

THE BEST WAY.

BY ALICE CAREY.

CHILDREN who read my lay,
This much I have to say:
Each day and every day,
Do what is right—
Right things in great and small;
Then, though the sky should fall,
Sun, moon, and stars, and all,
You shall have light.

This further I would say:
Be you tempted as you may,
Each day, and every day,
Speak what is true—
True things in great and small;
Then, though the sky should fall,
Sun, moon, and stars, and all,
Heaven would shine through.

Figs, as you see and know,
Do not of thistles grow;
And, though the blossoms blow
White on the tree,
Grapes never, never yet
On the limbs of thorns were set,
So, if you a good would get,
Good you must be.

Life's journey through and through
Speaking what is just and true,
Doing what is right to do
Unto one and all,
When you work and when you play,
Each day and every day;
Then peace shall gild your way,
Though the sky should fall.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON X. [March 7.]

THE ETHIOPIAN CONVERT.

Acts 8. 26-40. Memory verses, 29-31.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.—Acts 8. 35.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

Where did Peter and John go from Samaria?
Where did Philip go?
Who told him the way?
What strange sight did he see in the desert?
Who was travelling here?
What country did he come from?
Where was he going?
Where had he been?
What had he brought with him?
Upon what were the words of Isaiah written?
Why were they not in a book? There were no books in those days.

What did Philip ask the stranger?
What was he invited to do?
Whom did Philip preach?
What was the result?
In whose name was the Gentile baptized?
What did he carry home with him?

LESSONS FOR ME.

To be always ready to speak for Jesus.
To always go where the Lord sends me.
To think less of self and more of Christ.

LESSON XI. [March 14.]

SAUL, THE PERSECUTOR, CONVERTED.

Acts 9. 1-12, 17-20. Memory verses, 17-20.

GOLDEN TEXT.

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.—1 Tim. 1. 15.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

Who persecuted the believers?
Why did he get letters to go to Damascus?
What did the letters give him power to do?
Who went with him to Damascus?
What happened when they were in sight of the city?
How do we know that the light was a very bright one?
Who fell to the ground?
Who spoke to Saul?
What did Saul ask?
Where did the Lord tell him to go?
What did he find when he arose?
Who led him into the city?
Where did he stay for three days?
Who came to him then?
What did Saul receive?
What did he soon begin to do?
What had the Lord given him? A new heart?

ANSWER TO YOURSELF.

Have you heard the Lord's voice?
Can Jesus open blind eyes now?
Do you want the eyes of your spirit opened?

THE NEST OF GOLD.

PERCY DALE was a dear, pink-and-white little boy, with a tangle of gold ringlets so long and silky that strangers often stopped him on the street to admire them. He wouldn't have cared, only they sometimes stroked his head and called him "a sweet little girl." Now Percy loved little girls; but to be called a little girl himself was not to his liking. It always sent him running to his mamma to beg her to cut off the dreadful curls that made people say he was "a little girl-boy."
"O no, no, darling; mamma can't shear her pet lamb," she would answer with a kiss; "but by-and-bye we'll ask Miss Olive to do it."
"By-and-bye" was slow in coming, and

Percy's fourth birthday found him with curls longer and livelier than ever. That morning, as he swung on the gate, an old lady passing said to him smilingly:
"Won't you sell me your beautiful bright curls, little miss? My little granddaughter hasn't any."
"Little miss, indeed!" The words nearly broke Percy's heart. He dragged his apron up over the hated ringlets, and held it close till the lady had gone. Then he hopped down from the gate, his eyes shining with a happy thought. He would stop people from calling him names! He would run across the street all by himself and ask Miss Olive to cut his hair off so short that everybody'd know he wasn't a girl. As it happened, his mamma had lately said to Miss Olive that one of these days his curls must be clipped; so when the little fellow told his errand, Miss Olive at once pinned a towel about his neck, and snip, snip, went her big shears through his wavy mane. She put the longest curls in a paper box for Percy to carry home, and, not being a very tidy woman, she threw the rest of them out of the back window into the yard. These were spied by two yellow birds about to set up house-keeping, and carried off tress by tress to the lilac trees in the garden. There the birds wove them into the daintiest golden nest that ever was seen. In this they reared a thriving little family, and when the cold winds came and they all flitted away to the sunny South Miss Olive brought the empty nest to Percy's mamma, who has kept it to this day.

THE FERRYMAN'S DAUGHTER.

ONCE there was a quiet little girl whose home was on the bank of a river. Her father owned a large rowboat, and when anybody desired to cross to the opposite side they would employ him to row them over. And for this reason Anna became known as the Ferryman's Daughter.
One day Anna's father rowed her across the river, and when she came along the little footbridge at which the boat landed she saw a little lamb lying among the foliage on the bank, and its mother standing by and bleating in a pitiful tone. Reaching down, Anna gathered the innocent little creature in her arms, and on examining it she discovered that it had injured one of its limbs, probably through falling off the footbridge. It belonged to a farmer whose home she was on her way to visit, and so, after bathing the sore limb, she decided to carry it to the farmhouse.
The lamb laid its pretty head against Anna's breast, and the affectionate mother followed on behind with a look of quiet confidence that seemed to say, "My little lambkin is safe now."
When they arrived at the farmhouse the good farmer bathed the lamb's leg with a healing lotion, and then wrapped a bandage about it.
Jesus, the sinner's friend, cares for the sheep, and binds up their wounds.