

JUST BEYOND.

Past the fragrant clover fields, Past the forest with their yields Of dark verdure, restive eyes That are worn with readings wise; Past the blue hills, barriers dear, Twisting the hopes beyond and here, In a place (it must be so) Whither it is good to go.

Taken at His Word.

Nellie Palmer was lying on the lounge in her pretty bedroom, crying and looking very unhappy. And yet she had been married only six months, and to such a "nice handsome man," as all the young ladies declared that surely she ought to have been happy with him. And so she had been until, to tell truth, Bob Palmer, forgetting, or seeming to forget that he was a married man, had recently taken to flirting with these very young ladies at all the parties in Middleton, leaving his wife to take care of herself. Surely it was enough to make any six-months wife cry, especially one so sensitive as Nellie.

cheeks flushed with a wounded and indignant feeling. "Yes," she said to herself, "since he has requested it, I will amuse myself as he does, and see how he likes it! Ashamed of me, is he? And he did not use to be when I was gay and happy. Oh, Bob, if you only knew how I loved you!" And once more despite her resolutely closing her eyes and pressing her fingers upon them, the tears would come.

Mrs. Palmer was a belle. She did not seem in the least to care who her husband was waiting upon, and, indeed he could rarely get a word with her at all, when at the gay assemblies which she constantly frequented. He sometimes gave her a hint that she was "no longer a girl," and that he was her husband; but she only laughed, and said there was no harm done, and that she was enjoying herself so delightfully, and felt herself more a belle than even when a girl—which was true, because she had not flirted then, being absorbed heart and soul in Bob Palmer. But now it was Capt. Lovell who appeared chiefly to occupy her thoughts, as well as a good part of her time.

Here is a signature, that of C. N. Jordan which has been written millions of times, and years ago the writer learned to write it small, smoothly and without any shading. It has been printed millions and millions of times on legal tender notes, bank notes and checks. The writer has been signing it nearly all the time for over a quarter of a century, first as cashier, then as a bank president, and later as treasurer of the United States. It now adorns the notes of the Western National Bank of New York.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON. Lesson XI, September 17, 1888. THEME: THE SMITTEN ROCK.—Num. 30: 1-13. Then came the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, into the desert of Zin in the first month; and the people abode in Kadesh; and Miriam died there, and was buried there. 2. And there was no water for the congregation; and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron. 3. And the people chode with Moses, and spake, saying, Would God that we had died when our brethren died before the Lord. 4. And why have ye brought us into this wilderness, that we and our cattle should die thereof? 5. And wherefore have ye made us to come up out of Egypt, to bring us into this evil place? It is no place of seed, or of figs, or of vines, or of pomegranates; neither is there any water to drink. 6. And Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation; and they fell upon their faces; and the glory of the Lord appeared unto them. 7. And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, 8. Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock, saying, Hearken ye unto the voice of the Lord, that ye may bring forth water out of the rock; so shall ye give the congregation and their beasts drink. 9. And Moses took the rod from before the Lord, as he commanded him. 10. And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels: must we fetch you water out of this rock? 11. And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also. 12. And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring the congregation into the land which I have given them. 13. This is the water of Meribah; because the children of Israel strove with the Lord, and he was sanctified in them.

stood in high places and have enjoyed great privileges; of them much will be required. Notice the wording: "the land which I have given thee." The promises of the Lord are not doubtful, the future occupancy, in God's thought was present realization. V. 13. This is the water of Meribah. The word "Meribah" means "strife." This place was in Kadesh; there was another Meribah in Sinai "because the children of Israel strove." "For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ." He was to them the fountain of living waters. Israel suffered the thirst common to all mankind, that thirst which only Jesus, the Spiritual Rock, can supply. Figuratively, the rock was smitten at Horeb as per the will of God, for material and spiritual benefit. Henceforth it was only requisite to speak to it. Christ was smitten once, "wounded for our transgressions," he was not to be smitten any more; but, spoken to in the prayer of faith, the waters of Life shall flow forth.