

THE LITTLE BIRD

**A** LITTLE bird with feathers brown  
Sat singing on a tree—  
The song was soft and low,  
But sweet as it could be

And all the people passing by,  
Looked up to see the bird  
That made the sweetest melody  
That ever they had heard

But all the bright eyes looked in vain,  
For birdie was so small,  
And with a modest dark brown coat,  
He made no show at all

"Wov, papa," little Grace said,  
"Where can that birdie be?  
If I could sing a song like that,  
I'd sit where folks could see."

"I hope my little girl will learn  
A lesson from that bird,  
And try to do what she can,  
Not to be seen or heard.

This bird is content to sit  
Unnoticed by the way,  
And sweetly sing his Maker's praise,  
From dawn to close of day.

"So live, my child, all through your life,  
That, be it short or long,  
Though others may forget your looks,  
They'll not forget your song."

HONOUR OLD AGE.

**T**HE Germans have a story about a little girl, named Jeannette, who once went out to see a grand review. She found a capital place from which to see the soldiers pass, when she noticed a poor old woman in the crowd trying very hard to get where she could see.

Jeannette said to herself: "I should like to see the soldiers march; but it isn't kind in me to stay in this nice seat and let that old woman stay where she can't see anything. I ought to honour old age, and I will." So she called the old woman and, placing her in the nice seat, fell back among the crowd. There she had to tiptoe and peep and dodge about to catch a glimpse of the splendid scene, which she might have seen fully and easily if she had kept her place.

Some of the people said she was a silly girl, and laughed at her. Jeannette was rewarded in her heart for her kindness to old age. A few minutes later a man, covered with lace, elbowed his way through the crowd and said to her: "Little girl, will you come to her ladyship?" She could not imagine who her ladyship was, but she followed the man to a scaffold within the crowd. A lady met her at the top of the stairs and said: "My dear child, I saw you yield your seat to the old woman. You acted nobly. Now sit down here by me. You can see everything here." Thus Jeannette was rewarded a second time for honouring old age.

VARIETIES.

THERE are some people so eaten up with curiosity that they would turn a rainbow to see what color its back is.

A MAN must stand erect, not to be kept erect by them.—*Marcus Aurelius Antoninus.*

THERE are too many pholks who are allwiss trying to lift a ton, when they sint registered for only 1,250 pounds.

"THERE's some things as old as the hills anyhow," said Uncle Reuben. "What are they?" asked his niece. "They're the valleys between 'em, child," solemnly answered the old man.

MEMORY is a net. One finds it full of fish when he takes it from the brook, but a doz'n miles of water have run through it without sticking.

WHEN Webster was asked how he acquired his clear, simple style of speaking, he said, "I have been leaving off words all my life."

THERE are some persons whom we enjoy more when we are getting acquainted with them than we do afterward.

NOT one of the cackling old hens in this country appears to know or care that a Florida turtle will lay 150 eggs in a day without making the least bit of noise.

A KNOWING heathen: A Portland (Oregon) Chinese peddler refused an English shilling offered as a two-bit piece, saying: "No good. Me heap saba. No chicken on him."

"My soldiers," says Emperor William, "have never seen me with my coat unbuttoned, and I do not intend they ever shall; for, let me tell you, it is the one button left unbuttoned that is the ruin of an army."

USAGES, diversions, styles of dress and undress, have crept into reputable society, which owe their fascination to the stimulus they subtly supply to the lower and more dangerous appetites. Why should you allow your sons and daughters at an evening party what would shock and alarm you if you saw it anywhere else? Does immodesty become modest by simply going into company?—*Bishop Huntington.*

THE girl who giggles: On first acquaintance her infirmity does not strike you, but as the intimacy ripens the sad misfortune becomes painfully apparent, and the feeling of pity which first affected one is superseded by that of annoyance. If one is of a nervous disposition, every tendon on his frame is kept at a high tension, and rendered painfully weak by unconsciously keeping on the *qui vive* for the next giggle.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

B.C. 1063 ] LESSON VIII. [Nov. 25.  
DAVID AND GOLIATH.

1 Sam. 17. 38-51. Commit to memory vs. 45, 46.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The battle is the Lord's. 1 Sam. 17. 47.

OUTLINE.

1. The Weapons. v. 38-40.
2. The Meeting. v. 41-48.
3. The Victory. v. 49-51.

TIME.—B.C. 1063.

PLACE.—The valley of Elah, in the tribe of Judah.

EXPLANATIONS.—*Helmet*—A metal covering for the head. *Coat of mail*—Lit rally, "coat of scales," probably of leather with metal scales fastened upon it as a protection. *Girded his sword*—Saul's sword. *Assayed*—Undertook, began. *Not proved it*—Was not accustomed to the armour and weapons. *Took his staff*—His shepherd's staff, used to guide the sheep. *Out of the brook*—The little stream which runs through the valley of Elah. *Scrip*—A small bag used for carrying provisions. *Sling*—The weapon with which he was most familiar. *The Philistine*—The giant, nine feet high, named Goliath. *Man that bare the shield*—This was a large shield covering most of the body, and carried by an attendant. *Disdained him*—Held him in contempt. *By his gods*—The idols of the Philistines. *In the name of the Lord*—David's faith was not in his weapons, but in his God. *I was girded*—By the power of God. *The battle is the Lord's*—Under the Lord's control. *David hosted*—He ran near enough to take aim with his sling. *In his forehead*—The only part of his body that was uncovered. *Fell upon his face*—Stunned, but not yet killed.

*Took his sword*—The Philistine's sword. *Champion*—The one who stood to represent them in the fight. *They fled*—A sudden terror fell upon them.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson do we find—

- 1 That faith in God gives wisdom?
- 2 That faith in God inspires courage?
- 3 That faith in God gives success?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Who dared the Israelites to fight him in war? Goliath, a Philistine giant. 2. Who offered to fight the giant? David. 3. In whose name did David go to fight with Goliath? In the name of the Lord. 4. What spirit did David show? Courage and faith. 5. With what did he slay the giant? With a sling and stone. 6. What was the result of the battle? A great victory for Israel.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The special providence of God.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

46. What was the first remarkable effect of the coming of the Spirit of God upon them? The first remarkable effect of the coming of the Spirit of God upon the Apostles and other disciples was, that each of them was enabled to preach the Gospel in strange languages.

B.C. 1063 ] LESSON IX. [Dec. 2.  
DAVID'S ENEMY, SAUL.

1 Sam. 18, 1-16. Commit to memory vs. 14-16.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways, and the Lord was with him. 1 Sam. 18. 14.

OUTLINE.

- 1 The Love of the Prince. v. 1-4.
- 2 The Jealousy of the King. v. 5-11.
- 3 The Blessing of the Lord. v. 12-16.

TIME.—B.C. 1063.

PLACE.—Probably Gikah, in the tribe of Benjamin, Saul's home.

EXPLANATIONS.—*He had made*—David, who had been brought before Saul. *The soul of Jonathan*—The son of Saul, and a brave young man. See this great deed in chap. 14. *Took him*—Into his service. *Go no more home*—To live, though he may have gone home to visit his parents. *Jonathan stripped himself*—The highest mark of love was for a prince to take of his own garments or weapons and give to another. *Girdle*—A sash worn around the waist. *Behaved himself wisely*—He was wise because God was with him. *Accepted*—Beloved. *As they came*—After the war was over. *The women came out*—To meet the army on its return. *Tabrets*—Musical instruments somewhat like the tambourine. *David his ten thousands*—In slaying Goliath he had wrought as great a victory, as the slaughter of ten thousand men. Saul was very wrath—He was naturally jealous and made more so by fear of losing his kingdom. *Eyed David*—With jealousy and hatred. *The evil spirit*—Showing itself in fits of frenzy. *From God*—God allowed evil to possess Saul, who had forsaken him. *Prophecied*—The word here means a wild raving under some spirit's power. *David played*—To soothe him. *Javelin*—A spear. *Cast the javelin*—Intending to kill David. *Afraid of David*—Afraid lest God was intending to make David king in his place. *Captain over a thousand*—With the rank of what would be now called a colonel. *When Saul saw*—Saul saw David's growing influence and popularity, and the evidences that he enjoyed the favor of the Lord.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where in this lesson do we find—

1. The favor of God giving success?
2. The favor of God giving trouble?
3. The favor of God winning love?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. Who loved David after his victory? Jonathan, the son of Saul. 2. How did David act under the honours which he received? Very wisely. 3. How did Saul feel towards David? He became jealous of him. 4. To what did Saul's jealousy lead him? To try to kill David. 5. Why was David wise and successful? Because the Lord was with him.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—God's presence with men.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

47. What was the doctrine they preached? The doctrine preached by the Apostles when the Spirit of God had come upon them was, that Jesus, who was crucified, was the Messiah, that is, the Christ, the Son of God, and the Saviour of men; and that sinners who repent and believe in His name should be saved.

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