DECEMBER 12, 1888.

saparilla, appreciated the truth that

bodily health is essential to mental

vigor. For persons of delicate and feeble

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## RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

mitted. He was generally devoted peal to God in his representative Morning Star Publishing House to the cause of his people. SAMSON'S FALL.-Vers. 21-25. Samson was designed for great things. If he had been true to himself and to God, he might have risen to any height. Four times it is

declared that "the Spirit of the Lord came upon him" in connection with his feats of strength. He was powerful because God was specially with him and in him. But from this exalted position he fell. He departed from God, and then "the Lord departed from him."

The cause must be sought in himself. He vielded to his own blind passions, and trampled on the law of his God. Morally, a man falls of his own will. Satan himself cannot hurl him down the heights of virtue against his own will. He did not fall at once. His descent was gradual, and almost imperceptible to himself. He tampered with appetite and gratified his animal desires ; and thus gradually he lost his power.

named Delilah, he became infatuatof it to get possession of his person. the secret of his strength. A moment of weakness disclosed to her the fact that it lay in his hair. Not "Intelligencer" counsel and that his strength really lay in his hair, for this. in fact, had no natural other. His strength arose from his

relation to God as a Nazarite; and And Sabbath-school workers the preservation of his hair unshorn was the mark and sign of his Nazariteship, and a pledge on the part of God of the continuance of his miraculous physical powers. If he lost this sign of his consecration, God. he broke his vow, and forfeited the

were bound with ropes or thongs.

And he did grind in the prison house.

grind corn for others, was, even for

a woman, expressed the most de-

graded and oppressed condition.

But it is more probable that Samson

was degraded to the state of a beast,

his own honor. Let me die with the Philistines : I am willing to die, Free Baptist Sunday-School if only I can accomplish this victory. He knows that if his deed be successful, be cannot escape. But he is also ready to die. He is reconciled with his God." Samson no more committed suicide than does a brave dren. general when, with certain death

before him, he rushes into the thickest oattle, confident that his fall will save his country from a hated foe. And the house fell. When 

of 3,000 people brought the roof down with a fearful crash, and those above fell upon those below, ogether with the stones and timbers, and a great slaughter was the result, Samson himself perishing under the ruins. Upon the lords. They are mentioned first because their death was of great political significance. The great numbers who perished would have had little effect upon the relations of the Philistines and the Israelites, if among

Falling in love with a woman them had not been the leaders. The dead which he slew at his death. ed by his passion. The princes of If three thousand were on the roof, the Philistines determined by means there were doubtless as many more below. Eshtaol : a villiage near Delilah, by many temptations and Zorah. Judged Israel twenty years. blandishments, learned from Samson He must have begun his career of judge quite young, as the Philistine oppression lasted but forty years, and he was born after it began. E. N. FERNALD, Publisher, His office of judge was probably confined to the southwestern part of influence upon it one way or the Caanan, to Dan, and the neighboring tribes.

> LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF SAMSON. God uses even imperfect instruments for accomplishing his end.

Christians, like Samson, are separated from the world, consecrated to

Strength of body or mind or spirit thing signified. God abandoned is a blessed gift of God.

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## "My daughter, twelve years of age, has suffered for the past year from Marking thee daily with a pitying love. Tell Jesus. General Debility. And when dark waves of tribulation roll A few weeks since, we began to give her Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Her health has greatly improved."—Mrs. Harriet H. Battles, South Chelmsford, Mass. In wild and surging billows o'er thy soul, Oh, think, amid the tempest's might, of One Who crie l, in that dark hour, "Thy will be "About a year ago I began using Ayer's Sarsaparilla as a remedy for debility and neuralgia resulting from malarial done;" Tell Jesus. exposure in the army. I was in a very bad condition, but six bottles of the Sar-And doest thou moan in solitary mood, saparilla, with occasional doses of Ayer's Sighing because theu art not understood Pills, have greatly improved my health. That in the world there is no spirit tone I am now able to work, and feel that I To echo the sweet music of thine own? cannot say too much for your excellent Tell Jesus. remedies."-F. A. Pinkham, South Moluncus, Me. Oh, may this thought sustain thee in thy "My daughter, sixteen years old, is grief, using Ayer's Sarsaparilla with good ef-fect."—Rev. S. J. Graham, United Brethren Church, Buckhannon, W. Va. Though earthly sympathy give no relief, Yet there is One who bends from courts above ",I suffered from To sound all depths of human woe and love. Nervous Prostration. Tell Jesus.

with lame back and headache, and have been much benefited by the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I am now 89 years of age, and am satisfied that my present health and prolonged life are due to the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla."-Lucy Moffitt, Killingly, Conn.

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he Teacher Is there a shadow resting on thy brow Caused by the daily cares that none may know; Who advised her pupils to strengthen their minds by the use of Ayer's Sar-

Trials which. little though they seem in one Oft fret thy life as water frets the stone? Tell Jesus.

"Tell Jesus."

Is there a chord within thy aching breast More sensitive to pain than all the rest, That oft is struck by cruelty and wrong, Until thou fain would'st ery, "O Lord, how

long?' Tell Jesus.

And does thy spirit grieve o'er doubts and Thick clouds without and fiery darts with-

Poor tempted one, there is an eye above,

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trying duties of home life.

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Fourth Quarter-Lesson XI.-Dec. 16

DEATH OF SAMSON .- Judg. 16:21

always wise.-Job 32:9.

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to us in the story of Ruth, and by the general condition of the nation David.

under Samuel, and the marvellous And bound him with fetters of brass: development of the kingdom under rather, copper. Common prisoners THE PHILISTINE OPPRESSION .---

In the Maritime Plain on the south- This grinding was performed by west of Palestine, between the CSHANE BELL FOUNDRY, Inest Grade of Bells, Mediterranean and the Hills of performed by female slaves. To himes & Peals for Churches olleges, Tower Clocks, etc Fully warranted; satisfaction guaranteed. Send for price Judah, lay a very rich country. HENRY MCSHANE & CO., BALTIMORE, Md., U.S. This country was held by the Philistines. Towards the close of the wild and stormy period of the Judges, the Philistines were the EST ON EARTH most active and aggressive nation of Palestine. Their cities were restless centres of every form of activity. Their commerce was widely extend. began to grow again. And it is imed. Their skill as smiths and armor- plied that his strength grew with cities attests their success as build- with the growth of his hair, we can ers. But they were pre-eminently only understand that he repented, devoted to war.

This warlike nation had overrun which had been imposed upon him the southwestern part of Israel's before his birth, and which had possession for 40 years. It was been imposed upon him before his against such an enemy that Samson birth, and which he had broken. was raised up.

SAMSON, ISRAEL'S HERO DEFEND- gathered them together unto Dagon ER.-Samson means sun-like, the their god : a sea idol described in sun-hero; or, the destroyer. He was 1 Sam. 5. : 4. Our god hath delivborn at Zorah, in the tribe of Dan, ered. They regarded the idol as close to the country of the Philis- superior to Jehovah. They praised tines. His birth was announced their god. Samson now saw with by an angel, as if he were to have shame and sorrow how the name of some special mission. He was mir- the Lord had been dishonored through his misconduct. Call for aculously endowed with strength. Samson that he may make us sport He tore a lion to pieces with his hands; he carried off the city gates dance and make music. He was probably known to be an accomof Gaza; he slew a thousand warplished dancer. The sexes never riors with the jaw-bone of an ass. mingled in the ancient Eastern Samson's great strength was an endowment from God on condition of

his living the life of a Nazarite, He was made to stand there, after "one separated." It required the dancing, to receive the jests of (Num. 6:2-5) total abstinence from grapes, wine, and all intoxicating the feasters.

him, and he was thenceforward no When he broke his Nazarite vow he lost his strength, and was taken more in this respect than an ordincaptive. This was to teach the ary man. His treacherous para-Israelites that all their strength lay mour seized the first opportunity of putting his declaration to the test. She shaved his head while he lay they had lost it by departing from GOLDEN TEXT.-Great men are not sleeping in her lap; and he was intheir vows of allegiance. It teaches us the same lesson.

stantly arrested by his enemies ly-His weaknesses were providenti-We pass over another interval of ing in wait. He is made to reap as century and a quarter, containing he had sown. But the Philistines ally overruled so as to exhibit to several interesting events. There took kim, and put out his eyes : inthe sin of such indulgences. have been many departures from stead of putting him to death. God, and much evil, and yet on the Thus, as they thought, preventing pany. Whosoever goes willingly whole there must have been not a any future mischief on his part. into bad company is already more little progress toward true religion. To disable a rival, or an enemy by

than half fallen. This is shown by what is revealed boring out his eyes, has ever been a "Those who are unfaithful to God | Cooks, Ottos German Grammar, " common expedient in the East. will most likely prove unfaithful to Ottos Materiais for Translating Even to-day it is not unknown.

> Delilah, lodge in our bosoms and Key to Ottos G-raan tempt us to sin. The sins of Christians bring dis

hand-mills. This task was usually honor upon God. God remembers the penitent and

> hears his prayer. Only by self-sacrifice can the

and made to turn such a mill as Mr Vanderbilt pays his cook \$10, that usually turned by asses or 000 a year, my boy, which is a great mules. Howbeit the hair of his head deal more than you and I earn-or at least it is a great deal more than we get-because he can cook. That, ers was noted; the strength of their it. From the return of his strength is all. Presumably because he can cook better than any other man in America. That is all. If Monand renewed vo'untarily the vows sieur Sauceangravi could cook 'olerably well, and shoot a little, and speak three languages tolerably well, and keep books fairly, and sing some, and understood gardening Then the lords of the Philistines pretty well, and could preach a fair sort of a sermon, and knew something about horses, and could telegraph a little, and could do light porter's work, and could read proof tolerably well, and could do plain house and sign painting, and could help on a threshing machine, and knew enough law to practice in the justices' courts of Kickapoo township, and had once run for the legislature, and knew how to weigh hay, he wouldn't get \$10,000 a dance. And they set him oetween it wouldn't make a cent's difference pillars : in full view of the people. in his salary if he thought the world was flat and that it went around its orbit on wheels. There's nothing like knowing your business

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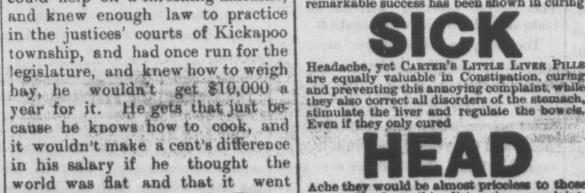
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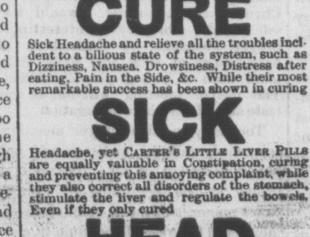
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