

THE SAND MAN.

BY CHARLES NELSON JOHNSON.

The Sand Man drops in every night,
The Sand Man with his sand;
To sprinkle grains in little eyes
With unseen, unfelt hand.

He comes about the hour when all
The baby work is done;
When toys lie scattered round the room,
Abandoned one by one.

A hobby-horse once rocked with vim
Stands quiet in its stall—
A consecrated space between
The trundle bed and wall.

A jumping-jack, an iron bank,
A painted rubber ball,
A rattle with a whistle on,
A bruised and battered doll,—

A dozen little glittering things
So dear to babyland:
But now the Sand Man comes around,
The Sand Man with his sand.

Two chubby little fists are forced
In two small sleepy eyes,
To rub away the sand which sifts
Across some tired sighs.

And now the Sand Man yields his place
To a fairy with a rod,
Who beckons toward that mystic shrine,
The babyland of Nod.

The Sand Man drops in every night,
The Sand Man with his sand.
To sprinkle grains in little eyes,
With unseen, unfelt hand.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON VII. [May 16.]

PAUL PREACHING TO THE GENTILES.

Acts 14. 11-22. Memory verses, 21, 22.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles.—Acts 13. 47.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

Where did Paul and Barnabas go from Antioch?

Why did they have to flee from there?

Where did they go then?

Whom did the people of Lystra worship?

What was Jupiter? A heathen god.

What miracle did Paul work?

What did the people say?

What did they do?

Why would not the apostles be worshipped?

Who was the god Mercury? The god of fine speaking.

What soon changed their minds toward the apostles?

What did they feel like doing then?

What did they actually do?

What saved Paul from death?

Where did they next go?
Why did they go back to the places they had visited before?

LEARN—

Not to be too easily influenced.
To be patient with people who do wrong.
To be brave and loving in time of trial.

LESSON VIII. [May 23.]

THE CONFERENCE AT JERUSALEM.

Acts 15. 1-6, 22-29. Memory verses, 3, 4.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.—Acts 15. 11.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

Where did Paul and Barnabas stay a long time?

What took them to Jerusalem?

What was the dispute that arose in Antioch? About keeping the law of Moses.

Who said the Gentiles ought to keep it?

What did Paul and Barnabas say?

What meeting was held in Jerusalem?

What did Paul and Barnabas tell the brethren? Verse 12.

What did Peter think about the law for Gentiles?

Did James think they ought to keep it?

What new law did Jesus come to bring? The law of love.

What did the apostles write?

Who took the letter to Antioch?

What did it bring to the believers?

THE DIFFERENCE.

The law says, "Do, and thou shalt live."
The Gospel says, "Live, and thou shalt do."

Do you obey God because you love him?

THE DISOWNED LAMB.

At Uncle Norris' farm they have a great many sheep. They have a pleasant pasture to be in during the day, and a nice warm house for the night, where they are safe from all danger. Some of the sheep had names which little Nellie Norris had given them. There was one big old sheep, that Nellie named Whiteface, and of which the girl was very fond.

One time Whiteface had two little lambs. How pleased Nellie was when she knew that! But then Whiteface did a very strange thing. She loved and cared for one, but she would not pay any attention to the other. Nellie came out to see them. "Why, Whiteface, it's your own little lambie. You ought to love it; it is naughty for you not to love it," said Nellie. I don't think Whiteface understood. At any rate, she would not care for the other lamb at all. Nellie felt very bad, and cried a good deal when she told her mamma. "Now I can't love Whiteface any more, because she did not love her very own little lambie. I didn't think she could be so naughty."

We ought to love our own. We ought to love Jesus when he is willing to be called a man with us.

THE TEMPTATION TO DISHONESTY.

A GENTLEMAN had two boys who were doing little jobs of work for him during the week. On Saturday night he settled with them for their work. On the way home, as they counted out their money, they found that they each had a quarter of a dollar more than really belonged to him. One of them said, "He guessed he'd keep it, for he had worked hard enough for it." The other boy took his quarter straight back and returned it to the owner. Now it turned out that it was not a mistake on the part of the gentleman. He did it on purpose to find out if the boys were honest. The boy who kept the quarter proved dishonest, and the gentleman never employed him again. The other boy showed that he was honest. He found steady work, and was finally taken into business.

Let us be truthful and honest, and then we shall prosper.

THE HONEST LITTLE BERRY GIRL.

MADGE CONKLIN was such a tired, hungry child. She had been on the street all the afternoon selling her berries, and she still had three boxes left.

At the minister's door she halted. Mrs. Libbey could ill afford to buy them now.

"How much do you want, child?" she asked, as Madge put her head in the window.

"Well, ma'am, if you'd only take them all you may have them for a shilling. I'm so tired and hungry, and they'll whip me when I go back if I don't sell them."

In a moment the good woman had taken Madge, basket and all, through the window, and, tucking her in a nice rocking-chair, pulled her up to the table and brought her a good bowl of milk and a plate of porridge, which she ate as if she had never had a mouthful before, while the basket was being emptied.

"Do you tell me," asked Mrs. Libbey, as she saw how hungry she was, "that you were so starved, little girl, and you never touched a berry in your basket?"

"They ain't mine to touch, ma'am. If I had ever so many whippings, I wouldn't eat one, because it's stealing."

"You blessed dear!" and Mrs. Libbey filled up as she talked. "What an example you've taught. I'll buy every one left over. You shan't get any more whippings if I can help it. Pray, who do you live with, child?"

"Ma'am Stebbins down the lane, ma'am."

"Haven't you a mother?"

"No, m."

"Nor father?"

"No, m; she's 'dopted me."

Mrs. Libbey knew what a hard woman Ma'am Stebbins was, and she said to the child. "By-and-bye you shall come and live with me."

Madge had found a kind friend for the first time in her life. She did many a favour for Mrs. Libbey after this, and in course of time went to live with her, where she had plenty to eat and no more hard blows.