NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

Hero of Italy Welcomed by the Directory.

OTHER CAMPAIGNS PROJECTED.

Invasion of England Appears Doubtful, and He Turns His Eyes on the East-Bettle of the Pyramids and Rout of the Mamelukes Egypt Ruled by the French.

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XI.—CONQUEST OF EGYPT. Bonaparte returned to Paris on the 5th of December, 1797. His coming was heralded. The democratic Directory must receive him in the name of the people; but the act of hero-worship was embarrassing. The people of Paris must have a spectacle; and the Jacobin administration must glorify the hero of Italy. Arrangements were made at the Luxembourg Palace for a reception first of many such-to the child of the Republic.

The court of the palace was splendidly decorated; and the elite gathered for the welcome. The occasion was not without its peril to Napoleon. He must bear himself like a true democrat-beginning to be idolized. Symbolical statues of Liberty, Equality, and Peace were set up in the hall where hung the memorial banner commemorating the victories and spoils of the Italian campaign. There, too, was placed an altar of the Fatherland. Beautiful women thronged the galleries. The Directory sat to receive the conqueror. Talleyrand introduced the young general to the assembly. The statesman's speech was long, flattering and casuistical. To one paragraph was added this significant clause: "Far from apprehending anything from his [Napoleon's] ambition, I believe that we shall one day be obliged to solicit him to tear himself from the pleasures of studious retirement. All France will be free; but perhaps he never will; such is his destiny." Barras, president of the Directory, also spoke. Napoleon bore himself with great modesty, pronouncing a brief speech of congratulations on the improved condition of France.

The reference to "studious retirement" in Talleyrand's address was not bad. It was an allusion to Bonaparte's election to membership in the National



BATTLE OF THE PYRAMIDS.

Institute of France. This was an honor of which he was very proud. In accepting the distinction, he said, referring to the members of the Institute, "I feel assured that before I can be their equal I must long be their scholar. True conquests-the only ones which leave no regret behind them-are those which are made over ignorance. The most honorable occupation for nations is the contributing to the extension of human knowledge. The true power of the French Republic should henceforth be made to consist in not allowing a single new idea to exist without making it a part of its property." For some time after this, Napoleon was wont to sign himself, Member of the National Insti-

Such ceremonies as those attending his reception in Paris were always regarded by Bonaparte as so much mummery-quite necessary in the make-up of glory; but very cheap. Not a month less to a degree. To Bourrienne, his secretary, he said: "Bourrienne, I do not wish to remain here; there is nothing to do. They [the Directory] are unwilling to listen to anything. I see that if I linger here, I shall soon lose myself. Everything wears out here; my glory has already disappeared. This little Europe does not supply enough of it for me. I must seek it in the East, the fountain of glory. However, I wish first to make a tour along the coast, to ascertain by my own observation what may be attempted. I will take you, Lannes, and Sulkowsky with me. If the success of a descent on England appear doubtful, as I suspect it will, the Army of the East; I will go to Egypt."

Bonaparte was now made commander of the new army, which was alleged to be intended for an invasion of England. On the whole, it seems that he never English coast. He was too prudent for that. But he lent himself to the popular whim, and made as though he would invade the British Isles. The Directory, meanwhile, gave him no orders. It had already come to pass that he did much as he pleased. On the 10th of February, 1798, he set out from Paris with his secretary, his aide Sulkowsky, and General Lannes. He went to are in a state of utter barbarism. We Etaples, Ambleteuse, Boulogne, Calais, Dunkirk, Furnes, Niewport, Ostend, and the Isle of Walcheren; and then returned to Paris by Antwerp, Brussels, Lille, and St. Quentin. Everywhere on the journey he showed the greatest activity and discernment. His glance shot into every situation. He informed himself of the conditions existing along the coast, but did not prosecute the scheme of in-

The superiority of Napoleon over the men of his epoch lay in his far-reaching gaze and comprehension of great things.

His vision flashed over the European landscape like a gleam of light. At twenty-eight he had already discerned that the best way to afflict Great Britain was by destroying her influence in the East. Out of this notion sprang his project of conquering Egypt. Beyond Egypt lay all Asia. "Europe," said he, "is a molehill. There have never been great empires and revolutions except in the East, where there are 600,000,000 men." The Directory readily assented to his wishes. It is in evidence that that body was more than willing to have the

ambitious commander out of Europe. On the 12th of April, 1798, Napoleon was appointed General-in-Chief of the Army of the East. Virtually he was to go where he would, and accomplish what he could. The matter once determined, he brought everything to results with the greatest rapidity. He made Toulon the rendezvous for his army and fleet. He gathered to his standard a retinue of the learned, mostly members of the Institute. He would disseminate the civilization of the West in the effete Orient. En route, he would conquer Malta, still nominally under the dominion of the Knights. That done, he would debark at Alexandria, overthrow the dominion of the Mameluke Beys, and conquer and colonize the land of the Pharaohs. Admiral Brueys was called to the command of the fleet. Napoleon ordered his equipage to be prepared as for a conqueror, a governor, a man of

The Egyptian expedition sailed from Toulon on the 19th of May. The General's ship was the Orient. On the 10th of June, the squadron came to Malta, and that place, with its strong defenses, was—partly by intrigue and partly by assault—taken from the Knights. The French flag was raised over the fortress, and many of the Knights joined the expedition. Meanwhile, an English fleet, under command of Nelson, passed the French flotilla without discovering it; sailed on to Alexandria; paused there, and then turned to the northeast, believing that Brueys had made for the coast of Syria.

All this inured to the advantage of the French. Napoleon was able to reach Alexandria without attack. On the 1st of July the column of Septimus Severus, rising in the distance, caught the sight of the French commander, and gave token of a safe arrival. The army was hastily debarked; but not sufficient care was taken to put the French fleet in a defensible position. Without a moment's delay, the city was assailed by the invader, and after some desultory fighting was captured. The conqueror of Italy easily made himself master of the city which Alexander had founded as the capital of the world.

But all Egypt was not to be so easily taken. Bonaparte proclaimed his mission as that of liberator and pacificator. The Turks and Mamelukes should be expelled; but the people of Egypt should otherwise have peace. The nation should die in the garden and leave His great be raised from the dust. New institutions should be founded; but the old institutions, and in particular the Mohammedan religion, should be respected. "Extend to the ceremonies prescribed by the Koran," said the General to his soldiers, "and to the mosques the same toleration which you have shown to the synagogues—to the religion of Moses and of Jesus Christ."

For six days Bonaparte had his headquarters in Alexandria. He then removed to the house of the sheik of Damanhour, and there organized his expedition up the Nile. A flotilla was ordered to ascend the river, while the army marched up the left bank. By a strong wind from the north the boats were driven ahead, and the land forces were obliged to advance without naval support. On the 14th of July, the Mamelukes, who, falling back from Alexandria, had been organized into an army under Murad Bey, made a stand at the village of Chebreisse, and were forced from that position by the French; but the action was not decisive. Meanwhile, the flotilla was assailed by the enemy from both banks of the Nile. The Mamelukes mounted small cannon on camels, and inflicted not a little loss on the Europeans. The French boats, separated from the army, were galled by these attacks. On the 23rd of July, a elapsed before the General became rest. | junction was effected, but not until a great battle had decided the campaign.

The conflict occurred on the plain within sight of the pyramids of Gizeh. It was perhaps the most picturesque battle of modern times. The French army was drawn up in squares, on the Egyptian sands. The artillery was planted at the angles of the squares. Thè commanders were Generals Desaix, Kleber, Berthier, and Menou-under the eye of the General-in-chief. The plains round about were covered with heavy masses of Mameluke horsemen. Bonaparte addressed his soldiers after his manner, in a sort of Pindaric apostrophe. He called their attention to the setting of the scene, and reminded them Army of England shall become the that from the summit of Khufu's pyramid forty centuries were looking down upon them. The battle was bloody and decisive. The Mamelukes were overwhelmed by thousands. The officers on the French flotilla, descending the river seriously contemplated a descent on the on the next day, saw on the bank literal heaps of the Mameluke dead which the rising Nile was gathering and bearing ont to sea. Murad Bey fled to Upper

Egypt, and the French entered Cairo. Four days after the battle of the Pyramids, Napoleon wrote to his brother Joseph, saying, "Egypt is richer than any other country in the world in corn, rice, vegetables and cattle. But the people can not procure money, even to pay the troops. I may be in France in two months. Engage for me a country-house near Paris or in Burgundy, where I mean to pass the winter." To this was added a list of things necessary to be

sent out from France. The purpose of the General to return to France, but to leave an army of occupation in Egypt, is sufficiently shown in these orders, in which the comedy of war is grotesquely figured on the background of statesmanship.

JOHN CLARK RIDPATIL

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

LESSON V, SECOND QUARTER, INTER-NATIONAL SERIES, MAY 5.

Text of the Lesson, Mark xiv, 32-42-Memory Verses, 34-36-Golden Text, John zviii, 11-Commentary by the Rev. D. M.

32. "And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane, and He saith to His disciples, Sit ye here while I shall On their way to the mount of Olives He told them that, according to the Scriptures, He would be smitten and they would forsake Him. He said also that Peter would deny Him, upon which Peter and all the others said that they would never do such a thing (verses 27 to 31). They then come to Gethsemane, which signifies an oil press, suggestive of the bruising which He was here to undergo that He might give to us the ancinting of the Holy Spirit. For the trials of Gethsemane special strength was needed, concerning which He must talk with His Father, but into this and many other communions His disciples cannot enter, so He goes alone to pray.

33. "And He taketh with Him Peter and James and John and began to be sore amazed and to be very heavy." Matthew says "sorrowful and very heavy." It could not be anything He did not know about beforehand, for He knew all things, but the powers of darkness were about to do their worst, the great crisis to which He had looked forward from eternity was at hand, and it might be said that satan was about to engage Him in a hand to

hand conflict. 34. "And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death. Tarry ye here and watch." In Math. xxvi, 28, it is, "Watch with Me." His humanity craved their sympathy, but how little He found! He was truly the lonely man as well as the man of sorrows, and even the favored three, of whom the beloved John was nearest to Him, could not enter into His experiences. If ever a sense of heaviness and darkness comes over you in your Christian life, when you know in your heart that you desire above all things to serve the Lord and do only His will, think upon Isa. 1, 10, and praise God for fellowship with His Son Jesus Christ.

35. "And He went forward a little and fell on the ground and prayed that if it were possible the hour might pass from Him." He seems to have left eight of the disciples just inside the garden, to have taken the three a little farther, and then to have gone alone about a stone's cast (Luke xxii, 41), and to have kneeled down, then fallen upon His face. He certainly did not shrink from the cross and the atonement which He came to make, but a careful study of Heb. v, 7, will show that the agony was so great that He feared lest He might die under it and not reach the cross to finish the great atone-

36. "And He said: Abba, Father, all things are possible unto Thee. Take away this cup from me. Nevertheless not what I will, but what Thou wilt." We read elsewhere that He prayed earnestly, with strong crying and tears, and sweat as it were drops of blood, and that an angel strengthened Him. He was willing to work unfinished if it should please the Father to have it so, but the passage in Hebrews says that He was heard, and therefore delivered from this premature death. This is the best light I have upon it, and present it as such, but let each search for himself in reliance upon the Holy Spirit. There are mysteries in the

atonement which we cannot comprehend. 37. "And He cometh and findeth them sleeping and saith unto Peter: Simon, sleepest thou? Couldst not thou watch one hour?" The great glory of the Transfiguration as well as the great sorrow of Gethsemane was too much for the flesh, for they seem to have slept in the former (Luke ix, 32) as well as in the latter.

38. "Watch ye and pray lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak." Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him, for He knoweth our frame (Ps. ciii, 13). What a comfort it is! But let us not pity ourselves as satan through Peter advised Jesus to do (Math. xvi, 22, margin). Though our Lord recognizes and pities our weakness, He Himself has provided that He will be our strength so that we may sing, "The Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song' (Isa. xii, 2). We are to realize our weakness and never to rely upon ourselves, for His strength is made perfect in weakness, and to them that have no might He increaseth strength (II Cor. xii, 9; Isa. xl,

39. "And again He went away and prayed and spake the same words." need not fear the repetition of the same words in our prayers provided they are from the heart, nor need we fear to ask many times for the same thing, for Paul also besought the Lord thrice to remove his thorn in the flesh, and Jesus Himself has taught us to be importunate in prayer (II Cor. xii, 8; Luke xi, 8). At the same time He has put us on our guard against vain repetitions for the sake of much speaking (Math. vi, 7).

40. "And when He returned He found them asleep again (for their eyes were heavy). Neither wist they what to answer Him." We think of the ten virgins going out to meet the bridegroom, yet all slumbered and slept. We think of Jonah asleep in the storm, while the sailors called upon their gods and put forth every effort. We think of the multitudes of Christians who now seem to be asleep through one or other of satan's many soporific doses, and of the preachers who eem to be asleep, too, and cry peace to the people when they ought to sound an alarm because of the great apostasy and the manifest nearness of the end of this

41. "And He cometh the third time and saith unto them: Sleep on now and take your rest. It is enough. The hour is come. Behold the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners." He had gone away the third time and prayed, saying the same words (Math. xxvi, 44), and returning finds them still asleep. Then He says these words. Contrast the rest which He here calls "your rest," as He thus addresses them, and the rest which He has provided by these very sufferings of His (Math. xi, 28), but to which the majority of believers are so indifferent, for they seem to know nothing of it. They will not cease from their own works either as to salvation or service (Heb. iv, 1; x, 11; Rom, iv, 5; Eph. ii, 10), and therefore

cannot know His rest. 42. "Rise up. Let us go. Lo, he that betrayeth Me is at hand." And so, being strengthened, He goes forth to meet His enemies and to give Himself into their hands, for His hour to die had come, and He was ready for the sacrifice. No man took His life from Him. He laid it down of Himself (John x, 18).

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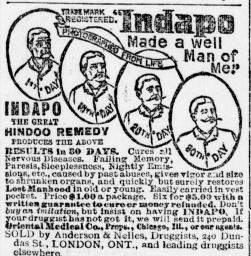
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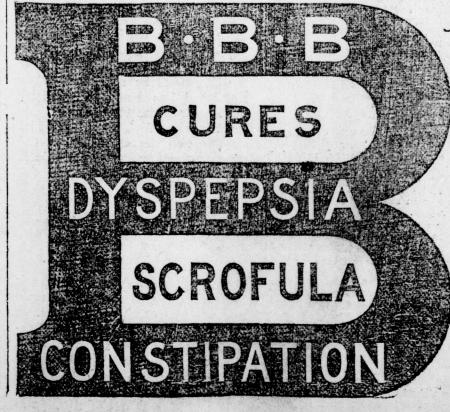
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