

Youth's Department.

BIBLE LESSONS.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH, 1862.

Read—JOHN xiv. 1-14: Christ's comforts his disciples. DEUT. xxxi. 19-30: God's charge to Moses.

Recite—JOHN xiii. 33-35.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH, 1862.

Read—JOHN xiv. 15-31: Christ continues his farewell discourse. DEUT. xxxii. 1-14: Moses' song.

Recite—JOHN xiv. 1-3.

"SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES."

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

- 193. What do the Scriptures teach concerning the present occupation of our Lord in heaven?
194. To whom should confessions of sin be made?

Answers to questions given last week:—

- 191. Leviticus xvi. 13-15.
192. Atonement, Heb. x. 10-12: Intercession Heb. vii. 25: and Benediction John xiv. 27: and Numbers vi. 24-26.

For the Christian Messenger.

Amusement for the thoughtful.

[We have received two Solutions of Puzzle No. 14. As they differ in a matter of opinion, and as the latter contains an interesting explanatory note, we think our young friends will be pleased to read both. Ed. C. M.]

ANSWERS TO SCRIPTURE PUZZLE No. 14.

In the 11th of Judges I think I have found Your Puzzle's solution—so deep and profound! The name of your father was Jephthah, the Jew, A judge over Israel—a great warrior too. And you were his daughter so merry and gay, Who grew up in his grace day after day. He vow'd a firm vow to the Lord, that, if He Would deliver to him the proud enemy, The children of Ammon, and that without fail, That the heathen no longer might Israel assail, Then, what'er should come from the doors of his house, To meet him return from slaying his foes, He would present it to God for "a burnt offering." He went forth, and defeated the Ammonite king,— Then, returning in triumph, Oh! whom should he meet But his only dear daughter, who came forth to greet Her victorious father with timbrel and dance!— Saddest day of his life when he saw her advance! For he knew that his vow to the Lord must be kept! Most dutifully she her sad fate did accept. Well might the fair daughters of Israel lament Their lovely companion who from them was rent!— And well might his heart with agony swell— With feelings which none but a parent can tell!

Cornwallis, Oct. 26th 1862.

You say you were happy in paternal affection, No doubt that is true, but his sadder reflection, Your father was brave, and he fought with much valor, And subdued all the Ammonites dwelling in Azoer. But he made a rash vow, for which you must endure But not in the way in which many seem sure That your father, to fulfil his vow, took your life, Is absurd:—he but prevented you being a wife.\* Although in the book, you may seem linked with slaughter, Your name is not given, but are styled JEPHTHAH'S DAUGHTER

See Judges ii.

\* That Jephthah did not sacrifice his daughter (as some suppose) but consecrated her to the Tabernacle service, in a state of celibacy, will, we imagine, appear plain from the following considerations. 1. Human sacrifices were ever an abomination to the Lord, which Jephthah must have known, and would neither have made such a vow, nor carried it into execution. 2. We are expressly told in ver. 29 that Jephthah was under the influence of the Spirit of God which would certainly prevent him from embracing his babes in the blood of his own child. 3. He had it in his power to redeem his daughter at a very moderate price, Lev. xxvii. 4, and surely the blood of his only child must have been of more value than thirty shekels. 4. Besides, who was to perform the horrid rite? not Jephthah himself, who was no priest, and in whom it would have been most inhuman, and the priests would certainly have dissuaded him from it. 5. The learned say the original (Hebrew) may be translated thus—"The Israelitish women used yearly to comfort, or lament with the daughter of Jephthah."

Notwithstanding these considerations with others that might be adduced, Sears, in his Pictorial Bible, has presented to the eyes of the world this horrid spectacle.

There is the fire burning on the altar—the beautiful daughter of Jephthah kneeling blind-folded, one attendant holding her hands behind, another holding a basin to catch her blood, her breast bared, her dear old father in pontifical robes (I suppose by the breast plate &c.) with his hand raised high—grasping the horrid knife, and just in the act of plunging it into her bosom.

Yarmouth.

SCRIPTURE PUZZLE No. 15.

I once was fair—divinely fair, And clothed in glories rich and rare, Joy from my heart and music rose, Such as no mortal ever knows. Earth was my home, tho' sprung from heaven,

A royal gift to mankind given. But change which falls on all below, With fatal blight soon brought me low. The dearest treasures of my heart, I saw in one sad hour depart— My royal honors passed away, And I forsaken, helpless lay. No friendly visit cheered my gloom, I became as a deserted tomb.

But I was honored after death, The historic page—the poets wreath, The sounding lyre, the trump of fame My honors through the world proclaim. Some mortals deem a trace may be Of my mysterious history, Men oft in death with longing eyes Hope to regain me in the skies.

Aylesford Sept. 30. 1862.

Presents to the Queen of Portugal.

The presents sent by the Pope to his god-daughter, Princess Maria Pia on the occasion of her marriage, are worth, it is said, several hundred thousand francs. One consists of a double leaf of massive gold, opening in the form of an album, and containing two precious relics—a piece of the veil of the Holy Virgin, and a thorn from the crown of our Saviour!—These two relics are imbedded in the gold-leaves and surrounded by a border of precious stones. The two outer surfaces are ornamented with two extremely beautiful miniatures, corresponding to the recess in which the relics are placed. The miniature at the back of the veil represents an Adlocorata, and the other an Ecce Homo. There is also a chaplet of 315 beads, each separated by a pearl and a diamond; also a time-piece of exquisite workmanship, the hours of which are each represented by a relic; lastly, there is an heraldic album of the Popes, with portraits and inscriptions relative to each Pontiff, the whole ornamented with precious stones. The binding is in gold, studded with jewels. The present of the Municipality of Naples is a splendid set of ornaments in pink coral, of the value, as already stated, of 30,000fr. consisting of a necklace of two rows; several bracelets; double pins, one in a single piece, worth 300fr.; twelve large buttons for a riding-dress, others for cuffs, with combs and pins for the hair, the whole most admirably carved. The artist took four years to complete this set, as the coral fishery could not sooner supply him with the peculiar kind of coral required. The ornaments are placed in a case covered with velvet and studded with coral-headed nails.—Other Italian towns are seizing the opportunity to evince their loyalty to the reigning dynasty. Bologna, Ravenna, Parma, and the minor Emilian towns vie with the large cities of Lombardy and Tuscany in sending nuptial gifts, no less remarkable for good taste and appropriateness than for splendour and costliness. The Patriot Committee at Rome, not to be behindhand, have been collecting large sums to join their countrymen in all parts of Italy in giving the King's daughter a proof of their devotion. Poetical effusions, as may be easily imagined, are not wanting. There are odes from Modena, erotic songs from Florence, mottoes from Novara—The Minister of Finance bethought himself of paying down the Princess's dowry (500,000fr.) in so many marenghi, or bran-new pieces of 20fr. fresh from the mint, and bearing the new stamp of "Regno d'Italia." These 25,000 gold coins were to be delivered to the head of the Portuguese mission, together with the person of the bride.—Mention is made of a present from the King of Italy to the young Queen, and the value of which is stated to be not less than 800,000fr. It consists of two necklaces, a diadem enriched with brilliants and other precious stones, and an Etruscan bracelet.—Among the presents, says a Turin letter, sent to the young Queen was a splendid diadem by the Emperor Napoleon III.

A Bank tradition.

The Bank of England possesses some singular traditions and experiences. I heard the other day an anecdote from an authentic source, although it related to something that happened many years ago—before the life-time of the present generation. The directors received an anonymous letter, stating that the writer had the means of access to their bullion-room. They treated the matter as a hoax, and took no notice of the letter. Another more urgent and specific letter failed to rouse them. At length the writer offered to meet them in the bullion-room at any hour they pleased to name. They then communicated with their correspondent through the channel he had indicated appointing some "dark and midnight hour" for the rendezvous. A deputation from the board, lantern in hand, repaired to the bullion-room, locked themselves in, and awaited the arrival of the mysterious correspondent. Punctual to the hour a noise was heard below. Some boards in the floor were without much trouble displaced, and in a few minutes the Guy Fawkes of the bank stood in the midst of the astonished directors! His story was very simple and straightforward. An old drain ran under the bullion-room, the existence of which had become known to him, and by means of which he might have carried away enormous sums. Inquiry was made. Nothing had been abstracted, and the directors rewarded the honesty and ingenuity of their anonymous correspondent—a working man, who had been employed in repairing the sewers—by a present of 800fr.—Correspondent of The Birmingham Post.

For health's sake.

Never put a pin in the mouth or between the teeth, for a single instant, because a sudden effort to laugh or to speak may convey it into the throat or lungs, or stomach, causing death in a few minutes.

It is better to have no button or string about any garment worn during the night. A long, loose nightgown is the best thing to sleep in. Many a man has facilitated an attack of apoplexy by buttoning the shirt-collar.

If you wake up of a cold night and find yourself very restless, get out of bed, and standing on a piece of carpet or cloth of any kind, spend five or ten minutes in rubbing the whole body vigorously and rapidly with the hands, having previously thrown the bed clothing towards the foot of the bed so as to air both bed and body.

If you find you have inadvertently eaten too much, instead of taking something to settle the stomach, thus adding to the load under which it already labors, take a continuous walk, with just enough activity to keep up a slight moisture or perspiration on the skin, and do not stop until entirely relieved, but end your exercise in a warm room so as to cool off very slowly.

Never put on a pair of new boots or shoes on a journey; rather wear your easiest, oldest pair; otherwise you will soon be painfully disabled.

A loose fitting boot or shoe, while travelling in winter, will keep the feet warmer without any stockings at all, than a tight pair, over the thickest, warmest hose.

Riding against a cold, piercing wind immediately after singing or speaking in public, is suicide. Many public speakers have been disabled for life by speaking under a hoarseness of voice.

If you happen to get wet in cold weather, keep moving on-foot with a rapidity sufficient to keep off a feeling of chilliness until you get into a house, and not waiting to undress, drink instantly and plentifully of hot tea of some sort then undress, wipe dry quickly, and put on warm dry clothing.

Never go to bed with cold feet if you want to sleep well.

If a person faints, place him instantly flat on a bed, or floor, or the earth, on his back, and quietly let him alone at least ten minutes; if it is simply a fainting fit, the blood, flowing on a level, will more speedily equalize itself throughout the system; cold water dashed in the face, or a sitting position are unnecessary and pernicious.—Hall's Journal of Health.

MR. CHISHOLM'S SCALE.—We have been requested to give insertion to the following letter concerning a mechanical contrivance of a Mr. Chisholm of Antigonish, we believe, sent to the London Exhibition but which happened to be too late to receive the attention of the judges. The Scale was, at the request of the Rev. Mr. Honeyman, handed to Professor de Morgan, of University College London one of the first Mathematicians of the age, by Mr. Benjamin Jenkins, son of Mr. Wm. Jenkins of this city, who had been attending the learned Professor's classes. The following is Professor de Morgan's letter:—

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, August 20 1862.

Dear Sir,— I have examined the instrument which you left for my inspection. I saw instantly what it meant: for, thirty years ago, I had a notion of the same sort, for which I had some wood ruled. But, instead a travelling radius, with ruled parallels, I used a travelling parallel with ruled radius. Your countryman's plan is better than mine.

The instrument itself is as good as it can be, nearly.—The radius ought to be of wood, with divisions on a bevelled edge: the card cannot be depended upon, and will soon wear. As it is, and while new, the instrument gives results as accurate as anything of the size could do.

As to the question of bringing such a contrivance into use, the circumstances are as follows: we know that there is a general indisposition to mechanical aids to calculation. The sliding rule is very little used, and yet it is a reservoir of power which would greatly augment the capabilities of many a calculator. No notion of logarithms is required, of those who do use the sliding rule, many have no idea of the word logarithm nor of the thing.

Again, practical mathematicians not only dispense with such aids to obtain results, but they will not even employ them for rough verification. And beginners are not taught, as they might be, to help their faith in their answers by the use of a mechanical solution. It is true that Gunter's Scale is used in naval education, but though I do not certainly know it, I am inclined to think that the use of this scale is on the decline.

I can hardly then encourage the inventor to hope that his instrument will have a fair trial given to it. If recommendation were of any use, I should advise that some teachers should fairly try the scale made by Mr. Chisholm against the sliding rule. It would be worth the trial, were it only for the interest it would excite in the pupils, if their answers were to be made the means of judging between the two rival machines.

I am not prepared to say which would be voted the best accompaniment to instruction. There is more routine about the sliding rule, and greater facility on some leading points. But there is more perception of the necessity of the results in Mr. Chisholm's scale, which is indeed the sixth book of Euclid in action.

I will not pretend to give a decision about the relative facilities of two instruments. This would require a long trial of both. But I think both might be advantageously used in teaching, and I think that beginners of all kinds would be the better for using some mechanical contrivance in verifying the leading figures of results.

Mr. Chisholm is sanguine about making his scale to a great extent a substitute for actual calculation. This is the case with all similar inventions. They use their contrivances till their contrivances fit their thoughts as well as their gloves fit their hands, and then they assure the world that every man can easily do what they do. This would be true if other men would take as much pains as they have done; but other men will not do it.

The practical question is what use can other men derive upon such practice as we know they will give. And the answer I believe to be this. Let the contrivance be recommended as a rough verification of calculation, to be used alone only when a rough answer is all that is wanted, and after some experience of its use in verification. The capacity of such contrivances as primary substitutes for arithmetical work is always over-rated; the hopes which are held out prove delusive; and the use of the machine is dropped.—There are many persons who know that they stand in need of a rough monitor, which shall assure them that they are right in the main; and these might be induced to try a contrivance which pretends to be nothing more. They would find this pretension justified, and would continue to use it.

Mr. Chisholm's scale is very ingenious and well planned.

I am, Dear Sir, Yours faithfully, A. DE MORGAN.

Agriculture, &c.

NOVEMBER.

The ice has come! The cold-lipp'd Frost has kiss'd The waters while they slept at night; his breath has fix'd them in a torpor as of death. Nor shrub nor flower the midnight ranger miss'd, But on them all he laid his fatal fingers. He touch'd the trees; and when the sun comes forth And warms the leaves, they fall in sudden showers; The change from frost to sunny heat o'erpowers The feeble health that in them tamely lingers. The blast is keen this morning from the north; All tender things are dying day by day; Soon, soon will they be gone, and seen no more, And we shall stand on nature's wintry shore, The gentle dews of summer having pass'd away.

ECONOMY OF SMALL FARMS.

The Maine Farmer in an article on Chinese husbandry, deduces some conclusions in regard to the economy of small farms.

1. The term small farms may need some qualification. In France the majority of farms do not average more than five acres each, but here a farm of from fifty to seventy-five acres each; would be called a small farm. And we believe there is more profit in working a farm of this size, considering the expenses attendant upon it, than in carrying on a farm of three hundred acres. Eventually, all our farms will be reduced in size, partly for the purpose of conducting them to more profit, and partly because agriculture will ultimately be the leading profession engaged in.

2. We learn another lesson from their methods of saving fertilizing materials to apply to the soil—a lesson of the greatest importance, and one which we could use to good advantage. Were the same economy in saving manure practiced here as is common in China, we could support a population double our present number, send men enough to war to put down every rebellion, equip England and France, pay all our taxes, and leave everybody rich.

3. In the application of manure and irrigation, another lesson is taught us. There is no doubt that manure in a liquid form is the best food for plants that can be applied. It comes in direct contact with the roots, and in a form readily to be available for their growth. The more liquid manure we use, and the more irrigation is practiced—where practicable—the greater will be our crops and the more sure our success.

TREATMENT OF ANIMALS.

The Stock Journal says:—"Horses require daily exercise in the open air, and can no more be expected to exist without it than their owners. Exercise is an essential feature in stable management, and like well-opportuned food, tends alike to preserve the health of horses. Daily exercise is necessary for all horses unless they are sick; it assists and promotes a free circulation of the blood, determines morbid matter to the surface, develops the muscular structure, creates an appetite, improves the wind, and finally invigorates the whole system. We cannot expect much of a horse that has not been habituated to sufficient daily exercise; while such as have been daily exercised and well managed, are capable not only of great exertion and fatigue, but are ready and willing to do our bidding at any season. When an animal is overworked it renders the system very susceptible to whatever morbid influences may be present, and imparts to the disease they may labor under an unusual degree of severity. The exhaustion produced by want of rest is equally dangerous; such horses are always among the first victims of disease, and when attacked their treatment is embarrassing and unsatisfactory.

Animals that are permitted to roam in the salt marshes are generally the most healthy, as they consume a large amount of saline material. The antiseptic property of salt is now well known and appreciated by most husbandmen, and the farmer might as well think of entirely dispensing with food as to fail in seasoning food with salt. No animal can long exist without salt; in the stomach it operates favorably, and has a healthy action on the liver, it also prevents the food from running into fermentation, and is death on intestinal parasites.