

THEY DIDN'T THINK.

Once a trap was baited

With a piece of cheese;
It tickled so a mouse's nose,
It almost made him sneeze,
An old mouse said, "There's danger;
Be careful where you go."
"Nonsense!" said the other,
"I don't think you know!"
So he walked in boldly—
Nobody in sight;
First he took a nibble,
Then he took a bite;
Closed the trap together,
Snapped as quick as wink,
Catching mouseie fast there,
Because he "didn't think."

Once a little turkey,
Fond of her own way,
Wouldn't ask the old ones
Where to go or stay.
She said, "I'm not a baby,
Here I am half-grown;
Surely, I am large enough
To run about alone!"
Off she went, but somebody
Hiding saw her pass;
Soon, like snow, her feathers
Covered all the grass;
So she made a supper
For a sly old mink,
Because she was so headstrong
That she "wouldn't think."

Once there was a robin,
Lived outside the door,
Who wanted to go inside
And hop upon the floor.
"Oh, no," said the mother;
"You must stay with me,
Little birds are safest,
Sitting in a tree."
"I don't care," said the robin,
And gave his tail a fling,
"I don't think the old folks
Know quite everything."
Down he flew, and Kitty seized him,
Ere he'd time to blink:
"Oh," he cried, "I'm sorry,
But I didn't think!"

Now, my little children,
You who hear this song,
Don't you see that trouble
Comes of thinking wrong?
And, can't you take a warning
From their dreadful fate,
Who began their thinking
When it was too late?
Don't think there's always safety
When no dangers show.
Don't suppose you know more
Than your parents know.
But when you're warned of ruin,
Pause upon the brink,
Don't go under headlong
Because you "didn't think."

HOW A LITTLE GIRL OPENED A SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

A little girl, eleven years of age, had been accustomed to attend a Sunday-school

in Norway for two years, and very much enjoyed the instruction there received. On returning to her village home, at the end of the two years, she was much distressed to find no Sunday-school there.

Some children—and some grown-up people, too—would most likely have said, "What a mistake to have no Sunday-school! Whose fault is it? What can the minister be thinking about?" and there the matter would have ended.

Not so did this little girl. "As there is no Sunday-school," she said to herself, "I must open one."

Then she spoke to the children of the village. She told them all about the school at Norway, and what happy times they had there on the Sabbath day. Then she said to them:

"Will you meet me next Sunday, and we will read the Bible, and pray, and sing hymns together like they do in Norway?"

The children readily promised, and the first Sunday six or seven came. The next there were ten or twelve, then twenty or more. Some older girls joined them, till this little girl had forty scholars round her every Sunday, from six to fifteen years of age, and she read the Bible to them, and prayed, and taught them hymns.

Christmas Eve came round. In Norway the school-children are accustomed to have a treat on Christmas Eve, when they assembled in a beautifully decorated room, dressed in their best clothes, and received each a present of a small book.

"We must have a treat also on Christmas Eve," said this little girl; but as she had no books to give the children, she promised to read to them the little book she had received herself the last Christmas.

As the time drew near, she heard that not only were all the children coming to hear the story she had to read, but many of the parents also. This very much distressed her, for she was only eleven years old, and felt timid about reading and praying in the presence of adults. What was she to do?

"If it should be a blessing to them," she thought, "I must not refuse. But cannot I get my father to come and help me? He has always laughed at me and my Sunday-school, but yet I will ask him."

The father could not resist his child's entreaties, and the result was that he soon learned to love the Saviour himself, and to realize with his little girl the blessedness of working for him.

GOD HAS NOT GONE AWAY.

Annie and Lily were going from school together one afternoon, and Annie was teasing Lily to go off somewhere and play with her.

"But mother told me to come right home from school," said Lily.

"Well, she has gone away, and would never know if you did go away for a little while," naughty Annie said.

"But God has not gone away, he would know," Lily replied, as she ran home fast,

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE ACTS AND EPISTLES.

LESSON V [Oct. 31.]

PAUL'S VOYAGE AND SHIPWRECK

Acts 27. 13-26. Memory verses, 21-25.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.—Acts 27. 25.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

Who sailed with Paul toward Rome?
In whose care were all the prisoners?
Why had the sailing now become dangerous?

What was Paul's advice?
Why was not his advice taken? Verse 11.

What terrible wind arose?
What did the sailors do to save the ship?

Did everybody lose hope?
What did Paul feel sure of?
What did he ask of God?
Who came to comfort him?
What promise did he make Paul?
What reason did Paul give for believing they would be saved?

IN TIME OF DANGER—

Call upon God earnestly.
Think more of others than of self.
Believe God will help, because he says so.

LESSON VI. [Nov. 7.]

PAUL IN MELITA AND ROME.

Acts 28. 1-16. Memory verses, 3-5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

We know that all things work together for good to them that love God.—Rom. 8. 28.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

What finally became of the ship in which Paul sailed?
What became of the men on board?
What was then, and what is now, the name of the island?

How did the people receive the shipwrecked men?

What happened to Paul?
What is a viper? A poisonous serpent.
What did Paul prove true?
Who entertained Paul at his house?
How was he rewarded?
What made the people honour Paul?
How long did he stay there?
What had he taught while there?
Where did he go from there?
What did he find at Rome?
How did he live there?

PAUL PROVED, AND SO MAY I—

That if I trust in God he will preserve me.

That if I love others I shall be loved,
That if I give I shall receive.