

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From International Question Book.)

Studies in the Acts of the Apostles.

LESSON III.—JANUARY 18. PAUL'S FAREWELL.—ACTS 20: 28-38. COMMIT VERSES 32-36.

GOLDEN TEXT

Feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.—Acts 20: 28.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

The faithful teacher warns and counsels his flock.

DAILY READINGS.

- M. Acts 20: 28-38. T. John 21: 1-17. W. 1 Tim. 4: 1-16. Th. Eph. 1: 1-23. F. 1 Cor. 4: 1-16. Sa. Col. 1: 1-23. Su. 2 Cor. 9: 1-15.

TIME.—Sunday, April 29, A. D. 58. PLACE.—Miletus, a city of Ionia in Asia Minor, 30 miles south of Ephesus.

PAUL.—Aged 56, near the close of his third great missionary journey.

CIRCUMSTANCES.—This lesson is a continuation of Paul's address to the Ephesian elders, the first part of which was the subject of our last lesson. Having reviewed his own work and experience, he now proceeds to warn and counsel.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.

TAKE HEED TO YOURSELVES—because only as they were themselves right, could they do their duty to others. THE FLOCK—the church, of which they were shepherds. OVERSEER—not for authority, but for teaching and guidance. THE SAME WORD as bishops. TO FEED—to shepherd, to feed and tend and care for. WHICH HE HATH PURCHASED—with his own blood and sweat. 26. WOLVES—enemies, who devour instead of feeding. 27. PERVERSE THINGS—truth perverted and distorted. 31. THREE YEARS—from May, A. D. 55, to May 28, WITH TEARS—tenderly, not harshly. 32. WORD OF HIS GRACE—his gracious promises and truths. BUILD UP—as temples of the Holy Ghost. INHERITANCE what the children of God receive from him here—because they are his children—his home, his care, his happiness, his character. SANCTIFIED—made holy by Christ. 34. THESE HANDS HAVE MINISTERED—he applied himself to his trade of tent-making (Acts 18: 3). THE WORDS OF THE LORD JESUS—not recorded elsewhere, but remembered.

QUESTIONS.

INQUIRATORY.—In what place was Paul at the time of this lesson? At what time of the year was it? On what journey was he? Whom was he addressing? What were the main thoughts of the previous portion of this address?

SUBJECT: THE FAITHFUL TEACHER'S COUNSELS.

1. TO TAKE HEED TO YOURSELVES.—What was Paul's first counsel? To what two things should they take heed? What need of taking heed to ourselves? How will doing this fit in with their duty to others? Who are meant by the flock? What two things were they to do for the flock? What shows how precious the church is to God? How was it purchased with his blood? (Acts 20: 28; John 3: 14, 15; Peter 1: 18, 19; 2: 24; 3: 18.)

2. TO GUARD AGAINST ENEMIES (vs. 29, 30).—Against what two kinds of enemies does he warn? What regions in the East are the natural enemies of the flock? Who are meant by wolves? What harm do such do to the church? From what source should other enemies arise? What is meant by "perverse things"? Why is truth perverted often more dangerous than error? What harm would these enemies do? Have we enemies like these? Name some of them.

3. HOW TO GUARD AGAINST THESE DANGERS (vs. 31, 32).—What two things must they do for themselves? What does Jesus say about watching? (Mark 13: 33-37.) What should they remember? What good would it do to remember this? What does Paul mean by "build up in his warnings"? What example is this to us in reproving and warning others? Who would guard them from these dangers? By the use of what means? What is "the word of his grace"? What two things would God do for them? How are they to be built up? (Eph. 2: 20-22; 4: 12.) What is the inheritance among the sanctified?

4. TO FOLLOW PAUL'S EXAMPLE (vs. 34, 35).—What had been Paul's object in laboring for them? What did he not seek? Why does he mention this? How was he supported? What kind of work did he do? (Acts 18: 3.) For whom ought we to labor? What saying of Christ did he quote? Is it recorded elsewhere? What is the blessedness of receiving? How is giving more blessed?

5. THE PARTING (vs. 36-38).—Describe the parting scene. Why did they pray? Why kneel? How did they show their love? Why does this all show as to Paul's character.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

- I. Be right yourselves, and then you can help make others right. II. We shall always be exposed to spiritual dangers. III. The way to guard against them is by watching, praying, laboring, following the examples of the good, trusting in God, being built up by his word, and looking forward to our inheritance. IV. We should seek the blessedness of giving and doing for others.

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COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Jan. 6, 1885.

There has been a sharp advance in prices all round this week and the produce market is booming. The advance is undoubtedly founded upon a great reduction in stocks in store and in sight, but it has already gone further than is perhaps justifiable. The volume of business has increased considerably, but holders are so confident that the good time they have so long been looking for is at hand that they can scarcely be induced to sell.

Chicago has "boomed" this week. Jan. 6½¢ Feb. is 4c and May is 37c better, and still the market rises. The quotations are:—Wheat at 8½¢ Jan. 80½¢ Feb. 88¢ May. Corn is quoted at 36½¢ Feb. and 34½¢ May.

The local wheat market has advanced considerably but there is not much business doing. We quote Canada Red Winter, 86c to 88c; White, 84c to 85c; Spring 84c to 85c; Peas, 7½c to 7½c; Oats, 31c. Barley, 50c to 60c. Corn 56c.

FLOUR.—There has been a steady and by no means insignificant rise in prices this week, but there is no business being done and receipts are very small. We quote:—Superior Extra, \$3.85 to \$3.95; Extra Superior, \$3.75; Fancy \$3.65; Spring Extra \$3.60; Superfine, \$3.25 to \$3.35; Strong Bakers' (Can.), \$3.70 to \$3.80; Strong Bakers' (American), \$4.25 to \$4.50; Fine, \$3.10 to \$3.25; Middlings, \$3.80 to \$3.85; Pollards, \$2.60 to \$2.70; Ontario bags, (bags included) Medium, \$1.75 to \$1.80; Spring Extra, \$1.45 to \$1.55; Superfine, \$1.45 to \$1.55; City Bags, (delivered), \$2.25.

MEALS unchanged.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Both butter and cheese are quiet and unchanged. We quote as follows:—Creamery, 2½c to 2½c; Eastern Townships, 17c to 20c; Western, 14c to 17c. Cheese is unchanged at 12½c to 12½c for September and October, and 8c to 11c for other makes.

Eggs, fresh, are selling at 20c to 22c, as to quality.

POULTRY AND GAME are steady as follows:—

Turkeys, 10c to 11½; ducks, 9c to 11c; geese and chickens, 7c to 7½ per lb; partridges, 40c to 45c per brace; venison saddle, 7c to 8c; do. carcasses, 5c to 5½ per lb.

HOG PRODUCTS are very quiet. We quote:—

Western Mess Pork \$14.75 to \$15.00; Hams, city cured, 14c to 14½; Bacon, 13c to 14c; Lard, western, 10c; Tallow, 10½c to 10c; do., Canadian, 10½c; Tallow, common refined, 7c to 8c.

ASHES are very weak, Pots selling at \$3.40 to \$3.45 as to rates.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

The business done on this market has been very light since the holidays, owing to small supplies and advancing rates, also a good many of the butchers had a large supply of Christmas beef on hand, which they were anxious to dispose of before laying in fresh supplies. Good butchers cattle are decidedly higher in price, which ranges at from 5c to 5½c per lb.; fair conditioned steers and fat cows at 4c to 4½c do., and common dry cows at about 3½c do.

The supply of sheep and lambs is not large, but fully equal to the demand and prices are without change. Live hogs are scarce and sell at from 5½c to 5½c per lb. Very few mule cows have been offered here lately, but there seems to be not much demand for them.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The want of sleighing as well as the unsatisfactory condition of the ice on the St. Lawrence have led to a very small attendance of farmers at the markets, and though the traders have ample supplies, yet prices of most kinds of produce have an upward tendency. The mild weather has had a bad effect on the keeping qualities of frozen poultry and prices of this kind are lower. Dressed hogs and beef quarters have both an upward tendency. Tub butter is very difficult to sell, but choice prints bring very high rates. The fruit market is very quiet and prices without material change, except that oranges are lower. The supply of hay is not equal to the demand and prices are higher. Oats are 80c to 90c per bag; peas, 85c to 90c per bushel; beans \$1.50 to \$1.50 do; potatoes 40c

to 50c per bag; turnips, carrots, beets and onions 30c to 50c per bushel; cabbages 15c to 20c per dozen heads; butter 14c to 45c per lb; eggs 22c to 60c per dozen; apples \$2.00 to \$3.00 per barrel; dressed hogs 7½c to 7½c per lb.; mutton quarters 5c to 7c do; young turkeys 9c to 12c per lb.; geese 7c to 9c do; fowls 7c to 10c do; ducks 12c to 15c do; hay \$6.50 to \$10.00 per 100 bundles.

New York, Jan. 5, 1884.

GRAIN.—Wheat, 90c Jan.; 91½¢ Feb.; 93½¢ Mar.; 93½¢ April; 96½¢ May; 97½¢ June. Corn, 5½¢ Jan.; 4½¢ April; 4½¢ May. Rye, quiet, 63½¢. Oats, dull; 34½¢ Dec.; 34½¢ Jan.; 35½¢ May. Barley, Canada No. 2, 76½¢. Peas nominal.

Wheat, quiet and unchanged. We quote: Superfine, \$2.45 to \$2.80; Low Extra, \$2.75 to \$3.10; Clears, \$3.60 to \$4.25; Straight \$3.00 to \$4.85; Patent \$4.50 to \$5.25. Winter Wheat; — Superfine, \$2.70 to \$2.90; Low Extra, \$2.85 to \$3.15; Clears (R. and A.), \$3.90 to \$4.25; Straight (R. and A.), \$4.20 to \$4.95; Patent, \$4.50 to \$5.25; Straight (White Wheat), \$4.25 to \$5.10; Low Extra (City Mills), \$2.80 to \$3.15; West India, sacks, \$3.55 to \$3.65; barrels, West India, \$4.40; Patent, \$4.60 to \$5.15; South America, \$4.25 to \$4.30; Patent \$4.65 to \$5.40. Southern Flour—Extra \$3.20 to \$4.50; Family, \$4.55 to \$5.10; Patent, \$5.10 to \$5.60. Rye Flour—Fine to superfine, \$2.40 to \$3.40.

MEALS.—Cornmeal, \$3.30 to \$3.40 in bbls; oatmeal, \$5.00 to \$5.90 per brl.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter unchanged. Creamery, ordinary to select 18c to 33c. Half firkins, ordinary to best 15c to 26c; Welsh tubs 19c to 25c; Western ordinary factory, to choice imitation creamery, 9c to 25c. Cheese, state factory, ordinary to fall cream, 3½c to 13½c. Ohio flats, fair to choice 6c to 11½c; Skins 1c to 3c.

BIBLICAL BLUNDERERS.

Every year a certain proportion of the children of the London board schools enter into a competitive examination in Scriptural knowledge for the "Peak Prize," which consists of last Sunday's gospels, Psalms and Testaments. They are "paper work" examinations and the following are a few of the many curious "hash" answers that have at various times been put in at them. "Abraham was the father of Lot, and had two wives. One was called Hishmah and the other Hagar, he kept her at home, and he turned her into the desert where he became a pillow of salt in the day time and a pillow of fire by night."

"Joseph wore a coat of many armaments. He wore a gilet button to Faro and told his dream. He married Pontifex doctor, and he led the Gypsians out of bondage to Kank in Gallies and there fell on his sword and died in sight of the promised land." "Moses was an Egyptian. He lived in a bark made of balustrades, and he kept a golden calf and worshiped brazen snakes, and he bet nothing but whales and mutton for forty year. He was kory by the air of his ed while riding under the bow of a tree and he was killed by his son Absalom as he was hanged from the bow. His end was peace." Of the numerous stories told in connection with diocesan inspection "exams" in public elementary schools, the two following are perhaps the best known and most worth quoting. At one of these exams a boy, asked to mention the occasion upon which it is recorded in Scripture that an animal spoke, made answer: "The whale when it swallowed Jonah." The inspector being somewhat of a humorist maintained his gravity and asked: "What did the whale say?" To which the boy promptly replied: "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." Another inspector, finding a class hesitating over an answering the question, "With what weapon did Sampson slay the Philistines?" and wishing to prompt them, significantly tapped his own cheek, and asked: "What is this?" and his action translated "the chords of memory," the whole class instantly answered: "The jawbone of an ass."—All the Year Round.

HUSBAND AND WIFE present themselves before the divorce court. "What do you want, madame?" "Divorce from that wretch." "And you, sir?" "Divorce from that wretch." "The divorce is refused because of incompatibility of temper. You both seem to be perfectly agreed. Call the next case."—French Paper.

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