

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

MARCH 15th, 1857.

Subject.—STEPHEN'S DISCOURSE, CONTINUED.

For Repeating. For Reading. Acts vii. 9-10. | Acts vii. 17-29.

MARCH 22nd, 1857.

Subject.—STEPHEN'S DISCOURSE, CONTINUED.

For Repeating. For Reading. Acts vii. 17-19. | Acts vii. 30-43.

THE QUESTIONER.

Mental Pictures from the Bible.

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

[No. 3.]

'Tis summer, and the sun is high, Beneath the glow of eastern sky. Beside a well, where cool and fresh We see the living waters gush, A poor wayfaring man appears: His brow is wrinkled—not with years, But sorrow—there he sits to rest Awhile, by toil and heat oppress'd. Near him, behold a female stand; He has stretched forth an eager hand To seize the cooling draught she brought; And yet, 'twould seem, some sudden thought Full of compassion, kindness, love, Does so his inmost spirit move, That toil and thirst are all forgot: While she, transfixed upon the spot With joy and wonder, hears him pour Forth tidings such as she ne'er heard before.

The Solution of the above will be given in next number.

SOLUTION to Picture No. 2.

Samuel and Eli, 1 Samuel iii. 15-18.

QUESTIONS to be answered next week.

- 6. Name a prophet who was used as an executioner to an ungodly king. 7. Who was the son of one man, but the father of all living now? 8. What at once sets forth the perfection of divine love, the sorrows of the saints, and the object of every Christian's faith?

ANSWERS to questions in our last.

- 3. Jericho, Joshua vi. 7, 26; 2 Kings ii. 18, 22. 4. The ox and ass, Isaiah i. 3. The ant, Proverbs vi. 6. Comies, locusts, spiders, Proverbs xxx. 28. 5. The impotent man, John, iv. 6, 7.

Selections.

Peter Cartwright at a Dance.

Saturday night came, and I found myself among the hills, and knobs, and spurs of the Cumberland Mountains. I stopped at a decent-looking tavern, where there was to be, that night, a dance.

I quietly took my seat in one corner of the house, and the dance commenced. I sat quietly musing, a total stranger, and greatly desired to preach to this people. Finally, I concluded to spend the next day (Sabbath) there, and ask the privilege to preach to them. I had hardly settled this point in my mind, when a beautiful, ruddy young lady walked very gracefully up to me, dropped a handsome courtesy, and pleasantly, with winning smiles, invited me out to take a dance with her. I can hardly describe my thoughts or feelings on that occasion. However, in a moment I resolved on a desperate experiment. I rose as gracefully as I could; I will not say with some emotion, but with many emotions. The young lady moved to my right side; I grasped her right hand with my right hand, while she leaned her left arm on mine. In this position we walked on the floor. The whole company seemed pleased at this act of politeness in the young lady, shown to a stranger. The colored man, who was the fiddler, began to put his fiddle in the best order. I then spoke to the fiddler to hold a moment, and added, that for several years I had not undertaken any matter of importance without first asking the blessing of God upon it, and I desired now to ask the blessing of God upon this beautiful young lady and the whole company, that had shown such an act of politeness to a total stranger.

Here I grasped the young lady's hand tightly, and said: "Let us kneel down and pray," and then instantly dropped on my knees, and commenced praying with all the power of soul and body that I could command. The young lady tried to get loose from me, but I held her tight. Presently she fell on her knees. Some of the company knelt, some stood, some fled, some sat still, all looked curious. The

fiddler ran off into the kitchen, saying: "Lord a mercy, what de matter? what is dat mean?"

While I prayed some wept, and wept aloud, and some cried for mercy. I arose from my knees and commenced an exhortation, after which I sang a hymn. The young lady who invited me on the floor lay prostrate, crying earnestly for mercy. I exhorted again; I sang and prayed nearly all night. About fifteen of that company professed religion, and our meeting lasted next day and next night, and as many more were powerfully converted. I organized a society, took thirty-two into the church, and sent them a preacher. My landlord was appointed leader, which post he held for many years. This was the commencement of a great and glorious revival of religion in that region of country, and several of the young men converted at this preacher's dance became useful ministers of Jesus Christ.

I recall this strange scene of my life with astonishment to this day, and do not permit myself to reason on it much. In some conditions of society I should have failed; in others I should have been mobbed; in others I should have been considered a lunatic. So, far as I did permit myself to reason on it at the time, my conclusions were something like these: These are a people not Gospel taught or hardened. They, at this early hour, have not drunk to intoxication, and they will at least be as much alarmed at me and my operations, as I can possibly be at theirs. If I fail it is no disgrace; if I succeed it will be a fulfilment of a duty commanded, to be "instant in season and out of season." Surely, in all human wisdom, it was out of season; but I had, from some cause or other, a strong impression on my mind from the beginning to the end of this affair, (if it is ended,) that I should succeed by taking the devil at surprise, as he had often served me, and thereby be avenged of him for giving me so much trouble on my way to General Conference and back thus far.—Cartwright's Autobiography.

The Pitchers.

An anecdote of the late Dr. Adam Clark will at least remind the reader of the language of the apostle Paul, "We have this treasure in earthen vessels." The good Doctor, when once preaching in Ireland, his native country, spoke at a considerable length on the freeness of the gospel, telling his reasons that the water of life could be obtained without money and without price. To his great annoyance, at the close of his sermon, a good man rose to announce that a collection would be immediately taken up for the support of missions, in foreign lands, which was accordingly done. Returning to the family where he was staying, the preacher remarked on the incongruity between his sermon, and the collection; the lady of the house, however, very promptly replied, "True, doctor, the water of life is free, without money and without price, but we must pay for the pitchers to carry it in." The company around smiled, the children clapped their little hands, and all were so much interested in the matter as to contribute freely to the collection. We imagine our friends at 33 Somerset Street, in this city, would be glad to hear from our readers, what they think of this matter.—H. & R.

Quick in her Application

"It amazes me, ministers don't write better sermons—I am sick of the dull prose affairs," said a lady, in the presence of a parson. "But it is no easy matter, my good woman, to write good sermons," suggested the minister. "Yes," rejoined the lady, "but you are so long about it; I could write one in half the time, if I only had the text." "Oh, if a text is all you want," said the parson, "I will furnish that. Take this one from Solomon: 'It is better to dwell in a housetop than with a bawling woman, in a wide house.'" "Do you mean me, sir?" inquired the lady quickly. "Oh, my good woman," was the grave response, "you will never make a good sermonizer, you are too soon in your application."

There is a morning coming when Episcopalianism, and Methodism, and Congregationalism, and all shall stand on the sea of glass and worship him that sitteth on the great white throne. I like that saying of Whitfield's—"Father Abraham, have you got Episcopalian up there?" "No!" "Have you got Methodists up there?" "No!" "Have you got Independents?" "No! none but Christians, my son!"—Dr. Tyng.

The soul needs an amount of intellectual enjoyment, to give it strength adequate for the daily struggle in which it is involved.

Temperance.

Neal Dow going to England.

This eminent advocate of Prohibition goes to England, as we now learn, about the 1st of April, at the urgent solicitation of the "United Kingdom Alliance for the Suppression of the Liquor Traffic." The arrangements are, to hold a series of monster meetings at all the great centres of population throughout England, Ireland and Scotland. Large expectations will naturally be cherished respecting Mr. Dow, by our friends on the other side of the water. And they will not be disappointed. Mr. Dow unites to many great qualities—rare powers as a public speaker. He is capable of making himself heard and felt by large assemblies of the people; and his style of thought, diction, and delivery, will leave a deep and permanent impression on the mind of the British public.

Neal Dow is Chairman of the World's Temperance Committee, appointed at the World's Temperance Convention, held in 1853, and one result of his tour will be to further arrangements for an early convention of delegates from the Temperance reformers of Great Britain, Europe, and America.

Mr. Dow's absence will be sensibly felt here, especially in the State of Maine. We are glad to be assured in a private note, that his warmest sympathies will continue to be with the great strife in the United States—and which must continue to be the battle-field of Prohibition. At the conclusion of this note he says:—

"And while absent, I shall pray that our friends may be able to uphold our glorious standard bravely amid the strife; and to roll on the tide of battle to the very citadel of the enemy."—Prohibitionist.

The Discrimination Doctrine.

Whatever objections Judges Comstock and Hubbard raise as to the prohibitions of the sale by the act of 9th of April, of liquors on hand; and whatever objections Judges Selden and A. S. Johnson raise to its prohibitions as to the places of keeping of liquors on hand—these same Judges waive all these objections when they apply to liquors subsequently acquired.

Suppose this discrimination were made as to spoiled meat. No man shall sell tainted meat, except such as he may have in possession when the law took effect. That he may sell, though he has enough of it to poison the people of a ward. Apply it to mad dogs. Mad dogs shall be shot—except such as were mad, or in possession, before the law took effect. All mad dogs in possession, though they bite every man, woman and child in the city—they shall be held as sacred as the crocodiles on the Nile!—Jb.

Failure of the Apple Crop.

NO CIDER TO DRINK!

Such is the exclamation at the head of the Brewers' circulars in England, who seize the occasion of the failure in the apple crop, to recommend their drink instead of cider. Under the same head the Temperance men add the following as a counter effort:

Laborers learn to do without it; ask for the value of the liquor in money.

Massachusetts.

Many think "Boston is Massachusetts." Because Boston has elected adverse mayors, and other officers, who neglect to enforce the Prohibitory Law, therefore prohibition in the whole Commonwealth of Massachusetts is a failure. And so travelers finding liquor sold freely in Boston, go home and report the prohibitory law as to the whole State, is a dead letter. Hear what the State Temperance Convention said, which was held in Boston on the 10th of December last:—

Resolved, That it is with unfeigned gratitude we recognize the hand of Almighty God in the great improvement which has been wrought in the drinking usages of society throughout our beloved Commonwealth, during the past third of a century, and in the tone of legislation with regard to the traffic in alcoholic drinks.

Resolved, That the Prohibitory Law at present on our statute books has been thus far sustained by our Courts; that it is believed to be entirely constitutional; and that it is as well executed, outside of some of our large cities, as are our criminal laws in general.

Boston and other large towns are pointed out, not as specimens of the whole State, but as exceptions:—

Resolved, That, notwithstanding the successes of the past, the evil of intemperance still wears a threatening aspect in several of our larger towns and cities, and especially in the city of Boston.

Maine.

Rev. E. W. Jackson says:—

"Our banquet at Portland was really a magnificent affair. I assure you about one thousand persons were present, and the net receipts will not fall short of \$500, which goes into the treasury of the State Committee. Hon. Neal Dow presided; the speaking was of a high order, and from nearly all the clergymen of the city, Hon. Judge Davis, and many others. The whole thing has given great satisfaction, and will do great good."

Varieties.

A Cooling Room.

A gentleman from St. Louis has informed us that a room with an ice apartment above and descending flues for the cold air, so as to preserve an equable temperature and moisture, was constructed in that city several years ago, and that ripe strawberries had been kept in it for the space of six months without any perceptible change in color or taste; that butchers there store their beef in quantities, and that it accommodates large numbers of persons in preserving whatever articles they may possess of a rapidly perishable nature, and which they cannot dispose of at the time. Eggs are brought there in great numbers, packed in oats, in boxes of particular dimensions, and when a sufficient number of these boxes is collected, they are sent to New Orleans and exchanged, a box of the eggs and oats, for a box of oranges and lemons; the latter are then taken to the preserving-room, and when the market is quick, occasioned by a scarcity of these fruits, they are sent all over the city by peddlers, or sold at the groceries, as they may prefer. Slaughtered hogs, may also be kept there until the market is favourable for profitable sales. Butter made on the Mississippi, and particularly on the Missouri, is brought in barrels, almost by cargoes, and often arrives in a liquid state. It is then deposited in the preserving room, and in three days the hoops may be knocked off, and the s'aves taken away, leaving the butter sufficiently cooled to be cut up and packed in convenient parcels, or moulded in fancy form.

FAT MEN.—It is said that the most extraordinary instances of corpulency occur in England. One of the most remarkable instances was that of Mr. Bright, a tall chandler of Malden, in Essex, who died in the 27th year of his age, November 12, 1750. Seven persons of the common size were easily enclosed in his waistcoat. A stocking which was too small for him was large enough to hold a child four years old. He was comely in person and affable in manners; he weighed 42 stone and 12 pounds. The celebrated Daniel Lambert, who was much older, weighed 10 stone more than Mr. Bright; he died in 1809.

TALL MEN.—Historians relate that the Emperor Maximus was 8 feet and 8 inches in height. In the reign of Claudian, a man was brought out of Arabia 9 feet 8 inches tall.

John Middleton, born in Lancashire, England, was 9 feet 3 inches high. Patrick Cotter, the celebrated Irish Giant was born in 1791, was 9 feet 7 inches in height.

TO KEEP BACON.—Take it in the spring of the year, before any insects, make their appearance, and wrap in paper tight as convenient, pack in a barrel and fill in with oats to prevent their touching each other; then cover the barrel tight so as to exclude air and insects. In this way I have kept hams throughout the "hottest weather."

TO CURE PORK HAMS.—To sixteen pounds of ham, take one pound of good fine salt, two ounces of saltpetre, five ounces of sugar,—all pounded together and rubbed on carefully. Turn them and rub them all over, once in two days, for fourteen days, with the mixture, and then smoke them. This method has been tested by the experience of years. No brine is needed. The process is always successful, and the hams are well flavoured.

Cows.—To give the greatest possible quantity of milk, cows must daily receive and consume one thirtieth of their live weight in hay, or what is an equivalent. If more food be given it goes to the formation of flesh and fat without occasioning a corresponding increase in the yield of milk; but, if on the contrary, less food be furnished, the amount and value of the milk will be greatly diminished."

SUBSTITUTE FOR LEATHER.—A writer in the Scientific American suggests that some preparation of hemp, made up like papier maché, might be made effectual as a substitute for sole leather; a cement of india rubber, mixed with other adhesive substances, may be employed to unite the fibres together. Sole leather is fibrous, as can be witnessed by tearing a piece of it lengthwise. Its appearance, when thus riven, is like that of oakum felted.

A FACT FOR LADY FLORISTS.—For the generality of flowers, and especially for geraniums, and the most delicate specimens of the lily tribe, common glue, diluted with a sufficient portion of water, forms a richer manure than guano or any other yet discovered. Plants placed in sand on the worst soils, display more beauty and vigor when watered with this composition than those grown in the richest soil and sprinkled with water.