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Mothers and teachers, and perhaps the little ones, too, will notice that in some of the lessons this year, as, for example, in Lessons 3 and 7 of the present Quarter, the whole Scripture passage is not given, although the Lesson Retold includes it all. The reason of this is that very long lesson passages, when printed in full, leave too little room for the rest of the material that it is desirable to give, and the International Committee, which selects the lessons, has therefore suggested that, when the verses exceed a dozen, only that number should be printed.

Can You Spin a Top?

"A strange question," you will say, "to ask so dignified a body of people as teachers." Well, possibly. But *can* you? I imagine that the greater part of you will answer in the negative.

Then I beg of you to try it. Why? Because it may be helpful to you in your work. You wonder in what way! I will tell you what happened to-day in my school-room.

When the children passed out for recess, Willie, the last boy in the line, held in his hand a top. He has been greatly interested in tops lately, even more than in numbers or spelling. As he passed me at the door I spoke about his new top, and then said, "Let me see if *I* can spin it." So I tried, while Willie and one or two other boys stood and watched proceedings. Now, spinning tops is easy work for seven-year-old Willie, but I tried and tried, and I couldn't do it. I returned it to the owner, saying, "It takes a *boy* to spin a top," and Willie set it to spin-

ning with the air of one conscious of his ability to do a thing well.

As for me, I returned to my work thinking, "Now here is Willie who finds reading so hard, and I have wondered *why* he couldn't read. It sometimes seemed as if he didn't half try. But he *can* spin a top."

But my thoughts didn't stop here. I said to myself, "Now that you see how hard it is to make a top spin, perhaps you can better understand how hard it is for the boy to learn to read. *Maybe* you could learn, in time, to spin a top, and *probably* Willie will learn, in time, to read. Be more patient with him."

Recess was over, and I had to think of other things. But I believe the episode was helpful to me. Can *you* get anything from it?

Do you sometimes wonder how children *can* be so stupid? Of course you do; we *all* do. Then just try something that isn't quite in your line—spinning tops or anything else—and perhaps you will be better able to appreciate the difficulties of these learners.—Primary Education.

A Mother's Reward

It is so long since our dear lamented Queen was a little girl, that people have almost forgotten how much she owed for the beauty and strength of her character to her mother.

The Duchess of Kent, for that was her title, was left a widow and poor, almost her one possession being the fondly loved Princess Victoria, who seemed likely one day to be Queen of England. Upon this little girl, not only was all a mother's love lavished, but that mother trained her from