



'IN DISGRACE.'

From the Painting by C. Burton-Barber.

son himself—nay, even a Jhain, in whose creed the killing of a gnat is a sin, might feel the spirit of it. Let us go. Let us go! The morning is beautiful; the turf yet unsunged by the winter frost; the odor of the pines hangs like incense in the air! Set us free, and let us race over hill and dale, heath and hollow! Give the keen wind to our nostrils, and the music of the horn to our ears.

If men, as they go, were the mental and morals equals of fine Newfoundland dogs, this world would be a better place to live in. I am translating in blunt Saxon the epigram of a famous French poet. There is truth in it. A good, honorable, high minded Newfoundland dog is more worthy of respect than many a man. He is not only a gentleman, in his dress of white and black, or complete sable, always kept scrupulously clean and neat, but he is chivalrous without ostentation, courageous without cruelty, 'full of gentleness to them of weaker sort,' and 'helpful to them that need his help.'

Said Lord Byron, 'A more human and humane creature than Boatswain, I have never known.' Seeing that Boatswain once saved his noble master from drowning, the praise is not excessive. More than one Newfoundland dog has been the recipient of honors for saving human life; so that Landseer's famous picture is not inappropriately titled 'A Member of the Humane Society.'

Dogs instinctively love children, and Burton-Barber's 'A Scratch Pack' is a bit of artistic realism which any dog lover may easily recognize. In the small scamp upon the pony I see myself as a boy surrounded by my dog family—my noble 'Sailor,' my Skye, 'Martin,' my pointer pup 'Sleek,' my Scotch 'Sandy,' my terrier, 'Toby,' and my collie, 'Bob.' Alas and alack! How gladly would I exchange the poor gifts of manhood's years for the pure delight of those sweet morning rides across the fields, when to live was to be happy, and the future was a synonym of marvellous though undefined glory!

Some one asked Landseer, 'How is it you paint dogs so well?' 'Because I love dogs,' was the answer. There is almost more than human feeling in his 'The Shepherd's Chief Mourner.' The shepherd dog sits beside the coffin with his head resting upon the pall, in an attitude as pathetic as that of the father bending over his dead son, grieving as only his deep heart can grieve. As he has loved purely, so he sorrows sincerely. The solemn rites have no meaning to him; The consolatory words of the preacher console not him. He has

lost his all. His whole world has narrowed to that dark pit into which the form that he has loved and revered is put away from his sight.

Hogg, the 'Etrick shepherd,' tells of a collie dog that insisted upon being buried with his master. Leaping into the half filled grave, he fought desperately with those who sought to remove him. On the day following the burial, the distracted creature escaped from the kennel, and a week later was found dead upon the mound which covered all that he had ever loved, or that, in his canine constancy, he ever could love.

Yet when the world goes well, the collie is the happiest of his kind. He is a busy dog, a dog with a profession; and he fully understands his usefulness and his responsibility. 'A flock of sheep is a pack of fools,' says the Scotch proverb, 'and it takes a good dog for a fool driver.' The shepherd dog is the best of fool drivers, and his skill in managing the silly animals

confided to his care matches, in its way, the cleverest diplomacy of those statesmen whose office it is to manage men scarcely less silly. The sheep look upon the dog with more confidence than they do upon their human guardian, and in time of danger the flock will be found packed close together with the dog in the midst. He is always their master, and can rule them better than half a dozen men could.

Ramsey tells of a dog which, after an absence of two days, returned to the byre, carrying a lamb which had wandered away among the glens and broken its leg. Famed as the animal must have been, it seems not to have looked upon its charge in the light of chops or cutlets, but to have brought it home safely and with the utmost gentleness. Not every man, under similar conditions, could have resisted the temptation of reducing the lost lamb to a comestible.

In Perthshire you may still hear the story of how a large flock of sheep took a panic during a snowstorm, and darted off in different directions among the hills.

'It's nae use speerin' for thae fules the night, Jamie, mon,' observed the shepherd to his dog, after a fruitless chase.

But Jamie thought otherwise, for the next morning he was found in a far away glen, keeping guard over the flock, not a single member of which was missing. How he had collected the scattered and terrified creatures no one could guess but himself, and he kept the secret.

But be his breed what it may—aye, if he be no better than the shag eared, disreputable street cur—I agree with the Eastern poet—

'If all men have souls that Allah taketh note of, trust me there be dogs that shall bark in Paradise.'

IN MALAYSIA is a population of 60,000,000, mostly Mohammedan Malays. The British and foreign Bible society has seven European colporteurs at work and twenty-five who are natives. At Singapore alone Bibles are furnished in forty-five languages.

FOUR THINGS.

BY HENRY VAN DYKE, D.D.

FOUR things a man must learn to do if he would make his record true: To think without confusion clearly; To love his fellow-men sincerely; To act from honest motives purely; To trust in God and Heaven securely.

—New York Independent.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON IV.—APRIL 22, 1891.

JOSEPH RULER IN EGYPT.—Gen. 41:38-48.

COMMIT TO MEMORY vs. 38-40.

GOLDEN TEXT.

'Them that honor me I will honor.'—1 Sam. 2:30.

HOME READINGS.

M. Gen. 40:1-23.—Joseph in Prison.
T. Gen. 41:1-24.—Pharaoh's Dreams.
W. Gen. 41:25-36.—Joseph's Interpretation.
Th. Gen. 41:37-57.—Joseph Ruler in Egypt.
F. Psalm 37:23-40.—The Reward of the Righteous.
S. Isa. 55:1-9.—Food for the Famishing.
S. Psalm 40:1-17.—Waiting for the Lord.

LESSON PLAN.

I. Joseph Exalted. vs. 38-41.
II. Joseph Honored. vs. 42-45.
III. Joseph Gathering Food. vs. 46-48.

TIME.—B.C. 1716; Joseph thirty years old, and thirteen years in Egypt.

PLACE.—Heliopolis, also called On.

OPENING WORDS.

Joseph remained in the service of Potiphar for about ten years. Then, on a false charge, he was cast into prison. There he gained the confidence of the keeper, and was given the care of his fellow-prisoners. His interpretation of the dreams of two of Pharaoh's officers who were his fellow-prisoners finally led to his release. Pharaoh had two dreams which none of his wise men could explain. By the advice of the chief butler, whose dream he had interpreted, Joseph was called, and told Pharaoh that seven years of plenty were to be followed by seven years of famine. He advised Pharaoh to prepare for the years of scarcity by saving the surplus of the years of plenty. Pharaoh received the advice with favor, and made Joseph ruler over the land.

HELPS IN STUDYING.

38. The spirit of God—the source of Joseph's wisdom. James 1:5. 39. Discreet and wise—such a man as Joseph had described. (See v. 33.) 40. Only in the throne—Pharaoh would be his only superior. 42. His ring—the seal ring, thus giving him authority to act for him. Fine linen—dress worn by persons of high rank. Gold chain—a badge of office. 43. Second chariot—next the king's. 44. Lift up his hand—have power. 45. Zaphnath-paaneah—an Egyptian name meaning 'the revealer of secrets' or 'the bread of life.' On—the same as Heliopolis, a city on the east bank of the Nile, six miles north of the modern Cairo; the capital of Lower Egypt. 46. Thirty years old—thirteen years after he was sold into Egypt. Gen. 37:2. Stood before Pharaoh—as his minister. 47. By handfuls—abundantly. 48. Laid up the food in the cities—in storehouses built for the purpose.

QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—Why was Joseph cast into prison? How long was he in prison? How was he released? What were Pharaoh's dreams? What was Joseph's interpretation of them? What did he advise Pharaoh to do? Title? Golden Text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses?

I. JOSEPH EXALTED. vs. 38-41.—What did Pharaoh think of Joseph's advice? What did he say to his servants? To what office was Joseph raised? What did Pharaoh say to him in thus honoring him?

II. JOSEPH HONORED vs. 42-45.—What badge of office did Pharaoh give Joseph? How else was Joseph honored? What proclamation was made before him? What further did Pharaoh say to him? What new name did he receive? Whom did he marry?

III. JOSEPH GATHERING FOOD. vs. 46-48.—How old was Joseph? Where did Joseph go? For what purpose? How long did the plenty last? What provision did Joseph make for the famine? What amount of food was gathered? Where did Joseph lay it up? What do we pray for in the third petition? What else should we do when we offer this petition for daily bread? What do we read in 2 Thess. 3:10.

PRACTICAL LESSONS LEARNED.

1. God will honor those that honor him.
2. Truthfulness, diligence and industry will ensure God's blessing.
3. Faithfulness in little things prepares the way for greater trusts.
4. We should make provision for the future.
5. The Lord is mindful of our good even when our way seems the darkest.

REVIEW QUESTIONS.

1. What did Joseph do for Pharaoh? Ans. He interpreted his dreams.
2. What did he foretell? Ans. Seven years of plenty to be followed by seven years of famine.
3. To what office did Pharaoh appoint Joseph? Ans. He made him ruler over the land.
4. How did Joseph prepare for the famine? Ans. He laid up the surplus products of the years of plenty.
5. What did he do when the years of famine came? Ans. He supplied the people with food.

LESSON V.—APRIL 29, 1891.

JOSEPH FORGIVING HIS BRETHREN.

Gen. 45:1-15.

COMMIT TO MEMORY vs. 3-5.

GOLDEN TEXT.

'If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.'—Luke 17:3.

HOME READINGS.

M. Gen. 42:1-20.—Joseph's Brethren in Egypt.
T. Gen. 42:21-35.—Their return Home.
W. Gen. 43:1-14.—Their Second Visit.
Th. Gen. 43:15-34.—The Dinner with Joseph.
F. Gen. 44:1-34.—The Brethren Tested.
S. Gen. 45:1-15.—Joseph Forgiving his Brethren.
S. Gen. 18:21-35.—Forgiveness Enjoined.

LESSON PLAN.

I. Making himself Known. vs. 1-4.
II. Comforting his Brothers. vs. 5-8.
III. Sending for his Father. v. 9-15.

TIME.—B.C. 1707, two years after the famine began; Joseph in Egypt twenty-two years, and chief ruler nine years.

PLACE.—Heliopolis, also called On.

OPENING WORDS.

After the seven years of plenty came the years of famine predicted by Joseph. (See Home Readings.) The leading events between the lessons are (1) The first visit of Joseph's brethren; (2) Their second visit; (3) The charge against Benjamin; (4) Judah's intercession in his behalf.

HELPS IN STUDYING.

1. Joseph could not refrain himself—could not conceal his feelings. 3. I am Joseph—he owns them as his brothers, though they had treated him so cruelly. (Compare Heb. 2:11.) Troubled—filled with fear. 5. God did send me—overruling their wickedness to work good. 6. Earing—ploughing. 7. To preserve you a posterity—and thus bring about a fulfillment of God's promises. Gen. 15:5; 17:6; 24:7, etc. 8. Not you—God had used their sin. But still they were guilty. 10. Goshen—a part of Egypt bordering on the Delta of the Nile. 14. His brother Benjamin—the son of his own mother. 15. All his brethren—assuring them of forgiveness.

QUESTIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—What took Joseph's brethren to Egypt? What happened on their first visit? Whom did they take with them on their second visit? What took place at this visit? Why did Judah so plead for Benjamin? Title? Golden text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses?

I. MAKING HIMSELF KNOWN. vs. 1-4.—How did Judah's plea affect Joseph? What did he command? How did he make himself known? Why could his brothers not answer him? What did he say to them?

II. COMFORTING HIS BROTHERS. vs. 5-8.—How did Joseph comfort his brothers? Who had turned their evil into good? What is said of Joseph in Psalm 105:17-22. How should we treat those who injure us?

III. SENDING FOR HIS FATHER. vs. 9-15.—What message did Joseph send to his father? What promise of support did he give him? What testimony could his brothers give their father about Joseph? What would Joseph have them tell him? How did he show his love for Benjamin? How for his other brothers?

PRACTICAL LESSONS LEARNED.

1. God's providence rules over all.
2. He may bring good out of the wickedness of men.
3. Our wickedness is none the less sinful because God overrules it for good.
4. We should be patient and forgiving under injuries.

REVIEW QUESTIONS.

1. For whom did Judah plead before Joseph? Ans. For his brother Benjamin.
2. What did he offer to do? Ans. To become a slave in the place of Benjamin.
3. What did Joseph then do? Ans. He made himself known to his brothers.
4. What did he say to them? Ans. God did send me before you to preserve life.
5. What message did he send to his father? Ans. Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not.

PICTURESQUE CANADA.

COUPON FOR PART 1.

NORTHERN MESSENGER.

Cut out and send with 4 three cent stamps to Coupon Department 'Northern Messenger' Office, Montreal.

Name _____

Post Office _____

Province or State _____