

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

DECEMBER 25th, 1859.

Read—LUKE xxii. 24-48 : The agony in the garden. EXODUS xvii. 1-16 : The people murmur for water. The Amalekites discomfited.

Recite—LUKE xxii. 14-18.

JANUARY 1st, 1860.

Read—LUKE xxii. 47-71 : The fall of Peter. EXODUS xviii. : Jethro's advice to Moses.

Recite—LUKE xxii. 41-44.

MESSENGER ALMANAC.

From December 18th to December 31st, 1859.

First Quarter, December 2 9.35 Morning. Full Moon, " 9. 10.58 Afternoon. Last Quarter, " 16. 5. 1 " New Moon, " 24. 1. 33 Morning.

Table with columns for Day, SUN. (Rises, Sets), MOON. (Rises, Sets), High Water at (Halifax, Windsor).

* For the time of HIGH WATER at Pictou, Pugwash, Wallace, and Yarmouth add 2 hours to the time at Halifax.

* For HIGH WATER at Annapolis, Digby, &c. and at St. John, N. B., add 3 hours to the time at Halifax.

* The time of HIGH WATER at Windsor is also the time at Parrsboro', Horton, Cornwallis, Truro, &c.

* For the LENGTH OF DAY double the time of the sun's setting.

The Best Speech.

One of the speakers at a late public meeting in Boston, revived the following pleasant story :

In the good old days when General Jackson was President, he was making a tour to visit the northern portion of his dominions, and was received at every city and at every village by a ceremonious welcome. Committees were appointed, and every man had a little speech of his own to make. It happened that in the city of New York, the arrangement was to have the committee of the city government go to Amboy and meet the General on board the steamboat, and there welcome him to the hospitality of New York, and escort him to the city. The chairman of the committee was an alderman, distinguished for more soundness in the Democratic faith than for shining talents as an orator, one of the very few persons in our country who really are unaccustomed to public speaking. When the committee reached Amboy, the General came on board, and they stepped forward and were presented. The alderman, making a most profound bow, and having prepared himself most elaborately, began : " May it please your Excellency"—then suddenly seemed struck with confusion. He looked around to his brethren for help, but none was suggested, and again he began with a profound bow—" May it please your Excellency"—and again he stuck. The General stood awaiting with a bland expression of countenance, and he began in the same way the third time, and with a like result, and then, holding out his hand to the President, human nature burst forth : " Hang it all, I have forgotten my whole speech ! We're glad to see you, General." The General shook his hand, and said it was the pleasantest as well as the shortest speech he had heard since he had left home.

The Lost Penny.

One of the maids in Gotthold's family had lost a penny. In searching for it she used all diligence, swept the house, lighted a candle, and wept when her search proved fruitless. Said Gotthold to himself, I greatly wish that, for every sin which a man commits, he were to drop from his purse a penny, dollar, or ducat, according to the amount of his fortune. In that case I am convinced far fewer sins would be committed. Is it not dreadful blindness that we will weep for the loss of a penny, and laugh when, by presumptuous sin we lose God and his grace ? Our money appears from this to be dearer to us than our God. To many, however, God and gold are one and the same. O, thou secure and senseless world, what will become of thee at last ! On his death-bed gold cannot, and God, in his righteous judgment will not help the ungodly man. From what, then, can help come ? My God, were I to gain the whole world and keep it in possession and enjoyment, but by daily transgression to forfeit thy grace, what good would all my gains and fortune do me ! Let me lose what I may, or, to speak more correctly, what thou wilt, but O, take not from me thy grace !

Vice-Royalty in a Lunatic Asylum.

The Earl of Carlisle recently visited the Richmond Lunatic Asylum, near Dublin, which contains 649 male and female inmates. In one of the wards his Excellency was introduced to a patient named M Crory, a Scotchman, who had been at one period of his life an actor, and bore a high reputation for his powers of mimicry. Putting a piece of green leaf into his mouth, he gave imitations of the blackbird, thrush, plover, wild-duck, and skylark, that were surprising for their fidelity. He next treated his hearers to imitations of the noises made by puppy dogs and young pigs, which provoked much laughter, and showed that the performer was not only a mimic but a ventriloquist. As his excellency entered one of the workrooms, all the patients engaged in it sang the National Anthem very smoothly and well. A young woman who has been in the asylum for the last three years sang several ballads in excellent voice, time, and tune. An old mad dowager, wrapped up in a grey cloak, being very much struck with the lord-lieutenant, complimented him highly on his looks, and concluded by asking him " how was her ladyship ?" The latter observation caused much merriment—Earl Carlisle being a bachelor—in which his Excellency heartily joined. The vice-regal party, while passing through one of the corridors, had to stop for a consideration in consequence of one of the lunatics, who said she was from Ballinrobe, insisting on kissing Captain Buller before she would let him pass.—English paper.

Poverty and Heathenism in New York.

The following illustrations of the condition of the poor in New York are given in a letter of Charles L. Brace, the agent of the Children's Aid Society :—

In East 32d street, in a basement are a very worthy, industrious Protestant family of young girls, who support themselves and a sick father by crochet work. From early morning till late at night those poor girls sit in that damp, dark, gloomy place plying the crochet needle. They have no time even for a walk ; none for a book ; friends they have none ; they cannot earn enough to buy a bonnet and shawl for attending the Episcopal church, to which they are devotedly attached ; they scarcely make enough to get nourishing food, and so for years, since we have known them, they have drudged on in honest gloomy poverty.

Or, take this from the Fourth ward. In the attic of a house in Roosevelt street, we lately found four families, all sleeping on the floor. Two of the mothers were widows. The children were shivering and hungry. They could get no work, nor find clothes enough to school the children, nor food enough for themselves. In two damp underground basements were other widows and half starved children in like condition. So we could pick out instances by the thousand.

There are at this moment some forty boys and girls in our office, being washed and dressed for an expedition to the West. We have just been talking with one, who will do for an instance of all. He, is a manly, intelligent looking little fellow of about thirteen, his clothes just hanging to his body and his hair considerably tangled.

" Johnny, where do you live ?" " Don't live nowhere, sir." " Well, what do you do for a living ?" " Smashes baggage, sir." " Where do you stay nights ?" " I sleeps in the markets, sir, and sometimes I goes in with the bummers in the hay barges, and last night I went to the station house."

" What can you make, John, carrying baggage ?" " Some days, four shillings, sir, and others only two."

" Can you read and write, John ?" " No sir."

" Where are your parents ?" The little fellow's eyes filled with tears.

" Hain't got none. They's dead, sir, long ago. Hain't never had none take care of me," and the poor lad wipes his eyes violently with dirty fingers.

" Did you ever hear of God, Johnny ?" " No, sir, (reflectingly,) except I heard a feller swear at him"

A doctor's wife attempted to move him by her tears. " Ah !" said he, " tears are useless. I have analyzed them. They contain a little phosphate of lime, some chlorate of sodium, and water."

TAGORE, the famous Calcutta merchant, died of a broken heart because his fortune, during the panic of '57, was reduced to ten millions of dollars. Poor fellow !

Deferred Items of News.

All traces of the late War are fast disappearing. On the plains of Magenta a luxurious vegetation is all that meets the view. One house near the station riddled with shot is still conspicuous, and a new tumuli near the railway. A dog of African breed, which belonged to General Espinasse, still lurks about the spot where his master shed his blood, and though often taken away to some distance, constantly returns.

A swimming match for the championship of the Thames has just been won. The course was from Hammersmith bridge to Putney bridge, for a stake of £60 and the championship. The distance, about 1 1/2 miles, was done by the winner in 29 m 6s., with a moderate tide.

The Paris correspondents of the English journals generally indulge in gloomy forebodings.

The writer for the Herald states plainly that the impression gained ground that a rupture between France and England was imminent. Several provincial journals published simultaneously violent articles against England, which are known to have been supplied by a government official. England is warned that the hour of trial approaches which may put an end to her greatness forever.

Captain McClintock has been notified by the Lords of the Admiralty that the Queen, in consideration of the brilliant success by which his late expedition to the Arctic regions was attended has been pleased to order that, from April, 1857 to September, 1859, during which time he was in command of the yacht Fox, shall count to him as sea time. This favor can only be granted by the Sovereign, and is rarely exercised.

A woman recently stole a horse and wagon in Rochester, and made good her escape to a neighboring town. An officer was sent in pursuit who succeeded in arresting the culprit before she had disposed of her booty. She was locked up in a room in the third story of a hotel for safe-keeping, but made her escape during the night by means of a cord, and went off with the officer's horse.

The government of Peru has entered into contract with Dr. Edward Cullen for the introduction of twenty-five thousand Irish emigrants. The principal stipulations are that the emigrants shall renounce allegiance to their government, and must become Peruvian citizens. The government of Peru has to pay their sea passage, and every colonist is to have about nine English acres of land.

The Newport (R. I.) News publishes a statement that a young girl who was educated in the schools of that city, is now offered for sale by a slave trader in New Orleans. She was brought to Newport about ten years ago, and was admitted to the schools as a white child. At the death of the lady who brought her there, she was put out to service in Providence, from whence she was taken to New Orleans by two persons who claimed to represent her mother, who is a slave.

Napoleon III is mindful of his uncle's former habitation on St. Helena, having recently ordered the appropriation of \$28,000 for the thorough repair of Longwood House and the emperor's tomb, as well as the domain called the Vale of Napoleon.

Lake Superior Iron Ore. The trade in iron ore from the Lake Superior region, at Erie, Pa., for the past year, has been of no inconsiderable importance, amounting thus far to about 30,000 tons.

GLASS COFFINS.—Mr. John R. Cannon, of New Albany, Ind., has just obtained a patent for glass coffins. Bodies placed in these coffins may be preserved in their natural state for all time to come, and when placed in vaults can always be accessible to the gaze of those who are left behind. The expense of these coffins will be no more than ordinary wooden coffins, and if the expectations of the inventor are realized so far as the preservation of bodies is concerned, they will immediately come into general use.

General Thomas Thumb, who, although barely knee-high to a grasshopper, made a large fortune for P. T. Barnum and a snug one for himself, is reported to be about to unite himself in wedlock with a lady of youth and beauty. The authorities differ about her height, and it is variously stated at three feet six, and six feet three.

The Brooklyn Park Commissioners have a scheme before them to lay out six parks at convenient points of access, with avenues leading from one to another. The expense will not be large, while the advantages will exceed those possessed by any city in the world.

Dr. Winship, the athlete, who is now delivering popular lectures in various places on " Physical Culture," has added 103 pounds to the amount which he is able to raise from the floor with his hands, making the total now 1032 pounds.

Oberlin College has 1,243 students—30 in the theological department, 181 in the collegiate, 570 in the preparatory, 190 in the ladies' course, 256 in the ladies' preparatory, and 6 ladies preparing for college. In all there are 755 gentlemen and 488 ladies.

IMPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON.—A dispatch to the St. Louis Republican, bearing date Washington, Nov. 19th, says :—The government this morning determined to seize the Northern States of Mexico, and that orders were issued for six companies of heavy artillery from fortress Monroe, and two of light artillery and three of infantry from Fort Leavenworth, to proceed immediately to Brownsville.

The duty to Vote.

Governor Corwin, of Ohio, put this obligation to vote in a strong light at a late meeting in New York. He said :

I have heard it said in my own country that a man who expected to preserve a reputation for decent piety should not be found at the polls on the day of election ; there was a society there it was not proper for him to meet ; he might contaminate and soil the fine garment of Christianity which he should keep always about him. My fellow-citizens, when you come to that, you had better surrender this right of suffrage. If there is a man here or anywhere who believes that it is not a duty of the Christian man to attend to these matters, first he should be turned out of the church, and secondly, he should be driven out of the nation. He has no business here. There is no function for such a man in the country. The man who stays away from the polls on the day of election dishonors the duty which, under God's providence, has been assigned him. And those gentlemen who cannot vote for fear of mingling in the depraving intercourse of the world, if they can't do that, they ought to carry their experiment a little further, and abandon their churches. Let this decent society abandon the polls, and they will find their places filled by the very men who never ought to be seen at the polls.

If the man of business can't devote one day in the year to saving the liberty secured to him by the institutions of the country to do business, that man—what shall I say to him ? He's past praying for ; we'll let him go. That man, and every man like him, if they do persist in keeping themselves away from all interferences with politics, and leave it to men whom they don't consider respectable because they are politicians—all that class of men will wake up one of these days in the midst of a conflagration, in which all their wealth will be swept away. I dare say I am addressing myself to some gentlemen here in a personal kind of a way. God help me, I must speak the truth !

A fixed Fact.

The less you leave your children in your will, the more they will have in twenty years afterwards. Wealth inherited should be an incentive to action : instead of that, it is an incentive to sloth. The only money that does a man good, is what he earns himself. A ready-made fortune, like ready-made breeches, seldom fits the man who comes in possession. A gentleman died in the city a month since, who left his son money, other personal property, and a collection of rare paintings. The week after he came in possession, the pictures were traded off at a fourth of their value to a gentleman who trades in claret and hock. The father was a connoisseur in fine arts, while his son was a connoisseur only in brandy and three minute horses. In all probability, a year hence will find the property of the latter personage reduced to two shirts and a neck-tie, with his soul lost in spending what his father lost in saving. As we said before, the only money that does us good is the money we earn.—Lynn Mercury.

RECIPES.

RANCID BUTTER.

To a pint of water add about thirty drops—that is, about half a tea-spoonful—of liquor of chloride of lime ; wash in this 2 1/2 pounds of insupportably rancid butter ; when every particle of butter has come in contact with the water, let it stand an hour or two, then wash the butter well again in pure water ; the butter is then left with the odor, taste and sweetness of fresh butter. If that is true it is an important discovery, the preparation of lime having nothing injurious in it.—Hall's Journal of Health.

COLD IN HORSES may be cured by drenching the animal with salt and water, made as strong as possible. It will also afford relief in cases of bots.

CERTAIN REMEDY FOR FOUNDER.—Clean out the frog of the foot, let it be well cleaned by scraping off all the dirt. Raise the foot so as to be level—pour spirits of turpentine, a sufficient quantity, so as not to run over the hoof ; then set the turpentine on fire, and let it be entirely consumed.

A drill supplied with emery, and water, is better than a diamond for boring small holes through glass. A diamond will cut out small circles, making large holes, but quite unsuited for boring small ones. Common glass may be bored with an ordinary hand-drill, by putting a drop or two of spirits of turpentine on the glass at the end of the drill.

Cream cannot rise through a great depth of milk. It should be stirred into a broad, flat dish not much exceeding one inch in depth.

Cases of severe GOUT are said to have been cured by a peculiar use of coffee.

Persons who have used Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup find it acts like a perfect charm.