

New York and Chautauqua Lake artist, assisted by Miss M. A. Latibury. This cluster is published quarterly, at \$4 a year. It is cheap, beautiful, and indispensable.

4. Whatever other plan the teacher of this class may adopt, let the following elements of the lesson never be omitted: (1) The Title; (2) The Topic; (3) The Golden Text; (4) The Story; (5) The Whisper Song.

HOW TO TEACH THE FIRST LESSON.

This, the first lesson for the year, may be introduced by a few questions, bringing out the facts of Moses' birth, hiding by the river side, escape to Midian, the burning bush, the appeal to Pharaoh, the passage of the Red Sea, life in the wilderness, the manna, Mount Sinai, etc., etc., up to the death of Moses.

It will be well for the teachers in as little time as possible to get these facts into the minds of the children in order to make the connection between Moses and Joshua, and to give them a better understanding of Joshua as the successor of Moses. If the word *successor* is used it must, of course, be explained: the man who took Moses' place.

This man was told by God to lead the people over the river Jordan into the Land of Promise. It was a very great undertaking, but God told him to be "strong and very courageous;" that is, he must not be afraid of any thing. He also told him that he must do whatever Moses had commanded him; also, to think on God's law, and to keep it. Children must be like Joshua in this: (1.) They must do what their teachers tell them; and (2.) They must think on God's law and keep it. Do you know what is meant by God's law? It is what God tells us that we must do. It is found in the best Book in the world. What is it called? You must learn to read the Bible as soon as you can, so that you may learn what God says to you. Then, as God promised to be with Joshua, so will he be with you. [Class repeat] "The Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Mem. Call out frequent expressions of opinion from the class, by raised hands, to avoid confusion. Be animated in tone, gesture, and countenance. Have your class directly before you. Use the blackboard. Let the children's eyes assist their ears.

1. *The Situation.* Great company of people—Is-ra-el-ites—men, women, and children—slaves once—God set them free—promised them a country for home—was leading them to it—through desert. Travelling long time—ancient mode of travel—no railroad—on foot—living in

tent, as we do at camp-meeting—no home—no house. (Draw line on blackboard.) Israelites are almost there—here. (Make square on right side of line.) This line is a river between them and the land God gave them—Canaan. (Describe.) Hills—valleys—brook—fruit—grapes—honey—cities and houses all built. (Sketch tree, houses, roughly—anything to catch the eye—on left side of river.) People—Canaanites—all—strong—wicked—numerous. Lord told Israelites to destroy them, they were so wicked. Canaanites heard they were coming—very angry—getting ready to fight. How did Israelites feel? "Afraid."

2. *The Encouragement.* To people. God gave them a captain—Joshua—deliverer. To Joshua. God spoke to him—voice out of heaven. "Be not afraid." Couldn't help it—Canaanites stronger than his armies, "I am with thee." Power of God—made men—can destroy them. (Ill. Exod. 12. 28 and 2 Kings 19, 35.) Which army stronger if God was with Joshua? Did God promise to help any way? good or bad? They must love him—obey his word—be good—else he would leave them. What would happen then?

3. *Application.* Is the God we pray to the same God? Strong now as then? Does he speak loud from heaven? Why not? Bible sufficient. In that God promises to be with us—every child—right by our side—help us in trouble. Can't see him—can't see air, or our own thoughts, but can feel them. So feel God in our heart—makes us happy if we are good—unhappy if we are naughty. Haven't you felt him? How many will try and be good so God will help them? Happy—safe.

WHISPER-SONG.

No need of fear,
Or anxious care,
For thou art near
Me, everywhere.

Dear Jesus, thou our Guide shalt be,
O help us now to follow thee.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1875.

LESSON II.—CROSSING THE JORDAN.

Josh. 3. 14, 17.

Berean Notes.

1. GENERAL STATEMENT.

Last week we saw the leader of the army encouraged by the divine word to undertake the appointed work of subduing and possessing the land of Canaan. The first thing to be done is to transfer his army over the river. This is a difficult and a dangerous undertaking. What will this crowd, especially of women and children, "do in the swellings of Jordan!" Our