

THE FAIRY SISTERS.

There was once a little maiden,
And she had a mirror bright;
It was rimmed about with silver;
'Twas her pride and her delight.
But she found two fairy sisters
Lived within this pretty glass,
And very different faces showed,
To greet the little lass.

If she was sweet and sunny,
Why, it was sure to be
The smiling sister who looked out
Her happy face to see.
But if everything went criss-cross,
And she wore a frown or pout,
Alas! alas! within the glass
The frowning one looked out.

Now this little maiden loved so much
The smiling face to see,
That she resolved with all her heart
A happy child to be.
To grow more sweet and loving,
She tried with might and main,
Till the frowning sister went away,
And ne'er come back again.

But if she's looking for a home,
As doubtless is the case,
She'll try to find a little girl
Who has a gloomy face.
So be very, very careful,
If you own a mirror, too,
That the frowning sister doesn't come
And make her home with you.

—St. Nicholas.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

LESSONS IN THE LIVES OF THE PATRIARCHS.

LESSON V. [August 4.]

ABRAM AND LOT.

Gen. 13. 7-18. Memory verses, 7-9.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.—Matt. 7. 12.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU.

Why did Abram go into Egypt? Was he prospered there? To what place did he next go in Canaan? To Bethel. In what was he very rich? In cattle, and in gold and in silver. What do we learn of Lot? That he was very rich also. Who began to have disputes? Abram's and Lot's servants. Why did Abram say there should be no trouble between them? Because they were brothers. What did Abram propose to Lot? That they should separate. What did he offer Lot? The first choice. What did Lot choose? The plain of Jordan. Where did he pitch his tent? Toward wicked Sodom. What does this lesson show Lot to be? A selfish man.

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Read about the visit to Egypt. Gen. 12. 10-13.

Tues. Read of his return to Canaan. Gen. 13. 1-4.

Wed. Find why Abram and Lot could not stay together. Gen. 13. 5, 6.

Thur. Read the lesson verses. Gen. 13. 7-18.

Fri. Learn what rule Abram followed. Golden Text.

Sat. Find what Abram did. Prov. 3. 5-7.

Sun. Find who may be blessed with Abram. Gal. 3. 6-9.

LESSON VI. [August 11.]

GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM.

Gen. 15. 5-18. Memory verses, 5-7.

GOLDEN TEXT.

I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.—Gen. 15. 1.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU.

Where was Abram living now? At Hebron. In what part of the Holy Land was Hebron? How did the Lord come to Abram one night? In a vision. What did he promise to give him? An heir. What did he bid him try to do? To count the stars. What did he tell Abram? "So shall thy seed be." What pleased the Lord? To have Abram believe just what he said. What pleases the Lord now? To have his children believe him. What did the Lord make with Abram? A covenant. What is a covenant? A solemn agreement. What land did the Lord give to Abram and his children? The land of Canaan.

DAILY STEPS.

Mon. Find how kind Abram was to Lot. Gen. 14. 12-16.

Tues. Read the lesson verses. Gen. 15. 5-18.

Wed. Learn who took care of Abram. Golden Text.

Thur. Learn about the heavenly Canaan. Heb. 11. 16.

Fri. See how Abram's blessing is ours. Gal. 3. 14.

Sat. Read about faith. Heb. 11. 8-10.

Sun. Find a name given to Abram. Gen. 17. 4.

A "LITTLE MAN."

This was what I heard his mother call him one hot day in June. He was a little fellow, not quite four years old, and could not talk "straight" yet. He was playing on the front porch, having a good time with his building blocks, and much interested in the store he was building. Presently a stray dog came along, stopped, and looked at the little boy longingly. The dog was hot and tired.

"I dess he's firsty," said the boy. "I'll dit him somefin' to dwink."

A tiny saucepan was on the porch.

The little fellow poured some water into it and set it before the dog, who lapped it eagerly.

"It's all don'," said the boy. "I'll dit him some more."

Five times the little boy filled the saucepan; then the dog bobbed his head, wagged his tail, and went off.

The little fellow laughed gleefully.

"He said, 'Fank you,' didn't he, mamma? I dess he was glad to get some cold water, wasn't he?"

"Indeed he was," mamma answered.

That same day, a little later, two little children came along. Stopping outside the fence, they peered into the yard. They wore ragged clothes and were bare-footed. They looked at the small boy within the gate with an expression similar to that with which the dog had regarded him.

"Dey want somefin', mamma," he said. "Maybe dey is firsty, too. Shall I ask 'em?"

"You may, if you wish," his mamma answered smilingly.

"Is you firsty?" he began, getting nearer to the fence.

"Can we have just one flower?" questioned one waif, longingly.

"One for each of us," put in the other.

"You tan have you' hands full," was the smiling answer. "I'se dot a whole bed full of flowers."

He hurried around, picking the flowers—violets and pinks and June roses—which his fair little hands held out to the "unwashed," who thanked him with grateful voices and passed on with radiant faces.

"Bless my little man!" said his mother, in a low, fervent voice.

He did not hear her, but I am sure God will bless him.—*Christian Observer.*

A YOUNG KING.

Josiah, King of Judah, was only eight years old when he began to reign; but the Bible tells us that "he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord." Some years after he became king he ordered that God's temple should be repaired, and he sent Shaphan, the scribe, to see that this was done. When Shaphan returned he brought to the king the book of the law from the temple; and Josiah then found that God was angry because wicked things were done in the land, and because idols were worshipped.

Then the king called the people together and read God's message to them; and after that he went through the country and broke up the idols which had been set up all over the land. Even the sun that shines in the sky had been worshipped.

Josiah was such a good king that the Bible says of him, "like unto Josiah was there no king before him that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might."