

**"JUST LIKE A GIRL."**

BY EMMA C. DOWD.

WHAT a beautiful garden it's going to be!"

Said Faith, as she planted her pansy bed;

With morning glories to cover that tree,  
And dozens of roses, yellow and red.

And, may be," she added, the earnest thought

illuminating the face that was sweet and fair,

We can make little nosegays of every sort,

For the hotel ladies to buy and to wear."

That is just like a girl!" said indolent Joe,

As he spilled his sister's begonia seeds;

But the worms will ruin the roses, I know;

And the garden will be overrun with weeds.

When the tenderest seeds decay or bake,

And the others are all by the Leg-horns scratched,

You will find you have made a silly mistake

In counting your chickens before they are hatched."

What dire prediction," said Faith, with a laugh;

"Don't prophesy further, I beg, I beg!

For I'd rather count my chickens by half,

Than to kill them all off while yet in the egg."

**LESSON NOTES.**

**FIRST QUARTER.**

**STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.**

Q. 586.] **LESSON VII.** [Feb. 14.

**THE NEW COVENANT.**

Jer. 31. 27-37. **Memory verses, 33, 34.**

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

"I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."—Jer. 31. 34.

Who was Jeremiah? A great prophet.

When did he live? About seventy years after Isaiah.

What did he write? The book of the bible called Jeremiah.

What message to the people did God

give him? God sent him to tell the people that they must be carried into captivity as a punishment for their sins.

What sins had they committed? They had forsaken God and worshipped idols.

What does God promise, through Jeremiah, in this lesson? He promises that he will watch over them always, and will make a new nation of them.

What does he say he will do? Make a new covenant with them.

Where will he write his law? In their hearts.

What will he be to them? He says, "I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

What shall the people no more teach? To "know the Lord."

Why? "For they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them."

What shows God's great goodness? He says, "I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

How sure does he say his promise is? As sure as the sun and the moon.

Will he forgive our sins as he did those of the Jews? Yes, he has promised to forgive all who forsake their sins and turn to him.

**CATECHISM QUESTIONS.**

V. Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

B.C. 598.] **LESSON VIII** [Feb. 21.

**JEHOIAKIM'S WICKEDNESS.**

Jer. 36. 19-31. **Memory verses, 22, 23**

**GOLDEN TEXT.**

"To-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts."—Heb. 3. 15.

What did God tell Jeremiah to do? To write out in a roll all the words which he had spoken against Israel.

Why? "That they may return every man from his evil way."

What did Jeremiah send Baruch to do? To read this roll or book in the temple, on a fast day, before all the people.

Who sent for Baruch? The princes of the kingdom.

After they had heard his words, what did they tell Baruch to do? To go and hide himself and Jeremiah.

Where did the princes go? To the king, Jehoiakim, to tell him of Jeremiah's words.

What did they do with the roll? They

hid it because they were afraid the king would try to destroy it.

What did the king do? He sent for the roll and commanded to have it read

After a little of it had been read, what did he do? He cut the roll up and threw it into the fire.

What else did the king try to do? He tried to take Jeremiah and Baruch prisoners, "but the Lord hid them."

What message did God send to Jehoiakim? He told him that he should be punished for his wickedness, and that great evil should come upon him and the people of Jerusalem.

If he had listened to the words of the roll and repented, would he have been saved? Yes; God said he wanted to forgive the sins of the people

When should we listen to God's words? [Repeat Golden Text.]

**CATECHISM QUESTIONS.**

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbour's.

**BABIES IN CHINA.**

A GENTLEMAN who made a tour through China on a bicycle tells us of some curious things he saw in out-of-the-way districts which travellers do not usually visit. One of these was a company of babies picketed out in a field like so many goats or calves. Each baby had a belt about the waist; into this belt behind was tied a string about ten feet long, the other end of which was fastened to stake. The stakes were set so far apart that there was no danger of the strings getting angled up as the babies crept or ran about. Some of them were creeping on all fours, some of them were making their first attempt at standing by balancing against the stakes, while older ones were running or playing in the grass. All seemed good natured and happy, and though they gazed at the queer-looking stranger and his wheels with an expression of surprise, they did not cry or seem in the least frightened. Nobody seemed paying any attention to the babies, but as the mothers were seen working in a rice-field a little way off, they would of course have come to them had there been any need. The babies had plenty of fresh air and sunshine, and were perhaps as well off as some more petted ones at home.