

THE RAINBOW.

BY A. P. S.

Look up to the sky, little sister!
Do you see the rainbow, set
With orange and blue and yellow,
With green and with violet?

Do you think when the dear, dear Father
Put the shining bow up there,
He made it in beautiful colours
To show us how heaven is fair?

The streets of the city are yellow,
And the tree of life is green,
And the light is as clear as crystal
That shines through a golden sheen.

And in purple and blue and crimson
The wonderful walls uprise,
While through pearly gates like the clouds
are,
We shall enter into the skies.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL BY JOHN.

LESSON III. [April 16.]

JESUS TEACHING HUMILITY.

John 13. 1-17. Memory verses, 14-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I have given you an example.—John 13. 15.

DO YOU KNOW?

Who tells the story of the passover supper in the New Testament? Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. How many disciples ate the supper with Jesus? Twelve. Which one went out after supper? Judas. What did Jesus know? Why did Jesus wash the feet of the disciples? It was the custom for a servant to wash the feet of guests at a feast. Jesus did this to show that he was willing to serve in the lowliest ways. Which disciple objected to having Jesus wash his feet? What did Jesus tell him? What did Jesus want the disciples to learn from this? To be willing to do anything to help another. Who is our example? Jesus. How may we find what he wants us to do? By studying his life.

DAILY HELPS.

- Mon.* Read the lesson verses thoughtfully. John 13. 1-17.
- Tues.* Read Luke's story of the supper. Luke 22. 7-13.
- Wed.* Find why Moses told the people to keep the passover. Exod. 13. 3-10.
- Thur.* Read the sad story of Judas. John 13. 21, 25-30.
- Fri.* Learn a good reason why we should be ready to serve. John 13. 14.
- Sat.* Try to tell some one the whole story in your own words.
- Sun.* Learn the Golden Text verse.

LESSON IV. [April 23.]

JESUS, THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.

John 14. 1-14. Memory verses, 2-6.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way; the truth, and the life.—John 14. 6.

DO YOU KNOW?

Where was Jesus now? In Jerusalem. When did he speak these words to his disciples? At the time of the passover supper. Why were the disciples troubled? Because Jesus told them that he was going away. What did he say he would prepare for them? What beautiful promise did he give them? Did the disciples know where Jesus was going? Yes, if they believed that he was the Son of God. What question did Thomas ask? How did Jesus answer him. Golden Text. What did Philip say? What did both Thomas and Philip show by their words? That they had not really understood Jesus. How may we understand Jesus? Ask him to give understanding hearts. Verse 14.

DAILY HELPS.

- Mon.* Read the lesson verses from your own Bible. John 14. 1-14.
- Tues.* Learn a beautiful and comforting promise. John 14. 18.
- Wed.* Learn how Thomas again showed his unbelief. John 20. 24-28.
- Thur.* Learn a promise of heavenly teaching. John 14. 26.
- Fri.* Find a promise that Jesus will come again. Acts 1. 11.
- Sat.* Learn verses 2-6.
- Sun.* Read very thoughtfully some comforting words. John 14. 15-21.

THE SAME BOY.

Some years ago, in a farming district, a middle-aged man was looking about in search of employment. He called at the house of a respectable farmer, and told his errand.

"What is your name?" asked the farmer.

"John Wilson," was the reply.

"John Wilson—the same that lived near here when a boy?"

"The same, sir."

"Then I do not want you."

Poor John, surprised at such a reply, passed on to the house of the next farmer, and there a similar reply was given. And he found no one in the neighbourhood where his earlier years had been spent who was willing to employ him.

Passing on, he soon came in sight of the old school-house. "Ah," said he, "I understand it now. I was a school-boy there years ago; but what kind of a school-boy? Lazy, disobedient, often in mischief, and once caught in deliberate lying; and though since I have been trying to reform, they all think me the same kind of a man that I was as a boy. Oh, that I had done

as I ought when at school, then people would have confidence in me now."

So it is, and school-boys and school-girls should remember it, that character follows us, and is remembered, and that those who have known us in our early days will be very apt to look upon us in later years as they did in our youth. A lazy boy generally makes a lazy man, just as a crooked sapling makes a crooked tree. And so a shiftless, careless, mischievous, untruthful boy is likely to have the same character as he grows up to manhood. And even if he has changed, it is hard to make people believe it; for, as some one has said, "If the crack has been mended, people will always be looking where it was."

The great mass of idlers, thieves, paupers, vagabonds, and criminals that fill our prisons and alms-houses have come to be what they are from wrong conduct and wrong habits in youth; as, on the other hand, those who make the great and useful men of the community are those who began right courses in their early days. As the general rule, we expect to see the traits of youth continued into manhood, and confirmed and strengthened, rather than weakened by years. And even where the character is really reformed, one often suffers for a life-time for the errors and sins of youth, as the father told his son: "You may draw out the nails you have driven, but the holes in the posts will remain!"

Let all the young remember it, that character is early formed, and that it follows us wherever we go.

OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD.

A horse was standing quite still on a very busy street. His master was nearly beside himself. Every new driver or motorman who came in sight called, "Get out of the way there!" He was in a hurry, too, to get the load of stone to the end of its journey. Ah, the load of stone was all the trouble! It was very heavy. Poor Bones, all given out, had stopped to rest a minute, and then his master's blows and hard words had made him not much care whether he went again or not. Just how long he would have stood, quietly keeping all these busy people at a standstill, nobody knows, for presently a little girl came to everybody's help. "Please let me try to make him go," she said timidly to the cross driver. She only patted the horse on the head, and called him "Poor fellow!" "Nice old horse!" and gave him a handful of grass, and an apple she was eating, and walked a few steps coaxing him, when, sure enough, on again the old horse moved.

The new invention for reducing the noise on elevated railroads is called iron felt. It is placed between the rails and sleepers, and not only deadens the sounds and reduces shocks, but materially diminishes the wear and tear.