Coughs and colds need not be endured; they can be cured, and that quickly. Many mixtures are temporary in effect, but Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites is a permanent remedy.

The oil feeds the blood and warms the body; the hypophosphites tone up the nerves; the glycerine soothes the inflamed throat and lungs. The combination cures. This may prevent serious lung troubles.

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MERCHANT TAILOR.

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—AND—
Change of Business

McMURRAY & CO, wish to return their sincere thanks to the public for their generous patronage for the past 17 years they have been in business. And as we have decided to make a change in our usiness we therefore ask all indebted to us over six months to call at once and settle their accounts before June 1st, and all those whose accounts are standing over one year after that date will be placed in the hands of an attorney for collection. In order to reduce our stock at once we have decided to sell our large stock of Organs, Pianos, Sewing Machines and Fancy Goods at a Great Reduction, as all must be sold if possible by July 1st. We have on Hand a large stock Organs manufactured by Karn, Dominion and Doherty, also a number of second hand organs and Pianos that must be sold regardless of cost, also a very large stock of Sewing Machines, The White, New Home, New Williams, Climax New Ideal, Queen and Standard.

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Christmas.

Dainty little stockings
Hanging in a row,
Blue, and gray, and scarlet,
In the firelight's glow.

Curley-pated sleepers
Safely tucked in bed;
Dreams of wondrous toy-shops
Dancing through each head.

Mother stepping lightly,
Plans with tender care,
How to give each dreamer
Just an equal share.

Funny little stockings
Hanging in a row,
Stuffed with sweet surprises,
Down from top to toe—

Skates, and balls and trumpets,
Dishes, tops, and drums,
Books, and dolls, and candies,
Nuts, and sugar-plums,

Little sleepers waking;
Bless me, what a noise!
Wish you merry Christmas,
Happy girls and boys!

—Selected.

The Sabbath-School.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

First Quarter—Lesson I.—Jan. 2, 1898

JESUS AND JOHN.—Matthew 3: 7-17.

Study Isaiah 40: 1-5; Matthew 1 and 2. Commit Verses 13-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.—*This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.*—MATT. 3: 17.

SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.

In studying the life of Christ as reported by Matthew, we need first of all to put in our minds the whole scheme of his life, and keep it there while we are studying the details. See that each lesson finds its place and meaning in the life and work of our Redeemer. This often gives an added meaning and fresh practical bearing, as in looking at any color the background on which it stands changes its tone.

Then select out for special emphasis in teaching, those portions best adapted to your particular class.

Keep the chart and the harmony of Christ's life before the pupils.

Always have a map, and show the places and also their modern representatives when well know, to give realty to the events.

The pictures. Photographs, referred to, will often be helpful. Each class may make a collection of these pictures; or the whole school may make it, and have the pictures passed from class to class.

Pray that Jesus may walk before the class in the beauty of holiness, in his wonderful attractiveness, and draw each one of the scholars to him, as Teacher, Saviour, Friend, and Guide.

HISTORICAL SETTING.

Time.—John the Baptist began to preach in the summer of A. D. 27.

Place.—The preaching of John the Baptist was in the wilderness of Judea,—a wild, hilly, thinly inhabited region (not a desert) lying west of the Dead Sea and the lower Jordan. John's ministry extended as far north as Enon, near Salem, two thirds of the way up the Jordan from the Dead Sea. The baptism of Jesus was doubtless at the fords of the Jordan, called Bethabara, five miles north east of Jericho.

SUBJECT: PREPARATION FOR THE LIFE WORK OF JESUS.

BY HIS EARLY LIFE AND TRAINING.—HIS DIVINE NATURE.—John 1: 14; Heb. 1: 2, 3. The Word, who became Jesus on earth, was the Eternal Son of God. By him the worlds were created. He came to this world to reveal to us our Father in heaven, to express his infinite love, to bring us messages of forgiveness and hope, to give his life in atonement for our sins, to redeem the world from sin to holiness and heaven.

HIS HUMAN NATURE. Jesus was born, probably in December, B. C. (Anno Domini), in Bethlehem of Judea. His mother was the Virgin Mary, but his father was God himself, through the Holy Ghost. His reputed father was Joseph, who became the husband of Mary. Both Joseph and Mary were direct descendants of David, of whose line the Messiah was to be. The genealogy in Matthew is that of Joseph, and that in Luke probably that of Mary; so that, both legally and really, Jesus was the son of David, of the royal line according to the promise (2 Sam. 7: 12-16).

Note, that only such a being, both human and divine, could be the Saviour the world needs,—Divine, so that he has all power, all wisdom and knowledge, the expression of God's love, forgiving sin, ever leading us upward, and love to him is love to God; Human, so that he touches our human sympathies; he makes our love to him real and strong; he is our example, our ideal; we know that he has felt our needs, our sorrows, our temptations, our longings, and has triumphed in regard to all.

HIS SCHOOLS AND SCHOOLMASTERS. Jesus lived at Nazareth, after he was two years old, till he was about 30 years old. During this time it is probable that Joseph died, as no mention is made of him with Mary during the ministry of Jesus, and she was committed to John's care at the crucifixion. Jesus probably called for his mother during his early manhood.

JESUS LIVED IN A VILLAGE, not a large city, but had the training which comes from both. Jesus came in contact with busy life, and with bad men, for Nazareth was a notoriously wicked town. The chief lesson which Nazareth teaches us is the possibility of a pure home and a spotless youth in the very face of the evil world.

THE NATURAL SCENERY around Nazareth is said to be among "the most beautiful on the face of the earth." Jesus preaching is full of allusions to nature.

THE ROMAN YOKE was irksome and galling, and stirred in him patriotic desires to deliver his people.

THE JEWISH HOPES of a Redeemer of throwing off their bondage, of coming the glorious nation promised in the prophets, were in the very air he breathed.

HIS SCHOOL TRAINING was largely in the Scriptures. He learned three languages. (1) The Hebrew of the Scriptures. (2) The Aramaic, the common language of the people, and related to the Hebrew something as Italian is to Latin and (3) Greek.

HIS HOME TRAINING must have been in a most spiritual atmosphere, full of love and piety and good morals.

THE TRAINING IN TRAVEL. The journeys of Jesus, year by year, to Jerusalem were an education.

HIS BUSINESS TRAINING, by Daily Labor. Jesus learned the trade of a carpenter from his father. The human race must work in some way; and it was well that their Saviour should have trod the way of daily toil.

THROUGH THE WORK OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.—Vs. 7-12. John the Baptist was born in the summer of B. C. 5, six months before Jesus, probably at Hebron. His parents' names were Zacharias and Elizabeth. John was a relative of Jesus. He was brought up in a retired way in the wilderness, till he was 30 years old. Then six months before the public appearance of Jesus he began to preach repentance. He was clothed like an ancient prophet and lived on the simplest fare. He was the "voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

John the Baptist prepared the way by awakening a great religious interest among the people. The whole nation was stirred to the depths with fear, repentance, and hope. This was Building the Highways.

By leading men to repentance and the forsaking of sin. Multitudes came to him. They repented. They were baptized, as a public confession of repentance. They asked what they were to do to show the reality of their repentance.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees. The two leading religious sects of the Jews. *Come to his baptism.* Drawn by the general interest and excitement. Perhaps to watch what was going on, so as to hinder the work if need be. Possibly with a half-conscious feeling of sin and need. *O generation of vipers.* The most venomous and dangerous of the poisonous snakes of Syria. *Who have warned you to flee from the wrath.* They had come to be baptized, not to repent, to go through a form, not to change their natures. What had made them think that there was any danger, since they claimed to be so good. *The wrath to come.* The punishment that must come upon the guilty. The result was as certain as the laws of God.

This was not denunciation, but warning. It was the cry of love. Its object was to keep them from suffering the wrath. *Bring forth, therefore*, if you really wish to be saved, and to escape. *Fruits meet for repentance.* The fruits that grow out of true repentance. *And think not to say within yourselves*, as your secret hope. *We have Abraham to* (as) *our Father.* We must be saved because we belong to the race of Abraham and are inheritors of the promises to him and his children, even if we do not repent. Such hopes are absolutely vain. You must inherit Abraham's faith and character if you would inherit the promises. *God is able of these stones*, the stones on the shore of Jordan, where he was baptizing. *To raise up Children unto Abraham.* God can as easily make sons of stones, as of a brood of vipers. Indeed, he did change the stony hearts of publicans and sinners into children of Abraham by faith. *The axe is laid* (is lying) *unto the root of the trees*, all ready to cut them down. Yet there was a brief respite, with the possibility of such a change that the axe need not be used.

The Jewish church was this tree. The axe was laid at its roots. The forces were already in operation which led to the destruction of the Jewish nation 44 years later.

Every tree which bringeth forth not good fruit is hewn down. Because it takes the place of something better. *I indeed baptize you with water.* I give the sign and symbol. I call you to repentance; but I cannot give you new life. I point you to one *that cometh after me*, whose forerunner I am, but who is so much greater, more worthy than I, that his *shoes I am not worthy to bear.* I am not worthy to perform the lowest, most humble service for him. *He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire*, enlightening, purifying, life-giving, comforting, consuming impurities, full of power. Jesus should give what baptism symbolized, and make effective all that John sought by preaching repentance. *Whose fan was in his hand.* A winnowing fan. *And he will thoroughly purge*, cleanse, *his floor*, separating the chaff from the wheat, the bad from the good. *His wheat.* The true members of his kingdom. *Into the garner.* The kingdom of heaven. *But....the chaff.* The refuse, representing all who continue in sin, unrepentent. Those who refuse to be converted. *He will burn with unquenchable fire*, that no power can put out. The chaff is burned up because it is useless; it would again mingle with the wheat and destroy its best usefulness.

PREPARATION THROUGH BAPTISM AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.—Vs. 13-17. *Then cometh Jesus*, probably in January, A. D. 27, after John had been preaching six months; from Nazareth, his home in *Galilee*, being about 30 years old. *To Jordan*, probably at the ford near Jericho. *To be baptized of him*, as the other people were doing. *John forbade him.* Protested against it. *I have need.* He recognized in some degree who it was. *Suffer*, permit. *Thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.* As a teacher of the law we should recognize its authority and obey it. This was especially needful, since baptism was to be an ordinance of perpetual obligation in the new dispensation; we see in the baptism of Jesus an example to his followers. *Went up straightway out of the water* and up the bank of the river. *The heavens were open.* He saw into the very heaven of heavens. *He* (Jesus) *saw*, so did John (John 1: 34), and doubtless all who were looking. *The Spirit of God descended like a dove.* The Holy Spirit descended not only in the manner of a dove, but in the bodly shape. *Lighting upon him*, to point him out as the Son of God. *Lo a voice from heaven.* Three times during our Lord's earthly ministry was a voice heard from heaven: (1) at his baptism; (2) at his transfiguration; (3) in the courts of the temple during Passion Week (John 12: 28). *This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.* Thus God endorsed him and his mission, and showed to the Jewish nation that there was the Messiah.

PRACTICAL HINTS.

For every great work there is need of preparation, both of the workers and of the community.

There is need of reformations and revivals, political and religious, which stir the community to its very depths, and throughout its whole extent. The ordinary means of grace are most important, but there is also need of other and sudden powers to make men see more clearly both their needs and their hopes, and to bring them to action.

The first need of a soul and of the nation is a deep sense of sin and guilt, and of danger flowing from them, with also a way and a hope of a better life.

Baptism. A public confession of Christ and the religious life is essential to all best work for God. The true follower of Christ must follow him in the public renunciation of sin and profession of religion.

Every one who would be an efficient worker for God and man should

Publicly profess his faith in his Saviour.

Submit to every ordinance of religion.

Fulfil all righteousness in his heart and life.

Every Christian needs a baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Every Christian needs the manifest approval of God, in some way

THE GRAY HEAD BY THE HEARTH.—A private letter from a lady who is spending a year among the peasants of Tyrol says:

"The morning after our arrival we were awakened by the sound of a violin and flutes under the window, and hurrying down found the little house adorned as for a feast—garlands over the door and wreathing a high chair which was set in state.

"The table was already covered with gifts brought by the young people whose music we have heard. The whole neighborhood were kins folk, and these gifts came from uncles and cousins in every far off degree. They were very simple, for the donars are poor—knitted gloves, a shawl, baskets of flowers, jars of fruit, loaves of bread; but upon all some little message of love was pinned.

"'Is there a bride in this house?' I asked of my landlord.

"'Ach, nein!' he said. 'We do not make such a pother about our young people. It is the grandmother's birthday.'

"The grandmother, in her spectacles, white apron, and high velvet cap, was a heroine all day, sitting in state to receive visits and dealing out slices from a sweet loaf to each who came. I could not but remember certain grandmothers at home, just as much loved as she, probably, but whose dull, sad lives were never brightened by any such pleasure as this; and I thought we could learn much from these poor mountaineers."—Herald and Presbyter.

You needn't pick up any worries. You can get them anywhere as you go along.

For The Children.

When coughs and colds distress the children Norway Pine Syrup comes to the rescue. It soothes and heals the throat, removes the phlegm, and is pleasant and easy to take.

Nature's Medicine.

Nature's medicine for constipation, liver complaint, sick headache, biliousness, jaundice and sallow complexion is Laxa Liver Pills. They are a perfect laxative, never griping or causing pain. One pill each night for thirty days will cure constipation.

They Never Fail.—Mr. S. M. Boughner, Langton, writes: "For about two years I was troubled with Inward Piles, but by using Parmelee's Pills, I was completely cured, and although four years have elapsed since then they have not returned." Parmelee's Pills are anti-bilious and a specific for the cure of Liver and Kidney Complaints, Dyspepsia, Costiveness, Headache, Piles, etc., and will regulate the secretions and remove all bilious matter.

End of the Year.

The year is now closing. What is the result of your work? How much more of Bible truth is fixed in your heart and mind than a year ago? What a splendid character we have had the last six months for our study! But how has Paul's life influenced yours? And possibly more important still is the question, How has your work and teaching affected your scholars? Are they wiser and better? Have their affections, and desires, and wills been reached? To be like Paul is to have his spirit and purposes. We do not need to encounter so many dangers—to face death and imprisonment; but we do need the courage to hate sin, and to stand up for the right. We do need that "brotherly kindness" which gets us out of ourselves and away from our own selfish interests and self seeking into the life of loving helpfulness. Has the self-surrender of Paul—the losing of himself in Christ—helped us to this end?

Biliousness
Is caused by torpid liver, which prevents digestion and permits food to ferment and putrefy in the stomach. Then follow dizziness, headache, insomnia, nervousness, and, if not relieved, bilious fever or blood poisoning. Hood's Pills rouse the liver, cure headache, dizziness, constipation. 25 cents. The only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.
Hood's Pills

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PRACTICAL TAILOR.

I BEG to inform my numerous patrons that I have just opened out a very large and well-selected stock of NEW SPRING CLOTHS, consisting of English Scotch and Canadian Tweed Suitings, Fine Corkscrew and Diagonal Suitings, Light and Dark Spring Overcoatings, and all the latest designs and patterns in Fancy Trouserings from which I am prepared to make up in FIRST CLASS STYLE, according to the latest New York Spring and Summer Fashions, and guarantee to give entire satisfaction.

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My stock of Mens' Furnishing Goods cannot be excelled. It consists of Hard and Soft Hats of English and American make, in all the novelties and Staple Style for Spring Wear. White and Regatta shirts, Linen Collars, Silk Handkerchiefs Braces, Merino Underwear, Hosiery and well selected assortment of Fancy Ties and Scarfs, in all the latest patterns of English and American designs.
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