

Family Reading.

Farmer John.

"If I'd nothing to do," said Farmer John, "To fret or bother me— Were I but rid of this mountain of work What a good man I could be!

Select Serial.

THE KING'S SERVANTS.

BY HESBA STRETTON. CHAPTER XIII. A CRUEL BONDAGE.

Well! then I learned what a cruel bondage the love of money is. It was a bondage, not only to our old master, but to Rebecca and me. To get a shilling from him was as painful to him as giving a drop of his life's blood.

than a frightened child who has been awaked by some terrifying dream. Yet as soon as he could recover himself he would vow and declare he had not as much as ten shillings in the house, and thieves would be finely disappointed if they came. I never knew what to believe.

CHAPTER XIV.

"THOU FOOL."

Philip Champion had been once in England since I had left my cottage to dwell with his uncle; but he had not had time to visit me, and I did not tell him what I was doing for his sake. My landlord had told me that his will was altered, and all was right for Philip. Without that I think I could not have borne up.

Before the thief turned away from the master's bedside I crept noiselessly, quaking with fear, across the floor, and made my way up stairs to Rebecca's room. She was sleeping soundly, for though her room was above the master's, she was too much used to hear him cry for help, to be disturbed by that last cry of his.

The Christian Messenger.

Bible Lessons for 1882.

FIRST QUARTER.

Lesson X.—MARCH 5, 1882.

CHRIST STILLING THE TEMPEST. Mark iv. 35-41.

COMMIT TO MEMORY: Vss. 37-41.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still."—Psa. cvii. 29.

DAILY HOME READINGS.

- M. The Lesson, Mark iv. 35-41. T. Prayer in the Storm, Psa. cvii. 23-32. W. Christ in the Vessel, Acts xxvii. 14-44. F. Christ sharing our Lot, Heb. ii. 5-18. F. Christ, Lord of the Universe, Rev. ch. i. S. God our Refuge, Psa. 46. S. Longing for the Coming Glory, Rom. viii. 15-30.

NATURE AND THE SAVIOUR'S WORK.

LESSON OUTLINE.—I. Christ Asleep in the Storm, Vss. 35-38. II. Christ stilling the Storm, Vss. 39. III. Faith and Fear, Vss. 40, 41.

QUESTIONS.—Vss. 35-38.—Why did Christ wish to cross the lake? Where was Jesus? What does his deep sleep show? How did the disciples feel? What did they do?

Vs. 39.—When awaked, what did Christ do? Meaning of "rebuked"? What was the instant result? What power did this show? What do we learn of the safety of Christ's church?

Vs. 40, 41.—How did Jesus reprove his disciples? What is meant by "no faith"? How did they show some faith? (vs. 38). How show their lack of faith? Can we expect answers to prayer?

Notes from Dr. W. N. Clarke's Commentary.

Parallel Scriptures, Matt. viii. 23-27; Luke viii. 22-25.

Verses 35, 36.—The same day, when the even was come—i. e. the day of the parables. Matthew and Luke differ from Mark and from each other as to the time and connection of this event, but their notes of time are not so definite as Mark's.

Verse 39.—It is not he awoke, but "he awoke," or, still stronger, "he was aroused. He rebuked the wind. Matthew, "the winds;" Luke, "the wind and the raging of the water."

Verses 40, 41.—In Matthew (not in Luke) the question of verse 40 precedes the rebuke to the winds and address to the sea, the "Why are ye so fearful, O ye of little faith?" being uttered while the storm is still raging.

Verses 37, 38.—A great storm of wind. Such storms are frequent on all inland seas, but especially there. The level of the lake is six hundred feet below that of the ocean, yet the altitudes of the surrounding hills are very considerable.

tracrdinary velocity, especially when the snows are melting and wear for themselves deep water-courses, which serve as gigantic funnels, through which the winds rush down upon the lake and make such sudden and violent disturbances as occur scarcely anywhere else.—So that it—the boat—was now filling, not full. Matthew says "covered with the waves," and Luke adds that "they were in danger;" but the most graphic of all the touches is Mark's when literally translated, "The waves beat into the boat, so that it was now filling."

Where di people the The evening ing to the he asked hi the Sea of Read verse he soon fell part of the that belong quite dark, middle of f wind began were fisher on the wat that they l their bo and stron great wave boat, and down. T He must d disciples "Master, perish?" wind and be still." ing, and quiet in a After J and to th and spok have tr Jesus, th disciples LIVE lands th ble; ar better s are sec willow long, a needed will ro out a t afford In t they s ered w drying set as groun Gr old v groun the same The the repl eye P —S to p goat two with ento him tooo him rep dog ing ru Si go id fr sl e in s r l