

heard of. He teaches us how to make things, and goes with us to the woods and fields, showing us new treasures there." The boys and girls will come, and to your own joys and good times theirs will be added.

Do you remember in one of our lessons the prophet reproached the people for making their own houses so pretty, and neglecting to build God's house? That is not the way to do, as our people (ancestors) knew when they came to this country years ago, in the *Mayflower*. One of the first and the nicest houses they built was, of course, their church.

Your fathers and mine have made this church much richer and nicer than the houses we live in. See its colored windows, its rich carving, listen to the rare music.

Why do we give our money and our time, and feel willing to look shabby and go without things, that we may make this church the more beautiful? Is it God's house any more than the houses in which we live?

Who is it that we all meet in this house? Who looks with pitying eye on our bowed heads when we come here in trouble? Who is glad with us here when we are happy? Remember about the loved guest in your house, why you trimmed it with flowers, why you asked girls and boys to come and meet your dear friend, and felt richer for sharing with others his kind attentions and affection. Who is the guest we honor by making for him a house far better than our own? Does not this guest visit your home and mine? Certainly! Do we not speak with him in the silence, when we are alone in the dark? Perchance—indeed it is quite certain—if we build a house for our honored Guest, the Lord Christ, we may carry some of the heavenly joy he gives us in our quiet home into this house which is made for him and for the gathering of his friends. We may share his love and kindness with those who would not know about making him a guest in their own house. We may feel strong by staying here every week with those who know him, and who love him more than life, and who long to share that love with us, and with those who never heard his name.

Why have we chosen an organist, who can make our organ speak like a voice of prayer, praise, thanksgiving? Why have we chosen rare voices to sing, "Jesus, Lover of my soul," and "Nearer my home in heaven?" Why do our pastor's words make us feel "God is here?"

It is because of our Lord's promise, that where his children are gathered together, he will be in their midst. We teach the children that our Lord, whom we honor with our best, who promises to be with us here in his house, says, "I

have hallowed this house which thou hast built, to put my name there forever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually" (1 Kings 9, 3).

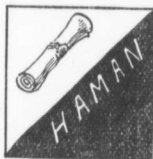
LESSON II. (October 8.)

HAMAN'S PLOT AGAINST THE JEWS.

Esth. 3. 1-11.

GOLDEN TEXT: "If God be for us, who can be against us?" Rom. 8, 31.

Primary Notes.



Introductory. After review, and drill upon title and text for to-day, write upon second round of ladder the word precept, and below "Trust God." Develop the story toward this thought, making it clear why we may and

must trust him, no matter who or what may seem to be against us. Make a vivid word picture of the king's palace in the far-off land where the captive Jews were scattered; the marble pillars; the curtains of white and green and violet, fastened with cords of purple and silver rings; the beds of gold and silver upon a pavement of colored marble, and the drinking vessels of silver and gold. Tell of the great feast, the refusal of the queen to show herself, the choice of the beautiful Jewish girl to take her place, and the devotion of Mordecai, who went daily to the king's gate to see how it fared with the lovely girl he had brought up as a daughter. But all did not stay peaceful and quiet, for now we come to

Haman's plot. Haman was a man to whom the king took a fancy. He gave him a high place in the palace and riches and power. But Haman was very proud. He wanted more honor and power. Because the king showed him such favor everyone bowed down to Haman as he passed in and out, except Mordecai, the poor Jew who sat in the king's gate. He knew Haman was not worthy of such honor. It made the proud man angry. He made up his mind to punish the poor Jew, but it would not satisfy him to put Mordecai alone to death. No, he would destroy all the Jews in the land. This was his plot. A plot is a plan. It begins in the thoughts with a wish, and then goes on to plan, perhaps in a roundabout way, to do the deed. In carrying out his plot Haman talked to the king against the Jews, saying they were a dangerous people, and offered a great sum of money to pay the expense of sending soldiers to put them to death, leaving a great deal over for the treasury. Mor-