

## CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

WORLD'S O. E. PRAYER CHAIN, SUBJECT FOR OCTOBER:—*For Our Missionaries.* Pray especially for those missionaries laboring in hard, discouraging, and perilous fields. Pray for the "volunteers," who are making ready to go to the front.

### DAILY READINGS.

#### Our Best.

First Day—The Lookout Committee—2 Cor. v. 20.  
Second Day—The Prayer-meeting Committee—2 Chron. vii. 14.  
Third Day—The Social Committee—Neb. viii. 10.  
Fourth Day—The Flower Committee—1 Chron. xvi. 29.  
Fifth Day—The Sunshine Committee—Rom. xii. 10.  
Sixth Day—The Birthday Committee—Psalm xc. 12.  
PRAYER MEETING TOPIC, Oct. 18.—How CAN WE IMPROVE OUR COMMITTEE WORK? Matt. xxv. 14-30. (A meeting to consider the work of all the Committee.)

### Endeavor Notes.

Nineteen floating societies of Christian Endeavor have been formed in New South Wales.

Dr. Clark will attend the Irish National Convention at Belfast, October 1st and 2nd. From there he will go to France.

German Christian Endeavorers are planning organized work, to extend the movement among German-speaking peoples.

A party of South Dakota Endeavorers drove one hundred and ten miles in a waggon to the last State Convention.

Baltimore Endeavorers sent 564 children from the slums of the city out into the country for two weeks each during the summer.

Each of the more than one thousand prisoners in Iowa prisons receives at the holiday season a written greeting, and a bunch of flowers from the societies of the State.

"The tenth legion" of the New York City Endeavor Union comprises all the local Endeavorers who give a tenth of their income to God.

The Presbyterian mission home in San Francisco, for Chinese girls that have been rescued from the slavery of Chinatown, contains two societies, a young people's and a junior.

Four Vancouver, B.C., Endeavor Societies furnish the rent, fuel, and light, and a majority of the work for a Chinese mission. Besides this, they conduct most of the services.

The possibilities open to an individual society of Christian Endeavor are shown in a report that comes from Geelong, Australia. The Yarra street Wesleyan Society, which contains five divisions and 650 members, has organized a boys' club, a men's club, a birthday league for missionary purposes, and a Sabbath-school home department. During the year it held 208 cottage meetings, besides seventy-eight open air services; 4,251 visits were paid, and 2,489 loaves of bread distributed. The juniors provided an outing for one hundred slum children, distributed 150 bouquets of flowers, and made more than 500 visits. The other labors of the society were on a proportionate scale.

BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1896.

DEAR FRIEND:—

The following cablegram was just received from President Francis E. Clark, who is in attendance upon a Christian Endeavor Convention in Glasgow:—

GLASGOW, SEPT. 29TH, 1896.

Scotch Endeavorers suggest universal prayer for Armenia, second week in November. Will America join?  
CLARK.

To this the following answer was sent:—

BOSTON, SEPT. 30TH, 1896.

Glorious suggestion. We co-operate heartily.  
BAER.

I feel confident that you will endorse the answer cabled, and will do what you can to have every Christian Endeavor Society in America, at its prayer meeting and at other times in the second week in November, devote the time to prayer for Armenia. If your pastors are willing, let the churches take it up. May God hear our prayer, and speedily stay the hand of "the great assassin," as Gladstone well names the Sultan of Turkey.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN WILLIS BAER.

It may not be thought best for the members of your prayer-meeting committee to adopt the helpful plan of meeting just before the Christian Endeavor prayer meeting to pray for its success. A plan tried in Braintree, Mass., may possibly prove in some instances a profitable substitute. A paper was circulated among the active Endeavorers, asking each to promise to spend a few moments, just before coming to the meeting, in prayer for the

success of that evening's meeting and for the society. Thus prayer chain was formed, which benefited its members, and made the meetings far richer and more helpful.

## FOR THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

### International S. S. Lesson.

LESSON III.—SOLOMON'S WEALTH AND WISDOM.—OCT. 18.

(1 Kings iv. 25-34.)

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Them that honor Me I will honor, and they that despise Me shall be lightly esteemed."—1 Sam. ii. 30.

TIME AND PLACE.—B.C., 1014. Jerusalem.

1. Israel's prosperity (v. 25).

ANALYSIS.—2. Solomon's wealth (v. 26-28).

3. Solomon's wisdom (v. 29-34).

INTRODUCTORY.—In the previous lessons of this quarter we have had the beginning of Solomon's reign; his wise choice made at the outset of his career, which was followed by the manifest blessing of God. David's wars and conquests had widely extended the territory of his kingdom, and it was further enlarged by Solomon's wise rule, so that, as we are told in the twenty-fourth verse, he "had dominion over all the region on this side the river," that is, west of the Euphrates, toward Palestine, and "over all the kings on this side the river;" that is, the kings of that wide region had submitted to the authority of the throne of David, and were subject to Solomon. Under these circumstances, with no enemies to disturb the peace, and with wealth flowing in from a territory vastly larger than the land of Palestine, the state of things described in the present lesson naturally followed.

VERSE BY VERSE.—V. 25, "Judah and Israel."—Judah had become separated from the other tribes at the beginning of David's reign, he having reigned seven years over Judah alone, and the distinction between the two was never after lost sight of. Dwelt safely.—No wars disturbed them. Under his vine and fig tree.—A proverbial expression denoting peace and prosperity. Dan to Beersheba.—Dan was at the extreme north of the land of Israel, Beersheba at the extreme south, so the expression means the whole land. All the days of Solomon.—During the whole of his reign.

V. 26, "Forty thousand stalls of horses."—This means that he had as part of his military force twenty thousand chariots.

V. 27, "Those officers."—Referring to the twelve mentioned in vs. 8-10, who were stationed in different parts of the country, having each a certain district of country under him, and their duty was to gather certain supplies for the king's household and for his stables.

V. 28, "Dromedaries."—The one-humped camels, noted for their fleetness.

V. 29, "Largeness of heart."—Great mental capacity.

V. 30, "The children of the east country."—This is said to be the name of a distinct tribe on the Euphrates, the "Beni Kedem."

V. 31, "Wiser than all men."—Who had lived up to this time. Ethan, Heman, Chalool, Darda.—Though these were the wisest men then known to fame, no one can now tell who they were.

V. 32, "Three thousand proverbs."—Some of these are in the Book of Proverbs. Songs.—The Book of Ecclesiastes and the Songs of Solomon probably are included among them.

V. 33, "And he spake of trees, etc."—"He spake of" may either mean that he wrote, or that he discoursed, upon subjects connected with natural sciences.

V. 34, "Of all people, i. e., of all nations. From all kings of the earth."—They sent their messengers or ambassadors. The queen of Sheba, however, came in person.

THOUGHTS.—The dying words of David to his son Solomon were an exhortation to him, that he would follow the statutes of the Lord, and take Him with him in all his ways. The promise of blessing and prosperity was given on the condition that Solomon keep the commandments of the Lord. With the responsibilities of the kingdom, came the desire to render perfect satisfaction unto God, and righteous ruling unto the people. This desire became a prayer, and the prayer was heard and answered in such large measure that Solomon was the wisest man in the land. Thus he proved the truth of the words he uttered, "Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established." Prov. xvi. 3. His heart was open to the inspirations from God. His words poured forth the thoughts and feelings of his enlarged heart. Men could not resist his power and influence. He prefigured that blessed one, of whom it was said "Unto him shall flow all nations." The life of Solomon is a source of inspiration still to those who desire that wisdom which cometh from above.

"So let your lips and lives express,  
The Holy Gospel we profess.  
So let your works and virtues shine,  
To prove the doctrine all Divine."