

which other girls have without thinking of them. I don't see why my father couldn't have made money as well as hers. I hate being poor; I hate having to be grateful; I hate Christmas!"

Poor, naughty Barbara! She went to bed full of wicked thoughts like these and sobbed herself to sleep. But into her restless dreams by-and-bye there stole a strain that seemed like angel music. Louder and fuller swelled the glad song, until presently her eyes opened, and the words took meaning to her ear:

"The star, the star of Bethlehem,
O'er the sad world is dawning;
For Christ the Lord is born to-day,
All in the Christmas morning!"

"It is the carol singers!" she said, and rising, she threw on her dressing gown, opened her window and looked out. All the road was white with snow; snow clung to the vines that twined about her lattice, and the air was bitter cold.

A little boy, thinly clad and looking pained and chilled, was standing below, his carol paper in his hand, and his clear, young voice uplifted. Barbara looked at him, and a wave of shame and pity overflowed her heart.

"Poor little fellow," she said to herself. "How frozen he looks, and yet he has to go from house to house in the snow to earn a few pennies to keep from starving. And the dear Christ, too, was so poor that he had not where to lay his head, while I—O how wicked I have been!"

She ran down to bring the child in, warmed and fed him, and sent him away rejoicing with Christmas gifts. And never again did she harbor the thought, "I hate Christmas."—*Sunlight.*

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

WORDS AND WORKS OF JESUS AS RECORDED IN THE GOSPELS.

LESSON XII.—DECEMBER 23.

JESUS ASCENDS INTO HEAVEN.

Luke 24. 36-53. Memory verses, 46-48.

GOLDEN TEXT.

While he blessed them he was parted from them and carried up into heaven.—Luke 24. 51.

LESSON STORY.

Forty days passed from the time of Christ's coming forth from the grave until his ascending into heaven. During that time he was busy doing good work. Some of his disciples had seen him and believed him to be the same Jesus. But others of them doubted. One day he appeared to them with the greeting, "Peace." At first they were full of fear and thought he was

a spirit. To prove to them that he was not he ate some fish and told them to look and see if he was not flesh and bones. And to Thomas who doubted he said to put his hands in the wound's prints.

Then he showed them how the Scriptures said all this should happen. He told them they were to be witnesses to all the world—and that they were to stay in Jerusalem until power from on high was given them.

Then he led them a little way, and he raised his hands to bless them, and as he did so he ascended out of their sight.

LESSON QUESTIONS.

1. How many days was Christ on the earth from his Resurrection to Ascension? Forty days.
2. Did he appear to his disciples? Yes.
3. Did all believe it was he? No.
4. To make the doubting believe what did he do? Eat fish and told Thomas to feel his wounds.
5. What did he say to them? That they must tell the world of his Resurrection.
6. What did he then do? Blessed them.
7. What happened then? He was received into heaven.

LESSON XIII.—DECEMBER 30.

REVIEW.

GOLDEN TEXT.

His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.—Isa. 9. 6.

LESSON QUESTIONS.

1. What is the first lesson about? The two great commandments.
2. What is the lesson for me? To love God and my neighbor.
3. What is the second lesson about? Ten virgins.
4. What is the lesson for me? Be always prepared.
5. What is the third lesson about? The talents.
6. What is the lesson for me? Make use of what I have.
7. What is the fourth lesson about? Jesus anointed in Bethany.
8. What is the lesson for me? I should sacrifice for Jesus.
9. What is the fifth lesson about? The Lord's Supper.
10. What is the lesson for me? Try to do all that Jesus asked.
11. What is the sixth lesson about? Jesus in Gethsemane.
12. What is the lesson for me? Try to say, "Thy will, not mine."
13. What is the seventh lesson about? Jesus before Caiaphas.
14. What is the lesson for me? Never bear false witness, which means never lie.
15. What is the eighth lesson about? Temperance.
16. What is the lesson for me? Take

care of my body, for it is the temple of God.

17. What is the ninth lesson about? Jesus before Pilate.

18. What is the lesson for me? Stand firm to what I believe is right and true.

19. What is the tenth lesson about? Jesus on the cross.

20. What is the lesson for me? Have Christ's forgiving spirit.

21. What is the eleventh lesson about? Jesus risen from the dead.

22. What is the lesson for me? Be swift to tell good news to others.

23. What is the twelfth lesson about? Jesus ascends into heaven.

24. What is the lesson for me? Because Jesus went to heaven I may go also.

OUTSIDE.

BY HANNAH G. FERNALD.

The toy-shop is a merry place
At any time of year,
But oh! it's quite like fairy-land
When Christmas day is near.
The music-boxes tinkle,
And the trumpets add their noise,
And up and down and everywhere
Are toys and toys and toys!

The busy crowds that look and laugh
And hurry to and fro,
The dolls that walk, the dolls that talk,
The cars that truly go,
The tops that sing, the steeds that prance
For children to bestride—
How sad it seems that any child
Should need to stand outside!

In prickly green of Christmas wreaths
The holly berries glow,
The Christmas trees will sparkle soon,
With Christmas fruit bent low,
And here's a thought will help us all
At happy Christmas-tide,
The very best of pleasures
Are the pleasures we divide!

Wherever hearts are happy,
'Tis a simple thing to do,
To seek some other, sadder heart,
And make it happy, too.
The joy we share with others
Is a joy that's multiplied,
And 'twill make a perfect Christmas
If there's no one left outside.

Once there was a fair apple, rosy-checked and mellow, but it was bad at the core, and had to be thrown away. A boy or girl may be ever so sweet for us to look upon, but the heavenly Father, who sees straight to the heart, may see bad thoughts and angry temper there. "Keep thy heart with all diligence," says the Bible.