

THE THREE LITTLE DOGS.

Three little dogs were talking
As they trotted along the road;
And the subject of speech,
With all and with each,
Was what bad folks were abroad.

Said the first: "You would hardly believe it,
But I can assure you it's true,
A man with a pail
Threw suds on my tail!
Now I think that's cruel, don't you?"

Said the second: "That's very atrocious;
But a worse thing happened to me:
A boy with a stone
Almost broke my backbone!
Now, what think you of that?" said he.

Said the third: "My fate was the hardest,
And I can prove it just now:
A man knocked me flat
When I looked at a cat!
Wasn't that too bad? Bow-wow!"

But the three little dogs did not mention,
The first had stolen some sprats;
The next, that he ran
At a poor blind man;
And the third, that he'd hunted the cats.

Thus, these three little dogs were talking,
And many small folk do the same;
They tell of a story
That redounds to their glory,
But forget where they well deserve blame.

—Union Signal.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

WORDS AND WORKS OF JESUS AS RECORDED IN THE GOSPELS.

LESSON XI.—JUNE 10.

PETER'S GREAT CONFESSION.

Matt. 16. 13-28. Memory verses; 24, 25.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.—Matt. 16. 16.

LESSON STORY.

As Jesus taught and wrought miracles among the people, they saw plainly that he was no ordinary man. Some thought he was John the Baptist, some Elias, and some Jeremiah or some other prophet. Jesus one day asked his disciples whom they thought he was. Peter, who was always the first to answer, replied: "Thou

art the Christ, the Son of the living God." From that time on Jesus began to let his disciples know that his end was not far off. When he spoke of the manner of it, of the suffering and insult, they were grieved, and Peter said: "This must not happen to thee." Here Jesus was saddened to think he was so little understood. Then he explained the beautiful truths that one must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Jesus, and that if one loses his life for Christ's sake he shall find it. For what profit to gain the whole world at the expense of one's soul.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. Whom did some people think Jesus was? John the Baptist, Elias, Jeremiah, or some other prophet.
2. Whom did the disciples say he was? The Son of God.
3. Did they understand the meaning and reason of his death? No.
4. What must we do? Deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Jesus.
5. Who will save his life for ever? He who gives it up for Jesus' sake.
6. Which is most important, the whole world or our soul? Our soul.
7. What can a man give in exchange for his soul? Nothing.

LESSON XII.—JUNE 17.

THE TRANSFIGURATION.

Luke 9. 28-36. Memory verses, 30, 31.

GOLDEN TEXT.

This is my beloved Son: hear him.—Luke 9. 35.

LESSON STORY.

What a wonderful sight it must have been for Peter and John and James to see the transfiguration of Jesus. He had taken these three faithful disciples up into the mountain with him. It was his custom to go there to pray, and now that the time of his death was drawing near he felt the need of much prayer with God.

Suddenly a great brightness shone around Jesus, and his long white cloak glistened like silver and was almost dazzling. At first the disciples were sleepy and did not see him. But afterwards they beheld him with Elias and Moses on either side. The disciples were entranced and asked Jesus if they might build three tabernacles for him and his heavenly companions.

Just then a voice came out of a cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son: hear him."

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. Where did Jesus go? Up the mountain side.
2. What did he go for? To pray.
3. Who went with him? Peter, John and James.

4. What happened? A great light shone about Jesus, and his clothing glittered.

5. Who appeared with him? Elias and Moses.

6. What did a voice in a cloud say? "This is my beloved Son: hear him."

A GENTLEMANLY DOG.

Prince Stranach was purchased from a dog-fancier named Butler, in the city of New York. He was a pure St. Bernard. I had a nice kennel made for his use, which he had occupied but a short time before a Brahma hen laid an egg in his bedding, and for some time continued to deposit an egg daily. On each occasion the dog bore the egg in his mouth to a chicken-house near by, and placed it in a nest he selected. This continued for some time until the hen concluded to set, when, by her continued presence in the kennel, or instinct, the dog surmised such was the case. Anyway, he bore back the eggs to her, and, like a true gentleman, gave up his house completely until she came off with her brood, when he seemed quite rejoiced; and I have every reason to believe the old hen appreciated him.

"Charlie, I will tell you how you can be useful: You can pick up a pin from the floor; play with your little sister; tell mamma when the baby cries; reach the stool, that she may put her foot on it; hold the cotton when she winds it; teach a little child his letters; and make your mother happy by being a good boy."

GIVE THEM NOW.

If you have gentle words and looks, my friends,
To spare for me; if you have tears to shed
That I have suffered, keep them not, I pray,
Until I hear not, see not, being dead.

If you have flowers to give—fair lily buds,
Pink roses, daisies (meadow stars that be
Mine own dear namesakes)—let them bloom and make
The air, while yet I breathe it, sweet for me.

For loving looks, though fraught with tenderness;
And kindly tears, though they fall thick and fast;
And words of praise—alas!—can naught avail
To lift the shadows from a life that's past.

And rarest blossoms—what can they suffice,
Offered to one who can no longer gaze
Upon their beauty? Flowers in coffins laid
Impart no sweetness to departed days.