

V. 7. *Daughters*—Jacob had but one: his sons' wives are here intended.

V. 28. Jacob thought it desirable that Joseph should meet him in Goshen.

V. 29. Joseph was now a prince, and hence he went forth in "his chariot."

V. 33. Joseph is anxious to keep his brethren separate from the Egyptians. He knows the snares and pit-falls around them, and hence his desire to settle them in Goshen.

V. 34. Here it is stated that every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians. The chief reason may have been that a dynasty of shepherd kings had oppressed Egypt.

#### LESSONS.

1. We should never neglect the claims of religion. Jacob halts on his journey to offer sacrifice. We should be ever ready with our sacrifices of praise, thanksgiving and active service.

2. God will bless his true worshippers and give them precious promises for their souls to rest upon.

3. God comforted Jacob by the pledge that Joseph should put his hand upon his eyes—that is, watch by his death-bed. He gives us a still more precious promise:—Jesus Christ shall help us in our hour of sorest trial, and shall receive our souls into His heavenly mansions.

4. From the closing verses of the chapter let us learn that we should beware of intercourse with idolaters. Better sacrifice worldly wealth and grandeur than lose our souls.

DOCTRINE:—We should go where God leads, Ps. xxiii. Jsa. xliii. 2. 1 Pet. ii. 21.

## News of the Church.

### Presbytery of Victoria.

At Middle River the 28th Feb., 1866, the Presbytery of Victoria and Richmond met, pursuant to adjournment, and after devotional exercises by Rev. Kenneth McKenzie, was duly constituted. There were present, Revs. Donald McKenzie, Moderator pro tem., Kenneth McKenzie, Pby. Clerk, and Wm. Sinclair, with Mr. T. A. McKeen, elder.

For want of more timely intimation the meeting was small, but the Treasurer, some of the trustees, who act also as collectors, and other members of the congregation being present, the Presbytery proceeded in the usual way to obtain the required information as to the state of the congregation. They find that the Rev. D. McKenzie gives two-thirds of his sabbath

services to this section of his charge; that pastoral visitation, visiting the sick, and the various other duties of the pastor are under all the circumstances well attended to; that the Treasurer's accounts also indicate organization and orderly arrangement on the part of himself and Trustees, but still the Presbytery were sorry to find that here too some arrears have been allowed for the past two years to accumulate; that the annual sum here promised as stipend is \$400, payable half-yearly. The Presbytery advised them strongly to wipe off all arrears.—Thereafter the session of Middle River and Lake Ainslie, claiming the protection of Presbytery, refer simpliciter a matter of difficulty to them. Proceedings of an extraordinary character having taken place at Middle River, and certain rumors calculated not only to mislead the public mind relative to them, but also to prejudice the church and affect the interests of religion, and the moral character of some of the members of session, as well as other members and adherents of the congregation, which have found pretty wide circulation, some of them having appeared in public print; the Presbytery therefore agreed to investigate the matter as far as practicable, and accordingly requested Mr. McKenzie in presence of the meeting to give, so far as he knew, the leading facts of what had occurred there, and which had been made the occasion of those rumors.

Mr. McKenzie did so, and his statements are kept *in retentis*. Several other credible members of the congregation corroborated fully the statements of their minister, relative to the conduct of Rev. Neil Brodie, and a party at Middle River, professing adherence to the established Church of Scotland, over whom the said Mr. Brodie has presided as missionary, for upwards of two years past; and as to the course also which they as a congregation felt it their duty to pursue in consequence of the conduct of said parties.

The Presbytery found that from the 19th April 1864, on account of violence and blood-shed, caused by the party above referred to, in lawlessly attempting to prevent the Presbytery of the bounds from proceeding with the ordination and induction of Rev. Donald McKenzie to the pastoral charge of the congregation there, as successor to the late Rev. Mr. Farquharson; and owing also to subsequent threats, to the effect that Mr. McKenzie's life would be imperilled, should he again enter the church there; that he and his congregation for the sake of peace, and to prevent the recurrence of like disgraceful scenes, resolved to forego for a time the use of the church, in hope that before long, the cause of difference would be amicably settled. But though deputation after deputation had