

BOOK NOTICES.

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Toronto: Wesleyan Book Room.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the S. S. Banner.

A VOICE FROM THE EAST.

DEAR SIR,—It may not be altogether uninteresting to some of your readers, to learn of the successful beginning of a new Wesleyan Sunday School in the town of Peterboro', in connection with a new Church, with the dedication of which you had something to do. The school was started about the middle of January, and in spite of some difficulties now numbers some 80 scholars and about a dozen teachers. When a library is in working order, that number will probably be largely increased. Mr. Thomas Donnelly is the Superintendent.

A very successful anniversary was held on the first Sabbath and Monday evening of February, in connection with the Old Wesleyan Church of this Circuit. The anniversary meeting was a complete and gratifying success, and the character of the recitations, singing, &c., reflects great credit upon those to whose exertions the state of excellency reached is due. I may be permitted to speak thus eulogistically as I am, in some sort,

Yours faithfully,

AN OBSERVER.

Peterboro', February, 1874.

Scripture Lessons.

International Lesson Department, 1874

SECOND QUARTER—STUDIES IN EXODUS.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 1874.

LESSON I.—*The Ten Commandments.*—Exod. xx. 1-17.

GOLDEN TEXT: John xiv. 15.

Berean Notes on the Lessons.

BY REV. G. H. WHITNEY, D.D.

I. GENERAL STATEMENT.

Leaving Rephidim, the Hebrews reach the desert of Sinai after one day's march. Exod. xix. 1. Jethro's visit is related in chapter xviii. Chapter xix. contains the account of God's mode of preparing the people for the Proclamation of the Law from Mount Sinai. B. C. 1491.

II. EXPOSITORY NOTES.

1. THE PLACE WHERE THE LAW WAS PROMULGATED. MOUNT SINAI. Much controversy has existed as to the precise peak of the Sinaitic Mountains from which God announced the law. We can only say here that all the conditions related in Exodus are met in the summit known as *Ras Sufsafah*, and the plain of *Er Rahah* at its base. The thorough scientific explorations made by Professor E. H. Palmer in 1869-70 seemed to have identified these sites beyond dispute. By actual measurements, taken on the spot, the plain of *Er Rahah* was found "large enough to have accommodated the entire host of the Israelites, estimated at two million souls, with an allowance of about a square yard for each individual." Palmer. (See Map 2 in *Bible Geography*.)

2. THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF ITS PROMULGATION. (1) Moses goes UP INTO THE MOUNT to learn God's purpose. Exod. xix. 3-6. (2) The people declare their willingness to obey the Lord in all things. 7-9. (3) Neither man nor beast is allowed to TOUCH THE . . . MOUNT under the penalty of DEATH. 12, 13. (4) On the third day there are THUNDERS and LIGHTNINGS, a THICK CLOUD, and the VOICE OF THE TRUMPET EXCEEDING LOUD. 16. (5) Moses brings the people to