

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

JULY 5th, 1857.

Subject.—DESIGNATION OF BARNABAS AND SAUL TO THE WORK OF MISSIONS.

For Repeating. Acts xii. 20-23. For Reading. Acts xiii. 1-13.

JULY 12th, 1857.

Subject.—THE DEPARTURE OF PAUL AND BARNABAS TO ASIA MINOR.

For Repeating. Acts xiii. 1-3. For Reading. Acts xiii. 14-26.

THE QUESTIONER.

Mental Pictures from the Bible.

Reader, you need but "search the scriptures," To comprehend our Mental Pictures.

[No. 19.]

The scene 'neath glowing eastern skies, A goodly field where tents arise. A man in thoughtful silence walks, Nor heeds the numerous herds and flocks. That graze around; his eyes are cast With anxious look toward the far east, Where in the distance, see a train Of camels crossing o'er the plain.

'Tis thus with hearts whose treasures lie Beyond the ken of earthly eye; They look, unmoved by present things, For joys the future surely brings.

QUESTIONS to be answered next week.

49. Mention an instance of a manslayer being slain when actually within the gate of a City of Refuge.

50. SHEPHERDS AND THEIR SHEEP.—On the lofty central chain of Lebanon, Mr. Porter passed the "Fountain of the Opening of the Knapsack." It is a favorite resort of shepherds, where they collect their flocks at noon; and opening their scrips in which they carry their dinner, sit down and eat. The flocks seem oftentimes so packed together, that you wonder if the shepherds will be able to separate each his own. But when the repast is over, each rises, calls to his own flock, sheep and goats, and they forthwith separate themselves from the throng, and go after him. What texts of scripture does this illustrative passage remind you of?

SOLUTION to Picture No. 18.

The lepers in the Syrian Camp.—2 Kings vii. 3-8.

ANSWERS to questions in our last.

47. On the borders of the tribes of Ephraim and Benjamin, and noted for Jacob's dream, Gen. xxviii 11-19. The resting place of the ark, Judges xx. 27. The setting up of the golden calves, 1 Kings xii. 28-33.

48. Jezebel—Grand-mother of Ahaziah, 2 Kings viii. 25. Wife of Ahab, 1 Kings xvi. 31. Daughter of Ethbaal, 1 Kings xvi. 31. Mother-in-law of Jehoram, 2 Kings viii. 16-18. Mother of Ahaziah, 1 Kings xxv. 51. Mother of Jehoram or Joram, 2 Kings iii. 1. All in her own life time, 2 Kings ix. 30, 37.

He wished he had been a Minister.

This is one of remarkable expressions made by the late Mr. Shepherd, Counsel of the Corporation of the city of New York, in his midnight conversation with a friend a few hours before his death. He was, however, in no respect conscious of his approaching change, but spoke as if he had many years before him. Yet he wished that it had been his lot to be a minister of the gospel. As this was not a late and death-extorted admission, neither was it the fruit of disappointment in the common aims of life. Mr. Shepherd was unusually successful, both as a professional man and a politician. He rose rapidly. Honorable and lucrative offices were at his beck. His character for lofty integrity was universally admitted. His friends were among the pillars of society. Yet in the first stages of his career, in the bloom of success, with many glittering prizes before him, and with a moral certainty of soon grasping them, he turns away amid the whirling tumult of an excited political canvass to sigh after the lot of a gospel minister.

Is there no lesson, no caution here to the young men of piety who turn their backs on the ministry, because other professions hold out the prospects of a speedier and more brilliant success? Mr. Shepherd's case reveals the magnitude of the mistake they make. They may succeed to the top of their wishes—may accumulate honors, offices, means, influence and political station; and then after all feel in their hearts the irresistible desire that the holy peace, humble toil, and spiritual aims of a parish minister had been their lot.—Christian Intelligencer.

ALWAYS ABOUNDING.—In a court or in a coal-pit; in a senate or in a work-shop, aim at the conversation of all about you.—Carson.

Mechanical Genius.

The Patrie contains the following:—"A youth, aged 18, belonging to a respectable family of Paris, had about a year ago been condemned for theft to five years' imprisonment. His conduct in prison being very exemplary he gained the good opinion of the director, who soon remarked in him a peculiar aptness for mechanical contrivances. A few days ago he begged the director to tell him what o'clock it was, that he might set his watch. 'You have a watch then?' asked the director. 'Only since yesterday, sir,' said the prisoner, and, to the astonishment of the director, produced one made of straw! This little masterpiece is two-and-a-half inches in diameter, about half an inch thick, and will go for three hours without winding up. The dial plate is of paper, and a pretty straw chain is attached to the whole. The instruments and materials the prisoner had at his command were two needles, a pin, a little straw, and thread. Several persons of distinction, moved by his surprising genius for mechanics, are now endeavouring to obtain his liberation."

How an Actor regards it.

A young man having recently asked the advice of the most celebrated tragedian in this country in regard to engaging in the profession of a play-actor, he replied, "My advice to you is, never to go upon the stage. Seek some other and less precarious means to obtain a livelihood." Learn a trade, and by honesty, industry, temperance, and intellectual attainment, make yourself useful to society, and consequently respected and independent."

Agriculture.

Guano.

In noticing the remarks of correspondents on the subject of guano as a fertilizer, one is struck with the discrepancy of testimony, one making it of little value, another of the greatest value, but none have suggested its variety of quality.

Our European brethren have taken pains to analyze the different deposits on the Chincha Islands, and knowing that its virtues lie very much in the quantity of ammonia contained therein, have been drawing their supplies for years from a deposit which is said at the Islands to contain nearly double the amount of that article contained in any other deposit. This article may be very easily known by a practised eye and correct nasal organs. It is of granite color, and so strongly impregnated with ammonia as to be easily distinguished. The least valuable is of a dirty tan color, without the smell of ammonia or nearly so; and there is another kind of a muddy color and a very disagreeable smell. Neither of these are worth buying. This I think accounts for much of the difference of results in experimenting with the guano. The better kind is taken from the north side of North Chincha Islands.

N. BRIGGS.

IMPORTANT TO AGRICULTURISTS.—A gardener at Glasgow practices a mode of destroying caterpillars, which he discovered by accident. A piece of woolen rag had been blown by the wind into a currant bush; and when taken out, was found covered by the leaf-devouring insects. He immediately placed pieces of woolen cloth in every bush in his garden, and found next day that the caterpillars had universally taken to them for shelter. In this way he destroys many thousands every morning.—Bell's Weekly Messenger, 1819.

GOOSEBERRY BUSHES.—To prevent the gooseberry from being attacked by mildew, cover the soil around the roots with a stratum of salt hay, two or three inches thick, and allow it to remain through the season. Irrigating once a week with soap suds, taking care to sprinkle all the foliage with the fluid, will also be beneficial. One thing, however, should be observed in the cultivation of this fruit, and that is, never to plant the bushes under trees or in the shade.

A GOOD YEAST.—Take half a dozen common-sized potatoes, boil, peel, and strain them through a common sieve—first adding half a pint of warm water, then sufficient wheat flour, sifted, to make the whole into a thin batter; with this mix two table-spoonfuls of ordinary bakers' yeast. If prepared at night it will be fit for use in the morning.

Eggs, which are now so abundant, can, it is said be better preserved in corn meal than in any other preparation yet known. Lay them with the small end down, and if undisturbed, they will be as good at the end of a year as when packed.—Germantown Telegraph.

STREET TREES.—In some portions of the old country, there is, or was a law requiring every man at the birth of a child, to plant a fruit or other tree in the street or highway. Every young man, on arriving at years of discretion, or twenty-one, is required to plant two or more trees in the street; and again, two or more upon being married. These trees supply shade and fruit to the traveller, as well as to the poor. We wish a similar law could be enacted in Ohio; then our roadways would be shaded, and our orchards unmolested by thieves.—Ohio Farmer.

Temperance.

Consistency.

A merchant who was in the habit of selling a considerable quantity of liquor, a Portuguese by birth, but who had settled on the eastern shore of Maryland, related the following account of his own experience:

"I went to a temperance meeting; the speaker said a good many things which hurt me very much. I felt angry with him, and would not go any more for some time; but a short time after, while I was absent from home, one of my neighbors sold a man a gallon of rum, he got drunk upon it, went home and killed his wife. When I returned, I said to myself, 'What if you had sold this man the rum?' 'But I did not sell it.' But something said, 'But if you had been at home, you might have sold it to him.' I said to myself, 'I will sell off what I have very cheap, and then I will sell no more.' But something said, 'You may sell to some other man, and he may kill somebody; that won't do.' 'Then I will send it back to Baltimore, to the merchant I got it of.' But something said, 'That won't do; he may sell it to somebody who may get drunk and kill somebody also—that won't do?' I heard soon after of a temperance meeting; I went there, I almost ran; I jumped over the heads of the people. I said, 'Put my name down.' Somebody said, 'Mr. —, what will you do with your liquor?' 'O,' said I, 'that is settled.' So early next morning I turned all the liquor out, and pulled out the spigot, and said, 'From the earth you came and to the earth you must go.'—Md. Temperance Herald.

Poisonous Composition of Liquors.

Dr. Hiram Cox, chemical inspector of alcoholic liquors in Cincinnati, states, in an address to his fellow-citizens, that during two years he has made two hundred and forty-nine inspections of various kinds of liquors, and has found more than nine-tenths of them imitations, and a great portion poisonous concoctions. Of brandy, he does not believe there is one gallon of pure in a hundred gallons, the imitations having corn whiskey for a basis, and various poisonous acids for the condiments. Of wines, not a gallon in a thousand, purporting to be sherry, port, sweet Malaga, &c., is pure, but they are made of water, sulphuric acid, alum, Gumea pepper, horse-radish, &c., and many of them without a drop of alcoholic spirit. Dr. Cox warrants there are not ten gallons of genuine port wine in Cincinnati. In his inspection of whiskey, he has found only seventeen to twenty per cent. of alcoholic spirit, when it should have forty-five to fifty, and some of it contained "sulphuric acid enough in a quart to eat a hole through a man's stomach!"

Right About.

I have just seen a sailor boy's letter. There is one good thing which I want to extract: "Tell mother that as soon as I read her letter, and found that she did not want me to smoke, I got up and broke my pipe and sold my tobacco, and have not touched a pipe since, and will not again until she gives me her consent, and that I don't suppose she will ever do. Now I neither smoke, drink, nor chew, and I think I am a great deal better without it. So much for leaving a good mother."

The liquor dealers of New York city have come to a determination not to recognize the new liquor law by presenting petitions, but to defy it by selling liquor without license. The first person arrested for violating the law is to be defended by the associated liquor dealers.

A poor Irishman, who applied for a license to sell ardent spirits, being questioned as to his moral fitness for the trust, replied, "Ah; sure it is not much of a character that a man needs to sell rum!"

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

REPORT

Of the Executive Committee of the Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society, for the year ending June 6th, 1857.

Another year has been added to the history of our Institution. In many respects it has been as former years. The teachers have faithfully pursued their laborious duties, the pupils, in general, have applied themselves to their respective studies with assiduous perseverance, and the committee, I believe, have made praiseworthy advances.

The branches taught are as follows: Spelling and Defining, Reading, Penmanship, Book-Keeping, Mental and Written Arithmetic, English Grammar, Analysis of Sentences, Geography, with exercises on outline Maps, Natural Philosophy with experiments, History, (English, Roman, and Grecian,) Agricultural Chemistry, Chemistry with experiments, Mensuration, Land Surveying, Algebra, Geometry, Composition and Declamation, Latin Grammar, Andrew's Latin Reader, Caesar, Virgil's Aeneid, Cicero's Orations, Greek, Kuhner's Greek Grammar and Exercises, Jacob's Greek Reader, French, Values Ollendorff, De Tiva's Elementary French Reader, and Classical French Reader.

The whole number that have entered the Academy, for a longer or shorter time is ninety. The greatest number at any one time was sixty-two. The least number, forty-eight. The average number fifty-five.

At the commencement of the year the Committee anticipated the attendance of a much larger number of pupils—assured that the Denomination would more generally patronise its own institution. The agricultural and commercial prosperity enjoyed so largely by the Baptists of Nova Scotia, the very effective staff of teachers giving their entire energy and strength to their various Classes, the thorough course, the highly approved government, the well regulated Boarding Department—encouraged the Committee and friends of the Institution generally to expect an attendance exceeding former years. In this they were disappointed. The limited patronage, bestowed by the denomination upon their own institution, cannot but excite considerable surprise. Our churches are steadily growing in numbers, wealth, and influence. They are, to some degree at least, exerting an influence upon the political institutions of the Country. It cannot, therefore, be, that at this stage of our educational progress, they are yet to be taught the value of mind trained to exercise, strength, and accuracy, and for the first time understand that "knowledge is power." If they would have an efficient ministry and well regulated churches, understanding, appreciating, and rightly disseminating a knowledge of their doctrines and ordinances, if they would elevate the people generally, and inspire their youth with laudable zeal, and fit them for the various honorable and responsible situations almost daily multiplying, Education and Educational Institutions must be sustained, and youth encouraged to avail themselves of privileges inseparable from them.

It is now more than a quarter of a century since our venerated fathers in the ministry and a few friends of religious education began this work. They laboured in it themselves, and to their dying hour urged it upon the churches and people they so dearly loved. In their exertions to imprint their own views upon the churches, they met opposition and encountered many trials, but time and circumstances are demonstrating the largeness of their views and the strength of their position. They bequeathed to us their views! they began this work! let not their next succeeding generation so dishonour their widely honoured names, as to allow an institution, thus founded, and rightly designated a child of Providence, to fail in its results, because youth are not taught to appreciate its advantages.

The Committee continue their former arrangements with Mr. Hartt, the Principal of the Institution, and are happy in witnessing his untiring labours, to elevate and enlarge the course of study, that in all things the Institution may justly as heretofore claim for itself a position second to no other in these Provinces—and keep pace with the growing demands of this active age. By the existing arrangement, the Principal is wholly dependant for his remuneration upon the ordinary fees of pupils attending the Academy, the sum received from the Committee, barely paying the salary of the two Assistants. It will