Sabbath School Department.

[From the Christian Helper].

International Bible Lessons.

THE HEAVENLY SONG.

DEC. 7.—Rev. 5: 1-14.

GOLDEN TEXT.

orthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive pow-and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, glory, and blessing.—Rev. 5: 12.

INTRODUCTION.

the letters to the churches end with ch. 3 m in ch. 4, the real revelation (unfolding of ngs yet to be) begins; chs. 4-11 contains the ning of the seals and the sounding of the mpet. In chs. 4 and 5 we have a description he Heavenly scenery in the midst of which visions are laid. "Of these, ch. 4 is prothe scene itself; ch. 5 being a further unng of its details, with a view to the vision he seal which is to follow. In ch. 4 we have sion of God's presence in heavan."-Alford.

EXPLANATION OF TEXT.

HIM THAT SAT ON THE THRONE. See ch. It is God who sits on the throne. A This book contains an account of the e as made known in the following chap-WITHIN AND ON THE BACKSIDE. This tes the completeness of the book, everyin the future is here to be found. SEALED SEVENSEALS. "A sealed book is a fitting. em of the future." It is not stated in what er the seals were attached to the volume, but ear that they were so attached that each seal d one part of the volume, and that when vas broken and the portion which that designed to fasten was unrolled, a second ald be come to, which it would be necessary eak in order to read the next portion."-

A STRONG ANGEL, one whose voice could eard throughout the universe. Who is THY, i. e., who is so exalted in rank, so great wer and wisdom, as to be able to do it? 3. VEN, EARTH, UNDER THE EARTH. These divisions, with the ancients, denoted the universe. No one is able to read the re destinies of the church and of the world. OOK THEREON, to obtain a view of what it ins. 4. I WEPT MUCH. See the promise to John in ch. 4: 1. Now it would seem that promise were not to be fulfiled. His ing indicated the intense longing of men ow the future. What is going to be in world? What after we leave this world? we grapple with these questions. To goal are we tending? This is the problem

a root-shoot, i. e., a shoot springing up the root or family of David, Iasiah 11: 1. st knows and can reveal the future.

Four BEASTS. This ought to be transliving creatures instead of beasts. MSee 1:5-10. There is much diversity of opinto what these symbolize. Some think mean God's sentient creation, man, birds, beasts. Some think they represent the dence of God, as intelligent, universal, thty, authoritative. Four and TWENTY RS. The representatives of the redeemurch in heaven."-Barnes. Thus we have Throne in the midst of his church and of imated creation. A LAMB. Christ, the of God. "This is the battle whereby the has overcome; viz. that he has suffered elf to be slain as a lamb."—Elrard. As IT BEEN SLAIN bearing marks of his cruci-. SEVEN HORNS; horn symbol of power; n, of perfection, hence perfect power.

N EYES. Perfect intelligence. SEVEN ers of God. The Holy Spirit in all His varioperations of power and intelligence in the of redemption. Christ sends forth the Holy into the world.

FOUR BEASTS AND FOUR, &c. All created unite with the redeemed in praising Ps. 145: 10. EVERY ONE OF THEM, i. e. elders. HARPS * * * VIALS. Praise

A NEW SONG. "New in the sense that it ong consequent on redemption, and distined therefore from the songs sung in Heaven the work of redemption was consummat-Barnes. FOR THOU WAST SLAIN. Christ's Himself up to death is stated as the al reason of his worthiness to open the i. e., to declare what shall be in the futo rule this world in such a way that his shall triumph and his people be saved. hil. 2: 6-11.

KINGS. This denotes the dignity to believers are exalted, and implies their over all foes. PRIESTS. They can

God acceptably a fredday jand Next to the Throne are the living creaand the elders then around these are ngels, who now join in the song of To RECEIVE, i. e., to have all these ascribed to him, to be declared the pos-

of them. Of them to the throughout the se joins in praise to Christ.

"The praise having made the circuit of niverse, centres back again to those who it, and dies away as the FOUR AND TWEN-LDERS fall in lowly homage before the of HIM THAT LIVETH FOR EVER AND -Macdonald.

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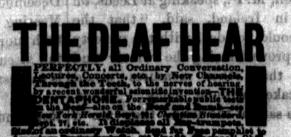
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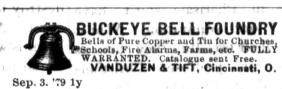
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