

BE BRAVE, LITTLE BOY.

Be brave, little boy, be brave!
I know you have lost the race,
And you've fallen down,
And your cap is gone,
And a briar has scratched your face.
But you ran your very best, little boy,—
How you made the old dust fly!
And though you have not won the prize,
Little boy,
You're too much of a man to cry.

Be brave, little boy, be brave!
You've another race to run,—
A race from the dawn
Of your life's fresh morn,
All the way to its setting sun.
And head and heart may ache, little boy,
And your back may have to bend;
But run your very best, little boy;
You are sure of a prize at the end.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE WRITINGS OF JOHN.

LESSON V.—JANUARY 29.

JESUS AND NICODEMUS.

John 3. 1-15. Memorize verses 14, 15.

GOLDEN TEXT.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3. 16.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Who was Nicodemus? What was his idea of religion? The law of Moses. What did Jesus come to bring? The law of love. Was Nicodemus a good man? Yes. What kept him back? His learning. What did he call Jesus? What was Jesus looking at? What did he say? Could Nicodemus understand this? What did Jesus try to do? What did he say to help Nicodemus to see it? Can you tell us what he said about the wind? What is that little sentence beginning with "So"? Can you tell what Jesus meant? Do you know the story of the serpent in the wilderness?

DAILY STEPS.

- Mon.* Read lesson verses from your Bible. John 3. 1-15.
Tues. Find what no one can say. Prov. 20. 9.
Wed. Learn what Jesus wants to do. 1 John 1. 9.
Thur. Learn the beautiful Golden Text.
Fri. Read about the brazen serpent. Num. 21. 6-9.
Sat. Learn what is true of everyone. Verse 3.

Sun. Think, What is it to belong to God's kingdom?

THREE LITTLE LESSONS.

We have learned that—

1. We must be born anew.
2. The new life is the life of the Spirit.
3. We may all be born anew through Jesus Christ.

LESSON VI.—FEBRUARY 5.

JESUS AT JACOB'S WELL.

John 4. 5-14. Memorize verses 13, 14.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.—Rev. 22. 17.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Who wrote about Jesus at Jacob's well? When did he write it? Where were Jesus and his disciples going? What time in the year was it? In December. Why is it called Jacob's well? Why did Jesus sit by the well? Who came to draw water? What did people bring to draw water with? A line, and an earthen or skitt bottle. What did Jesus ask of the woman? What did he want to give her? Was she surprised? Why? What did he talk with her about then? What is the "living water" of which he spoke? The life of God in the soul of man.

DAILY STEPS.

- Mon.* Read the story of Jesus at the well. John 4. 5-26.
Tues. Read about Jacob in Shechem. Gen. 33. 17-20.
Wed. Find how God invites. Isa. 55. 1; Rev. 22. 17.
Thur. Learn how you may have living water. Verse 10.
Fri. Learn the beautiful Golden Text.
Sat. Read what followed the talk. Verses 27-42.
Sun. Learn a heavenly promise. Rev. 7. 16, 17.

THREE LITTLE LESSONS.

We have learned that—

1. The waters of this world will not cure thirst.
2. The waters of life will.
3. Jesus will give it to us if we ask him.

SOMETHING WORTH KEEPING.

"I can never keep anything!" cried Edith, stamping her foot with vexation because she could not find her scissors. "Somebody always takes my things away and loses them."

"There is one thing," said her mamma, "that I think you might keep if you would try."

"I should like to keep even one thing," answered Edith.

"Well, then, my dear, keep your temper; if you will only do that, you will find

it easier to keep other things. If you had used your time in searching for the lost scissors, you might have found them before this. You have only got into a passion, and you have accused somebody, perhaps unjustly, of taking away your scissors and losing them.

"Keep your temper, Edith, even if you lose all the little property you have; getting into a passion never brings anything to light except an unhappy face; and besides getting yourself into a passion you accuse somebody else of doing wrong."

Edith began to think; she got over her ill-humor, searched for her scissors and found them in her own work bag.

"Why, mamma," she exclaimed, "here they are; I might have been sewing all this time if I had kept my temper."

"THE HEATHEN HAVE BEAT."

One day Robert's uncle gave him a penny.

"Now," said he, "I'll have some chocolate creams, for I've been wanting some for a long while."

"Is that the best way you can use your penny?" asked his mother.

"Oh, yes! I want the chocolate creams very much." And he hurried on his cap and ran off in great haste.

His mother was sitting at the window and saw him running along, and then he stopped. She thought he had lost his penny, but he started off again, and soon reached the door of the shop; and then he stood there awhile with his hand on the latch and his eye on the chocolate in the window. His mother was wondering what he was waiting for; then she was more surprised to see him come off the step, and run back home again without going in.

In about one minute he rushed into the parlor with a bright face, as he exclaimed:

"Mother, the heathen have beat, the heathen have beat!"

"What do you mean by 'the heathen have beat?'"

"Why, mother, as I went along I kept hearing the heathen say, 'Give us your penny to help to send us good missionaries. We want Bibles and tracts. Help us, little boy, won't you?' and I kept saying, 'Oh, how I want the chocolate cream.' At last the heathen beat; I am going to put my penny into the missionary box."

KISS AND AGREE.

A singer sang a song of cheer,

And the great world listened and smiled,

For he sang of the love of a Father dear,

And the trust of a little child;

And souls that before had forgotten to pray,

Looked up and went singing along the way.