

GIVING.

BY JULIA ANN WALCOTT.

Lady Rose, Lady Rose,
In your fragrant furbelows,
You give the wind sweet messages
Whichever way it blows;
You send them to the stranger,
You send them to your friend,
From out your store of treasure,
Their lives your riches lend.

Little bird, little bird,
As you sing upon your bough,
A hundred hearts are happier
That you are singing now.
Though the sun is shining brightly,
Or is hiding in a cloud,
You give the world your sweetest songs
And sing them brave and loud.

Merry brook, merry brook,
As you dance upon the way,
The rose had not the heart to bloom
Were you not here to-day;
Nor could a thirsty birdling trill
Its song so sweet and gay.
Oh, blessings to you, merry brook,
As you dance on your way!

Precious girls, precious boys,
Know you not that you possess
More than rose, or bird, or brook,
Gifts of cheer and loveliness?
Thoughts and words and deeds of love
Be you always freely giving,
And the world and all who know you,
Will be richer for your living.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE LIVES OF THE PATRIARCHS.

LESSON III. [October 20.]

JOSEPH EXALTED.

Gen. 41. 38-49. Memory verses, 39-41.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Them that honour me I will honour.—1 Sam. 2. 30.

THE LESSON STORY.

The Golden Text for the first lesson of this quarter says that God was with Joseph. Do you wonder that he let himself be sold as a slave in Egypt? This lesson shows that God had a great and good purpose in letting this be done, and teaches us to trust God and not be afraid, no matter what strange thing may come upon us.

Pharaoh, the king, had dreams which troubled him very much. No one could tell what they meant, until Joseph was brought out of prison to interpret them. He could do it, for "God was with him," to give wisdom and understanding. The king was so pleased that he would not let him go back to prison, but made him ruler of Egypt, with great honour and power.

Joseph had now been in Egypt thirteen years, so he was thirty years old. If in the time when Joseph was a servant he had not been building up a good character he would not now have been the ruler of Egypt.

"God was with him" because he was with God. God will give wisdom and goodness to any of his children who truly want it and seek it from him.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who was king of Egypt? Pharaoh.
What kind of dreams did he have? Troublesome dreams.
What did he try to find out? What they meant.
Where was Joseph now? In prison.
Had he been doing wrong? No; wicked people wanted to harm him.
Why was he safe in prison? "God was with him."

What was Pharaoh told? That Joseph was wise.

What did Joseph tell the king? What his dreams meant.

What else did he tell the king? Just what to do.

What did Pharaoh do for Joseph? Gave him great honour.

What did he make him? A ruler of Egypt.

Who are blessed by God? Those who are true to him.

LESSON IV. [Oct. 27.]

JOSEPH AND HIS BRETHREN.

Gen. 45. 1-11. Memory verses, 4-7.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.—Rom. 12. 21.

THE LESSON STORY.

Joseph had been in Egypt now for twenty-two years. He was a rich, noble man, before whom all the people bowed down. To learn all the beautiful story you must read the chapters between the last lesson and this. You have heard of the awful times of famine in India. It was like this now in Egypt and in other lands. But because God gave Joseph wisdom there was much food stored up in Egypt, and people came from Canaan to buy it. Think what it meant to Joseph to see his ten brothers coming to buy corn! His heart was full of love, but he wanted to see if they were cruel, and so he tried them. When you read in the lesson verses how happy it made him to find that they had grown kind and gentle, it may help you to understand how it makes glad the heart of our brother, Jesus, to see his children learning to love one another. Does this story of Joseph teach us how to treat those who have done us harm? Let us try to take it into our hearts, so that it will help us in all our every-day actions.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where was there a great famine? In Egypt and Canaan.

Where was there plenty of food? In Egypt.

By whom had it been saved? By Joseph.

Who came to Egypt to buy corn? Joseph's brothers.

Did they know him? No; but he knew them.

What did he tell them? "I am Joseph."

Why were they afraid? They had done wrong.

What did Joseph do? He comforted them.

What did he tell them to do? To go and bring Jacob.

How long yet would the famine last? Five years.

What would Joseph do? Take care of them all.

What was his kindness like? The kindness of God.

WHICH GAVE THE MOST?

Three children brought a gift one day to the hospital for sick children.

Percy Wilson brought a splendid rocking-horse, for which his rich father had paid. It had a lovely mane and a long tail, and there were beautiful reins and a comfortable saddle. Every one said, "How kind, how generous, of dear little Percy!" and the matron thanked and praised him for his expensive gift.

Elsie Payne brought a doll, a musical top, a tea-set, a toy organ, a farmyard, and a doll's house. She had cleared out an old cupboard, and packed up for the poor children a number of toys she did not care for and would not miss.

Willie Bloom was a poor boy himself. He had saved two pennies in his money-box to buy himself a little plant, but he made up his mind to go without the flower himself; and he carried the little pot to the hospital, and left it there for a crippled child.

Who gave the most? Let us try to bear this little tale in mind when we are inclined to think ourselves liberal and generous; let us ask ourselves whether our present has meant any self-denial.—*Christian Observer.*

THE CHRIST CHILD.

Has he come to you, and to you, and to you, dear little ones? If he has how glad you must be! For the Holy Child could not enter your heart without making it light and clean and sweet, could he? If he has not come, why is it? Be sure he wants to come and live in your little heart. Open the door this very hour, and let him in. Remember it is your enemy, Satan, that wants you to keep him out. Do not listen to Satan any longer. Will you not say to Jesus now.

"Jesus, thou art great and high,
Just a little child am I;
But I come at thy dear call,
Give to thee my little all."