inhabitants and upward by the Census of 1880:

	1880.	1870.
1. New York	1,206,300	942,292
2. Philadelphia	846,084	674,022
3. Brooklyn	566,429	398,099
4. Chicago	503,351	298,977
5. Boston	362,525	250,525
6. St. Louis	350,922	219,894
7. Baltimore	332,190	267,374
8. Cincinnati	255,708	216,239
9. San Francisco	253,956	149,473
10. New Orleans	216,149	191,419
11. Cleveland	190,142	92,829
12. Pittsburgh	186,281	86,616
13. Portland, Me.	155,137	115,714
14. Washington	147,307	109,169
15. Newark	136,400	100,609
16. Louisville	123,645	109,733
17. New York City	120,728	87,246
18. Detroit	116,342	79,527
19. Milwaukee	115,578	71,440
20. Providence	104,820	69,264
21. Albany	90,063	76,217
22. Rochester	89,361	62,386
23. Allegheny, Pa.	78,681	53,140
24. Indianapolis	75,074	48,214
25. Richmond	63,803	51,258
26. New Haven	62,882	50,840
27. Worcester	58,483	49,028
28. Troy, N. Y.	56,747	46,465
29. Kansas City	55,413	32,200
30. Cambridge, Mass.	53,740	37,624
31. Syracuse, N. Y.	51,791	43,061
32. Columbus, O.	51,665	41,274
33. Paterson	50,987	35,570
34. Toledo, O.	50,584	33,594
35. Charleston, S. C.	49,999	48,066
36. Fall River, Mass.	49,006	28,746
37. Hartford, Conn.	46,887	42,044
38. Scranton, Pa.	45,850	30,692
39. Nashville, Tenn.	45,161	29,865
40. Reading	43,280	33,939
41. Portland, Me.	42,633	35,180
42. Wilmington, Del.	42,499	30,841
43. Camden, N. J.	41,658	29,045
44. Portland, Me.	41,498	29,045
45. Lawrence, Mass.	39,178	29,921
46. Dayton, O.	38,677	30,473
47. Lynn, Mass.	38,284	28,232
48. Denver, Col.	35,934	17,529
49. Oakland, Cal.	34,566	10,500
50. Atlanta, Ga.	34,398	21,769
51. Utica	34,313	29,804
52. Portland, Me.	33,810	31,413
53. Memphis	33,093	40,226
54. Springfield, Mass.	33,140	28,703
55. Portland, Me.	32,630	25,506
56. St. Joseph, Mo.	32,565	19,565
57. Grand Rapids, Mich.	32,033	16,567
58. Wheeling	31,296	19,290
59. Mobile	31,205	22,624
60. Holken	30,990	20,297
61. Harrisburg	30,762	23,104
62. Detroit	28,235	30,851
63. Omaha	30,318	16,083

A Snow-Buried Village.

THE CALAMITY THAT BEFELL A MOUNTAIN-SIDE VILLAGE.

BERRYVILLE, Va., Jan. 9.—Roger L. Cooper, a resident of the little village of Paris, Clarke county, situated on the side of the Blue Ridge mountain, near the boundary line between Loudon and Clarke counties, brings news of a terrible calamity in his native village. He states that when he left Paris the entire community of 500 men, women and children were suffering terribly from intense cold, while no less than five persons had been literally frozen to death. The snow commenced falling December 20, and continued with unabated fury until Christmas, when the thermometer registered 18° below zero. Nearly every house in the village, owing to its peculiar situation on the mountain side, was buried to the roof in mammoth snowdrifts, compelling residents to cut tunnels, in many instances fifteen to twenty feet long, to make exits. So completely was the country overwhelmed with snow that it was impossible to make any headway in it with the most powerful horses. All communication being thus interdicted, it became apparent that residents would soon be in imminent danger for want of food and fuel.

During Christmas day the able-bodied men who had succeeded in cutting their way out of their houses were busily engaged in assisting many of their neighbors to cut tunnels through the snow which completely enveloped some of the smaller cottages. The safety of fifty or seventy-five of the villagers could not be placed beyond doubt until late in the afternoon, when they emerged from the snow-bound dwellings, many suffering terribly from frosted hands and feet, brought on by want of fuel with which to keep the fires going. One cottage, occupied by a widow, Mrs. Kate Whitman, and her two children, was the last for which the kindly offices of a rescue party were performed. When an entrance to this house was finally effected, after several hours' labor, the unfortunate lady and one of her children were found dead upon a bed, frozen stiff. One child afterward revived, and, although terribly frosted, will probably recover. The next day (Sunday) a meeting of the villagers was held in the school-house, when it was resolved to appoint a committee of fifteen to take charge of all the wood and provisions in town. This was in order to economize fuel. The number of sick and frozen became so great on Tuesday that the committee converted a dwelling-house into a hospital, whither all the invalids were removed and placed in charge of a body of physicians. By Tuesday evening the number of patients, in various stages of sickness had reached seventy-five, while others were coming in hourly. The committee then determined to reduce rations and send a message to Berryville to ask that assistance be sent as soon as possible.

CO-OPERATION IN DRESS.

PUSHING KATE FIELD'S PLAN FOR ELEGANT AND CHEAP CLOTHING FOR WOMEN. From the New York Tribune.

The organization of a Ladies' Co-operative Dress Association in this city, which has thus far not met with success, is now to have the aid of Mr. Pulbrook, of London, who was instrumental in founding the Ladies' Dress Association of that city two years ago. Mr. Pulbrook arrived in New York from England last Wednesday, and will undertake the entire labor of organizing the association here at the request of Miss Kate Field, as it was thought that this preliminary work could not be accomplished without the aid of an experienced hand. A reporter of the *Tribune* called on Mr. Pulbrook yesterday morning at the Fifth Avenue hotel.

“We have two distinct systems in England,” he said, “one which originated in the North among the operatives in the large manufacturing towns, and the other upon which the societies in London are founded. In the former case the capital is subscribed by the shareholders, who get their regular profit, but the stores are open to the public, and the goods sold at the ordinary price. At the end of the year the profits are divided among the customers in proportion to their purchases. The method pursued in London differs only in this, that the goods are sold at a reduced price, at a profit which only just covers expenses, and only the shareholders, or those who hold life-tickets, are permitted to enjoy the advantages of the association.”

“What stores are there in London?”

“There are two principal ones, the Army and Navy Co-operative Society and the Civil Service Supply Association. They have been in existence about ten years, and last year the sales amounted to nearly \$10,000,000. One, of which the capital was only \$10,000, has, by the accumulation of an average net profit of only three per cent., raised a working capital of over one million dollars, and its \$5 shares bring \$375 each. The shares in another the interest of which is restricted to five per cent., now obtain 300 and 400 per cent. premium for the privilege of dealing with the store.”

“What has been the success of the Ladies' Dress Association?”

“It has been wonderful. Although the association was founded only two years ago, we have been obliged already to restrict our business for lack of room.”

“Is the business restricted to materials of dress?”

“Not entirely. Our supply consists of dress materials and the designs for making them up, mantles, hosiery, fancy goods, millinery, laces, underwear, boots and shoes, household linen, and in fact everything kept at a first-class dry goods store, at prices considerably below those demanded by any of the retail stores. Over twenty visits are made each year by our buyers and designers to Paris, where the best models are selected from all the principal Parisian dressmakers and milliners; and the silks and other goods selected are always of the best quality.”

“Do you think the prospect of success in New York is good?”

“From what I have seen of the stores in New York, I think there is a legitimate opening for the intended co-operative store. If a woman can get comfort in shopping and the materials of the very best quality and artistic taste, with the economy of purchasing four dresses for the price of three, she cannot be otherwise than pleased. If the system satisfies 500 ladies of title in England, I believe it will satisfy ladies on this side of the water.”

“When do you think the arrangements will be completed?”

“I shall probably remain here about two months, and hope to complete the organization of the society.”

New Year in New York.

Howard in Philadelphia Times.

Young men in dress coats and white cravats have made things lively in Gotham. What an abused custom this New Year's calling is become. Fifty years ago when the up-town limit of the city was Canal street and when green fields and cow pastures extended from the city hall park up and on to Harlem creek, everybody knew everybody else, and a day's calling could be made leisurely and comfortably. The good old Knickerbockers enjoyed life, and a signal part of social delight was this habit of which I write. To-day this is all changed. Sensible people ignore literal physical calling and utilize the mails by which to send their cards as courteous indications of remembrance on the first day of the year. With the exception of a few pleasant family calls the entire system has fallen into the hands of young men, a majority of whom have most limited circles of acquaintance. These cheerful members of the community, having purchased or hired dress coats, pool their lists and go from house to house in groups. Aside from the transparent folly of wearing evening dress in the morning, and the utter unfriendliness of calling on ladies they never saw or heard of, is their absolute ignorance of all that the custom implies or means. Their sole idea seems to be to make out a long list. The exchange of courteous desire and the extension of more than a perfunctory wish of the compliments of the season never enter their “minds.”

With blue lips, red nose and white cravats they rush into a parlor, bob to one and another, giggle and rush out. I think the women are quite as absurd as the men. A custom has grown up of late years which seems to me most reprehensible. Ladies intending to receive send their cards to all their acquaintances and often to men they don't know at all. Young ladies are anxious to have many calls, and in their eagerness forget to be prudent, thus opening their door to people it may not be so easy to be rid of. In other days it was the universal habit to spread a generous table. Now a table of any kind is the exception, but I regret to say that wine and liquors are offered very freely. The effects, it stands to reason, on giddy-pated youths must be disastrous.

A GOOD MOTTO.

WHERE DID JUDGE BLACK FIND IT? Miss Grundy in Philadelphia Times.

When Judge Black was here to attend the wedding of his granddaughter, Miss Shunk and Lieutenant Evans, he unintentionally started a topic which has now become a favorite subject for discussion when two or three legal minds are assembled at a state dinner. Judge Black told me the story, and I have repeated it to many, of the motto on the attorney general's official seal, which the judge had placed upon it when he was attorney general in Buchanan's administration. The motto is: “*Qui pro Domina Justitia sequitur*”—who prosecutes for our lady justice. Judge Black says that he made use of this, remembering the story which he asserts Sir Edward Coke tells of his interview with Queen Elizabeth when he was taken to her to “kiss hands” for his patent, and was introduced as “Her Majesty's Attorney General: *Qui pro Domina Regina sequitur*.” Elizabeth replied with emphasis: “Nay, by God's teeth it shall not be so; we must change that, he shall be my attorney general, *Qui pro Domina Justitia sequitur*.”

As Judge Black cannot now remember where he found the story I appealed to a number of the highest officers of the government, all of whom have the reputation of great knowledge of the law and the literary as well, and not one of them had ever heard the story before, except one to whom Judge Black had told it, and none had ever seen it in any of Coke's works. Therefore, as I have been informed by one present at several state dinners lately, the topic has been much discussed and the burden of proof now rests upon Judge Black, who is more than suspected of having originated the Coke-Elizabeth interview. It is generally conceded that, whether he formed it or imagined it, the story is an excellent one. Several of the judges of the supreme court are re-reading Coke's works now, I am told, and also, “The Lives of the Lord Chief Justices of England,” to find the anecdote, and Judge Swayne is so annoyed at not being able to point to the volume where it is told that an eminent jurist says he does not believe he will be able to write his resignation this winter. This civil service examination is sometimes extended to include the question: “How long has the attorney general been a cabinet officer?” That is to say, have those holding that position since the adoption of the Constitution all been members of the cabinet? It seems strange, but some high officials have disputed the fact that all of our attorney generals have been members of the cabinet. Judge Black, Judge Swayne, Attorney General Devens and others agree that they have been from the first, beginning with Edmund Randolph, appointed by Washington in September, 1789. They were, however, not heads of a distinct department until 1870, when the law passed creating the department of justice. The attorney general used to be what in England is styled “a cabinet officer without a portfolio.”

The Approaching Comet.

COLLISION WITH THE SUN SAID TO BE CERTAIN WRECK OF MATTERS.

Professor Proctor, the greatest of living astronomers, who has made the investigation of the approaching comet a special study, gives the result of his observations to the public, and his conclusions are that an awful collision of the sun and comet are certain, and that changes in another stellar system will take place, and the sun may afterwards resume its ordinary influence. The menacing comet is the one recently visible in 1880 in the Australian heavens, and which is one of the most interesting comets ever seen by man. Views respecting it, not by fanciful theorists, but by mathematicians of eminence by no means prone to adopt vivid and startling ideas, suggest the possibility—nay, even some degree of probability, that the comet may bring some danger to the solar system. Like the comet of 1843, it passed within about 190,000 miles from the solar surface, and on a path similar to that pursued by the comet of 1843 while in the neighborhood of the sun. The comet of 1880 is, in fact, identical with the comet of 1843, but its period is diminishing rapidly, so that at an early date it may fall into the sun, with this alarming immediate result—that all higher forms of life, at least, will be destroyed off the surface of the earth.

APPLE JACK is first cousin to James Jams.

A NEW JERSEY SEERESS.

AN OLD WOMAN WHO IS THE SENSATION OF A THRIVING AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY.

There lives in Kingwood township, near Frenchtown, N. J., a woman about whom all the neighbors for miles around are excited, and whose fame promises to spread throughout the central portion of the State. Already the news of the wonderful power of prophecy which she possesses has reached the ears of the quiet farmers in the upper counties, and small parties come every day or two to visit her. Her name is Clark, and she is probably about sixty-five years old. Born in Hunterdon county, she has, since her marriage, forty-three years ago, resided in various parts of Hunterdon and Warren counties. The first indication of the power which she is believed to possess appeared in early life, during a Methodist revival. From a girl she had been of an emotional disposition, readily moved to tears, and sometimes completely prostrated by an appeal from the pulpit. It was during these nervous moments that she seemed imbued with the gift of remarkable foresight, and made predictions about the future weal or woe of her family and friends. Many of these prophecies are said to have been literally fulfilled. Her temperament and power of foretelling filled all her friends with a certain awe, which has always existed. Mrs. Clark is a sensible woman, however, and endeavored as best she could to drive away all fear of herself and her powers, although maintaining her belief in some wonderful gift bestowed upon her. Wherever she lived, sooner or later, reports would be circulated respecting her nature, and she would be called upon to exercise her wisdom.

As the years passed her nervous attacks were understood to have become more frequent, and therefore her prophetic utterances have been more numerous. Settling, some time ago, in her present home, she is known by every man, woman and child in the vicinity, and scarcely a person lives within a circuit of ten miles who has not had his or her history recounted and fortune told. If they came when the old lady was in robust health they sometimes failed to procure what they wished, for she then had neither the inclination nor the talent to remove the veil from the future. There are some, of course, who deride the whole thing, and laugh at Mrs. Clark's predictions, but the majority of the rural folks, being more or less superstitious, have great faith in her sayings. Several cases of extreme melancholy and sickness are said to have been produced through unpleasant disclosures made by the old lady to the victims, and others have recovered from long illness when inspired with hope by an interview with the prophetess. The neighbors are usually loud in her praises, and declare in the most unqualified way that she has told them circumstances in their lives she could not possibly have learned in the ordinary course of events. Hence their extreme faith in her predictions. Young men seek her advice regarding marriage, and, being given a description of their sweethearts, boldly lay siege to the damsel whose features she portrays, confidently expecting a favorable response. Maidens of rustic beauty seek this oracle to ascertain the conduct of their lovers, and many a country lad is believed to have been repulsed by some hideous revelation of his life during one of the nervous spells. Industrious husbandmen inquire as to the prospects for their crops, and the wayside grocer consults her as to the size of his next invoice of merchandise.

While many of her clients insist that her power is that of the spiritualist or clairvoyant, the old lady herself protests against such an accusation. She makes no pretensions to be under the guide of an Indian chief or a great spirit of some kind, nor does she resort to any mysterious incantations. Her mode of procedure is by means of the palms of her hands or the veins of the temples. She requests her visitor to hold out the hand before her with the palm upwards and then dictates what seems to her to be the truth by reading the arrangement of the veins. Her utterances come freely, seeming to require little study. Once in a while she hesitates, and will sometimes place her hands upon the inquirer's head. Considering the number of persons consulting her, there is very little repetition about her predictions. Her happiest faculty seems to be the right use of names, both past and future, and the graphic descriptions of places and persons. The age of the woman and the continual strain upon her nerves renders her life very uncertain and seems to increase the anxiety of those who have heard of her lest they should fail to have their future revealed before she dies.

The Youngest Telegraph Operator.

From the Waco (Texas) Examiner.

The frontier telegraph office at William's Ranch, is managed by Hallie Hutchinson, a little girl only nine years of age. A gentleman who returned from there a few days since says Hallie is the most remarkably intelligent little elf he ever had the pleasure of meeting. She handles her instrument with the success and precision of an old operator. Recently, when election returns were coming in and the whole country was wildly excited to know the result, little Hallie sat at her instrument, her eyes aglow

with intelligence, and gathered in the news from all over the Union, while dozens of brawny men crowded around to hear what the lightning brought and to admire the wonderful skill of the little operator. While controlling the wires as she does Hallie is not unlike other little girls of her age in her habits and inclinations. For instance, one end of her operating table is piled full of baby dolls, and she spends a great deal of her leisure time dressing them. Brown county may claim the youngest operator in the world.

RUSSIA IN CHRISTMAS TIME.

When the leaves fall, the Russian winter sets in at once, imprisoning the serfs in their cabins for seven dreary months. This is their period of domestic life. Home has to be made the most of. Deep canon-like cuts lead from house to house, and there are frequent gatherings of young and old.

When Christmas comes the fathers of marriageable children arrange with their neighbors, and the girls are all taken to one house with their parents. A Christmas tree is set up on the table, where brandy is dealt out to each comer with pirogue—a meat biscuit. Then the marriageable girls are placed in a row on a long bench, each one veiled. The young men who have been kept in an adjacent room, are let in one by one by the master of the house.

With throbbing heart each girl awaits the entrance of the youth to whom she has already given her heart. Will he be sure to recognize her in her disguise? We do not know whether the heart of the true lover is preternaturally keen, or whether in these cases there is some preconcerted signal, but it rarely happens that when a young man bows low before a maiden she does not raise a veil to meet his glance with blushing looks of love.

Yet it sometimes occurs that a blundering dolt hits upon a girl whom he does not love, or who eyes him with scorn. The unfortunate fellow is then the butt of ridicule from all sides, and can escape only by a considerable present in the way of damages.

When the couples have all been satisfactorily told off, each bride and groom proceed to their parent's cabin, where they enter veiled. The oldest of the family then exchanges rings between them three times, a holy picture is given to them to kiss, they embrace one another, and are recognized as betrothed.

As the Russian government always gives a young married couple farmland and wood for a house the marriage follows soon after the engagement. On the wedding day the friends of the bride dress her up, taking off her maiden attire to invest her with that of a married woman, in which they lead her to her groom. The wedding always ends in copious libations of brandy.

The next day the parents enter the house of the new-married couple to wish them happiness, and offer them bread and salt. Thus peace and happiness enter the new home, the best of Christmas gifts.

Uses of Charcoal.

Charcoal, laid flat, while cold, on a burn, causes the pain to abate immediately; by leaving it on for an hour, the burn seems almost healed when it is superficial. And charcoal is valuable for many other purposes. Tainted meat, surrounded with it, is sweetened; strewn over heaps of decomposed pelts, or over dead animals, it prevents any unpleasant odor. Foul water is purified by it. It is a great disinfectant, and sweetens air if placed in trays around apartments. It is so very porous in its “minute interior,” it absorbs and condenses gases most rapidly. One cubic inch of fresh charcoal will absorb nearly one hundred inches of gaseous ammonia. Charcoal forms an unrivaled poultice for malignant wounds and sores, often corroding away dead flesh, reducing it to one quarter in six hours. In cases of what we call proud flesh it is invaluable. It gives no disagreeable odor, corrodes no metal, hurts no texture, injures no color, is a simple and safe sweetener and disinfectant. A teaspoonful of charcoal in half a glass of water often relieves a sick headache; it absorbs the gases and relieves the distended stomach pressing against the nerves, which extend from the stomach to the head. It often relieves constipation, pain, or heartburn.

NOTHING in the world is so strong as a habit, good or bad. The seaman cannot sleep soundly on the shore, because he misses the tossing of the ship and the roaring of the wind. We heard lately of a forlorn widow who the third night after her husband's death sat at the window watching the stars with sleepless eyes. At last her thoughts, sad and weary, broke into soliloquy: “This trying to go to sleep,” she said, “without a quarrel of some kind is so new that I can't stand it.” Just then two men under her window fell to fighting. She watched the conflict to the end, then quietly undressed, saying: “That's kind of homelike,” and in a few minutes was fast asleep.

INSTRUCTION ends in the school-room, but education ends only with life. A child is given to the universe to be educated.

TAKEN on the spot—The means.