

SCHOLAR'S NOTES

(From International Question Book) Studies in the Acts of the Apostles.

LESSON I.—JANUARY 4. PAUL AT THROAS.—ACTS 20: 1-16. COMM. VERSES 9-12.

GOLDEN TEXT.

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them.—Acts 20: 7.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

The Christian Sabbath should be a day of rest, of worship, and of instruction in righteous ways.

DAILY READINGS.

M. Acts 19: 1-22. W. Acts 20: 1-6. Th. 1 Cor. 16: 1-11. F. Rom. 14: 23-25. Sa. 1 Kings 17: 1-24. Su. Luke 8: 1-36.

THE ACTS.—(1) The author was Luke; (2) it was written at Rome; (3) somewhere between A.D. 54 and 60.

TIME.—This lesson extends over nearly a year, from May 2, A.D. 57, to April 23, A.D. 58.

PAUL.—April 23, 58, was on his third great missionary journey. Three years of that journey were already past.

CIRCUMSTANCES.—We now return to the history of the early church as recorded in the Acts, where we left it in lesson VII, of the second quarter of 1897.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.

2. THOSE PARTS—Macedonia, Greece—in Corinth; its chief city, 3. THREE MONTHS—Nov. A.D. 57, to Feb. A.D. 58. TO SYRIA—in Jerusalem (1 Cor. 16: 3). TO RETURN THROUGH MACHONIA—i.e., he would go to Jerusalem by land instead of water.

QUESTIONS.—Who wrote the Acts? When and where? How do you know where, in this lesson, the author joined Paul? On which of his great missionary journeys was Paul at this time? How long since he began it? How old a man was Paul? Trace out, on the map, the travels of Paul, so far as recorded in this lesson. In what city did he spend three years? Why did he leave?

SUBJECT: A SUNDAY WITH AN APOSTLE.

I. ON THE WAY (vs. 2-6).—To what country did Paul go on his journey? How long did he remain in Macedonia? What two things did he do there? (v. 2; Rom. 15: 23, 25) Why did the people love his exhortation? To what did he exhort them?

Where did he go next? How long was his abode there? What was one of his labors in those countries? (Rom. 15: 23, 25; 1 Cor. 16: 1-11) Why did he leave Greece? What change was made in his plans? Where is Syria?

Who were Paul's companions? What part of the journey did they go alone? Why was this? What change do you notice in v. 9, in the use of the personal pronouns? What is the significance of this change? Through what feast did Paul remain at Philippi?

II. A SUNDAY AT THROAS (vs. 7, 8, 11). To what place did Paul go from Philippi? How long was he at Throas? What day did Paul keep as the sabbath? How did he keep the sabbath? What was of keeping the sabbath if you find it in these verses? Meaning of "to break bread"? How long was Paul preaching? How ought we to keep the sabbath?

III. A SLEEPY HEARER (vs. 9, 10, 12). Where was the sermon preached? Who sat in one of the windows? How came he to be so sleepy? Are we excusable for sleeping in church? What had Lysistratus? Was he really drunk? What did Paul mean by "his life is in him"? How was he brought to life? How was this comforting to his disciples?

IV. THE DEPARTURE (vs. 13-16). Trace out Paul's journey from Assos to Miletus. Why was Paul in haste? How far did he go "aboard" and alone? Why? Do we all need seasons of solitary meditation?

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

I. We should help each other by kindly exhortations.

II. It is blessed to be the companions of the great and good.

III. The Sabbath should be kept faithfully, by attending church, by worship, by religious instruction, and by the communion of saints.

IV. Do not sleep in church.

V. Do not harshly condemn those who do.

VI. Spiritual death is often the result of inattention to religious instruction. VII. The Gospel is to bring the spiritually dead to life. VIII. All need seasons of retirement and meditation.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Dec. 23, 1884.

This is not holiday week but it is a holiday, as far as actual business goes to all intents and purposes. Wheat is in Liverpool steady, with an easy fair demand, but there is very little doing on this side of the Atlantic. In fact, the only thing that is in fair demand at present is a merry Christmas and may all be supplied.

Chicago is very dull and prices are lightly higher. The quotations are:—Wheat at 71½c Jan. 72½ Feb. 73½ May. Corn is quoted at 33½c year and Jan. at 35 May.

The local market is unchanged in every way. We quote Canada Red Winter, 82c to 84c; White, 83c to 84c; Spring 81c to 83c; Peas, 72½c to 73c; Oats, 31c; Barley, 55c to 67c; Corn 54c.

Flour.—The price is somewhat lower, there is quite a lively local market, and holders appear to be a little anxious to fix the price. We quote as follows:—Superior Extra, \$3.70 to \$3.80; Extra Superfine, \$3.60 to \$3.60; Fancy \$3.45; Spring Extra \$3.40; Superfine, \$3.25 to \$3.35; Strong Bakers' (Can.), \$3.75 to \$4.00; Strong Bakers' (American), \$4.00 to \$4.25; Fint, \$3.10 to \$3.15; Middlings, \$3.80 to \$3.85; Pollards, \$2.60 to \$2.70; Ontario bags, (bags included) Medium, \$1.75 to \$1.85; Spring Extra, \$1.65 to \$1.70; Superfine, \$1.45 to \$1.55; City Bags, (delivered), \$2.35.

MEALS unchanged.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Both butter and cheese are quiet and unchanged. We quote as follows:—Creamery, 22c to 24c; Eastern Townships, 18c to 21c; Western, 14c to 17c. Cheese is unchanged at 11½c to 12c for September and October, and 8c to 11c for other makes.

Eggs, fresh, are selling at 20c to 22c, as to quality.

POULTRY AND GAME are steady as follows:—Turkeys, 11c to 13c; ducks, 10c to 12c; geese and chickens, 7c to 9c per lb; partridges, 45c to 50c per brace; venison saddles, 7c to 9c; do, carcasses, 5c to 6c per lb.

HOG PRODUCTS are very quiet. We quote:—Western Mess Pork \$14.75 to \$15.00; Hams, city cured, 14c to 14½c; Bacon, 13c to 14c; Lard, western, in pails, 10½c to 10½c; do, Canadian, 10½c; Tallow, common refined, 7c to 8c.

ASHES are very weak, Pots selling at 3.60 to \$3.65 as to tars.

FARMERS' MARKET.

The severe cold and boisterous weather has to a considerable extent prevented farmers at a distance from coming to market, yet the supply of grain, roots and vegetables are fully equal to the demand and prices continue without material change. Beef quarters of common and inferior quality are plentiful and cheap. Dressed hogs are in good supply but prices are higher. There is an extraordinary demand for good turkeys, geese and ducks and prices have advanced considerably. Common tub butter is difficult of sale, but superior prints bring pretty high rates. The price of hay has advanced since the Longueuil Ferry boats ceased running. Oats are 75c to 85c per bag; peas, 75c to 90c per bushel; beans \$1.40 to \$1.80 do; potatoes 40c to 50c per bag; turnips, carrots, beets and onions 30c to 50c per bushel; cabbages 15c to 30c per dozen heads; butter 14c to 16c per lb; eggs 22c to 50c per dozen; apples \$2.00 to \$3.00 per barrel; dressed hogs 7c to 7½c per lb; mutton quarters 5c to 7c do; young turkeys 11c to 15c per lb; geese 12c to 12c do; fowls 7c to 10c do; ducks 12c to 15c do; hay \$5.00 to \$9.50 per 100 bundles.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

The supply of Christmas beef is much in excess of demand this season and prices are unusually low for such extra quality. A few choice animals were sold at first at pretty high figures, but later on prices fell about one cent per lb, on all extra cattle. Common and inferior beasts are in excessive supply and very difficult to sell at former rates. Extra heaves sell at from 5c to 5½c per lb; pretty good steers and fat cows at from 3½c to 4½c do; common dry cows at

about 3c and lean animals at 1½c to 2½c do. Good sheep and lambs are in brisk demand at from 4½c to 5c per lb, live weight, and common mutton critters, at from 3½c to 4c do. The supply of live hogs has been rather small for some time and prices are higher, or about 5c per lb. Milch cows have been rather plentiful for the demand of late and prices are declining.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22, 1884.

GRAIN.—Wheat, 80½c Jan.; 83c Feb.; 85c Mar.; 87½c April; 89c May. Corn, 52c Dec.; 49c Jan.; 46½c April; 46½c May. Rye, quiet, 63½c. Oats, dull; 33½c Dec.; 33c Jan.; 35c May. Barley. Canada No. 2, 76½c. Peas nominal.

Flour, quiet and unchanged. We quote: Superfine, \$2.60 to \$2.60; Low Extra, \$2.60 to \$3.55; Clears, \$3.40 to \$4.00; Straight, \$3.65 to \$4.60; Patent, \$4.60 to \$5.00. Winter Wheat; —Superfine, \$2.35 to \$2.80; Low Extra, \$2.65 to \$3.00; Clears (R. and A.), \$3.75 to \$4.00; Straight (R. and A.), \$4.00 to \$4.95; Patent, \$4.00 to \$5.00; Low Extra (City Mill), \$2.80 to \$3.00; West India, sacks, \$3.50 to \$3.60; barrels, West India, \$4.40; Patent, \$4.60 to \$5.15; South America, \$4.25 to \$4.30; Patent \$4.65 to \$5.40. Southern Flour—Extra \$3.00 to \$4.25; Family, \$4.50 to \$5.00; Patent, \$5.10 to \$5.60. Rye Flour—Fine to extra, \$6.75 to \$8.85.

MEALS.—Cornmeal, \$3.30 to \$3.40 in bbls; oatmeal, \$5.00 to \$5.90 per brl.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter unchanged. Creamery, ordinary to select 19c to 28c. Half firkins, ordinary to best 16c to 25c; Welsh tubs 19c to 22c; Western ordinary factory, to choice imitation creamery, 9c to 22c. Cheese, state factory, ordinary to full cream, 3½c to 12½c. Ohio flats, fair to choice 6c to 11½c; Skims 1c to 3c.

THE SALVATION ARMY is obtaining a firm hold in Montreal. Already much sympathy has been expressed with its work in influential quarters. Their meetings are largely attended. Special constables preserve order inside the hall, while outside a considerable force of police, under the direction of the sub-chief, overcome the rough element and see the leaders home in safety. Many have already professed conversion.

ABOUT MIDNIGHT, on Sunday night, two men threw a parcel over the bridge at Glasgow and made their escape. It is believed the intention was to blow up the bridge. Much alarm at present prevails regarding the safety of public buildings, bridges, and railway stations in Great Britain, as the dynamiters would seem to be plotting a series of fresh outrages.

WHEN STRIPPED to the literal meaning of the words from which the term was derived "pocket handkerchief" means "a pocket hand covering for the head." The hand wants no kerchief, and what is called the handkerchief was not made for the pocket. All of this is so confusing it cannot be wondered at that the small boy prefers his sieve.

AN OLD HIGHLAND WOMAN, one after the straight set, used to say, "Nane o' yer modern improvements for me; I want auld Dawid's Psalm and Dawid's tunic, too, in oor kirk."

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