

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

NOVEMBER 23rd, 1856.

Subject.—JESUS APPEARS AT THE SEA OF TIBERIAS.

For Repeating. For Reading. John xx. 19-23. | John xxi. 1-25.

NOVEMBER 30th, 1856.

Subject.—CHRIST'S ASCENSION.

For Repeating. For Reading. John xxi. 1-5. | Acts i. 1-14.

A successful Sunday School.

Sunday schools are yet in their infancy, and though they have already accomplished vast good in the Christian cause, there lies in this agency an undeveloped power, which every pastor and teacher should strive to bring out into vigorous action.

One of the most prosperous and interesting Sunday schools in this country—and the most remarkable that we have ever known—is that connected with the Lee Avenue Reformed Dutch Church, Brooklyn.

It was organized in May, 1853, in a little one-story house that stood alone in a field, and was the only building of any kind to be seen in the neighborhood.

In April, 1854, the removal from the cottage into the new house was duly celebrated. The attendance at the school had in the meantime increased to forty scholars and nine teachers, while the congregation of the church numbered in all about fifty persons.

The number of scholars whose names are now on the register is 919; and the number actually in attendance at a session of the school, in the warm month of July, when Sunday schools show their lowest figures, was as great as 632!

The modes of carrying on the operations of the school seemed to be as complete as possible. Nothing which promises to make the Sunday school more attractive or efficient is left untried. A printed constitution is put into the hands of every person connected with the management of the school, in which his specific duties are clearly defined.

More than a year since, in addition to the usual morning and afternoon exercises, a Sunday school prayer-meeting on Sunday evening was started. The attendance, which was large at the beginning, steadily increased until the spacious room could not accommodate all who wished to be present.

Remarkable Memory.

On the 15th of June, 1855, in the Island Grove Sabbath School, Illinois, one of the teachers proposed to give the best Bible that could be purchased, to the scholar that would commit to memory the greatest number of verses from the Bible, between that time and Conference, Oct. 15th.

Selections.

"Is it I?"

The group of disciples at the Last Supper were started by the Saviour's alarming prediction that one of them should betray him. They thought it quite impossible that any one of them could commit so great a sin, and the earnest inquiry broke from every lip, "Lord, is it I?"

Who was he? His name was Demas. "Demas," says the apostle Paul, "hath forsaken me, having loved this present world."

mas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world." What a change two short years had made! Time works changes; often melancholy changes. Two years are sufficient to do this.

Perhaps some of our readers may know this from personal experience. Two years ago, they might, to human view, have been spiritual, exemplary Christians; but now, alas, are carnal and worldly.

Too often does the hopeful convert turn out thus. The tree blossoms, and we confidently look for fruit; but the blossoms fall off, and that which we look for is not found. The tree is barren; at the most, there are "but leaves only."

And how is this sad, ruinous change brought about? How does the believer, backslide? Usually in this way:

He begins to neglect his closet. "Backsliding," says Matthew Henry, "commences at the closet door." Secret devotions are suspended, or performed in a heartless, hurried manner.

Next, the inspired volume is neglected. There is less meaning and beauty in its pages than before. Once, "the word of the Lord's mouth was more esteemed than necessary food," and "this bread of life" was daily gathered, as was the manna by the children of Israel.

Neglect of secret prayer, and study of the Bible, are followed by a diminished appreciation of the Sabbath and the sanctuary. The Sabbath is not accounted the "day of all the week the best," and whereas, when the pulse of spiritual life in the believer's soul beats quick and high, he could not fail to join the worshipping assembly whenever opportunity offered, and in his warm attachment to the public Christian ordinances, exclaimed—"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord!"

Moreover, if he is the head of a family, the family altar has not the morning and evening sacrifices laid on it; the messages of truth which his faithful pastor presents from the pulpit are capriciously criticized in presence of the household; these messages are too plain and pungent or they are exceedingly personal, or they are not sufficiently elaborated and adorned with human rhetoric.

If we have a reader concerning whom this is true, may that living God from whom he has departed rouse him to self-examination, repentance, and performance of the first works.

Wisdom of the Wicked.

Passing down Broadway the other day, we noticed two signs, and significant they were. They were signs that liquor drinking was not politic, and that the vendors of it are on the lookout for means of sustaining themselves by devices creditable at once to their ingenuity and observation.

One of these was, "The Office"—the other "The Library." Does not the reader see the fact of the thing? It would be too vulgar to say, "Let's go and take a drink," or "Walk over to the bar-room," which we suppose is a contraction of Barrel Room.

Ah me! how much better it would be for humanity if the children of the light were as wise in their generation as the children of this world, and would study as hard all the little ways of alluring men to virtue, which the wicked do in luring them to death.

Agriculture.

Work for November.

FUEL AND TIMBER.—In district where snows lie deep, it is difficult to chop and collect wood or timber; this may be done to great advantage this month. Cord the wood, or if left sled length, place that and the timber in an easy position to be loaded.

CELLARS.—The house cellar walls should be thoroughly white-washed, and the whole cellar perfectly cleansed of all decaying wood or roots, and so drained that water shall not stand in any part of it for a moment.

PUMPS.—These should be in order now, and protected from freezing.

CRACKS AND CRANNIES.—If you wish to save fuel, and always have your wife good-natured, stop all access for the wind about the underpinning of the house. It is difficult to keep warm rooms where the wind is allowed to sweep under any portion of the house.

FATTING HOGS.—November is a good time for the pigs to grow and the hogs to fatten. Give them a warm, dry place, and just as much clean, nutritious food as they will eat with a good appetite, and no more.

SHEEP.—Give them plenty of sweet clover hay, and opportunity to go under cover when they please—and they should have racks and be fed under cover in stormy weather.

QUINCE, PEAR, CHERRY, PLUM AND APPLE TREES may be set this month, so may Currant, Gooseberry, and Raspberry plants.

CUTTINGS AND SEEDLINGS should be protected by a compost of muck and manure.

PRUNING.—Better do it now than in March or April, if you care anything for your trees.

YOUNG ORCHARDS.—Bank up around the stems of young trees with earth, and when the first snow comes tread it down around them. If mice are particularly numerous, place a tin, ten inches high round each tree. "It costs something," certainly—but better do that than lose a nice tree and break up your rows.

BRINE AND ONION SEED.—Having just been into my garden, I found my onions were bottoming finely. For some ten years past, insects have almost entirely prevented raising onions, so much so, that but few in this section have tried it at all. I was speaking last spring, with one of my neighbours, about raising onions. He said there would be no trouble about insects, if I would soak the seed in salt water, but he had forgotten the quantity, so I guessed at it. I made a tea-cup two-thirds full of brine as strong as could be made by pouring hot water to salt, which I let cool, and then put a paper of seed in it, which remained until the next morning.

THE USE OF CHLOROFORM UPON ANIMALS.—It being necessary, a few days ago, to perform an operation upon a favourite horse belonging to Rev. A. W. Burnham, of Rindge, N. H., chloroform was given with complete success. The horse laid down quietly in a sound sleep, and did not wake till fifteen minutes after the operation was over, having apparently suffered not a particle of pain. This fact is made public for the benefit of those "righteous men" who are merciful to their beasts.

SEALING-WAX FOR FRUIT CANS.—A very good sealing-wax is made by melting and stirring well together, one ounce of Venice turpentine, four ounces of common resin, and six ounces of gum shellac. A beautiful red color may be given by adding one quarter of an ounce or less of Vermillion.

CRANBERRY JELLY.—Make a very strongisinglass jelly; when cold, mix it with a double quantity of cranberry juice, pressed and strained; sweeten and boil it up, and make it into the desired shape, by straining in the proper vessel, use good white sugar, or the jelly will not be clear.

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