

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

NOV. 11, 1883.

SAUL REJECTED.

I SAMUEL XV. 12-26.

A considerable period of Saul's reign had elapsed before the events of our present lesson. During the interval he had not always acted wisely. And now the Lord determined to subject him to a test which would show whether he was prepared to act according to the terms on which the kingdom had been established, or would continue to manifest the wayward disposition displayed in some previous acts. Samuel was sent to remind him that he had received his crown from the Lord, and was bound by implicit obedience. After this he gave him a commission. In the Lord's name to utterly destroy the Amalekites, on whom the curse of Jehovah had been pronounced ages before. Their territory extended over the whole of the eastern portion of the desert of Sinai to Rephidim. They were the earliest opponents (Deut. xxv. 18; Exod. xvii. 8-16), the hereditary enemy of Israel (Num. xiv. 45; Judges iii. 13; vi. 3), and had not repented (chapter xiv. 45) of their sleepless hatred during the five hundred years that had elapsed since their doom was pronounced. Being of nomadic habits they were as wandering as the Bedouin Arabs, particularly to the southern tribes. This commission Saul was quite ready to execute. It suited his warlike disposition, and he proceeded with all possible dispatch. The result was, as predetermined by Jehovah, that he was everywhere victorious; the Amalekites were routed throughout the whole of their country, their king taken prisoner, and all their possessions, excepting such as Saul and the Israelite warriors chose to preserve, were destroyed. In all this Saul and the Israelites were simply the executioners of a Divine purpose. It was no blood thirsty and cruel war on an innocent and inoffensive people; but the carrying out of a doom pronounced ages before, against a nation guilty of inveterate opposition to God and His chosen people. The then existing generation of Amalekites had proved themselves as bad as their forefathers. The command to slay the women and children, though it seems harsh and cruel, cannot be judged by modern and ordinary standards. The explanations previously given about the destruction of the Canaanites are applicable to this particular case. The innocent suffer with the guilty, and women and little children are destroyed by pestilence, famine and other calamities. These things are inscrutable to us, but He doeth all things well.

2. Saul obeyed the Divine command; but only so far as suited his own purpose, for his conduct was in positive and willful disobedience. He spared the very things he was expressly commanded to destroy. If he had failed in relation to the women and children there would have been some excuse perhaps for his yielding to impulses of compassion. But he spared the Amalekite king, perhaps the greatest sinner amongst his people; and the sheep and oxen, and all the most valuable part of the spoil. His motives are evident. Careless of the risk and loss of a warlike expedition, and returning empty handed? Self glorification was another—why should not he return a triumph with a captive king, and the best of his possessions in his train, like other monarchs? But what an abject coward he proved when Samuel charged him with his guilt. He dared not then avow his real sentiments and so tried to throw the blame upon his people, and pretend that the flocks and herds were for sacrifice. Had this even been the real motive of their preservation he would still have been offering to God that which was "accursed." Saul knew well that all that he had spared, was devoted to destruction by the decree of God, and that no motive could justify disobedience of that decree. No man could be more ignorant than Saul; but no king ever appeared so unkingly as he when he stood conscience stricken before Samuel. Sin makes people mean; and one of the most common ways in which meanness shows itself is the disposition to lay the blame of wrong doing upon others.

3. From this time Saul was rejected from being king. The scene in which Samuel makes known the judgment of the Lord to him is a striking one. The proud king was overwhelmed with dismay and compelled to acknowledge his sin. There is no evidence, however, of genuine repentance. His was not godly sorrow for sin, but simply that which arose from dread of the consequences. We should in all cases distinguish between the two. True repentance leads to amendment. Saul grew worse and worse. We must take a broad view of the reasons why Saul was rejected. It was not the one act of disobedience in the case of the Amalekites which led to this, but all which that act was the expression and manifestation of. "The manner of the kingdom," (chap. x. 25) had been explained to him and to his people. But he had clearly shown that he would not abide by the Divinely ordered constitution. "An autocratic king was what Saul wanted to be, that is, a king, doing as he liked. A theocratic king—that is, one who wished only to be God's viceroy, doing His will—was the kind of king God wanted. The most honorable position in the world will be a curse instead of a blessing if it leads to our losing the religion of our youth."—W. M. S. S. Mag.

WINTER CLOTHING.

Sudden changes of temperature, and cold, penetrating winds may now be looked for, and it is prudent to be ready to meet them promptly. Strong, vigorous persons, in full blood, may resist a fall of twenty or thirty degrees in the thermometer, but none are sure of doing so. A change from 50 degrees to 40 degrees or 30 degrees, before the system is injured to cold is more felt than zero in December and January. So good warm underclothing should be at hand for instant use when an unexpected northerly blast comes. A cold caught in autumn is apt to last a long time, if it do not chance to terminate fatally. Let the winter apparel be looked over at once, mended and remodeled, and cleaned or dyed. Tailors and seamstresses, if to be employed, will be over busy, and less accommodating later on than now, and fabrics are in more variety at the stores, and cost no more now than later.

To doubly protect the throat and lungs, line the undershirt inside, both back and front and well down the waist, with warm, soft flannel. Give special care also to the feet and limbs. Home knit stockings of soft wool are by far the best. Line the knees and heels of children's stockings with flannel.—Am. Agriculturist for Oct.

SHOEING HORSES.

The English Live Stock Gazette says: "Don't pare away the frog of the foot; don't open the heels; don't rasp the hoof; don't cut the hoof to fit the shoe, but shorten the toe a little if needed, and then fit the shoe to the foot." To which we add, don't heat the shoe so hot as to burn the hoof when it is put on. If the frog of the foot is pared away it becomes tender and liable to injury from stones and sharp stumps. It will wear away as fast as is necessary if let alone. If the heels are forced open by the shoe it gives the animal pain and makes it tender footed. If the hoof is rasped it is liable to the same falling. Any unnecessary cutting away of the hard part of the hoof but increases the tendency to tender foot and lameness. Again, the driving of the nail calls for the greatest care and judgment. Awkward driving of the shoe nails has lamed many a horse. A bad injury of this kind might possibly lead to lock jaw and the loss of the animal. It is necessary that horses be shod, but it is highly important that it be done in a sensible and safe way. There is much shoeing done that is simply barbarous. In this, the owner is at fault. He should take his horse to a smith that understands his business, or failing in this, let the animal go unshod. It seems to us that a good practical horse-shoe, without nails, that can be put on and taken off at the pleasure of the owner is a desideratum. The inventor of a really practical shoe of the kind would reap a rich reward.—Rural Messenger.

USEFUL HINTS.

Don't bathe in less than two hours after eating. Don't eat in less than two hours after bathing.

Give the milk cows a chance to take shelter at night if they choose as it is often very cool, and you can't afford to lose milk.

The Boston Ploughman suggests a slight sprinkling of lime among stored potatoes, as a prevention of rot.

New Hampshire's manufacturers are experiencing the evils of cutting down the forests. Many factories have stopped their wheels for want of water in the streams.

Horse-radish roots boiled in salt and water, with a little vinegar, is good to send to the table with roast meat of any kind; cut it in thin slices and use it as a garnish.

The Pittsburg Stockman says rats were cleared away by catching two, coating them with tar, and turning them loose. From that time they and all their companions forsook the premises and fled.

A writer in one of the medical journals says he has found the application of a strong solution of chromic acid, three or four times a day, by means of a camel's hair pencil, to be the best and easiest method for removing warts.

Jams and jellies keep better if the pots into which they are put are sealed up while hot, because if exposed to the air until cold little germs will fall upon them from the air and retain their vitality, and will soon fall to work decomposing the fruit. On the other hand, if the jars are sealed while hot the germs are destroyed by scalding.

If a healthy child (and a delicate one proportionately) is regularly put to bed about dark, in a quiet, well ventilated, or even cool room, after a supper of plain food, it will naturally awake at daybreak, good natured, with a keen appetite for a wholesome breakfast. Nutritious, plain food, at regular hours, with no candy or stimulants, and free bathing, help the system ward off many prevalent children's ailments, and to bear with much less danger the few that must necessarily come to the majority of little ones.

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

Neatly 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 by using several bottles. And many more are using them with great benefit.

"They almost Do miracles!"

—Mrs. E. D. Slack.

Trains on the Canada Atlantic Railroad from Coteau to Ottawa run about 50 miles an hour. The Pennsylvania Road from Jersey City to Philadelphia makes a little over forty-eight, and the Bond Brook Road nearly 45 miles an hour.

A cough or a cold taken between now and Christmas frequently lasts all winter. This is certainly the case with people who have weak lungs. The most convenient, reliable and inexpensive remedy is Gates' Invigorating Syrup. It is to be used internally and externally.

A big walnut log from an out-of-the-way part of France arrived in New York a few days ago. It was twelve feet long, and nine in diameter, and it is said to weigh nearly twenty-two tons. The log is said to be worth, as it stands, \$2,000 or \$6,000 when cut into veneers.

Last winter we warned our readers against buying the large packs of worthless horse and cattle powders, and as it is now time to begin to use them, we again urge them not to throw away their money. Sheridan's Powders are strictly pure, but we know of no others that are.

The Omaha Indians have a curious custom. When the father dies the mother loses all rights in the children. Every child, unless of very tender age, is separated from the mother and will go into the family of some one of the father's relatives, and may be claimed as his own by the male head of the family. This separation of the mother and her offspring is permanent.

A GREAT SOURCE OF EVIL.—Every farmer will admit that one of the most destructive evils to good crops is that of worms or parasites that prey upon vegetable life; other species of worms invests the human system and are productive of much suffering and ill health. Freeman's Worm Powders will effectually rid the system of this trouble, are pleasant to take and contain their own cathartic.

Notice may be especially called to an advertisement headed Invigorating Syrup, which may be found in our columns this week. The proprietors, G. Gates Son & Co., do not hesitate in recommending them as perfectly safe and purely vegetable compounds. The 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. Rheumatism did 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 ly

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 action 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. It is the best remedy for all kinds of ailments, and is for sale by all druggists at 25 cts. a bottle. Feb 10

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