

ORAL LESSON.

Children, you have seen a heavy fall of rain, did all the water sink immediately into the earth? *No.** Did it remain standing on the ground like a great pond? *No, it ran in brooks.* What caused it to flow?—When I pour water upon the level floor, it remains where I put it; when I pour it upon the desk, it *runs off* from the higher parts *to the lower.* Is the surface of the earth level, like the floor? *No, it has hills and hollows.* So, when the water falls upon the hills, it does not remain still; but *runs into the hollows,* or, can you give me another word for hollows? *Valleys.* You see then that the water flows because *the earth is not level.* If the earth were level, when the rain fell, it would *lie upon the ground.* Did you ever see a pool of standing water? *Yes.* Was it clear and good? *No, it was dirty.* After remaining in the sun for some time, it became *green and filthy.* If the whole earth were covered with corrupt water of this kind it would be *very bad.* So we should be very thankful to God for making hills and *valleys.* When the rain falls upon the roof of the house, it *runs off.* Does it all run one way? *No, it runs two ways;* because the roof *slopes two ways.* The highest part is called *the ridge.* Now if there is a high ridge of land, the water will run *two ways.* What do you call a ridge of land that throws off the water both ways?—Where does your father keep his ploughs and harrows? *In the shed.* Why does he put them there? *To keep the rain*

* The children are supposed to give the words in italics.