

Sunday School INTERNATIONAL LESSON NO. 111. OCTOBER 15, 1905

Returning From Captivity.—Ezra 1: 1-11.

Commentary.—1. The proclamation of King Cyrus to return (vs. 1-4). 1. First year of Cyrus.—That is, his first year as sole king at Babylon. He was king 39 years before that of Darius, and gradually extended his empire over the Persians and Medes, Babylonians and Chaldeans. For two years after the capture of Babylon Darius was King of Babylon under Cyrus. Now Cyrus reigned at Babylon, and this was his first year of direct sovereignty over the Jews. Word of the Lord—See Jer. xxv. 12; xxix. 10. The promise was that after seventy years the Lord would bring his people again to Palestine. Stirred up... Cyrus—There is good reason to accept the Jewish tradition according to Josephus, that Daniel, occupying a high position in the court of Cyrus, brought to his attention the prophecies of Isaiah, which name Cyrus as God's servant (Isa. xlv. 26-28; xlv. 1-4), and perhaps, also, the prophecies of Jeremiah, showing that God had for this purpose given Babylon into the hands of Cyrus. Made a proclamation—See chapter 6. In writing—To preserve it on the records, to prevent any mistake or reversal which might occur.

2. God of Heaven—Hence the Controller of all men and affairs. "God of Heaven" seems to have been a usual title of the Supreme Being among the Persians.—Rawlinson. At this time the Medo-Persian Empire was very extensive, extending on the east to the Red Sea, on the north to the Black Sea, on the west to the Islands of Cyprus and Egypt, and on the south to Ethiopia.—Clarke. Hath charged me, etc.—Cyrus probably accepted the prophecy of Isaiah as a charge to build the temple.—Cook. "The existence of prophecies in which, two hundred years before he was born, his victorious career and the important services he should render to the Jews were foretold, led him to acknowledge that all his kingdoms were gifts bestowed on him by the 'Lord God of Heaven,' and prompted him to fulfill the duty which had been laid upon him long before his birth. This was the source and origin of the great favor he showed to the Jews.—J. F. B. 3. Who is there among you?—The return was to be a volunteer movement, which in all respects was the best both for the purpose of Cyrus and for the new Jewish settlement. His God was with him—A pious wish, indicating the deep religious feeling and goodness of heart which characterized Cyrus alone of Persian monarchs. He ruled his subjects like a father.—Herodotus. No nobler character appears in ancient history.—Rawlinson. Let him go.—As the carrying away of the Hebrews had taken place at intervals of from seventy to fifty years before, there were but few of the original exiles remaining; and it is somewhat remarkable that so many of their descendants, nearly fifty thousand in all, should be willing to go to a country they had never seen. Build the house.—This was their great errand, not to build their own houses, but the house of God. He is the God whom we can understand this great truth far more clearly than could Cyrus. Let him go to it that we live out the knowledge which we possess."

4. Whosoever remaineth—Some persons of true and eminent piety were so situated that they did not deem it their duty to go; as Daniel in the court of Cyrus; others were hindered by old age. Many more, however, were ready of heart to carry away captive.—Scott. Let the men... help him.—Let the heathen population help him.—Cook. Free will offering—Probably that made by Cyrus himself. There were two funds—one for the temple, one to aid the returning emigrants. Those who cannot work in God's cause should contribute to it. Few give too much; many give too little. Giving is as much a means of grace as praying. II. The captives made preparations for the return (vs. 5-11). 5. Chief of the fathers—Venerable men, heads of families, some of whom had seen the first temple—Whedon. Judah and Benjamin—These tribes, last exiled, were the first to return. "But that there were many from the other tribes who returned appears from many other passages.—Hurlbut. 6. Strengthen their hands.—Their neighbors helped them and contributed liberally. 7. Cyrus... brought forth, etc.—Nebuchadnezzar little thought that he was unconsciously preserving the sacred vessels of Israel in a safe and inviolable stronghold, till the day when Jehovah would bring about their restoration to his people. Some of these vessels had been profaned by Belshazzar on that night when Babylon was taken and Belshazzar slain.—Whedon. 8. Sheshbazzar—The Chaldee or Persian name of Zerubbabel, given to Daniel and his friends. Born in Babylon and named by his friends Zerubbabel (exile in Babylon). He was recognized as hereditary prince of Judah; was leader of the first company of exiles, and director of the rebuilding of the temple. II. All the vessels, etc.—This number, 5,400, is more than double the sum of verses 9 and 10, which was 2,400. "It is probable that only the larger or more costly vessels were numbered in detail, and the 5,400 includes a great number of smaller and less costly ones. So they are reckoned by the restoration of the Jews to their own country, the names of three Jewish leaders and of three Persians are prominent. The first Jewish leader was Zerubbabel, who left Babylon under this proclamation of Cyrus. B. C. 536, seventy years after the first captivity. After an interval of about twenty years he was enabled to complete the rebuilding of the temple, in the reign of Darius Hystaspes, seventy years after the destruction of the temple. The second Jewish leader was Ezra, who went up from Babylon about eighty years after Zerubbabel, in the seventh year of Artaxerxes Longimanus. He labored chiefly to restore the institutions of Moses. The third Jewish leader was Nehemiah, who went up from Susa, or Shushan, in the sixth year of the same Artaxerxes. He rebuilt the wall and set up the gates of Jerusalem and promoted many reforms.—Blakie.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS. I. Promise. "That the word of the Lord... might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up Cyrus" (v. 1). Two hundred

WAS THIS MAN DONE TO DEATH?

Negro's Body Found in the Thames at Ingersoll.

Met on Bridge Friday Night by Six White Men.

The Crown Holds That There Was Murder Done.

Ingersoll, Sept. 28.—The body of Isaiah Wright, a colored laborer, aged thirty-four, and a well known character around town, was found in the Thames about 9 o'clock this morning, some twenty yards or so from the Wingham street bridge. It bore marks that led to the suspicion that death had not occurred from natural causes. A jury was empaneled and an inquest begun. After the remains had been viewed an adjournment was made until October 5th at 1:30 o'clock in the Town Hall. Chief of Police Wright at once moved to arrest the men believed to be responsible for Wright's death. On the night of September 22nd it is known that the dead man was met on the Wingham street bridge by six white men. That will, it is understood, be shown in evidence.

He was never afterwards seen alive, and the theory of the police is that in the course of a quarrel the colored man was beaten and thrown into the Thames. That the men in whose company he was had any grudge against Wright was not established. The condition of the body and the cause of death will not be known until the surgeons who made the post-mortem to-night report, but it is generally believed that Wright, although badly beaten was alive, when thrown into the river.

Five Charged With Murder.

Chief Wright and Constables Cook and Sherlock during the afternoon arrested the following five men on a charge of murder: George Dennis, George Hartwell, George Bower, Thomas Wilson and Ewart Bell. All are of Ingersoll and of the laboring class. In addition John Campbell, a farm laborer living to the south of the town, is held on a charge of vagrancy. It is believed that Campbell was a witness of the affray, and that he is really held as a material witness. The prisoners were brought before the Police Magistrate to-night, but were not asked to plead. They were remanded on instructions from the County Crown Attorney till Friday, October 6th, and were held in the cells at Woodstock jail. The case has created a very great deal of excitement here, and crowds gathered around the Town Hall during the hearing.

Isaiah Wright, the victim, was a well built, powerful negro of a decidedly combative disposition. He had been several times in the Police Court, and Chief Wright said to-night that so far as he knew the men under arrest had no special cause for attacking him. They were the last people seen in the victim's company, and his body having been found almost where they met him, there was nothing to connect them with the crime. The ascertained facts made the case highly suspicious.

DUNDONALD'S DREAM

THAT A BONUS WOULD CATCH THE CANADIAN RECRITS.

London, Oct. 2.—In the October number of The Fortnightly Review there is a twelve-page article entitled "Notes on a Citizen Army" by Lord Dundonald. "That such an organization as a citizen army for home defence is feasible has always been believed, and my recent experience with the militia of Canada has given me practical proof of the soundness of my belief," he writes. Lord Dundonald entirely disapproves of adult compulsory military service for all in time of peace. "The basis, or starting point, of any scheme for a large voluntary citizen army must be the military training of boys."

Lord Dundonald, after a lengthy review of his own work in Canada, says: "In the past all the efforts of colonial Governments to maintain an organized force, in readiness for Imperial purposes, have been doomed to failure, and there has been nothing in the history of the last five years to lead us to expect a change of attitude, but all the advantages sought for might be obtained without any of the accompanying objections by applying the bonus system to the colonial forces. A colonial reserve might be instituted for which I am certain, whole regiments of colonial militia would volunteer. My experience of the Canadian citizen soldiers would thus volunteer en masse to take part in the campaigns of the mother country."

Lord Dundonald mentions Major Morrison, and other officers of the Ottawa militia corps, who took part in the expedition to Tibet. "Recent changes in the higher administration of the nation—of the Empire of Canada and Australia have brought about something like a divorce between the Imperial and colonial military organizations. It is not necessary to emphasize the disadvantages, even dangers, of such a tendency. The whole question of Imperial unity is seriously affected by it."

SHUNNED PRINCESS.

She Prays Alone by the Tomb of Her Mother.

Brussels, Oct. 2.—Princess Stephanie, daughter of King Leopold, has returned to Wiesbaden, after a stay of just eighteen hours in Brussels, during which she prayed fervently at the tomb of her mother at Laeken. All the members of the royal family shunned her, and every form of reception was denied to her. She was entirely alone, like a complete and obscure stranger.

On leaving the northern station for Wiesbaden the princess was recognized and saluted by a large crowd, and a few people cheered her.

A Delightful Surprise for tea drinkers is to give them a hot, steaming cup of FRAGRANT Blue Ribbon

instead of some ordinary kind. They'll notice the difference quick enough, then nothing will do them but Blue Ribbon Tea. Try the Red Label

BENNETT FOUND GUILTY.

The Brantford Jury Says He Murdered Betsy Jacobs.

Brantford, Sept. 28.—The jury to-night returned a verdict of guilty against Joe Bennett, the Indian, for murdering Betsy Jacobs on July 9 last. Mr. Justice Anglin finished his charge at 6:30, while the jury came back after 11 o'clock. At first they reported a disagreement, but wanted an explanation of the evidence of David Garlow, an Indian constable, who was called in rebuttal. Garlow was guarding the Jacobs homestead on the night succeeding the tragedy. Elijah Kick, the man who swore the alibi, was with Garlow at the time, and told Garlow that he had last seen Bennett in Brantford on Saturday afternoon before the crime. The evidence was read to the jury, and after a few minutes' deliberation, they returned their verdict.

Not a muscle of Bennett's face moved. He took the verdict with the greatest of stolidity. No sentence was passed to-night, as both Bennett and Felix Doyle will be sentenced to-morrow. Mr. Justice Anglin, in commenting upon the verdict, said that, in view of the evidence, he did not see how the jury could do anything else but find the accused man guilty.

Mr. Heyd addressed the jury in the prisoner's defence for over two hours and a half, while Mr. Brewster, the Crown counsel, spoke for an hour and a half.

HANGED DECEMBER 15.

Felix Doyle and Joe Bennett were today sentenced to be hanged on Friday, December 15, the former for the murder of his aged mother and the latter for the murder of the Indian girl, Betsy Jacobs. Doyle's solicitor, it is said, will appeal to Ottawa for leniency for his client, and ask that the death sentence be changed to imprisonment.

NEWS IN BRIEF

At a sale of a stamp collection in London £40 was given for an unperfected one shilling black of Canada, 1851.

The Divisional Court has ruled that superannuated civil servants are not exempt from municipal taxation.

The general store of S. D. Walker & Sons, the residence of F. Thorpe, the public library and the telephone office, in Algonquin, Grenville county, were destroyed by fire.

Allen McLean, steward at Rockwood Asylum since 1876, and John McMann, storekeeper since 1866, have tendered their resignations to the Ontario Government.

The Standard Oil Company has again advanced the price on all grade of crude oil, except Raglan. The higher grades of oil were raised five cents and the lower grades two cents.

Lieut.-Gen. Stoessel, who commanded the Russian forces at Port Arthur, is suffering from a stroke of paralysis, which affects his entire left side. The General's recovery is hoped for.

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Vienna.—The budget for 1906 was presented by the Minister of Finance in the lower house of the Austrian diet today. It estimates the revenue at \$364,450,482 and the expenditure at \$363,808,442.

London.—The corporation of the city of London today unanimously resolved to confer the freedom of the city on General Booth, of the Salvation Army, in recognition of his great work for the moral and social elevation of the people.

Port Huron.—In carrying out its plans of increasing its terminal facilities, the Pere Marquette system has acquired the right from the Grand Trunk in the latter's former yards between Black River and the Military street bridge for the laying of six miles additional side track at an expense of about \$50,000.

Rev. George Damm, of Credit, stated in his evidence at the Hauch inquest at Tanstock, that he saw flashes coming from the darkness at spots separate at least a distance of six feet, and that he heard shots discharged simultaneously, or with only a second's time between them. This confirms the supposition that at least one other member of the Charivari party beside Hauch carried a weapon, as it would have been impossible for Hauch to discharge his antiquated pistol rapidly as for each discharge a fresh cap was required.

THE MARKETS.

Toronto Farmers' Market. The grain receipts to-day were 2,500 bushels. Wheat steady, 400 bushels of white and red selling at 74c a bushel, and 100 bushels of goose at 68c. Barley is higher, 1,600 bushels selling at 49c to 55c. Oats steady, with sales of 500 bushels at 32 to 35c.

Butter in good supply, with prices for choice tub at 23 to 25c per lb. Eggs firmer, at 23 to 25c per dozen. Hay in fair supply, with sales of 30 loads at \$9 for \$10.50 a ton for new. Straw nominal at \$12 a ton.

Dressed hogs were unchanged, with quotations at \$8.50 to \$8.75, the latter for 11-lb weights. Wheat, white, bushel... \$0.74 \$0.00 Do., red, bushel... \$0.74 \$0.00 Do., spring, bushel... \$0.72 \$0.00 Do., goose, bushel... \$0.68 \$0.00 Oats, new... \$0.33 \$0.25 Harley, bushel... \$0.49 \$0.00 Peas, bushel... \$0.67 \$0.00 Hay, per ton... \$9.00 \$0.10 Straw, per ton... \$12.00 \$2.00 Dressed hogs... \$8.50 \$0.75 Apples, per bbl... \$1.00 \$1.75 Eggs, per dozen... \$0.25 \$0.05 Butter, dairy... \$0.23 \$0.25 Do., creamery... \$0.25 \$0.28 Potatoes... \$0.68 \$0.00 Chickens, last year, lb... \$0.10 \$0.11 Turkeys, per lb... \$0.13 \$0.15 Cabbage, per dozen... \$0.40 \$0.20 Potatoes, per bag... \$0.65 \$0.75 Celery, per dozen... \$0.20 \$0.25 Onions, per bag... \$0.60 \$1.25 Beef, hindquarters... \$0.90 \$0.90 Do., forequarters... \$0.40 \$0.50 Do., choice, carcass... \$8.00 \$0.00 Do., medium, carcass... \$6.00 \$0.75 Mutton, per cwt... \$6.50 \$0.00 Veal, per cwt... \$6.00 \$0.00 Lamb, spring... \$9.00 \$10.00

The Apple Trade. Woodall & Co., of Liverpool, cabled Eben James; 4,500 lbs. selling; odd lots; market unchanged.

Royal Harrow & Co., of Glasgow, cabled: Market firm, demand good for choice quality in good condition at 14c to 15c. The Manchester Fruit Brokers, Limited, cabled: Our market continues very strong; potatoes, 13 to 14c; Gravels, 17 to 20c; cabbages, 13 to 14c; other falls, 14 to 20c.

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Hamilton reports to Bradstreet's say: The volume of trade there continues surprisingly heavy. Orders to wholesalers reflect the general confidence in all lines. Country trade is good and receipts of country produce are fairly large. Collections are good and local industries continue busy.

London reports say: The trade outlook generally continues bright and a good business is now moving in nearly all wholesale and retail lines. Bradstreet's reports say: Business conditions at Ottawa are showing improvement.

What is a Backache?

IT IS NATURE'S WARNING TO WOMEN Diseases of Woman's Organism Cured and Consequent Pain Stopped by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

"It seems as though my back would break." Women utter these words over and over again, but continue to drag along and suffer with aches in the small of the back, pain low down in the side, "bearing down" pains, nervousness and no ambition for any task.

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"It seems to be a medicine especially adapted to the sex and I am glad to say a good word for it.—Mrs. Albert Mann, 124 Gore Vale Ave., Toronto, Ont.

No other person can give such helpful advice to women who are sick as can Mrs. Pinkham. Her address is Lynn, Mass., and her advice free.



They do not realize that the back is the mainspring of woman's organism, and quickly indicates by aching a diseased condition of the womb or kidneys, and that the aches and pains will continue until the cause is removed.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for twenty years has been the one and only effective remedy in such cases. It speedily cures all womb and kidney disorders and restores the female organs to a healthy condition.

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Garnd Trunk's Now

CANADA ATLANTA HAS BEEN FORMALLY TAKEN OVER.

Montreal, Oct. 2.—The management of the G. T. R. announce that the Canada Atlantic Railway has been taken over by them, and that the following Board of Directors has been elected, viz: Chas. M. Hays, E. H. Fitzgugh, F. H. McGaughey, Jos. Hobson, W. H. Biggar, J. W. Lord, Frank Scott. The following names were elected officers: Chas. M. Hays, President; E. H. Fitzgugh, Vice-President; Frank Scott, Secretary-Treasurer; H. W. Walker, General Auditor.

