

- „ 6. In less than five minutes you shall see me fifty times.
 „ 7. That is a riddle which I cannot unravel.
 „ 8. Then I will do it for you.
 „ 9. Counting fifty gold pieces into his hand, stamped with his royal likeness.
 „ 10 The coin is good, for it also comes from our Lord God, and I am his paymaster.

Questions.

What is the tittle of this lesson? Who is the contented workman? Who is "Old Fritz"? What was the farmer doing? What mysterious answer did he give the King? Who solved the mystery? and how? Who proposed a riddle? What was it? How was it answered? What is the moral of this lesson?

XVI.

The Amber beads.

I know a little scotch girl. She lives among the Highlands of Scotland. Her home is hardly more than a hut; her food, broth and bread. Her father keeps sheep on the hillsides, and

instead of wearing a coat, wraps himself in his plaid for protection against the cold winds that drive before them great clouds of mist and snow among the mountains.

As for Jeanie herself, her yellow hair is bound about with a little snood; her face is browned by exposure to the weather, and her hands are hardened by work; for she helps her mother to cook and sew, to spin and weave. One treasure little Jeanie has, which many a lady would be proud to wear. It is a necklace of amber beads.

You have perhaps seen amber, and know its rich sunshiny color, and its fragrance when rubbed; and do you also know that rubbing will make amber attract things to itself somewhat as a magnet does?

Each bead of this necklace had inside of it something tiny, encased as if it had grown in the amber. Jeanie is never tired of looking at and wondering about them. Here is one with a delicate bit of ferny moss shut up, as it were, in a globe of yellow light. In another is the tiniest fly, his little wings outspread and raised for flight. Again, she can show us, lodged in one bead that looks like solid honey, a bee; and a little bright winged beetle in another.

This one holds two slender pine-needles lying across each other, and here we see a single scale of a pinecone; while yet another shows an atom of an acorn-cup, fit for a fairy's use.

I wish you could see the beads, for I can not tell you the half of their beauty.

Now, where do you suppose they came from, and how did little Scotch Jeanie come into possession of such a treasure?

Old Kenneth, Jeanie's grand-father, who now sits all day in the chimney corner, years ago, when he was a young lad, once went down to the seashore after a great storm hoping to help save something from the wreck of the Goshawk, that had gone ashore during the night. Among the slippery seaweeds, his foot accidentally uncovered a clear, shining lump of amber, in which all these creatures were imbedded.

Now Kenneth loved a pretty Highland lass, and when she promised to be his bride, he brought her a necklace of amber beads. He had carved them himself out of his lump of amber, working carefully to save in the centre of each bead, the prettiest insect or moss, and thinking, while he toiled hour after hour, of the

delight with which he should see his bride wear them.

That bride was Jeanie's grand-mother, and when she died last year, she said; "LET little Jeanie have my amber beads, and wear them as long as she lives."

What puzzled Jeanie was how the amber came to be on the seashore; and most of all, how the bees and mosses came inside of it. Should you like to know? If you would, that is one of Mother Nature's stories, and she will gladly tell it.

Sentences.

- Nº 1. Her home is hardly more than a hut; her food broth and bread.
- „ 2. Cold winds that drive before them great clouds of mist and snow.
- „ 3. Her face is browned by exposure to the weather, and her hands are hardened by work.
- „ 4. One treasure little Jeanie has,—it is a neck-lace of amber beads.
- „ 5. Each bead of this neck-lace has some tiny thing encased inside of it.
- „ 6. How did little Scotch Jeanie come into possession of such a treasure?

- „ 7 Among the slippery sea-weeds, his foot accidentally uncovered a clear, shining lump of amber.
- „ 8. He had carved them himself out of his lump of amber.
- „ 9. Let little Jeanie have my amber beads, and wear them as long as she lives.
- „ 10. How did the amber come to be on the seashore?

Questions.

Where does the little scotch girl live? What does her father do for his living? How does she occupy her time? What treasure has she got? Do you know anything particular about amber? Describe the beads of that necklace. Where did they come from? How did Jeanie get them? Who will tell us how they came to be on the seashore, and how the bees, mosses, & came inside of them?

XVII.

Continued.

Here is what she answers to our questions:
 “I remember a time long, long before you were born,—long even before men were living

on the earth,—these Scotch Highlands, as you call them, were covered with forests. There were oaks, poplars, beeches and pines; and among them, one kind of pine, tall and stately, from which a yellow, shining gum flowed, just as you have seen little sticky drops exude from our own pine-trees.

“This beautiful yellow gum was fragrant, and as the thousands of little insects fluttered about it, in the warm sunshine, they were attracted by its pleasant odor, perhaps, too, by its taste,—and, having alighted, they stuck fast and could not get away. The great yellow drops, oozing out, surrounded, and at last covered them entirely.

“So, too, wind-blown bits of moss, leaves, acorns, cones and little sticks, were soon securely imbedded in the fast flowing gum; and, as time went by, it hardened and hardened more and more—and this is amber.”

“That is well told, Mother Nature, but it does not explain how Kenneth’s lump of amber came to be on the seashore.”

Wait, then, for the second part of the story.

“Did you ever hear that in those very old times, the land sometimes sunk down so deep that the water covered it, even to the moun-

tain tops, and what had been land became deep sea?

"You can hardly believe it; yet I myself was there to see, and I remember well when the great forests of the North of Scotland—the oaks, the poplars and the amber pines—were lowered into the deep sea.

"There, lying at the bottom of the ocean, the wood and the gum hardened like stone, and only the great storms can disturb them, as they lie buried in the sand."

It was one of those great storms that brought Kenneth's lump of amber to land.

If we could only walk on the bottom of the sea, what treasures we might find!

Sentences.

- Nº 1. I remember a time long before you were born.
 „ 2. There were oaks, poplars, beeches and pines.
 „ 3. You have seen little sticky drops exude from our own pine trees.
 „ 4. This beautiful yellow gum was fragrant.
 „ 5. They stuck fast and could not get away.
 „ 6. Bits of moss, leaves, acorns, cones and little sticks were soon imbedded in the fast flowing gum.

- „ 7. It hardened more and more and this is amber.
 „ 8. The land sometimes sunk down so deep that the water covered it.
 „ 9. Lying at the bottom of the ocean, the wood and the gum hardened like stone.
 „ 10. Only great storms can disturb them, as they lie buried in the sand.

Questions.

What were the Scotch Highlands covered with? What kind of trees grew there? Which tree did the gum flow from? How did the flies get stuck in it? What else was imbedded in the gum? How did the gum become amber? How did the gum come to be at the bottom of the sea? What brings the amber to the surface.

XVIII.

Pierre's little song.

In a humble room, in one of the poorest streets in Paris, France, a fatherless boy, sat humming by the bedside of his sick mother. There was no bread in the house; and he had not tasted food all day. Yet he sat humming