

spurned, and the slave of sin prefers to be let alone in his bondage.

But there is hope in God!

Of his own free love and mercy he comes to the rescue. God undertakes to loose the chains of the oppressed, to deliver the captives who are appointed unto death; to save sinners. If this be true they may, indeed, rejoice, for their cause is espoused by one who cannot fail. And it is, indeed, true.—As surely as God was pledged to deliver Israel, so is he pledged to save sinners. He gave his only Son to die for them, and his blood demands their salvation.

### BEREAN METHODS.

#### Hints for the Teachers' Meeting and the Class.

A concise review of the events leading to the descent into Egypt.... A very short discussion on the duration of the sojourning in Egypt. (See General Statement.) The characteristics of the Israelites in Egypt: (1) A peculiar people; (2) An expectant people, (waiting for inheritance in Canaan); (3) A growing people; (4) A hated people; (5) A persecuted people; (6) A divinely-protected people.... Lessons concerning the people of God in relation to the world. (See Add. Prac. Lessons).... Lessons concerning affliction and trial: (1) Times of prosperity are followed by trial; (2) The world gives trouble to God's people; (3) Trouble may become a blessing, (wherein, in this instance?) (4) Afflictions are under the divine eye.... ILLUSTRATIONS. Persecution. Joseph, Elijah, Jeremiah, John the Baptist, Paul, etc., in Scripture.... Blessings of adversity. The great trees of California are where the storms beat upon them, while those growing in sheltered places are weak.... Character is like iron, made strong by fire and anvil.... Out of filthy rags, torn, cleansed, ground, and transformed, is made the finest white paper: so by discipline the worthless family of Israel becomes the Church of God....

REFERENCES. FOSTER'S CYCLOPEDIA of Prose Illustrations: Vol. I. 315, 5333, 5345. Vol. II. 6869, 12100. Poetical: Vol. I. 2764. Vol. II. 3804. Freeman's Handbook: Bricks, 109, 616; Mortar, 159.

#### Primary and Intermediate.

BY M. V. M.

INTRODUCTORY. We have been learning about Jesus for the last six months. In what part of the Bible do we look for the story of his life? Now we go to the other part of the Bible. What is that called? Is this, too, God's word? Yes, it is all his book, and we are going to learn about some people who had a great deal of trouble, and we shall see how God took care of them.—To-day we shall hear about their trouble,

and next Sunday about a baby who was one day to help them out of all their difficulties.

LESSON THOUGHT. God watches over us.

1. Recall enough of the story of Joseph to show how the Israelites came to be in Egypt. Tell how they had prospered there, until now they were a great people. Joseph and his brothers were all dead, and now a new king came, who did not know Joseph, and who did not care for his good work in Egypt.

2. What is a king's work? Speak of his power to make happy or miserable, and then draw out the thought on the blackboard, "God our King." Will he ever forget?—Can he? Talk about kings dying like other men. Tell the story of Luther's wife putting on black clothes when her husband was gloomy, and seeming to be in deep grief, because, as she said, "God is dead." Print "Yesterday, To-day, and Forever," and show how good it is to have a king all power and all love, who will live forever.

3. Tell what the new king did, and why he did it. Outline a yoke on the board, and ask when and on what a yoke is used. Is it pleasant to carry burdens, to work hard all the time, to be treated cruelly? No, the lives of the Israelites were "made bitter."—Show that though it was the new king who made them so, God allowed it, and it was for their good. Print "God in all," and teach about the yoke that Christ wants us to wear for His sake. We shall have trouble, too, but if we love and obey Jesus, our yoke shall be an easy one, made easy by the love and grace of our dear Lord.

#### Blackboard.

BY J. B. PHIPPS, ESQ.



The Egyptian yoke was on the people of Israel. This brought them to extreme distress, and God thus suffered the Egyptians to oppress them, in order that they might be weaned from any desire to remain in the land, and long to be free. The king forgot Joseph. Israel forgot God. God remembered his promise.