

them and the general structure of the tree, if any; observing closely, and then acquiring the technical knowledge, and learning certain botanical laws.

The oak buds seem at first to offer no temptations, they are so obscure, dun and hard; but if you inspect them, you will perceive that they actually have a resemblance to the acorn shape and color; great possibilities are theirs, and the secret they so zealously keep is to be partially made known to one who will wait.

Ah, one who lived always in the green-wood might well believe in those gentle duties whom the old singers used to fancy as dwelling there. It is a place where miracles are wrought, and the most wondrous and mystic is that by which a dry branch is transformed into green leafage. Something of it you can, if you choose, bring right into your own daily life, and have in your house in midwinter, a bit of the spring-time.—From Amanda B. Harris in Wide Awake.

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From International Question Book.)

LESSON XIII.—MARCH 25.

REVIEW.—MISSIONS.—TEMPERANCE.

[REVIEW AND MISSIONS.—Psalms 2 : 1-12.]

The Review may easily have a missionary application; therefore (these two, as selected by the committee, are here united.

GOLDEN TEXT.

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my father in his throne.—Rev. 3: 21.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

Jesus Christ is able to overcome all opposition to his kingdom and his people.

DAILY READINGS.

- M. Matt. 11 : 1-36.
T. Matt. 15 : 1-31.
W. Matt. 16 : 13-28; 17 : 1-13.
Th. Matt. 18 : 1-35.
F. Matt. 19 : 1-26.
Sa. Matt. 20 : 1-29.
Su. Matt. 21 : 1-46.

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION TO THE KINGDOM OVERCOME.

QUESTIONS.

I. THE OPPOSITION (vs. 2: 1-3).—How was Herod opposed to Christ? (Less. 1.) What did this lead Jesus to do? What cases of hunger and need did Jesus meet? (Less. 2.) What natural forces threatened the disciples? (Less. 3.) What diseases were to be cured? (Less. 4.) What is said of offences? (Less. 5.) How did worldliness oppose? (Less. 6.) What ambitions and evils among the disciples? (Less. 10, 11.) What opposition from those who should have helped? (Less. 12.)

APPLICATION TO MISSIONS.—What are some of the oppositions which the gospel must overcome? What difficulties in the poverty and needs of the heathen? What from leaders? What from sins and social customs? From selfishness? From persecution? From worldliness in the church? What is the greatest obstacle of all?

II. THE POWER OF CHRIST TO OVERCOME (Ps. 2 : 1-6).—What courage and faithfulness is shown in Less. 1? How did Jesus supply the needs of man? (Less. 2.) How show his control over the powers of nature? (Less. 3.) How overcome disease and the fruits of sin? (Less. 2, 4.) How did he find the lost sheep? (Less. 7.) How does he overcome worldliness? (Less. 9.) How did Jesus show his power over evil men? (Less. 11.) Over evil deeds? (Less. 11.) What is said of those who oppose him in Less. 12?

APPLICATION TO MISSIONS.—Has Jesus power to overcome all the opposition to the gospel? How have missions developed the martyr spirit? How has Christ's power been shown in the history of missions? Is there any kind of difficulty or opposition which has not been in fact overcome in the missionary work? How have missions helped to overcome worldliness in the church?

III. THE MEANS BY WHICH HE OVERCOMES (Ps. 2 : 7-9).—What were the disciples to do to this end? (Less. 5.) What part in the victory has Jesus' own sufferings? (Less. 5, 6, 10.) What part have the children and the childlike spirit? (Less. 7.) What is done by forgiveness? (Less. 8.) By choice? (Less. 9.) By devoted service? (Less. 10.) By numbers? (Less. 11.) By privileges conferred? (Less. 12.)

APPLICATION TO MISSIONS.—What are the means by which Jesus is to overcome the world? What part in this work has the atonement? The martyr spirit? The spirit of obedience? The desire to serve? The example of Christ? Consecration? The children? The blessings and opportunities we enjoy?

IV.—FOREGLIMPS OF TRIUMPH (Ps. 2 : 10-12).—How did Jesus show his disciples his power and glory? (Less. 6.) How would this prefigure their success? What foregleam of the future was shown as an object lesson? (Less. 11.)

APPLICATION TO MISSIONS.—Has Christ's glory been shown in the missionary work? What has been the success of missions? What good have they done in the church at home? Has Christ's coming in triumph been in any degree fulfilled?

LESSON I.—APRIL 1.

THE MARRIAGE FEAST.—MATT. 22 : 1-14.

COMMIT VERSES 11-11.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.—Rev. 19 : 9.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

All are welcome to the gospel feast.

DAILY READINGS.

- M. Matt. 22 : 1-14.
T. Luke 14 : 12-35.
W. John 6 : 35-58.
Th. Isa. 61 : 1-11.
F. Rev. 20 : 1-15.
Sa. Rev. 21 : 22-27.
Su. Matt. 7 : 13-20.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.

2. Certain king : God. Marriage : marriage feast, expressing the joyousness and abundance of the Gospel. His son : Jesus, wedded to his bride, the Church, whom he loves. 3. His servants : John the Baptist, the seventy disciples, the twelve. Call them that were bidden : they had been invited before. 4. Other servants : the apostles, and all those who preached the Gospel after the resurrection. 7. Sent his armies : the Roman army who destroyed their city : Jerusalem, forty years after this. It also means conscience, memory, and all the power of nature, which will destroy sinners. 10. Bad and good : but the bad to make them good. We come just as we are; we must not remain so. 11. Wedding garments : a beautiful outer robe to be thrown over the other dress, and sent with the invitation. It signifies that we must be prepared in order to enter the kingdom of heaven, and in the way God commands. 12. Speechless : he had no excuse, and therefore could say nothing. 13. Outer darkness : it is all dark away from God. Gnashing of teeth : in rage and pain.

SUBJECT: GOD'S WELCOMES AND MAN'S REFUSALS.

QUESTIONS.

I. THE GOSPEL FEAST (vs. 1, 2).—What is the kingdom of heaven? What is it like? Who is represented by the king? by the son? What by the marriage feast? In what respects is the Gospel like a feast?

II. THE INVITATION AND WELCOME (vs. 3, 4).—Who are meant by those who invited the guests? Who are invited? Who are now to carry the invitation? Had the people been invited before? Why does Jesus invite men so many times to come? What is meant by all things being now ready? (John 3 : 14, 15; 1 Pet. 2 : 21; John 14 : 16.) In what ways does God invite us to come?

III. THE INVITATION REFUSED (vs. 5-7).—What two classes refused? How do men now make light of the Gospel? Why do people neglect the Gospel? How was the Gospel violently opposed by the Jews? Why do some men now so bitterly oppose it? (Rom. 8 : 7; Matt. 15 : 19; Luke 19 : 14.) How is neglect of the gospel an insult to God? How were the Jews punished? by what armies? Was this merciful as well as just? What will be done to those who now reject Jesus Christ? (Matt. 25 : 16; John 3 : 18; Prov. 1 : 21-31.)

THE INVITATION ACCEPTED (vs. 8-10).—Who were next invited? Does this refer to the calling of the Gentiles? (Acts 13 : 46, 47.) What does this refer to in our day? Why were the "bad" invited? Will they remain bad if they come? Are we to go out into the highways and hedges to invite men to Christ?

V. THE MAN WITHOUT A WEDDING GARMENT (vs. 11-14).—Relate in your own words the closing scene of this parable. What custom of the East does the wedding garment refer to? What was the harm in not wearing it? What does this signify as to the Gospel feast? (Matt. 5 : 20; Heb. 12 : 11.) Is any one shut out who is willing to comply with the necessary conditions? Will any one who has heard of Christ have a good excuse for rejecting him? What will become of those who are unwilling to believe and obey? (Rev. 21 : 27.) The meaning of v. 11?

LESSON CALENDAR.

(First Quarter, 1888.)

- 1. Jan. 1.—Herod and John the Baptist.—Matt. 11 : 1-12.
2. Jan. 8.—The Multitude Fed.—Matt. 14 : 13-21.
3. Jan. 15.—Jesus walking on the Sea.—Matt. 14 : 22-33.
4. Jan. 22.—Jesus and the Afflicted.—Matt. 15 : 21-31.
5. Jan. 29.—Peter confessing Christ.—Matt. 16 : 13-28.
6. Feb. 5.—The Transfiguration.—Matt. 17 : 1-13.
7. Feb. 12.—Jesus and the Little Ones.—Matt. 18 : 1-11.
8. Feb. 19.—A Lesson on Forgiveness.—Matt. 18 : 21-35.
9. Feb. 26.—The Rich Young Ruler.—Matt. 19 : 16-26.
10. March 4.—Christ's Last Journey to Jerusalem.—Matt. 20 : 17-29.
11. March 11.—Christ entering Jerusalem.—Matt. 21 : 1-16.
12. March 18.—The Son Rejected.—Matt. 21 : 33-46.
13. March 25.—Review, Temperance, Gal. 5 : 16-26, and Missions.

(Second Quarter, 1888.)

- 1. April 1.—The Marriage Feast.—Matt. 22 : 1-14.
2. Apr. 8.—Christ's Last Warning.—Matt. 23 : 27-30.
3. Apr. 15.—Christian Watchfulness.—Matt. 24 : 12-51.
4. Apr. 22.—The Ten Virgins.—Matt. 25 : 1-13.
5. Apr. 29.—The Talents.—Matt. 25 : 14-30.
6. May 6.—The Judgment.—Matt. 25 : 31-46.
7. May 13.—The Lord's Supper.—Matt. 26 : 17-30.
8. May 20.—Jesus in Gethsemane.—Matt. 26 : 36-46.
9. May 27.—Peter's Denial.—Matt. 26 : 67-75.
10. June 3.—Jesus Crucified.—Matt. 27 : 33 : 50.
11. June 10.—Jesus Risen.—Matt. 28 : 1-15.
12. June 17.—The Great Commission.—Matt. 28 : 16-20.
13. Review, Temperance.—1 Cor. 8 : 1-13, and Missions.

TEMPERANCE ARITHMETIC.

Please work out this problem and think it over :—

- 1. There are 175,000 saloons in the United States, and 164,000 public schools; how many more saloons than schools?
2. The United States pays \$80,000,000 for the support of our public schools, and \$1,484,000,000 for the support of its saloons; how much more do the saloons cost than the schools?

IT IS RECORDED of a Chinese emperor that, on being apprised of his enemies having raised an insurrection in one of the distant provinces, he said to his officers, "Come, follow me, and we will quickly destroy them." He marched forward, and the rebels submitted upon his approach. All now thought that he would take the most signal revenge, but were surprised to see the captives treated with mildness and humanity. "What!" cried the first minister, "is this the manner in which you fulfill your promise? Your royal word was given that your enemies should be destroyed, and, behold you have pardoned them all, and even caressed some of them." "I promised," replied the emperor with a generous air, "to destroy my enemies. I have fulfilled my word; for, see, they are enemies no longer. I have made friends of them."

Question Corner.—No. 5.

PRIZE BIBLE QUESTIONS.

- 15. Name two cities, one mentioned in the Old Testament and one in the New, each of which contained one of the seven wonders of the world?
16. Of what four great empires did Daniel predict a history which has been fulfilled?
17. What seemingly improbable prophecy uttered by Christ was wholly realized less than forty years afterwards?
18. Where were the Israelites camping when Balaam was sent for to curse them?

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Our subscribers throughout the United States who cannot procure the international Post Office orders at their post-office can get, instead, a Post Office order, payable at Rouse's Point, N. Y., which will prevent much inconvenience both to ourselves and to subscribers.

NEW CLUB RATES.

The following are the NEW CLUB RATES for the MESSENGER, which are considerably reduced :

Table with 2 columns: Quantity and Price. 1 copy \$0 30, 10 copies to one address 2 25, 20 " " " " " " 4 40, 50 " " " " " " 10 50, 100 " " " " " " 20 00

Sample package supplied free on application JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

MONTREAL DAILY WITNESS, \$3.00 a year, post-paid. MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS, \$1.00 a year, post-paid. JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal, Que.

True Merit Appreciated.—Brown's Bronchial Trochies are world-renowned as a simple yet effective remedy for Coughs and Throat Troubles. In a letter from HON. MRS. PERRY, Castle Grey, Limerick, Ireland, they are thus referred to:—"Having brought your 'BRONCHIAL TROCHIES' with me when I came to reside here, I found that after I had given them away to those I considered required them, the poor people will walk for miles to get a few."

ECONOMY AND HEALTH.

Economy for yourself, health for your baby, mother, is insured by purchasing Lactated Food, before any prepared food. It contains sugar of milk, the chief constituent of woman's milk, and a little of it goes further, more surely assimilable and nourishes than any other food.

EPPS'S GRATEFUL-COMFORTING COCOA

Advertisement for FRY'S SEEDS. Over 6,000,000 PEOPLE USE FRY'S SEEDS. D. M. FERRY & CO. are admitted to be the Largest Seedsmen in the world. D. M. FERRY & CO'S Illustrated, Descriptive and Priced SEED ANNUAL For 1888 will be mailed FREE TO ALL applicants, and to last season's customers without ordering it. Invaluable to all Garden, Field or Flower SEEDS should be sent for it. Address D. M. FERRY & CO., Windsor, Ont.

NORTHERN MESSENGER PREMIUM LIST

VALUABLE BOOKS AND USEFUL PRIZES. The Messenger premium list for 1887-88 is an entirely new one and has been selected with great care.

Read the following list of prizes offered for the Northern Messenger and see how anyone with very little effort can become the owner of a nice prize.

READ CAREFULLY.

To any subscriber sending us ONE NEW NAME along with their own subscription, at 30 cents each we will send a copy of "MARCUS WARD'S ROYAL ILLUSTRATED NURSERY RHYMES" with music. Another inducement for the little ones to work is in the second prize offered. Every boy or girl who sends us TWO NEW SUBSCRIBERS and ONE RENEWAL, will receive a beautiful little story book strongly bound in cloth.

To the person sending us FIVE NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS or SEVEN RENEWALS at 30 cents each we will give their choice of any one of eight beautiful prizes, as follows :—

- 1. UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.
2. BUFFON'S NATURAL HISTORY.
3. FAET IN THE ICE.—The thrilling story of Arctic adventure, by R. M. Ballantyne.
4. WONDERS OF THE MINE.—By W. H. G. Kingston.
5. ILLUSTRATED NATIONAL PRONOUNCING DICTIONARY.
6. AS TIME GLIDES ON.
7. A SILVER-PLATED SUGAR SHELL.
8. A SILVER-PLATED BUTTER KNIFE.

FOR TEN NEW SUBSCRIBERS, or FIFTEEN RENEWALS at 30c each our workers will have their choice of the following :—

- 1. A KNIGHT OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.—By the Rev. E. P. Roe.
2. OPENING A CHESTNUT BARR.
3. THE HOME AT GREYLOCK.
4. BEN HUR, by General Lew Wallace.
5. THE PREP OF DAY.
6. MRS SOLOMON SMITH LOOKING ON.—By "Pansy;"
7. THE POKET MEASURE.—By "Pansy;"
8. THREE PEOPLE.—By "Pansy;"
9. STICED ANIMALS.—A large box of brilliantly colored pictures of all sorts of animals on strong pasteboard.
10. A SILVER PLATED SUGAR SHELL AND BUTTER KNIFE.

FOR FIFTEEN NEW SUBSCRIBERS or TWENTY RENEWALS at 30c each :—

- 1. TOM BROWN AT RUGBY.—By Thomas Hughes.
2. DRAYTON HALL.—By the author of "Little Katy and Jolly Jim."
3. THE LAMPLIGHTER.—By Maria S. Cummins.
4. THE REVISED BIBLE.—A neat, stiff, cloth-covered edition, with red edge.

TWENTY NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS to THE Northern Messenger or THIRTY RENEWALS at 30c each entitles the sender to any one of the following premiums :—

- 1. A LARGE PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM fitted for both cabinet photos and cards.
2. A LADY'S BLACK HOUND SATCHEL, medium size.
3. A WRITING PAD containing inkbottle, pens, pencil, knife, boxes for pens and stamps, pockets for note paper and envelopes.
4. A NICKEL PLATED CLOCK.—Durable, a good time-keeper.
5. TENNYSON'S POEMS.—A handsome, red line edition, gilt edged.
6. LONGFELLOW'S POEMS.—Beautiful edition, red lined and gilt edged.
7. SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS in same style as 5 and 6.

When working for prizes mark each letter in COMPETITION so that it will be placed to your credit.

Sample copies and blank forms supplied on application by post card.

Remittances should be made by registered letter or money order and each name with P. O. address and Province should be written very plainly so as to avoid any mistake.

In selecting the prize be careful to mention correctly the one earned.

Address all communications JOHN DOUGALL & SON., Witness Office, Montreal.

YOUR NAME neatly printed on 25 NEW FLORAL HIDDEN NAME CARDS, and 32p. Book of Agent's Samples sent post-paid for 20 cents. RAY CARD CO., Clintonville, Conn.

THE NORTHERN MESSENGER is printed and published every fortnight at Nos. 321 and 323 St. James street, Montreal, by John Dougall & Son, composed of John Redpath Dougall, of Montreal, and James Duncan Dougall, of New York