

## PEACE AND LOVE.

BY MARY D. BRINE.

Dear little birds on the swaying bough,  
With bills together so lovingly;  
Little brown mates with fluttering wings  
And bird hearts full of their innocent  
glee!  
All around them the breezes blow,  
All about them the sunbeams play,  
And, best of all, there is peace and love,  
Which makes for the birdies a happy day.

Dear little children who read this rhyme,  
Are there kisses on dear little lips so  
sweet,  
And loving thoughts in your childish hearts  
For the little playmates with whom you  
meet?  
Oh, these little birds on the swaying bough  
Are preaching a bit of a sermon; see?  
And teaching the lesson of peace and love,  
In a beautiful way, to you and to me.

No matter how sad or dark the day,  
With love in our hearts the sun lies there,  
But a selfish heart and words unkind  
Will ruin a day, however fair,  
Come weal or woe, come joy or pain,  
We can better enjoy, or can bear the more,  
Whichever the dear Lord sends us each,  
If we hold in our hearts a goodly store  
Of the love and the peace that will shine  
for aye,  
Till we come, at last, to the "Perfect  
Day."

## LESSON NOTES.

## THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT FROM  
ISAIAH TO MALACHI.

## LESSON II.—JULY 9.

## HEZEKIAH'S PRAYER.

Isa. 38. 1-8. Memorize verses 4-6.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

God is our refuge and strength, a very  
present help in trouble.—Psa. 46. 1.

## THE LESSON STORY.

We do not know all the trouble of mind  
that the king of Judah had when the  
Assyrians were camped around him, but  
the record is that "in those days was  
Hezekiah sick unto death." His good  
friend, Isaiah the prophet, came to see him,  
and instead of comforting him he said,  
"Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in  
order: for thou shalt die, and not live."

The poor king was weak with his sick-  
ness, and remembering how he had tried  
to be a good king and had kept up the  
worship of the true God in his kingdom,  
he wondered why he should be taken away.  
Then he turned his face to the wall and  
cried just as if he were a little boy and not  
a king. He also prayed a little prayer;  
he did not ask for anything, but prayed  
the Lord to remember how he had tried  
to be good. The Lord knew all about it,

and he told his prophet to say to the king  
that he had heard his prayer and had seen  
his tears, and that he would add to his life  
on earth fifteen years.

He said, too, that he would defend Jeru-  
salem from its enemies, and for a sign that  
all his promises would be made good he  
said that the shadow on the sundial of  
Ahaz, which probably stood in the king's  
garden, should go back, instead of forward,  
ten degrees. We cannot understand how  
this was done, for wherever the sun casts  
its shadow there it must be, but the Lord,  
who made the sun and its shadow, knew  
just what to do. When they looked at the  
dial they saw the sign, and Hezekiah began  
to get well. Isaiah also told them to lay a  
lump of figs on the "boil," or abscess, that  
made the king so sick, and he should get  
well.

While he was getting well the king wrote  
a beautiful song of praise, in which he said,  
"The living, the living shall praise thee, as  
I do this day."

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. What trouble came to king Hezekiah? The armies of Assyria.
2. How was he delivered? The Lord destroyed them.
3. What soon came to Hezekiah? He was very sick.
4. What word did the Lord send him? That he must die.
5. Who brought the word? Isaiah the prophet.
6. What did Hezekiah do? He wept and prayed.
7. Did the Lord hear him? Yes, and sent an answer.
8. What did he say? That Hezekiah should live fifteen years.
9. What was the sign? That the shadow on the dial should go backward.
10. How far? Ten degrees.
11. Did Hezekiah get well? Yes.
12. What did he do then? He wrote a song of praise.

## LESSON III.—JULY 16.

## THE SUFFERING SAVIOUR.

Isa. 52. 13 to 53. 12. Memorize verses 4-6.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

The Lord hath laid on him the iniquity  
of us all.—Isa. 53. 6.

## THE LESSON STORY.

About seven hundred years before the  
coming of the Lord to our earth as Jesus,  
the son of Mary, Isaiah the prophet wrote  
down his visions about him. Of course  
they were given by the Lord, and it may  
be that Isaiah himself did not understand  
his own visions; but now, in this far age  
of the world, we are able to see that he  
was talking about Jesus, who lived among  
men, was tried before Pilate, hung upon a  
cross, buried in Joseph's tomb; Jesus, who  
died that he might bring us all out of our  
low states into the life of heaven.

It will be very difficult for little children  
to think about all this. It is not a story

of outward things, like the lesson about  
Sennacherib's army. It is a picture of God  
coming down to be man, and suffering and  
dying for the children of his love. Can  
you see the love in the heart of your  
mother? No, yet you see and hear and  
feel things that make you sure that it is  
there. So do we in these words of Isaiah  
find things that are so full of divine love—  
the love of God for his creatures—and of  
divine sorrow—a sorrow greater than we  
could bear—that we are sure that he is  
talking about the divine Man. What won-  
derful words! It seems almost wrong to  
quote any of them here. Perhaps your  
teacher will think it best to read them all  
through to you very slowly and tenderly,  
so that you may think of Jesus in every  
sentence, and wonder how it could have  
been written so long before he came. You  
have an eye within your heart to see Jesus  
with, and he makes himself known to all  
little children who look to him. Ask him  
to set your mind and heart in order, as  
your mother sets her house in order when  
guests are coming, so that you may have a  
heart to offer him for his human temple.  
That is what he wants each one of us  
to be.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

1. Who was Isaiah? A prophet of the  
Lord!
2. When did he live? About seven  
hundred years before Christ.
3. How could he know about Christ?  
The Lord gave him a vision.
4. What did he see? His sufferings and  
death.
5. What did he see besides? His king-  
dom filling the earth.
6. What does our lesson show? That  
Christ was to suffer and die for us.
7. What led him to do this? Love.
8. Can we understand his love? No.
9. What may we do? We may believe  
in his love.
10. What will this do for us? It will  
bind our hearts to him.
11. For whom did Christ live and die?  
For all the world.
12. How can we thank him? By giving  
him our hearts.

## A GOOD GAME.

"Auntie, please tell me something to  
do, I'm tired of Sunday. It's too late  
to go out, and too early for the lamp."  
"Well," said auntie, can you tell me of  
any one in the Bible whose name begins  
with A?" "Yes, Adam." "For B,"  
went on auntie, "take Benjamin. Now  
a C." "Cain." "Let me tell a D," put  
in Joe. "Daniel." "And I know ever so  
many E's," exclaimed Alice. "Elijah and  
Elisha, and—" "One is enough," said  
auntie. "Now for F." And so we went  
through all the letters of the alphabet,  
till before we knew it, it was tea-time.  
"Let's play it every Sunday," we all  
said.