

Youths' Department.

BIBLE LESSONS.

Sunday, March 11th, 1866.

CONCERT: or Review of the past months' subjects and lessons.

Sunday, March 18th, 1866.

JOHN X. 1-18: Christ, the good Shepherd. 1 KINGS IX. 1-9: God's answer to Solomon's prayer. Recite—PSALM XXIII.

For the Christian Messenger.

Scripture Puzzle.

ARRANGE the names which the following lines describe; and the initial letters will show a benevolent organization which demands the prayers and the aid of every true-hearted Christian in Nova Scotia:

1. The person to whom Paul said "let no man despise thy youth."
2. The man who was hanged on the gallows, which he himself prepared.
3. The prophet that was fed by ravens.
4. He whose life was saved by an ark.
5. The person who was about to receive a fatal blow, but having escaped that, lived to be an old man.
6. The first murderer.
7. The oldest man.
8. A town taken and burned by Joshua.
9. A queen of the Ethiopians.
10. The father of Jared.
11. The son of Amos.
12. The boy who mistook the voice of God for that of man.
13. The first born son of Obed-edom.
14. A wild man who was at variance with every person.
15. King David's grandfather.
16. A land on the east of Eden.

MEEDIE.

Horton Collegiate Academy, January 1st, 1866.

How to do a kind deed.

Just in front of my window is a hill, where the village children come to coast in snow-time. It is very long, and the slope is so gentle that it is quite safe. Well, this morning quite a crowd of merry youngsters were enjoying the sport, and making all the hills about us ring with their clear voices. But at the top of the hill, a little back from the starting-point, stood a queer-looking little fellow all by himself. I think he must be poor, for he was dressed in a man's ragged coat, and he had an old handkerchief tied over his head. As he moved forward to look after the descending sleds, I saw that he was lame. No one seemed to notice him for a long time, except once when a naughty boy threw a big snow ball at him. My heart began to ache for him, he looked so lonesome standing there by himself. Presently a bright-looking lad left his mates and went to him. I could not hear what he said, but directly I saw him help the lame boy to a seat on his sled, and down the long slope they went together. Then I heard the boys burrah, and half a dozen strong little chaps took hold together and drew the sled up the hill with the lame boy on it. Then he had another slide down and another ride up. Other boys came to help, and no one among them all had a merrier time in coasting than the ragged lame child.

Now, wasn't that a beautiful sight. I think our Father in heaven liked to see it, don't you? And I think the fine lad who had courage enough to do a kind action, and influence enough to make the rest follow his example, must have been a happy boy. What do you think about it?—Zion's Herald.

A good rule.

A man who is very rich now, was very poor when he was a boy. When asked how he got his riches, he replied: "My father taught me never to play till my work was finished, and never to spend my money until I had earned it. If I had but one hour's work in a day, I must do that the first thing, and in an hour—and after this I was allowed to play; and then I could play with much more pleasure than if I had the thought of an unfinished task before my mind. I early formed the habit of doing everything in time, and it soon became perfectly easy to do so. It is to this I owe my prosperity."

Conscience.

There are five kinds of conscience in the world: first, an ignorant conscience, which neither beholds the sin in a soul nor reproves it. Secondly, the flattering conscience, whose speech is worse than silence itself, which, though seeing sin, soothes men in committing thereof. Thirdly, the scared conscience, which has neither sight, speech nor sense, in men that are past feeling. Fourthly, a wounded conscience, freighted with sin. The last and best is a quiet and clear conscience, purified in Jesus Christ. Of these the fourth is incomparably better than the three former, so that a wise man would not take a world to change with them. Yea, a wounded conscience is rather painful than sinful; an affliction, not an offence; and it is the ready way at the next remove, to be turned into a quiet conscience.—Fuller.

Principles of Sunday-school Teaching.

J. G. Fitch, Esq., M. A., the able Principal of the Normal College for training teachers in London, has given us the following maxims, which, as he justly says, "require to be pondered and thoroughly grasped by every teacher:"

1. Never to teach what you don't quite understand.
2. Never to tell a child what you could make him tell you.
3. Never to give a piece of information without asking for it again.
4. Never to use a hard word if any easy one will convey your meaning, and never to use any word at all unless you are quite sure it has a meaning to convey.
5. Never to begin an address or a lesson without a clear view of its end.
6. Never to give an unnecessary command, nor one which you do not mean to see obeyed.
7. Never to permit any child to remain in the class, even for a minute, without something to do, and a motive for doing it.

Therefore, teachers should ever remember: 1. Always to lead each child to see that he has gained something useful in every lesson. 2. Always to call back, in the children's own language, all the truths taught them, and all the useful lessons of instruction given. 3. Always to make everything during the session—singing, prayers, addresses, and teaching—bear directly upon the great central, practical thought of the lesson, and apply the truth of God to the heart and life.

Good teaching is always fresh pleasant teaching. The child is injured and the word of God reproached if its sacred truths are taught in a cold, unattractive manner. Routine teaching is always dull and depressing.

Teachers, inquire, Does every Sunday lesson lead directly to Christ and salvation? Do you expect the salvation of your pupils at this time and under your instruction? or do you presume on to-morrow? When you "know not what a day may bring forth."

Does your teaching fulfil its aim and purpose? Prayerfully read, mark, and inwardly digest. In the Arrangement of the Lesson the beginning should arrest attention, the middle inform the mind, and the end or application affect the heart.

In Teaching—First. Get the words, and the meaning of the words, and the understanding of the lesson clearly in the mind of the scholar. Second. Draw useful, practical lessons of instruction from all.

In order to draw out the legitimate lessons from Bible truths, but two things are necessary: 1. A knowledge of the facts. 2. An acute perception whether they be good or evil. The practical lesson is but an echo of the fact and its character. If evil, avoid; if good, follow. Teach much by questions wisely put, for, 1st. A question unveils the soul. 2d. Nothing can escape a question. 3d. It reveals decision. A question awakens curiosity, arouses the memory, and leads out inquiringly into the unknown. The excellence of a teacher may be known by the character and adaptation of his questions. The first opening questions of a lesson are very important. It has been said by Augustine, that "A boy can preach but only a man can catechize." Study the art of questioning.

Study also the art of securing and retaining attention. Remember that curiosity is the parent of attention.

Rely on Bible truths, promises, and illustrations as divinely adapted to children.

SOME OF THE QUALIFICATIONS OF GOOD S. S. TEACHERS ARE:

1. Something to teach; and know how to teach; aptness to teach and a teachable spirit.
2. Good motives; simplicity of style; an interest in the subjects taught and in the learners, and a praying spirit.
3. Love to God and love to children.
4. A deep conviction of the Sunday School work, and power and value of each soul.
5. Faith in Christ, faith in his work, and faith in childhood.
6. Industry, preparation, earnestness, gentleness, patience, perseverance, humility, and self-denial.

A heart wholly consecrated to Christ is the great source of power for Christian work. Our motto—JESUS ONLY.

O teacher—
"Be earnest—salvation's the prize;
Be patient—the cross thou must bear;
Be holy—be gentle—be wise—
Be constant—be fervent in prayer."

THE MARCH OF INTELLECT AT THE ANTIPODKS—A communication from the Rev. E. W. Vanderkiste, of Sydney, contains the following:—"A teacher in charge of one of our Tasmanian Ragged schools was one day interrogating his pupils as to why the sun was made. The question evidently excited their mental powers to the utmost. For some time none could imagine what purpose was served by that brilliant luminary; at last, however, a little fellow arose, and stretching forth his hand, significant of his readiness to solve the problem, replied with an air of triumph, "It was made, sir, to dry mother's clothes."—Ragged School Union Magazine.

HAPPINESS.—It is not great wealth, nor high station, which makes a man happy. Many of the most wretched beings on earth have both. But it is a radiant, sunny spirit, which knows how to bear little trials, and to enjoy little comforts, and which thus extracts happiness from every incident of life.

"The rich," said a Jew, "eat venison, because it is dear; I eat mutton because it is cheap."

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

MRS. MARY PAGE,

Wife of Mr. Joseph Page, died at East Ragged Islands, Jan. 14th, 1866, aged 66 years. Sister Page experienced the pardon of her sins under the ministry of the late Rev. John Crag, and was subsequently baptized by Rev. David Nutter, and became a member of the Lewis Head Church, and so continued until the spring of 1865, when she received her dismissal and joined the Second Ragged Island Church. Sister Page was a faithful christian, truly devoted to the service of her Saviour, a peacemaker, ever ready to put out the first spark of strife. For the last year of her life, she was much afflicted, which prevented attendance on the means of grace, but she still enjoyed much of the love of Jesus, often exclaiming, How good pectedly, without a struggle, her happy spirit the Lord is! Her death was sudden; and unexpected its flight to the mansion of bliss to be forever with her Saviour. She has left a sorrowing husband and seven children. Most of whom it not all are on the way to Heaven. The writer delivered a discourse from 1 John iii. 2, before a large and solemn congregation on the occasion.—Com. by Rev. J. F. McKenne. East Ragged Islands, Feb. 8th, 1866.

MRS. AMOS EATON.

The subject of this short memoir, was born in Cornwallis, April 2nd, 1787, and was the daughter of Lebbeus and Lucilla Harris, and sister of the late Rev. David Harris, Mrs. Harris the mother of our departed sister, was the daughter of Nathan DeWolf, and sister of the late Judge DeWolf.

Sister Eaton was very young when first the preaching of Father Manning awakened her to a knowledge of her state as a sinner before God, so that when she would engage with the young people of her day in their evening amusements and social gatherings, her mind was always troubled; she never remembered to have enjoyed any satisfaction while mingling with her young companions in their pleasure parties. A funeral sermon preached by Father Harding, had a powerful effect on her mind. At the close of the sermon he sang the hymn, "Life is the time to serve the Lord," &c., the effect of which was to alarm her conscience, and give her intense suffering, all was dark and gloomy, and she felt that in the past she had not served the Lord, and in the future she could see no hope of her ever being able to serve him, for without God and without hope in this world, she felt herself for ever lost, she remained in this sad condition for some months, until, at a baptism in Horton, when Father Harding baptized Mr. Thos. DeWolf, he sang as he came out of the water, the words "To see a prodigal return, to see an heir of glory born," she felt she could return to her heavenly father's love, that God for Christ's sake had forgiven her, by which knowledge she was made unspeakably happy; and was afterwards baptized by Father Manning in the 21st year of her age, she afterwards married Mr. Amos Eaton, of Cornwallis, and remained there for some years, until in the year 1818, they removed with their family to Pugwash, and at the organization of the little church in Pugwash, she became a member, and had the satisfaction of seeing all her children, six sons and four daughters, professors of the same faith and members of the same church. The last years of her life were spent at the house of her son Stephen, where she died of consumption on the 8th day of October, 1865. Thus passed away the last member of the Harris family, to meet her Lord and triumphantly to join with those saints who were the means of leading her to the Lamb of God in eternal songs of praise, in the 78th year of her age. A sermon was preached by Dr. Clay, to a large and solemn congregation from 1 Thess. iv. 18. "Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

SIMEON FREEMAN, ESQ.,

Of Caledonia, Queen's Co., after five weeks sickness, died of Typhoid fever, on the 30th Dec., aged nearly 39 years, leaving a large circle of friends, brothers and sisters, aged parents, and a deeply bereaved companion and three little children, greatly to mourn their loss in his early removal to a brighter and happier world. He was generous hearted, amiable, hospitable and enterprising, and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of a large community, who on the first day of the new year in long and solemn procession followed him to his early grave. His end was peace. He had the all important preparation, made in the vigor of early youth to comfort in sickness, to strengthen in weakness, and to lighten up the gloom of the dark valley as he crossed into the promised land. A few days before his death he exclaimed in an air of triumph, "For what I experienced many years ago, I am very thankful. Glory to God!" The afternoon before his death he embraced his mother, spoke of his happiness, and sang the first verse of the 136th hymn of the Psalmist—
"Lord, thou hast searched and seen me through;
Thine eye commands; with piercing view,
My rising and my resting hours,
My heart and flesh, with all their powers."
—Com. by Rev. D. O. Parker.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, Feb. 26.

Mr. Bourinot introduced a Bill entitled an Act to incorporate "The New York and Cape Breton Coal Company." Also a Bill entitled an Act to incorporate the Collins Coal Company. Also a Bill entitled an Act to amend the Act to incorporate the International Coal and Railway Company and the Acts in amendment thereof. Also a memorial from the Boston and Bridgeport Coal Mining Company, and a Bill to amend the Act incorporating the said Company in accordance with the prayer thereof.

Post Office Report.—Hon. Atty. Gen'l, laid on the table of the House the Report of the Post Master General for the past year; &c., from we learn that:—

1 Post Office and 44 Way Offices have been added during the year. There are now 81 Post Offices and 513 Way Offices.

10 new post routes have been added, and 15 altered and improved.

The number of mail contracts to 30th Sept., 1865, was 233, at a total cost of \$45,533.23.

Number of miles in rides, 4668. Annual travel of mail, 1,005,078 miles.

Sydney has now daily mail with Halifax.

Letters.—Total Halifax office, 745,000; country offices, 980,000. Total, 1,725,000.

Newspapers.—Halifax office, 2,568,000; country offices, 1,663,000. Total, 4,231,000, being an increase over last year of 282,000.

Revenue.—Gross receipts, \$71,660.02; increase over last year, \$6,893.54. Nett income, \$62,371.75; increase, \$6,164.14.

Expenditure.—\$80,947.02; increase, \$7,783.41, caused by additional mail carriage. Increase of deficit over 1864, \$15. Entire deficit for 1865, \$18,575.27.

Parcel Post.—Halifax office, 1187 parcels; country offices, 211. Total, 1398.

Amount of stamps sold in 1865, \$54,408; in 1864, \$48,756. Increase in 1865, \$5,652.

Total Dead Letters, 7947; 25 contained money, \$147.95; 13 bills of exchange, \$22,906.50. Total amount of money in Dead Letters, \$23,054.45, 19 being registered.

Money Orders.—Number issued during the year, 9286.

Total sum remitted, \$378,716.25. Of this amount \$36,146.10 was remitted to Great Britain; \$6,735.60 to Canada; \$1,357.50 to New Brunswick; \$43.85 to N. E. Island; and \$469.33 to Newfoundland.

Orders paid during the year, 7683, representing the sum of \$335,159.27.

Issued Money Orders show an increase of 55 per cent. over 1864. Paid Money Orders show an increase of 52 per cent. over 1864.

Hon. Atty. General also laid on the table the account current in reference to the issue of Marriage Licenses.

Standing Committees.—Hon. Prov. Sec. moved the adoption of the following List of Committees.

Privileges.—Hon. Attorney General, Archibald, McDonnell, S. Campbell, Hon. Mr. McFarlane, Locke, Pryor.

Agriculture.—Hon. Mr. McFarlane, Blanchard, Hon. Mr. McKinnon, Parker, Hamilton, Hebb, Allison.

Education.—Hon. Provincial Secretary, Archibald, Hon. Mr. Shannon, S. Campbell, E. L. Brown, Bourinot, Tobin.

Fisheries.—McDonnell, Ross, Cowie, Robertson, Jost, Balcom, Robichau, Killam, Smyth.

Post Office.—Hon. Atty. General, Coffin, Donkin, Heffernan, Bourinot, Blanchard, Hamilton, Miller, Colin Campbell.

Mines and Minerals.—Hon. Mr. McFarlane, S. Campbell, Caldwell, Locke, Kaulback, Annand, D. Fraser.

Public Accounts.—Jost, E. L. Brown, John Campbell, McLellan, McDonnell.

Railways.—Tobin, Locke, Donkin, Blanchard, D. Fraser, Ray, Bill.

Law Amendments.—Archibald, Hon. Mr. Shannon, McDonnell, S. Campbell, Kaulback, Miller, Donkin.

Navigation Securities.—Robichau, Coffin, C. J. Campbell, McLellan, Kaulback, Heffernan, Moore.

Militia.—Pryor, Parker, Jost, Heffernan, Hon. Atty. General, Colin Campbell, Blackwood, Bourinot, Kaulback, Hebb, King.

Crown Lands.—Whitman, Blanchard, McKay, Locke, Moore, Miller, John Campbell.

Indian Affairs.—Hon. Mr. McKinnon, Ross, Lawrence, Heffernan, Townsend, C. J. Campbell, James Fraser.

Trade and Manufactures.—Annand, Hill, Coffin, Cowie, Ray, Bill, Killam, hon. Mr. Shannon.

Reporting and Printing.—Hon. Attorney General, E. L. Brown, Longley, G. J. Campbell, Robertson, Tobin, Caldwell.

Humane Institutions.—Blanchard, Lawrence, Coffin, Allison, Ray, Caldwell, King, Townsend, James Fraser.

Penitentiary.—Hill, Balcom, Cowie, Parker, Churchill, Robertson, McKay, Allison.

City of Halifax Bills.—Hon. Mr. Shannon, Blanchard, Donkin, Balcom, Hill, Miller, Tobin.

Private and Local Bills.—Fryor, McLellan, Whitman, Blackwood, Lawrence, Donkin, J. Campbell.

Land Damages.—Coffin, Moore, Balcom, Caldwell, King, Allison.

Contingencies.—Hon. Atty. General, Hatfield, John Campbell.

Hon. Prov. Secretary laid on the table the credentials exhibited to the Government by Mr. McNab, C. E., the present Chief Engineer of Railways.

Report of Mines.—Hon. Prov'l Secretary, laid on the table a Report of the Commissioner