

THE TEMPERANCE BANNER.

"In the name of our God we will set up our banners."—Psaln xx. 5.

The Temp'rance banner is unfurl'd,
And 'neath its broad folds stand
The best and bravest of the world,
A strong determined band.

Not with the glitt'ring arms of war,
Nor roll of battle-drum,
But armed with weapons mightier far
In God's own strength we come.

To save the fallen is our aim,
And succour the distressed,
To wipe away our country's shame,
And make her truly bless'd.

Though foes may scorn and friends deride
Shall we withhold our hand?
If God the Lord be on our side
Who can against us stand?

Then join this glorious crusade
Against our country's hane,
Till 'low the tyrant Drink is laid,
And joy and Temp'rance reign.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

SIX MONTHS WITH THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS.

LESSON XI.—MARCH 13.

DEATH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.

Matt. 14. 1-12. Memorize verses 9-11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.—Rev. 2. 10.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Who put John the Baptist in prison? For what? Where was the prison? What feast did the king give? Where? What did they drink? Who came to amuse them after the feast? What surprise did Herod have? Who was the dancer? What did Herod say to her? Why did he make so strong a promise? Because he was excited with wine. What did Salome do? What did she ask when she came back? Did the king grant it? How was the head brought to Salome? What is a charger? A large dish or platter. Who had made her ask for it? Where did John the Baptist's spirit go? From prison to heaven.

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read the lesson verses from your Bible. Matt. 14. 1-12.
Tues. Find what an evil heart Herodias had. M.Lk. 6. 19.
Wed. Learn what we might expect from a wine party. Prov. 23. 31-33.
Thur. Learn the Golden Text.
Fri. Learn something that every child should know. Prov. 20. 1.

Sat. Find how we know that Jesus had sympathy for sorrow. Matt. 14. 12.

Sun. Learn the safe way for each of us. Prov. 4. 14. 15.

THREE LITTLE LESSONS.

We have learned that—

1. God's children need not fear death.
2. That only sin brings death.
3. Nothing can really harm a child of God.

LESSON XII.—MARCH 20.

JESUS FEEDS THE FIVE THOUSAND.

Matt. 14. 13-23. Memorize verses 20, 21.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life.—John 6. 35.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Where did Jesus often go? Who followed him there? What did they want? Where did he once go? Why is it called a "desert place"? Because there were no people living there. What grew there? Much grass. How many people followed him there? Could they get any food? How did Jesus feel about them? What had a boy brought? What did Jesus tell the disciples? What did he first do with the boy's supply? What did he next do? What had the disciples to do? Where did the people sit? Was there enough food for all? How many broken pieces did they pick up? How many people were fed? With what had he fed their souls? With the bread of life.

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read about a boy who followed Jesus. John 6. 5-14.
Tues. Find how four thousand were fed. Mark 8. 1-9.
Wed. Read the story of the widow's meal. 1 Kings 17. 8-16.
Thur. Read the lesson verses.
Fri. Read how the hungry are filled. Psa. 107. 1-9.
Sat. Learn the Golden Text.
Sun. Read about the living bread. John 6. 26-36.

THREE LITTLE LESSONS.

We have learned that—

1. Our Father knows when his children are in want.
2. He pities us as a father pities his children.
3. And he feeds both our souls and bodies.

THE BIRDIE'S SUNBEAM.

Gerty had been sick, and was getting well. The days were long, and she felt cross and thought she had a hard time.

"O, mamma, I wish Dick wouldn't sing! he makes my head ache," she cried, as the canary burst forth into a glad song.
"Poor Dick! You see that he sings, although he is a prisoner," said her mother.

Gerty still fretted, so her mamma covered Dick's cage with a cloth. The bird did not like this, and for some minutes was silent. Her mamma had not covered the cage very closely, and soon the bird, spying a ray of sunlight, again raised his glad song of thanksgiving.

"There, Gerty," said her mamma, "is a lesson for you. Dick is thankful for one ray of sunlight. Don't you think you should be as grateful for your blessings as birdie is for his?"

Gerty raised her face from the pillow and said, "Yes, mamma, I am ashamed of my crossness. I will try to look for the sunbeams."

RAINING UPSIDE DOWN.

The little tin basin was empty, just as sure as the world! And Peggy had left water in it the last time she made mud pies in the backyard, so as to be sure to have it ready to mix with next time. Peggy always made arrangements beforehand for things, even mud pies; and, of course, she hadn't thought of going out to grandfather's and staying so long when she made this arrangement.

"Now, where's that water gone?" she mused. "If it had been at grandfather's the chickens would have drunk it up; but here—"

"Poh! I know where it's gone!" Dicky cried, loftily. Dicky went to a big school, not kindergarten, and so he knew a great deal.

"It rained up; that's where it went," he explained.

"It what, Dicky Plummer?"

"Rained up into the sky; it always does, and then, by'nby, it'll rain down again. Where'd you s'pose all the rain comes from?"

"Well, I didn't s'pose it came out o' my mixin' pan, so there!" cried Peggy's clear, indignant little voice, scornfully. Then she ran to mother to see what it all meant, for mother always knew.

"Dicky says it rains upside down, mother!" she cried. "I guess he'd laugh to see it!"

Mother laughed to see Peggy's puzzled face.

"He can't see it, dear; nobody can, unless the air is so cold that it runs together in tiny drops and makes a mist or fog. Dicky was right; the water in your little tin pan was taken up into the air again, to rain down some day with the other water the air has drawn up from the surface of ponds and rivers. If it should be very cold when it gets ready to come to us, it will be—what, Dicky?"

"A snowstorm," said Dicky, promptly.

"Yes, dear. And so it goes back and forth between the sky and earth. It's one of the wonderful things the wonderful world is full of, little P—"
—Primary Education.