

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

AUGUST 7, 1881.

THE RED SEA.—Exodus 14: 15-31.

1. The Israelites were encamped on the shore of the Red Sea, when they found they were pursued by the Egyptians. There was no possibility of escape. They were hemmed in by the sea in front, the mountains on either hand and the advancing foe behind. They had been brought into that position by a divine direction,--verse 2. It must have seemed a mysterious injunction to the people to turn southward out of their proper course. But this was to give occasion for another marvellous manifestation of Divine power, which could be appealed to in subsequent difficulties, and to inflict a more condign punishment on the Egyptians. We may often find ourselves led into paths the very opposite from what we expected, which seem to tend in the wrong direction, and which really involve us in trouble and difficulties. But we must always believe that he who guides us has good reasons for subjecting us to such experiences.

The Israelites obeyed, but their faith proved unequal to the trial which awaited them. When they saw the Egyptian army coming, they gave way to the greatest alarm, and clamored against Moses in terms of bitter reproach and resentment. Such is human nature. Let us take care that our faith does not fail in the first trial, as theirs did.

2. Moses quelled their murmurings by an immediate assurance that the Lord would fight for them. All they could do was to stand still and see the salvation of the Lord. And he so interposed that speedily the command came to go forward. It will be well for us to learn when to stand still and wait, and when to go forward. There will be times in our lives when all we can do is to stand still and wait for the Lord to clear the way for us; but we should watch, and be ready at the first opportunity to go forward again.

Though Moses spoke encouragingly, the narrative reads as though his own faith had somewhat failed in this crisis. The Lord's remonstrance, "why criest thou unto me?" indicates a pleading under the influence of fear rather than a prayer inspired by confidence. He is therefore told that the time for action had come. And to encourage both him and the people, the Lord gave a visible sign of his interposition. The pillar of cloud moved round to the rear of the camp, and became a screen between them and the Egyptians. It soon prevented the Egyptians from seeing what was going on in the Hebrew camp. It was ordinarily a pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night; but now it became both at once. It threw a dense shadow over the Egyptians, but filled the Israelites' camp with light. There are many dispensations and events in God's government of the world which, like that cloud, have a dark side for his enemies and a very bright one for his people.

3. The Lord opened a way through the sea. That the passage was miraculous is evident. Because of the mention of the east wind, verse 21, many commentators hold that the intervention was simply the overruling of a natural event of frequent occurrence. But no such theory is consistent with the philosophy of the historian. Moses was instructed "to lift up his rod, and stretch out his hand over the sea, and divide it," verse 26. The waters were obedient in each case to the uplifted rod, and could only have been made so by God. The east wind, no doubt, had been previously employed in lessening the depth of the water, but that was not all that was done, for the waters were divided. They were so divided as to stand up like a wall on either side the passage thus made; and though the Israelites walked through on dry land, they were wet with the spray that fell on them from those liquid walls.--1 Cor. 10: 2. That the term wall is to be literally interpreted is evident from the language of other passages.--Exod. 15: 8; Psalm 68: 13.

4. At dawn, the Egyptians, perceiving the camp of the Israelites forsaken, started in eager pursuit. They do not seem to have been at first aware that they were following them into the bed of the sea. The Israelites had the supernatural light of the pillar of fire to guide them; but that which made their way clear was the cause of confusion to their foes. The probability is that their horses became unmanageable, the chariots were capsized, and the whole army thrown into such confusion as to cause their leaders to resolve on retreating (verse 25); but before they could do this, the waters returned at the uplifted rod of Moses, and overwhelmed them.

The Israelites were not at all across the passage when the Egyptians were overwhelmed in the sea. The first part of the long procession, probably, had reached the opposite shore; but the main body of the people were evidently still "in the midst of the sea,"--verse 23-29. Moses probably stood at the rear, with his uplifted rod, and the waters closed behind him as he advanced. This view of the case makes the miracle appear still more striking.

The passage of the Red Sea is used in the New Testament to illustrate our spiritual deliverance from sin and death.--1 Cor. 10: 1-4. It is ascribed to faith.--Heb. 11: 29. Moses' sword is referred to in the well-known passage of the Apocalypse.--Rev. 15: 8. The meaning is that it is the sword of redemption, that word being used in the Old Testament of the deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt.--S. S. Magas ins.

THE TEACHER'S DUTY.

It is the duty of a Sabbath-school teacher--

- 1. To instruct his pupils in the word of God every Sabbath.
2. To spend as much time as possible during the week in preparation for the work of instructing on the Sabbath.
3. To attend regularly and punctually to the teacher's meeting.
4. To prosecute a course of reading and study on biblical and educational themes, by which his efficiency may be increased.
5. To visit each pupil at home at least every three months.
6. To visit absent pupils as early in the week as possible.
7. To visit scholars who are ill, as frequently as possible, that he may read to, converse with, and comfort them.
8. To write letters to pupils who have removed to a distance, whether they remain connected with his class or not.
9. To assist the superintendent in the maintenance of order.
10. To use his influence in behalf of the true home life of his pupils, encouraging them to obey their parents, and to exercise consideration, tenderness and self-denial in the details of daily life.
11. To assist the pastor of his church in every possible way in edifying the church for good.
12. To commune much with God in secret, that he may acquire spiritual power in the performance of these above duties.

USEFUL HINTS.

If there is a window where ants come in, make a chalk mark an inch around it and the ants will not crawl over it. A rag wet with camphor laid across the place where they come in will keep them away.

For ice cream take one quart of milk, the yolks of four eggs, one large spoonful of flour stirred to a smooth paste in a little of the milk, and one pound of sugar; scald until thick, taking care not to let it burn. When cold, add one quart of whipped cream and the beaten whites of four eggs; flavor to suit the taste, and it is ready to be frozen.

An effectual remedy for milk turning in summer consists in adding to each quart fifteen grains of bicarbonate of soda. This does not affect the taste of the milk, while it facilitates the digestion.

Quinces and crab apple marmalades are both made in the following manner: Rub the fruit well with a rough cloth, cut out the stems and flower end and quarter the fruit without removing the core or skin; stew it on the fire with a very little water till soft enough to rub through a sieve. Strain the pulp and add a pound of sugar to a pound of fruit; and set the mixture on the fire and cook it slowly till done, which should be fifteen or twenty minutes longer.

Never whip your horse for becoming frightened at any object by the roadside; for if he sees a stump, or a heap of tan-bark in the road, and while he is eyeing it carefully, and about to pass it, you strike him with the whip it is the log, or the stump, or the tan-bark that is hurting him in his way of reasoning, and the next time he will be more frightened. Give him time to examine and smell all these objects, and use the whip to assist you in bringing him carefully to those objects of fear.

INFORMATION.

If your child shows symptoms of worms, do not feel anxious. One box of Hanington's Worm Lozenges will soon remove them.

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Barrenyard fowls and animals are kept in the most perfect health and remunerative condition when their food is mixed according to the printed directions, with Harrell's Condition Powders. These great specifics result in great plumpness and in great weight. Ask your druggist for them.

SPRAINS. I had my ankle sprained so severely that I was obliged to use crutches for four days before trying Graham's Pain Eradicator. Having proved its efficiency I have since then, eight years ago, kept it constantly in my house, and always found it to be a valuable and I think the best family medicine in use. Charles E. Bishop, Port Williams N. S. May 10, 1881.

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It is to be hoped that the poisonous Ague medicines have had their day. Arsenic and quinine are not desirable commodities to carry about in one's system, even for the sake of temporarily displacing the malarial poison which produces fever and ague. Ayer's Ague Cure is a sure antidote for the Ague, and is perfectly harmless, leaving the system in as good condition as before the Ague was contracted.

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MOTHERS! MOTHERS! MOTHERS! Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with the excruciating pain of cutting teeth? If so, go at once and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately--depend upon it; there is no mistake about it. There is not a mother on earth who has ever used it, who will not tell you at once that it will regulate the bowels, and give rest to the mother, and relief and health to the child, operating like magic. It is perfectly safe to use in all cases, and pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States. Sold everywhere at 25 cents a bottle. Jan 28--1y

A CASE OF CONFIRMED CONSUMPTION. From Mrs. M. M. Ball, of East Stoneham, Me. "I feel it my duty to write a few words in favor of Dr. WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY. In the early part of last winter I took a severe cold, and shortly afterward a distressing cough was added to it. My friends did everything they could for me, but without avail. The best physicians that could be procured did not relieve me, and my cough continued with me all through the winter with increasing severity. I spit blood three or four times a day, and my friends considering my case hopeless, gave me up as a confirmed consumptive. I was in this condition when I heard of Dr. WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY. I began its use, and before I had taken half a bottle of it my cough and my other troubles left me, and I was cured. I feel so truly indebted that I send this voluntary testimony, hoping it may be the means of inducing others, who are suffering as I was, to make use of it. It is the best remedy for lung complaints that I ever heard of, and I am constantly recommending it to my friends." 50 cents and \$1 a bottle. Sold by all druggists.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER FROM C. H. S. CRONKHITE, Esq.,--Cantabrigia Station, York Co., N. B., Oct. 10, 1876. --MR. J. H. ROBINSON. --Dear Sir: In reply to your letter of enquiry, I would say that your Phosphorized Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Lactophosphate of Lime is the best preparation of the kind I have ever seen or taken. I was ordered by my physician to take it, and commenced about the last of August, and since that time I have felt a different man, and also look differently, and all for the better, as the doctor can testify. I was unable in the summer to walk any distance without much fatigue. I can now take my gun and travel all day, and feel fresh at night, and eat as much as any lumberman. Have not had any since I took your preparation and can now inflate my lungs without feeling any soreness, and I think I can inflate them up to full measurement, same as before I was sick; have also gained in flesh, my weight in the summer was 173 pounds, and now it is nearly 190 pounds, which is pretty well up to my former weight. The foregoing is a correct statement which I hereby authorize you to give it publicity in my name. I am, Dear Sir, Yours truly, (Signed) C. H. S. CRONKHITE.

We, the undersigned, hereby consent to have our names published as witnesses to the effects of Robinson's Phosphorized Emulsion on the person of Mr. CronkHITE, and do assert that the foregoing statement is correct in every particular. ALEX BENNETT, J. P., WM. MAIR, REV. THOS. MARTIN.

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