Primary Quarterly

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Thanksgiving Song

The golden leaves have fallen,
And branches now are bare;
But all the fruit is gathered,
And stored with greatest care.
The fields look brown and rusty,
With sheaves all garnered in,
And stored away so safely,
Ere winter's storms begin.

Now to our heavenly Father
Our grateful thanks we bring,
And lift our happy voices
His praises sweet to sing.
For health and home we thank Him,
For food He doth prepare,
We thank Him for all blessings,
And for His loving care.

-Songs of the Seasons

A Basket of Fruits

Apples, plums, pears, quinces, grapes,—what a luscious intermingling of colors and flavors! It makes the mouth water, this autumn bouquet.

The Lessons of the Quarter are like the baskets of fruits: they are charming; they have variety; you will not tire of them.

They begin and end with, what we call now, a "church opening"—David bringing the sacred ark to the place he had prepared for it in his new capital city, and David's son, Solomon, dedicating to God the splendid temple he had built on the same site. A church opening brings God very near. The church is His house, where He delights to meet His people.

Then, there is the beautiful story of David's kindness to the poor, lame prince Mephibosheth, King Saul's son, and of God's great kindness in forgiving King David, when he had sinned grievously, and in putting a song of joy into his mouth once more.

It is all sad, what the Lessons tell about Absalom, who would have his own way, and who broke his father's heart; but David's "Shepherd Psalm" gives sweet music, and it is altogether gladsome, when the young king Solomon chooses the right way, when it was so much easier to choose the wrong one. Who will not be sorry when the Lessons of this Quarter come to an end?

The Mission of Mistakes

By Mrs. Marion Cruikshank

One wonders, at times, if parents expect their children suddenly to acquire full-grown consciences, not recognizing that these, like the mind and body, develop with the passing years. One hears, "Didn't you know how wicked it was to do such and such?" and the troubled, and often bewildered, look of the child plainly answers that it did not. Right, he has reasoned, is what is allowed, wrong, what is forbidden.

Inherited tendencies have led to certain actions, while others have been suggested by outside influences, and the child has stumbled unwittingly into offences. But these mistakes may have their mission. They show the watchful parent where help is most needed, and the innocent little offender, without having his conscience hurt by imputed evil, begins to lay the foundations of