

Boys' Department.

BIBLE LESSONS.

(From "Robinson's Harmony.")

Sunday, March 21st, 1869.

MATTHEW xiv. 13-21 : MARK vi. 30-44 : LUKE ix. 10-17 : JOHN vi. 1-14 : The twelve return and Jesus retires with them across the lake. Five thousand are fed.

Recite.—Luke ix. 14-17.

Sunday, March 28th, 1869.

MATTHEW xiv. 22-36 : MARK vi. 45-56 : JOHN vi. 15-21 : Jesus walks on the water.

Recite.—Romans x. 8-10.

ANSWER TO SCRIPTURE ANAGRAM.

No. III.

- J-ohn . . . Matt. iii. 1-3 : xiv. 8-12.
E-noch . . . Genesis v. 22-24.
H-anoch . . . Genesis xli. 9.
O-n . . . Numbers xvi.
I-jon . . . 1 Kings xv. 20 : 2 Kings xv. 29.
A-i . . . Joshua viii. 10-29.
C-ain . . . Genesis iv. 8-16.
J-onah . . . Jonah iii. 1-3.
N-o . . . Nahum iii. 8-10.
JEROLACHIN.—2 Kings xxiv. 8,9,15 : xxv. 27-30.

QUESTIONS ON SCRIPTURE METAPHORS.

The following questions may be answered by words commencing with the letter A.

Give the words.

- 1. What creature may be regarded as metaphorical of sin in four particulars?
2. What professional office does an apostle make metaphorical of the work of Christ?
3. Name something often described in the Old Testament, which the New Testament uses as metaphorical of the sacrifice of Christ?
4. What instrument is made emblematical of a moral affliction? And why?
5. What is made metaphorical of industry, forethought, and individual responsibility?
6. What tree, mentioned by Solomon, may be regarded as metaphorical of Christ in three particulars?
7. What is used metaphorically to denote both the love and strength of God?
8. What is used metaphorically to denote the resistance of the Christian to his spiritual enemies?
9. Affliction, slander, and Divine truth are all represented under one metaphor. Name it; and give the references.
10. Name something which is made emblematical of frailty, humiliation, and sin. Why?
11. What metaphor is used alike for repentance and resurrection?
12. What instrument is used both in the Old and New Testaments to indicate Divine judgments?

ENOCH WALKING WITH GOD.

A BIBLE SONNET.

He walked with God by faith in solitude.—
At early dawn or tranquil eventide,
In some lone, leafy place he would abide
Till his whole being was with God imbued :
He walked with God amid the multitude,—
No threats or smiles could his firm soul divide
From that beloved Presence at his side,
Whose still small voice silenced earth's noises rude.
Boldly abroad to men he testified
How "the Lord cometh," and the judgement brings;
Gently at home he trained his "sons and daughters;"
Till, praying, a bright chariot he espied,
Sent to translate him as on angels' wings,
To walk with God beside heaven's "living waters."

PARTING ADVICE.

It was a grand day when Mr. Shaw sent for George Brown. Mr. Shaw owned and run the famous Shaw Grain Mills, which sent out the best flour in the country. Mr. Shaw was a man of excellent character, and any boy or young man who got in with him was thought to have a good start in life; about as good as could be. When George went round to bid good-by, he stepped in to see a funny old fellow, Captain Bill as they called him, who always had something to give to the boys—generally advice.

"I am off, Captain Bill," said George Brown, coming gayly in upon the old tar; "now for your parting words."

"Well, my boy," said the old gentleman very moderately, "I have n't much to say. I am glad to hear of your luck. Take this, George; take this, George. Here. Heed it. When you grind your corn, do not give the flour to the devil and the bran to God. Do you understand? Lay it up, and mind you set on it, boy. When you grind your corn, do n't give the flour to the devil and the bran to God."

George laughed; but the old man's serious face checked him, and he went off with something which he never forgot. What was it? Perhaps I shall tell you how it shaped George's life, some day. Meanwhile I will give it to you to take home.

COUSIN MABEL'S EXPERIENCES.

BY MISS E. J. WHATELY.

No. VIII.

WOMAN'S WORK, ITS HINDRANCES AND HELPS.

"You know, I suppose," said Ella to me one day, when we were profiting by a moment when our invalid was asleep to take a stroll on the lawn,— "you know that two or three times before you came, when we were very much worn out with nursing, your dear, good Miss Warner insisted on taking her turn to sit up. She helped us immensely. I am sure no one has any reason to say she only attends to the poor; she is quite as ready to help the rich. The regular nurse we had then (we have a better now, you know) was willing, but dreadfully stupid; she would do anything she was told, but had to be told everything; and just then poor Theodosia was very unwell from over-exertion, and Ferris was quite unused to a sick room. Well, Miss Warner's resources seemed endless. She thought of things that would never have entered my head,—contrivances for soothing pain and discomfort, and for helping mamma with less noise and less fatigue. I saw that mamma noticed some of her ingenious little arrangements when she was getting better; and one night, when she was able to talk a little, and Miss Warner was with her, they seem to have got into conversation (Miss Warner told me of this afterwards.) She was telling mamma how she had often helped to nurse poor people who were ill, and so, from one thing to another, she was led to give some accounts of the sufferings the sick poor have to bear. She just related little incidents simply, as if to divert mamma's attention from her own pain. Mamma did not say much at the time; but I fancy she has been thinking it over; for yesterday she said to me, 'Ella, do look over the stores with Ferris, and find some old linen and flannel to send to that poor woman Miss Warner was telling me about, who is laid up with rheumatism like me. I have been thinking since about what she told me, and, now that I know what sickness is, I feel I have not taken to heart enough what sufferings the poor undergo. I always used to give blankets and such things at Christmas; but I am sure I never rightly thought till now how terrible it must be to suffer as I have been suffering, without any of the comforts I have.' You may think how glad I was of the commission; and to-day she has actually asked me to take down some little nice things that were left from her invalid dinners to that poor consumptive girl Miss Warner is attending. I was to go myself to her and the rheumatic woman, and bring her a report of them. You see wonders never cease."

"Dearest Ella, they never do cease to God's praying people. Your prayers are being answered; though the answer came first, as it often does, in the form of sorrow."

Ella and I were Mrs. Somerville's messengers of charity that afternoon, and this first visit was not the last. Before the week was out, we were accompanying Susan Warner to the hospital with grapes for a much tried sufferer there she had been visiting; and by the time Mrs. Somerville was able to be downstairs and to use her still weak hands in the first work she attempted—the knitting of a warm shawl for her old fellow-sufferer—Ella had obtained permission from her mother to go once a week to read to the old women at the Retreat, and Minnie had been allowed, to her great joy, to accompany Miss Warner to the infant school.

The long sickness had indeed done a good work. Mrs. Somerville was not one to speak much of her own inward feelings; but the softened manner, the Bible often found open by her side, and many other little indications, showed a work was going on in her mind which was all the deeper because so silent. Ella and her sisters were now much engaged in reading aloud to their mother, whose eyes and hands were still too weak to admit of much independent employment. Ella privately asked me to help her introduce some interesting accounts of missions and kindred subjects; and by degrees, many books found their way into that drawing-room which had been little seen there before. Theodosia herself, though little given to literary occupations in any shape, grew interested in the histories of the "Missing Link," and others of the kind; her favourite crochet and embroidery were gradually devoted to helping Miss Warner's little sale of work for her school, or exchanged for labours with the needle of a yet more practical kind. Above all, she now constantly showed her respect as well as affection for Ella; and as the latter was careful never to let this change of feeling be noticed in a way to grate on her sister, the general harmony of the family was greatly increased.

Mr. Somerville too, as Minnie had said, had found Ella a useful helper on several occasions during his wife's illness; and I saw he now consulted her, relied on her judgment, and treated her with marks of esteem; while her mother's brightening look and smile spoke more than even her words to me, whispered one day as Ella left the room, "I never really knew my child till now."

It was with a lightened and deeply thankful heart that I parted from my friends, when Mrs. Somerville was pronounced sufficiently convalescent to be moved to the sea for change of air. It was (owing to various engagements which kept me at a distance) more than a twelvemonth before I again turned my steps towards M—. Mrs. Somerville had returned from the seaside quite restored, Fanny had come home, but only for a short time, being now engaged to a brother officer of Captain Beaufort's, who had just received an appointment in India; her marriage and departure followed quickly. This had led to some interruption in my correspondence with Ella; and when I again went to pay

a visit to my friends in West Street, I had not heard very lately from Ivy Lodge. I arrived at No. 5 about noon, and finding both the sisters out, proceeded immediately to the "Mission House," where I knew I should find my friend Elizabeth at that hour, in conference with the Bible woman. I was not disappointed; the bright, kindly face met my eye, bending over a heap of flannel and duff she was cutting out; and the next moment she had thrown down her large scissors and come forward to welcome me. "And now," she exclaimed when the first greeting was over, "guess who left the room a quarter of an hour ago! No, I can't wait for you to conjecture; it was Ella Somerville! My dear, we have had prayer answered about those sisters! Just think, Ella and Minnie are our regular established fellow-workers, and that with their mother's full consent; she even begged me to give them something useful to do. And useful they are indeed! Ella is our right hand, and now that Susan's health is failing a little, I cannot tell what we should do without her. Minnie, dear child, is growing more and more of a comfort, she is a sweet girl now, we both love her as if she were our own; and Theodosia, though she had some little prejudices and fancies at first, is getting to be a real help too in her way, and her working powers—she does work beautifully—are all enlisted in our service. Mr. and Mrs. Somerville both take a hearty interest in our work, and subscribe to all our objects—that heap of warm clothing is all her gift. And when you go to the Lodge, you will see what a happy, bright family circle it is now; a blessing seems to have really come on them all; and with only three at home, the home claims, as Mrs. Somerville often says, are better attended to now than when there were five there and nothing to do. But you will see it for yourself." And so I did; and truly felt we had cause to thank God and take courage, not only on account of the active usefulness now carried on in the family, but of the spirit which pervaded all. Mrs. Somerville was still the active, stirring head of the household, but with a chastened and softened spirit. She has learned to know the need of her own soul, and the claims of the perishing ones around her are now faithfully remembered. Ella and her sisters are not the less bright and cheerful in their home, a sunshine and comfort to their parents, because their activities are not limited to their home. Indeed the home circle is far brighter than when they had no occupations but their own pleasure; the demon of listlessness has fled never to return; and now all of them are enabled to rejoice in the privilege of helping in the work of extending the Redeemer's kingdom and promoting the knowledge of his name.

"Dearest Ella," I said to her when one day as we were again standing together in our favourite shrubby walk, "do you remember this time three years, and all your difficulties then?"

"I was just thinking of that; how can I ever be thankful enough when I look back and remember what God has brought me through, and how he has more than answered my prayers! How shall I ever praise him enough?"

"You have learned one lesson, too, dear Ella, which you will not soon forget; to wait upon Him."

"And if I ever meet with others who have had my difficulties—and I suppose there are many—I am sure I shall be able to help them with those words which first helped me—Go on steadily, do what your hand findeth to do, pray and wait, and the light will come."

PREHISTORIC REMAINS, FOUND AT ST. LOUIS.

It is generally known in this country, and in scientific circles in Europe, that the gigantic undertaking of bridging the Mississippi River at this point has been already begun, and that for more than a year, when the state of the river would permit, the sound of the ponderous machinery has ceased not day or night, but the work of excavation has been going on until the solid rock has been reached—for the foundation of the piers upon the western shore. One of the piers is already above low water mark—a triumph of mechanical skill. The blocks of stone of which it is built are as huge as those of the Pyramids, and yet, by the application of original principles of mechanical and engineering skill, these gigantic blocks are moved as easily as the common foundation stones of our dwellings. The outer pier is not yet begun, the excavations therefor not being quite completed. At this point the wonders begin, the end of which is not yet. What effect the discovery of this tunnel under the river may have upon the location of the bridge the board of engineers will soon determine. About 4 1/2 p. m., yesterday the workmen engaged in blasting the rocks in the bottom of the excavation for the foundation of this pier discharged an extraordinary large blast of powder, when immediately after the report, a strange phenomenon presented itself. Instead of having the usual time for the smoke to clear away, they saw it ascend rapidly in a column, as though issuing from the smoke-stack of one of our steamers. This soon cleared, and it was found that a steady current of air with a strange damp odor was issuing from the cavernous excavation, showing that an opening had been made into some unknown subterranean passage. Upon descending to the bottom—the usual mud and water had disappeared through a dark, deep opening in the rock about ten feet in diameter, made by the last discharge of powder. Ropes, ladders and torches were immediately procured and careful explorations begun. We cannot now enter into detailed descriptions, but having been invited to accompany the board of engineers with a delegation from the Academy of Science and Historical Society, we must reserve a full exposition of the wonderful discovery until we shall have made a more careful

survey. Suffice it for the present to say it is certain that the tunnel passes entirely under the river to the Illinois shore, and whether it is only the work of some ancient race or once inhabited this land, whose interesting remains are strewn so thickly up and down the great valley, or whether it is partly natural and partly artificial, remains to be seen. In any case it is none the less stupendous. The main passage we should judge to be about twenty feet high by fifteen broad, and systematically arched overhead; part of the way by cutting through solid rock and part by substantial masonry. The bottom seemed to be much worn, as if by carriage wheels of some sort. There are many lateral passages, which, of course, we had no time to enter. These are about eight feet high and six feet wide. In the main passage we saw no tools or implements of workmanship, but on entering one of the lateral passages we soon emerged into a larger chamber supported by leaning pillars of solid rock when the chamber was excavated. Around the walls of this chamber there were what seemed to be niches closed with closely-fitting slabs, each slab covered with inscriptions in Runic uniform characters, which to our eyes bore a marvellous resemblance to those upon the slab in the Mercantile Library, which was brought from the mines of Nineveh. Between the niches were projecting pilasters, with draped Assyrian or Egyptian heads, which presented a most impressive and awe-inspiring effect as they were illuminated by the torchlight. Those sweet, sad faces looked down upon us from the ancient ages, like the souls of the departed. One of the passages opening on the north side seemed to follow the course of the river, and it is believed extends to the great mound now being removed by the North Missouri Railroad, which was the theme of much interesting remark at the last meeting of the Historical Society. To those who have not seen the mounds around St. Louis, it may be necessary to say that the mound, known as the Big Mound, is about one mile above the bridge now being built. The mound known as Monck's Mound is on the other side of the river, and is but one of a continuous chain of mounds extending from the river to the bluffs, a distance of nine miles. It is conjectured that the tunnel under the river and the mounds are intimately connected, and that there was in ancient times an opening through the mounds from this subterranean highway. Of course every scientific man is in a perfect fever of excitement at these grand discoveries, which seem so full of promise to archaeological and ethnological inquirers after truth. It will be remembered by our citizens that some few months since an examination of Monck's Mound was made under the auspices of some Eastern scientific society; and during the excavations there were frequent exhalations of disagreeable gases and odors. Yet we will not speculate, but wait in almost breathless suspense for future developments. As we returned from our hasty examination, passing through its pilastered hall above described, we observed a descending opening about seven feet high by three feet wide. Following this in its windings about fifty yards, we came to a flight of forty-one steps, ascending which, we found ourselves in another chamber of wonders—oval in shape, about seven feet long, twenty feet high, and three feet wide. The walls of this last chamber were sculptured in magnificent bas-relief and Runic inscriptions. Professor Bacchio, the learned Sanscrit of the university, who was with us, has taken upon himself the task of translating the inscription. Of the meaning of some of the words and the colossal sculptures, he also speaks very confidently. One of the magnificent groups he is certain is intended to represent Ahasuerus crowning Queen Esther. This remarkable discovery, following so quickly the one at Rock Island, will awaken the intensest interest throughout the world.—Republican, Jan. 18th.

TWO KINDS OF CANT.

"I do hate cant, that's a fact," said Smith, As returning home from labor, He talked of conference meetings with Brown, His fellow-workman and neighbor. "Just what do you mean?" said Brown; his hand On the arm of the other laying; "Why what we hear in the lecture room, When brethren are speaking and praying; A always asks for a hearing ear; B begs for a holy boldness! C comes on the bended knees of his soul, Confessing the Church's coldness; D deplors his deadness!"

"Enough, friend Smith, There's truth in all you're saying; But what are you doing to bring about A change in this style of praying?" "I doing? pray what would you have me do? "Don't you know, without my repeating, I never speak in a public way? Of course I can't pray in meeting." "You can't, friend Smith,—did I hear aright? It may be the Master in Heaven Finds your sort of cant more offensive to Him, And harder to be forgiven."

WORDS FOR THE BOYS TO REMEMBER.

Liberty is the right to do whatever you wish, without interfering with the rights of others. Save your money, and you will find it one of the most useful friends. Never give trouble to your father or mother. Take care of your pennies and they will grow to be dollars. Intemperance is the cause of nearly all the trouble in this world; beware of strong drink.