

JIM AND ME.

The story, sir? why, really, I haven't much to say:
If you had called one year ago, and then again to-day,
No need of any word to tell, for your own eyes could see
Just what the Temperance Pledge has done for Jim and me.

The pail that holds the milk, sir, we used to fill with beer,
But we haven't spent a cent for drink for now nearly a year.
We pay our debts, we're well and strong, and kind as men can be,
That's what God and the Temperance Pledge has done for Jim and me.

We used to sneak along the street, feeling so mean and low—
We always felt ashamed to meet the friends we used to know.
We look the world now in the face, and step off bold and free;
That's what God and the Temperance Pledge has done for Jim and me.

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

LESSON VIII. [Nov. 23.]

WORLD'S TEMPERANCE LESSON.

Isa. 28. 1-7. Memorize verse 7.

GOLDEN TEXT.

They also have erred through wine.—
Isa. 28. 7.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

What was our world when God made it? It was a good world. What did he give the first people? All good things for food and drink. What fruit was good for both? The grape. What is the juice of the grape? A pleasant and healthful drink. What happens when it decays? A poison is formed in it. What is it called? Alcohol. When did people find out about it? After sin came into the world. Who wrote about the drunkards? Isaiah. What does he mean by saying "Woe" to them? That they were in sorrow. What did he say was coming? A storm from the Lord. What did he think might cure this sin? The word of the Lord. How should it be given? "A little on line . . . here a little and there a little."

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read the lesson verses. Isa. 28. 1-7.
Tues. Read about the garden God planted. Gen. 2. 8-15.
Wed. Find what sin did. Gen. 3. 17, 18.
Thur. Read what comes of a pure life. Gal. 5. 22, 23.

Fri. Read what sin brings. Gal. 5. 19-21.

Sat. Learn the Golden Text.

Sun. See what God thinks about drunkards. 1 Cor. 6. 10.

LESSON IX. [Nov. 30.]

GIDEON AND THE THREE HUNDRED.

Judg. 7. 1-8. Memorize verses 19-21.

GOLDEN TEXT.

It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.—Psa. 118. 8.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Why was Israel so often in trouble? Because of idolatry. What heathen people now distressed them? The Midianites. What did Israel do? Cried to the Lord. Whom did he send them? Gideon. Did Gideon think himself strong? No. Whose commands did he follow? The Lord's word. What did he first do? He destroyed the altar of Baal and built an altar to the Lord. How large an army did he gather? Thirty-two thousand men. How many did he finally use? Three hundred. How were they chosen? By the way they drank water. What did each soldier carry to battle? A trumpet, and a lamp in a pitcher. What happened when the trumpets sounded? Each man broke his pitcher. What did he cry? "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!" What frightened the enemy away? The sudden light and noise. Who really fought for Israel? The Lord.

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Find what troubled Gideon. Judg. 6. 13.
Tues. Learn what the Lord said to him. Judg. 6. 14-16.
Wed. Find how Gideon proved the people. Judg. 7. 2-6.
Thur. Read the lesson verses. Judg. 7. 1-8.
Fri. Learn the Golden Text.
Sat. Learn a good thing for us to say. Josh. 24. 24.
Sun. Tell some one the story of Gideon.

THE CHEERING WORD.

Little Charley was the dull boy of his school. All the rest either laughed at him or pitied him. Even his master sometimes made fun of him. He became sullen and indifferent, and took no pains to get on.

One day a gentleman who was visiting the school looked over some boys who were making their first attempt to write. There was a general burst of amusement at poor Charley's efforts. He coloured, but was silent. "Never mind, my lad," said the gentleman cheerily; "don't be discouraged. Just do your very best, and you'll be a brave writer some day. I recollect when I first began to write, being quite as awkward as you are; but I kept on, and now look here." He took a pen and wrote

his name on a piece of paper in good plain writing. "See what I can do now!" he added.

Many years afterwards that gentleman met Charley again. He had turned out to be one of the most celebrated men of his day; and he told him that he owed his success in life, under God's blessing, to his encouraging words.—*Northwestern Christian Advocate.*

A BUNCH OF PRIMROSES.

Gracie was ill, so ill that the doctor shook his head and looked serious; and Winnie, her little twin sister, was broken-hearted. Added to this, Gracie's widowed mother was too poor to buy the nourishing food which the doctor said was a necessity to the little sick maid.

"Is there anything that I can do for you, Gracie dear?" asked Winnie, half in tears, one morning when her little sister was at her worst.

"Yes," came the faint answer, "get me some primroses; that's all I want."

It was early in the spring, and therefore primroses were growing only in sheltered corners; but Winnie made up her mind to fulfil her dearly loved little sister's wish.

"Dear God," said Winnie in her heart as she made her way down the village street, "give me some primroses for Gracie, and make her well again, please—very soon."

With longing eyes, about ten minutes later, a little girl was peeping into a beautiful garden wherein primroses were growing in sweet abundance.

"Run away, little girl," said a voice close by; and Winnie, looking up, beheld a white-haired gentleman, with rather a stern face, who regarded her as an intruder.

But longing made Winnie bold. "O please," she said, a sudden rush of tears dimming her eyes, "could you spare me a little bunch of primroses?"

Something in the child's sweet face attracted the owner of the garden, whereupon he asked her a few questions. Winnie then told her story so artlessly that the gentleman's heart was touched. "What made you think of asking God for the primroses, child?" said he.

"Because he made them, sir, and because he can do everything."

This reply came with great power to the old man, and for a few moments he was silent; then he turned away and picked her a bunch of the sweet blossoms.

Winnie, although she knew it not, had won a true friend; for the gentleman accompanied her to her home, and gave the widowed mother such aid that she was enabled to procure everything that Gracie needed. Then dawned brighter days, for with the coming of the primroses health returned to the little sick lassie. Thus was Winnie's prayer answered.