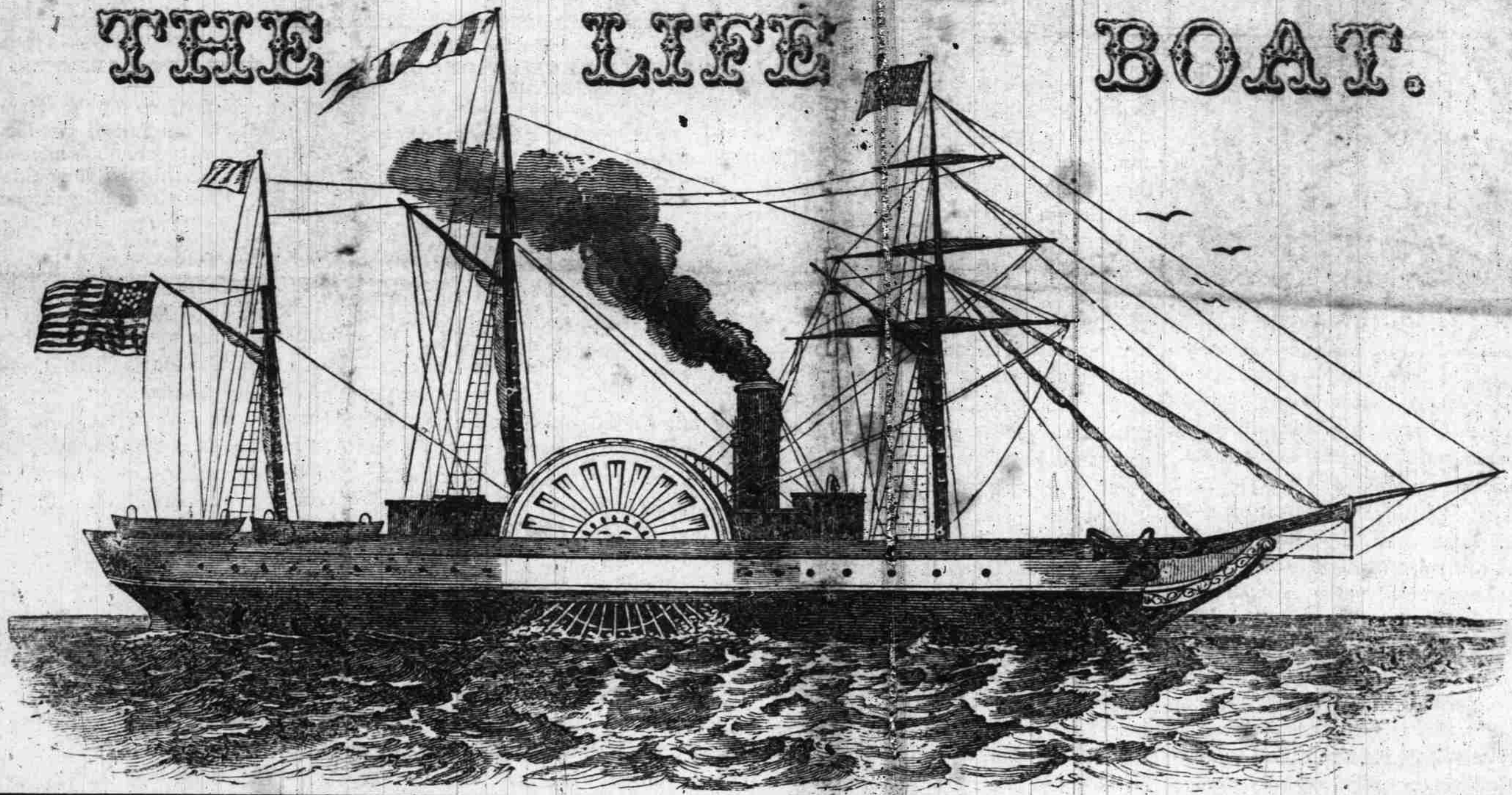


THE LIFE BOAT.



VOL. 1.

MAY, 1867.

NO. 2.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY IN RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, BY THE N. C. PUBLISHING COMPANY.



SERMON FOR CHILDREN.

TEXT.—“Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.”

How many of my young readers keep the Sabbath day holy? How many try to keep it holy? All of them should, for it makes God very angry when any of his creatures disobeys his commands. He is constantly watching us all, and when we do anything that he has commanded us not to do, he takes notice of it and will, sooner or later, punish us for it. Let me tell you a little story—a true story about Sabbath breaking:

A great while ago, God raised up and sent forth a people whom he called Israel, and he appointed a good man named Moses, to lead them to the land which he had given them for a home. Before they could reach that home, they had to cross a wilderness which took them forty years. But while they were journeying, God did not forget them. He talked with Moses and told him how to make the people do. He made laws, and one of the laws was: “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.”

Moses read all the laws to the people, and said they must not break them; if they did they would be surely punished. But there were some naughty ones among the children of Israel, just as there are among the children of this day, and these would sometimes break the laws. Once they found a

man gathering sticks (or getting wood) on the Sabbath. They went and told Moses about it and Moses had him locked up, until it was decided what should be done with him.

In a short time, God told Moses that the Sabbath breaker must be put to death; that he must be carried out of the camp and stoned to death with stones. Moses and the children did as God had com-

er lost his life.

Remember, dear children, that the same law which that poor Sabbath breaker violated, and for which he lost his life, is still in force: “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy!” If God punished the Israelite for breaking the law, he will also punish you.

THE SABBATH BELL.

The Sabbath bell! the Sabbath bell!
What soul awakening sounds we hear?
Its blessed invitations tell
Of welcome to the house of prayer.

“Come sinner, come,” it seems to cry;
“Oh! never doubt thy Maker’s love;
Christ has thy ransom paid, then why
Delay his clemency to prove?”

The Sabbath bell! the Sabbath bell!
Off! have we heard its warning chime,
And yet we love the world too well,
Nor feel our waywardness a crime.

Yet still thy calls, sweet bell, repeat,
Till, ended all our mortal strife,
In earthly shrines no more we meet,
But worship in the realms of life.

“MY MASTER IS ALWAYS IN.”—“Johnnie,” said a man, winking slyly to a dry goods clerk of his acquaintance, “you must give me good measure. Your master is not in.”

Johnnie looked solemnly into the man’s face and replied: “My Master is always in.” Johnnie’s master was the All-seeing God. Let every tempted child—aye, and adult—adopt Johnnie’s motto: “My Master is always in.” It will save him from falling into many sins.

For the Life Boat. SPEAK THE TRUTH.

“Lucy, go into the nursery and see what Lilly is about,” said a lady to her little girl one day.

Lucy obeyed and found Lilly in mischief. The little urchin looked cunningly into her sister’s face and said: “Sis, don’t tell ma what I’m doing, will you?”

Lucy stood thinking at the chamber door. She fell into a sort of



For the Life Boat.

THE CRUCIFIXION.

Look at this picture, dear children, and you will see how the blessed Jesus was put to death. You see that he was nailed to a cross—yes, great, long nails were driven through his hands and feet—and that wicked soldier pierced his loving heart with a rugged spear. Oh, how cruel! How could that soldier be so hard hearted! Do you think, my dear children, that you would have helped to put the blessed Savior to death, if you had been alive, in those days? I hope not, for he loved little children very dearly, and often blessed them, laying his hands upon their heads.

But, let me tell you something. If you do not try to be good, and give your little hearts to God, you will be just as wicked as those cruel soldiers were, for the Scriptures teach us, that, when we commit sin, we crucify Jesus afresh, and put him to an open shame. I’m sure you would not willingly do this; your little hearts are too kind and too tender to treat him so cruelly. Then, let me beseech you, dear children, to give your little hearts to Christ, and he will make you good and great men and useful women, and when you die he will take you home to Heaven where you will be happy forever. Jesus said, suffer little children to come unto me. Will you go?

by her mama’s voice saying:
“Why do you stand there so long, my dear?”

Lilly went in and said, “I was thinking, ma, that I don’t want either to tell a lie or be a tell-tale; ma, Lilly is doing mischief.”

Noble Lucy! Don’t you admire her love both for the truth and for her sister Lilly? She loved Lilly dearly, but she loved truth more dearly still. Lucy was right. Every child should love truth better than brother or sister, yea, better than life. A really noble and good boy, or girl, would rather be put to death than to tell a lie. Would you young reader?

BAD THOUGHTS come first, bad words follow, and bad deeds finish the progress. Then evil thoughts do all the mischief in the world. Strive against them.

KEEP AT IT.—“Holloa, Fred, what are you doing?”

“Chopping wood,” replied Fred. “I want to get his log out of the way.”

“Why, do you think you will ever get that great log cut up and removed?”

“Yes, if I keep at it.”
This is the whole secret of life.

GOOD NATURE AT MEALS.—If you would enjoy your meals, be good-natured. An angry boy cannot tell whether he is eating boiled cabbage or stewed umbrellas.