

Winds and Showers.

There can't be sunshine every day -
At times the tempest lowers;
We cannot always take our way
Through meadows strewn with flowers.

There's work in life, as well as play;
Here must be serious hours;
But blustering March winds lead the way
To softer April showers.

Ah! then will come the lovely May,
That calls to wood and bowers
When both alike have sped away -
March winds and April showers.

Hope comes before the sunshine ray,
God gives to each the power
To struggle bravely on the way
Through wind and rain and shower.

SEVEN YEARS OLD.

"Seven Years Old To-day." And what a sweet little lady she is, with her innocent soul looking out from her fair, thoughtful face, so full of baby wisdom! Seven years in the time, generally considered, when life fairly begins for the little ones, when they become capable of voluntary reasoning, well or ill doing. As we look at a little child at this momentous age, and consider the possibilities before it, what a painful thought it is to remember that the pure soul may soon, now, become disfigured and loathsome through vice; that the dainty hands be given to works of sin. Ah! let those who have given to them the guardianship of these lovely human flowers care well for their precious charge, to preserve it from this withering touch. And you, little ones, do all you can, by will and endeavour, to save yourselves, and, through good example, help to save others.

HELPING.

The basket of blocks was on the ground, and three rather cross little faces looked down at it. "It's too heavy for me," said Jimmy.

"Well, you are as big as I am, cause we are twins," said Nellie. "I won't carry it," said the little cousin, with a pout.

Mamma looked from her open window and saw the trouble.

"One day I saw a picture of three little birds," she said. "They wanted a long stick carried somewhere, but it was too large for any one of them to carry. What do you think they did?"

"We don't know," said the twins.

"They all took hold of it together," said mamma, "and then they could fly away with it."

The children laughed and looked at each other. Then they all took hold together of the basket and found it very easy to carry.

"The way to do all the hard things in this world," said mamma, "is for every one to help a little. No one can do them all; but every one can help, and many a little makes a mickle in the giving of service as well as the giving of pennies."

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN JEWISH HISTORY.

B.C. 1160.] **LESSON IV.** [Oct. 27.

THE CHILD SAMUEL.

1 Sam. 3. 1-13.

Memory verses, 1-4.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth.—1 Sam. 3. 9.

OUTLINE.

1. A Voice in the Night, v. 1-10.

2. The Judgment of the Lord, v. 11-13.

TIME.—B.C. 1160.

PLACE.—Shiloh, in central Palestine.

INTRODUCTORY.

Eli was at once high priest and judge. His sin lay in his indulgence of his sons' sine. These men took advantage of their position to corrupt the whole nation. There was no strong central government. The tabernacle stood in Shiloh, and the priests' apartments were attached to it.

HOME READINGS.

- M. The child Samuel.—1 Sam. 3. 1-13.
- Tu. Growing in favour.—1 Sam. 3. 15-21.
- W. Lent to the Lord.—1 Sam. 1. 21-28.
- Th. His mother's joy.—1 Sam. 2. 1-11.
- F. Judgment on Eli.—1 Sam. 2. 30-36.
- S. Judgment completed.—1 Sam. 4. 40-18.
- Su. Youthful knowledge of Scripture.—2 Tim. 3. 10-17.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. A Voice in the Night, v. 1-10.
What youthful servant and service are here named?
What precious gift was then rare?
What signs of old age appeared in Eli?
Where was Samuel at night?
What call came, and what answer was given?
To whom did Samuel go?
What was he bidden to do?

What did he say when he knew it was the Lord? Golden Text: "Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth." 5. What did God tell Samuel that he was about to do? To punish the wickedness of Eli's sons. 6. How did Eli receive the message when Samuel told it to him? He was submissive to God's will.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The divine revelation.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS.

With what disposition of mind ought we to read or hear God's Holy Word?
With a meek and teachable disposition, with faith, and an intention to practice it by God's grace.
What is our further duty after hearing or reading it?
To meditate upon what we have heard, and seek God's help that we may put in practice.

LIQUOR ADULTERATIONS.

ONCE the writer had some conversation with a neighbour who was travelling agent for a wholesale liquor house, concerning some of the secrets of the liquor trade. The whole world is drinking wine out of the little handful of grapes grown

niggardly man ever employed in this office," said the compositor angrily.
"Stop!" said the young men, choking with feeling. "You have insulted me."
The other compositors gathered around the man. The young man looked at them for a few moments with a famished look and a strange fire in his eyes. "You lit le know," he said, "how unjustly you have been treating and accusing me. For more than a year I have been starving myself to save money enough to send my poor blind sister to Paris to be treated by a physician who has cured many cases of blindness similar to hers. I have always done my duty in this office, and have minded my own business. I am sacrificing everything in life for another. Would either of you do as much? Could any one do more?"
He had been judged without a knowledge of the circumstances.
Be slow to censure and condemn. We cannot read the hearts of others, and in many cases to know is to forgive all.
Judge not that ye be not judged.

DOING AND NOT DOING.

"Sir," said a lad, coming down to one of the wharves in Boston, and addressing a well-known merchant, "have you any berth on your ship? I want to earn something."
"What can you do?" asked the gentleman.
"I can try my best to do whatever I am put to do," answered the boy.
"What have you done?"
"I have sawed and split all mother's wood for nigh on two years."
"What have you not done?" asked the gentleman, who was a queer sort of a questioner.
"Well, sir," answered the boy, after a moment's pause, "I have not whispered in school once for a whole year."
"That's enough," said the gentleman; "you may ship aboard this vessel, and I hope to see you the master of her some day. A boy who can master a woodpile and bridle his tongue must be made of good stuff."—Our Sunday Afternoon.



SEVEN YEARS OLD.

What did Samuel say a second time? Of what was Samuel then ignorant? What did Eli perceive at the third call? What did he bid Samuel to do? What call then came? How did Samuel answer? (Golden Text.) When God speaks to us what answer should we make? Acts 9. 6.

2. The Judgment of the Lord, v. 11-13.
Who would be startled by the Lord's judgment?
Against whom would the judgment be? What had the Lord told Eli? What evil now invited judgment? To whom did Samuel tell the message? Verses 16-18.
What was Eli's answer? Verse 18.
What three marks of favour did the Lord show to Samuel? Verses 19-21.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

Where have we in this lesson—
1. An example of youthful piety?
2. A lesson in prompt obedience?
3. A warning against God's judgment?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What did the child Samuel do in the temple? He ministered unto the Lord. 2. What took place one night in the temple? The Lord called Samuel. 3. Who did Samuel suppose was calling him? Eli the priest. 4.

on the banks of a small creek in Portugal. Madeira grows 30,000 barrels of wine yearly, and America alone drinks 50,000 barrels of Madeira wine! A Madeira wine, which few can tell from the genuine, is made in this country at a profit of 500 per cent. By mixing with cider, rain water, sulphuric acid and other ingredients, California wine is made in New Jersey and sold at perhaps a thousand per cent. profit."

JUDGE NOT.

We have no right to judge others until we know all the circumstances that influence their conduct. In many cases we might act like those we condemn under like circumstances.

A young man employed in a printing office in one of our largest cities incurred the ridicule of the other compositors on account of his poor clothes and unsociable behaviour. On several occasions subscription papers were presented to him for various objects, but he refused to give his money. One day a compositor asked him to contribute for a picnic party, but was politely refused. "You are the most

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