

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

MARCH 13th, 1859.

Read—LUKE IV. 33-44: The possessed man healed. GENESIS XVIII. 1-8, 16-33: Abraham's hospitable entertainment of the angels.

Recite—LUKE IV. 16-19.

MARCH 20th, 1859.

Read—LUKE V. 1-17: The miraculous draught of fishes. GENESIS XIX. 1, 12-26: Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed.

Recite—LUKE IV. 42-44.

MESSENGER ALMANAC.

From March 6th to 19th, 1859.

Table with columns for Day, SUN, MOON, High Water at Halifax, Windsor. Rows for days of the week from 6th to 19th March.

* 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, Ac., and St. John, N. B., add 3 hours to the time at Halifax.

The sad Walk.

We were going homeward, the other day, and on State Street, a short distance south of the spot of the Busch homicide, we overtook two gentlemen.

The elder looked like a hearty liver of about forty-five. His frame was well-knit and symmetrical, and his face looked as if disease and he were strangers.

"Surely there was nothing sad in that," says the reader. No, not in the fact that the sire and son were homeward moving—that the arm of the younger was drawn through that of the elder, and that the son leaned upon the arm of the father.

No, not in that alone, but we saw that there was more. We saw that the young man walked unsteadily and thought he must be ill; but we looked again, and saw that his was the unsteady step of drunkenness.

"Guilt is the source of sorrow!" Who shall tell the emotions of his mother, as she looked from her window, and saw her boy reeling along the street? What strange influence came upon her, as in one moment she saw all—saw his boyhood, his childhood, saw all the sports of his boyhood, and so onward, until she came up to the sad present!

But why write or think so much of this young man? Why? There are hundreds of young men in this city, as good as he, who are going the same road.

And then, we have our hundreds of licensed dens, to send him and others on that way. We have them for that express purpose! O, we are fools, or worse, when we open those traps of damnation, and then shed crocodile tears over the wretches who fall into them!

to know that he has ever made an honest, manly effort to suppress those nests of murder? Is it not even an essential to success, that he shall "stand fair" with the saloon and coffee-house keepers?

But some other destroyer may have had a hand in the overthrow of the young man on State Street.

"Think't thou there are no serpents in the world, But those which glide along the grassy sod, And sting the luckless foot that presses them? There are, who, in the path of social life, Do bask their spotted skins in fortune's sun, And sting the soul. Aye, till its healthful frame Is changed to secret, festering, sore disease, So deadly is the wound."

Can any one tell where that young man made the call on New Year's day and had the wine-glass pressed to his lips by the jewelled fingers of wealth and fashion? Can any one tell? And can any one tell how many young men were started towards the drunkard's grave, and the drunkard's hell, by the leaders of the fashion, in this city during the late holidays?

M. Kossuth on National Character.

A lecture was lately delivered in London by M. L. Kossuth (late Governor of Hungary), on the Characteristic Differences of the European Nations. After a brief allusion to the social and political condition of China and India, M. Kossuth observed that the population of Europe presented a great diversity of organic elements and tendencies personified in distinct national characters.

The English were a matter-of-fact people; the German is a man of ideas. The German individualism caused the development of nationalities, abhorring centralization, preserved Europe from a revival of the Roman Empire in the shape of spiritual or of a secular universal monarchy, either of which would have made both political and religious freedom impossible.

"Strange Conduct in a Minister."—This is the heading which The Glasgow Bulletin gives the following announcement:—"On Sabbath, January 2, the Rev. J. B. Robertson, of Hamilton, supplied the pulpit of the Rev. F. Ferguson, Blackfriars-street (Morisonian) Church. At the conclusion of the afternoon diet, the ordinance of baptism fell to be dispensed. The pastor of the church (who had been sitting as a hearer) having gone up to the pulpit, stated to the congregation that he could not conscientiously discharge the ordinance as he had previously done, for that he now thought only believers ought to be baptized—in other words (though he did not so express himself,) he had become a Baptist.

Religious Intelligence.

Persecution and progress of Baptists in Sweden.

A letter from Rev. A. Wiberg at Stockholm to Dr. Steane of London, appears in the Freeman. From this we learn that the New Conventicle Law of that kingdom passed last year is even more oppressive than what they have had heretofore.

It seems strange to speak of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as interdicting all meetings where there are "religious discourses leading to separation from the Established Church order, or disregard for the public services of the Established Church." By this Act Lutheran Priests are to be the judges of whether the discourses are of the above description; and where any unlawfulness or disorder occurs they have the power of breaking up the meetings; and parties holding said meetings are liable to fines of from 50 to 300 rix-dollars.

He concludes his letter by saying:—"Before this, all trespasses committed under the old Conventicle Law must be referred to the Chancellor of Justice, who had the power to take up the matter or lay it over, at his pleasure. But now every offence committed under the new law is to be referred to the church council, which consists of the priest of the parish and a few men selected by himself, the priest being the chairman of the committee. Thus we are very much left to the mercy of the priest, and we have not much to hope for from them."

With regard to the cause of Christ among us, I am encouraged by accounts constantly received of the steady progress of the work, notwithstanding the difficulties which are thrown in the way. In a letter which I send with this to Brother Hinton, I have given some particulars of the increase on Gotland and Dalarna. Our hope and trust are in the Lord Jehovah, whose promises are yea and amen in Christ Jesus.

REV. A. WIBERG'S LETTER TO THE REV. J. H. HINTON.

"Brother Mollersward is not at home, and I do not know when he will return. He has been absent since the month of July, in Skane. In letters received from him he speaks of the Lord's blessings upon his labours. I have no doubt but that your present of books to him will be very thankfully received when he returns."

Brother G. Palmquist, who has been on a missionary tour to Norway, since October, has just returned. He speaks of an encouraging prospect for the spread of the Gospel in that country.

It is encouraging to us that we have manifest tokens of the Lord's blessing on our labours in this country. In Gotland since the month of June there have been baptized 321, and three churches organized. Brother Rechnitzer, the converted Jew, whom you met with in Stockholm, and who has been the principal instrument in propagating Baptist sentiments in Gotland, is now arraigned to appear before the Svea High Court on the 7th of February. Also in Dalarna the number of baptized believers has greatly increased recently. We have there one church (that of Orsa) numbering 300, and another 200 to 300. In Stockholm we continue to be harmoniously united. Our meetings are well attended, and fourteen have been baptized since September."

The Rev. J. A. Spurgeon, of Regent's-park College, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate from the church and congregation assembling in Portland Chapel, Southampton, and formerly presided over by the Rev. A. M'Laren, now of Manchester.

New York Daily Prayer-Meetings.

The Five Points.—The state of religious feeling among both pupils and teachers, at the House of Industry, continues deep and tender. The boys cannot be prevented from gathering daily by themselves for prayer. No visible hand has been concerned in this movement. The prayers of the children are simple, artless, unaffected petitions for salvation, and for strength to do right.

One little boy, bred a Romanist, says to his teacher, "I've been praying for some time to God, to reveal to me the true religion"—his very words. "What will your Roman Catholic friends do to you, if God shows you that the true religion is only to be found in his Word, and you become one of these Bible Christians—won't they persecute you?" "Yes," he replied, "I know they will. But I've thought of all that, and I've made up my mind, if God will reveal the true religion to me not to mind what anybody can say or do to me."

The Navy.—The work of grace abates not in the ship North Carolina. Sailors, from two to five in a day, says the Rev. Mr. Stuart, are still coming out the conquered subjects of the Saviour. Another U. S. ship has drafted a detachment of these praying men, in number six, and with them goes out upon the ocean the daily prayer-meeting, which they, with the wholeheartedness of sailors, are pledged to sustain. This is the storeship Relief, just ordered to the Gulf of Mexico. There are certainly seven or eight of our national vessels on which the daily prayer-meeting is now sustained.—N. Y. Examiner.

For the Christian Messenger.

Progress of the Gospel. Yarmouth County.

MR. EDITOR,

I am glad to inform you that the Lord is refreshing his cause in this place. The Church is being much revived, and those who have been entertaining hopes are deciding and putting on Christ in his appointed way, by being baptized; and sinners are giving their hearts to God. I have enjoyed the exalted privilege of baptizing (on a profession of their faith in the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ) fifteen, all young persons, between ten and twenty-five years of age. Nothing can so cheer the heart of a minister of the Gospel as to see the work of God among the people, proving that the Gospel which he preaches is owned of God in the comfort of his people and the salvation of precious souls. Two of the number baptized are my own children. I desire to be thankful and take courage, when I remember what great things the Lord has done for me, my family, and the people of my charge.

happy in hearing of Divine favour being manifested elsewhere."

The above was marked for insertion in our last week's issue, but with some other articles was crowded out. Since then we have received another letter from our venerable brother, who gives us a very gentle reproof for making public the good news in a former letter, which was written for our private perusal. In the following one, however, our friend almost gives us liberty to publish a portion, and we shall therefore venture on doing so. Our readers, we believe, will have but one opinion on the subject, and that is, that such intelligence is the most welcome we can give them; and that some one ought to make it known. "The Lord reigneth: let the earth rejoice." Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name."

February 25, '59.—Since I last wrote to you the Lord's work has been steadily and gradually progressing; every day we could perceive new cases of returning, and more and more of, as we trust, the saving power of Divine grace operating upon those without the church. On Friday the 18th and Saturday the 19th Feb. there were twenty-one candidates received into the church, and on Sabbath the 20th there were 20 baptized—making 40 on three succeeding Sabbaths, and there remains now 4 more received, and upwards of 10 received by letter and restoration, and probably a considerable number more will be received to-morrow and baptized on the following Sabbath. The attendance on the church also has been marvelous.—Many backsliders have returned, and much union is enjoyed. Many of the church members are active labourers in the glorious work, and the prospects are favourable for a still greater ingathering into the fold of Christ.

"How much such a manifestation of God's infinite, unbounded, and undeserved goodness should humble us all, and lay us under still greater obligations to love and glorify his blessed name."

In much haste, my dear brother, as ever yours, W. CHIPMAN."