



CATCHING BUFFALO.

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FIFTY years ago catching buffalo on the great western plains was a common thing. It was in this way the Indian obtained much of his food as well as his clothing. The skin, when dressed, made him a nice robe. In the cut you see their mode of catching these animals. In those days they were very numerous, but to-day the Indians have dwindled down in numbers, and the buffalo have become a great curiosity. The rifle of the white man has played havoc with them.

LESSON NOTES.

SECOND QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE PSALMS AND DANIEL.

B.C. 580.] LESSON X. [June 5.

THE FIERY FURNACE.

Dan. 3. 13-25. Memory verses, 16-18.

GOLDEN TEXT.

When thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned, neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.—Isa. 43. 2.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

God will deliver in the hour of temptation and trouble those who are faithful to him.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.

1. THE GOLDEN IMAGE was erected on the plain of Bura, five miles from Babylon. It was 60 cubits (90 feet) high, and 6 cubits (9 feet) broad. This includes the pedestal. It was probably of wood or clay, and covered with plates of gold. Diodorus tells us of three golden images in the temple of Bel at Babylon worth, with their altars of gold, \$80,000,000. 11. THE INAUGURATION.—The officers and chief men from all parts of the empire were summoned to Babylon and compelled to bow down and worship before the golden image, on pain of being cast into the fiery furnace. When the music sounded, all bowed before the image except the three men who were with Daniel in our last lesson. Shadrach, etc.—See last lesson. Sinned to the King—When they were summoned to him for not worshipping the image. If it be so.—If God sees this to be best. Full of fury (1) because their conduct was in direct disobedience to his command (2) It interfered with his plans of unifying the empire. (3) It was against his religion. (4) It seemed a bad example to his subjects. Fiery furnace.—Such as was used for smelting metals. A hole in the top into which the men were cast, and an opening in the side, through which they were seen, and came forth. Bound With iron chains. Jer. 40. 4.) Coats—A long robe. Hosea—Inner tunic. Hats—Rather, cloaks. These are mentioned because they were combustible, and yet were not burned. Astonished—Astonished. The Son of God—A son of God, a divine being, an angel (ver. 25).

Find in this lesson—

That God lets the faith of his children be tried.

That true religion will lead us to obey God, no matter what befalls us for it.

That God, in some way, will help and save those who trust in him.

That doing right when it is hard to do right, makes men believe in religion.

REVIEW EXERCISE.

1. What did Nebuchadnezzar do near the middle of his reign? He set up a great golden image near Babylon." 2. Who refused to worship it? "The three companions of Daniel." 3. What did they say to the king? (Repeat verses 17 and 18) 4. What was done to them? "They were cast into a burning fiery furnace." 5. What did the king soon see? (Repeat verse 25).

CATECHISM QUESTION.

13. What is entire sanctification?

Entire sanctification is the state in which the heart is cleansed from all unrighteousness, in which God is loved with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, and our neighbour as ourselves.

1 Thess. 5. 23; Matt. 5. 48; 1 John 3. 3; Mark 12. 30, 31.

YOUNG VANDALS.

ALONG the borders of roadways in Germany and other European countries—in the rural districts, on the village streets, and even in the street parterres of the larger towns—handsome fruit trees are often found growing. They are all well cared for, and not only beautify the streets and afford shade, but yield a very considerable revenue both to abutting land-owners and to village corporations.

These street fruit trees are respected by boys and men. Boys do not think of taking the fruit from these trees any more than they do of taking any other property not their own, or, we may add, more than they think of trampling down the grass or plucking flowers—things which American boys do habitually.

Though occasionally a boy may be caught stealing fruit in Europe, he is regarded as a thief and nothing less than a thief.

In 1859 an enumeration of all the trees standing in the streets in an American town was made. There were then about twenty-six hundred street trees standing, of which the most were elms and maples, and there were 110 cherry trees.

This year another examination of the street trees was made, and it was found that the cherry trees had totally disappeared.

The foraging of boys made them a nuisance, the owners reported. The boys not only took all the fruit, but did it in such a way, breaking branches and causing uproar, that the owners of the trees cut them all down.

Private orchards have suffered frequently from the same cause. Boys and young men have intruded to help themselves to fruit, and rather than maintain a constant defensive warfare, the owners have cut down their trees.

It is a bad commentary on our institutions that in the freest of countries the boys should be the most lawless, and should have least regard for the rights of public and private property.

The movement to increase the beauty of our villages is making progress. One of the first things to be done to make it successful is to teach boys and men that wantonly to break a twig, to steal a flower or to disfigure a lawn, is an offence against the whole community.

CHURNING.

We have heard this remark from people who wished to express their dislike of some duty required of them. "I would rather churn before breakfast." Only those who have tried it know what a task that is. And young people who have gone through this ordeal by candle light with sleepy heads and sharp appetites know best of all how disagreeable it is. But what it would be with such a turn as that woman in the picture is using we can hardly imagine. "Churn?" says one of you ready to exclaim, "why I don't see any cream." Well, really, some experiments seem to be necessary. Instead of vessels like those with which we are familiar, these strange folks use a goat skin, or leather "bottle," as it is called in

Scripture. When the cream is poured in, the skin is hung up and vigorously shaken from side to side until the butter comes. If, as some wise men insist, slow churning—occupying from forty to sixty minutes makes the best butter, a goat skin churn with a lazy boy for a dasher would beat all the patent machines in the market. It is not likely, however, that there will be any immediate demand for butter produced in this way, so our young friends in the country may rest easy. If this sketch shall lead any to consider the great advantages of living in a gospel land its purpose will be accomplished. A residence of a few months in those countries where Christianity is not known would be an effectual remedy for those who are disposed to complain of the obligations which Christianity imposes. There is a blessing connected with every thing Jesus requires of us. Obedience will save us from a multitude of unknown evils.



CHURNING.

domestic supplies; for even when in Scotland the Queen gets her butter and cream and fruit from her own farm near Windsor.

The messenger arrives at Aberdeen three in the morning, where he finds a special train awaiting him to take him to Balmoral. He remains at Balmoral about twenty-four hours, and then takes back to town all the documents that have been signed.

Six messengers are perpetually employed in going backward and forward.

The Queen gets up at half-past seven. At eight she has prayers, and at half-past eight breakfast, after which she walks for an hour, and then works with her secretary until two o'clock. She has frequently been kept at work all day long, and often called up in the middle of the night.

AN INDUSTRIOUS SQUIRREL.

A DANBURY farmer last fall stored several bushels of butternuts in the second story of his corn house, and recently he noticed that they were disappearing much faster than the legitimate demand for his family supply warranted. He discovered soon afterwards that a small red squirrel had found a hole under the eaves of the building, and was stocking the storehouse with the nuts the farmer had gathered. As an experiment to learn how rapidly the squirrel had worked, he removed all but twenty nuts, and set a watch upon them. Six hours later every nut was gone. The distance from the corn house to the tree where the squirrel had his nest, was just eighty rods. In going for a nut and returning with it the sprightly little animal had to travel a distance of one hundred and sixty rods. Computation showed that the theft of twenty nuts required just ten miles of travel. But this did not include all. Several times dogs frightened the squirrel and it had to turn back; and twice the family cat got after it, requiring it to take a circuitous route to reach the storehouse. The nest was examined soon afterwards, and a big, fat, lazy male squirrel was found snoozing quietly, while his little mate was performing a prodigious feat to supply him with food.

THE QUEEN AS A WORKER.

It is not generally known that the Queen is one of the very few persons who never has a holiday.

Last year her Majesty was obliged to append her signature to some fifty thousand documents.

These were signed at Windsor, on the Continent, at Balmoral, at Buckingham Palace, and even in railway trains.

If you go to King's Cross any morning, when the Queen is residing at her Scotch abode, you will see a Queen's messenger starting off for Scotland with forty or fifty bags and boxes.

Most of these contain letters and papers of various sorts, the remainder consist of

Fathers and mothers, who this list may read, Do not delay, but with the utmost speed, Secure these Stories, at the Book Room found, And read them to the children gathered round. How many "pleasant hours" may thus be spent, How much of charm to home enjoyment lent!

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