

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

NOV. 18, 1883.

DAVID ANOINTED.

I SAMUEL XVI. 1-13.

The rupture between Samuel and Saul was so complete that Samuel went no more to see him. Nevertheless, he mourned for him until the Lord remonstrated with him. Saul had been a great favorite with Samuel in his earlier and better days; and thus his later conduct was a bitter trial for the venerable prophet. The Lord's words indicate that he was altogether disheartened, and giving way to a depression out of which he needed to be aroused. It is a weakness of human nature to cherish grief inordinately. Israel was not ruined because Saul was rejected; nor was the failure of one king necessarily fatal to the kingdom. He who made Saul king, could find a better man to put in his place; and He already had one in preparation. So Samuel is commanded to give up mourning for Saul, and to go to Bethlehem to find the future king among the sons of Jesse.

To the Divine command Samuel obeyed that he was afraid of Saul. If Saul heard of the transaction, he might in sudden anger have slain the prophet, notwithstanding his office. Samuel was then commanded to keep his real purpose secret, and go to Bethlehem as though engaged in a simply religious mission. It is implied here that he was in the habit of a prophet of going from place to place, and offering such sacrifices on behalf of the people of the neighborhood. Thus no surprise would be excited by his conduct. It was moreover, quite appropriate that there should be a sacrifice in connection with the intended anointing. There was not, as some have said, any deceit or untruthfulness about this transaction. Samuel did that which he professed to do, and was under no obligation to mention that he had another and secret purpose. There is a difference between an intention to deceive and a concealment of that which others have no claim to know.

Samuel's appearance at Bethlehem strangely excited alarm. Why? Their fear was no doubt occasioned by a consciousness of some wrong-doing, the intelligence of which they thought had reached the prophet's ears. When Samuel replied their fears were allayed. Arrangements for the sacrifice were promptly made, and afterward the prophet proceeded to fulfill his secret commission. Calling Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice, means inviting them to the sacrificial meal according to the custom followed on a former occasion (chap. ix.) The sacrifice was publicly offered, but only those invited sat down to the subsequent feast with the prophet. On this occasion it is not probable that any were present but Jesse and his sons. The privacy required was thus fully secured.

In explaining what took place when Jesse's sons were introduced, we must distinguish between that which was outwardly spoken, and that which was only said by the prophet to himself, and by the Lord to him by an inward voice. Eliab's commanding appearance produced so favorable an impression on the prophet's mind, that he said to himself this must surely be the intended one. But the Lord rebuked His servant for judging so much by the outward appearance. Even Samuel was only human. We have before seen how he exulted that Saul was head and shoulders above his brethren, and now, but for Divine correction, he would have fallen into the same mistake again. His mistake, however, has given us from the Lord's own mouth the beautiful statement that "the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." Let us never forget this. There is many a base, bad heart concealed behind a beautiful face; and there is many a mean, ignominious spirit within a noble looking form. On the other hand, some of the purest and kindest hearts are hidden behind the plainest faces; and some of the noblest and most exalted souls are strangely placed in insignificant and unadorned bodies. Seven of Jesse's sons were passed before Samuel without the chosen one being found. Then the prophet became perplexed. This led him to ask, "Are here all thy children?" The answer showed that the chosen one had yet to appear; and he refused to sit down to the feast until he was brought.

The narrative shows that often those whom human wisdom would pass by, are the chosen ones of God. David was evidently not of much account in his father's house, but the Lord had chosen him as the future king. As soon as he became the prophet was told that this was the one, and the anointing immediately took place, no doubt much to the surprise of his father and elder brothers. Did David himself, or any of those present, know the significance of this anointing? We think not, with the exception of Samuel, they did not. The anointing might only mean to an outward observer that David was called to be a prophet. That was true, as his subsequent career showed; but Samuel alone knew the whole truth. The Lord had showed the anointing to David, which had told him that he was the chosen one. The Lord came upon him from that day forward.—W. M. S. S. May.

TAKING COLD.

Here is a list of a few of the many petty acts of commission and omission, the result of forgetfulness, or more frequently of carelessness, which almost surely originate colds, which we take from Dr. Rumbold's little book on the "Hygiene of Catarrhs":—"Sitting on a stone door step in a cool evening to a late hour in the night; sitting up late after the fire has gone out, then going to bed with cold feet; getting out of bed with bare feet and in a night dress to wait on a child sleeping in a cold room; making the fire on a cold morning in an undressed condition; standing in an open doorway during cold or damp weather, with the head and shoulders insufficiently protected, to speak a few words to a friend who is too slow in making his or her departure; stopping to speak to a friend on the sidewalk, long enough for the feet to become cold, and to experience a chilly sensation between the shoulders, etc.

To sum up the whole matter, freedom from throat disease is a matter of less of climate than of attention to the rules of health which should govern the daily life of every person. How a man lives is of quite as much importance as where he lives in his wrestle with throat troubles.

SOME USES OF CHARCOAL.

Charcoal laid flat while cold on a burn, causes the pain to abate immediately; by leaving it on for an hour the burn seems almost healed when the wound is superficial. Tainted meat, surrounded with it, is sweetened. Strewn over heaps of decomposed pelts or over dead animals charcoal prevents any unpleasant odor. Foul water is purified by it. It is a great disinfectant, and sweetens off a live air if placed in shallow trays around apartments. It is so very porous that it absorbs and condenses gases rapidly. One cubic inch of fresh charcoal will absorb nearly one hundred inches of gaseous ammonia. Charcoal forms an excellent poultice for malignant wounds and sores. In cases of what is called proud flesh it is invaluable. It gives no disagreeable odor, corrodes no metal, hurts no texture, injures no color, is a simple and safe sweetener and disinfectant. A teaspoonful of charcoal in half a glass of water often relieves a sick headache. It absorbs the gases and relieves the distended stomach, pressing against the nerves which extend from the stomach to the head. It often relieves constipation, pain or heart burn.

USEFUL HINTS.

Farmers of all people and classes should live well. Their labors are arduous and they should eat heartily of that food which is wholesome and good.

Always start a horse with the voice, never with a cut of the whip. In starting turn a little to one side; in stopping, when going up a hill, do the same.

A botanist says that by soaking the stems of cut flowers in a weak dye solution their colors can be altered at will without their perfume and freshness being destroyed.

The School master, an English educational journal is discussing the question of mid-day meals in the school. It says that the introduction of a hot Irish stew in a London mission school has been a great success as an incentive to study.

Don't call so frequently on your sick friend as to make your company and conversation a bore. Don't make a practice of relating scandal, or stories calculated to depress the spirits of the sick. Don't forget to cheer and gently amuse invalids when visiting them.

If beans are not thoroughly cooked they are difficult of digestion. Still there is not one hotel or restaurant in a thousand that serves them sufficiently cooked; and as a rule, it is not well to call for them in such places; but at home, when prepared under the supervision of a good cook, they make a dish that is wholesome and palatable.—Hall's Journal of Health.

A German savant, Dr. Weil, after examining the eera of 6,908 scholars, suggests that if children seem to be inattentive steps should be taken to ascertain whether they are or not hard of hearing. When that is ascertained to be the case prompt remedial might afford a relief which it would be hopeless to expect later in life.

A prominent New York farmer whose crops are proverbial for their abundance, uses no other fertilizer than land plaster and clover. His plan is to sow clover, plaster it so as to secure a rank growth and turn under for his other crops, wheat included. He has kept up this plan for over fifty years, and claims that his farm is growing more valuable each year.—New York Herald.

The Sanitarian says that "courage is a wonderful agent in throwing off disease. A walk of five miles would cure many an occupant of the lounge. Will-power will surpass pill power in nine cases out of ten, if not in every one. To hold a bottle of smelling salts in the hand on account of headache may be just the thing at times, but to flog a pound of fruit cake into the alley, and then walk a full long as a reward for not eating the compound, is nearly always a much better thing."

Loss and Gain.

CHAPTER I.

"I was taken sick a year ago with bilious fever." My doctor pronounced me cured, but I got sick again, with terrible pains in my back and sides, and I got so bad I could not move! I shrunk! From 228 lbs. to 120! I had been doctoring for my liver, but it did me no good. I did not expect to live more than three months. I began to use Hop Bitters. Directly my appetite returned, my pains left me, my entire system seemed renewed as if by magic, and after using several bottles I am not only as sound as a sovereign but weigh more than I did before. To Hop Bitters I owe my life." Dublin, June 6, '81. R. FITZPATRICK. How to Get Sick.—Expose yourself day and night; eat too much without exercise; work too hard without rest; doctor all the time; take all the vile nostrums advertised, and then you will want to know how to get well, which is answered in three words—Take Hop Bitters!

CHAPTER II.

Malden, Mass., Feb. 1, 1880. Gentlemen—suffered with attacks of sick headache." Neuralgia, female trouble, for years in the most terrible and excruciating manner. No medicine or doctor could give me relief or cure until I used Hop Bitters. "The first bottle nearly cured me;" "The second made me as well and strong as when a child." "And I have been so to this day." My husband was an invalid for twenty years with a serious "Kidney, liver, and urinary complaint." "Pronounced by Boston's best physicians—"Incurable!" Seven bottles of your Bitters cured him and I know of the "Lives of eight persons" "In my neighborhood that have been saved by your Bitters." "And many more are using them with great benefit." "They almost do miracles!" —Mrs. E. D. Slack.

Avoid the harsh, irritating, gripping compounds so often sold as purging medicines, and cure the irregularities of the bowels by the use of Ayer's Cathartic Pills, which are mild and gentle, yet thorough and searching in their action.

The editor writes: "The showers last week, though copious, were not sufficient to meet the wants of the milkmen," and the compositor set it up "milkmen."

As a purifier, A. C.'s Sarsaparilla acts directly and promptly. A single bottle will prove its merits. Many thousands of people are yearly saved from dangerous fevers by the exercise of a little timely care in properly cleansing the system by the use of this remedy.

A new order changes the hours of labor in the New England railway shops at Hartford. They will in future be from 7.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

A Good Introduction.—J. Kennedy, a merchant in Dixie, about three years ago introduced Hays' Pectoral Balsam to his customers by trying it in his own family for Coughs and Colds. Being pleased with results, large sales followed, and it is now the favorite remedy in that neighborhood.

The London Standard, which has a daily circulation of 240,000 copies, prints editions on two kinds of paper, and charges three cents a week extra for the better grade.

Horse and cattle powders if unadulterated are of immense value, but the large packages sold are trash, only one kind now known in this country are absolutely pure and those are Sheridan's.

Mr. John Wanamaker has resigned the Presidency of the Young Men's Christian Association of Philadelphia, which he has held for thirteen years. During that time he has contributed to its funds about \$100,000.

For toothache, burns, cuts, rheumatism, use Perry Davis' Pain Killer. See adv.

Notices may be especially called to an advertisement headed Invigorating Syrup, which may be found in our columns this week. The proprietors, G. & T. Phillips, do not hesitate in recommending this as a perfectly safe and purely vegetable compound. No. 2 is especially adapted for delicate women, advanced stages of consumption, piles, and children of the most tender years.

The No. 1 is particularly recommended for the ailments mentioned in the adv., and may be relied on as a perfectly safe preparation, and where persons are exposed to cold or wet will prevent them from taking cold.

They say it should be kept in every household. GOT HIM OUT OF BED.—I was confined to my bed with Rheumatism, could not move hand or foot. A clergyman called to see me and advised me to use Minard's Liniment. I did so, and in 3 days was out of bed and resumed my work as well as ever.

JAMES LANGILLE, Springfield, Annapolis Co., '82. m2 1y

REST AND COMFORT TO THE SUFFERING.—Brown's Household Panacea has no equal for relieving pain, both internal and external. It cures pain in the side, back or bowels, sore throat, rheumatism, toothache, lumbago, and any kind of pain or ache. "It will most surely quicken the blood and heal, as its acting power is wonderful." "Brown's Household Panacea" being acknowledged as the Great Pain Reliever, and of double the strength of any other Elixir or Liniment in the world, should be in every family handy for use when wanted, "as it really is the best remedy in the world for cramps in the stomach, and pains and aches of all kinds," and is for sale by all druggists at 25 cents a bottle.

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