

LESSON XIII.—December 25th, 1898.

REVIEW OR CHRISTMAS LESSON. Hebrews 1: 1-9.

I. GOLDEN TEXT: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2: 11.

II. REVIEW THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER: Pictures and stories about good men of the Old Testament.

III. SYNOPSIS OF LESSON:

1. Our Christmas Lesson to-day is chosen from the Gospel of Luke. Luke is the only evangelist who gives us this part of the Christmas story.

Joseph being of the house and lineage of David, made it necessary that he should visit Bethlehem once a year to be taxed. He took with him Mary, and there being no room for them in the inn, the Saviour was born in a stable, and cradled in a manger.

A short distance from Bethlehem, on the hillsides, the shepherds were abiding watching over the sheep. The story cannot be told in simpler words than we have it in verses 8 to 20 of our lesson, and, therefore, need not be repeated here.

IV. SUGGESTIVE STEPS IN TEACHING THE LESSON:

Boys and girls I want to tell you one, two three, four, stories to-day, but first let me ask you a question. Why is there a Christmas Day? What is it for? Why should there be a Christmas Day? Let the teacher keep on questioning in this way until the idea is brought out from the children, that the Saviour was needed to keep boys and girls from sinning.

STORY No. 1.

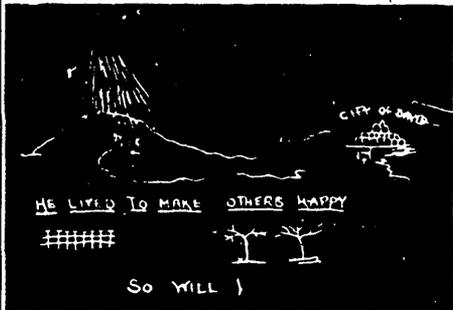
Tell the story of a girl who was made happy by giving away a toy that she loved. While these stories are being told sketch them roughly on the blackboard. It always adds interest to the story.

STORY No. 2.

Tell the story of a boy who wanted to live to make others happy. Fred was a very poor boy, and when Christmas came he thought more about making others happy and about what he was to give, than what he was to get for his Christmas gift. He only had one cent to spend, and how could he buy five Christmas gifts with one cent.

Oh! he thought, if I were only rich, I would make mother happy, and auntie happy, and sister happy, and the two others that he wanted to make happy; but he only had one cent. What should he do? I will tell you.

He went into a store and he asked the store-keeper how many rows of pins he would give him for a cent. He told the man what he wanted them for, and the man gave him five rows. He found away up in the garret some colored paper, and mother gave him five little Christmas cards. He carefully cut the five rows of pins apart, and then rolled each one up very prettily in the colored tissue paper. Then writing as well as he could upon the card, the names of the persons for whom his present was intended, on Christmas morning he made all five of them happy by his thought-



ful Christmas gift. It only cost one cent, but Fred gave it a lot of thought, and he was the happiest one of the five. Fred seemed to live to make others happy.

STORY No. 3.

Away in Japan there lived a boy who had never heard about Jesus. The people who lived near him did cruel and wicked things. Something in his heart told him it was wrong, and seemed to say to him that he ought not to do these things, but he could not help it, for he had never heard of the Saviour. There was no Christmas there. Why, do you suppose? Bring out the thought that there is no Christmas Day where there is no knowledge of Christ.