

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS.

There were three little folks, long ago,
Who solemnly sat in a row
On a December night,
And attempted to write
For the new year a good resolution.

"I will try not to make so much noise,
And be one of the quietest boys,"
Wrote one of the three,
Whose uproarious glee
Was the cause of no end of confusion.

"I resolve that I never will take
More than two or three pieces of cake,"
Wrote plump little Pete,
Whose taste for the sweet
Was a problem of puzzling solution.

The other, her paper to fill,
Began with "Resolved that I will,"
But right there she stopped,
And fast asleep dropped
Ere she came to a single conclusion.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF THE ACTS.

LESSON III. [January 19.

THE EARLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

Acts 2. 37-47. Memorize verses 37-39.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The Lord added to the church daily
such as should be saved.—Acts 2. 47.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Who preached on the day of Pentecost? Peter. Who gave him power? The Holy Spirit of God. What did the people cry out? "What shall we do?" What did Peter tell them? To repent and be baptized. What did he say they might have? The gift of the Holy Spirit. How many were baptized that day? Three thousand. Who was their Teacher? The Holy Spirit. Why did they need him? Because Jesus had gone away. What did Jesus promise before he went? To send the Spirit to "teach" them all things. To whom was this promise made? (See verse 39.) What did the new believers do? They lived together like a great loving family. What did the rich do? They helped the poor. What had the poor to give? Faith and love. Why did they have great gladness of heart? Because the Lord Jesus had come back to them. To whom will he come to-day? To all who want him enough to ask for him.

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read the lesson verses slowly. Acts 2. 37-47.
Tues. Read the Lord's words to Peter. Matt. 16. 13-20.
Wed. Read some later words to Peter. John 21. 15-17.

Thur. Read a story of brotherly love. Psa. 133.
Fri. Learn a verse about love. 1 Cor. 13. 4.
Sat. Learn the Golden Text.
Sun. Think: Am I a part of the Lord's Church?

LESSON IV. [January 26.

THE LAME MAN HEALED.

Acts 3. 1-10. Memorize verses 6-8.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The Lord is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation.—Exod. 15. 2.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

How did Jesus still live on earth? In his disciples. What could the disciples do in his name? His own works. Where did Peter and John go one day? To the temple to worship. Whom did they see lying at the gate Beautiful? A lame beggar. What did he ask of them? Money. What did they give him? Strength to walk. Was it their gift? No, it was the gift of God. In whose name was the gift made? In the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Must the beggar have believed in that name? Yes. What did the people think? That the power belonged to Peter and John. How did this make the apostles feel? Very sorry. Why? Because they loved and honoured Jesus. What great gifts has God for each of us? The gift of salvation. What is our part? To reach out and take it.

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read the lesson verses thoughtfully. Acts 3. 1-10.
Tues. Read the rest of the chapter.
Wed. Learn the beautiful Golden Text.
Thur. Learn why there were so many hours of prayer. Psa. 55. 17.
Fri. Learn how God honoured the apostles. Heb. 2. 4.
Sat. Find by whose power the lame man was healed. 2 Cor. 3. 5.
Sun. Tell the story of the healing in your own words.

CHARLIE'S BOOK.

"Mother," said little Charlie, "Will Harnin says that his mother writes books. Is it very hard to write a book?"
"I don't know, I'm sure," said his mother.
"I'm going to write a book," said this small man.
Just then the door bell rang, and Charlie's mother went to see a caller. When she came back he was sitting on her foot-stool busily writing.
"Now, mother," said Charlie, "I'm done with my book."
"No, you are not done. God has given you a book to write. I hope that it is a long one, full of beautiful stories."
"What is the name of my book?" he asked.
"Its name is 'Charlie's Life.' You

can write only one page a day, and you must be very careful not to make any black marks in it by doing ugly things. When you pout and cry, that smears your page; and when you help mother, and keep a bright face, and don't quarrel with Robbie, that makes a nice, fair page, with pictures on it."

"When shall I be done writing that book?" asked Charlie.

"When God sees that it is long enough, he will send an angel to shut its covers and put a clasp on it until the great day when all our life books are opened and read."

Charlie sat very still for a while, and then said softly:

"Dear little Lucy finished writing her book when they put her in the white casket, and laid the white roses over her."

"Yes," said the mother, "her life book was just a little hymn of praise to God. Its pages are clean and white, with no stains on them."

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

BY MARGARET E. SANGSTER.

Just at the turn of the midnight,

When the children are fast asleep,
The tired Old Year slips out by himself,
Glad of a chance to be laid on the shelf,
And the New Year takes a peep

At the beautiful world that is waiting
For the hours that he will bring:
For the wonderful things in his peddler's
pack;
Weather, all sorts, there will be no lack,
And many a marvellous thing.

Flowers, by hosts and armies,
Stars and sunshine and rain!
The merry times and the sorrowful times,
Quickstep and jingle and dirge and chimes,
And the weaving of joy and pain.

When the children wake in the morning,
Shouting their "Happy New Year,"
The year will be started well on his way,
Swinging along through his first white day,
With the path before him clear.

Twelve long months for his journey;
Fifty-two weeks of a spell;
At the end of it all he'll slip out by himself,
Glad of a chance to be laid on the shelf,
At the stroke of the midnight bell.

"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another." Above all, have the love of Jesus within, and you cannot fail to be loved, lovely, and happy.

Undertake to keep the ten commandments, and you will soon find out that God is their Maker.

Let us live as though every day were our last.