

of Joshua. Because of their sin the men of Israel lost all their strength in battle, so that they could no longer stand against their enemies, who now came and destroyed their homes and property and took away their wives and children as slaves. There was, besides, no wise leader among them such as Moses and Joshua had been, to tell the Israelites what to do; so that they were in the greatest distress and trouble. They knew not what to do.

Then they remembered the Lord and repented of the evil they had done, and when the Lord saw that they were willing and anxious to return to His ways, He freely forgave all their sins.

And God once more sent strong men among His people to be their leaders. Their new

rulers were called judges, and they put down the enemies of the Israelites from before them, so that in time they got back much that they had lost by their disobedience.

Questions on the Lesson

1. How did the old men in Israel help the people to remember God? 2. Into what sin did the Israelites fall after the death of Joshua? 3. What kind of gods did the Canaanites worship? 4. What had God said should happen if the people disobeyed Him? 5. In what two ways did He now punish them? 6. What did they do when they were in great trouble? 7. How did the Lord show that He had forgiven their sin? 8. What did the judges do for the Israelites? 9. What is the Golden Text?

HARRY'S FIRST SKATE

Harry was buckling on his new skates for the first time. "Wait a moment," said his father, who had brought the children to the pond. "and I will help you to begin." "Oh, I don't need any help," said Harry. "It's as easy as anything," and away he went.

But before he knew it his head was where his feet ought to be, and there was a strange feeling in his head and a big lump upon it.

He lay still where he was until his father came to pick him up. In fact he had hurt himself more than any one knew, for he had struck a sharp stone in his fall and the doctor had to come and see him several times before he was better.

When he was well again, he was quite willing to let his father show him how to skate, but he had had a hard lesson.



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

God hates sin



Primary Catechism—123. What is heaven? Heaven is the holy and happy place where Jesus is. **124.** What is hell? Hell is a place of woe, where the devil and evil spirits are.

Shorter Catechism—50. What is required in the second commandment?

A. The second commandment requireth the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath appointed in his word.

Lesson Hymn

One is kind above all others—
O how He loves!
His is love beyond a brother's—
O how He loves!
Earthly friends may fail or leave us,
One day soothe, the next day grieve us:
But this friend will ne'er deceive us—
O how He loves!

Amen.

—Hymn 542, Book of Praise