BIBLE LESSONS.

Sunday, January 22nd, 1865.

LUKE xii. 22-40: Worldly care reproved. 1 SAM-UEL XXX. 21-31: David taketh and divideth the Recite-MATTHEW VI. 33-34.

-ca pully as was stopped to fall their store Sunday, January 29th, 1865.

LUKB XII.41-59: Watchfulness enforced. 1 SAMUEL XXXI.: Saul's defeat and death, and triumph of Recite MATTHEW VII. 1-6.

CHARLES TALLORS FOUNDMEND Adventure with a Boa Constrictor,

At the earliest possible moment after our camp had been pitched a hunt was set afoct and Capt. Grant, myself and some attendants were soon making our way to "the path." There were no animals there when we arrived, except a few hippopotami, and we were therefore obliged to wait the coming of some more palatable game. Our patience, however, was severely taxed; and after a long delay we were about to bag a hoppopotamus, when one of our attendants, perched in a tree about half a mile distant, began waving his blanket. This was a signal that game was approaching. We immediately drew into cover and awaited the coming up of the latter. Joing and and the

We were not delayed long, for presently a long column of animals, from the elephant to the hoo-doo, appeared in view, trotting at a good pace to the river. Their flanks were soon presented to us, and each selecting his object, fired. McColl shot a fine young buffalo cow while Capt. Grant was equally successful with a hoo-doo, and several spears cast by our attendants stopped the career of one or two dif-ferent animals of the herd.

At this juncture, however, occurred an unexpected adventure that finished our sport, at least for that day. I had sprung forward immediately after firing, in order to obtain a fair shot at a huge elephant that I wanted to bring down on account of his immense tusks, I got the desired aim, and pulled the trigger of my second barrel. At the moment of my doing so, a wild cry of alarm, uttered by one of the blacks, called my attention. Glancing round, my eye chanced to range up into the foliage of the tree beneath which Capt. Grant and myself had lain for several hours previous. My feelings may possibly be imagined, as I beheld an enormous boa constrictor, whose hideous head and neck, projecting some distance into view showed that he was about to make a fatal spring. His direction was certainly towards me; and as he dashed from his position like a thunderbolt, I gave myself up, for ere aid could reach me, fold after fold of the monster would have crushed my strong frame into a quivering pulp. I fell, seemingly caught in a whirlwind of dust, and a strange, indescribable scuffle ensued. In the midst of this terrible strife I suddenly became conscious of the presence of a second victim, and even after the time that has elapsed since then, I still recollect with what vividness the thought shot across my mind that this second victim was Capt. Grant, my neble companion. At last, after being thus whirled about for several seconds-each second seeming to be interminable—there ensued a full, a still ness as of death, and I opened my eyes, expecting to look upon those unexplored landscapes which are seen only in the country beyond the tomb. Instead of that, I saw Capt. Grant levelling his rifle towards me, while standing beside and behind him were the blacks, in every conceivable attitude of the most intense suspense.

In a moment I comprehended all. The huge serpent had struck a young buffalo cow, between which and him I had unluckily placed myself at the moment of firing upon the elephant. A most singular good fortune had attended me, however; for instead of being crushed into a mangled mass with the unfortunate cow, my left forearm only had been caught in the buffalo's body and a single fold of the constrictor. The limb laid just in front of the shoulder, at the root of the neck, and thus had a soft bed of flesh into which it was jammed, as it were, by the immense pressure of the serpent's body, that was like iron in hardness. As I saw Grant about to shoot, a terror took possession of me for if he refrained I might possibly escape, after the boa released his folds from the dead cow. But should he fire and strike the reptile it would, in its convulsions, crush or drag me to do the thing requested. When people wish to pieces. Even as the idea came to me I beheld be cheaply polite, there is nothing like this kind plenty, but husbands none at all. Grant pause. He appeared to fully comprehend all. He could see how I was situatedthat I was still living, and that my delivery depended on the will of the constrictor. We of gratitude, that ought to be paid in better could see every line on each other's face, so coin, are often paid with it. People that have close were we, and I would have shouted, or spoken, or even whispered at him had I dared. But the boa's head was reared within a few inches of mine, and the wink of au eyelid would perhaps settle my doom: so I stared, stared like a dead man at Grant and at the blacks.

Presently the serpent began gradually to relax his folds, and retightening them several times as the crushed buffalo quivered, be unwound one fold entirely. Then he paused. The next iron-like band was the one which held clasping, my heart stood still with hope and says, "Come and dine with me to-day—dinner on the table at 5 o'clock,"—go if you can, and you will be all the better for it in mind and arm, uncontrolled by my will, might fall from the cushion-like bed in which it lay. And such a mishap might bring the spare told around my neck or chest, and then farewell to the sources. The terror of being thought poor has be of the Nile. O, how hardly, how desperately the ruin of thousands.

I struggled to command myself! I glanced at Grant and saw him handling his rifle anxiously. I glanced at the negroes and saw them still gazing, as though petrified with astonishment. I glanced at the serpent's loathsome head, and saw its bright, deadly eyes, watching for the least signs of life in its prey. Now, then, the reptile loosened its fold on my arm a hair's breadth, and now a little more, until half an inch of space separated my arm and its mottled skin. I could have whipped out my hand, but dared not take the risk. Atoms of time dragged themselves into ages, and a minute seemed eternity itself! The second told was removed entirely, and the next one was easing. Should I dash away now, or wait a more favorable movement? I decided upon the former; and, with lightning speed I bounded away towards Grant, the crack of whose piece I heard at the thoroughly overcome; and sinking down, I remained in a semi-conscious state for several

When I fully recovered, Grant and the over joyed negroes held me up, and pointed out the boa, who was still writhing in his death agonies. I shuddered as I looked upon the effects of his the defendant had to pay all expenses. tremendous, dying strength. For yards around where he lay, grass, and bushes, and saplings, and in fact everything except the more fully grown trees, were cut clean off, as though they had been trimmed with an immense scythe. This monster, when measured, was fifty-one feet two inches and a half in extreme length, while round the thickest portion of its body the girth was nearly three feet; thus proving, I believe, to be the largest serpent that was ever authentically heard of .- Capt. Speken prepared of the fragerysis soot all the

Improvements in Carpets.

The following hints from All the Year Round may be valuable to some of our readers who desire a little variety in their homes, and to others

days of high prices

Of all the expensive things in a modern English house of the ordinary class, perhaps carpets are the dearest. In case of removal they become almost useless, and have to be sacrificed at almost any price that can be got for them, be smoker's advice-don't smoke, leave tobacco cause having been cut and measured for one room, alone, save your money and don't stunt your perhaps of a peculiar shape, they are useless in any other; for if the pattern could be matched, which, it often cannot, a bit of bran-new carpet, sewn on a bit not so new, would be out of harmony, and tell a story which the pride of poverty would rather were concealed. The Persian and Turkish system of carpeting rooms is infinitely better and prettier than ours. The Persian carpets, especially those from Resht, are exquisitely beautiful. Their colors are brighter. the designs prettier, and they are far more durable than European carpets. They are made in strips, usually between two or three yards long, and about one yard in breadth, to go round the sides of a room, with a square carpet of any size preferred for the centre. They do not require to be nailed or fitted, and a sufficient number of them will, of course, carpet any room, however large or small. They have a very rich and grand appearance, too. In sum mer they are easily taken up, beaten, rolled and put aside by a single man-servant; and in the hot weather why should we not more gene rally imitate continental custom, by painting or polishing our floors? Floors painted or polished look far prettier in July sunshine than any carpets, which are then mere fusty traps to catch dust, harbor insects, and retain bad smells. Everything has its use and its seasons. The use and the season of carpets are not in the summer time. Where it is impossible to paint or polish the floors of a house, the employment of oilcloth will be found good economy in sum- ry mer, and far cleaner. Oilcloth, too, of charming patterns, may now be bought very cheaply, and it keeps a room delightfully cool and fresh

"Come and see me."

Never take "come and see me" as a phrase meant in earnest, unless it is accompanied with eye. a date. All invitations "without circumstances" is no invitation at all. Depend upon it, if any life. gentleman or lady desire your company, he or she will appoint a time for your visit. " Call on me when you can make it convenient," "drop in as you are passing," "make us a visit whenever you have an hour or two to spare." are social indefiniteisms by which man of the cause the corruption of the best turns to the world understand that they are not expected to worst. of vagueness. It is never worth its face or any thing like it. Yet it is a convenient medium of exchange, for all that, and heavy debts more polish than principle use it lavishly plain, blunt, honest men, sparingly, or not at all. Whoever makes a friendly visit at a fashionable house on the strength of a mere "come and see," will be likely enough to find that the family circle which he has dropped into by request is as uncongenial as the Arctic circle. and to leave it with a chill feeling about the heart that will prevent him from venturing into the same high latitude thereafter. But when a The next iron-like band was the one which held me prisoner; and as I felt it little by little un-

A Parrot called as a Witness.

A late English paper, the West Sussex Gazette, states that a man lost a favorite parrot, cilling a little tale on paper, and then making which was discovered in the possession of another person, who refused to give it up. He whisper, to the next man, and so on until was accordingly summoned to produce the bird everybody round the table had done the same. in a court of law. The real owner, on being But the last man was always required to write asked how he could prove that it belonged to what he had heard, and the matter was then him, replied that the parrot should be his only compared with the original retained by his witness. It was then brought into court in a grace. In many instances the matter was hardcage covered with cloth, and began to whistle ly recognizable, and Dr. Whately would draw the tune, "Take your time Miss Lucy," while an obvious moral; but the cream of the tun lay the subject was discussed by the court. Its own in his efforts to discover where the alterations er then put his tace to the cage, and desired the took place. His analytical powers of detection parrot to kiss him, which the bird then did most proved, as usual, accurate, and the interpolator affectionately. "He will do the same to any were playfully pilloried. The game is called one," said the defendant; and, on putting his "Russian Scandal." In whole of the defendant mouth to the cage, the parrot seized his lip, and same instant. For the first time in my life I was bit it very severely, to the great amusement of the court. Its owner then took it out of its cage and kept it on his hand, when the bird answered several questions put to him in a ready and extraordinary manner, and also showed so much affection for its master that the judge immediate ly ordered the parrot to be restored to him, and

DECTURES - The last week will come and An Old Smoker's Advice.

is a highly percelar oreas. I be subjected that Major Howard, when recently addressing the annual meeting of the hands employed at the large chemical works of Messrs. Howard and Sons, at Stratford, in the course of his inter esting remarks said, "One word to the boys Lads, if you wish to be healthy and strong men, don't smoke when you are young. I hate to see boys smoking half cheroots or a shor pipe, fancying that they cannot be men with out. I can assure you, you will be men far sooner, if you abstain from a habit which injures the youthful constitution, and acts much in the same way as the gin, which reports say is given to young jockeys to prevent their growwho find carpets an expensive luxury in these ing. One of the best shots at Wimbledon told me, that he noticed those who did not smoke, were, as a general rule, the steadiest shots, and you may be sure that if the habit is begun and continued, it has a most injurious effect upon the nerves. So, boys, take an old converted growth.—Band of Hope Review.

Old Proverbs about Women.

As the good man saith, so say we; but as the good women saith, so it must be.

The French express the last idea more strong v-Que temme veut, Dieu le veut-(What wo-

man wills, God wills).] A little house well filled, a little land well

tilled, and a little wife well willed.

A virtuous women, though ugly, is the ornament of the house.

An obedient wife commands her husband. A man's best fortune—or his worst—is a wife An enemy to beauty is a foe to nature. All are good lasses; but where come the il

A woman conceals what she knows not.

A lass that has many wooers oft lares the A man must ask his wife leave to thrive.

Fools are wise men in the affairs of women. Every man can tame a shrew but he that hath

Ladies will sooner pardon want of sense than want of manners. Bare walls make gadding housewives.

You may know a foolish woman by her fine-

Women are wise on a sudden, fools on per-

A good wife is the workmanship of a good

husband. [And vice versa] Two women in one house,

Two cats and one mouse, Two dogs and one bone,

Never could agree as one. Choose a wife rather by your ear than your

Many blame the wife for their own thriftless

Women laugh when they can and weep when

but virtue is like the stars of heaven. Women grown bad are worse than men, be-

Beauties without fortunes have sweethearts Far-fetch and dear-bought is good for

dance well.

The rich widow cries with one eye and rejoices with the other.

He that tells his wife news is newly married. No woman is ugly when she is dressed She that is born a beauty is half married. She that has an ill shows it in her dress.

Saith Solomon the Wise, " A good wife She who is born handsome is born married. Who has a bad wife has purgatory for a neigh-

The more women look in their glasses the less they look to their houses. There is one good wife in the country, and every man thinks he bath her.

most men step to the tune of their thoughts. then it will.

"Russian Scandal."

Sud und Sudden Desim A favorite game with Dr. Whately was penhis right hand neighbor read and repeat it, in a

HOME LIFE. The People's Journal of Health says: "Even as the sunbeam is composed of millions of minute rays, the home light must be constituted of little tendernesses, kindly looks, sweet laughter, gentle words, and loving counsels. It must not be like the torch-blaze of unnatural excitement, which is easily quenched, but like the serene, chastened light which burns as rafely in the east wind as in the stillest atmosphere. Let each bear the other's burden the while; let each cultivate mutual confidence, which is a gift capable of increase and improvement, and soon it will be found that kindlness will spring up on every side, displacing constitutional unsuitability and want of mutual knowledge, even as we have seen sweet violets and primroses dispelling the gloom of the gray sea rock. Such a life is worthy to be lived-such a home well worthy of the name; and it is by no means beyond the reach of any who will earnestly and truly seek to attain it. Yet it comes only through loving watchtulness, not on the part of one alone of the family number, but through the kindly contribution of all; an interest of each in the other, and a determined purpose of all to secure the greatest degree of happiness by the exercise of patience, gentleness, and forbearance, with the consciousnes that as all are imperiect, so all require the Christian virtues of humility and charity."

HOME COURTESIES,-In the family the law of pleasing ought to extend from the highest to the lowest. You are bound to please your children; and your children are bound to please each other; and you are bound to please your servants if you expect them to please you. Some men are pleasant, in the household, and nowhere else. I have known such men. They were good fathers and kind husbands. If you had seen them in their own house you would have thought that they were angels almost; but if you had seen them in the street, or in the store, or anywhere else outside the house, you would have thought them almost demoniac. All women are good good for something or But the opposite is ant to be the case. When we are among our neighbors, or among strangers, we hold ourselves with self-respect and and endeavor to act with propriety; but when we get home we say to ourselves, "I have played a part long enough, and am now going to be natural." So we sit down, and are ugly, and snappish, and blunt, and disagreeable. We lay aside those thousand little courtesies that make the roughest floor smooth, that make the hardest thing like velvet, and that make life pleasant. We expend all our politeness in places where it will be profitable where it will bring silver or gold.—Phrenological Journal

DISEASE IN THE WHITES AND BLACKS .-In the various departments of the South are a number of regiments of colored troops, and it is stated by Dr. Gross, in the American Medical Times, that it is a well-ascertained fact that they are more liable to disease, and that the mortality is greater than among the white regiments. They rarely ever recover from a severe wound, and when attacked by disease they seem to care but little for life, and die in spite of all remedies and attention. These facts are particularly true of the North Carolina and South Carolina colored soldiers, the sick raports of which are fifty per cent. larger than those of the white troops; and I find, on referring to my notes, that there were, during the months of November and December, thirty-eight deaths trom disease in thirteen regiments, three of which were colored. The latter lost seventeen men of the thirty-eight. The colored troops Beauty in women is like the flower in spring, recruited in the Northern States do not suffer to the same degree.

GOOD-LOOKING .-. Temperance and religion have a wonderful power, is adorning people or improving their appearance. It gives them " a neek and quiet spirit;" and this the Bible calls an "ornament which is in the sight of God of There is many a good wife that can't sing and great price." Temperance and religion make the eye look brighter, and the complexion The society of ladies is a school of polite. clearer, and the smile sweeter, and the voice softer, and everything about our person betterlooking than it otherwise would be.

> GEN. HAVELOCK.-Sir H. Havelock bad been conducting a devotional service in com-pany with his household, among whem was an Irish servant girl. She was melted to sears by the fervency and unction of his prayers, and as she arose from her knees addressed him with much emotion: "Oh, misther dear, you're not fit for a soldier. It's too tender-bearted you are.
> Sum you was born a praist, and a praist it is
> you ought to be — Life of histolock.

PATIENCE - Nothing teaches patience like a garden. You may go around and watch the If you would know a man, mark his gait; own time, and you can not arge it on faster opening bud from day to day, but it takes its