

## DOUBLE TROUBLE.

Two tearful little maids I met,  
Who looked as like as pins.  
I asked, "What is the trouble, dears?"  
They answered, "We are twins!"  
"It seems to make you weep," said I.  
"Why, yes; and you would, too,  
If you were both of us," said they,  
"And both of us were you."

"We always have to dress alike,  
And on the cars or street  
Some silly person's sure to say,  
'Why, you are twins—how sweet!'  
And as to birthdays, we've but one  
To Madge and Dolly's two.  
Would you like that if you were us,  
And both of us were you?"

"It's very trying when mamma  
Can't tell us two apart.  
You'd think by this she would have grown  
To know us both by heart!  
But in our pictures even we  
Aren't sure which twin is who.  
Oh, how we wish that you were us,  
And both of us were you!"

—St. Nicholas.

## LESSON NOTES.

## FOURTH QUARTER.

## STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

## LESSON IX.—NOVEMBER 29.

## DAVID'S CHARGE TO SOLOMON.

1 Chron. 28. 1-10. Memorize verses 9, 10.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart.  
—Prov. 3. 5.

## THE LESSON STORY.

When David was old, and he knew that the day was near when he should leave his earthly kingdom, he gathered his princes and great men around him, and he rose and told them what was in his heart. He told them of his long desire to build a house to the name of the Lord and for worship, that it might be a place of rest for the ark of the covenant, but the Lord had told him that he was not to build the house, because he was a man of war, but his son Solomon should build it after him in a time of peace. He told them how God had chosen his tribe and his father's house and himself from among his brothers, and had now chosen his son Solomon to build up the kingdom that should last for ever. Then he turned to his son Solomon and entreated him to know the God of his father, and serve him with a willing mind and a perfect heart. He told him that the Lord searched all hearts and minds, and would know all his thoughts, and would be found of him if he

sought him, but would cast him off if he should forsake him. "Take heed now," he said, "for the Lord hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary; be strong, and do it." And David gave to his son all the gold and silver and precious things he had gathered, and also a plan of the house.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Whom did David call together? All the great men of the kingdom.

Why did he wish to talk with them? Because his end was near.

What did he want to talk about? The building of the temple.

What had it long been? His heart's desire.

What had the Lord told him? That he could not build it.

Why? Because of his many wars.

Who was to build it? Solomon, his son.

What would his reign bring? Peace.

What did David wish Solomon to do? To know and serve the Lord.

What would he need to be? Faithful.

What did David say at last? "Be strong, and do it."

What did he leave for the work? Much treasure.

## LESSON X.—DECEMBER 6.

## SOLOMON'S WISE CHOICE.

1 Kings 3. 4-15. Memorize verses 12, 13.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.—Prov. 9. 10.

## THE LESSON STORY.

At last, after a reign of forty years, David returned to God, and his body was laid in the king's tomb, and Solomon was king. He loved the Lord and offered sacrifices, but he offered them upon the high places. David offered his before the ark. Gibeon was a high place where Solomon made great offerings and where he found God's blessing, and it was here that the Lord came to him in a wonderful dream, or vision, by night, saying, "Ask what I shall give thee."

Solomon made so wise an answer that it seems as if he could not have been asleep, for he told the Lord how he had shown great mercy to his father and now that he had been made king in his father's place. "And I am but a little child," he said; "I know not how to go out or come in." Then he told the Lord how great the work before him was, and he prayed the Lord for an understanding heart to judge the people, so that he might see what is evil and what is good. This pleased the Lord, and he promised, because Solomon had not asked for riches or honour or long life, to give him what he had asked, and riches and honour also; and he also promised, if Solomon would follow faithfully in his

ways, to lengthen his life. It seemed like a dream, but the king knew it was God who had spoken to him, and he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant and made offerings to God.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who now became king? Solomon.

Where was David? He "slept with his fathers."

What did Solomon wish to do? Follow his father's ways.

Where did he go to sacrifice? To Gibeon.

What was it called? A high place.

What came to him there? A vision.

What did the Lord say to him? "Ask what I shall give thee."

What did Solomon ask for? Wisdom.

Why? To guide his people in right ways.

What did God say he would give? This, and more.

What were the other gifts? Riches, honours, and long life.

How would his life be lengthened? By following the Lord fully.

## CARELESS BILLY

"Billy, be sure to shut the gate!" called mamma from the pantry.

"Yes'm, I will," answered Billy.

He ran into the house for a string, and out again to the group of boys waiting for him. But he forgot all about the gate, and left it standing wide open.

A little later Mrs. West heard Bridget give a loud cry.

"What's the matter, Bridget?" she asked.

"Sure, mum, it's the pig! It's in the yard, the crathur is, ateing up all yer jeraniums, shure! Whoop, here, ye bastie!"

And Bridget was darting out of the door, but her mistress called her; "Stop, Bridget! It was Billy left the gate open when I told him not to. He must come back and drive the pig out for his carelessness."

Billy was yet with the boys digging bait to go fishing; Mrs. West could hear them in the barnyard. She went to the porch and called Billy.

"See the mischief your careless ways have caused," said she. "Now get the pig out before you go, and don't leave the gate open again."

Well, the boys were just ready to start, but Billy went back to drive the pig out. Anybody who ever tried to drive a pig knows what that means. The pig was like some boys; when he was wanted to go one way he was sure to go the other, and long before Billy had him out the boys got tired of waiting and went off without him. So he lost his fishing that afternoon through his own carelessness, and nobody felt very sorry for him.