

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From the International Lessons for 1877, by Edwin W. Rice, as issued by American Sunday-School Union.)

LESSON XXI.

NOVEMBER 18.]

ALMOST PERSUADED. [About 60 A. D.]

READ Acts xxvi. 21-29. RECITE vs. 25-29.

DAILY READINGS.—M.—Acts xxi. 26-40. T.—Luke xxiv. 25-48. W.—1 Cor. i. 17-31. Th.—Mark x. 17-34. F.—Rev. iii. 10-22. Sa.—Phil. iii. 4-21. S.—Acts xxvii. 21-29.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou hast persuaded me to be a Christian.—Acts xxvi. 28.

CENTRAL TRUTH.—The almost persuaded are yet unsaved.

NOTES.—The prophets and Moses the Old Testament Scriptures; called also "the prophets and the law," Matt. xi. 13; and "the law, the prophets, and the Psalms," Luke xxiv. 44.

EXPLANATIONS AND QUESTIONS.

LESSON TOPICS.—(I.) PAUL WITNESSING FOR CHRIST. (II.) FESTUS OBJECTING. (III.) AGRIPPA NOT PERSUADED.

I. PAUL WITNESSING FOR CHRIST. (21.) THESE CAUSES, because he preached salvation through Christ; WENT ABOUT, endeavored. See Acts xxi. 30, 31. (22.) CONTINUE, to stand firm; TO SMALL, poor and obscure; GREAT, those learned, wealthy, and high in office, as the Grecian philosophers. Acts xvii. 18; the Sanhedrim, xxiii. 1; Felix, Festus, now Agrippa, and afterward perhaps Nero. (23.) CHRIST, the Messiah; SHOULD SUFFER, "was liable to suffering" (Aford); Isa. lii. 14; lili.; Luke xxiv. 46; FIRST . . . FROM THE DEAD, 1 Cor. xv. 20; Col. i. 18; Rev. i. 5; THE PEOPLE, the chosen people, Jews.

I. QUESTIONS.—What had the Jews sought to do to Paul? Why? By whose help had he persevered? To whom had he preached? Mention some of the "great" ones. Proving what from the Old Testament? Repeat some of the passages foretelling that the Messiah would suffer. With what benefit to men?

II. FESTUS OBJECTING. (24.) BESIDE THYSELF, insane, deranged; MUCH LEARNING, thy much learning, or, as some render it, "those many writings," compare 2 Tim. iv. 13; MAD, leading you to madness. (25.) MOST NOBLE, excellent or honorable, a usual title of Roman governors, compare xxiv. 3; SOBERNESS, sanity as opposed to madness, compare 2 Cor. v. 13. (26.) ARE HIDDEN FROM, unknown to; THIS THING, the crucifixion and subsequent events; NOT DONE IN A CORNER, but in the Jewish metropolis with great publicity.

II. QUESTIONS.—Who interrupted Paul? With what words? What did he think of Paul? How suppose he had become insane? State Paul's reply. What condition of mind did it show? To whom did Paul refer? v. 26. Why would Agrippa know about Christ? How public was his crucifixion?

III. AGRIPPA NOT PERSUADED. (28.) ALMOST, literally "in a little," a phrase variously explained to mean "in a little" (time); "with a little" (argument); or, better, "in a little" (measure), thou art persuading me to be a Christian. (29.) WOULD TO GOD, I would pray to God; ALMOST AND ALTOGETHER, literally, "both in little and in much"—i.e., "not somewhat a Christian, but out and out a Christian; THESE BONDS, the chains which had bound Paul to the soldiers.

III. QUESTIONS.—State Paul's direct appeal to Agrippa—Agrippa's reply. In what state of mind did this show the king to be? How did Paul answer him? What earnest wish express for all.

What does this lesson teach us—

- (1.) As to Christ's place in the Old Testament?
- (2.) As to the world's judgment of earnest Christians?
- (3.) As to the benefit of being well grounded in the Scriptures?
- (4.) As to the Christian's longing for the "almost persuaded"?

LESSON XXII.

NOVEMBER 25.]

PAUL IN THE STORM. [About 60 A. D.]

READ Acts xxvii. 14-26. RECITE vs. 22-26.

DAILY READINGS.—M.—Acts xxvii. 1-11. T.—Dan. vi. 16-27. W.—1 Pet. ii. 9-35. Th.—Isa. xliii. 1-17. F.—1 Tim. i. 7-12. Sa.—Ps. cvii. 23-43. S.—Acts xxvii. 14-26.

GOLDEN TEXT.—What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.—Ps. lvi. 3.

CENTRAL TRUTH.—The Lord is the refuge of his people.

CONNECTED HISTORY.—When it was decided that Paul should be sent to Rome, he was put in charge of Julius, a centurion. They set sail. Contrary winds delayed the voyage. In sailing from Fair Havens to Phenice a violent storm overtook them.

NOTES.—Eu-rod-ly-don, a typhoon or hurricane, coming from the north-east and sweeping down upon the ship from the high lands of Crete. Such gales are now called *evantera* *Clau-da*, an island seven miles long and three miles wide, off the south coast of Crete, now called

Goz-zo. Crete, an island in the Mediterranean Sea about midway between Syria and Italy; one hundred and forty miles long and from five to thirty wide; has a mountainous surface, Mount Ida being one of the chief peaks; its inhabitants were proverbial liars, Titus i. 12. *Quicksands*. The Syrtis Major, or great sandbank of Africa, near Cyrene, an object of great terror to mariners. The ship, drifting twenty-four hours before the wind, would have fallen upon it, and met with certain destruction. *Caesar*. Nero, son of Agrippina, "a monster without a parallel," poisoned his step-brother; ordered the assassination of his own mother; set fire to Rome, as was supposed, and to avert the odium from himself charged it upon the Christians, who were persecuted and put to death in great numbers; probably presided at Paul's first trial (Acts xxvii. 24), and may have been "the lion" referred to in 2 Tim. iv. 17; finally condemned to death by the senate, but killed himself.

EXPLANATIONS AND QUESTIONS.

LESSON TOPICS.—(I.) THE STORM. (II.) THE DESPAIR. (III.) THE ASSURANCE OF SAFETY.

I. THE STORM. (14.) A TEMPESTUOUS WIND, literally a "typhonic wind," tornado; EUCROLYDON, see Notes; CAUGHT, borne along; COULD NOT BEAR UP, look in the face of the wind (an eye was painted on the prow of ancient vessels); LET HER DRIVE, scud before the wind toward the south-west. (16.) RUNNING UNDER, the shelter of; CLAUDA, see Notes; TO COME BY THE BOAT, to hoist it out of the water where it had been dragging. (17.) UNDERGIRDING, by sinking ropes under the prow and passing them several times around the ship in the middle; QUICKSANDS, see Notes; STRAKE SAIL, lowered the heavy sail. (18.) LIGHTENED THE SHIP, by throwing overboard the cargo. Jonah i. 5.

I. QUESTIONS.—Give a brief account of the voyage as far as Fair Havens, vs. 1-8. State Paul's advice, v. 10. Their reasons for attempting to reach Phenice, v. 12. What wind arose? Its effect upon the ship? Where was it driven? How did they attempt to secure it? Meaning of "undergirding"? What did they fear? What do the second day? Why? What the third day?

II. THE DESPAIR. (20.) NEITHER SUN NOR STARS; they had no compass, hence no means of steering if the stars could not be seen.

II. QUESTIONS.—What could they not see? Why did this trouble them? What was taken away? Why? Describe the condition of the ship.

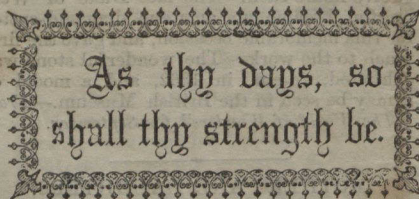
III. THE ASSURANCE OF SAFETY. (21.) SIRs, literally men; TO HAVE GAINED, should have been spared; HARM, to yourselves; LOSS, of the ship and cargo. (23.) ANGEL OF GOD, Heb. i. 13, 14; WHOM I SERVE, while you serve other gods. (24.) BEFORE CAESAR, see Notes, comp. Acts xxiii. 11; ALL THEM, their lives. (26.) CAST UPON, wrecked upon.

III. QUESTIONS.—Who cheered the crew? With what promise? How communicated to him? The words of the angel? The reason of Paul's confidence? In what way was safety to come? v. 26.

How does this lesson teach us—

- (1.) That the Christian may be cheerful when others despair?
- (2.) That the wicked may sometimes be delivered for the sake of Christians?
- (3.) That we should avoid "shipwreck concerning faith"? 1 Tim. i. 19.

ILLUSTRATIONS.—"None are more safe in our common shipwreck of sin than they that swim out upon the cross which God hath laid upon them."—Bishop Hackett.



DEUT. 33: 25.

CAMPAIGN NOTES.

AN OTTAWA BOY was the first to claim the skates this year. They were sent to him immediately, and, we hope, will fit him well and be the source of much pleasure to him. We expect that before the week is finished there will be many other claimants, whose demand for skates will be quite as promptly filled. There is nothing like beginning work early, so that the skates may be won and received before the first ice.

THE PRIZES OF A GOLD WATCH, a sewing-machine, and a silver watch are attracting a good deal of attention, and a number of the friends of the WITNESS, NEW DOMINION MONTHLY and MESSENGER visiting the city have called to see them. It is hardly necessary to say that they were well pleased with them, and went away more determined than ever to win the prize. They will have to work, though, if anything can be gathered from the energetic expressions of intent to win which are contained in letters from some of our correspondents.

"WHO ARE WORKING FOR THE PRIZES?" is a question that everybody is asking, and the answer is, All kinds of people. Grandfathers are working that their little grandsons or grand-

daughters may get a pair of skates; fathers and mothers have entered into the spirit of the work; but by far the most enthusiastic workers are the boys and girls who expect to win and wear the prizes. We wish them all every success, and that they may realize, in working for the WITNESS, DOMINION MONTHLY, MESSENGER, or L'AUREOLE, that they are putting into the hands of new subscribers a paper which the readers will be thankful for.

MANY QUESTIONS are asked us about the skates. The most frequent is, "Can I work for all your papers?" Yes, certainly. \$6.00 for two DAILIES, \$2.00 for the DOMINION, and \$2.20 for two WEEKLIES, will count for the skates as well as any other amount. Your \$10 can be for the WEEKLY WITNESS alone, NEW DOMINION MONTHLY alone, MESSENGER alone, or the AUREOLE alone, or can be for all of them. As long as \$15, \$10 or \$9 for new subscriptions to these publications are sent us, no commissions being deducted, the skates required will be sent you. Another question is, "Will the papers be sent at once?" They will, immediately on the receipt of the money, and will date one year from January. Thus every subscriber gets his papers from now to the end of the year free. Do not forget this in canvassing, and you will also notice that by sending on your money early your subscribers will get their papers a longer time free.

EPPS'S COCOA—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING. "By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—Civil Service Gazette. Sold only in Packets labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homeopathic Chemists, London, Eng."

ADVERTISEMENTS.

"NORMAN STANLEY'S CRUSADE; OR, THE DUNKIN ACT IN TURNIPHAM," is, as its name indicates, a story whose plot hinges on the passage of the Dunkin Act. It is a first-class temperance story. The *Spectator* says of it: "It is a temperance tale for the times, told in simple language, having a plot which is bound to interest the reader. The characters are well painted, and the incidents often highly pathetic. It is a book which must interest friends of temperance, and which is calculated to do good to all who read it. The typographical appearance is good and the form convenient." The *Prescott Telegraph* says: "It is a decidedly readable temperance tale, based on scenes in everyday life, and calculated to do an immense amount of good in promoting the temperance cause. It should be in the hands of every advocate of temperance." Price 20 cents. Order from your bookseller, or send the sum direct to the publishers, John Dougall & Son, Montreal.

LETTER FROM THE REV. J. SALMON, M.D.

CHIEFMAN, Queen's County, N. B.

MR. JAMES I. FELLOWS, SIR.—In the practice of medicine I have recommended your Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites, and have found invariably the following results:—Greater freedom to the action of the Lungs, increased and more easy expectoration in cases indicated by dry cough, and decided augmentation of tone to the whole nervous system. I can safely and consistently recommend your INVARIABLE preparation in a variety of cases, especially for Chest diseases, having successfully prescribed it in Bronchitis, Asthma, Debility from Liver Complaint, Debility from Fevers, and Debility from Impoverished Blood. I am, sir, yours truly, JAMES SALMON, Practising Physician and Surgeon.

GOOD HEALTH AND AN EVEN TEMPER ARE two of the best accomplishments young ladies can have, and these are necessary adjuncts to a beautiful face. The marks of a peevish disposition are not long in stamping themselves on any face, naturally the most beautiful. But who can help feeling peevish when ill-health comes? Very few, indeed, more especially when it is entirely unnecessary. A bad cold, if obtained in carrying words of comfort to a sick friend, is endurable; but it is difficult to enjoy one taken through an act of bravado. Just so when young ladies become invalids through obeying the dictates of that fashion which says: "Put on corsets and lace them as tightly as possible," and others of a similar kind, they find that everything has been lost and nothing found. With the growth of the knowledge of the human system, fashion will begin to obey sanitary laws. The publishers of DRESS AND HEALTH have done much to direct public attention in this matter. This little book has met with a cordial reception in England, Ireland and Scotland, as well as in Canada, and the sixth thousand is now ready for sale. For 30 cents each copy will be sent post free to any address in America.

TWENTY-FIVE FINE CARDS (SNOWFLAKE, DAMASK, &c.), no two alike, with name, 10 cents, post-paid. Three Packs for 25 cents. Canada Paper Money taken as pay. Send no Post-Office stamps. Address, NASSAU CARD COMPANY, Nassau, N.Y.

EVERY SUBSCRIBER TO THE "MESSENGER" may act as Agent for it, and an application will have copies sent to them for free distribution.

THE CLUB RATES FOR THE MESSENGER are when sent to one address, as follows:—1 copy, 30c.; 10 copies, \$2.50; 25 copies, \$6; 50 copies, \$11.50; 100 copies, \$22; 1,000 copies, \$200. J. DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

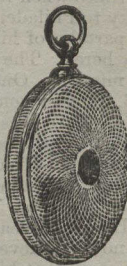
ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOW IS THE TIME

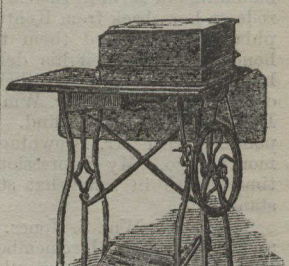
WORK FOR THE PRIZES.

1st PRIZE.

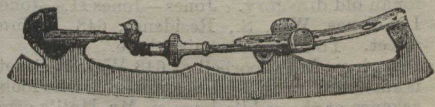
2nd PRIZE.



The back of the Lady's Watch, greatly reduced in size, to be seen at the well-known establishment of Blavie, Lyman & Co., St. James street, Montreal.



The \$50 Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machine (for which Mr. Julius Kruse is Agent), to be seen running at No. 307 Notre Dame street, Montreal.



THE EUREKA SKATE.



THE CANADIAN CLUB SKATE.

All canvassers to the WITNESS, NEW DOMINION MONTHLY and NORTHERN MESSENGER.

who send us in \$15 in New Subscriptions to these publications, deducting no commission therefrom, marking the list "IN COMPETITION," will receive, almost immediately, a pair of Eureka Club Skates to fit them.

Those sending in \$10 in New Subscriptions, deducting no commission therefrom, will have sent them a pair of Eureka Skates.

A pair of CANADIAN CLUB SKATES, to fit, will be sent to all who forward us \$9 in new subscriptions to those papers, deducting no commission therefrom.

MARK THE DIRECTIONS.

Be sure in sending in your subscriptions to mark the list "in competition," unless you do, no record for the skates will be taken of it.

Send in the names and subscriptions as you get them, and when the full amount is received, state the fact, and also give the length of your foot in inches from heel to toe.

Begin work at once. When you begin, work systematically, thoroughly and persistently; drawing out some specified plan of action, and then following it till successful.

Write to us before you begin work and get sample papers, &c.

THE PRIZES.

In addition to the skates—which everybody may get—a prize of a lady's or gentleman's Gold Watch, worth \$30, will be given to the person who obtains the largest amount of subscriptions before December 15th, 1877. A second prize of a Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine, worth \$50, will be given to the next on the list; and a Silver Watch, worth \$30, will be given to the third on the list.

This scheme may be tabulated as follows:—The person securing the largest sum in subscriptions to the WITNESS publications before December 15th, 1877, a pair of skates and \$30 gold watch. To the person next on the list, a pair of skates and a \$50 Wheeler & Wilson sewing machine. To the person third on the list, a pair of skates and \$30 silver watch.

To all persons sending in \$15 in new subscriptions to the WITNESS publications, deducting no commission, a pair of Eureka skates of the best material, steel and iron welded, price \$4.

To all persons sending in \$10 in new subscriptions to the WITNESS publications, deducting no commissions therefrom, a pair of all steel Eureka skates, retail price \$2.75.

To all persons sending in \$9 in new subscriptions to the WITNESS publications, deducting no commissions therefrom, a pair of Canadian Club skates, retail price \$2.75.

Commissions allowed on all subscriptions or renewals obtained after the skates are earned; or if the skates are not desired the commissions may be deducted from the beginning.

All desirous of entering into the campaign are requested to send their names at once, and sample copies will be forwarded to them immediately.

The names and prices of the WITNESS publications are as follows:—DAILY WITNESS, (including postage) . . . \$3.00 WEEKLY WITNESS, . . . 1.10 NEW DOMINION MONTHLY, enlarged to 128 pages, (including postage) . . . 2.60 NORTHERN MESSENGER, . . . 30 THE NEW DOMINION MONTHLY, when clubbed with the WITNESS, is . . . 1.50 The price of the DAILY WITNESS to Ministers and School-teachers is \$2.50 per annum; of the WEEKLY WITNESS, 50c.; of the NEW DOMINION MONTHLY, \$1.50.

THE NORTHERN MESSENGER is printed and published on the 1st and 15th of every month, at Nos. 35 and 37 Bonaventure street, Montreal, by JOHN DOUGALL & SON, composed of John Dougall, of New York and John Redpath Dougall and J. D. Dougall, of Montreal.