

THE KING OF LAPLAND.

BY ALICE CAREY.

I know a tiny monarch who has taken his command
Within a quiet region, where a faithful little band
Of people do his bidding, or yield him homage true,
And watch his faintest gesture, as old vassals used to do.

His territory's bordered by two encircling arms,
And keeping in their shelter, he is safe from all alarms;
This land is sometimes "rocky" if he feels inclined for jest,
Or lies at peace, a quiet plain, when he would stay at rest.

One mountain rises northward, and is known as Mother's Brow,
While east and west are twin-gray lakes, reflecting, I avow,
The prettiest bit of Nature that a human heart can see
Whene'er the little monarch is alert for jubilee.

But when he's feeling weary from the riding out in state,
Or bowing to his subjects and serfs impertunate,
Retiring to the castle, his regal head, our King
Lays down in princely grandeur, while loving minstrels sing.

If you would find his royal seat, you need not sail the sea,
For—strange enough—his throne is set in this home of the free.
Just find the nearest nursery, and bow to the command
Of the loving little monarch, who is King of all Lapland.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON XII. [Dec. 19.]

JOHN'S MESSAGE ABOUT SIN AND SALVATION.

1 John 1. 5 to 2. 6. Memory verses, 8-10.

GOLDEN TEXT.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.—1 John 1. 9.

OUTLINE.

1. Light and Darkness, v. 6.
2. Sin and Forgiveness, 7-10, 1, 2.
3. Love and Obedience, v. 3-6.

THE LESSON STORY.

John, the "beloved disciple," wrote a

letter to be read in many churches, and it is therefore called a general epistle, or letter. It contains a message which God sends to the Christians of that time (and to us) by John.

This is the message—that "God is light," and his children may walk in the light and so be saved from the darkness of sin. If we do this we shall love one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, shed for us, will wash all our sins away. But we must not think that we are without sin. Jesus came to save sinners, not righteous people. Our part is to confess that we are sinners, that in us there is no good, and to look to Jesus to give us his goodness which he shows in the forgiveness of our sins. John says we must not sin, thinking we may be easily forgiven; but if we do fall into sin he wants us to know that we have a great Friend in heaven who is on our side, Jesus, our Saviour.

It is a wonderful thing to know Jesus, and we may be sure that we know him if we keep his commandments. Jesus, our example, kept his Father's commandments, and if we are his followers we must "walk as he walked;" that is, do as he did.

LESSON HELPS FOR EVERY DAY.

Mon. Read why John writes to the churches. 1 John 1. 1-4.

Tues. Read the message in the lesson verses. 1 John 1. 5 to 2. 6.

Wed. Read about the Light of the world. John 1. 4-9.

Thur. Learn what Jesus says to us. John 12. 35.

Fri. Learn what we have to do. Golden Text.

Sat. Learn how we may be Jesus' friends. John 15. 14.

Sun. Find how we may be fruitful Christians. John 15. 1-8.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON STORY.

What is John's letter to the churches called? Who was John? What is he sometimes called? What do we find in this letter of John's? To whom was this message sent? What is the message? How may we keep out of darkness? What is the cure for sin? Whom did Jesus Christ come to save? What is our part in the salvation? Who is our friend when we fall into sin. How may we know that we know Jesus? How must a Christian walk? Who is our perfect example?

LITTLE CHRISTIANS—

May walk in the heavenly light.
May have their sins washed away.
May obey Jesus as he obeyed his Father.

FOURTH QUARTERLY REVIEW.

December 26.

GOLDEN TEXT.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever be-

lieveth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3. 16.

Titles and Golden Texts should be thoroughly studied.

1. P. L. J. to J. - - I am ready not—
2. P. a P. at J. - - If any man—
3. P. B. the R. G. - - Fear thou not—
4. P. B. K. A. - - Whosoever there—
5. P. V. and S. - - Be of good—
6. P. in M. and R. - - We know that—
7. P. M. in R. - - I am not—
8. The C. A. - - Be strong in—
9. S. W. - - Be ye therefore—
10. C. H. and E. - - Let this mind—
11. P. L. W. - - I have fought—
12. J. M. about S. and S. - - If we confess—

PUT-IT-OFF AND BY-AND-BYE.

Put-It-Off and By-and-Bye are cousins, who look so much alike that the sharp eyes of little people can scarcely tell them apart. They both travel the same road, and will end at the same place: Never-Done. But we warn you that it is not safe to trust them with anything you wish done.

How many little workers know of these two cousins? Nay, more! how many linger to keep company with them? How many times have you put off doing the something in the missionary meeting your lady manager asked you to do? How many times have you said: "I will do it 'by-and-bye,' or 'after a while'?"

WHAT ONE BOY DID.

A blind man in Madras was able to repeat the first few chapters in St. John's Gospel. When asked how he had been able to learn them, he said that a little lad who had been taught in a mission school had been working in that village, and had brought with him a part of the New Testament. He had so often read this aloud that the blind man had learned it by heart, and although the boy had since left the village, not a word of the precious message had been forgotten.

TAKING JESUS' WAY.

Paul, big man that he was, was willing to do just as Jesus said. He had planned to go into Asia; but when his Lord said "No," he went instead to the place he pointed out. Jesus takes your life into his keeping just as he took Paul's. He has planned out what he wants you to do to-day. Are you not willing?

A little girl had a kitten. She was very fond of it, and it was a great delight to her to hear it purr. One night she was restless, and her mother said: "Cynthia, why don't you lie still and go to sleep?" "I can't?" answered the little one, "papa purrs so loud."