

Month's Department.

BIBLE LESSONS.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH, 1863.

Read—Acts v. 1-20: The sin of Ananias and Sapphira. JOSHUA xi.: Further victories obtained by Israel.

Recite—Acts iv. 31, 32.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH, 1863.

Read—Acts v. 21-42: Gamaliel's advice. JOSHUA xii.: Summary of Israel's conquests.

Recite—Acts v. 12-15.

"SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES."

Write down what you suppose to be the answer to the following question.

15. We read of the dove in the bible. Mention the instances and of what it was illustrative.

Answer to question given last week:—

- 14—Of the Gentiles. Matt. xv. 22, 26. Of covetous ministers. Isaiah lvi. 11. Of fools. Proverbs xxvi. 11. Of Apostles. 2 Peter ii. 22. Of persecutors. Psalm xxii. 16, 20. Of obstinate sinners. Matt. vii. 6. Of false teachers. Philippians iii. 2. Of unfaithful ministers (dumb). Isaiah lvi. Of the mean spirited (dead). 1 Sam. iv. 14; 2 Sam. ix. 8.

For the Christian Messenger.

Amusement for the thoughtful.

ANSWER TO SCRIPTURE PUZZLE, No. 25.

- 1. Jericho. Joshua ii. 2. Edom. Obadiah i. 3. Samaria. John iv. 4. Uphaz. Jeremiah x. 5. Salem. Hebrews vii. 6. Weeping. Matthew xxiv. 51. 7. Egypt. Genesis xlii. 8. Pontus. Acts xviii. 9. Thyatira. Acts xvi. 10. JESUS WEPT. John xi. 35.

SCRIPTURE PUZZLE, No. 26.

The following is another variety of enigma than those we have had before. The solution requires changes in the word, which will exercise the ingenuity of our young friends in a little different style from those they have previously had.

I have been found upon the plain Of battle; midst the heaps of slain Oft by contending armies strewed, Without the sign or name of feud. But when I'm of my head bereft, A well-known kind of fruit is left. Transpose those parts and they will show What John beheld an angel do. Behead again, give one more shake— A curious animal I'll make. One shake will fail, so try a second: A well known sort of pulse I'm reckoned. The middle part of which, destroyed, And, as at first, the rest employed. To men at sea I'm useful found, And oft in natural caves abound. Reverse those parts and then transpose, — I make a tool mechanics use; From which if you the head should break, A poisonous reptile I would make. If from my parts, as first I stood, The first and second you exclude, All must acknowledge I am found Most useful in discovering sound. Now, Bible-readers, be so kind, And tell us where my name you find; And tell us how, in art or nature, I form so changeable a creature.

Onslow, Jan. 16th, 1863.

Incidents in the "progress" of the Princess Alexandra.

THE GENERAL'S "FAUX PAS" AT GRAVES-ENA. The Princess stopped at the pier-head and bowed low in acknowledgment, and as she did so a general officer following stood upon the skirt of her rich robe, which as she went to move forward, again brought her up, to use a nautical phrase, with a jerk that jerked the Princess, and neither could entirely suppress the smile that threatened downright laughter at the incident just as they emerged upon the pier.—Times.

BABIES IN THE CRUSH.—At one time a baby was held up in the crowd which had all the appearance of being dead or dying. At another a woman was seen to throw a child, about a year and a half old, into a passing carriage to save its life, and was then swept into the vortex of the crowd herself. It may interest her to know that the poor child was afterwards given over to a police-constable, and by him taken to the office of a relieving-officer in Northumberland-alley.—Ib.

THE PRINCESS SUCCOURS ONE OF THE CROWD.—The royal carriage was enabled to turn the corner at the Mansion House, but only with the greatest difficulty, and no sooner had it done so than the crowd, impelled forward by irresistible force from behind, hemmed it completely round. While the Princess was acknowledging the tumultuous and ringing cheers

which greeted her from every point, even from the summits of the loftiest roofs, the pressure increased to such an intensity as to threaten danger to the occupants of the carriage themselves. With her own hands she was seen to gently remove the head of some youth who had got entangled in the wheels, and was in evident danger of being crushed. This incident occasioned great excitement among the ladies in the balcony.—Morning Post.

THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA'S BRIDAL BOUQUET.—Mr. James Veitch, junior, of the Royal Exotic Nursery, King's road, Chelsea, by special permission of the Prince of Wales, had the honour of presenting the wedding bouquet. It was of the most beautiful description, being composed of orange blossoms, white rosebuds, rare orchideous flowers, and sprigs of myrtle, with a trimming of Holiton lace. The myrtle was by express command of her Majesty sent from Osborne, and was taken from plants reared from the sprigs used in the bridal bouquet which Mr. Veitch had the honour to present to her Royal Highness the Princess Royal. We understand it is her Majesty's desire to have myrtle plants raised from each of the bridal bouquets of the Royal Family, and kept in the gardens at Osborne, in remembrance of these auspicious events.

The Welcome to Alexandra.

BY THE POET LAUREATE.

Sea-kings' daughter from over the sea, Alexandra! Saxon and Norman and Dane are we, But all of us Danes in our welcome of thee, Alexandra!

Welcome her, thunders of fort and of fleet! Welcome her, thundering cheer of the street! Welcome her, all things youthful and sweet! Scatter the blossoms under her feet! Break, happy land, into earlier flowers! Make music, O bird, in the new-budded bowers! Welcome her, welcome her, all that is ours! Flags, flutter out upon turrets and towers! Warble, O bugle, and trumpet, blare! Flames, on the windy headland flare! Utter your jubilee, steeple and spire! Clash, ye bells, in the merry March air! Flash, ye cities, in rivers of fire! Welcome her, welcome the land's desire, Alexandra!

Sea-kings daughter as happy as fair, Blissful bride of a blissful heir, Bride of the heir of the kings of the sea, O joy to the people and joy to the throne, Come to us, love us and make us your own: For Saxon or Dane or Norman we, Teuton or Celt, or whatever we be, We are each all Dane in our welcome of thee, Alexandra!

THE ROYAL WEDDING CAKE stood five feet and a half high, and at the base two and a half broad, and weighed upwards of one hundred pounds. Mr. Pagniez adhered to the associations of the place in which the royal wedding was celebrated, and, adopting a Gothic design, produced an ornamental "elevation" (if we may use the term) which reminded us of one of our old English crosses of the Edwards, such as we still see standing at Waltham in remembrance of Queen Eleanor.

The design was divided into four parts or stories. The basement was octagonal, and within its arches two niches contained the arms of England and Denmark, with alternate arches occupied by figures of the Muses. Between the basement and the next tier of arches cornucopias hung over the parapet, and medallions of the Prince and princess form the bases of the pillars above. The shafts of these pillars were again hung with heraldic devices—the plumes of the Prince, and other such significant badges; while within, and occupying the centre, were figures emblematic of Hymen, surrounded by Cupids, and other mythological attendants upon the nuptial ceremony. On reaching the next story, or (if we may borrow terms from architecture) on attaining the clerestory, the octagonal shape contracted into an hexagonal form, within the arches of which the god of love sported, surrounded by a variety of complimentary emblems. Above this, the next story, quadrilateral, rose, which, being more contracted in size and approaching the apex, was dealt with as a sort of base for a slender vase surmounting the whole structure, out of which orange-flower wreaths hung from column to column, and sufficiently designated the purpose for which this elaborate piece of confectionary was designed.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY IN PHOTOGRAPHY. Mr. John Pouncy, of Dorchester, who was awarded a silver medal and 400*l* for his "carbon process" by the Photographic Society of France, has just taken out a patent for an important improvement, by which he has brought ordinary printers' ink into the service of photography. This ink is mixed with certain chemicals, and spread completely over the paper intended to be submitted to the action of the rays of light through a "negative"; and the secret consists in rendering it so sensitive that an indelible photograph may be fixed on the paper, leaving the other portions so free as to be easily washed off.

LETTER-DIRECTING EXTRAORDINARY.—A letter put in the Ballspood post-office recently bore the following very intelligible (!) direction—"Please Postman will you deliver this at a house close to the (New) River, and when the bell rings, ask for Jenny Banks?"

Provincial Parliament.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

CHURCH SYNOD BILL.—(Concluded.)

HON. SOLICITOR GENERAL'S SPEECH.

Hon. Sol. Gen'l would briefly state the reasons which influenced him in voting,—as he was about to vote,—for the bill. At a very early period of his legislative career a bill was introduced for the incorporation of the Roman Catholic Bishop, and after a good deal of consideration, seeing nothing dangerous in it, he had voted for the measure. Bills were subsequently asked for by the Wesleyan Methodists, and the Presbyterians, and those he had also supported. It was true, for he did not wish to do injustice to this question in any respect, those acts were more applicable to temporalities than otherwise. Now the Episcopalians were asking for an act, and it would be inconsistent for him to throw obstructions in their way, and to refuse them what they had a right to ask, and what the house in all fairness ought to concede.

The denomination to which he had the honor to belong, had stood in the fore front of the battle for religious liberty, fought in the dark period of history, and it would be unworthy of him to impose restrictions on any religious body.

Where any denomination asked for an act which did not interfere with the rights of others, he held that they were entitled to it. He believed, moreover, that the peace and prosperity of any denomination were largely bound up with the success which any application of that kind received. Where such an application was refused, it only excited those feelings which eventually brought a redoubled influence to bear on the Legislature—an influence which was almost certain to succeed in the end.

He was not going to enter into the controversy as between the persons advocating the bill and those opposing it. That had been already done with more ability than he could do it. He could remember when denominational prejudices ran high in this Province, but he congratulated the people of this country that the time had now arrived when such prejudices were dissipated, and kindly feelings prevailed among good men of all denominations. He from his heart regretted the spectacle now presented of one portion of a denomination being arrayed against another portion of the same body. He believed that the bill was in union with the wishes of a large majority of that denomination. Had he come to the same conclusion as the select committee, that the passage of the bill would cause discord and disunion, he should cordially have united with them in deferring it. (Hon. Mr. Dickey: Hear, hear.) But he believed there was not that want of unanimity which the committee seemed to imagine.

On the contrary, he thought there was rather a remarkable amount of unanimity on the subject among the Churchmen of Nova Scotia. On that point he would refer to the petition which had been laid on the table by the Chairman of the Select Committee. That petition had neither date nor locality; and although it had 140 names attached to it, it was evident that they were all in the handwriting of certainly not more than two individuals. He thought some explanation should be given of this fact. He need not argue the point that if the 47,000 Churchmen were unitedly in favor of the Bill nobody would object to it. If 40,000 or 45,000 were for it, and only a small section against it, ought the voice of the latter to prevail against so large a majority? In the Legislature how often did a majority of only one decide, perhaps, an important question, and influence the whole legislation of the country. He was informed that in convocation 28 clergymen voted for the Bill, and but 7 against it, and that of the laity 29 voted for it, 1 against it, and one declined to vote because he would be called on to vote in another place. Provided that the convocation was such as he assumed it was, fairly representing the great body of the Church, he thought it showed a pretty unanimous expression of opinion.

Hon. Mr. Almon remarked that if the whole laity allowed to vote had been present, there would have been 90 of them.

Hon. Sol. Gen'l replied that if the laity that were not present had an opportunity of knowing what was to be done, by the laws regulating such matters, their silence was their consent, unless they at once made some protest against it. He thought that law governed this body.

He understood one of the hon. gentlemen who opposed the bill yesterday to say that the Church people were ignorant of its nature. Was that so? He (Sol. Gen'l) had been taught from his childhood to believe that the Church people were an intelligent and educated people. They had an organ, and as a body he believed that they knew perfectly well what was going on with respect to this measure, and understood it just as well as the Baptists of Nova Scotia would understand a measure touching their interests which had been published in their organ and discussed for three months.

He was asked to rescue Churchmen from themselves. That was not his mission.

He had been led to believe, until he saw the bill, that the Synod was already organized, and that the object of the bill was to legislate for an organization already in existence. That, however, was not the nature of the bill. The Synod was to meet after the passage of the bill, to frame a Constitution.

Both hon. gentlemen who addressed the house yesterday had spoken of the veto as an objection to the bill. That argument was a fallacy. The bill authorized the Synod to organize for itself.

The Constitution had yet to be framed. The bill did for the Church people just what any incorporation act did for the members of the Corporation,—enabled them to meet to form their own rules and regulations.

If the Bill had asked for legislation for a previous organization, he might have stayed his hand, but it did nothing of the kind. It appeared that those who opposed the Bill had not confidence enough in the members of their own body to believe that they would frame a suitable Constitution and Bye-Laws. That, he thought, was a fair, legitimate sequence from the style of their argument. That was not very complimentary to themselves, and he assumed that in this age of enlightenment, and taking Churchmen sitting here as samples of their body, that Churchmen generally were perfectly able to take care of themselves, and that no unsuitable rules would be passed by the Synod. It might be said, "Judge them by what they have done already,—they have given the Bishop his veto before, and they will do so again." He was not prepared to say that they would not, nor was he prepared to say that it would not be a wise thing if they did so.

He would ask those Churchmen who opposed the bill to answer this question: What is the juridical power of a Bishop in a colony? Was he in the same relation to the parishes, people, and communicants as a Bishop in England? If not, let the opponents of the bill point out the difference. Did the Bishop here, where not interfered with by our Statutes, possess the same power as a Bishop in England? If so, then he was by this bill giving up a large portion of his power. If so, he (Sol. Gen.) could not understand what there was in this measure which alarmed members of the Church of England.

He would remind hon. gentlemen that churches were delicate pieces of machinery, and that these disputes generated where there was the least real religion. He was not going to say who was to blame, but it was unfortunate—it was deeply to be regretted by every Churchman—that this antagonism existed.

It might be that a rejection of the bill would induce the majority to withdraw this application, but he very much doubted it. He thought the result would be to bring down upon this Legislature a power which it would be impossible to resist.

But why should members of other denominations oppose the Bill? The fourth clause provided that the Bill should not apply to any parish hitherto unrepresented in the Synod, which should pass a resolution declaring its desire to be excluded. What more could have been done to conciliate the opponents of the Bill? The House should not assume that the Clergymen did not understand what was beneficial to their own interests. He did not think that the Council should undertake to tell these gentlemen that they did not know what they were doing. Every member of the Church of England should concede certain rights to his Bishop, but the opponents of the bill were trying to combine two things which could not be combined, independent of the parishes and Episcopal Church government.

The veto had been made a great bugbear, but he could not see the great danger of it, because the Bishop could press no measure of himself.—Though he might refuse his assent to a good measure. Should not the house assume that the Bishop and Clergy had at least an earnest desire for the spiritual welfare of their people? He believed in his heart that they thought that by the bill they would promote the benefit of their people. What motive could the Bishop have in placing himself in conflict with a large body of his own people? Higher than all temporal obligations were the solemn vows he had taken, which would naturally restrain him.

(The hon. gentleman then went on to comment on the remarks of hon. Mr. Almon yesterday as to the insertion of a clause in the bill by the Bishop after it had passed the Synod.)

Some discussion took place between the hon. gentleman and hon. Mr. Almon on this point. The following written memorandum was subsequently read by the Solicitor General, and acquiesced in by hon. Mr. Almon, as being admitted by all parties to contain a true statement of the facts:—

The clause was introduced by the select committee of the House of Assembly on the understanding that the Bishop and the Committee of Synod would not object to it, and that the parish of St. Paul's would not call a parish meeting, though not approving the clause.)

HON. MR. PINEO'S SPEECH.

Hon. Mr. Pineo observed that, having been one of the select committee on the bill, he should make a few remarks to explain why he participated in their report. The Sol. General had spoken of the large majority of Church people in favor of the bill. He (Mr. P.) could explain to him how that majority was obtained. At the vestry meetings the parishes had the opportunity of appointing two delegates to represent them in the Synod. In his parish it very often happened that a quorum could not be obtained at those meetings, and they had to go into the highways to find persons to constitute a meeting. He presumed that the same thing occurred in other parts of the province. Out of some 50 parishes said to be represented in the Synod, there might be some 7 or 8 that were actually and fairly represented there. Was it not well known that the Bishop had the clergy largely under his control? On their arrival here to attend the Synod, the Bishop no doubt told them that it was necessary to have the bill; and as a favor to him they would naturally vote for it. People in the country did not know what the Synod was, much less the practical operation of the bill. That, at all events, was the case with a great many persons in his parish. If the bill passed, the people would wake up by