

**FAMILY HISTORY.**

BY RUFUS C. LANDON.

Can and Will are cousins dear,  
Who never trust to luck;  
Can is the child of Energy,  
And Will the child of Pluck.

Can't and Won't are cousins too;  
They are always out of work;  
For Can't is son of Never Try,  
And Won't is son of Shirk.

In choosing your companions, dear,  
Select both Will and Can;  
But turn aside from Can't and Won't  
If you would be a man.

**LESSON NOTES.**

**FOURTH QUARTER.**

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, FROM  
ELIJAH TO ISAIAH.

**LESSON IX.—NOVEMBER 27.**

WORLD'S TEMPERANCE SUNDAY.

28. 1-13. Memorize verses 3, 4.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

They also have erred through wine, and  
through strong drink are out of the way.  
—Isa. 28. 7.

**THE LESSON STORY.**

In the very middle of the Holy Land  
lay the beautiful country that was given  
to the tribe of Ephraim. Manasseh's por-  
tion was beside it, and the fathers of these  
two tribes were the sons of Joseph, Jacob's  
loved son, who was sold into Egypt and  
became the saviour of his people. Jacob,  
when he was dying, blessed Joseph above  
all his brethren, and Ephraim should have  
received the blessing. He, or rather his tribe,  
grew rich and satisfied with their "fat  
alleys" and vineyards, and while pleased  
with themselves, forgot God. Isaiah  
new about these people. Many of them  
were drunkards and he knew that God  
could soon punish them for their intem-  
perance and sin. So he tells the drunkards  
of his own city, Jerusalem, to whom he is  
speaking, to take a warning from the pun-  
ishment God is about to send upon their  
neighbors in Ephraim. But they despise  
his warning, make fun of him, and ask:  
"Whom shall he teach knowledge?"  
"Surely not us! We are no longer children  
that he should tell us the same thing again  
and again—"precept upon precept . . .  
line upon line." But just this way, says  
Isaiah, will God answer these haughty and  
wicked men who refuse to be warned.  
God will send an army of strangers who  
will speak a strange language against them to  
destroy them also, just as he is about to  
destroy the drunkards of Ephraim. If  
they will not hear God's warning, his word  
which has been to them precept upon pre-

cept, that is, repeated over and over again,  
cannot save them; but they will go, "and  
fall backward, and be broken, and snared  
and taken." They will be utterly de-  
stroyed.

**QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.**

What was Ephraim? One of the tribes  
of Israel.

Where was the land of Ephraim? In  
central Palestine.

Was it a good land? Yes.

Were the people good? They were  
proud and lovers of wine.

Who called them to a right life? The  
Lord.

Through whom? Isaiah and Hosea.

Did he speak to them alone? No, to  
people of Judah and to us also.

How does he teach us? "Line upon  
line; here a little, and there a little."

How can we be kept from any evil?  
By never touching it.

What does God give us instead? His  
Holy Spirit.

What is the drunkard's crown? "A  
fading flower."

What will the Lord be to his people?  
"A crown of glory."

**LESSON X.—DECEMBER 4.**

HEZEKIAH REOPENS THE TEMPLE.

2 CHRON. 29. 18-31. Memorize verses  
28-30.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

Them that honor me I will honor.—  
1 Sam. 2. 30.

**THE LESSON STORY.**

It is not often that a bad king has a  
good son, but Ahaz, king of Judah, was  
one of the worst of men, and his son  
Hezekiah one of the best. He was  
twenty-five years old when he began to  
reign. Of him we are told that "he did  
that which was right in the sight of the  
Lord, according to all that David his  
father had done." The first year of his  
reign he began to bring back the true  
worship his father had despised by open-  
ing the doors of the temple and repairing  
them. He also gathered the priests and  
Levites together and began a great  
cleansing of the temple. They made the  
altar clean and bright, and all the vessels  
that had grown dim, and set all in order  
as they had not been in many years. After  
this there was a great sacrifice; all the  
people worshipping, and the Levites sing-  
ing and playing upon the psalteries and  
harps and cymbals that were David's while  
the sin offering was made for the people.  
They sang also the psalms of David and  
of Asaph, and did it with gladness and  
thankfulness of heart.

Then the people came with their offer-  
ings, and peace offerings, and the king  
rejoiced that their hearts were so ready to  
turn to the worship of their fathers.

**QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.**

Who was a very good king of Judah?  
Hezekiah.

Who was his father? The wicked King  
Ahaz.

What does the lesson story tell us about?  
How he reopened and cleansed the temple.

What did Hezekiah first do? Open the  
closed temple.

What next? He had it cleansed and  
set in order.

What was their first worship? A great  
sacrifice.

Who served in the temple? The priests  
and the Levites.

Who were in the chorus? The Levites.

What did they sing? The psalms of  
David and Asaph.

What did they play upon? David's  
instruments.

What did the people bring? Their  
thank offerings.

What did the king do? He rejoiced  
that God had prepared the hearts of the  
people.

**A MAKER OF LACE.**

One day a little girl while playing in  
the attic was surprised to see close beside  
her a spider busy at work. She sat down,  
and after watching the little, black, shining  
creature, soon fell asleep. In her dream  
this is what the spider said and did:

"Little maid, see the lace house I am  
making without tools. It is nearly finish-  
ed. Watch closely and I will show you  
how to do it."

"But where," said the child, "is your  
shuttle and loom; your silk, thread, or  
cotton? I see no machinery here in your  
room. How did you weave this dainty,  
beautiful web?"

The spider smiled and said: "Little  
maid, my thread is always at hand. It is  
hard to explain to you just how I do it,  
but look sharp, and perhaps you will see  
through it. The thread lies within my own  
round, black body. And the little spider  
begins to spin out its thread, and soon had  
completed its house."

"So, my little maiden, you find me a  
spinner of thread the finest in the world;  
an architect who plans and builds his own  
home; a skilled decorator of barn and  
house; and a plain, honest, contented  
worker."

The child then opened her eyes, and ran  
downstairs to think over what she had  
learned from the little spider. Did you  
ever watch a spider? If your mother does  
not allow spider webs in her house, you  
may have to wait for warmer weather.

It is a brave, a beautiful thing to say:  
"Forgive me, I have been wrong; I will  
amend."