

## THE TOWN OF NOGOOD.

My friend, have you heard of the town of Nogood,

On the banks of the River Slow,  
Where blooms the Waitawhile flower fair,  
Where the Sometime or Other scents the air,

Where the soft Goeasies grow?

It lies in the Valley of Whatstheuse,

In the province of Letterslide,  
That Tiredfeeling is native there,  
It's the home of the reckless Idon'tcare,  
Where the Giveitups abide.

It stands at the bottom of Lazyhill,

And is easy to reach, I declare;  
You've only to fold your hands and glide  
Down the slope of Weakwill's toboggan slide

To be landed quickly there.

The town is as old as the human race,

And it grows with the flight of years.  
It is wrapped in the fog of idlers' dreams,  
Its streets are paved with discarded schemes,  
And sprinkled with useless tears.

The town of Nogood is all hedged about

By the mountains of Despair.  
No sentinel stands on its gloomy walls,  
No trumpet to battle and triumph calls,  
For cowards alone are there.

My friend, from the dead-alive town Nogood

If you would keep far away,  
Just follow your duty through good and ill,  
Take this for your motto: "I can, I will,"  
And live up to it each day.

## LESSON NOTES.

## THIRD QUARTER.

## STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

## LESSON VIII. [August 24.]

## REPORT OF THE SPIES.

Num. 13. 26 to 14. 4. Mem. vs. 30-33.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

Blessed is that man that maketh the Lord his trust.—Psa. 40. 4.

## THE LESSON STORY.

While they were camped in the Wilderness of Paran the Lord told Moses to send men to spy out the land of Canaan. He told him to send one from each tribe—each one a ruler among them. So Moses chose twelve men, all of them heads of their tribes, and sent them to the land of Canaan, toward which God was leading them. After forty days they came back, and brought to Moses and the people some of the fruits of the land—pomegranates, figs, and a cluster of grapes so large that

two of them bore it between them on a staff. They said they had found a fruitful land full of all good things, but there were great walled cities there, and a strong people—sons of the giants, who were very powerful in war.

When the people heard this they were troubled, but Caleb, of the tribe of Judah, stilled them and said, "Let us go up at once and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it;" but others of the spies said they were not able. Then all the people wept. They wept all night, and wished that they had died in Egypt, or in the wilderness, and they were almost ready to choose a captain and return to the land of Egypt and to slavery, so much afraid were they of the giants of Canaan. And of the spies only Caleb and Joshua were strong and full of courage.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where were the Israelites going? To Canaan.

What was this? A beautiful country.  
What had God promised? To give it to them for a home.

Where were they now? Nearly home.  
Whom did Moses send ahead? Twelve men.

What for? To see what the land was like.

How long were they gone? Forty days.  
What did they bring back? Beautiful fruits.

What had they seen? Walled cities.  
What had made them afraid? The giants they saw.

Who were not afraid? Caleb and Joshua.

What did this show? That they trusted God.

## LESSON IX. [August 31.]

## THE BRAZEN SERPENT.

Num. 21. 1-9. Memorize verses 6-8.

## GOLDEN TEXT.

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.—John 3. 14, 15.

## THE LESSON STORY.

Because the Israelites would not trust the heavenly Father who had fed them with bread from heaven, and led them by his cloud by day and his light by night, they could not enter the promised land, but were still wanderers in the wilderness, and at Mount Hor Aaron died. Once a king of Canaan came out to fight with them, and they promised the Lord to destroy the cities of the enemy if he would help them to conquer them, and so they did. They journeyed from Mount Hor around the land of Edom, but they were still no nearer the land to which they journeyed, and they were discouraged. They spoke against

God and against Moses, and asked him why he had brought them out of Egypt to die in the wilderness. They also said they did not like the "light bread" that they gathered each morning.

They had rebelled so many times that God could only make them sorry by sending some trouble upon them. He sent fiery serpents among them, and they bit the people so that many died. Then they came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against God and against thee." And they begged him to pray the Lord to take the serpents away. So the Lord heard, and told Moses to make a brazen serpent and put it upon a pole, so that every one bitten of a serpent might look upon it and live. And this was done, but the people who looked and lived did not know that it was a sign of the lifting upon the cross of the Redeemer who was to come.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What comes from not trusting God? Trouble.

Where were the Israelites now? Still wandering around.

Why did they not enter Canaan? They were afraid.

What did they begin to do? To complain to God.

Of what were they tired? The manna God sent.

What is very wrong? To find fault with what God gives us.

What did God send to punish them? Fiery serpents.

From what did many die? The bite of the serpents.

What did God tell Moses to make? A serpent of brass.

What did this do? It cured all who looked at it.

Of what was it a sign? Of Jesus on the cross.

Who were willing to look at it? All who believed in God.

## "I AM NOT AFRAID OF HIM."

A little boy came to his father, looking very much in earnest, and asked, "Father, is Satan bigger than I am?"

"Yes, my boy," said the father.

"Is he bigger than you, father?"

"Yes, my boy, he is bigger than your father."

The boy looked surprised, but thought again, and asked, "Is he bigger than Jesus?"

"No, my boy," answered the father; "Jesus is bigger than he is."

The little fellow, as he turned away with a smile, said, "Then I am not afraid of him."—*Selected.*

I'm a young abstainer,

And I take my stand

With the many thousands,

In the temperance band.