

THE DREAMLAND LINE.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

There's the strangest little railroad that departs from every door; And it runs a zig-zag journey for a thousand miles or more, Till it wanders into Dreamland. And every night they say, There's a big excursion party, and not a cent to pay! And the children, just the children, these excursion-trips can take On the little nursery railroad from the land of Wide-Awake To the most delightful country, where the wondrous dream-tree grows, From whose branches dreams are shaken every time the sleep-wind blows.

And this railroad has a station at each nursery door, it seems, Where it stops at dusk to take on passengers for Land o' Dreams. Hark! I think I hear the whistle of the train that goes to-night. It is stopping at the station. What a charming, charming sight! Scores and scores of happy faces through its windows smile at me. Don't I wish that I was going in this jolly company? "All aboard!" the brakeman's calling. Hurry, little ones of mine; Safe and pleasant be your journey o'er the Dreamland Railroad line!

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

LESSON X. [Sept. 3.]

REBUILDING THE TEMPLE.

Ezra 3. 10 to 4. 5. Memory verses, 10, 11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.—1 Cor. 3. 17.

DO YOU KNOW.

Where did the Jews go when they left Babylon? To Jerusalem. Why were they glad to go there? It was their dear old home. What did they find when they came there? That it lay in ruins. Who had destroyed it? How long was it since Nebuchadnezzar took it? What had become of the beautiful temple? What did they build again? What more did they do to please God? [See Monday's Help.] What foundation did they lay? The foundation for the house of the Lord. What did the people do when this was laid? Do you know why some wept? What does the Lord want each one of us to build? The temple of the Spirit. Who is willing to come and live in it? The Lord.

DAILY HELPS.

- Mon. Find what the Jews did when they came to Jerusalem Ezra 3 2-6.
- Tues. Read the lesson verses carefully Ezra 3. 10 to 4 5
- Wed. Read about sorrow turned to joy Jer. 33. 7-16.
- Thurs. Learn about freewill offerings. 2 Cor. 8. 1-9.
- Fri. Find what the Feast of Tabernacles was. Lev. 23. 33-44.
- Sat. Learn what is the wisest and best thing to do Psalm 118. 8, 9
- Sun. Read about the joy of the saved in heaven. Rev. 7. 9-17.

LESSON XI [Sept. 10.]

ENCOURAGING THE BUILDERS.

Hag. 2. 1-9. Memory verses, 4, 5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and work; for I am with you.—Hag. 2. 4.

DO YOU KNOW.

Who brought a message from the Lord to the Jews? The prophet Haggai. What kind of a message was it? A message of encouragement. Why was it needed? Their work had been hindered. Who had hindered it? Enemies. Who were these enemies? Samaritans. Who was now the king? Darius. Who was the leader among the Jews? Zerubbabel. Why did God tell them to be strong? Because he was with them. What did he say he was coming to do? To shake all the nations. Whom did he say would then come? The desire of all nations. Whom did he mean? The Lord Jesus Christ. What did he say of the glory of the new temple? Who owns all the silver and the gold? What does this lesson teach? That we are safe if we are on the Lord's side.

DAILY HELPS.

- Mon. Find how enemies hindered the work of the Jews. Ezra 4. 1-5.
- Tues. Find the command to build sent through Haggai. Hag. 1. 1-8.
- Wed. Learn how the people of Israel obeyed. Ezra 5. 1-5.
- Thurs. Learn a strong encouragement to work. Golden Text.
- Fri. Read a strong reason for building the Lord's house. Exod. 29. 43-46.
- Sat. Learn who helps his people to do their work. Isa. 41. 10.
- Sun. Learn a text which may be an every-day help. Rom. 8. 31.

HE WAS WILLING.

"I will not speak to you any more, Willy Morris; never!"
 "I won't speet to you no more, neezer," answered an angry little voice.
 Oh my! what a bad beginning for a picnic! Good Mrs. Shaw had invited the ten

little people out to her beautiful place to eat strawberries and cream. They came two hours too soon, and Mrs. Shaw laughed and laughed, for the berries were not picked nor the cream skimmed, and the crumpets were only just browning on the stove.

"There, run away and play, you rowdies," she cried, "down in the shade of the hill there; but mind you don't run over my pansy beds."

And now, just as they were beginning to have such a good time, Willy and Dimple had to go to quarrelling; and of course quarrelling spoils all the fun. Willy and Dimple began to wish they could make up, and as soon as people own to themselves that they are sorry and ashamed, a way seems to open up for them to be friends. It opened up now.

They were playing a rather tiresome game of forfeits. Delia was sitting a little off to herself, and Dimple was crying forfeits over her head.

"Heavy, heavy hangs over your head," cries Dimple.

"Fine or superfine?"

"Superfine. What must the owner do?"

"Superfine; that means a girl," mused Delia. "Maybe it's Dimple herself." (It was indeed one of Dimple's red slippers; but Delia's eyes were tightly, honourably shut; she didn't know it.)

"She must go and kiss Willy Morris," ventured Delia, hoping it might be Dimple.

Generally the sentences were received with little shrieks and shouts, but this one fell on a silent group. Dimple hesitated, while Willy watched her anxiously. Slowly she made her way around the circle. "Willy," she said, blushing and smiling, "forfeit says I must kiss you."

"All right," said the small boy cheerfully, "I'm willing!"

A BETTER UNDERSTANDING.

BY ANNIE A. PRESTON.

"I detest dogs!" said pretty Margaret, and Heather, the Scotch collie, dropped his head and marched out of the room.

"You have injured Heather's feelings," said his mistress. "I am sorry."

"I don't believe dogs can understand," said the young lady visitor. But for days the beautiful animal showed by his manner that he returned her aversion.

One sultry morning, Margaret, glancing out, saw baby Alice asleep in a large arm-chair in the shade of the shrubbery, while near by was Heather, keeping watch.

Soon an inquisitive robin flew down and pecked at baby's cheek. She awoke, rolled and slipped out upon the soft turf. When Margaret reached the spot she found Heather anxiously bending over the weeping child, and said:

"Good dog, Heather; you did your best."

When Baby Alice was quieted with loving smiles and words, Heather gratefully reached up, with a knowing look and gently kissed pretty Margaret's hand.