

"WE ARE SEVEN."

This poem by Wm. Wordsworth used to be in the school reading books. I do not know that it is now. Our young people should all know it:

I met a little cottage girl—
She was eight years old, she said;
Her hair was thick with many a curl
That clustered round her head.

"Sisters and brothers, little maid,
How many may you be?"
"How many? Seven in all," she said,
And wondering looked at me.

"And where are they, I pray you tell?"
She answered: "Seven are we;
And two of us at Conway dwell,
And two are gone to sea.

"Two of us in the churchyard lie,
My sister and my brother;
And in the churchyard cottage I
Dwell near them with my mother."

"You say that two at Conway dwell,
And two are gone to sea,
Yet you are seven; I pray you tell,
Sweet maid, how this can be."

Then did the little maid reply:
"Seven boys and girls are we,
Two of us in the churchyard lie,
Beneath the churchyard tree."

"You run about, my little maid;
Your limbs they are alive;
If two are in the churchyard laid,
Then you are only five."

"Their graves are green, they may be seen,"
The little maid replied,
"Twelve steps or more from mother's
door,
And they are side by side.

"My stockings there I often knit,
My kerchief there I hem;
And there upon the ground I sit—
I sit and sing to them.

"And often after sunset, sir,
When it is light and fair,
I take my little porringer,
And eat my supper there.

"The first that died was little Jane;
In bed she moaning lay,
Till God released her from her pain,
And then she went away.

"So in the churchyard she was laid;
And when the grass was dry,
Together round her grave we played
My brother John and I.

"And when the ground was white with
snow,
And I could run and slide,
My brother John was forced to go,
And he lies by her side."

"How many are you, then," said I,
"If those two are in heaven?"
The little maiden did reply,
"O master, we are seven."

"But they are dead—those two are dead,
Their spirits are in heaven."
'Twas throwing words away; for still
The little maid would have her will,
And said, "Nay, we are seven."

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT FROM
ISAIAH TO MALACHI.

LESSON V.—JULY 30.

MANASSEH'S SIN AND REPENTANCE.
2 Chron. 33. 1-13. Memorize Vs. 10-13.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin
is a reproach to any people.—Prov. 14. 34.

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read about the last part of Hezekiah's life. 2 Chron. 32. 27-33.

Tues. Find the name of Manasseh's mother. 2 Kings 21. 1.

Wed. Read the lesson verses. 2 Chron. 33. 1-13.

Thur. Learn the Golden Text.

Fri. See what God says about affliction. Hos. 5. 15.

Sat. Learn something for every one to remember. 1 Sam. 16. 7.

Sun. Find some counsel given to a young prince. Prov. 4. 14, 15.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Who became king after Hezekiah died? How old was he? How long did he reign? What was the name of his mother? How did he begin his reign? What did he begin to build? To what did he offer sacrifices? Can you tell what he did in the temple? And what did he make his children do? Is heathenism worse than this? What at last did the Lord send him? Where was he taken? Whom did he begin to think about? What change came over him? Did God hear his prayer? What did he do for Manasseh? What did Manasseh do after he came back to his kingdom? What had he lost? Many years and much happiness.

THREE LITTLE LESSONS.

We have learned that—

1. The heart is deceitful above all things.
2. God alone can make it good and true.
3. If we leave him it is a long, hard journey back again.

LESSON VI.—AUGUST 6.

JOSIAH'S GOOD REIGN.
2 Chron. 34. 1-13. Memorize verses 1-3.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth.—Eccles. 12. 1.

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Find who was a child prophet of the Lord. 1 Sam. 2. 18, 19.

Tues. Find what Child taught in the temple. Luke 2. 40-52.

Wed. Read the story of Josiah's passover. 2 Chron. 35. 1-19.

Thur. Read the lesson verses. 2 Chron. 34. 1-13.

Fri. Learn the Golden Text.

Sat. Read of the last days of Josiah. 2 Chron. 35. 20-27.

Sun. Read the song of wisdom. Prov. 8. 12-21.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Who reigned over Judah after Manasseh died? How long did he reign? Who became king then? How old was he? What was his home? Why was Josiah better than Manasseh? Perhaps he had a better mother. What was his mother's name? When did he begin to seek the God of Israel? What did he do at twenty? Did he send his servants to do these things? He went with his servants to tell them what to do? How did he do the work? Thoroughly. What was his next work? To whom did he trust this work? To Shaphan, Maaseiah and Joah. Where did they find money? In the temple.

THREE LITTLE LESSONS.

We have learned that—

1. The wisdom of kings is the gift of God.
2. A child with this wisdom may be a good king.
3. A man without it cannot be a good king.

A MEMORY.

What was it came to a tempted boy,
In a city alone, among so-called
"friends,"

Urging sin with a gilded name,
Urging wrong in pretence of fame?
What was it saved him there alone?

Only a memory of mother dear,
In a far-away home, in a sunny land,
Singing at twilight, soft and low
Tender songs to a little band;

Only a memory of mother dear,
Telling at twilight pure, sweet tales,
That brought noble thoughts and deeds so
near
To the little lads and lassies there;

Only the prayer dear mother said,
That last sad day, with her hand on his
head,
That God would bless him and carry him
through
Temptations and sins that around boys
grew,
And keep her boy's heart and honor both
true.