

FOR TEACHERS IN THE JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

Teachers in the Junior Department should study carefully the scholars' materials in the JUNIOR QUARTERLY or LEAFLET.

This week's lesson is the story of one of the most daring exploits ever planned and successfully carried out, and because all children love to hear and read about deeds of bravery, you will find that even the usually indolent and careless members of your class are familiar with the details of the incident.

Begin by a short review of last week's lesson and tell the pupils that shortly after Saul was publicly proclaimed king over Israel, Samuel resigned his office as judge, although he still retained his authority as God's prophet. Ask what enemies of Israel are mentioned in this lesson. What did we learn about them in former lessons? Lessons VI. and VII. What had the Philistines done to Israel this time? (See ch. 13.) What did the Israelites do? Who was the leader of Israel's army? In which verse of the lesson passage is the position of the two armies described? Vs. 4 and 5. Who will give a word picture of the place? What can be learned about it from the picture in the QUARTERLY or LEAFLET?

In which verse of the lesson passage do we find the first mention of the heroes of this story? What does v. 1 tell about Jonathan? Was this his first brave exploit? (See ch. 13:3 and QUARTERLY or LEAFLET.) Who can suggest what some of an armorbearer's

duties might be? (See Lesson Explained.)

Vs. 2 and 3 tell how secrecy was possible. Have these verses read and make any necessary explanations. Originally Saul's army contained 3,000 men, ch. 13:2. For the strength of the Philistines, see ch. 13:5. The Lord's priest in Shiloh was Eli, not Ahiah.

Ask a pupil to read v. 6. Compare the first part with v. 1. Ask to whom the words, "these uncircumcised" refer. Explain that, on account of God's covenant with Israel, Jonathan hoped for divine aid against those who were outside the covenant. What does the last part of v. 6 mean? In what former lessons did we learn that this is true? (Lessons II., III., VII.) Ask what kind of master the pupils think Jonathan was and how v. 7 affects their opinion.

What do we learn from v. 8-10? Be sure that Jonathan's plan for ascertaining God's will is understood and emphasize his belief that they would be guided aright.

Draw from the pupils the part of the story told in vs. 11-13. Tell how the Israelites hid from the Philistines, ch. 13:6. Note the Philistines' contempt for their enemies (vs. 11, 12), and Jonathan's absolute confidence in God. The panic described in v. 13 resulted in a complete rout of the Philistine army and a complete victory for the Israelites.

FOR TEACHERS IN THE PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

Teachers in the Primary Department should study carefully the scholars' materials in the PRIMARY QUARTERLY.

AIM OF THE LESSON. To teach the power that came to the good prince because of his faith and his trust in God.

INTRODUCTION. Saul did some brave and daring things after he became king of Israel, but he was not as wise as Samuel had been, and by and by the Philistines began to trouble the Israelites again. They knew that the Israelites could not have a real army without spears or swords, so they commanded that in all the land no man should be allowed to make swords or spears; and all the trained workmen, the smiths who could work in iron and steel, were taken over into the land of the Philistines.

Saul did not seem to know just what this was going to mean to Israel until he found

that a great army of Philistines was getting ready to fight against Israel. His army had seemed large until he heard that the Philistines had thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and many, many soldiers, while Saul had only three thousand men altogether, and they had only clubs and slingshots for weapons!

Saul commanded two thousand men, and his son Jonathan commanded one thousand, and the people loved the brave, kind prince very dearly. But when they heard about that great, strong army of the Philistines, the people were so afraid that they ran away and hid in caves or any place that they could, until Saul had only six hundred men in his whole army.