

THE SUMMER SUN.

Great is the sun, and wide he goes
Through empty heaven without repose;
And in the blue and glowing days,
More thick than rain he showers his
rays.

Though closer still the blinds we pull,
To keep the shady parlor cool,
Yet he will find a chink or two
To slip his golden fingers through.

The dusty attic, spider-clad,
He, through the key-hole, maketh glad;
And through the broken edge of tiles,
Into the laddered hay-loft smiles.

Meantime, his golden face around,
He bares to all the garden ground,
And sheds a warm and glittering look
Among the ivy's inmost nook.

Above the hills, along the blue,
Round the bright air, with footing true,
To please the child, to paint the rose,
The gardener of the world, he goes.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, FROM
SOLOMON TO ELIJAH.

LESSON I.—JULY 3.

THE KINGDOM DIVIDED.

1 Kings 12. 12-20. Memorize verses,
12-14.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Pride goeth before destruction, and an
haughty spirit before a fall.—Prov.
16. 18.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Who was the fourth king of Israel?
Rehoboam. Whose son was he? What did
the people ask the new king to do? How
soon did he give them an answer? Whose
counsel had he taken? Why did he take
their advice? He wanted to show that he
was master. What did the people do?
Did any stay with Rehoboam? Yes, the
tribe of Judah. What became of the ten
tribes that rebelled? They chose Jeroboam
to rule over them. After this what were
the two kingdoms called? Judah and
Israel. What caused this division of the
kingdom? Sin. Who told them that it
would be so? The prophet Samuel.

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read of the death of Solomon. 1
Kings 11. 41-43.
Tues. Find what the people asked. 1
Kings 12. 1-5.
Wed. Read how Rehoboam asked coun-
sel. 1 Kings 12. 6-11.
Thur. Read the lesson verses. 1 Kings
12. 12-20.

Fri. Learn the cause of the trouble in
the Golden Text.

Sat. Learn what Jesus said about the
proud. Luke 14. 11.

Sun. Find where all this trouble started.
1 Kings 11. 1-13.

THREE LITTLE LESSONS.

We have learned that—

1. "Grievous words stir up anger."
2. A broken silence cannot be mended.
3. The root of all trouble is in the heart.

LESSON II.—JULY 10.

JEROBOAM'S IDOLATRY.

1 Kings 12. 25-33. Memorize verses 28-30.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Keep yourselves from idols.—1 John 5.
21.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

What was Rehoboam's kingdom called?
How large was it? What other tribe was
joined to Judah? What did Judah have
that Israel had not? What took place
there every year? The Passover, and
other feasts. How far did the people come
to them? Did all worship the Lord alone?
What city did Jeroboam, King of Israel,
build up for himself? What did he think
about? What did he fear? What wicked
thought came to his mind? Did he make
the thought a deed? What was it? What
message did he afterward send to the
people? What did he say these idols had
done? What followed this great sin?

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read the story of Jeroboam's call.
1 Kings 11. 26-37.
Tues. Find how Jeroboam was to keep
his kingdom. 1 Kings 11. 38.
Wed. Read the lesson verses. 1 Kings
12. 25-33.
Thur. Learn the four words of the
Golden Text.
Fri. Learn again the second command-
ment. Exod. 20. 4-6.
Sat. Read what Jesus says about wor-
ship. John 4. 23, 24.
Sun. Read about worship in heaven
Rev. 21, 22, 23.

THREE LITTLE LESSONS.

We have learned that—

1. The Lord is a Spirit.
2. We must worship him in spirit and
in truth.
3. To worship gold, or any earthly
thing, is idolatry.

THE MINNOW'S ADVENTURE.

A little minnow lived in the lake. The
lake was very deep in some places, and
only large fishes lived out there. Near
the shore it was quite shallow. Here
the little minnow and his playmates
lived.

One day the minnow was swimming

around, having a merry game with the
other little fish. Suddenly, as he was
rising almost to the top of the water, he
found himself all alone in a very small
place. He swam round and round, and
said, "Where am I? This is not the
lake or the river. I wonder what it is."
Just then he saw a little boy looking into
the dipper, for it was a dipper in which
he had been caught.

"Oh, it is a minnow!" said Harry.
"I never thought I could catch a min-
now, they are so lively. Isn't he pretty?"
"Oh, let me see!" cried his sister
Fannie, and another little head bent over
the dipper.

"Oh, what a darling little fish! And
how fast he goes! What round eyes he
has, and what a big mouth! O Harry,
let us keep him for a pet!"

"All right," said Harry, "we can put
him in the goldfish globe."

They ran home and showed the minnow
to their mamma. She brought the gold-
fish globe and put their pet in it.

"We will put some white sand and
pretty stones in the bottom," said Fan-
nie; "that will make it seem more like
his home in the lake." The minnow was
very glad when he found himself in a
larger place where there were stones and
sand.

Fannie and Harry liked to watch him
dart swiftly about or slowly float, just
moving his tiny fins.

One day mamma said, "I think the
minnow would like to go back to the lake
now. You have had him a long time,
and I am sure he misses his little play-
mates." So the little children carried
him back to his home.

A PRAYER.

Keep my little voice to-day,
Keep it gentle while I play;
Keep my hands from doing wrong,
Keep my feet the whole day long;
Keep me all, O Jesus mild,
Keep me ever thy dear child.

—Selected.

WOULD HE ?

A little girl sat on a stone watching
the other children play. She was all alone,
and looked very sad. Her feet were bare,
and her dress was torn.

"Why does not that little girl play
too?" I asked the children.

"Her father is an old drunkard, and she
is not dressed pretty, as we are; we don't
want her," they said.

Poor little girl! Would Jesus treat her
so, do you think?

He who would love his race must first
love those of his race who are nearest to
him.