

HAPPY DAYS

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No. 14.

HIDE-AND-SEEK.

Found at last! and what a good hiding-place these two little girls have chosen behind the broad stem of a tree. Perhaps they have been hiding there for a long time, and the seekers have had a hard job to find them. It is a delightful game to play out of doors in the woods, and to judge by the bright faces of the players in our picture, they certainly seem to be enjoying it.

THE LOST BOY.

The little fellow's name was Harry. He was five years old, and lived in the country. He had neither brother nor sister, and his playmate was a shepherd-dog named Carlo. One day his mother went to the city, which was five miles distant. She was gone all day, and upon her return could find nothing of her boy nor of the dog. When the father came, the neighbours joined him in searching for his lost Harry; but all the night through they found no trace of him. The next day the mother heard that a boy like her own had been seen in the



PLAYING HIDE-AND-SEEK.

sheltered them during the night. The boy had missed his mother, and he'd come to the city to find her. Carlo had come too, to take care of his little master. Harry had grown very tired, and sat down on the gentleman's sidewalk to rest. So Carlo lay down by the boy, who soon took his dog for a pillow, and went off into a sound sleep. The kind gentleman found him and took him into the house for the night. Carlo would not be separated from Harry, and so they both spent the night together in a nice bedroom, after a good supper.

The anxious mother soon found the house and rejoiced over the safety of the little wanderer. Carlo got great praise for his faithful care of Harry.

GOLD OR SHOT.

Once there were some great boxes sent across the Atlantic Ocean filled with gold coins.

They were filled in England with these shining "crowns" and "guineas," as the English call their money; but when they were opened on this side of the water, lo! there was nothing inside but dark, heavy shot. It was evident that somebody

had stolen the money and put the shot in its place.

God gives you each day twelve golden hours for work and play, for serving him and helping others. If you are idle over your work, if you are selfish in your play, if you forget to serve God, and refuse to be kind and helpful to your companions, then your golden hours turn to useless and ugly metal, while the sun makes his day's voyage in the blue sky!—*Jewels.*

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Happy Days.

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PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.

No one has a right to put a stumbling-block in the way of a brother. In seeking for eternal life each should not forget that he should lead a life that will bring others close to the cross of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Paul said he would eat no meat if the eating of it caused his brother to stumble. Eating meat offered to an idol is no sin; but if this should cause some weak brother to offend, we should abstain from it. Each one has an influence for good or for evil, and should be very careful to do that which will make others better. One boy might be able to go into a saloon and not take a drink, but he should not visit such a place. His going might lead another boy to go who is not so strong, and that boy might take a drink and at last fill a drunkard's grave. One boy might play cards and never learn to gamble. Still, he ought not to do this, because his example might cause another first to play cards for pleasure, and then to engage in the game for money. The safe way is to shun the very appearance of evil. We are all more or less our brother's keeper. God will not hold us guiltless if

we do anything that leads a brother down to ruin. A soul lost is no little thing. It is a fearful thing to be lost. Let each of our little readers resolve to make others better.

REVERENCE.

"Reverence" is a big word. It is what we all, big people and little children, feel in our hearts when we get close to God. We are not afraid, for we know that he loves us with a great love. But we would not talk to God as we do to one another. He is so great and loving and holy. He knows every thought in our hearts. When we speak to him we must ask him to let us see ourselves as he sees us, so that if there is any evil thing in us we may be sorry and ask him to forgive us. And every time we ask our heavenly Father to forgive us we must say, "For Jesus' sake," and that makes us think of his loving us enough to die for us. We must not kneel down until we remember these things. Then we will pray with all our hearts. Will you learn this little verse, and say it as soon as you kneel down? I think that it will help you to pray right.

Before my words of prayer are said,
I'll close my eyes and bow my head;
I'll try to think to whom I pray;
I'll try to mean the words I say.

EVENING STUDY.

(See fourth page.)

Asa and his sister were ambitious to keep up with their classes. Many times when they had hard lessons in arithmetic they would sit up after supper and study. Asa was about three years the older, but he loved his sister's company in study as well as in play or work. He helped her so much that she soon caught up with him. His mind was active, and he easily learned his lessons. It was not easy for his sister, so Asa would act as teacher, as our picture illustrates. Ida would sit and listen to the explanation as Asa took her through each example, step by step. She would ask questions, and he would answer until she understood it well, then Ida would solve an example and explain it in all its parts and answer the questions about it that Asa would ask. In this way Ida gained rapidly. They worked together in this way, and kept at the head of their class. Acting as teacher helped Asa very much. He needed to reason and explain more to be able to make it plain. As he reached the higher branches his mind was broadened, so that it was less difficult to master them. By this study together they learned to tell what they had learned. Many boys and girls now only go over their lessons hurriedly, and somehow pass through; but were they called upon to explain their work they could not do so. It is not how much we do that counts for

good, but how well. Boys and girls who are slack at study are sure to be slack at work of any kind they undertake. It becomes a habit with them to slight all they do, and some have been known to become even slack in talking. Such boys and girls are slighted by thorough, active people, and when they are grown they find, but too late to recover the mistake, themselves almost a burden to society. This kind of people generally are proud and want to be classed among the best. They scorn poor, honest, labouring people, thinking to exalt themselves in this way. They try to pass off as cultured people; but sham will be found out. Do you know any such boys or girls? Set them a better example. Teach them the best way.

A SKY SONG.

One night a star baby, 'way up in the sky,
Grew tired of shining, and how she did cry!

"Oh, mother, dear mother, I'm hungry,"
she said.

"Please give me my supper, and put me to bed."

Then went the star mother, on wings of true love,
To a bonny bright Dipper that sparkled above.

She took it and hurried to the Milky Way stream,
And brimful she filled it with rich milk and cream.

She fed the star baby; and with cuddle and croon

She rocked the sky cradle—the cunning new moon.

—Selected.

GOD CAN SEE THROUGH THE CRACK.

A lady came home from shopping one day, and was not met as usual by the glad welcome of her little son. He seemed shy of her, skulked into the entry, hung about the garden, and wanted to be with Bridget more than was common.

The mother could not account for his manner. When she was undressing him for bed, he asked: "Mother, can God see through the crack in the closet door?"

"Yes," said his mother.

"And can he see when it is all dark there?"

"Yes," answered his mother, "God can see everywhere and in every place."

"Then God saw me, and he'll tell you, mother. When you were gone I got into your closet, and I took and ate up the cake; and I am sorry;" and, bowing his head on his mother's lap, he burst out crying.

IN THE GARDEN.

There's a tender Eastern legend,
In a volume old and rare,
Of the Christ-child in his garden,
Walking with the children there.

And it tells this strange, sweet story—
(True or false, ah, who shall say?)
How a bird with broken pinion
Dead within the garden lay.

And the children, childish cruel,
Lifted it by shattered wing,
Shouting, "Make us merry music—
Sing, you lazy fellow, sing."

But the Christ-child bent above it,
Took it in his gentle hand,
Full of pity for the suffering
He alone could understand.

Whispered to it—O so softly!
Laid his lips upon its throat,
And the song-life, swift returning,
Sounded out in one glad note.

Then away, on wings unwearied,
Joyously it sang and soared,
And the little children kneeling,
Called the Christ-child, "Master Lord."

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

LESSON II. [July 12.]

SAUL CHOSEN KING.

1 Sam. 10. 17-27. Mem. verses 24, 25.

GOLDEN TEXT.

The Lord is our king; he will save us.—
Isa. 33. 22.

THE LESSON STORY.

There was a young man of the tribe of Benjamin whose name was Saul. He was tall and noble-looking, standing head and shoulders above the tallest of the Israelites. He, with a servant, was hunting for some of his father's asses that had strayed away, and came to a town where Samuel was offering sacrifices for the people. Samuel was a seer—one who can see with the eyes of the spirit—and Saul looked for him to ask him the right way to go, for he was far from home. Samuel knew when he saw Saul that he was the man whom the Lord had sent to be king over Israel, and he asked him to the feast and kept him over night, and told him what he needed to know. When he went away Samuel went with him out of the town, and, sending the servant on before, he anointed him as the captain of the Lord's people, and kissed him and sent him on. Before Saul reached home the Lord's Spirit came upon him, and he prophesied,

but he did not tell his friends what a great thing had happened to him.

But when Samuel called the people together at Mizpeh, Saul was among them; and as all the tribes passed before Samuel none were asked to stop until the tribe of Benjamin came: then Saul, the son of Kish, was chosen by Samuel. But where was he? He was so bashful that he had run away to hide. But they found him, and the people were pleased and shouted, "God save the king."

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

What young man is the lesson about? Saul.

Who was he? The son of Kish, the Benjamite.

What was he doing? Hunting for the strayed asses.

To whom did he go to ask counsel? Samuel.

What did Samuel then know? That he was to be king of Israel.

What did he do? Invited him to a feast.

Did he talk with him about the kingdom? Yes.

What did he afterwards do? Anointed him.

What came to Saul? The Spirit of the Lord.

What did Samuel do at Mizpeh? Chose him out of all Israel.

What did the people think? They were pleased.

What did they cry? "God save the king."

LESSON III. [July 19.]

SAMUEL'S FAREWELL ADDRESS.

1 Sam. 12. 13-25. Memorize verses 23-25.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Only fear the Lord, and serve him in truth with all your heart.—1 Sam. 12. 24.

THE LESSON STORY.

When the Ammonites tried to make slaves of a part of Israel, Saul led an army against them and put them to flight and destroyed them, so that the people were very proud of him; and when Samuel called them to Gilgal to sacrifice they went joyfully, and Saul was there made king. While they were there Samuel talked with the people. Perhaps they sat upon the ground and all listened to the man who had so long been the judge and prophet and father of his people. It was a very touching and beautiful speech. He said, "Now the king walketh before you, and ye have chosen him." And then he told them that, though they had done a very wrong thing to ask for a man to be their king, when they already had the Lord for their King, God still loved them and called them his people, and would bless them if they would obey him; but if not, great sorrows would come upon them. It was the time of wheat harvest, and the sun was bright over

all the land; but to prove that God could send both good and evil upon them, according to their doings, he told them that a thunderstorm would sweep over them, and so it did. Then they begged Samuel to pray to the Lord for them, that they need not die for their sins.

Then Samuel comforted them with good words, and said that the Lord would not forsake his people.

QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Who were the Ammonites? Enemies of Israel.

Who led Israel against them? Saul.

Were they conquered? Yes.

What did Samuel do? Called the people to Gilgal.

What did they do there? Offered peace offerings.

What else was done? Samuel anointed Saul king.

What did Samuel then do? Talked wisely to the people.

What did he want them to do? Follow the Lord fully.

What did he warn them against? Disobedience.

What sign was sent from heaven? A thunderstorm.

What did the people ask? That Samuel would pray for them.

What did he do? He encouraged them.

MISSIONARY SHIPS.

Let us learn the names of some of the missionary ships that have been built since Paul and Barnabas sailed in the first *oae*:

In 1795 the London Missionary Society sent the ship "Duff" to the South Seas. Since then they have sent three ships called the "John Williams." One of these was built by the Sunday-school scholars of England.

The Presbyterian Churches of Scotland and Canada sent the ship "Day Spring" to the New Hebrides.

The Methodist Society sent the ship "John Wesley" to the Fiji and Friendly Islands.

The Presbyterian Mission in Siam have a ship called the "Kalamazoo."

In Africa are the ships "Livingstone," "Plymouth," "Peace," "Good News," and "Morning Star."

In 1856 the children of the United States raised \$46,000 to build the ship "Morning Star."

In 1875 the children of Australia raised \$25,000 for the ship "Day Spring."

The children of the Presbyterian Church have lately built the ship "Nassau," to sail on the west coast of Africa.

The converted people of the Savage Islands have also built a ship for the missionary work in New Guinea.

Would you not like to help in the building of a gospel ship?



AN EVENING STUDY.—SEE SECOND PAGE.

A MOUSE IN THE PANTRY.

A certain old man used to say to his granddaughter, when she was naughty in any way: "Mary, Mary, take care: there's a mouse in the pantry!" She would often cease crying at this, and stand wondering to herself what he meant, and then run to

the pantry to see if there really was a mouse in the trap: but she never found one. One day she said: "Grandfather, I don't know what you mean. I haven't seen a mouse in the pantry, and there are no mice in my mother's, because I have looked so often." He smiled and said: "Come, and I'll tell you what I mean. Your heart, Mary, is

the pantry: the little sins are the mice that get in and nibble away all the good, and make you sometimes cross and peevish, and fretful. To keep them out you must set a trap—a trap of watchfulness." After that she caught and killed so many of these mice that she quite cleared her pantry of them.