

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

DECEMBER 13th, 1857.

Subject.—PAUL BROUGHT BEFORE FELIX. For Repeating. For Reading. Acts xxiii. 1-5. Acts xxiv. 1-16.

DECEMBER 20th, 1857.

Subject.—PAUL PREACHETH CHRIST TO FELIX AND HIS WIFE, DRUSILLA. For Repeating. For Reading. Acts xxiv. 14-15. Acts xxiv. 17-27.

THE QUESTIONER.

Mental Pictures from the Bible.

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

[No. 42.]

A CHRISTIAN MINISTER DEMANDING HIS CIVIL PRIVILEGES.

In an open space close to a strongly fortified and guarded structure, having the appearance of an ancient castle, is seen a man of somewhat small proportions, having, however, much of decision and firmness depicted in his countenance. Why is he being stripped and bound to that huge post, fixed so firmly in the ground? Around him are seen a number of military officers and men, with compressed lips, apparently prepared to witness a scene of suffering. Some of them have instruments of torture in their hands, which they are preparing to use upon the helpless man, as if he were a culprit.

During the operation of his being bound, he puts a question to one of those highest in rank. His enquiry has the effect of suddenly arresting them in their work. The officer makes a reply with a look of triumph and scorn, but the answer he receives from the injured man causes earnest consultation amongst the warriors. What a change has taken place in these brave men! Consternation and fear are now exhibited on their countenances, and instead of indignities the injured man is treated with respectful attention. They must be men of cultivation and refinement or such an effect would not be produced by a single remark from so humble an individual.

SOLUTION TO PICTURE NO. 41.

THE PROPHET JEREMIAH IN PRISON.—Jer. xxxviii. 7-28.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN OUR LAST.

93. The barrel of meal and the cruise of oil.—1 Kings xvii. 14.

94. The infants were murdered by Herod the Great.—Matt. ii. 16. John the Baptist, by Herod Antipas.—Mark vi. 27. The Apostle James, by Herod Agrippa.—Acts xii. 2.

The Negatives of Heaven.

Well, thank Heaven, in heaven they "neither marry nor are given in marriage; and so, I suppose, we shall get rid of the nuisance of "wedding-cards" at any rate. As they also "die no more," we shall be free from the yet more odious ceremonial and formalities of funerals. In that world there will be no lawyers, for there will be no wrongs to be redressed, and no rights that need to be contested; no physicians, for there will be no diseases to be cured, or aggravated; no clergy, for all shall be well-taught and well-behaved; and not least, there will be no undertakers! Happy world, even if known only by negatives!

Toilet for Gentlemen.

For preserving the complexion—temperance. To preserve the breath sweet—abstinence from tobacco.

For whitening the hand—honesty.

To remove stains—repentance.

Easy shaving soap—ready money.

For improving the sight—observation.

A beautiful ring—a family circle.

For improving the voice—civility.

The best companion at the toilet—a wife.

To keep away moths—good society.

To promote sleep—dispense with the latch-key.

HOW TO BUILD A HAPPY HOME.—Six things are requisite. Integrity must be the architect, tidiness the upholsterer. It must be warmed by affection, lighted up with cheerfulness; and industry must be the ventilator, renewing the atmosphere and bringing in fresh salubrity day by day; while over all, as a protecting canopy and glory, nothing will suffice except the blessing of God.

Very Short Sermons.

YE ARE CHRIST'S.—1 COR. 3, 23.

1. Then are ye not your own. 2. Then is Christ entitled to your service.

3. Then has he a right to dispose of you. 4. Then will he take care of you.

Dear Saviour, we are thine By everlasting bands; Our hearts, our souls we would resign Entirely to thy hands.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

JUDGE HALIBURTON'S ADDRESS, DELIVERED AT GLASGOW.

In our last we gave some extracts from JUDGE HALIBURTON'S LECTURE on British North America, delivered at Glasgow. It is right that the inhabitants of Nova Scotia should be put in possession of all the information possible, concerning every part of these provinces, especially now that a Union of the Colonies is so much spoken of. It will be a matter for the people to decide at no very distant period. We shall therefore offer no apology for making further extracts from this able lecture:—

"A country so vast, that it is difficult to convey an adequate idea of its size; so fertile, that nothing short of official returns will exonerate a description of it, from the charge of exaggeration; so prosperous, as not merely to rival, but surpass all other countries on the face of the earth; so healthy in climate, so beautiful in scenery, so abundantly supplied with magnificent lakes and rivers, so full of commercial resources, and so rich in minerals, that I am overpowered with the magnitude of the task I have imposed upon myself, in attempting to convey even a faint idea of it. As regards its extent, omitting the territories contiguous to it, under British sway, and limiting myself to Canada proper, it is 1,600 miles long, with an average breadth of 230 miles, being one-third larger than France, or Prussia, and nearly three times as large as Great Britain and Ireland. It contains an area of 350,000 square miles, or 240 millions of acres. Well, indeed, might the Count Joubert exclaim with bitter regret, whilst surveying the magnificent display of agricultural and mineral products of Canada, which obtained the Grand Medal of Honour, at the Paris Exhibition, "now we can form an estimate of the value of these few acres of snow, ceded to England by the culpable neglect of the government of Louis XV."

"Accompany me, gentlemen, in one of your splendid steamers, and let us take a trip to Canada, and (without changing our vessel), ascend the St. Lawrence to Lake Superior, a distance of three thousand miles. Let us suppose ourselves arrived in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Three hundred miles from that vast outlet of the River, we pass the mouth of the Saguenay, a deep and noble stream, navigable for seventy miles, for the largest vessels. Four hundred and ten miles sailing from the ocean, and we reach Quebec, the great sea-port of Canada, with a large, and increasing foreign commerce. Five hundred miles sailing, finds us at the limit of tide water, and we now begin, in reality, to ascend the stream of the St. Lawrence. Five hundred and ninety miles bring us to Montreal, near where the Ottawa, or Grand River of the North, mingles its red waters with those of St. Lawrence. Seven canals, of different lengths, and great capacity, fitted for sea-going vessels, enable us to ascend 116 miles of river, and at 168 miles above Montreal, we are in Lake Ontario. This Lake is 180 miles long, from 50 to 60 miles wide, and 500 feet deep, and has an area of 6,600 square miles.

"Swiftly traversing its expanse, in sight, probably, of hundreds of other vessels and steamers, we reach the outlet of the Welland Canal, through which, by means of 27 locks, we reach the waters of Lake Erie, 1,041 miles from the sea. Our passage is still on through Lake Erie, until we arrive at the Detroit River, 1,280 miles from the sea. We pass by the city of Detroit, in the State of Michigan, through Lake St. Clair, and the St. Clair River into Lake Huron, 1,355 miles from our starting point.

"We may now sail on to St. Mary's River, and passing through a short, but gigantic canal, constructed by the people of the United States, enter Lake Superior, with a fresh-water sea as large as Ireland before us, and into which nearly 200 rivers flow, enabling us to attain a distance of 2,000 miles from the mouth of the St. Lawrence.

"The climate of this vast country naturally varies with its extent and position, but throughout it is healthy in the extreme, as the tables of mortality show us, that while the proportion of deaths to population is

Table with 2 columns: Country, Deaths to Population. In France . . . . . 1 to 42. Spain . . . . . 1 " 40. England . . . . . 1 " 46. The United States . . . 1 " 74. Upper Canada it is but 1 " 102.

"But I will call your attention to the people, and the productions, as the best of the climate—I ask you to look at the population of Canada, and compare it with that on its borders—no, I won't compare them. Comparisons are odious, nor will I boast of them, for all such exaltation and exultation is vulgar, I will not tell you what they are; but I will tell you what they are not. They are not hollow checked, sallow, bilious, gaunt-looking men, with long necks, narrow chests and flat sides, but athletic, healthy, rosy-checked, tall, well proportioned, jolly fellows, that by no means disgrace the stock they spring from, and who testify to the salubrity of their climate by the silent eloquence of their looks. The productions bear witness, also, for the peach and the tobacco plant both arrive at great perfection, and are extensively cultivated south and west of Ontario, and on the peninsula between Huron and Erie.

"Now, gentlemen, let me make good my assertion as to its superiority over the States, in other things besides extent. I do not come here to declaim, I come to state facts, I know I am addressing practical men, men who will value facts and not theories; I have, therefore, prepared a short comparative statement of the growth of the population of both countries.

In 1800 the population of the United States was 5,305,925. In 1850 . . . . . 20,250,000

showing an increase of eleven hundred per cent. in fifty years, or an increase of nearly four times. While in Upper Canada, from 1811 to 1851, a period of ten years less, the population increased ten times, closely approaching three times the increase of the whole United States.

"In Lower Canada, where there is much less immigration, the population in twenty-five years has increased ninety per cent. The comparison of towns is equally striking. Boston, between 1840 and 1850 increased 45 per cent. In the same time, Toronto, 95 per cent. New York, the greatest city in the States, increased, in the same period, 66 per cent, or 80 per cent less. Cincinnati, in the 30 years preceding 1850, increased 12 times, Toronto 18 times. In 18 years, the population of Hamilton increased 20,000. Brentford in 10 years has increased 300 per cent. Not many years ago, the site of the city of Ottawa, which now contains above 10,000, was sold for 80 pounds—the increase of the counties is also as marvellous. Megantic in seven years, increased 116 per cent. But I have said enough. Let us now look at the comparative production of grain in the two countries. In 1851, Upper Canada raised, at the rate of thirteen and a half bushels of wheat to each individual in it, while the United States in the same period, gave but four and a half bushels.

"In the ten years preceding 1855, the wheat crop of the United States increased 48 per cent. In Canada, in the same period, it increased 486 per cent. So in Indian corn, the crop for ten years preceding 1851, increased 56 per cent; in Canada, 163 per cent. Her cereal exports have doubled every four years, and now equal half of those of all the United States.

"I will now state a fact I wish every poor man in this country could hear and ponder over. Let it be written in letters of gold, and circulated through the length and breadth of the land. I wish it to be especially promulgated in Scotland, because, of all people in the world, Scotchmen are the most able to avail themselves of the inheritance, that we, their countrymen, have provided for them in the West—we have made the country for them, by years of privation and toil, of patient industry and consistent economy—we have erected cities for the artisans, and made farms for the agriculturists, constructed roads, provided employment and markets, erected school-houses, and built churches for them; and God has graciously been pleased to bless our undertakings. Let them come and possess it. Tell them this remarkable fact—that in Upper Canada the assessed and assessable property, exclusive of forest, timber, and minerals, is £250,000,000, which, being divided among the population, gives to each family, of five persons £200 4s. 2d., or £40 0s. 2d. to each man, woman and child in it—a state of prosperity almost incredible, but one that is positively on the increase. The wheel of fortune revolves slowly in England. Those who are at the top of it, are retained there by the entailment of property; and those that are at the bottom, are kept stationary by poverty. Here, labour will earn bread, but fails to accumulate a store. There it begins with plenty, and ends in affluence.

"Of the minerals of Canada, it is needless to say more than, that, although they are inferior to those of Nova Scotia, they obtained the grand medal of honour at the Paris Exhibition, as I have before stated. Here, then, is British North America, containing, besides vast adjacent territories, five large colonies, covering an area larger than that of the United States, with more than 6,000 ships, 3,000,000 of inhabitants, and 500,000 men capable of bearing arms, and possessing a sea-board line longer than a line from Glasgow to New York.

"Hitherto, I have gone with the current, I have now arrived at a point where the ocean is against me—grant me the privilege of an advocate—allow me to speak out plainly and in plain English. I must say a few words on the Colonial policy of the empire—I shall not abuse your indulgence—I have not the impertinence to come here and talk politics. I have nothing to do with Conservatives, Whigs, Liberals or Radicals; or with any of the great questions, that agitate the public mind just now.

"The retention or loss of your colonies is, in my opinion, of infinitely more importance, than all others put together. We have heard of justice to Ireland, till we have caught the Irish accent and more recently, with more reason, of justice to Scotland; but if you think I am going to raise the cry of "Justice to the Colonies," you are mistaken. We are able to do ourselves justice, and most assuredly will do so, when occasion requires. I come not here to threaten you, I know you too well for that, and I come not to supplicate you, for I am too much of a Scotchman, and too proud for that also. But I come to warn you, in sorrow, and not in anger; seriously, but amicably; that if there be not a change in the colonial policy of this Empire, the distant extremities will inevitably fall off from the body-politic, from their own unwieldy bulk and ponderosity.

"You may here say as has often been said, "you have a responsible government; you manage your own affairs, what do you complain of?"

"I will answer this question, and I am happy to do so, here among practical, reflecting, thinking men, among men that will understand me when I do speak, and who, I am certain, will agree with me when they hear me. First, I say, we don't complain; and, secondly we not only don't govern our own affairs, but have no voice in their management, and are not even consulted about them. I say, we don't complain, and for two short reasons: 1st, we have nobody to complain to; and, 2nd, if we had, we have no means of making ourselves heard. But if we don't

complain, I will tell you what we say. We say, that our Eastern and Western provinces, together with our other foreign possessions, contain a population of one hundred millions of colonists, and that they are all unrepresented; that they are all so distant and disjointed, that England in her hour of need, as lately in the Crimea, could draw no assistance in men or money from them, though they were able and willing to have contributed both; and that where this is the case, there is something wrong in the organization of the empire. We say that, in North America, there are five colonies, covering a space larger than all Europe, unconnected among themselves, and unconnected with England: with five separate jurisdictions; five separate tariffs; five different currencies; and five different codes of laws; with no common bond of union, and no common interest; with no power to prevent the aggression of strangers, or of one on the other; no voice in the regulation of their trade—their intercourse with each other, with foreign powers, or with England. We say, that we are consigned to the control of an office in Downing Street, in which there is scarcely a man who ever saw a Colony, and who has, however clever he may be, and however well disposed (and we make no personal remarks—they are all honourable men) yet who has no practical knowledge of us.

"We say, that everywhere here, in private life, a colonist meets a cordial, a hospitable and a hearty reception, (and I must add, for myself, that I would be the most ungrateful and most unworthy of men, if I lost any opportunity of acknowledging it,) but we know and feel that if he has public business in charge, to transact for his country, he is utterly nowhere. He is neither Scotch, Irish or British; he is neither a native or a foreigner, an American, or an Englishman. He is neither fish nor flesh. He is less than a Yankee skipper, for he has his consul; and less than a Haytian nigger, for he has got his black ambassador. He has no nationality at all—he is nobody.

"When Lord Ashburton ceded more than four millions of the best timber lands of New Brunswick, together with nearly 150 miles of St. John, and a right of passage through the remainder of the River to the Ocean, (also the best mail route to Canada,) we think it not unreasonable that the people of the Province, should have had a voice in the arrangement of the treaty, or the right, and the power to call him to account in Parliament. We ask, if Great Britain thinks proper to give a permission of registration to Americans for their vessels, without an equivalent, whether it is equally right to grant a similar privilege to them in the Colonies, without their consent, or in like manner, to grant them a coasting trade, without reciprocity in our ports, whereby our commerce is crippled in a way only intelligible to merchants. For instance, an American steamer can leave Boston, with freight and passengers, for St. John, New Brunswick, touching at all the intermediate ports of the States, but a colonial vessel must proceed direct to her port of destination, nor can she take a freight from any port or place on the Atlantic, to California or any port in the Pacific, because that, they interpret to be a coasting voyage. I stop not to enquire if this is right or wrong, but it seems to be no more than decent, when the rights of others are legislated away in this manner, that their concurrence should at least be asked. It may be as well here to state what our neighbours the Americans say, who never lose an opportunity of sowing the seeds of disaffection among our people:—"Why do you," they say, "continue in the degraded position of a dependency to England, when you might become free and independent by joining us? Instead of having your territory ceded to others, your fisheries bartered away, and your rights denied or withheld, you would be protected and incorporated with us; you would return above a hundred members for Congress (you are not entitled to one in Parliament); and your children would be eligible to the highest offices in our great nation (you are excluded from all in Great Britain); your real estate would be increased in value, and your commerce immensely enlarged, and you would at once take your place among the nations of the Earth; but there is no accounting for taste, bondage may have its charms, though we do not understand them," and so on.

But I have done—I have stated to you a situation of affairs that cannot last. There are four remedies:—1st. Annexation to the States. 2dly. A Federal Union of the Colonies, a Colonial Board of Control, instead of the Downing Street Bureau, and what the Americans call Territorial Representation, that is Delegates, in Parliament, to advocate colonial rights, and vote on them, and them only. 3rdly. Incorporation with Great Britain, and a fair share of full representation. 4thly. Independence. Time forbids me to enter upon these topics, I submit them for your calm and deliberate consideration. The period has arrived when you and your colonists must take counsel together, all my wishes and my hopes point to a union between you, and my last words are "esto perpetua." If you wish any further information relative to your colonies, I ought to tell you where to seek it. Enquire of the American Ambassador in London, or the Secretary of the Treasury at Washington, and I am ashamed and grieved to say, that they will be able to tell you more than any body else.

"If the English neglect us, we are an object of great interest to the Americans. Do you see this book of 1000 pages? Congress sent an agent over every part of the British provinces, to every lake, and river, forest and city, harbour, and fishing bank, to every custom-house, and registry office, to collect information, to procure official returns, and report to them. And here is the report, the fullest, the clearest, the most comprehensive, and the best book extant on the subject. It is called "Andrew's Report." The secret report that accompanied