VI. THE ANOINTING, vs. 12, 13. The surprise of Jesse and the brothers, and of Samuel, too; the wonder of David; the new spirit that came within him; above all, God's choice of His workers, the strange ways in which He calls them, and the spirit with which He outfits them ;—are fruitful practical points.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON By Rev. J. M. Duncan, B.D.



About 5 miles southwest of Jerusalem is Bethlehem, now called Beit Lahm, situated on a grey limestone ridge running from east to west, and occupying the two summits at each end, with a sort of saddle between. The ridge rises to a height of 2,250 feet above sea level, and falls away in terraces on all sides. The hillsides around furnish pasture for flocks of sheep and goats. Crops of wheat and barley are produced in the valleys below, while the terraced slopes bear olives, almonds, pomegranates, figs and vines. In the modern town there is just one main street, extending about half a mile, and largely occupied by workshops, which are little more than arches open to the street. The Mohammedan and Christian population is variously given as from 4,000 to 8,000. Of the enrolled citizens not one is a Jew. The Jews avoid Bethlehem because of its connection with Jesus, and they are tolerated only as visitors, not as residents. The inhabitants of Bethlehem are of superior physique and comeliness. The men have a character for energy, and the women are noted for their graceful carriage and be-

coming attire. An increasing number of the population go abroad, with their products of carvings in olive wood and mother of pearl, and find a good return for their enterprise.

ADDED HINTS AND HELPS

In this section will be found further assistance under various headings.

Some Test Questions

[Note : These Questions are not intended for use in the class, but as samples of questions by which the teacher may test the thoroughness of his own preparation of the Lesson. He will also find it of great advantage to be familiar with the Questions set for the scholars' in the HOME STUDY, INTERMEDIATE, and PRIMARY, QUARTERLIES and LEAFLETS.]

1. How did Samuel feel regarding the rejection of Saul ?

2. What was there deserving of blame in Samuel's grief? Who rebuked him?

3. Whither was Samuel sent to find a new king? From amongst whose sons was he

to be chosen ? How many sons were there ?

4. How was he to be set apart to his office ?5. Why was Samuel afraid to go on the

errand given him by the Lord ?

6. What reason was he told to give for going to Bethlehem ?

7. Why were the people of Bethlehem afraid at Samuel's coming ? Through whom did they express their dread ?

8. What arrangements were made for determining which of Jesse's sons was to be king ?

9. How many of the sons were rejected ? Who was the eighth, and what was his employment ?

370