

Teachers' Department.

Sabbath School Scripture Lessons.

NOVEMBER 18th, 1860.

Read—JOHN 18: 19-40: The mock trial of Christ. 1 KINGS 9: 1-9: The dedication of the Temple.

Recite—JOHN 18: 15-18.

NOVEMBER 25th, 1860.

Read—JOHN xix. 1-22: The Crucifixion: 1 KINGS x 1-15: The Queen of Sheba's visit to Solomon.

Recite—JOHN xviii. 19-23.

MESSENGER ALMANAC.

From November 11th to November 24th, 1860.

Full Moon, November, 28, 7 23 Morning. Last Quarter, December 5, 1 45 Afternoon. New Moon, " 12, 8 33 Morning. First Quarter, " 20, 1 55 Morning.

Table with columns: Day, SUN, MOON, High Water at Halifax, Windsor. Rows for days 11 to 25.

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

What Young Men may accomplish.

Not a few young men, who might become ornaments of their species, and blessings to the world, seem to hold with the Indian, "It is better to walk than to run—better to stand than to walk—better to sit than to stand—and better than all, to lie down." The maxim of many is not, as some have believed and practiced, "Nothing is done while anything remains undone," but, "All is accomplished when we get clear of doing it."

"I possessed, at this time, but one book in the world; it was a treatise on Algebra, given me by a young woman, who had found it in a lodging-house. I considered it as a treasure, but it was a treasure locked up; for it supposed the reader to be well acquainted with simple equations, and I knew nothing of the matter."

Cold prayers are as arrows without heads, as swords without edges, as birds without wings; they pierce not, they cut not, they fly not up to heaven. Cold prayers always freeze before they reach heaven.

Prophecies—Dr. Cumming.

THE Rev. Dr. Cumming, author of The Last Tribulation, is said to have another work on unfulfilled prophecy in course of preparation, entitled, Your Redemption Draweth Nigh. According to this popular preacher and writer, this dispensation is to end in the year 1868. But it somewhat militates against his credit as an interpreter, that he formerly fixed "the time of the end" for a year which has already passed; but then Dean Swift, who postponed the eclipse of the sun by proclamation, extended the period by several years. After what has occurred within the last few years, and even months, we are not inclined to doubt that very extraordinary events are in progress.

The Garment White and Clean.

A weary beggar, with slow and fainting step, is seen approaching a dwelling. He asks for food, and the open hand of charity is stretched out to relieve him. After he is fed, the charitable donor says, You need clothing also; here is a garment without seam, perfect in every part. Remove the soil and tattered one you now wear, and it is yours.

But the beggar hesitated. I have worn this so long, no other will fit me as well. I shall feel strange, clad in any other. And what will those who know me as the poor beggar say, to see me dressed in so fair a robe? And I do not like to receive it as a gift, but when I am able I will purchase it.

Still the beggar refuses, and the patient, long-suffering gives beseeches: Look again at the garment. White and pure as it is, it will never soil; no moth will corrupt it; no thief will steal it; when once you put it on, no one can take it from you; you can wear it at all times, by night as well as by day, at home and abroad; when you mourn it will be seemly and becoming, and when in prosperity suitable and comely; you will never tire of it, but each day it will seem more beautiful in your eyes; it will never wear out, but grow purer and brighter as years pass away, and at no time will it seem so lovely, as when the gray hairs thicken upon your head; and when you lie down to die you will love to wrap yourself in its folds, and unlike aught besides, you can take it with you beyond the grave, and arrayed in it, present yourself before the King in his glory.

Will the poor beggar be deaf to all these entreaties, turn his back upon his kind benefactor, and go his way, still clothed in the filthy robes of his own righteousness?—American Messenger.

A GOOD REASON FOR LAUGHTER.—A spendthrift was once lying awake in bed, when he saw a man enter his room cautiously, and attempt to pick the lock of his writing-desk. The rogue was not a little disconcerted at hearing a loud laugh from the occupant of the apartment, whom he supposed asleep. "Why do you laugh?" asked the thief. "I am laughing, my good fellow," said the spendthrift, "to think what pains you are taking, and what risk you run, in hope of finding money by night in a desk where the lawful owner can never find any by day?" The thief vanished at once.

INDIAN.—At the Detroit Conference, held Sept. 26th, at Dexter, Washtenaw county, an Indian preacher sung the hymn,

"From all that dwell below the skies," in native dialect. The first verse went thus:— "Kah-ke-nah-eh-koeng-s-yah-jig. Tah-mah-moo-yah-wah-gain-dah-moog; Che-mah-moo-yah-wah-wood, Kah-ghe-ke-kah-mah-goo-wah-gin."

CURIOUS FACTS.—The following curious fact with regard to the Presidents of the United States will interest many just at the present time.

George Washington, the first President, died, without children. He was re-elected. John Adams, second President, had children. He was not re-elected. Thomas Jefferson, third President, died without children. He was re-elected. James Madison, fourth President, died without children. He was re-elected. James Monroe, fifth President, died without children. He was re-elected. John Quincy Adams, sixth President, had children. He was not re-elected. Andrew Jackson, seventh President, had no children. He was re-elected. Martin Van Buren, eighth President, had children. He was not re-elected. W. H. Harrison, ninth President, had children. He died one month after being sworn into office.

John Tyler, tenth President, had children and was not re-elected.

James K. Polk, eleventh President, had no children, and declined a nomination for a second term.

Z. Taylor, twelfth President, had children. Died before the expiration of his term.

Millard Fillmore, thirteenth President, had children and was not re-elected.

Franklin Pierce, fourteenth President, had children, and was not re-elected.

James Buchanan, fifteenth President, has no children and is not re-elected.

From the above facts, it appears that no President ever having had children has been re-elected to the Chief Magistracy of the nation, while with the exception of Mr. Polk, who declined a re-nomination, and Mr. Buchanan, all those having no children have been re-elected.

FUTURE PUNISHMENT.—From a sermon preached by Samson Occum, the Mohegan Indian preacher, at the execution of Moses Paul, in 1772:

"And O, Eternity! Eternity! Eternity! Who can count the years thereof? Arithmetic must fail; the thoughts of men and angels are drowned in it. How shall we describe Eternity? To what shall we compare it? Were it possible to employ a fly to carry sand to such a distance that it should return once in ten thousand years for another particle and so continue till it had made just such a world as this, after all, Eternity would remain the same unexhausted duration."

"This must be the unavoidable portion of all impenitent sinners, let them be whom they will, great or small, honorable or ignoble, rich or poor, bond or free. Negroes, Indians, English, or of what nation soever; all that die in their sins must go to hell together; for, 'the wages of sin is death.'"

TAX ON THE BIBLE.—A correspondent of Louisiana Baptist, states a fact which will surprise many. It certainly reminds one rather vividly of those much abused times, the "Dark Ages," to record that in one of the States of the confederacy "the Legislature has imposed on the Bible the same restrictions, in regard to the sale, from the hands of colporteurs, as they would on any other articles of merchandise, and seem indeed, in some places, (for instance New Orleans) more intent in enforcing the prosecution of the law on colporteurs, than they do on the venders of ardent spirits." The admirers of "free institutions" will have to mitigate their censure of Spanish, Austrian, and Italian intolerance. Such laws have generally been thought rather disgraceful to the statutes of any country, and this unchristian law in Louisiana cannot be too soon repealed.—N. Y. Chronicle.

PROCRASTINATION.—Persons gifted with genius or fine talent, often throw life away by a habit of putting off till to-morrow what ought to be done to-day. The following paragraph is pithy:

"Going to do it" never made a fortune, built a house, or won a name. "Going to do it" has been the bane of more people than would fill the census of a dozen New-Yorks. The man who is always "going to do it" rarely, if ever, does it. The only thing he does do is to go out of the world without doing it. If he has a task which must be done, he at once announces, with a deal of boasting and a great waste of words, time and breath that he is "going to do it." And while he is thus "going to do it," somebody else who is not suspected of "going to do it," does it and reaps the reward.

Agriculture.

TREATMENT OF CATTLE.—Let the milkman drive his cows slowly from his pasture. Cows with bags full should never be made to run. Still the driver should always have a stick in hand to make them obey. How often we see boys bringing up the cows at a pace too rapid for the comfort of the cattle! and when they have no sticks, they make use of stones. Such boys are not brought up well, and how an they be expected to bring the cows up well! Never allow your cattle or horses to jump over the lower rails of your fences or bars, or to crawl under the upper ones. It is just so far a lesson in the art of jumping or running through fences, which otherwise they might never learn.

NEW AND CHEAP BLASTING POWDER.—Le Genie Industriel states that a patent has just been taken out in Belgium for a simple method of making blasting powder from spent tan bark. It says that while the price of this powder is less than that of gunpowder, it takes but one-seventeenth part as much to produce the same effect. It is composed of 52 1-2 lbs. of nitrate of soda, to 72 1-2 lbs. of waste tan bark, and 20 lbs. of pulverized sulphur. The nitrate of soda is dissolved in a sufficient quantity of boiling water, and the tan bark added in a manner to completely impregnate it with the solution, after which the sulphur is added in the same way. The mixture is taken from the fire and thoroughly dried, when it is ready for use. If it is wet, it does not permanently injure it, but on being again dried is as good as ever. If fired in the open air, it causes no explosion, but is very efficient for blasting when confined in the usual manner. It is not suitable for use in guns or cannon.

A JOKE MAKING HENS LAY.—A Kansas correspondent of the N. E. Farmer writes: "Last week I was several miles out into the territory, and stopped at night at a cosy log cabin nesting among the timber at Walnut Creek. The next morning, after breakfast, I was surprised to see my landlady go out, and catching her hens, tie each one's legs together and throw them upon the ground with 'there be good.' What did you do that for?" I asked. "To make 'em lay," she answered. "Make them lay—will that do it?" I inquired. "La yes," she said, "didnt you ever hear tell of that before?" I confessed I had not. In about an hour she went out, and picking up the hens, sure enough, some had laid; those she let go, and ran off, not even cackling their gratitude. But those hens who seemed disposed to be contrary, she struck upon the back, saying, 'You'd better lay, you'd better lay, for you won't go till you do: and in a while, they, too, had recompensed their mistress for tending them so bountifully. She says that she does so every morning, and that the hens know well enough that they have got to lay. So you see even invention lives in Kansas."

RATS.—A correspondent of the Gardener's Monthly says: "I tried the effect of introducing into the entrance of their numerous holes, runs, or hiding-places, small portions of chloride of lime, or bleaching powder, wrapped in calico and stuffed into the entrance holes, and thrown loose by spoonfuls into the drain from the house. This drove the rats away for a twelvemonth, when they returned to it. They were treated in the same manner, with like effect. The cure was most complete. I presume it was the chlorine gas, which did not agree with their olfactory."

The cement used by the late Dr. Buckland, the naturalist, was thus compounded: 1 part finely powdered white sugar; 3 parts finely powdered starch; 4 parts finely powdered gum Arabic; all by weight. In mixing, use cold water. Rub the ingredients (dry) well together in a marble mortar, then, by very little at a time add the water till it is the thickness of melted glue; put it in a wide-mouthed bottle, and cork closely.

THE BIBLE ON LIQUOR.—To the question "Does the Bible prohibit liquor drinking as a common beverage?" the Church Advocate responds: "If the liquor be water, milk, tea, or coffee, we do not think it does: but if it be ardent spirits which run off with a man's brains, character, property, interest and usefulness in life, we think the Bible prohibits it."

The roots of plants are hid under ground so that themselves are not seen; but they appear in their branches, flowers, and fruits, which argue there is a root and life in them. Thus, the graces of the Spirit planted in the soul, though themselves invisible, yet discover their being and life in the track of a Christian's life, his words, his actions, and the frame of his carriage.—Leighton.