

Youth's Department.

Bible Lessons.

Sunday, April 21st, 1861.

Read—MATT. x. 1-20 : The Apostles sent forth. 2 KINGS xiii. 1-18 : Jehoahaz's wicked reign.

Recite—MATTHEW ix. 36-37.

Sunday, April 28th, 1861.

Read—MATT. x. 21-42 : The Mission of the Apostles. 2 KINGS xiii. 14-25 : Elisha's death.

Recite—MATTHEW x. 1-4.

"Search the Scriptures."

Write down what you suppose to be the answers to the following questions.

- 31. To whom is the invention of musical instruments ascribed?
32. Where does an early mention of a whole choir occur in Scripture?

Answers to questions given last week: -

- 29 Enoch. Genesis v.
30. That of Abraham interceding for the devoted cities. Genesis xviii. 23-33.

Forbidden Fruit.

BY MRS. MARY A. KIDDER.

Some children think how sweet must be The luscious apples, red and fine, That grow upon a neighbour's tree; And wish, "O, dear! if they were mine!"

If now, poor little guilty eyes, And little, trembling, guilty heart, You'd learn in season to be wise, You'd never act a robber's part.

What though a voice, by art made bolder, So sweet it seems almost divine, Should whisper softly o'er your shoulder, "God made the fruit, 'tis yours and mine,"

Reflections in a Sunday-School.

"The children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light."

This morning was ushered in dark and lowering, the sky heavy, and the rain falling with a steady pour. It was not pleasant, in prospect, to be compelled to go forth on any errand, either of mercy or duty or business.

I was there, all alone, in that room, large enough for a school of 250 scholars, and I communed thus with myself: Why cannot Sunday-school teachers be as faithful, in season and out of season, rain or shine as the sexton?

it is now; the walking will perhaps not be much improved, and it may still be raining; if it should be so, and these teachers, who ought to be here now, should then have a call of business or pleasure a mile or two from home, I wonder if they won't obey it!

And so I left the school-room. Returning the road I had come, the rain still falling as before, I met a man driving a four-horse team. I saw him yesterday in town, and now I knew that he had gone some six miles in a contrary direction from his home and remained over night at a friend's house.

Are these teachers improving, or burying their talents—which? Are they wise in their generation, or foolish—which? Are they consistent?

Let go the Twig.

During a revival in Scotland, a lady was awakened, and went to a minister and told him how unhappy she was. He said he was glad to hear it. She was amazed and hurt, and yet could find no peace.

Wait.

I saw the proprietor of a large garden stand at his fence and call over a poor neighbour. "Would you like some grapes?" "Yes, and very thankful to you," was the ready answer.

It is so, thought I, with the proprietor of all things. He says to me, and to all, "What shall I give thee? What shall I do for thee? Ask, and thou shalt receive."

A clear Conscience.

How bravely a man can walk the earth, bear the heaviest burdens, perform the severest duties, and look all men square in the face, if he only bears in his breast a clear conscience, void of offence towards God and man.

Not taken in.

Mr. Field, the Boston publisher, has a wonderful memory, and his knowledge of English literature is so valuable, that when a friend wishes to know where a particular passage may be found, he steers at once for the corner, and consults the man who is likely to give the desired information.

[From the Bible Union Quarterly, February.]

Condition and Prospects of the Bible Union.

Since the last anniversary, events have occurred which have materially altered the condition of the Union. On that occasion, all was joy and hope. The scenes of former anniversaries were repeated with new zest.

A VOICE FROM THE TREASURER.

There is no money to pay the revisers. I want four thousand dollars immediately. The receipts into the treasury, for the past three months, have considerably fallen off.

A Sermon six miles long.

A devotedly pious man who lived some six miles from the house of worship, once complained to his pastor of the distance he had to go to attend public worship, while many others had but a few steps to walk to enjoy divine ordinances.

A BAD HAND-WRITING.—When the father of Dr. Chalmers received his weekly or fortnightly letter from his distinguished son, he carefully locked it up.

All the ignorance is not confined "out West" nor among the Hard Shells. A very worthy minister, settled not a hundred miles from Boston, was one Sabbath morning descending upon the importance of plain speaking.

It is the work of a philosopher to be every day subduing his passions and laying aside his prejudices.

It is the best proof of the virtues of a family circle to see a happy fireside.

Agriculture, &c.

Planting Trees.

Persons intending to plant trees should begin to think of the matter now, so as to be ready to enter upon the work as soon as the opening of the ground will permit. If the selection of the land, the selection of trees, the varieties to be used and the distances apart at which they are to be set, are to be left until May, when the lark is whistling on the top of the maple, the work will probably be done in such a hurried manner as to cause many mistakes.

Having decided what distances shall be preserved, they may be set off, and then the holes should be dug as early as possible. It would have been better had the earth been thrown out last fall. The holes should be large—never less than four-feet in diameter by eighteen to twenty-four inches deep, and if six feet in diameter, they are all the better.

Before setting the tree, the black top soil should be thrown into the bottom of the hole, with a sufficient quantity of other black soil near to fill the hole up to within two or three inches of the surrounding surface. If it can be afforded, a little well rotted compost may be mingled in with decided advantage.

Great care must be observed not to set the tree too low in the soil. A good rule is to leave the crown of the root just on a level with the surface. If there are plenty of roots, and one or two of them come up quite near the surface, while all the others are well below, cut off the upper ones, as they will be likely to throw up suckers continually.

Trees should be selected that have been formed in the nursery, as those that have not been are materially checked in growth by frequent alterations in their amount of top. When trees in the nursery are formed, they may be selected that are much alike in size and figure, and the planter may have before him an orchard not only of good fruit producing trees, but those doing him credit in their similarity to each other, and in their symmetry of form.

Fifty trees, such as we have described, and set as suggested above, will be more productive than one hundred of an indifferent description, and set in a careless manner.—N. E. Farmer.

THE FOOT OF A HORSE.—The human hand has often been taken to illustrate Divine wisdom—and very well. But have you ever examined your horse's foot? It is hardly less curious, in its way. Its parts are somewhat complicated, yet their design is simple and obvious.

HORSE WITH A BROKEN LEG.—In August, 1857, as my neighbor, H. Burton, was training a young horse of three or four years, he threw himself, and the second time he got up it was with one hind leg broken about two inches above the ankle. Mr. B. came over to my house and wished me to go and see it. I did so, and on examination I found it so badly broken, that when we moved the foot the bones would rattle like a parcel of broken crockery.