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And tired shoulders ache and ache so sorely 'Neath heavy burdens bent? Re patient, lest the ones whom you are

serving Be soon beyond your care; Lest little wayward feet that you are

Ah, then no joy would seem so dear and

Slip past you unaware.

As spending months and years In ceaseless service for the vanished darl-

So vainly mourned with tears. But while you have your dear ones still around you

Do not regret your care; Far ensier aching feet and arms and

Then aching hearts to bear. And still beyond your household duties

reaching, Stretch forth a helping hand; So many stand in need of loving comfort

All over this wide land; Perchance some soul you aid to-day, to morrow

May with the angels sing; Some one may go straight from your earthly

To banquet with the King.

Now is the time for renewals. December should bring us a great host of them. Let yours be of the number.

The Sabbath-School.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

Fourth Quarter-Lesson X.-Dec. 9. GIDEON'S ARMY.—Judg. 7:1-8. GOLDEN TEXT .- Not by might, nor

Two hundred years have passed since the death of Joshua. The Gideon sent messengers to four larger part of this time was spent in | neighboring tribes, Manasseh, Asher, | plainly see that the victory was peace and prosperity, but the Israel- | Zebulon, and Naphtali, and summonites were prone to fall into idolatry, ed them to come and drive out the his people for their past cowardice La Joie Fait Peur, by De Girardin, " and three times they had gone so invaders. And pitched beside the in submitting to Midian. far that the punishment spoken of well of Harod....the hill of Moreh. in our last lesson had to be inflicted | The well of Harod was a fountain, | because our numbers are small, and upon them, and for 45 years out of at the foot of Mt. Gilboa, near the our instrumentalities feeble. "One the 200 they had suffered from the site of Jezreel. It is 150 feet in with God is a majority." Gideon's oppressions of the neighboring circumference, and the stream from victory was a prophecy of almost all nations. But the Lord sent judges | it is large enough to turn a mill. | the victories of good over evil. who delivered them, and after each | Northward of this rises little Herdeliverance they served the Lord | mon. The valley opposite little |

for many years. ITES AND AMALEKITES .- See Judg. and the enemy probably had as of common soldiers, nor were lamps, 6: 1-6. The wild hordes of the cended to the heart of the country or rather, torches. These belonged desert, Midianites, Amalekites, and by it. The plain of Esdraelon has only to leaders, so that each of the other nomadic tribes to the number in all ages been the battle-field of hundred would appear to the Midianof at least 135,000 "streamed over | Palestine. Here have fought in ites as a leader of a large band. the fords of the Jordan year by year, turn the armies of Assyria, of the The pitchers were to cover the migrating thither, with their house- Crusaders, and of Bonaparte; and torches from being seen, making, as holds and herds. The plains and it was on the mountains of Gilboa, it were, a dark lantern. valleys of Palestine had in all ages at its east end, that Saul and been the very "gates of Paradise" Jonathan perished. The host of the night. The 300 men were divided

ments for his work.

that he was called of God before he faith than that to which Gideon's soothe him if he is wretched; they

went on with his work. complain have been relieved and of religion. All through this his and ordered a still further reduction. to be in.

he does it through his children.

shrink from great tasks. and are stopping, snatching mouthfuls or 3. Kindwords bless him that uses humbled, not exalted, when large tonguefuls of water, never even them. A sweet sound on the tongue fields of service open before them. | while slaking his thirst turning tends to make the heart mello w. GIDEON'S PREPARATION FOR HIS aside or pausing from the chase. Kind words react upon the kind WORK .- All his previous faithful- The men who did not break rank, feelings which prompted them, and ness in daily life, had been prepar- or stop their march, but dipped make them more kind. They are ing him unconsciously for the great | their hollowed palm into the stream, | fresh fuel to the fire of benevolent | work of his life. He was prepared and tossed a little into their mouth emotion in the soul.

for his larger work by a lesser duty as they ran, "drank for strength. which required the same qualities, They employed their hand as the and which tested his fitness. Gideon | dog employs his tongue, - that is, had a work to do in his own village, dipping water with it from the and in his father's house. The very stream. This mode of drinking is day of his call he built an altar on often practised in the East. The the spot hallowed by the visit of number of those who did this was the angel. Joash, his father, had 300, and they were placed by thembuilt an altar to Baal, on the top of selves. Likewise every one that the cliff, but the new altar to boweth down upon his knees to drink. Jehovah could not tolerate such They bowed down to the brook abominations near it. Waiting till with their mouths to the water, and darkness fell, Gideon bravely threw | drank leisurely, stopping in their down the one, with the help of ten | march. All the rest of the 10,000 of his slaves, and not only cut down drank in this way. the other, but split it up for fuel; and having laid it on the altar of ness and earnestness for the battle, Jehovah, used it to consume, in and were therefore more strong and sacrifice to Him, a bullock which his courageous. father had apparently consecrated 2. The 300 showed more care for to Baal. The citizens were angry others, and for the cause, in so when they discovered what Gideon drinking as not to hinder the march. had done, and would have stoned 3. It can scarcely be doubted him to death had not Gideon's father | that those who threw themselves on defended him by the clever irony the ground and drank freely were that if Baal were really the god they | the more self-indulgent. Gideon imagined, he could easily defend needed men of endurance, and carhimself. It was from this event ing more about the grim task they that Gideon was named Jerubbaal, had to do than about ease. "contender against Baal." Gideon | 4. The most apparent natural was prepared for his work by divine reason seems to be that, as the works proving to him that it was season was hot, and most of the beverage which may save us many heavy God who had sent him on his great | soldiers would be thirsty, all but a

Applications. 1. By daily duties done from worthy motives we are prepared for our life's work.

2. By lesser works faithfully done we are prepared for the larger works God may give us to do.

3. God is ever ready to strengthen our faith, by special acts of his by power, but by my Spirit, saith providence, by wonderful answers only his own call to work out the The Plays of Moliere, at Hall's Book Store

ISRAEL OPPRESSED BY THE MIDIAN. miles wide; it extends to the Jordan; pets were not usually in the hands

the notice of the Midianitish hordes of Gideon's army. They were reappear on the page of history and appointed him to be the deliver- afraid of the Midianites on the oper of the people. Gideon was prob- posite heights. They had lost courably a middle-aged man at this age. They had not served God good reasons why we should use SCIATICA, time. God chooses fitting instru- faithfully, and knew that they did kind words when we speak to is the bane of so many lives that here is where not deserve his favor. The people others:-Applications. 1. Gideon had the are yet to many. It is hardly pos- 1. Because they always cheer him wise caution to make himself sure sible to conceive a severer trial of to whom they are addressed. They 2. This work to which Gideon doubtless thought his men too few, keep him out of the slough of dewas called was practically a revival God saw that they were too many, spond, or help him out if he happens tory we see that the object was to Bring them down unto the water. 4. Like Gideon, "prophets and the bank of a river or in the abroad, since so many and so differ-lawgivers and God's heroes ever shallow of a stream, and, without ent are on the wing.

1. The 300 showed more eager-

mission; and also enabling him to few of the freshest or least fatigued prove to those he summoned to his of them would be apt to drink a

aid, that he was a leader commis- great deal. sioned of God. In answer to a 5. Probably the more prevalent filled with dew, while the ground | The worship of Baal was accompaniwas dry. Then the next night the ed by prolonged prostrations, so fleece was dry, while the ground that his worshippers became accustomed to this attitude, and it was JAMES EPPS & Co., Homocopathic more natural for them to assume it in drinking. By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you. 1888 UNIVERSITY 1888 It must have required great faith on the part of Gideon and the few who remained. Gideon should not be blamed for anxiety. He seems never to have doubted God's ability and willingness to save Israel, but

deliverance. GIDEON'S ARMY.—Vers. 1-7. Why so Small a Number chosen. In order that the Israelites might from God. To shame and humble

We should never be discouraged

THE BATTLE AND THE VICTORY. -Ver. 8. So the people took Hermon is about two and a half victuals, etc., their trumpets. Trum-

Gideon's attack was made at midto these dwellers in the waste, as Midianites. The Midianites were into three companies; and they seem indeed they still are to their de- a powerful nation of Arabia, which to have stretched in a line nearly scendants. The threshed grain and sprung from Midian the fourth son or quite around the enemy's camp, the flocks and herds were carried of Abraham, by Keturah. They the men placed at considerable disaway. The people fled to moun- inhabited chiefly the country east tance one from another, as the obtains and hid themselves in caves. of the Jordan and southward, and ject was not to fight, but to terrify. The land lay uncultivated, the for a long time were the virtual The stratagem of Gideon was simple. cattle were destroyed, and a grievous rulers of Arabia. The people that The torches were concealed in the famine ensued. This continued for are with thee are too many. Though large pitchers, or bread-jars, until seven years. There were fights and the whole army of the Israelites the men had taken their stations, skirmishes with the Midianites, and consisted of only 32,000, that so that their movement might not in them Gideon's brothers had been of the Midianites amounted to at be detected. It was the duty of the least 135,000, or four to one to the leader of a band to blow the trum-Applications. 1. So God's church | Israelites. Lest Israel vaunt them | pet and give the war-cry. By him, during the ages has been exposed selves against me. As if by their in a night attack, stood a torchto many assaults from the world; own strength they had gained the bearer to light the way, and guide sometimes the worldly spirit has victory. The victory would amount the soldiers so that they might aloverrun it; sometimes the hordes of to very little unless it taught the ways know where to find the leader. false doctrines, of dead forms, of un- people that all their hope was in The breaking of the jars, the flashgodly ease, have sought to plunder God, and in obeying him, and thus ing of lights, the deafening blare of its treasures. 2. So "the holy led them to trust His power and trumpets, aroused the enemy from land" of each soul, where God should goodness. Whosoever is fearful sleep. The Israelites seemed to be be king, has often been overrum bylet him return. The appeal present in overwhelming numbers. wrong thoughts, ambitions, lusts of which Gideon is here directed to Each heathen in the darkness misthe flesh, hatred, indolence, selfish- make was prescribed in the law took his neighbor for a foe. They (Deut. 20: 8) for every war in slew one another. The panic was GIDEON SUMMONED TO DELIVER which the Israelites should be en- universal. They fled in confusion, HIS COUNTRY.—Prophets had been gaged. It was for the discovery of and scatterd over the country, ONE Car Steel Nails just received and sent to Israel urging its sons to re- proper bravery. Depart early from throughout which Gideon immediturn to Jehovah but the land had mount Gilead. The only known ately sent runners to arouse the been wasted for seven years before Mount Gi ead was on the other side people. The fords of the Jordan they listened to them. An angel of Jordan where half the tribe of were seized by the Israelites, and from the Lord came to Gideon while | Manasseh belonged. And there re | the destruction of the invaders was | he was threshing wheat secretly in turned of the people twenty and two complete. The Midianites were so a wine-press near his home, to avoid thousand: or more than two-thirds utterly annihilated that they do not

Kind Words.—Here are four

2. There are words enough of the bring the people back to the love The fountain of Harod below them, opposite kind flying in all directions Tapley's Remedy and service of God, and to holier on the way to meet the Midianites. —sour words, fretful words, insult-Every one that lappeth of the water ing words, cross words, over-bearing 3. When God has a work to do, with his tongue, as a dog lappeth. words, irritating words. Now, let You have seen a dog running along kind words have a chance to get



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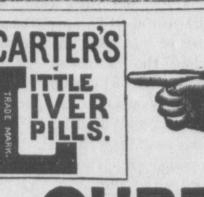
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