

THE DOLLIES AT SCHOOL.

BY A. P. S.

I'm going to teach you, my children.
Come, all of you, sit in a row.
The lesson I'm going to give you
You will each of you have to know.

Pray how would I feel, little darlings,
If we were out somewhere for tea,
And one of you'd happen to mention
You did not know A from B, C?

Yes, Johnnie, you may stand, my dearest,
I know there's no bend to your leg;
The rest of you sit still and silent
And listen to each word, I beg.

You dear little Japanese baby,
I won't try to teach you to read,
For all of our words are so different,
I'm sure you would never succeed.

And you, my own sweet Arabella,
You're looking so pale and so thin,
I really don't think that I'd better
You lessons to-day, dear, begin.

And Johnnie, you're too full of music,
I'm sure that no one could teach you,
So children, I'm glad for to-day, dears,
Our lessons are every one through.

LESSON NOTES.

FIRST QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL BY JOHN.

LESSON IX. [Feb. 26.]

CHRIST AT THE FEAST.

John 7. 14, 28-37. Memory verses, 28-31.

GOLDEN TEXT.

If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.—John 7. 37.

A LESSON TALK.

Jesus was in Jerusalem now. He had gone up to attend the Feast of Tabernacles, which was something like our Thanksgiving. It was held in October, and lasted a whole week. People came from all over the country and lived in little houses made of the branches of trees. This was to help them remember the forty years their fathers lived in tents. Jesus spoke in the temple many times that week, and the people wondered at the beautiful, gracious words which he spoke. They did not know he was the great God! There was a ceremony every morning at daybreak which was very beautiful. A priest went to the pool of Siloam and filled a golden pitcher with water which was poured out in the temple as a sign of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit at the coming of the Messiah. How strange this must have seemed to Jesus, knowing that he was the Messiah, and that he had the water of life to give to the thirsty, dying souls about him! Do you wonder that on the last day

of the feast he stood and cried, saying, 'If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink.'

Do you see what this means? When we want more love and goodness in our hearts, then we "thirst." If we believe that Jesus can give us what we want, then we "come" to Him and "drink,"—which means that we take the love and goodness which he is so ready to give.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where was Jesus now? In Jerusalem.
What great feast was held at this time? The Feast of Tabernacles.

What was this like? Our Thanksgiving.

For what did the people give thanks at this time? For all their blessings.

How did they live during the feast? In little houses made of green branches.

What did Jesus do in the temple? He taught the people.

Did they like to hear him? Many did.

Who were his enemies? The Pharisees and rulers of the Jews.

What did they send officers to do? To arrest Jesus.

Why could they not do it? They were afraid.

What did Jesus cry on the last day of the Feast? Golden Text.

What may we have? The water of life.

LESSON X. [March 5.]

CHRIST FREEING FROM SIN.

John 8. 12, 31-36. Memory verses, 34-36.

GOLDEN TEXT.

If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.—John 8. 36.

A LESSON TALK.

You remember that Jesus called the people to come to him and drink, in the last lesson. He called himself the Bread of life many times, and in the lesson to-day he says he is the Light of the world. Try and think of some ways in which Jesus is like the beautiful light. There were crowds of people in Jerusalem now attending the feast, and as soon as Jesus came into the temple people would gather around him to hear him speak. Not only those came to hear who believed on him, but the Pharisees who hated him came to find fault and to try to show him in the wrong in some way. Notice this talk about being free. The Jews were like some people now who think themselves free, when they are really slaves. There are slaves to tobacco, and strong drink, and bad temper, and naughty habits of many kinds.

The only way to be truly free is to know God, and to let his truth make us free. To be free in the right way is to obey God because we love him. Do you think a child truly loves his mother who obeys her because he is afraid to disobey? O, no; a true child of God loves to please the heavenly Father, just as a true-hearted

child loves to please an earthly parent? Never forget that it is the obedience of love that pleases God.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST

What did Jesus call himself? "The light of the world."

What does Jesus call bad people? Servants of sin.

Who is the master of those who do wrong? Satan.

What does Satan try to make us believe? That sin is pleasant.

How is sin sure to end? In sorrow and death.

Does not Satan know this? Yes, but he is a liar.

What do we need to know to make us free? The truth.

Where shall we learn the truth? In the word of God.

What did the Jews think? That they were free.

What do bad people often think? That they are free.

What do God's children love to do? The things that please God.

Who may be God's children? All who will.

THE ROBINS' VICTORY.

BY A. P. S.

George came in laughing one summer afternoon.

"I've seen a battle, mother," he said, "a real battle, and the enemy was whipped and had to run away."

"Who fought the battle, George?" asked Rose. "Where was it?"

"Up in the apple-tree where the robin's nest is. The enemy was a big owl, and what a fuss there was in the apple-tree when the robins found him! They know he was hunting their babies, and how they screamed for help!"

"I didn't know robins could cry for help. How did they do it?"

"Oh, they made a queer, loud, chirping sound, and all the birds in the yard came flying, and they were cross. They fluttered and scolded and chirped, but Mr. Owl just sat there and winked. I couldn't help laughing, only I felt so sorry for the birdies."

"Is he out there yet?" asked mamma. "I think I will go and try to drive him away."

"No, he's gone now, because there is a regular Hobson among the birds. I was just going to get the rake and scare him off by poking it at him, when a beautiful blue-jay came flying along. He lit on the top branches of the tree and listened to the other birds scolding, and then he rushed straight to the rescue and just gave Mr. Owl such a bump he was glad enough to go flying away as fast as he could. Wasn't that brave?"

"Indeed it was," said mamma, "and won't there be a lot of things to talk about in birdland to-night? Mr. Owl will tell his story, and General Jay will have his, and the Robin family theirs. How I'd like to hear it all; wouldn't you?"