

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From the "Little Pilgrim Question Book," by Mrs. W. Barrows, Congregational Publishing Society, Boston.)

LESSON VI.—Nov. 10.

WHOM THE LORD RECEIVES.—Luke xviii. 9-17.

9. And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 10. Two men went up into the temple to pray: the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. 11. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. 12. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all I possess. 13. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. 14. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. 15. And they brought unto him also infants, that he would touch them: but when his disciples saw it, they rebuked them. 16. But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. 17. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of heaven as a little child shall in no wise enter therein."—Ver. 17.

- 1. Unto whom did our Lord speak the words of this parable? Ver. 9. 2. Why? Ans. To teach them a lesson which they needed. 3. Why should we not trust in ourselves? Ans. Because we have no strength or goodness of our own. 4. In whom should we trust? 5. If people are really good, will they despise those who are bad? Ans. No: they will pity and love them, and try to help them. 6. How does the story of the Pharisee and the publican commence? Ver. 10-12. 7. Were these things true that the Pharisee said about himself? Ans. Yes, very likely. 8. What is it to "fast"? Ans. To go without food for a certain time. 9. What is it to "give tithes"? Ans. A tithe is a tenth. The Pharisee gave away in charity a tenth of his gains. 10. Was it not good in him to do this? Ans. Certainly it was. 11. Was it wrong of him to thank God that he was not as wicked as others? Ans. No, if he had done it humbly. 12. What was there wrong in his prayer? Ans. It was a boastful prayer, telling of the good things he had done. 13. What did he forget? Ans. That, while his outward acts had been right, his heart was proud and wicked. 14. What was the publican's prayer? Ver. 13. 15. What made this prayer acceptable to God? Ans. Its humility, sorrow for sin, and confession of sin. 16. What does Jesus say of these two men? Ver. 14. 17. What do you think of a person who exalts himself, or tells how good he is and what great things he can do? 18. What kind of a person do you like better? 19. Who were brought to Jesus at this time? Ver. 15, 16. 20. What does this show us? Ans. The kind and loving heart of the Saviour. 21. Were the disciples unkind in trying to keep them away? Ans. Perhaps not: they may have thought it would weary the Saviour, and take time which would be better used in some other way. 22. What does Jesus say in the Golden Text? 23. What is the meaning of it? Ans. Whosoever shall not receive Christ's teachings in a humble, childlike spirit, will not become a Christian. 24. What do you learn from this lesson? Ans. That God looks on the heart more than on the outward acts.

My humble, earnest prayer this week, "CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD!"

LESSON V.—Nov. 17.

ZACCHEUS THE PUBLICAN.—Luke xix. 1-10.

- 1. And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. 2. And, behold, there was a man named Zaccheus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich. 3. And he sought to see Jesus, who he was: and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. 4. And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way.

5. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zaccheus, make haste, and come down, for to-day I must abide at thy house. 6. And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. 7. And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. 8. And Zaccheus stood, and said unto the Lord: Behold Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. 9. And Jesus said to him, This day is salvation come to this house, for so much as he also is a son of Abraham. 10. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."—Ver. 10.

- 1. What city did Jesus enter? Ver. 1. 2. Who lived in the city of Jericho? Ver. 2. 3. Who were the publicans? Ans. The officers who collected the taxes; and Zaccheus was the chief or head man among them. 4. Whom did Zaccheus wish to see? Ver. 3. 5. Why do you suppose he wished to see Jesus? 6. What showed that he was in earnest in this wish? Ver. 4. 7. If you had been there in the crowd, what would you have done? 8. Did Jesus see Zaccheus in the sycamore-tree? Ver. 5. 9. Why did he wish to go to the house of Zaccheus? Ans. Probably because he saw that he could do him good. 10. Was Zaccheus glad to have him come? Ver. 6. 11. How did the Jews find fault with the Saviour for going with Zaccheus? Ver. 7. 12. Was Zaccheus probably any greater sinner than these Jews? 13. If he had been one of the very worst of men, would that have caused Jesus to stay away from him? 14. Why not? Golden Text. 15. What is meant by "lost" in the Golden Text? Ans. All who do wrong are called "lost," because they are far away from God. 16. Who are the saved? Ans. Those who are sorry for their wrongdoing, and are forgiven for Christ's sake and so brought near to God. 17. What did Zaccheus say unto the Lord? Ver. 8. 18. What did this show? Ans. That he wanted to do right. 19. What did Jesus answer? Ver. 9. 20. How had salvation come to Zaccheus? Ans. He had repented of his sins, and was beginning to love Christ, and to live a better life. 21. If a person really loves Christ, how will he show it? Ans. By doing something for him. 22. Did Zaccheus do anything for Christ? Ans. Yes: in doing for the poor he was doing for Christ also. 23. What has Christ said which makes us sure of this? Ans. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. xxv. 40). 24. If we wish very much to know more of Jesus, will he come to our homes? Ans. Yes: by his Spirit. 25. If he becomes our friend, what will he do for us? 26. What will he expect us to do for him?

Our earnest wish this week—"WE WOULD SEE JESUS."

PROSPECTUS FOR 1879.

We have to note no progress during the past year, as will appear from the following figures:—

	1878.	1877.
DAILY WITNESS.....	14,951	15,185
WEEKLY WITNESS.....	26,300	23,620
NORTHERN MESSENGER.....	46,000	50,800
L'AUREOLE.....	850	900
NEW DOMINION MONTHLY..	3,200	4,000

Better times are, however, dawning for the country, and we look for growth in proportion. We ask for the help of all lovers of wholesome literature in bringing about such growth. The WEEKLY WITNESS has now been at work for thirty-two years, through good report and through evil report. The DAILY WITNESS has been in operation eighteen years; the NORTHERN MESSENGER thirteen years; the AUREOLE thirteen years, although only one under the present publishers, and the NEW DOMINION MONTHLY twelve years. The advertising business has not grown with rapid strides as in former years, and the year has been one of necessary economy and quiet. The year has been uneventful. The principal matter of note in connection with the history of our publications has been the receipt from the Committee of the WITNESS TESTIMONIAL FUND

of a considerable sum of money towards the purchase of our great eight-cylinder press, which is being duly inscribed in memory of so important and interesting an event. The most important announcement we have to make for the coming season is to be found below.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON.

WITNESS LECTURES ON AGRICULTURE.

The publishers of the WITNESS have of late been strongly impressed with the idea that Canada has reached that stage in her agricultural development when a country is ripe for very considerable improvements in her farming customs. Our best farmers have come to realize that the culture which has served in the past will not serve in the future. Agricultural science—the application of mind to matter—is what is needed. Agricultural colleges are abundant in many parts of Europe, and in countries of which we know almost nothing a large proportion of the farmers have had thorough scientific training, and expensive works and journals are found in nearly every farm-house. The next generation of Canadian farmers must be of this class. Those who cannot attain to education will fall behind in the race. The great majority may easily be educated farmers if they choose. There is already one agricultural college in each province. If they were properly appreciated there would be one in each county.

The publishers of the WITNESS have during the past few weeks been made the recipients of a munificent donation from the people of Canada, and have conceived the plan of making some return to the country by the establishment of a winter course of

"WITNESS" FREE LECTURES ON AGRICULTURE, with the object of enlisting the zeal of intelligent farmers in the diffusion of agricultural knowledge among their fellow-agriculturists. To that end they are fortunate in having secured the services of the most popular and best known agricultural writer and speaker in Canada,

MR. W. F. CLARKE, OF LINDENBANK, GUELPH, formerly editor of the Canada Farmer and of the Ontario Farmer, who will lecture beginning about October first, in such parts of the country as may offer him the best openings. We should be glad if it were possible to cover the whole country with such a course, but as concentration is necessary to efficiency, he will probably work out from two or three centres in Quebec and Ontario, trying to leave behind him wherever he goes some permanent result in the shape of organization for mutual improvement among the farmers in the various localities he may visit. All who would like to have such lectures delivered in their neighborhoods are requested to write at once to the undersigned, when the possibility of fulfilling the request will be immediately considered. It is desirable to arrange the engagements for the whole season at once, so that the tour can be systematically entered on.

We would not have it thought that this plan is intended to be a diversion of the generous gift of the subscribers to the Testimonial Fund from its original intent of establishing the WITNESS enterprise, as we are in the hope that Mr. Clarke's tour will not in the long run prove a loss to the WITNESS, but that on the contrary it will do much to establish the paper as the farmer's paper throughout the Dominion.

We shall expect our friends who invite the visit of the WITNESS lecturer to make the necessary local arrangements in the way of hall or other public building, fire and lights, which we are quite sure they will do very cheerfully.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal.

PUBLISHERS' DEPARTMENT.

A NEW OFFER.—All Sunday-schools which do not now take the MESSENGER can have it free to the end of the year by sending to the publishers the address to which the parcel must be sent, with the number required to supply one member of each family represented at the school.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS.—Do you want a good paper for your Sunday-school free till the end of the year? If so, and your school does not take the MESSENGER, send to Messrs. John Dougall & Son, Montreal, the number of copies your school will require to supply one member of each family, and the papers will be sent you without any charge.

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who sends us ten new yearly subscribers at \$2 each, the NEW DOMINION MONTHLY. Go to work at once, before the fine weather is over, and after securing the requisite number of subscribers, send the names and money to the Witness Office and receive the above-mentioned volume.

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SKATES, For \$9, \$10 or \$15 we will send a pair of Eureka or Canadian Club Skates, although you cannot very well use them at the present time unless you live in the vicinity of the North Pole; yet you had better secure them as early as possible, as perhaps by next winter we shall not be in a position to continue this offer.

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