

bably had heard the whole story from Joseph himself. And now for Joseph's sake he is ready and anxious to show kindness to them all (a) provides means of transit from Canaan to Egypt—waggons or—Egypt was rich in horses and waggons, but the Nomadic Hebrews had none, (b) provides provision for the way, (c) promises that if they will come to Egypt they shall eat of the good of the land. And since they are to be so highly favoured in Egypt they need not be at all distressed about leaving some little goods or furniture in Canaan.

It would almost seem that the desire to get Jacob and all his sons down to Egypt, originated with Pharaoh. So urgent and liberal was he. It did not, however, though as King he issues the invitation.

II. Joseph carries out Pharaoh's command, gives his brethren waggons, provision, change of raiment, but to Benjamin he gives more than to the rest. Benjamin is the youngest and the favorite. And by them he sends to his father, (a) 10 she asses laden with provisions for the journey, (b) 10 asses laden with the good things of Egypt. These good things were in addition to the corn and wheat spoken of; they were doubtless costly gifts—rich presents to his father, Egypt supplied such things in abundance.

III. The obedience of Joseph's brethren. They deliver the message—tell it simply "Joseph is yet alive and he is Governor over all the land of Egypt." Jacob who had given up all hope of ever seeing or even hearing from his loved and long lost son, is incredulous. He has not full confidence in his sons, especially when they speak of Joseph. Then they bring forward the evidences of the truth of what they say. They repeat the very words of Joseph and in all likelihood they confessed their own guilt in connection with their brother, how they had sold him, how he was taken down to Egypt, where they met him, and how he, on making himself known to them forgave them. Moreover they shewed him the waggons, the Egyptian waggons that Joseph had sent to convey him and his out of the land of Canaan. At length Jacob believes—is satisfied—his longing is appeased and his mind is made up. I will go &c. Such joyous tidings revive his spirit. He feels young again. A terrible load has been taken from his mind. He is Israel again, and as Israel he says "I will go &c."

#### LESSONS.

1. God can employ even wicked men for the promotion of his cause. Pharaoh invited Jacob and his sons to Egypt during the years of famine, and thus he did good to the people of God, the Church of that time.

2. A Godly life and a consistent walk wins the regard of worldly men. Joseph's life influenced Pharaoh to do what he did for Israel.

3. When we are raised to high positions we should not forget our friends who are not so favoured. Joseph thought next in position to

the King himself ministered to his poor brethren.

4. How beautiful it is to see sons mindful of their aged parents. Joseph's kindness to his father.

5. Nothing gladdens a father's heart so much as to hear that his children are doing well. Jacob is rejoiced at the good news from his son.

6. Household troubles are heavy—Joseph absent and Jacob sad. But household joys are great, the meeting of long separated father and son, rapturous.

## News of the Church.

### Death of Dr. Geddie.

All who are interested in the welfare of the New Hebrides Mission will learn, with deep regret, that Dr. Geddie is dead. He died of paralysis without a struggle on the 14th day of December.

The news of Dr. Geddie's death was received by the English mail, which reached Halifax on the 10th ult., in a letter from Mrs. Geddie, dated Geelong, January 1st, addressed to the Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces. He was born at Banff, Scotland, and studied in Pictou Academy, and at 21 years of age was licensed to preach the Gospel. The Mission to the New Hebrides was the great work of his life, in which he laboured with zeal and marked success till failing strength laid him aside from work, and death at last laid him low. We sympathise with the friends of the deceased in their bereavement, and with the Mission in her loss.

As already noticed, the Church of Scotland Prayers, for the use of Households and Families, are now on sale at the B. A. Book & Tract Depository, Granville St., Halifax, at the ordinary prices, and can be forwarded by mail to any part of the Lower Provinces. This is the only collection of Family Prayers published, which has the authority of the church.

THE children of the Sabbath School in St. Andrew's Church, St. John, N.B., had their annual concert a few weeks ago, when they realized one hundred dollars.