

Isaac's spirit of meekness and gentleness corresponds with the example and the teachings of the "meek and lowly" Jesus; also make emphatic that such a spirit is more profitable in the long run than the narrow spirit of contention and strife. In yielding, Isaac gave up a petty victory over the herdmen of Gerar; but gained the blessing of God, and a renewal of God's great promises (vs. 23, 24).

III. A LURID SUNSET.

"Lurid" is not too strong a word. Esau's heathen wives (26: 34, 35), his own increasing blindness (28: 1), Jacob's treachery in obtaining his father's blessing, in which he was aided and abetted by his mother Rebekah (28: 1-40), Esau's hatred (v. 41), Jacob's departure from home—these, and such like, were the troubles that darkened the peace-loving Isaac's later days. Even the best of men may have sore trials, and Isaac had perhaps been slack in the training of his children and so suffered for it. Just one glint of light at the end! Jacob returns to his father after long years (35: 27), and Jacob and Esau, good friends at last, join in his burial (35: 29).

Prove from Scripture

That the Lord remembers his servants.

FOR TEACHERS OF THE LITTLE ONES

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Connection—Tell the story of Samuel "given to the Lord" by his mother. (1 Sam. chap. 1.) Name a father who was willing to give his son to God. (Story Book.) We learn that Isaac was obedient. To-day we are to

Topics for Brief Papers

(To be assigned the Sabbath previous.)

1. The eastern well and its value.
2. The place of commonplace people.
3. The promise to the peace-makers.

The Catechism Question

Ques. 92. *A Sacrament.* The time will be well spent in seeing that the scholars understand the several words in this definition. The word "sacrament" itself is from the Latin *sacramentum*, "an oath," an oath of loyalty to and for service of captains or king. An "ordinance" is something arranged or appointed; "holy ordinance" something appointed for a holy purpose. "Instituted" means fixed or established. "Sensible signs," are signs or tokens which appeal to the senses, say of sight, touch, taste. A "covenant" is a solemn agreement or engagement between two parties. The "new covenant" is God's solemn engagement to bless men in Christ. It has taken the place of the "old" covenant, which held until Christ came. "Represented" means shown forth; "sealed" means made sure as by a signature or seal to a document, "applied" means put actually into the possession of anyone. Finally, it is only to "believers," those who trust in God and in God's Son, Jesus Christ, that the sacrament conveys the benefits.

hear about him being a peacemaker.

Illustration—George and Frank Wilson were playing marbles in the street. They found a good smooth plank in a nice shady spot. Soon some big boys came along and told them to run away and took possession of the plank. In place of quarreling, they picked up their marbles and looked about for another place. Soon the sun began to shine on the spot where the big boys were, so they followed George and Frank and again drove them away, but they soon found a better place than any they had had, and then they played till sundown, as happy as could be.

Introduction—Draw outline of a well. Tell the necessity

