



AN ARMY OF ANTS.

attacks of these little creatures. Large pythons have been killed by them in a single night; while chickens, lizards, and other small animals in Western Africa flee from them in terror.

To protect themselves from the heat, they erect arches, under which numerous armies of them pass in safety. Sometimes the arch is made of grass and earth, and gummed together by some secretion; and again it is formed by the bodies of the larger ants, who hold themselves together by their strong nippers, while the workers pass under them.

At certain times of the year, freshets overflow the country inhabited by the "drivers," and it is then that these ants go to sea. The rain comes suddenly, and the walls of their houses are broken in by the flood; but, instead of coming to the surface in scattered hundreds, and being swept off to destruction, out of the ruin rises a black ball that rides safely on the water, and drifts away.

At the first warning of danger, the little creatures rush together and form a solid body of ants—the weaker in the centre. Often this ball is larger than a common baseball, and in this way they float about until they lodge against some

tree, upon the branches of which they are soon safe and sound.

"Hunter ants" are found in tropical countries. It appears that at particular seasons, when pressed for food, they leave their nests and enter the dwellings by millions. They are harmless to the residents if they do not disturb or kill any of the number. In half an hour the ants enter every room, wardrobe, trunk, and cranny in the house, in search of insects. They cover the walls, the floors, the ceilings, and even the under side of the roof, and woe to every cockroach, fly, or wasp that does not immediately escape!

In Trinidad it is filled Mrs. Carmichael's house for five hours, destroying hundreds of insects, and a score of mice and rats, which she saw covered with hundreds of the little warriors, until they were worried to death and then devoured. After this thorough depopulation, the ants suddenly left for their nests.

The negroes are so impressed with their usefulness that they call these ants "God's blessing." One of them, passing Mrs. Carmichael's house just after the above scene, called out: "Ah, missus, you've got the blessing of God to-day; and a great blessing it is to get such a cleaning!"

LESSON NOTES.

LESSON XIII. [Sept. 28.
Review.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Thou shalt remember the Lord thy God.—Deut. 8. 18.

Titles and Golden Texts should be thoroughly studied.

1. The G. of M... Give us this—
2. The T. C. Thou shalt live—
3. The T. C. Thou shalt love thy—
4. W. the G. C. Thou shalt have—
5. The T. Enter into his—
6. N. and A. Let us—
7. J. T. C. For thy name's—
8. R. of the S. Blessed is that—
9. The B. S. And as Moses—
10. The P. L. M. This is of a truth—
11. L. and O. G. For this is—
12. The D. of M. The Lord spake—

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

LESSON I. [October 5.

JOSHUA ENCOURAGED.

Josh. 1. 1-11. Memorize verses 8, 9.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Be strong and of a good courage.—Josh. 1. 9.

QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON.

Where had Moses gone? He had been called home to God. How old was he? One hundred and twenty years old. Had he become weak? No. Where was he buried? In a valley in the land of Moab. Who buried him? God and his angels. To whom did the Lord then speak? To Joshua. What did he tell him to do? To rise and go over Jordan with all the people. What did he promise to give him? Every place that the sole of his foot should tread upon. What did he say to him three times? Golden Text. What did the Lord ask him to do? To obey the law of Moses. What else must he do? Think about it and teach it to the people every day. To whom besides Joshua does he say this? To us.

DAILY STEPS.

- Mon. Read the lesson verses carefully. Josh. 1. 1-11.
- Tues. Learn who taught Israel by Moses. Num. 36. 13.
- Wed. Find why the people were taught these things. Deut. 6. 1-3.
- Thur. Read the story of Joshua's faithfulness. Num. 14.
- Fri. Learn the Golden Text.
- Sat. Ask some one about the meaning of the name "Joshua."
- Sun. Read Hymn 725 in the Methodist Hymnal.