

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

JULY 12th, 1857.

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

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

JULY 19th, 1857.

Subject.—PAUL PREACHETH AT ANTIOCH THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST.

For Repeating. Acts xiii. 25-26. For Reading. Acts xiii. 27-39.

THE QUESTIONER.

Mental Pictures from the Bible.

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

[No. 20.]

We look upon a scene of deep interest. A sacred house of prayer is filled with armed men, who, marshalled in military array, and, with their swords drawn, seem prepared for resistance and defense.

Close by one of the massive pillars stands a little child, and on him every eye is turned. He is robed as a king, on his youthful head is the royal crown, and in his hand a copy of the Holy Scriptures. A venerable person in priestly robes stands near him, and he is surrounded by brave and noble men. It is a time of great rejoicing, and the thrilling sound of trumpets mingles with a full choir of voices, and instruments pouring forth psalms of praise.

QUESTIONS to be answered next week.

51. Where is the friend of a bridegroom mentioned in the historical books of the Old Testament?

52. Mention the eight individuals whose names were foretold, or mentioned before they were born?

SOLUTION to Picture No. 19.

Isaac meditating.—Genesis xxiv. 63.

Answers to questions in our last.

49. Abner by Joab. 2 Sam. iii. 27.

50. Matt xxv. 32, 33; John x. 3, 4, 14, 27.

Selections.

The late George R. Wilby.

The last number of the *C. Messenger* contains a letter from the Rev. Arthur R. R. Crawley, the Novascotian missionary in Burmah; and a Postscript to that letter contains the sad announcement of the recent death of George R. Wilby, Esq. at Serampore, near Calcutta, British India. The name of Mr. Wilby appears now probably for the first time before many of our readers; yet during his too brief career in this world, he has achieved a reputation which any man of his years and opportunities, might well be proud of. We may with propriety claim him as a Novascotian. He was, it is true, born in the state of Massachusetts—of English parentage, we believe; but was brought to Nova Scotia in his childhood—we might almost say, in his infancy—and it was here that his mind was matured and his education received. In Halifax, he received from Dr. Crawley, his brother-in-law, the elements of a sound education. He afterwards passed through the ordinary course and graduated as A. B., at Acadia College, in this Province. Whilst at that Institution those of his fellow students who were most intimate with him and had therefore the best opportunities of arriving at a correct estimate of his abilities, were led to entertain the highest opinion of his talents and to form the most sanguine predictions relative to the success of his future career. The opinion of those who loved him as a brother might have been considered open to the charge of partiality; but his after life has gone to prove that this estimate of him was not too high. In 1844, Mr. Wilby left Acadia College and went to Boston with the intention of studying for the medical profession. In the Autumn of that year, a change took place in his plans and he sailed for Calcutta, in the East Indies. The remainder of his days have been spent in that city, Delhi, and other parts of Hindostan. His tastes and intellectual character alike inclined him to use the pen as a means of winning fame and fortune; and, almost immediately after his arrival in India he obtained an engagement in an editorial capacity. Since then he has figured conspicuously upon the editorial staff of the *Bengal Hurkaru*, the *Mofussilite*, and, if we do not mistake, other Indian journals. As mentioned in the postscript to Mr. Crawley's letter, he was, for some time previous to his death, assistant editor of *The Friend of India*, and had already

achieved an Indian reputation as a powerful writer. We do not know whether Mr. Wilby has left behind him any work which will give a lasting reputation to his name, or not; but fear that, like many another, the circumstances in which he found himself placed caused him to give the most of his time and creative talents to writing for the periodical press—to works called forth by the necessities of the immediate present and neither calculated, nor intended, to win more than an ephemeral reputation. Yet he may, and, if a little more life had been spared him, we doubt not would, have done much more than this. He was an accomplished scholar and a diligent student, as well as a polished gentleman and an amiable and honorable man. During his sojourn in Hindostan, he always looked fondly forward to a time when he would return and settle down to spend the evening of his days in Nova Scotia, to which he was much attached. But he has been cut down with the work which he had allotted to himself but scarcely commenced, he himself having not more than entered upon that age which is usually considered the prime of manhood. He was, we believe, only thirty-one years of age at the time of his decease. Mr. Wilby leaves, or had a short time since, a wife and family, having married in India.—Recorder.

A Touching Memorial.

We have found the following interesting letter, the last letter from Sir John Franklin, in one of our exchanges:

"Whale Fish Island, Bay of Disco, 11th July, 1857.

"My dear sister: * * * The appearance, dress, and manners of the Esquimaux, bespeak that care is taken of them by the government. Several of them can read the Bible with ease, and I am told that when the families are all collected, the children are obliged to attend school daily. I looked into one of the huts arranged with seats for this purpose. When the minister comes over from Disco, he superintends the school, at other times the children are taught by a half-caste Esquimaux. How delightful it is to know that the Gospel is spreading far and wide, and will do so till its blessed truths are disseminated through the globe. Every ship, in these days, ought to go forth to strange lands, bearing among its officers a missionary spirit; and may God grant such a spirit on board this ship. It is my desire to cultivate the feeling, and I am encouraged to hope that we have among us some who will aid me in this duty. We have divine service twice on each Sunday, and I never witnessed a more attentive congregation than we have. May the seed sown fall upon good ground, and bring forth fruit abundantly to God's honor and glory.

Ever your affectionate brother,
JOHN FRANKLIN."

What a truly Christian spirit does this breathe! God's saving health would speedily be known unto all nations, if our explorers and navigators went forth with such befitting desires. And this memorial of a lost brother may well appeal to them that go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business in great waters. Will they not heed the parting message of Sir John Franklin, penned as he was about to glide into that mysterious experience of suffering and death which is yet hidden in the icy solitudes of the North? His words deserve to be written in golden letters, in the cabins of our vessels which spread their wings for earth's remotest nations. "Every ship in these days ought to go forth to strange lands, bearing among its officers a missionary spirit, and may God grant such a spirit on board this ship."—Banner of the Cross.

Ambiguous Compliment.

Ministers itching for praise, are liable to grievous disappointments. Robert Hall was noted for several caustic replies to young licentiates with more vanity than brains, and the following incident admonishes a prudent man not to be too minute in his inquiries, lest he meet an unpleasant rebuff, instead of a graceful compliment:

Elder Jones, a worthy, but very prosy preacher, was addressing a drowsy congregation one summer afternoon. He was glad to see that one good woman was not only awake, while all were sleeping, but she was melted to tears under the pathos of his discourse. After the services were over, he hastened to join her, and giving her his hand, he remarked:

"I observed, my dear friend, that you were very much overcome this afternoon; will you tell me what it was in the sermon that most affected you?"

"O," she replied, "it was not the sermon; I was thinking it my son John should grow up and be a preacher, and preach such a dull sermon as that, how ashamed of him I should be."

—W. & R.

BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT.—A little Swedish girl, while walking with her father on a starry night, absorbed in contemplation of the skies, being asked of what she was thinking, replied, "I was thinking if the wrong side of heaven is so glorious, what must the right side be?"

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Our Foreign Mission.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

After some delay occasioned by the pressure of other duties, in accordance with the request of the Board, I now furnish a statement relative to our Foreign Missionary operations.

Having been appointed a member of the Board at the Convention in September last, I immediately addressed letters of inquiry to Rev. Dr. Peck, Corresponding Secretary of the American Baptist Missionary Union, and Rev. A. R. R. Crawley, of Henthada, in Burmah. When the necessary information was obtained, a meeting was held in Wolfville, Jan. 6th; and the appropriations voted by the Convention were made.

The Board was called together again on the 5th inst. (June) at the same place. In the absence of the Secretary, Rev. G. Armstrong was appointed to discharge his duty *pro tem*. The intervening correspondence was read. From a letter addressed by Bro. Crawley to the Chairman, with one published in the *Christian Visitor*, it was ascertained, that, while his own salary is undiminished and secure, he would gladly receive funds from the Baptist Foreign Missionary Board of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and expend them in the support of native preachers in Burmah. He says, "If I had 600 dollars, I should be able to revisit all the places where the gospel was preached last year, build a good native chapel, and employ all the assistants available. For the want of that money a dozen large towns must go without the gospel another year, and the 30,000 idolaters which compose the population of Henthada can have only one native preacher."

The following is an extract from a letter addressed by the Chairman of our Board to Dr. Peck dated, Aylesford, April 18th, 1857:—"There are in Burmah native converts who desire to labour for Christ and their fellow countrymen, whom your Missionaries regard as adapted to be useful, but whom your diminished funds will not allow you to support. Will not your Board allow ours to support some of these while labouring under the direction of your Missionaries? We might know the names of the men, and have some information communicated to us respecting their labours. I am persuaded this would satisfy our people generally, and induce them to contribute liberally. I hope it will be done. Please say what it costs to support native teachers."

Dr. Peck, in his reply, dated, Boston, May 9th, 1857, says, "There will be no objection on the part of the Executive Committee to the arrangement suggested by you for the support of native preachers or assistants. Your Society can designate funds for that purpose, and they will be duly appropriated, to be expended under the direction of Brother Crawley, or other Missionaries. The Committee can not stipulate, of course, in regard to correspondence; neither would they object to your obtaining any communication from or of them which you might desire."

"The cost of support varies with persons and places. I think 15 rupees per month, or about 80 dollars per annum, would support a native Burman preacher at Henthada. A Karen would need but half that sum."

"I am glad to learn that my last was satisfactory. We value your cooperation both in mind and money. Bro. Crawley is one of our choicest brethren."

Truly, your brother,
S. PECK, Cor. Sec'y."

On the presentation and discussion of the correspondence whence the extracts given above have been taken, the following Preamble and Resolutions were passed by the Board unanimously:—

"As there is at present no one offering to go from these Provinces to Burmah as a Missionary, and it is ascertained that there are native preachers there, who are earnestly desirous to devote themselves to the preaching of the gospel among their perishing fellow countrymen, but whom the American Baptist Missionary Union has not funds to support.

Therefore, Resolved, 1. That, in the opinion of this Board, it is expedient and desirable that a portion of our Foreign Missionary funds should be placed at the disposal of Rev. A. R. R. Crawley; to be appropriated to the support of native teachers in Burmah, and to the defraying of such expenses as may be incurred in enabling them to labour efficiently.

Resolved, 2. That the Treasurer be instructed to remit to the Am. Bap. Miss. Union, for the said purpose, the sum of 200 dollars; and that

further appropriations be referred to the decision of the Convention.

Resolved, 3. That the Chairman draw up for publication in the *Christian Messenger* and the *Christian Visitor*, a statement embodying the facts brought out at this meeting in relation to our Foreign Missionary prospects and operations.

It may be proper to add, that I have written a letter of instructions to Bro. C. and enclosed it to Dr. Peck, to be forwarded as soon as may be to Henthada, with the amount voted; which Bro. Bars, the Treasurer, engaged to have remitted immediately to the Executive Committee in Boston.

The Western N. S. Baptist Association unanimously expressed its approval of the measures adopted by the Board. Indeed, the pleasing fact, that we are thus enabled to afford material aid in publishing the glad tidings of salvation among the perishing heathen, by means of men already prepared, and fervently desiring, to enter at once upon the work, can not fail to cheer the hearts of the numerous friends of the Burman Mission.

Yours in Gospel bonds,
CHARLES TUPPER, Chairman.

Aylesford, June 22nd, 1857.

P.S. It is designed to obtain and publish a statement of the financial affairs of the Board, as soon as it can be consistently made up, so as to include remittances from the Associations.

For the Christian Messenger.

Valedictory Address

To Elder James Reid, on his removal from the Baptist Church at Ohio, Yarmouth.

VERY DEAR BROTHER,

The ties of mutual affection and esteem which subsist between a faithful christian pastor and a congregation of true believers, are imperishable, yet there are providential circumstances, (too mysterious perhaps to be fully comprehended by finite minds,) which sometimes render the dissolution of external church connexion inevitable. The impaired state of your health imposes upon you the expediency of a change of locality; and though you are in consequence induced to resign the pastorate of this church, which has grown and prospered through your instrumentality, we feel that the spiritual ties that have so long bound us together, cannot be broken or impaired by your removal; and we shall still love you with unabated fervour; and our prayers for your welfare will continue to mingle with our devotions.

During your pastorate over us we have walked in peace and harmony—our numbers have nearly trebled. If with you we have had seasons of mourning, we have also rejoiced together in times of special influences from above. You have administered the holy rite of baptism to a large proportion of our number—from your hands we have received the symbols of our Lord's broken body and shed blood—we have highly esteemed you for your work's sake—and now that you are about to leave us, we can in some measure at least realize the tears and sorrow of the Elders of the Church at Ephesus, when the Apostle Paul bade them farewell.

The living piety and social virtues of your estimable christian wife have greatly endeared her to us all; and in giving the parting hand to you both, our regret is mitigated by the consoling assurance that those who have knelt together at the foot of the cross on earth, though parted here for a time, will be reunited around the throne above.

"When moons shall wax and wane no more."

Signed on behalf of the Church,
JESSE SHAW, Clerk.

REPLY.

Dear Brethren and Christian friends, I am under the necessity of leaving this part of the Province, on account of my declining health, and in taking my departure from you, your kind address has enkindled warm and grateful emotions in my heart.

Since I came amongst you it has been my great aim to preach the blessed doctrines of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to exhort you to obey his holy commands. The Lord of his infinite mercy has given us a love for his truth and his precepts, and a spiritual union is formed between us, which will never be dissolved, making us "one in Christ."

Though the Church has prospered by my imperfect labours, it is to the Lord alone that all praise is due. Many of you have helped forward the prosperity of Zion, by your exhortations and prayers, and have also assisted by your influence and worldly substance. I thank you all dear brethren for your kind wishes and fervent prayers.