

THE NUTS AND THEIR HOMES.

BY PEARL RIVERS

Old Mistress Chestnut once lived in a burr,
Padded and lined with the softest of fur.
Jack Frost split it wide with his keen silver knife,
And tumbled her out at the risk of her life.

Here is Don Almond, a grandee from Spain;
Some raisins from Malaga came in his train,
He has a twin brother a shade or two leaner;
When both come together we shout "Philopena!"

This is Sir Walnut: he's English, you know,
A friend of my Lady and Lord so-and-so.
Whenever you ask old Sir Walnut to dinner,
Be sure you're polite to the gouty old sinner.

Little Miss Peanut from North Carolina,
She's not 'ristocratic, but no nut is finer.
Sometimes she's roasted and burnt to a cinder,
In Georgia they call her Miss Goober or Pinder.

This is old Hickory; look at him well,
A general was named for him, so I've heard tell.
Take care how you hurt him. He sometimes hits back!
This solid old chap is a hard nut to crack.

Old Mr. Butternut, just from Brazil,
Is rugged and rough as the side of a hill;
But, like many a countenance quite as ill-favoured,
He covers a kernel deliciously flavoured.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL. BY JOHN.

LESSON II. [April 9.]

THE ANOINTING IN BETHANY.

John 12. 1-11. Memory verses, 1-3.

GOLDEN TEXT.

She hath done what she could.—Mark 14. 8.

A LESSON TALK.

Find Bethany on the map. Do you think when Jesus came there again his friends were glad to see him? There was a happy family now in the home of Lazarus, and when a feast was made for

Jesus and his disciples by Simon it was quite natural that Lazarus and his sisters should be there. If you know how an eastern table looked, you can see how Mary could easily anoint the feet of Jesus. In those days rich perfumes were very costly, and when Mary broke the alabaster box of perfume upon the feet of Jesus it showed how greatly she loved and honoured him. Judas said it was worth three hundred pence, which would be as much as fifty dollars of our money. Judas was vexed to see Mary do this. He called it a waste, and said it should have been given to the poor. Some people now find fault about money that is given to God, but God looks into the heart, and when he sees a gift of love like Mary's he is pleased. Jesus was on his way to the passover feast now, and he knew that he had not long to live on this earth. It gave him comfort to have Mary openly show her love for him, and it makes him glad now to have us show that we love him.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Where did Jesus come again? To Bethany.

Who made a feast for him? Simon.

Who were at the feast? Lazarus and his sisters.

Who served at the feast? Martha.

Who sat at the table with Jesus? Lazarus.

What did Mary do? She anointed the feet of Jesus.

With what did she anoint them? With rich perfume.

Why did she do this? Because she loved him.

Who found fault with her? Judas.

What did Jesus say? That she had done a good work.

What did he see? The love in her heart.

What will sweeten all our gifts to Jesus? The love in our hearts.

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.

A LESSON TALK.

Each of the four writers of New Testament history tells the story of the passover supper. John does not tell how Peter and John found the place in which to eat the supper, but the others do. Do you know that the passover, or paschal supper, as it is sometimes called, was eaten in memory of the time when the Lord led the Israelites out of Egypt? Jesus knew that this supper was a type, or picture of his own death. Jesus knew, though the others did not, that when Judas went out he was on his way to betray him! He knew, too, that in a few hours, Peter would deny that he ever

knew him! How these things must have hurt his loving heart! Do we remember that our sin and unfaithfulness hurts our Lord.

The life that Jesus lived here was all one of service, and now on this last day of his life he wanted to give them a lesson to remember always a lesson of loving service one to the other. So he took a towel and washed the feet of his disciples. This was the work of a servant, and that is what we must be in heart servants to all, as Jesus was, if we would please him!

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who ate the passover with Jesus? His twelve disciples.

Where was it eaten? In an upper room in Jerusalem.

Who had promised to betray Jesus? Judas.

Did any one know it? Jesus knew it.

What did Jesus do after supper? He washed the disciples' feet.

Who did not want Jesus to wash his feet? Peter.

Why was he not willing? He thought it was the work of a servant.

What did Jesus once say? "I am among you as one that serveth."

Why did Jesus do this humble work? As a lesson for us.

What does it teach us? To serve one another.

What spirit lived in Jesus? The spirit of love and humility.

What should we try to have? The same kind of spirit.

WHAT GRETA COULD DO.

BY JOHN A. CAMPBELL.

Greta was only six years old, and very small for her age. When she came into the Sunday-school she wished very much to do something for Jesus. "Only I'm so little," she sighed, "and there isn't anything I can do."

"Tut!" said grandfather, who had overheard. "Who opens my paper and finds my spectacles and brings my book from the library table?"

"And who puts the ribbon in my cap and gives puss his saucer of milk and teaches him to play with a string?" added grandmother.

"Who is the little girl that carries my slippers and rolls my chair up nearer the fire?" asked father, his eyes twinkling.

"I know somebody who can do errands as nicely as any one," said mother. Then sister Belle told what she knew, and Greta's eyes beamed with delight.

"Every little task that we do willingly makes the Lord Jesus glad in heaven," finished grandfather, patting Greta's brown curls.

The chain whose links are loving deeds is the strongest that can be forged to bind two friends together.

A child who has no time to help another will be likely to have little help given him when he needs it.