

The best time to pick the fruit for jam is early in the morning, when it is not so very hot. In the summer holidays we used to get up at five o'clock to pick cherries, currants and gooseberries.

They make jelly out of the currants. Cherries make very nice jam. Heaps of cherries grow in the orchard here. I think there are three different kinds, the white, black and red cherries. They are very large ones, too. They make very nice jam when they are done properly.

These holidays when our little cook was making jam, I think she did one thing wrong. After she had put the jam into the bottles, she let them stand until they got cold, and then put the covers on them. I think they are not meant to do it this way, because I have seen other people make jam. As soon as the jam is in the bottles, they cover them up right away, before the air gets into it, and then turn them upside down to get cool, then the jam won't get fermented so quickly.

I am not sure about that, though, and so I did not say anything.

Gina.

A SERMON.

The text for our sermon was taken from the Book of Amos: "Out of all the nations of the world have I chosen thee, therefore will I punish thee."

These words were spoken by Amos, the prophet of God, to the Lord's chosen people, the children of Israel.

Because they knew God and were His chosen people He expected great things of them, for they had very great privileges. When God sent that message to them they were offering their sacrifices and worshipping God, but their hearts were not right with God.

So with us. God expects a great deal from us, because He has given us high privileges, setting us in this school, and letting us live in a Christian country. Our Lord gives us His Body and His Blood to help us, and in them we have special graces and gifts, and God watches how we use them. He may have chosen one of us apart from other people, and how do we use the special grace He gives us? We will have to give an account of it in the last day, and He will punish us as we are privileged.

Amos was a herdman, and he says that he is no prophet, but still he did the work of God. So if we have been called we ought to do it with a good will. We may not be called to do high or great work, but what we have to do we ought to do it for God, and we will be rewarded according to the good we do.

Maria.