

THE PERFECT LITTLE MAN.

Here am I, a little man,  
Few may hope to beat;  
Though in stature I am small  
I am most complete.

Head and arms and limbs so sound,  
Mouth and eyes and nose,  
Saying ne'er a word about  
Ten nice little toes.

Then my teeth are white as pearl;  
And my pulses beat;  
Full of health, I little heed  
Either cold or heat.

See the width across my back!  
I am growing strong;  
And I hope some day to help  
Weaker folks along.

What a shame now it would be,  
What a sad disgrace,  
If by drinking rum I marred  
My sweet, smiling face.

Therefore, to protect myself  
From such evil ways,  
Pure cold water shall be my drink  
Till I end my days.

they did at Pentecost, and they laid their hands upon their heads, and the Spirit came to these Samaritan Christians to their great joy and comfort.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who was Saul? A persecutor.  
Whom did he persecute? The Christians.

What is it to persecute? To harm the good because they are good.

What did Saul afterwards become? An apostle of Christ.

What new name did he take? Paul.  
Where were many Christians thrown? Into prison.

What did many do? Went away from Jerusalem.

Who went to Samaria? Philip, a deacon.

What followed his teaching there? Many believed.

Who was Simon? One of the new believers.

Who came to Samaria to help? Peter and John.

What did they help the Samaritans to receive? The gift of the Holy Spirit.

LESSON XI. [March 16.]

THE ETHIOPIAN CONVERTED.

Acts 8, 29-39. Memorize verses 34, 35.

GOLDEN TEXT.

With the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.—Rom. 10, 10.

THE LESSON STORY.

After teaching the Christians of Samaria, Peter and John went back to Jerusalem, but Philip went toward the South. His way led through a desert place. An angel had told him to go this way, so he knew it must be right. While he was walking through this wild, lonely country, he saw a fine carriage coming, and in it a man who looked like some great lord was reading. This man was the chief servant of the Queen of Ethiopia, and had the care of all her treasures. He had been to Jerusalem to worship, and he was reading the roll of the prophet Isaiah, for books at that time looked more like a roll of wall-paper than like our books. The Holy Spirit told Philip to ask the man if he understood what he was reading. The man was humble, and he asked Philip to ride with him and explain Isaiah's words. Read Isaiah 53 and you will see that it is a prophecy of Christ. The Ethiopian believed all that Philip said, and then asked Philip to baptize him, which he was glad to do. Then the new believer went home to tell his queen the good news. So the Gospel was carried into Africa.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who told Philip to go through a desert place? An angel.

Whom did he meet there? A nobleman in a carriage.

Who was he? Treasurer of the Queen of Ethiopia.

Where had he been? To Jerusalem to worship.

What was he reading? The prophecy of Isaiah.

What troubled him? He could not understand it.

What did Philip do? He told him what it meant.

What did he tell him? The story of Jesus and his love.

Did the nobleman believe? Yes, with all his heart.

What did he ask Philip to do? To baptize him.

Where did he carry the good news? Home to Africa.

What did Philip do? Went to tell the story to some one else.

TRUE STORY OF JOHNNY AND JACKSON.

BY ROXANA WINCE.

"Here, Johnny, I have some good stuff to drink; come, you can have some, too," said Jackson, the big boy at the tavern on the hill, to a little fellow who had stopped to get warm on his way to school.

"No," said Johnny. "I won't. I don't drink whisky; I never shall." Then, for fear that Jackson might try to make him do what he did not wish to, he put on his cap and ran on, as fast as his legs could carry him, to the little frame schoolhouse.

Brave little Johnny! He told the story to his dear mamma when he came home at night, and she was glad and thankful that her son, young as he was, had not yielded to temptation. He never did; and probably never would have yielded had he lived to be a man; he died when almost thirteen years of age.

But Jackson? The whisky and cider were in his father's cellar. He drank whenever he chose. His father drank and the men who stopped over night, when on their way to the big city, drank. He could see no harm in it. He kept on drinking. He grew to be a man. He had a good mind. He had talents. He had learned much at school. He was pleasant and agreeable in his way, and had many friends.

He made money. He built a beautiful home. The years went on. He drank more every year, and by and by he lost his pretty home. His only son, too, learned to drink. His wife died. The drink hurt Jackson's brain and nerves. He became blind. By and by he could walk no more. Then he forgot where he was and wanted to go home. He cried like a little baby. Poor Jackson was perfectly helpless now; he could do nothing, knew nothing, and so they took him to an asylum, where he lived but a few months. Let whisky and all strong drink alone, dear boys and girls—it will ruin you, as it did Jackson. Be like Johnny, say "No, I won't."

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF THE ACTS.

LESSON X. [March 9.]

THE DISCIPLES SCATTERED.

Acts 8, 3-15. Memorize verses 3-5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word.—Acts 8, 4.

THE LESSON STORY.

After Stephen's death, although heaven opened to him as he stood among them, the wicked Jews would not believe, but grew more cruel to the Christians every day. Saul, the young man who stood near at Stephen's death, was doing all he could to put men and women in prison. Many believers went away to other places, but the apostles went to Jerusalem and taught the religion of Jesus. One of the deacons named Philip went to Samaria and preached and did some wonderful miracles. These things helped the people to believe what he told them about Jesus. One of his converts was a deceiver named Simon. He could use strange arts which ignorant people thought came from God, though they really came from Satan, but he was baptized and followed Philip. When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that the Samaritans received the Gospel they sent Peter and John there. When they came they prayed earnestly that these new believers might receive the Holy Spirit as