

Sabbath School.

BIBLE LESSONS.

SECOND QUARTER.

(Condensed from Peabody's Select Notes.)

Lesson III. April 17. Ps. 19: 1-14.

GOD'S WORDS AND WORK.

GOLDEN TEXT.

"The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul."—Ps. 19: 7.

EXPLANATORY.

1. GOD'S BOOK OF NATURE AND ITS TEACHINGS. 1. The heavens. That is, the superterrestrial spheres which, so far as human vision is concerned, are lost in infinite space. Declare. Are telling, constantly now and evermore.

2. Day unto day uttereth speech. Every day the heavens renew their testimony to God's glory. As if one day took up the story where the other left it, and each night passed over the wondrous tale to the next. The original has in it the thought of pouring out or welling over with speech; as though days and nights were but as a fountain flowing evermore with Jehovah's praise.

3. There are two meanings given to this verse. (1) As in our common version. This translation gives a clear sense, well adapted to the context; it is supported by the ancient versions, and some critics (Vulgate), and is grammatically defensible. The words, then, mean that the language of nature is universal. All nations, people of all languages, can understand God's voice in nature, and be led to obey their Creator.

4. Their line, etc. A measuring-line. The idea is that their province or domain is co-extensive with the earth, and that they speak with authority even in its remotest parts. Their words. The testimony which they bear to the glory of God. To the end of the world. The utmost bounds of the habitable globe.

5. Which is as a bridegroom. A bridegroom comes forth triumphantly accompanied, his face beaming with a joy which he imparts to all around; such, but with a mighty emphasis, is the rising sun. Coming out of his chamber. This refers to the rising of the sun. The sun seems to rise from a night of repose "fresh and lovely as a bridegroom from his chamber; vigorous as a strong man trained for the race."

6. His going forth. This second simile has reference to the sun's daily course as the first of his reappearance after the darkness of the night. From the end of the heaven. From one end of the heaven; that is, from the east, where he starts. His circuit. The circular path in which he moves through the upper sphere. Unto the ends of it. That is, to the other side of the heavens. The plural term is here used perhaps from the idea of completeness, or to denote that there was nothing beyond. The complete journey was made. There is nothing hid from the heat thereof. The rays of the sun penetrate everywhere.

7. The law of the Lord. Probably the Pentateuch, and the prophetic-historical, and strictly prophetic writings. Is perfect. A complete revelation of God's will, as far as men could then receive it; always guiding in the right direction, always helping toward heaven, without mistakes, with no wrong principles. Converting the soul. Or, as in the R. V., restoring, literally bringing it back to its own ignorance and sin; by the word involves the idea of deliverance and refreshment.

8. The statutes (precepts) of the Lord. The commandments or ordinances contained in God's revealed law; all that God bids us do, every day He lays upon us. Are right. They are reflections of the eternal righteousness of God Himself. Conscience and reason approve of them, experience shows that they are good. Rejecting the heart. Mark the progress; he who was converted was next made wise, and is now made hap-

py; that truth which makes the heart right then gives joy to the right heart. The commendation of the Lord. Much the same as the statutes, above. Whatever God has written upon our natures, upon our hearts, or in His Word, as His will. Is pure. Free from every taint of error or injustice; and tending to make us pure in heart and in life. "Where-withal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to Thy Word." Enlightening the eyes. Illuminating the mind and conscience; showing us the true path of life and happiness.

9. The fear of the Lord is clean. There is nothing in it that tends to corrupt the morals or delude the soul. Everything connected with it is of a pure or holy tendency, adapted to cleanse the soul and to make it holy. Enduring forever. Purity is a sign of life; impurity always marks decay. The law is clean, therefore it is living and enduring. The judgments of the Lord. Judgments are properly judicial decisions, but are here put as in Ps. 18: 22 for all God's requisitions. What God judges or decides to be right. Are true and righteous altogether. God's judgments, all of them together, or each of them apart, are manifestly just, and need no laborious excuses to justify them.

10. More to be desired are they, i. e. God's law revealed under the six names mentioned above. Than gold, yes, than much fine gold. They lead into the real treasures of life, truth, character, happiness, hope, usefulness, every blessing of life, infinitely beyond all the good that gold can give. Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. The allusion is to honey that drops from the combs, and therefore the most pure honey. That which is pressed from the combs will have almost inevitably a mixture of bee-bread and of the combs themselves. That which naturally flows from the comb will be pure.

11. Moreover by them is Thy servant warned. We are warned by the Word both of our duty, our danger, and our remedy. On the sea of life there would be many more wrecks, if it were not for the divine storm-signals which give to the watchful a timely warning. Cleansing from sin. 12. Who can understand (Rev. Ver. discern) the errors. Sins both of ignorance and infirmity, those which are done unintentionally and unconsciously. Cleanse Thou me from secret faults. Literally, "things hidden," i. e. not only from others, but from our own hearts. The holier a person grows, the more he sees faults and errors in things he before never thought of as imperfections.

Apron Strings.

"I promised my mother that I would be at home at six o'clock." "But what harm will an hour more do?" "It will make my mother worry, and I shall break my word."

"Before I'd be tied to a woman's apron strings!" "My mother doesn't wear aprons," said the first speaker, with a laugh, "except in the kitchen sometimes, and I don't know as I ever noticed any strings."

"You know what I mean. Can't you stay and see the game finished?" "I could stay, but I will not. I made a promise to my mother, and I am going to keep it."

"Good boy!" said a hoarse voice just back of the two boys. They turned to see an old man, poorly clad and very feeble. "Abraham Lincoln, once told a young man," the stranger resumed, "to cut the acquaintance of every person who talked slightly of his mother's apron strings, and it is a very safe thing to do, as I know from experience. It was just such talk that brought me to ruin and disgrace, for I was ashamed not to do as other boys did, and when they made fun of mother, I laughed too. God forgive me! There came a time when it was too late, and now there were tears in the old eyes, when I would gladly have been made a prisoner, tied by these same apron strings in a dark room, with bread and water for my fare. Always keep your engagements with your mother. Never disappoint her if you can possibly help it, and when advised to cut loose from her apron strings, cut the adviser, and take a tighter clutch of the apron strings. This will bring joy and long life to your mother, the best friend you have in the world, and will insure you a noble future, for it is impossible for a good son to be a bad man."

It was an excellent sign that both boys listened attentively, and both said, "Thank you," at the conclusion of the stranger's lecture, and they left the ball-ground together, silent and thoughtful. At least the apron-string critic remarked, with a deep-drawn sigh, "That old man has made me goose-flesh all over."

"Oh, Dick," said his companion, "just think what lovely mothers we have both got!" "Yes, and if anything were to happen to them, and we hadn't done right! You'll never hear apron strings from me again."—Harper's Young People.

BAIRDS BALSAM OF HOREHOUND

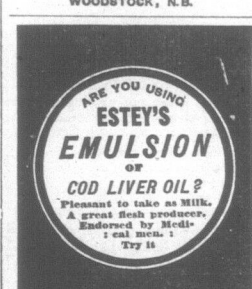
Purely Vegetable NATURE'S REMEDY Established over 50 years

FOR Coughs, Colds, Croup, WHOOPING COUGH, CONGESTION, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, IRRITATION OF THE THROAT, AND ALL THROAT AND LUNG TROUBLES.

CURES AS IF BY MAGIC. Unprecedented Success proves its reliability

AT ALL DEALERS AND WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS

H. PAXTON BAIRD, PROPRIETOR WOODSTOCK, N. B.



Estey's Emulsion cures Coughs, Colds, Consumption, Throat and all Lung troubles. A great remedy for weak and delicate children, builds them up, strengthens the bones, makes new blood.

PLEASENT TO TAKE AS MILK. A great flesh producer. Endorsed by Medical men.

Now Ready. THE AUTHORIZED LIFE OF SPURGEON

FROM THE USHER'S DESK TO THE TABERNACLE PULPIT.

By Rev. E. SHINDLER, with 5 Portraits of Mr. Spurgeon, Family Portraits, and 60 other Illustrations—some full page—including Mr. Spurgeon's Birthplace; the Stockwell Orphanage; His Home and Study at Westwood. Mr. Spurgeon at Weston, and other illustrations of equal interest. 12mo, cloth, \$1.00 (sent postpaid, on receipt of price).

This is the best biography of the great London preacher. It was prepared during his lifetime under his personal supervision, from material that nobody could have furnished but himself, and would have appeared within a few weeks if he had lived. Prepared in this way, an extraordinary accuracy and truthfulness are guaranteed. The 60 illustrations add much to the value of the book.—New York Examiner.

ON SALE AT THE BAPTIST BOOK ROOM. Send \$1.00. All orders will be filled last of April. ORDER AT ONCE. Best offer yet! Best book! Get the best!

GEO. A. McDONALD, Secy. Treas.

Characteristic.

IT is characteristic of the House to have only the very best, and never deal in what is known in the trade as cheap instruments. It is characteristic of the House never to ask fancy prices (as some dealers do, and come down if they have to). Every instrument is marked in plain figures at actual selling price, which is always the lowest consistent with quality and a fair living profit.

By these and other strict commercial methods, have built up one of the largest, if not the largest retail Piano and Organ trades in the Dominion.

I was awarded a special diploma at the late Provincial Exhibition for the best exhibit of Pianos, consisting of Chickering, Knabe, Bell, Dominion, Mason & Risch, and Newcombe, which means THE DIPLOMA of the exhibition in the Piano line.

Don't fail to write for Price List. W. H. JOHNSON, 121 & 123 HOLLIS STREET, HALIFAX, N. S.

GRANDMA SHUTS HER EYES.

Within the chimney corner snug Dear grandma gently rocks, And knits her daughter's baby boy A tiny pair of socks.

And sometimes grandma shuts her eyes And sings the sweetest lullabies. Across her face the happy smiles All play at hide and seek, And kiss the faint and faded rose That lingers on her cheek.

White thoughts too sweet for words arise When dear old grandma shuts her eyes. Yet sometimes pictures in her face Have just a shile of pain, As golden April sunshine mingles With a dash of rain.

And then perchance she faintly sighs Does grandma when she shuts her eyes. She's growing younger every day, She plays at hide and seek, And those she knew in girlhood's years She speaks of now and then.

And sweet old love looks feebly tries, Does grandma when she shuts her eyes. I used to wonder why her eyes She closed, but not in sleep, The while the smiles would all about Her wrinkled visage creep.

But I have guessed the truth at last— She shuts her eyes to view the past. —American.

Two-and-a-half Dollar Christians.

There are a good many people in their religion that remind me of "Uncle Phil," a pious old darkey of the old times in Texas. Well, Phil was a fervent Christian, with a great gift of prayer. He attended all the Saturday-night prayer-meetings on the neighboring plantations, and could pray longer and longer than any of the brethren. But Phil had one weakness—he dearly loved money; and, different from the Negro generally, he loved to hoard it. Near by us lived a man who, not troubled by any scruples, would pay Phil a dollar to work in his fields on Sunday. One Sunday night, as Phil was returning home after dark, I accosted him with: "Where have you been, Phil?"

"O, just knocking about, massa." "You have been working for Miller?" "Well, you see, massa, the old fellow is in need, and I just showed me a silver dollar, and I just couldn't stand it."

"Ain't you afraid the devil will get you for breaking the Sabbath?" "Well, you see, massa, the old fellow is in need, and I just showed me a silver dollar, and I just couldn't stand it."

"No, He says: 'Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.' Phil went off looking pretty sober, and it was not long before I heard his voice in fervent prayer back of the barn, and so I thought I'd slip down near enough to hear."

"O Lord!" I heard him say, "I have this day ripped and tared, cussed and sweared, at them confounded oxen of Miller's, and just broke the Sabbath day. O Lord! please forgive me; for you knows I's nothing but a miserable heathen, anyhow. If you'll just forgive me this time, I'll never do it again, as long as I live, 'ceptin' he gives me two dollars and a half a day."

At this point I was obliged to beat a hasty retreat; but I am thinking that poor Uncle Philien't the only two-dollar-and-a-half Christian in the world.

The danger and discomfort of Dyspepsia is proverbial, and it is also a proverb that Bardock Blood Bitters is a complete cure.

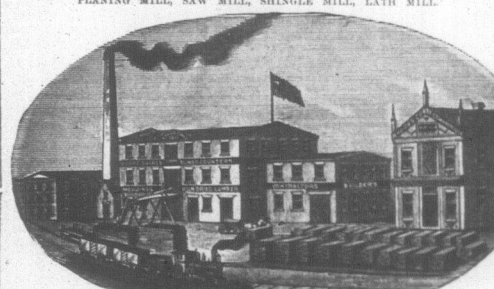
Baird's Balsam of Horehound cures whooping cough and croup.

C. C. RICHARDS & CO. Gentl., My daughter was apparently the point of death with that terrible disease, diphtheria. All remedies had failed, but MINARD'S LINIMENT cured her, and I would earnestly recommend it to all who may be in need of a good family medicine.

JOHN D. BOURLEAU. French Village.

INTENSE SUFFERING! Mr. William Buchanan, 24 years engineer in the Cunard Steamship Company's service, 8 St. John's Road, Kirkdale, Liverpool, Eng., writes: "I suffered two years of agony from an affection in the head which six physicians pronounced incurable. They were divided in opinion as to whether it was acute neuralgia of the head or rheumatic affection of the brain, but all agreed that I could never recover. In my paroxysms of pain it needed two and sometimes three men to hold me down in bed. When at death's door, ST. JACOBS OIL was applied to my head. It acted like magic. It saved my life. I am well and hearty, and have had no return of the trouble." ALL RIGHT! ST. JACOBS OIL DID IT!

Rhodes, Curry & Co. AMHERST, N. S. Manufacturers and Builders. 100,000 FEET LUMBER KEPT IN STOCK. PLANING MILL, SAW MILL, SHINGLE MILL, LATH MILL.



Cabinet Trim Finish for Dwellings, Drug Stores, Offices, Schools, Churches & House Furnishings. Manufacturers of and Dealers in all kinds of Builders' Materials. SEND FOR ESTIMATES.

HALL'S BOOK STORE, Fredericton.

BAPTIST HYMNALS, SABBATH-school Libraries, Paper, Cards, Gospel Hymns. Headquarters for School Books, Sheet Music and Music Books.

MONEY! AN EASY WAY TO MAKE IT.

Everybody can do it. How? Why, by hunting up their very old letters that have stamps on them. I buy for cash all kinds of Postage Stamps, and pay from one cent to many dollars each for them. Hunt up old letters and look through them, you may find something worth many dollars. Stamps are most valuable if left on entire envelope. Send what you find on approval, and I will make you a cash offer for them. If you do not accept I will return them to you. Stamps of the present issue not wanted.

Address—F. BURT SAUNDERS, P. O. Box 303, St. John, N. B.

Reference—The Messenger and Visitor.

JAMES WHITHAM & CO., MONTREAL.

UNSURPASSED FOR FIT WEAR QUALITY & PRICE. ASK FOR WHITHAM'S SHOES ALL BEST RETAILERS KEEP THEM TAKE NO OTHERS.

35 CENTS A BOTTLE. DR. T. A. SLOCUM'S Oxygenized Emulsion of Pure COD LIVER OIL. TASTELESS. For Sale by all Druggists. Laboratory, Toronto, Ont.