much used in Palestine as a condiment to food. *Canaanites ;* inhabitants of the maritime plain and the Jordan Valley. *Hittites ;* a great nation to the north of Palestine, with settlements about Hebron. *Amorites ;* inhabitants of north and northeast Palestine. *Perizzites ;* a tribe near Bethel or, the name is a general description of villages, country folk, "fellahin" or laborers, as they are now called. *Hivites ;* a petty tribe in Central Palestine. *Jebusites ;* a tribe occupying the stronghold of Jerusalem.

Vs. 9, 10: *And now.* The hour for God to interpose had struck. *The cry ;* which had been heard and would speedily be answered. *The oppression ;* permitted for God's wise purposes, but at last to be punished as it deserved. *Come now therefore ;* because God's time to act has arrived. *I will send thee ;* with all the power of God behind him. *Unto Pharaoh ;* the messenger of heaven's king, and therefore more than a match for the mighty earthly monarch. *Bring forth ;* in spite of all opposition.

III. Strengthened, 11, 12.

V. 11. *Moses said.* He is no longer the confident, impulsive Moses of ch. 2 : 11-13, but deeply distrustful of his own powers in view of the great task set before him. He raises four difficulties. *Who am I ?* A fugitive and shepherd, without influence or position,—I, to deal with Pharaoh or become a leader of my people !

V. 12 contains God's first answer, pledging help and support. "Not you, but I," the Lord says to Moses. *A token ;* a sign.

God seeks to inspire Moses with confidence by declaring his clear, resolute purpose that Israel shall worship him upon this mountain, the very mountain on which Moses was then standing.

Light from the East

HOLY GROUND. V. 5.—The Turks use the word "harem" for the inner apartments of their houses, since the women who dwell there are held sacred to the family. But the name is used more properly for the courtyard or "holy ground" of a mosque. The great Harem at Mecca contains the Kaaba or square temple, and is surrounded by a splendid colonnade. There are 22 gates that lead into this harem, but one called the "Gate of Peace" is that which pilgrims must enter, and one called the "Gate of Purity" is that by which they go out to a platform to pray. Within the Harem all life is sacred. The bluish brown pigeons are numerous and quite tame ; it is said that to feed one of them is to ensure to one's self a palace in heaven, but to kill one is as bad as to kill a man. Within the Harem all men are equal, all privileges of rank count for nothing. The despot has no power over his subjects there ; both are clad in the single white sheet of the pilgrim. The Shereef of Mecca must be courteous to his slaves as he would be to the Sultan of Turkey, were he present. For all are in the presence of one incomparably mightier than any man. All are there to worship the creator, the ruler supreme over empires and republics, king of kings and lord of lords.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON

[SEE SKETCH MAP, LESSON I.]

The map shows, east of Egypt, a triangular region, mostly desert. At the north of the triangle, an east-and-west line from Egypt to the Dead Sea measures 200 miles, and a north-and-south line from the Mediterranean to the main body of the Red Sea, 225 miles. The territory thus described has an area of 23,000 square miles. At the south, between the Gulfs of Suez and Akaba, the mountains rise in huge masses, some 8,000 feet above the level of the sea. Among these mountains is a ridge running northwest and southeast. The peak at the southern edge of the ridge,

7,363 feet high, is called Jebel Musa, while the peak to the north, 6,540 feet, is known as Ras es-Sufsafeh. According to the best authorities, Jebel Musa is the ancient Sinai or Horeb, these two names being practically interchangeable (being sometimes used also to denote the whole ridge, as well as the particular peak). On the side of Jebel Musa, to the east, built 5,014 feet above sea level, is the famous monastery of St. Catherine, belonging to Greek monks and looking, with its massive granite walls, like an impregnable fortress. In the library of this convent many