

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

JULY 17th, 1859.

Read—LUKE xi. 29-54: Christ rebukes the wickedness of the Scribes and Pharisees. GENESIS xlvii. 1-12, 27-31: Jacob's interview with Pharaoh.

Recite—LUKE x. 1-4.

JULY 24th, 1859.

Read—LUKE xii. 1-21: Jesus warns his disciples against hypocrisy. GENESIS xlviii. 1-14: Jacob blesses Joseph and his sons.

Recite—LUKE xi. 33-36.

MESSENGER ALMANAC.

From the 10th to the 23rd July, 1859.

First Quarter, July 7, 1.39 Morning.  
Full Moon, " 14, 8.39 Afternoon.  
Last Quarter, " 22, 11.11 "  
New Moon, " 29, 5.29 "

Day	SUN.		MOON.		High Water at	
	Rises.	Sets.	Rises.	Sets.	Halifax.	Windsor.
10 SU.	4 24	7 36	4 39	0 20	3 30	8 47
11 M.	4 25	7 35	5 39	0 55	4 37	9 39
12 T.	4 26	7 34	6 45	1 39	5 50	10 32
13 W.	4 27	7 33	7 22	2 29	6 53	11 24
14 Th.	4 27	7 33	7 57	3 26	7 42	morn.
15 F.	4 25	7 32	8 28	4 29	8 25	0 12
16 Sa.	4 29	7 31	8 53	5 32	9 4	0 59
17 SU.	4 30	7 30	9 12	6 35	9 40	1 43
18 M.	4 31	7 29	9 30	7 40	10 12	2 24
19 Tu.	4 32	7 28	9 46	8 42	10 48	3 4
20 W.	4 33	7 27	10 6	9 46	11 15	3 44
21 Th.	4 34	7 26	10 24	10 48	11 49	4 26
22 F.	4 35	7 25	10 45	11 54	0 6	5 8
23 Sa.	4 36	7 24	11 14	1 1	0 43	5 54

\* 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.

A List of Wonders.

Among the thousands of marvelous inventions which American genius has produced, within the last few years, are the following, compiled in an abstract from the Patent Office Report. Read them over, and then say, if you can, that there is nothing new under the sun:

Doors and shutters have been patented that can not be broken through with either pick or sledge hammer. The burglar's "occupation's gone."

A harpoon is described which makes the whale kill himself. The more he pulls the line the deeper goes the harpoon.

An ice-making machine has been patented which is worked by a steam-engine. In an experimental trial, it froze several bottles of sherry, and produced blocks of ice the size of a cubic foot when the thermometer was up to eighty degrees. It is calculated that for every ton of coal put into the furnace, it will make a ton of ice.

Examiner Lane's report describes new electrical inventions. Among these is an electrical whaling apparatus by which the whale is literally "shocked to death." Another is an electro magnetic alarm, which rings bells and displays signals in case of fire and burglars. Another is an electric clock, which wakes you up, tells you what time it is and lights a lamp for you at any hour you please.

There is a "sound gatherer" a sort of huge ear trumpet, to be placed in front of a locomotive, bringing to the engineer's ears all the noise ahead; perfectly distinct, notwithstanding the rattle of the train.

There is an invention that picks up pins from a confused heap, turns them around with their heads up, and sticks them in papers in regular rows.

Another goes through the whole process of cigar making, taking in leaves and turning out finished cigars.

One machine cuts cheese; another scours knives and forks; and another rocks the cradle; and seven or eight take in washing and ironing.

There is a parlor chair patented that can not be tipped back on two legs, and a railway chair that can be tipped back in any position without any legs at all.

Another patent is for a machine that counts passengers in an omnibus and takes their fares. When a fat gentleman gets in, it counts two and charges double.

There are a variety of guns patented that load themselves; a fishing line that adjusts its own bait; and a rat trap that throws away the rat, and then baits itself and stands in the corner for another.

There is a machine, also, by which a man prints instead of writes his thoughts. It is played like a pianoforte. And, speaking of pianos, it is estimated that nine thousand are made every year in the United States, giving constant employment to one thousand nine hundred persons, and costing over two millions of dollars.

Value of Birds.

Aside from the pleasant songs and society of birds, and the humanizing influence they exert upon children, we consider them far the most profitable stock we keep upon our premises. A brood of robins, heard in an apple tree, means

the death of ten thousand grubs and worms, and many bushels of good sound apples saved from destruction by their useful ministration. They eat strawberries, cherries, and currants, but if we cannot raise enough of fruit for ourselves and the birds, it is an impeachment of our skill and industry.—They are welcome to all they can eat, and we have plenty left. We should as soon think of cutting the throat of the bob-tail nag in the stable, because he eats oats, or of our Newfoundland dog, because he picks the bones left from dinner, as of killing these feathered friends because they take a few of our fruits. It is unwise and dishonorable to shoot them. If anything upon the farm pays its way, it is cock robin and his brood. We love to hear him sing, we love to see him busy with his paternal cares, slaying worms and slugs by the thousand, and when he asks us to foot the bills for the happiness he has given us the livelong Summer, we are not disposed to give him cold lead, and slander him by way of justification. We think the birds are fairly entitled to respond to the indictment against them—not guilty.

They should be encouraged to build their nests in the orchards and gardens, and should have the fullest protection from vagrant boys, and grown up vagabonds, and loafers. It is in the power of every farmer and fruit grower to keep his own premises clear of bird killers.—*Homestead.*

A long Voyage through the Air.

Prof. John Wise the aeronaut, aided by two other gentlemen, one the inventor of a balloon boat, and the other a balloon builder, is making preparations for a voyage through the air from St. Louis to the Atlantic seaboard. The St. Louis Republican says that Professor Wise has discovered by years of observation that at a distance of from three to four miles from the earth there is a current of wind blowing from West to East which is constantly the same, never varying in its direction, and rarely in the rate of velocity. For this reason he believes in the possibility of a balloon voyage across the Atlantic. This he has for some time projected, but has thus far been unable to procure the requisite outfit, his friends hooting at his project, and a petition to Congress for assistance having met with no attention. The balloon in which it is designed to journey from St. Louis to the East, after inflation, will be sixty feet in diameter, and, with the car, one hundred and twenty feet high. Twenty-two hundred and fifty yards of the best oiled Chinese silk, of ordinary width, have been used in this enormous vessel, which will hold about 120,000 cubic feet of gas. The cost of the whole apparatus is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$3,000. At leaving the earth, the balloon will contain not more than sixty thousand cubic feet of hydrogen, having a buoyant power of twenty-five hundred pounds. Being thus half filled at starting, the balloon will expand to its full capacity as it ascends.

Besides a good supply of provisions, including everything which will conduce to make the voyage comfortable, the aeronauts will take up with them the usual mathematical and meteorological instruments, and at least one thousand pounds of ballast. They will choose a mild day, and start late in the afternoon, travelling all night, and expecting to descend somewhere on the ocean shore between Boston and New York early next day. If this voyage proves successful, another will be made from California to the Eastward, and then from New York across the Atlantic ocean.—*N. Y. Chronicle.*

God above all.

An astronomer, who had long idolized his favorite science, became a zealous convert to spiritual Christianity. His intimate friend, knowing his extreme devotion to astronomical study, asked him: "What will you do with your astronomy?" His answer was worthy of a Christian philosopher: "I am bound for heaven," said he, "and I take the stars in my way!" By these words the astronomer taught his friends that he had transferred his affections from the created to the Creator; that instead of finding his highest pleasure out of God, he found it in God; and that the true use of the visible was to assist him in his aspiration after the invisible and eternal.

THE FATHER OF MERCIES.—O the unspeakable privilege to have him for a Father who is the Father of all mercies, and God of all comfort! Do not think he can shut out a bleeding soul that comes to him, and refuse to take and to bind up and heal a broken heart that offers itself to him, puts itself into his hand, and entreats his help. Doth he require pity of us, and doth he give it to us, and is there not infinitely more in himself? All that is in angels and men is but an insensible drop to that ocean.—*Leighton.*

Bible Revision.

From The Bible Union Quarterly.

CONDITION OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE UNION.

"The friends of the Bible Union are always desirous of knowing its condition, and it is a pleasure to the Officers and the Board to gratify a curiosity founded upon affection for the pure word of God. A long time has elapsed since we made any appeal for funds. This has not arisen from an abundance, nor from any fear that such an appeal would not call forth a suitable response. It is a pleasing peculiarity of the Bible Union, that the utmost confidence always exists between the Board and the numerous members and directors and subscribers for membership, however distant many of them may be from the principal seat of operations. Our appeals have always appeared to be received with pleasure and responded to with alacrity. And therefore we avoid making them, unless there occur a special necessity. Such does not exist at the present time, and has not existed for many months. Our receipts are better than they were last year: our friends are increasing, and our influence extending. The Lord is manifestly prospering the Bible Union. We feel no disposition to boast, but rather to call upon the friends of the cause to be humble and prayerful. We are out of debt, but, have no surplus. The Lord teaches us by His providence the principle of daily dependence inculcated in His word. The experience of past years, and especially that of the last two years, affords strong encouragement to expect that we shall be sustained by the voluntary contributions of those who love the truth. There is also much satisfaction in looking at the receipts of the last eight months, to note the apparent regularity with which funds come in, so that one month does not largely differ from another. We hope that all who feel interested in our objects, will continue thus to aid and encourage us, and remit their contributions without waiting to be visited by an agent, or urged by a written appeal.

Another circumstance is equally gratifying, the profound harmony that reigns throughout the Bible Union. Peace founded on principle, union cemented by singleness of object and oneness of plan, shield us, under the benignant smiles of Providence, from all that could annoy or distress us. No changes are proposed, and none desired.

The work of revision is prosecuted with unabated zeal and energy. We have every reason to expect results by the next anniversary, which will delight all who are interested in the enterprise.

Important additions have been made, of late, to our means for the final revision of the English Scriptures, by the purchase of rare and valuable words in Biblical criticism and philology.

DR. HACKETT.

A modern Greek newspaper, the Star of the East, dated at Athens, Feb. 28, 1859, says:

"Dr. Hackett came here for the sole purpose of studying our language, and thus qualifying himself more fully for the great and noble work of translating the New Testament into the English tongue. And we doubt not that the continuous and unremitting study of it, to which he has devoted himself with youthful ardor from the time of his arrival here, has placed him in a more favourable situation than that of many others for judging of the worth and utility of our language."

VALUABLE FRAGMENTS.

"There exists in certain Museums of Europe, a few precious fragments of a Greek MS., the text of which is of such high value, that Tischendorf has published the whole of it in his well known *Monumenta Sacra*. Both our principal collators of ancient MSS., Drs. Tischendorf and Tregelles, think that this codex may be assigned to the sixth century. It is called the *Codex Purpureus*,—having been originally written on purple vellum, in silver letter." "Four leaves of this fragment are deposited in the British Museum, six are in the Vatican library, and two are in the Imperial Library at Vienna"—*Electic Review.*

ITALY.

The Country which at the present time attracts more interest than any other, is Italy, the original seat of power both temporal and spiritual, which for the longest periods controlled the civilized world. Two or three years ago the attention of men was fixed upon a remote and barren spot upon the Euxine sea. The armies of Europe were gathered there for mortal combat, and the arts of war and the resources of nations were exhausted upon a spot a few miles in circumference. But now larger armies are gathered in the very heart of civilized humanity, in fertile and populous lands, celebrated in history and song long before the Christian era. Italy is the scene of strife, and Rome itself, seated upon her seven hills, is involved in the results of the contest.

For a Roman Catholic country, Sardinia has the most free and liberal government on the continent of Europe. From her liberal ideas have been diffused throughout Italy; and through her, many copies of the sacred scriptures have been distributed in the Papal States, and not a few in the very home of Antichrist. The following extracts of letters received by Dr. Achilli, relate to the circulation of the Italian Testament prepared by him for the Bible Union. At this period they possess a more than ordinary interest in consequence of the war for independence now waging

in Italy. But, aside from this incidental interest, they will abundantly repay perusal to all who love to learn of the progress of divine truth.

Extracts from recent letters translated for the "Bible Union Quarterly."

NAPLES.—"There has never been so much religious excitement as now, at any previous time. The best educated classes feel the necessity of examining, not only themselves, but also their creeds, and the doctrines which they have hitherto believed. It would seem that an invisible hand is opening the eyes of many, to see what it is that they have been told to believe. Do you not know that the Providence of God has made the people in this part of the country very intelligent? The kingdom of Naples has in fact been, at all times, the land of science and letters; and of this our great writers bear witness. Heretofore, true religion—the clear understanding of the word of God—has been neglected, in consequence of the Church, which, from malice and selfishness, made herself mistress and exclusive depository of the truth of God. This science, which became the theology of the Church, was converted into a monopoly of the clergy, and was imposed upon the people. But now, the rights of men of various classes, are being vindicated. This imposition of the priests upon the laity is found out. The latter have resolved to throw off the yoke, and recover their property, in the right belonging to every person, to examine for himself what he believes in matters of religion, and the reason why he believes. Hence, the necessity is felt of studying the Bible, in which everybody is convinced, the word of God is found. This desire of the best educated classes, has naturally been communicated to the classes who wish for instruction, and to all who feel the need of being taught in things so important as religion. The Bible has now become the book most desired, I mean the Bible in our language; for the Latin, among those who understand it, is generally suspected, as the translation of the Church, to be accommodated by the priests to their own interests. A translation which shall guarantee the Bible faithfully translated from the Hebrew and the Greek, into our tongue, as it is spoken and written in our day, will be all that we have desired. And this, thanks be to God, we now have, in the new version of the American Bible Union, made by you, and revised by the most learned men of Italy. An edition of the Bible in the kingdom of Naples would not fail to produce the best result. We pray for you, that the Lord may give you strength and help, and open a door by which you may return to Italy, and complete the mission which the Lord has entrusted to you. This we hope may be soon realized. Amen, Lord Jesus, Amen."

TUSCANY.—"Our friends in Piedmont inform us that several thousands of copies of the Italian New Testament, reprinted by them, will soon be in circulation in Tuscany. The first copies which were introduced encountered no difficulty. The government pay no attention to New Testaments printed in Italy; the duty was paid, and they were admitted; and so we hope for the rest. At any rate, we can form a little depository. \* \* \* I believe that the governments of Italy, excepting the Pope, are tired of interfering in religious matters, and of making opposition to freedom of conscience, while they have so much trouble in preserving their political power, and securing even their own existence. All are, therefore, agreed, excepting perhaps the Jesuits, that Rome does wrong in prohibiting the circulation of the Bible. With respect to the new translation which you have given to the public, it is acknowledged to be the most faithful and literal that can be made. Even the Church of Rome could not but confess it, that you have made it without party-spirit, and, I will add, under no theological influence. One is convinced by this, that you, having left the Church of Rome, have not devoted yourself to any of the other Christian sects. I repeat what I have before said, your translation is all that we need."

ROME.—"Let us now speak of the Bible—I mean your translation of it. The New Testament is in the hands of many, who have made it their companion both in and out of the house. We have received the last collection of money which you sent us, and with it have printed several thousand copies more than we were expecting to be able to make. The book is printed in Italy! Italy, this unhappy country which we inhabit! In Italy—thanks be to God, the word of God is now printed in our own language. Yes, and it is read, it is meditated upon, and contemplated. What effect it produces you know in part. For myself, this is the great revolution which I am desiring, and by which I believe our countrymen will be delivered from their oppression. Well may we exclaim with the prophet, in the Vulgate *Patres nostri peccaverunt, et non sunt, et nos iniquitates eorum portavimus*. As for our fathers, it was easy for them to love liberty; but for their children it is difficult to regain it. Yet as God is a father, and we are penitent, there is no doubt we shall attain, through Him, to our rights and privileges. O yes! God is the Father of the people of Italy, as He is of the Americans; and why should we not be brothers? Tell them that we feel that we love them, and they must love us in the Lord."

TURIN.—"The Bible in Italy will be worth more to us than all the sermons and books in America. The papacy is not disturbed by all the blows struck at her from a distance. Her heart is in Italy. Here is the life-blood of her existence. From hence it flows; and this the only place where she fears the fatal blow. This is especially so now. She is weak, and every day more abandoned by the people. It is certainly an important fact, that the priests are abandoned by the people. Here, in Piedmont, they are hated by most of them. Now is the time to circulate the Bible."