

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

FEBRUARY 19th, 1860.

Read—JOHN i. 35-514: Calling of the Disciples. EXODUS xxxiv. 1-9. 28-35: The name of the Lord proclaimed.

Recite—JOHN i. 15-17.

FEBRUARY 26th, 1860.

Read—JOHN ii. 1-25: Christ's first miracle. EXODUS xxxiv. 1-29: The offering of the people.

Recite—JOHN i. 43-46.

MESSENGER ALMANAC.

From February 12th, to February 25th, 1860.

Table with columns: Full Moon, Last Quarter, New Moon, First Quarter, and corresponding dates and times.

Table with columns: Day, SUN., MOON., 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.

The Child's Dream of Heaven.

"I dreamed," said little Ellen, "that I stood outside the gate of heaven, and looked in. The gate was all made of precious stones; but I could see through it. I could see the street; and it was all pure gold. I saw angels playing on large harps; and I heard such singing as I never heard on earth. They were all singing the same words but I could not tell what they were. As I looked, God spoke to me. He asked me if I had a new heart. I told Him I did not know. He said, 'if you have not, you cannot come in here; but, if you will go back to earth and pray for it, you shall have one, and I will send an angel and bring you up here.'"

So I went back to earth, and went into a closet; and, as I was praying, an angel came and took me and put me in one side of his bosom, and dear sister Annie in the other, and carried us up to heaven. You don't know how sweetly we looked. We were just like two little flowers tucked in his bosom.

When we came to the gate, an angel opened it for us, and we went in. Before, when I heard the music, I thought I never could sing like that; but, the moment I was in, I could sing as well as any of them. Angels were all the while coming, bringing little babies in their bosoms! and, the moment they were in, they would sing as loud and as sweet as the rest. I saw my mother; and she looked glorious and beautiful. She was sitting on a little stool covered with silver, playing on a harp, and singing, O! so sweetly! Grandmother, too, was there; and, O! Annie, her wrinkles were all gone; and she looked as young as you do; and her face shone, and she was singing too. I said:

'Grandmother, there was great weeping when you left earth.

She said, 'Yes; but I would not like to go back.'

I saw Jesus sitting on a throne, and angels worshipping Him; and, when I saw how bright and glorious everything was, I wished, that I had never sinned."

I should like to ask the children who may read this, if they think a little heathen girl, in dreaming of heaven, would have seen what Ellen did.

It was because she had read the Bible, and had stored her mind with what it says of that blessed world, that such beautiful scenes visited her in her sleep. It was there she learned that she never could enter heaven without a change of heart, and that such change could never be obtained without prayer. It was there that she gained views of the Saviour in heaven, which made her wish that she had never sinned. How much do we owe to that precious book, which not only sheds its light so sweetly on all the troubles of our waking hours, but makes even the dark night bright around us with the glory of heaven; for so "He giveth his beloved sleep."—Tract Journal.

"Who hath abolished death."

The angels came for little Allie just at the dawn of day. I knew it by the delighted surprise with which she looked at them; and although I kissed her and call her name many times, she turned to me more and more reluctantly, and soon seemed not to see or hear me for the joy she had in beholding them. There was the reflection of a light brighter than the day in her eyes, and a rapt, ecstatic expression on her face which increased as she seemed more won and drawn from us. In quiet awe we watched her through the day, but she did not once turn her eyes from the vision of angels, and to us, even, who could not behold them, the place was dreadful for nearness of their presence and glory.

I knew when the angels took her into the river. It was toward nightfall. Her little feet were icy chill; I tried to warm them for awhile, but she went deeper into the water, and chilled more and more. She did not seem to mind it at all, but looked still steadily at the angels, and her face had no expression of fear. She sobbed lightly two or three times as they led her up on the other side of the river; I never heard her sweet voice more!

I ran out of the house and looked all up the sky. I did not see whether they went—I thought I should—but I perceived the harmonies which come and go when the everlasting doors are lifted up to let them in, and, when they closed again all the air was vibrating with the melody.

I hid myself away from the sympathies which were proffered me; I could not understand the grief and pity which were upon every face. All my soul was rejoicing in the great joy upon which little Allie had entered. God whom I adored, had in my sight, taken her to His exceeding glory forevermore. How had He blessed us! how gladly had He given her! Why should I not?

How vain had been all my fears lest by-and-by her feet should stray from the way to Him! How many possible dangers I had imagined awaiting her when my hands could no more guide and shield her. My heart repeated to itself all the while, "Safe forevermore! No wandering downward thence for forward feet—no powerlessness there to guard—no dimness in that light—no suffering there! Rejoice with me, oh my friends, Allie has passed even death ere she knew there was death, and is safe forever and forever."

In the night time I missed the little form which was wont to lie beside me, and went to look where they had laid it. I folded back the covering from the sweet face which still bore the impress of the rejoicing spirit. It seemed to me no part of Allie—only a garment which she had worn, still very dear, and very dear and beautiful, as though it had come to look like her from the long wearing. Involuntarily I kneeled by it and my voice joined in the harmony about me, which seemed to pervade my being with the heavenly refrain, "Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto Him that sitteth on the throne and to the Lamb forever and ever."

A noble Sentiment.

On the statue erected in Stafford, England, to the memory of Joseph Brotherton, are inscribed the following words, uttered by him in the House of Commons, of which he was for many years a member: "My riches consist not in the extent of my possessions, but in the fewness of my wants."

The rebuke of the Righteous.

"Rebuke a wise man and he will love thee."—Prov 9 8. Rev. Joseph Ailme was very faithful and impartial in administering reproof. Once, when employed in a work of this kind, he said to a Christian friend, "I am now going about that which is likely to make a very dear and obliging friend become an enemy. But, however, it cannot be omitted; it is better to lose man's favor than God's." But, so far from becoming his enemy for his conscientious faithfulness to him, he rather loved him the more ever after as long as he lived.

A baker in England stole a tombstone for the hearth of his oven. One of his customers, finding a death's head on the bottom of his loaf of bread, ran in dismay to his deacon, fearing the end of the world was approaching. The latter was in equal trepidation, when on examining his own loaf, he found the marrow-bones. In their alarm, they had recourse to the parson, who could afford them no consolation, inasmuch as "Resurgam" was legibly set forth in bold relief upon his own loaf.

When the heart is out of tune the tongue seldom goes right.

Agriculture.

America's Noblemen.

The noblest men I know on earth, Are men whose hands are brown with toil; Who, backed by no ancestral graves, Hew down the woods and till the soil, And win thereby a prouder fame Than follows king or warrior's name.

The working-men, whate'er their task, To carve the stone or bear the hod— They wear upon their honest brows The royal stamp and seal of God! And brighter are the drops of sweat Than diamonds in a coronet!

God bless the noble working-men, Who rear the cities of the plain, Who dig the mines and build the ships, And drive the commerce of the main— God bless them, for their swarthy hands Have wrought the glory of all lands!

Three acres of land to support a small family!

A clergyman, who is compelled to abandon his profession by ill health, is desirous to know how he may cultivate three acres of rich land, so as to support a small family? Information will be thankfully received.—N. E. Farmer.

A correspondent replies:—Your article in the paper of December 3rd, headed "Three acres of land to support a small family," reminded me of some statements which I had laid aside for your paper, and which will show that a little land, well cultivated, may be made to go some way in the support of a small family. The experiment was made by Hiram Damon, of this place, under some unfavorable circumstances, as will be seen.

He cultivated, this last summer, about one acre of land, but in three several lots, some of it two miles from his house. From this one acre he raised the following vegetables, (the prices annexed are such as he obtained in the village here:)

Table listing agricultural products and their market values: Potatoes, 35 bushels - \$16.00; Corn, 5 bushels - 5.00; Peas, 5 bushels - 10.00; Carrots, 10 bushels - 5.00; Beets, 4 bushels - 4.00; Turnips, 20 bushels - 10.00; Onions, 1 bushel - 1.00; Squashes, 50 in number - 12.00; Pumpkins, 20 in number - 2.00; Melons - 5.00; Wheat, 7 bushels (very nice) - 14.00. Total: \$84.00.

The above quantity he sold, besides using from this acre all the vegetables which he needed for a family of six persons.

Aside from the mere market value of his products, he has taken great pains to select and preserve his seeds, so that were there sufficient demand for these, he could realize, at medium prices, fifty dollars more.

He has twenty varieties of potatoes, raised by himself, this year, being the fourth from the ball. Some of these were planted the first of June, are remarkable for size, very mealy and finely flavored.

He has also a variety of squashes, raised hitherto only by himself, and which, in grain and flavor, surpass the famous Hubbard.

He has eighteen varieties of peas, and as many of turnips; his object in having such a variety, is to select the choicest seeds.

We had a severe and prolonged drought this summer, which injured our crops, and made our gardens less profitable than usual.

But I thought a little statement of his gardening, with many difficulties to contend against, might be of some value. A. E. F. Springfield, Vt.

On which the Editor remarks:—Our friend, "A clergyman in ill health," with whom we strongly sympathize, will find encouragement in the details given above. In our recent remarks upon the note of the clergyman, there was a material point to which we did not allude—that of health. If he should enter upon his three acres, and labor judiciously, he would probably find himself a vigorous man again in three years, able to resume his profession, and wield the sword of the Spirit with renewed power and effect.

Let us see:—Mr. Damon sold \$84.00 worth from one acre—that acre divided into three parts, and a portion of it two miles from his house! Then, at medium prices, he had \$50.00 worth of seeds - 50.00 For other products - 84.00 \$134.00 3

Clergyman's 3 acres - \$192.00

The prospect really brightens; the clergyman's land is rich, and lies all together, so that taking the \$402, with all the garden stuff added that the family would require, together with an occasional marriage fee, and the preaching a sermon prompted by the texts in the garden, we think, after all, he could do very well. And how delightful the occupation with an interesting wife interested in the employment, and cheering it with her presence, her suggestions, and perhaps her fingers among the flowers! We have always supposed there were other Edens than that on the ancient river, and shall anxiously await a call to see this new one, under the supervision of "A clergyman in ill health."

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

RESIGNATION OF THE JOHNSTON ADMINISTRATION.

We intimated to our readers last week that on Tuesday the 8th inst., the Executive Council had resigned their offices, which had been provisionally accepted by his Excellency the Earl of Mulgrave. Since then the documents connected therewith have been made public. They are of much importance and will show the present state of public affairs. Our readers would have cause of complaint if we were to give any abridgement of them, or were to imitate some of our contemporaries by withholding those on one side from publication.

TUESDAY, Feb. 7.

The Honble. ATTORNEY GENERAL, by permission of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, submitted the following correspondence to the Assembly, and announced that he and his colleagues held office only until their successors were appointed.

HALIFAX, 4th February, 1859.

To His Excellency the Right Honble the Earl of Mulgrave, Lieut.-Governor, &c., &c., &c.

Your Lordship having, in the interview we had with you this forenoon, expressed your desire that we should present to you in writing the advice we tendered to your Excellency in relation to the condition to which the House of Assembly was brought last night by the votes then taken, and the reasons by which we sustained that advice:

We the undersigned members of the Executive Council are happy to adopt your suggestion of placing before you in this permanent form the views we entertain of the course which the interests of the Province demand should be adopted by the Executive Government in the existing state of public affairs.

We have advised Your Excellency that the immediate dissolution of the Assembly is in our opinion, imperatively demanded. We believe that step to be necessary in order to maintain the authority of the law—the independence of the House, and the respect for its proceedings which is essential for the welfare of the country; and we proceed to offer to your Lordship the reasons which induce this strong belief.

By an act of the Legislature, passed by the late House, it was enacted that persons who held offices of profit or emolument under the Provincial Government at the dissolution of that House should not be eligible to serve in the Assembly unless they resigned such offices within ten days before nomination day, and that if members of the Legislature should afterwards accept such offices, their seats should become vacant.

Soon after the last election it was brought to your Lordship's notice that a number of member elect held offices at the time of the election which rendered them ineligible, and at your desire the Attorney and Solicitor General of Nova Scotia made out a case, stating at large the Laws under which these offices were created, and the nature of the appointments to them, on which they gave their opinion that the incumbents of the offices in question were within the scope and terms of the Act, and therefore ineligible to serve in Parliament. This case and opinion your Excellency transmitted to the Right Honorable the Colonial Secretary, who obtained thereon and sent out to your Excellency the opinion of the Attorney and Solicitor General of England. This opinion differed in two particulars from that of your Lordship: the Attorney and Solicitor General of England thinking that the qualification oath in our Statute was directed alone to the property qualification, and therefore was not applicable to the case of ineligibility from holding office, and that resignations were available although made within ten days of nomination day, provided they were made before that day. In both these particulars we deferred to the opinion of the Crown Law Officers in England and abandoned our purpose of putting the qualification oath to those gentlemen whom we deemed ineligible from holding office, and also gave up the intention we had entertained of urging the objection which arose in one case that a resignation had been made (if made at all) less than ten days before nomination day.

On the more essential points, the English Law Officers agreed in opinion with your Excellency's Attorney and Solicitor General. In terms altogether unreserved and unequivocal, they stated their concurrence with the opinion of your Law Officers that Way Office Keepers, Health Officers, Coroners, Surveyors of Shipping, Commissioners for taking Bail, &c., came under the operation of the Act, and were ineligible to serve in Parliament; and that although there existed no means to prevent them taking their seats and voting, till removed by the house, yet, that were they to be maintained in their seats by the votes of a majority created by their combination with a party in the House, a wrong would be committed which would deprive the Acts of the Assembly of the consideration to which otherwise they would be entitled, and which would render it necessary for the Crown to put an end to the existence of the House.

This opinion your Excellency sought, as you stated in your Despatch to the Duke of Newcastle, in order that you might have the advantage of the opinion of the Law Officers of England on the subject, and if this opinion is to have weight, the time has arrived when a number of ineligible persons combined with what otherwise would be a minority of the House, have created a majority which has shut out a prompt and certain investigation of the question of the ineligibility of those persons, and seizing an advantage obtained by means so unwarrantable, they have pressed on to a vote of want of confidence, and thus have created the necessity we are under of advising, and your Excellency of deciding, on the alternative of accepting the vote of such a majority as the views of the Representatives of the People, or of terminating the existence of a House which, under a rash and reckless guidance, has commenced its