

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

OCTOBER 9th, 1859.

Read—LUKE xvii 1-19: Jesus teaches his disciples to forgive one another. Exodus ix: The plagues of murrain, boils, and hail. Recite—LUKE xvi. 29-31.

OCTOBER 16th, 1859.

Read—LUKE xvii. 20-37: The coming of the kingdom of God. Exodus x: The plague of locusts and of darkness. Recite—LUKE xvii. 1-4.

MESSENGER ALMANAC.

From the 2nd to the 15th October, 1859.

First Quarter, October 3, 4. 17 Afternoon. Full Moon, " 11, 7. 37. Last Quarter, " 19, 1. 28 Morning. New Moon, " 25, 8. 18 Afternoon.

Table with columns: Day, SUN, MOON, High Water at Halifax, Windsor. Rows for days of the week from Sunday to Saturday.

* 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 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 Two Rules, and how they worked.

"Here are two rules for you, Fred," said Giles Warner, looking up from the paper he was reading, and addressing a younger brother, who was sitting by the stove, playing with a favorite dog.

"Well, what are they? let's have them," said Fred, suspending his sport with the dog.

"The first is, 'Never get vexed with anything you can help.' The second is, 'Never get vexed with anything you can't help.'"

"Are not these rules as applicable to you as to me?" inquired Fred, archly.

"No doubt of that," replied Giles, good-humoredly; "but then it is so much easier to hand over a piece of good advice to another, than to keep it for one's own use. It is a kind of generosity that don't require any self-denial," Fred laughed.

"But what say you," continued Giles, "to these rules? How would it work if we should adopt them?"

"I think they take a pretty wide and clean sweep," said Fred. "They don't leave a fellow any chance at all to get vexed."

"That might be an objection to them," said Giles, "if any one was wiser, better or happier for getting vexed, I think they are sensible rules. It is foolish to vex ourselves about anything that can be helped, and it is useless to vex ourselves about what can't be helped. Let us assist each other to remember and obey these two simple rules. What say you?"

"I'll agree to it," said Fred, who was usually ready to agree to anything his brother proposed, if it was only proposed good-humoredly.

"That's too bad?" exclaimed Fred, the next morning, while making his preparations for school.

"What is the matter?" inquired Giles.

"I have broken my shoe-string, and it is vexatious; I am in such a hurry."

"It is vexatious, no doubt," replied Giles, "but you must not get vexed; for this is one of the things that can be helped. You can find a string in the left corner of the upper drawer of mother's bureau."

"But we shall be late at school," said Fred.

"No we shan't," said Giles. "We shall only have to walk a little faster. Besides, if you keep cool, you will find the string, and put it in, much sooner than you can if you become vexed and worried."

"That's true," said Fred, as he started for the string, quite restored to good humor.

Several opportunities occurred during the day for putting into practice the newly adopted rules. The last was this:—

In the evening, Giles broke the blade of his knife, while whittling a hard piece of wood.

"It can't be helped," said Fred, "so you must not get vexed about it."

"It might have been helped," said Giles, "but I can do better than to fret about it. I can learn

a lesson of care for the future, which may some day save a knife more valuable than this. These rules work well. Let's try them to-morrow."

The next morning Fred devoted an hour before school to writing a composition. After he had written half a dozen lines, his mother called him off to do something for her.

During his absence, his sister Lucy made use of his pen and ink to write her name in a school-book. In doing this, she carelessly let fall a drop of ink on the page he was writing.

Fred returned while she was busily employed in doing what she could to repair the mischief.

"You have made a great blot on my composition," he exclaimed, looking over her shoulder.

"I am very sorry. I did not mean to do it," said Lucy.

Fred was so vexed that he would have answered his sister very roughly, if Giles had not interposed.

"Take care, Fred; you know the thing is done, and can't be helped."

Fred tried hard to suppress his vexation. "I know it was an accident," he said pleasantly, after a brief struggle with himself.

Lucy left the room, and Fred sat down again to his composition. After a moment, he looked up. "No great harm has been done, after all," he said. "Two or three alterations are much needed, and if I write this over again, I can make them."

"So much for a cool head, and not getting vexed," said Giles, laughing. "Our rules work well."

At night, Fred tore his pants while climbing over a fence.

"That's too bad," said he.

"It can be helped," said Giles; "they can be mended."

"The way to help it is: what troubles me," said Fred. "I don't like to ask mother, she has so much to do."

Giles proposed that Fred should get over this difficulty by asking Lucy to do the job for him, as her mother had taught her to mend very neatly.

Fred was at first not disposed to adopt this measure. He knew that Lucy disliked mending very much, and was afraid she would be cross, if asked to do it; but he at last decided to run the risk of that.

They found Lucy busily employed with a piece of embroidery, and quite absorbed with her work.

Fred looked significantly at Giles when he saw how his sister was occupied; but he concluded he had gone too far to retreat, and must make a bold push.

"I wish to ask a great favor of you, Lucy," said Fred; "but I fear I have come in the wrong time."

"What do you want?" said Lucy.

"I'm almost afraid to tell you. It's too bad to ask you to leave that bewitching work to do what you dislike."

"You are a great while getting to what is wanted," said Lucy, laughing. "Come, out with it."

Fred, thus encouraged, held up his foot and displayed the rent.

"Well, take them off, and I will do my best," said Lucy, cheerfully.

"You are a dear, good sister," said Fred, "when I saw what you were about, I thought that you would not be willing to do it."

"My uncommon amiability quite puzzles you, does it?" said Lucy, laughing. "I shall have to let you into a secret. To tell the truth, I have been thinking all day what I could do for you in return for your not getting vexed with me for blotting your composition. So now you have it."

"So much for our rules," exclaimed Giles, triumphantly. "They work to a charm."

"What rules?" inquired Lucy.

"We must tell Lucy all about it," said Giles. They did tell her all about it, and the result was, that she agreed to join them in trying the new rules.—Merry's Museum.

RULES OF LIVING.—Hugh Peters, an English preacher of the seventeenth century, left as a legacy to his daughter, in the year 1669, some rules of living, of which other persons would reap the benefit, if they would conform to his excellent standard. "Whosoever would live long and blessedly, let him observe these following rules, by which he shall attain that to which he desireth. Let thy

- Thoughts be Divine, awful, godly. Talk Little, honest, true. Works Profitable, holy, charitable. Manners Grave, courteous, cheerful. Diet Temperate, convenient, frugal. Apparel Sober, neat, comely. Will Confident, obedient, ready. Sleep Moderate, quiet, seasonable. Prayers Short, devout, often, fervent. Recreation Lawful, brief, seldom. Memory Of death, punishment, glory."

Singular traits of Song birds.

A gentleman of my acquaintance had an American mocking-bird in such health and vigor, that it was constantly singing, or else imitating the various sounds it heard. In order to try the powers of this bird, the owner purchased a fine sky-lark. When placed in the same room with the mocking-bird, the song of the former was heard to echo through the house, as if it were chanting "on fluttering wing" its well-known welcome to the rising sun. The mocking-bird was silent for some time, but at last broke forth in the strains of the "aerial songster," but louder and clearer, as if mounting and stretching its wings towards heaven. The lark was silent that moment, nor was a joyous note ever heard afterwards. Willing to test the power of the mocking-bird still further, an unusually large price was given for a black-bird, celebrated for its vocal powers. It was placed in the same room with the mocking-bird. Early on the second morning its song was resumed, and its charming notes were warbled forth with all the sweetness and modulation which may be heard in its native "thorny brakes." The mocking-bird listened and was silent for a time, when all at once its notes were heard to issue forth, but louder and sweeter than those of the woodland songster. The poor black-bird heard them, felt that it was conquered, remained silent, drooped, pined, and died. From the above facts, emulation would seem to be one of the exciting causes of the songs of the birds. When their powers are excelled, they appear to feel disgrace at being conquered, and to lose all inclination to renew their former efforts.—Jesoc's Country Life.

The Beggar Woman.

A PARABLE.

Once in a time of famine an unknown beggar woman, poorly but cleanly clad, went through a certain village asking alms.

From some houses she was sent away with rough words; at others she received a very small gift; only one poor gardener, as she was very cold, invited her into his warm room; and his wife, who had just baked cakes, gave her a nice large piece.

The next day all the people at whose door the beggar woman had called, were invited to supper in the Queen's palace. When they came into the dining-room they beheld a small table laden with the richest food, and also a large table with many plates, on which there was here and there a piece of mouldy bread, a few artichokes, or a handful of bran, but for the most part the plates were entirely empty.

The Queen said: "I was myself that beggar-woman in disguise, wishing, in this time of distress, when the poor are in such great need, to prove the charity of my people. These two poor gardeners took me in and entertained me the best they could; hence they will now eat with me, and I will fix a pension for life on them. The rest of you will entertain yourselves with the same fares which you gave me, and which you will find on these plates. With this, remember that in the future world, you will also one day be served as you serve others.

What we give unto His poor To our Lord Himself is given; What we sow of love on earth We shall richly reap in heaven.

Advice through the keyhole.

There was once a young shoemaker who became so much interested in politics, that his shop was filled with loungers talking and discussing and disputing about one thing and another from morning till night; and he found it often necessary to work till midnight, to make up for the hours lost in talk during the day.

One night after his shutters were closed and he was busy on his bench, a boy passing along put his mouth to the key-hole, and mischievously piped out "Shoemaker, shoemaker, work by night, and run about by day." "Had a pistol been fired off at my ear," he said, "I could not have been more startled. I dropped my work, saying to myself, 'True, true; but you never shall have that to say of me again.' I never forgot it. To me it was the voice of God, and it has been a word in season throughout my life. I learned from it not to leave till to-morrow the work of today, or to be idle when I ought to be working. From that time I turned over a new leaf."

He did indeed—worked in working hours, left off idle talk and the society of loafers, and became in the end a physician of eminence.

A person who had always refused to give anything towards the support of religious worship, a few years ago, when a new church was built, to the surprise of all, gave a bell for the new structure. On being asked the reason, he said he never put his money where he could not hear it ring.

Agriculture.

Food for Cows.

We would commend the following article to the perusal of those of our readers who have the care of cows, as it presents many important suggestions to which they will assuredly find it for their interest to attend. With those who are familiar with the writings of M. CHABERT, and with his exalted character and high standing as a scholar, any commendation from our pen, further than to bespeak attention to the subject, would be superfluous.

"M. Chabert, the director of the Veterinarian School at Alford, England, had a number of cows which yielded twelve gallons of milk each day. In his able publication on this subject, he observes that cows fed in winter on dry substances alone, yield less milk than those that are kept on a green diet, and also that their milk loses much of its good quality. He published the following receipt, by the use of which his cows afforded him an equal quantity and quality of milk during the winter as during the summer.

Take a bushel of potatoes; break them whilst raw, place them in a barrel standing up; putting in successively a layer of bran, and a small quantity of yeast in the middle of the mass, which is to be left there to ferment during a whole week, and when the vinous taste has pervaded the whole mixture, it is then given to the cows, who eat it greedily."

We are inclined to think the present practices of feeding cattle in winter are far from being strictly economical, and will continue to be, so long as they are fed entirely on crude food—on hay unchaffed, and on roots and grain uncooked. Hay cut and moistened with warm water, and mixed with a very small quantity of rasped roots, potatoes, carrots, beets, turnips, parsnips, pumpkins or apples, will go twice as far as when fed in its long state. Besides, the cutting will enable the feeder to use up his rough fodder to good advantage—his stalks, poor hay, straw, &c., and to keep more stock, and in better condition than he could possibly by adhering to the old system of feeding.

Steaming is another means of economizing food, and one which is overcoming the prejudices with which its introduction was attended.

A friend of ours made an experiment by feeding his milk cows for an entire winter upon hay tea.—tea made by steeping hay in hot water in the same manner that the fragrant leaf from the Celestial Empire is prepared for our social cup of tea.—N. E. Farmer

The Wheat Crop of 1859.

The following article upon the wheat crop of the present year from the Metropolitan Bank Note Reporter of New York.

The Wheat Crops.—The wheat crop has generally been harvested throughout the country, and sufficient is known to make a careful estimate of this important staple, interesting for present consideration and important for future reference.

The average yield per acre every year is only to be found by carefully examining the reports from different parts of the country, etc. With labor we have collected the returns for this year, and give them below in comparison with the returns made out last year for 1857 and 1858, and which we have no occasion to change.

The production of wheat in the several States for 1858 and 1859 may be stated as follows:

Table with columns: STATE, 1857, 1858, 1859. Rows for New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and North Carolina, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Other States.

The production in the Western States, which have the largest for export, is shown by the following figures:

Table with columns: STATE, 1857, 1858, 1859. Rows for Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois.

Total.....68,000,000 58,000,000 74,000,000

The surplus for the present year in these States may be estimated as follows:

Crop 1859.....74,000,000 Bushels.

Consumption 5 bushels per head.....36,000,000

Surplus crop 1859.....38,000,000

The Tomato as Food.

Dr. Bennet, a professor of some celebrity, considers the tomato an invaluable article of diet, and ascribes to it very important medical properties: That the tomato is one of the most powerful aperients of the liver and other organs; where calomel is indicated, it is probably one of the most effective and the least harmful remedial agents known to the profession. That a chemical extract will be obtained from it that will supersede the use of calomel in the cure of disease. That he has successfully treated diarrhoea with this article alone. That when used as an article of diet it is almost sovereign for dyspepsia and indigestion. That it should be constantly used for daily food; either cooked, raw, or in the form of catsup, it is the most healthy article in use.