

BIRDS.

**LITTLE** bird, could I but know  
What you say while singing so,  
Should have some word for praise,  
Even in the darkest days.

When the day is dying slow,  
And your trills are soft and low,  
I have almost thought I heard  
Human speech from singing bird.

When I hear your voice at morn,  
From the snowy blossoming thorn,  
Much I wonder how the night  
Taught you such a wild delight.

Did the lilies, in their sleep,  
Whisper secrets strange and deep—  
Words too sweet for mortal ear,  
Minstrel of the blossoming year?

Did the warbling woodland stream  
Drop its music in your dream  
Or the fragrant zephyr, born  
Of the newly-wakened morn?

Have the violets in the grass,  
Breathing sweetness as you pass,  
Told you, trembling 'neath the dew,  
Stories of the heaven's bright blue?

Sing on, bird, forever sing;  
May good spirits speed your wing!  
Sing to all, dear bird, but see  
What you sometimes sing for me.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

OLD TESTAMENT TEACHINGS.

[1690-35.] LESSON VI. [May 6.]

JOSEPH'S LAST DAYS.

Exod. 50. 14-26. Memory verses, 24-26.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The path of the just is as the shining  
light, which shineth more and more unto the  
perfect day.—Prov. 4. 18.

OUTLINE.

1. Fear, v. 14-18.
2. Forgiveness, v. 19-21.
3. Faith, v. 22-26.

EVERY-DAY HELPS.

**Mon.** Read about Joseph's last days.  
Exod. 50. 14-26.

**Tues.** Find what his life was like. Gol-  
den Text.

**Wed.** Read about the burial of Jacob.  
Gen. 49. 29-32.

**Thur.** What does Joseph's example teach  
us to be? Eph. 4. 32.

**Fri.** Find how Jesus wants us to repay  
Him. Matt. 5. 38-48.

**Sat.** Learn why we love the story of  
Joseph. Prov. 10. 7.

**Sun.** Learn a good prayer for us. Psalm  
124.

DO YOU KNOW—

Where did Jacob die? Where was he  
buried? For whose sake did the Egyp-  
tians honour him? For Joseph's sake.

Who began to feel afraid now? Why?  
What did this show? A bad conscience.  
What was a messenger sent to tell Joseph?  
Why did Joseph weep when he heard it?

What did his brothers say when they  
saw Joseph? How did he speak to them?  
What spirit did he show them? The  
spirit of love and forgiveness. How should  
we treat our enemies? (Answer to your-  
self.)

How old was Joseph when he died?  
Where did he say his brothers would go  
some day? What did he ask them to do?

I WILL TRY TO REMEMBER—

That God can bring good out of evil.  
Gen. 50. 20.

That God teaches us how to treat ene-  
mies. Rom. 12. 20, 21.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

What is it to believe in Jesus Christ? To  
believe in Jesus Christ is to receive his  
words, and to trust in him alone for salva-  
tion.

1706-1600.] LESSON VII. [May 13.]

ISRAEL IN EGYPT.

Exod. 1. 1-14. Memory verses, 9-10.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.—  
Psalm 124. 8.

OUTLINE.

1. Small Beginnings, v. 1-5
2. Great Increase, v. 6, 7.
3. Sore Affliction, v. 8-14

EVERY-DAY HELPS.

**Mon.** Read the story of bondage. Exod.  
1. 1-14

**Tues.** Read about deliverance. Deut. 26.  
5-11.

**Wed.** Learn how God helped his people.  
Psalm 105. 24.

**Thur.** Learn how Israel trusted the  
Lord. Golden Text.

**Fri.** Read about the bondage of sin.  
Rom. 7. 14-19.

**Sat.** Learn where deliverance is found.  
Eom. 8. 1, 2.

**Sun.** Find a word of hope for you.  
Luke 12. 32.

DO YOU KNOW—

Who went with Jacob to live in Egypt?  
How many of Jacob's family were there  
now? Who brought them there to save  
them from death? (The good Joseph.)

Who died after Joseph did? What did  
their children grow up to be? What did  
the new king of Egypt see? What did he  
fear? What did he want the Israelites to  
do? What was the new king's name?  
What kind of a man was he? What did he  
tell the Egyptians to do? What were the

Israelites forced to do? What had the  
Lord promised Jacob? How was he keep-  
ing his promise? By increasing the num-  
bers and strength of the Israelites.

I WILL TRY TO REMEMBER—

That sin is a hard bondage. Rom. 7. 24  
That God saves those who trust him  
Luke 1. 71.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

Can you do all this of yourself? I can-  
not repent and believe of myself; but God  
will help me by his holy Spirit, if I ask  
it of him.

THE CHILDREN AND THE MOON

DOWN in the west the sun was sinking  
and the darkness seemed chanting a lulla-  
by to nature. The birds twittered among  
the green boughs of the trees, and the  
barking of a fox on a distant mountain  
broke in upon the weird stillness of night.

Two children were sitting alone, in a  
wide field, listening to the sounds, and  
weeping silently as they crept nearer to-  
gether on the dew-dampened grass. (They  
had been playing ball throughout the  
golden hours of the afternoon, and before  
they realized it, the sunlight had disap-  
peared and they were alone in the dark-  
ness. Suddenly they heard a great,  
friendly voice speaking to them.)

"Good evening, children."  
The children shut their eyes tight, and  
were as still as mice.

"Good evening," repeated the voice; "and  
why are you so late upon the field?"

The voice sounded so friendly that the  
younger whispered to the other, saying,

"Will you not tell him that we lost our  
way?"

"I think I will." Then, half opening  
her eyes to glance around, she cried aloud,

"The night is so dark and gone is the day,  
And home to mamma we can't find our  
way."

"Well, well," replied the voice, "we will  
see if I can guide you."

Then the children looked up and saw a  
great round face in the heavens that smiled  
pleasantly at them, and they knew it was  
the moon that had been speaking to them.

"O moon, dear moon, do guide us, we pray,  
O'er the hill and the fields to our home  
far away;

For our papa and mamma we want to  
see soon,

Do guide us, we pray thee, O beautiful  
moon!"

"Yes, yes, that I will," replied their good  
friend, and thereupon he hung out his  
lantern, which made everything almost as  
bright as day, and the children rose from  
the grass and hurried home to their mother,  
who had been in great fear for their safety.  
At the door they paused and said,

"We thank you, we thank you, O beau-  
tiful moon,

For guiding us home by your light,  
And now with our fingers we'll throw  
you a kiss,

And wish you a very good night."