# THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

### 92

# Jeachers' Department.

### Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

#### MARCH 27th, 1859.

Read-LUKE v. 18-39: The paralytic healed. GENESIS xxii. 1-19: Abraham's faith and obedience.

Recite-LUKE V. 12-15.

APRIL 3rd, 1859.

Read-LUKE vi. 1-19: The Sabbath and its claims. GENESIS XXIII. 1-20 : Sarah's death and burial.

Recite-LUKE V. 27-32.

### MESSENGER ALMANAC.

From March 20th to April 2nd, 1859.

Full Moon, March Last Quarter, " New Moon, April First Quarter, "								26,		5. 31 Afternoon. 5. 13 Morning. 6. 3 " 7. 6 "			•9
D.M.	Day Wk.	SUN.				MOON.				High Water at			
		Ri	ses.	Se	ts.	Ris	ses.	Se	ts.	Hali	fax.	Win	isor.
20	And in case of the local division of the loc	6	0	6	0		52		29	9	2	1	4
21	M.	5	59	6	1	10	14	6	54		40		53
22		5	57	6	3	11	15	-	20		16		42
23	W.	5	56	6	4	mo	rn.	7	51	and the second second	51		34
24	Th.	5	54	6	6	0	25		27		26	-	27
25		5	52	6	8	1		9	14				19
26		5	51	6	9	2	12	10	10	0	24	6	11
-	SU.	15	49	16	11	2	53	11	9	1	9	1 7	1
28	1 1 1	5	48		12	3	27		13	2	17	7	
29	Tu.	5	46	6	14		54	1	16	. 3	50	8	34
30	W.	5	45	6	15	4	17	2	21	5	18	9	
31	AP	5	43	6	17	Section of the sectio	36	3	-26	6		10	-
ĩ		5	42	6	18	4	56	4	30	A			42
2		5		6	20	5	15	5	35	7	43	11	21

\*\*\* 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 at Parrsboro'. Horton, Cornwallis, Truro, &c.

madman commenced to climb among the ropes with the agility of a squirrel. He reached the balloon, and placed himself astride the semicircle Once there, he rent the air, with a shout of triumph, and drew his knife from his pocket. "What are you going to do ?" asked M. Godard, who feared that he might have the idea of rip-

ping open the balloon. "To make myself com- day." fortable forthwith." Uttering these words, the madman cut slowly the cord of safety which M. Godard had attached to his body. With a single puff of wind to shake the balloon, the miserable creature must roll over into the abyss! M. Godard shut his eyes, in order not to see. The madman claps his hands; he cannot contain himself with delight. He spurs the baloon with his heel, as if on horseback, to guide its flight. M. Godard had not time to make a movement or put in a single word. Before he was able to divine the infernal intention of the madman, the latter, still astride of the semicircle, had cut four of the cordages which suspended the car to the balloon! The car inclines horribly-it only holds by two, I was going to say one cord, so so slight do they appear ! It would have been all over with M. Godard if he had not grasped desperately at the two remaining. The knife of the madman approaches the last cords-yet a moment and all will be over. "A word, a single word," cried M. Godard. "What is it you wish," said the madman, astonished. "At this moment, now." continued the aeronaut, hurriedly, "we are at a height of 5,000 feet; death is not certain to ensue from a fall from this elevation. Tumble for tumble, I much prefer to fall from such a height and to be killed outright, rather than to risk being only lamed-have the charity to precipitate me from a height of 9,000 feet only." "Ah ! that'll do !" said the madman, whom the mention of a more horrible fall charmed amazingly. Mons. Godard follows heroically his purpose, and throws over an enormous quantity of ballast. The balloon makes a powerful bound, and mounts 500 feet in a few seconds. Only-and whilst the madman surveys this operation with a menacing air-the aeronaut thinks to accomplish another, in a sense quite contrary. The quick eye of M. Godard had remarked that amongst the cords spared by the madman figures the one leading to the valve. His plan is taken : he draws the cord, it opens the valve fixed in the upper part of the balloon for the purpose of allowing any excess of the hydrogen gas to escape, and the result which he hoped for was not long in making itself apparent. Little by little the madman becomes drowsy, asphyxiated, and M. Godard allows the balloon to descend slowly to the earth. The drama is finished. Arrived on terra firma, M. Godard, not bearing any hatred to the author of his perilous voyage, hastened to restore him to animation, and had him conveyed, hand and feet bound, to the neighbouring station .- Courier de

This done, furnished with his cord of safety, the secret devotions; and should sleep surprise the weary worker in mumbling his task-pravers, there is a self-inflicted penance for this ; the task in doubled next day, and all done by working and praying at the same time. A poor maid said the other day :

"I have so many prayers to say, that I can't put them all off for night, lest then I fall asleep before they are half through; so I repeat as many of them as I can at my work through the

Who shall deny that this is being "diligent in business, fervent in spirit." This same housemaid took (a holy theft,) from the boudoir of her mistress a rare statuette of Christ; hung it round with tattered drapery-the best she hadand put it in a niche of her chamber, beside a little painted Madonna, to assist her devotions ! When detected, in a bunt for the missing image, she was found kneeling before it so devoutly, that her mistress shut the door without accusation, or reclaiming her lost treasure. A lamp was found, too, burning defore it, which, on examination of the family oil-flask, was discovered to have been supplied therefrom.

And what will not an Italian do to conciliate the Madonna of his worship? Verily, the gods of Hindostan are not more rapacious than this ideal Virgin! It is only for her favorites that she is the compassionate Mother, though each of the faithful thinks himself her favored child, and never tires of worshiping her-certainly not of teasing her.

On Sundays and fete-days one sees these ruling passions, religion and pleasure, equally illustrated. Watch that church yonder! From daylight till noon, two opposite currents of worshippers move perpetually to and from the steps -some half-dozen masses being said at different hours during the time. No matter how inclement the weather ; cold, tempest, rain, never diminish the numbers. Marvellous, of a wet morning, is the show of umbrellas, dragged petticoats and robust ankles! "Not less diverting the display of Sunday clothes on a fine day. At any crowding to the house of prayer.

A still more imposing scene is often witnessed here at night, when the sacramental bell, preceding the boly eucharist to some death bed, summons to prayer a whole neighborhood. From greater measure than by the use of any other dethe windows round about-curtained by night a scription of grazing stock. Mr. Fay said he posa moment since-see light after light peering through the darkness, even as the stars one starved ten cows to death. It was a matter of after another light up the windows of heaven. Now the solemn procession approaches; wax too much expense to cultivate it-in fact, it lights, like planets, revolve round the centre, was no more in his estimation than a piece of where the priest in his sacred robes bears the holy wafer under a glittering canopy; while the ble to call for a tax. On 100 acres he put 150 sepulchral chant of priestly satellites awes the retiring darkness, and leads the circumambient sheep, four years ago, and now, on the some pasprayer for the dying. Now the measured tread ture, there are fifteen to twenty cattle grazed six halts at a certain door where Death waits to en- months in every year. This was through paster, but steps back apace to let the priest go in before him. Suddenly the surrounding lights disappear; darkness again advances, and silence could not be brought into cultivation through reigns for a little space; when the warning-bell any other means. once more calls out the stars. The dying is shriven; the wafer frozen on the stiffening tage to the farmer, although it was thought to tongue! the parting soul ready for its final pas- be different. They required less care, did not sage. The whole scene has been daguerreotyped demand housing so much as other stock-they on the beholders' memory ! It may be the following night that another pro- ing storms; they were less liable to disease than cession is seen going, not to, but from, that same any other stock ; in fact, all they demanded was dwelling. A funeral chant now intones the air, the simple attention of feeding, and they imand torch-lights glare luridly through the dark- prove in condition in the same ratio as cattle ness. The dead is borne to his long home ! If feeding for the shambles. Sheep consume two riches outlive him, his bier is covered with velvet pounds of hay, per day, or its equivalent. Eight and gold; a cushion, richly embroidered, glitters pounds of roots would be an equivalent. As on the pall; the chant flows willingly from many compared with cattle, sheep produce much more voices, and the dead-march keeps decorous time. fertilizing manure than any other kind of stock. If, on the contrary, only the poor man hath Spengel, a German chemist, said that 1000 sheep ceased to want, Poverty is his sole mourner; the would produce as much manure in twenty-four coarse, undecorated pall hangs irreverently, and hours as would put an acre of land in the best the hurried step of the bearers is unmeasured by condition. This looked rather strange to Mr. the mocking tones of the meagre requiem. In Fay when he first saw it, and he determined to The writer dates from Florence, Dec. this country only paid mourners follow the dead. look into it. This would give fifteen well-ma-Let us change the scene. It is a Sunday or a nured acres out of as many tons of hay-a rather festa : Church-going over-the hours of pro- startling statement. Professor Johnston, in an menading come. See, in the multitudes throng- article on the comparative value of manures, though Religion, being the humblest, sometimes ing the walks, the same faces that flocked church- ratified it by stating that sheep droppings were ward in the morning. Religion's hour now as 12 to 7 in fertilizing qualities, compared with yields to Pleasure's. The organ is exchanged the excrements of cows-nearly one-half more. for the royal band, the miserere for the polka. In conjunction with other stocks, and not at all after all have been incapable of defending him- a general thing, however, it is amicably agreed What a gay scene! Hundreds of liveried car- to displace them, all farmers ought to keep sheep. that Devotion shall have her hours and Pleasure riages-open to display the beauty and fashion Their droppings are as good as guano, and few hers. Whatever be the secret arrangement be- within-bring up on the piazza of the Cascine; tween conscience and the world, it is none the while thousands of the contented, well-dressed bourgeoisie on foot, surround the musicians, or be top-dressed by the use of sheep, when any eagerness with which all religions are observed. saunter along the walks, shatting, smiling, drink- other means would not prove half so effectual.

## Agriculture.

### Sheep Husbandry.

At a recent Massachusetts Legislative Agricultural meeting, the subject for discussion was Sheep and Sheep Husbandry."

Hon. RICHARD S. FAY, of Boston, occupied the Chair. He apologized, because of ill health and engrossing avocations, for want of preparation in introducing the subject. Sheep husbandry was a most important item in the husbandry of the State. Referring to the system of stock keeping, and the proposition laid down at a former meeting-that no farm could be properly managed unless it kept a stock capable of consuming its produce-he took up the question of what was the best kind of stock to keep, especially with reference to the progressive improvement of the farm. The prominent question is-What shall we do to renovate our worn-out pastures? Cattle had been tried, and the consequence had been failure for in connection with cattle culture, the true American system was to take all out of the farm and return nothing to it. In the mind of the speaker, sheep husbandry was the best means of renovating the soil. Top dressing was out of the question; for the pastures would have to be brought to a reasonable state of fertility before this could be done with effect. The proneness of cultivated grass lands to go back to a natural state was also a consideration to be thought of, and the means of keeping them in good condition another. Sheep grazing would do this more effectually than any other, as the excrement of sheep, in its nature, time it is an impressive sight to see such numbers and in the manner it was distributed over the soil, restored to pastures what they had lost from feeding, kept down the natural and coarser grasses, and retained the fertility of the lands in a

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

#### A Madman in a Balloon.

AN EXCITING INCIDENT .- An affair of this nature took place some fifteen days or three weeks ago at the most, on the occasion of the last ascent but one of the celebrated and lucky aeronaut Mons. Godard. M. Godard took with him on that day, as his compagnon de voyage, a wealthy private gentleman, who paid 1,000 francs for the privilege of sharing in the perils of the expedition. The weather could not have been more propitious, and the balloon shot up rapidly l'Europe. to a considerable altitude. "What effect does that produce upon you?" asked M. Godard of of his companion. "Nothing," said the latter laconically. The balloon still ascended : when 1,000 feet higher M. Godard interrogated a third time his companion-" And now ?" " Nothing, nothing; not the shadow of a fear whatever. Keep on mounting. I have given 1,000 francs in order to experience some emotion . I must do so, and I will not descend before I have felt some emotion." M. Godard commenced to laugh ; be believed at once that it was all a joke. "Will you ascend, once more ?" demanded the traveller poetseizing him by the throat and shaking him with violence; "when shall I feel some emotion?" M. Godard relates that at this moment he felt 18th : himself lost. A sudden and dreadful revelation broke upon him in regarding the strangely dilated eyes of his compagnon de voyage : he had to do with a madman. If even the unfortunate self; but it is not usual for people to furnish themselves with pistols for a voyage in a balloon, and certainly one would not dream of meeting with a warlike encounter in the stars. The earth was 5,000 feet beneath-most borrible depth; and the least movement of the now furious madman

#### A Peep at Italy.

RELIGION AND PLEASURE HAND IN HAND. The following from the Newark Sentinel, affords a pretty correct idea of the happy terms on which carnality and religion contrive to room together in sunny Italy. Through the magical operation of a church whose discipline is its chief boast, the moral fountain is made to send forth sweet water and bitter; and if there is one spot on earth where the well-known lines of the

"And e'en in penance planning sins anew," is more applicable than another, assuredly it is there.

Religion and pleasure are the best of friends in Italy; one never interferes with the other; serves as Pleasure's handmaid. If for instance, early mass or sentimental vespers be made Love's less interesting to the looker-on to see the To outward appearance certainly the enthusiasm ing in the sweets of leisure and pleasure. of church-going is not exceeded by that of thea-

sures, and has with the lower classes at least, no queen -the Queen of Tragedy ! Look ! there sheep, only produced the paltry quantity of of his daring zerial expeditions, made all these hours for its own. This may be owing to ignor- she comes-the spirit of classic drama, the elo- 400,000 pounds. In England there were about reflections in the space of a second. The madance of what good eating is; a bite of coarse quent interpretess of the poets, greatest of living 44,000,000 sheep; while in the United States, man was possessed of prodigious muscular force. bread, washed down with sour wine, answers as tragediennes, consumate artiste-whose every where cheap land and other facilities were su-M. Godard did not even attempt to defend himnourishment; and this is what they eat for. Fast- pose is a tableau, whose every movement a poe- perior, we had only 15,000,000. The fact aping, for them, after all, is not a severe penance. tic passage ! But, her history is a chapter by it- pealed to our patriotism. Gentlemen here wore self. "What do you wish from me?" asked he, Gormandizing is rare here, even among those self. Tragedy is not for the people; they cannot broad-cloth coats and pants, and not a thread of with a calm tone and submissive air. " Simply to amuse myself in seeing you turn a summer- who might fare sumptuously every day. No; give ten, fourteen, fifteen dollars for a box; nor them were grown within three thousand miles of sault," answered the madman, with a ferocious Italians are not gormands, far less epicures. Nor even pay the three paul entrance-fee to the pit where they were. Mr. Fay concluded by ap-smile. "But first, I have my idea. I wish to are comforts reconed among their pleasures, or and thence look up to the star. No, only pealing to the gentlemen of the Legislature to see if I can't find some emotion up there. I as promoting them. Love, with them, is never heaven's stars shine for them; but they have furnish farmers such protection as would protect less ardent for lack of external fire; nor frolic their compensations. A half-paul's (four cents) their interests, and, as he had endeavoured to less enjoyed for which a last bed is sold. Nor entertainment gives them no mean return for show, those of the common country. must put myself astride on the semicircle." The madman indicated with his finger the upper part does religion cool in the unheated church. What their money. They, too, have their theatrical After addresses from several practical farmers of the balloon. Just in speaking, he commenced devout Romanist feels the chill of the marble Sunday-amusement; it may be an opera and on the subject, floor on which he kneels, or finds his prayers ballet, both well given, for that little price. The PRESIDENT spoke of the fertilizing properties of sheep manure in the matter of grasses, to climb along the cords which held the car atgrow long as the season grows colder? Neither Where is amusement so cheap as in Florence? cold, nor heat ; fatigue, nor hunger ; aching limbs, So all classes turn from religion to pleasurewhich showed a large per centage over other tached to the balloon. M. Godard, who had not manures. He also said that the profit of sheep nor a rickety back, shorten or hurry his devo- from the church to the theatre. Is it the before trembled for himself, was forced to do so ons. Nor will want of time do it; if the servant, or both alike furnish aliment for emotional nature? per annum, as represented to him by a compenow for the madman. "At least," observed M. tions. tent authority, was equivalent to the annual value of the flock, independently of the other Godard, "allow me to put this cord round your house-maid may not be allowed the hour of Is it that lovers of God and lovers of pleasure are advantages which had been specified. prayer-all hours of the day being working- one? Or, is it that religion is a principle, not body, so that you may be attached to the balloon." The subject for next discussion is, "Fruit, and "Be it so," said the madman, who appeared hours-sleep is cut short for the daybreak- necessarily implied by fervor in religious wor-How to Raise it." to comprehend the 'utility of the precaution. | mass, or put off at midnight for the allotted | ship ?

sessed 200 acres which, ten years ago, would have waste land. It was of no use, only as it was liaturing with sheep. The land was rocky, and

As to winter-keep of sheep, it was an advanrequiring only a yard, hay-rack, and a shed durfarms were independent of the use of such manures-for few were without spots where it could Sheep, also, had always a ready market, which Then comes the evening's amusements. The was another advantage they had over hay, grain

tre-going; and this is saying much of the people theatre a la mode and the people's theatres are or other produce. who love the play and the dance more than they all ablaze with lights, and astir with pleasurable As to wool, New England manufactured 40,might cause the car to capsize. M. Godard, with expectation. Fashion is on the qui vive for the 000,000 of pounds, when Massachusetts; with the presence of mind acquired by him in so many love to eat. Eating, by-the-by, is not among Italian plea- rustle of the Great Ristori's robes-the tragedy lands adapted to the support of half a million of