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The Primary Quarterly

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A Cradle Song

"From groves of spice,
O'er fields of rice,
Athwart the lotus stream,
I bring for you,
Aglow with dew,
A little lovely dream.

Sweet, shut your eyes,
The wild fire-flies
Dance through the fairy reame ;
From the poppy-bole
For you I stole
A little lovely dream.

Dear eyes, good night,
In golden light,
The stars around you gleam ;
On you I press
With sweet caress
A little lovely dream."

The Story of a Prisoner

It is mostly people who have done wrong, who are put into prison. But it has often happened that people have been sent to prison just because they were doing right.

It is the story of such a prisoner that the Lessons of the present Quarter tell. And so exciting is the story, that often it almost takes away one's breath. It is told in pieces, Sabbath by Sabbath, and grows in interest to the end.

The prisoner is Paul ; and the story begins with his sudden arrest by a band of soldiers, who snatch him out of the hands of his angry fellow worshipers in the temple at Jerusalem. Paul was a follower of Jesus, and therefore they were determined to kill him.

Then follows a plot against the prisoner's life by these same fellow countrymen of his, and his removal by soldiers, by night, to another city, where he could be kept safe.

Then Paul the prisoner is called before the Roman governor to make his defence ; and, again, a little later, before another Roman governor and a king and a queen.

A long and dangerous sea voyage follows ; for the prisoner is being sent hundreds of miles away, to Rome, where the Emperor lived. The ship was driven hither and thither by fierce winds, and, at last was wrecked, and all had to escape to shore as best they could. After spending the winter on the island to which they had escaped, another ship was taken, and Paul was sent on to Rome—all the while under guard of soldiers.

One of his letters from Rome shows how brave Paul was when the cruel Emperor was about to put him to death—"I have fought a good fight", he said, "I have finished my course, I have kept the faith : henceforth there is laid up for me a crown."

The Child as a Giver

By Mrs. Winifrede B. Jamieson

Next to the words, "Papa", and "Mama", perhaps "Ta ta" (thank you) comes first in baby's vocabulary. How soon we seek to form in the little toddler the habit of giving thanks. We desire that he should acknowledge his indebtedness to those about him for what he receives. Are we as careful to acquaint him with the true Source of all things, and to teach him to say, "Thank you" to God? *Thanksgiving*, therefore