

QUESTIONS.

Juniors.

Vs. 1-24—Where was the great gathering mentioned in this chapter? Find the place on the map.

For what did the people gather there?

Who came to be made king?

What request did the people make of him before they would make him king?

What was the answer?

16.—How did the people receive the answer? What did Israel say and do? What is the meaning of "to your tents"?

17.—Who remained loyal to Rehoboam?

18.—Whom did Rehoboam send to the people that had disowned him? What did they do to this officer? What did Rehoboam then do? Why did he flee?

19.—What is meant by "unto this day"?

20.—Whom did Israel then choose as king? How many tribes followed him? How many remained with Rehoboam?

21.—What did Rehoboam then do to get back his power over all the nation? How large an army did he gather?

22-24.—What messenger came to Rehoboam? Who sent the messenger? What was his message? What effect did this message have upon Rehoboam?

25.—What city did Jeroboam build for his capital?

V. 26, etc.—Was Jeroboam happy there?

What did he fear?

What did he do to prevent the thing he feared?

What effect did that have upon Israel?

What is said of Jeroboam in Scripture, oftener than any other thing? 2 Kings 3: 3; 10: 29; 13: 2, 11; and many other places.

Seniors.

What king's death led to the story of this lesson? Where was Shechem? Of what was it the capital? What other events in Scripture history are connected with it? Gen. 35: 4; 37: 12; 20: 7; 24: 1; etc.

Who was Rehoboam? Who was his mother? 1 Kings 14: 31. What kind of a training

would he have in an Eastern harem? How was he, after the flesh, related to Christ? Matt. 1: 7-16.

How did Solomon's reign appear to his own people? How to the outside world? chap. 11: 7-9. What connection was there between the splendor and the taxes? Where would the splendor be chiefly seen? How would this tend to make the northern tribes more discontented than the people of Judah? What is shewn as to their mind by calling Jeroboam? Whence did they call him? What other person in Scripture history was recalled from Egypt, because a king was dead who sought his life?

Upon what conditions do the people agree to serve Rehoboam? How long does he ask to consider their request? To whom does he first go for advice? To whom had these men been counsellors? What does this teach as to their wisdom? What does Rehoboam's treatment of their counsel shew as to his character. To whom did he then turn? What did he really want? What did he get?

16-20.—In what temper did the people receive the King's reply? How did he shew his folly in the officer that he next sent to them? What opened his eyes to the fact that they meant the separation to be permanent? What specially attracted these northern people,—Ephraim, as they were called,—to Jeroboam? chap. 11: 26, etc. Give other instances of misgovernment leading to the breaking up and division of nations.

21-24.—What steps did Rehoboam take with regard to the revolt? What do we learn of the strength of the kingdom that was still left to him? What led Rehoboam to give up the idea of war?

What was the state of Jeroboam's mind now that he had attained the height of his ambition? What did he fear? What plan did he take to prevent the return of the people to their allegiance? What effect did this have upon the people? In what special way did Jeroboam affect Israel's later history? 1 Kings 16: 26; 22: 52; 2 Kings 3: 3; 10: 29; etc.

PRACTICAL THOUGHTS.

1. Young people are always safest in following the advice of their older and more experienced friends, especially their parents, rather than that of their inexperienced companions. Bad counsel has ruined many a young life.

2. Those only are fitted to rule who know how to serve, and who can sympathize with those over whom they rule.

3. Rehoboam was a failure in life; weak, vain, self-indulgent. He lost most of his kingdom. Jeroboam was most successful. A poor boy, he rose to a throne. But he was a failure in character. Jeroboam was a failure for the next world, Rehoboam for both worlds. What shall it profit if we are only successful in this life, and failures for eternity.

4. The evil that men do lives after them. Jeroboam "made Israel to sin" and they went

on getting worse, until at length the nation was destroyed. If one leads others astray he cannot undo the wrong or bring them back again.

5. The one great evil that Jeroboam led the people into was to forsake the worship of God in his temple, and to worship idols elsewhere, it was their ruin. It may seem a light thing for one to persuade another to leave church or Sabbath School and go pleasuring on the Sabbath, but such has often led to a ruined life.

6. Righteousness exalteth a nation. The rising generation of Canadians must believe that it is best of all to do God's will. The future of our Dominion depends more on the resources of character than on the resources of minerals or manufactures.