

crown, and ask if a little boy-king is wise enough to rule a nation, even if he does wear a crown? Explain that his wise, good friend, Jehoiada, told him what to do, and talk about the blessing that wise friends are to us, and how glad we should be to follow their advice.

**GOD'S TEMPLE.** Have a picture of the temple, or of a church, on the board. By its side have a heart, drawn on the board or cut from paper. Have both covered, and show both at once. Ask which is God's temple, and talk first about the visible temple. Let children tell what they can about Solomon's temple, and tell that when Joash the boy-king was reigning, this beautiful temple was almost in ruins. Teach that in forgetting God the people had forgotten his house. Ask what they had been worshipping, and show that we do not care for God's house as long as we worship any kind of idols, ourselves, our own way, our work, our play, whatever it may be.

Teach that the heart is God's temple also. Read 2 Cor. 6. 16, and talk about the spilling of this temple. Read what God says about it, 1 Cor. 16. 17, and show how careful we should be to keep pure and clean, and in good repair, the temple which God has given to each of us.

**CHEERFUL GIVING.** Tell how the temple was repaired. The priests did not do it alone, nor with the help of a few of the people, but each one, young or old, rich or poor, gave what he could. Teach that little children may have a share in making beautiful the house of the Lord, and that the Lord loves the cheerful givers. Talk about giving other things than money—time, pleasant occupations, our own choices, etc., to the keeping in order, not only the outward temple, but also the heart-temple.



**GOD'S CALL.** Tell that the young king did this work because God wanted it done. We hear God's call to his house on Sunday; do we heed it? Do we hear his call in the heart to prayer and praise and loving service? He is always speaking, and we shall hear if we listen for his voice. Impress the duty, as well as delight, of worshipping in God's temples.

#### Lesson Word-Pictures.

Breaches, breaches, in the House of God! Rents in the roof, gaps in the walls, and foundation-stones that are loose! Curtains that are faded and torn, decorations that are mutilated, pavements that are broken! What a dishonoring sight, a decaying House of God! "Let the people bring money! Let the breaches be repaired!" is the thought of the king. And still though money is brought, the rain drips from the rents in the roof, the curtains hang faded and torn, the wind moans through the crevices in the walls. The House of God stands an unrepaired, dishonored object. Jehoiada, the priest, though, has a plan. "Some wonderful plan," the king may have said, "some wonderful plan it may be." No, only a chest, only a chest with a hole in the lid and set beside the altar! A hole to catch the possible droppings of shekels or half-shekels by the worshippers coming into the House of the Lord. "What will that amount to?" Zadok, the Levite, may ask, crooking his nose into a sneer. "Those big breaches," says Nathan, the priest, looking up in wonder, "and this little box," looking down in pity. Hark, though! The people are coming in, and hear the coin rattling down into Jehoiada's chest! This poor pilgrim from Egypt drops his

mite, and that rich farmer from fat harvestings near Jericho shoots into the box a "wedge of gold," and that wealthy widow leaves behind her gleaming bracelets and earrings. The money-heap grows as a cloud out of bits of vapor, as a river out of rain-drops, as a sun out of star-dust. "Indeed!" cries Zadok, when the box is emptied. "Indeed!" echoes Nathan. And then what a merry sound of hammers was heard in quarries and of axes in forests! What a merry song of work there was in the temple itself! The foundations were strengthened, the pavement relaid, shabby curtains replaced with new ones, dying colors on the walls freshened, while the rain in vain tried to bore its way through the roof, and the wind scolded to no purpose outside the mended cracks in the walls. So much for a chest with a hole in the lid, and a people willing to drop gifts into that hole.

#### LESSONS FOR NOVEMBER, 1885.

- Nov. 1. Death of Ellisha. 2 Kings 13. 14-25.  
Nov. 8. The Story of Jonah. Jonah 1. 1-17.  
Nov. 15. Effect of Jonah's Preaching. Jonah 3. 1-10.  
Nov. 22. Hezekiah's Good Reign. 2 Kings 18. 1-12.  
Nov. 29. Hezekiah's Prayer Answered. 2 Kings 20. 1-17.

#### Book Notices.

*Life of Edward Thomson, D. D., LL. D., Late a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church.* By his Son, Rev. Edward Thomson, M. A. Cincinnati: Cranston & Stowe. New York: Phillips & Hunt. The memory of Bishop Thomson is very precious to all who knew him. His consecrated life was a blessing to the Church, which was sorely bereaved when he was taken away. In this volume we have a touching tribute by his son to the worth of the good man. It is a book which ought to be in our Sunday-school libraries, for it can be profitably read by young and old.

*The Congo and the Founding of its Free State. A Story of Work and Exploration.* By Henry M. Stanley. With many illustrations and maps. In two volumes. New York: Harper & Brothers. These beautifully printed and elegantly bound volumes open to the reader a new world. We have a graphic account of the exploration of the Congo River from its mouth to its source. This wonderful stream is shown to be three thousand miles long, and in some places from six to eight miles in width, with banks well wooded, and scenery in some places surpassing the Hudson or the Rhine. Numerous and populous villages are found on both sides, and the people are ready for trade, and, let us hope, for the Gospel also. Here is an open door for the merchant and the missionary. The work is as interesting as a romance.

*A Naturalist's Wanderings in the Eastern Archipelago. A Narrative of Travel and Exploration from 1878 to 1883.* By Henry O. Forbes, F.R.G.S. New York: Harper & Brothers. This elegant volume is well illustrated with maps and with wood-cuts from original drawings by the author. It takes the reader into the by-ways of travel where ordinary travelers rarely venture, and hence opens to us a new world. Though the writer, of course, makes frequent reference to what would specially attract the eye of a naturalist, he is not forgetful of the tastes of the ordinary reader, and gives us some interesting information concerning the manners of strange people.

*Taken or Left.* By Mrs. O. F. Walton. New York: Carter & Brothers. A very interesting story of English child-life.