

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON—NO. XVII.
Dec. 29, 1895.

Review.—Judg. vii. 15 Ruth i. 16, 17: 1 Sam. xiii. 10 xv. 10, 11; xvi. 1; xvii. 28-30, 35.
Time.—B. C. 1443; 1245; 1176; 1165; 1120; 1095; 1079; 760; 1063; 1062; 4. Places.—Bochim; Shechem; Moab; Bethlehem; Shiloh; Mizpah; Gilead; Shochoh; Gibeah.

Persons.—The angel of the Lord; Israel; Gideon; Midianites; Eli; Samuel; Philistines; Saul; Ishah; Jesse and his sons; Elders of Bethlehem; David; Goliath; Jonathan; the shepherds; angels; Mary; Joseph; Jesus; Commentary.—Lesson I. gives us a view of Israel, as they were visited by the angel of the Lord, and solemnly warned because of their leagues with the Canaanites. On hearing this warning they repented and were obedient until the death of Joshua. Then the people fell into idolatry, and grieved the Lord. While they were thus overcome, God raised up judges to rule over them. Lesson II. shows the wonderful victory which God gave to Israel under the faithful judge Gideon, with an army of but three hundred men. The Midianite army was completely overthrown. Lesson III. gives the touching account of the conversion of Ruth, the Moabitess, to the faith of Israel. Through the noble example of her mother-in-law, Naomi, she was led to forsake all her idols, native lands, and her people, to go to Bethlehem to join herself with the people of God. Lesson IV. gives the account of Samuel's early call to be a prophet in Israel. He had been dedicated to the service of God by his parents, and dwelt in the sanctuary under the training of the High Priest Eli, when God called him and gave him a message concerning Eli, because of his failure to rightly train his boys, who had now grown up to dishonor God. Lesson V. lets us see Samuel as a judge in Israel, as well as a prophet. At this time Israel's enemies, the Philistines, came up against them and the Lord smote them and many were destroyed. For this victory Samuel testified before all the people by setting up a monument. Israel then regained their lost cities from the Philistines, as it tells of the way the first king in Israel was chosen, and why God permitted him to be king. Saul was the son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin. He was a fine looking man and humble. The people were changeable and preferred a king to rule over them. God granted their request. Lesson VII. shows how changeable men are. While Saul kept humble God gave him success. But the time soon came when he disobeyed God and did not teach the people to obey and God rejected him. He had sought his own honor and spared the enemies of God when he was told to destroy them. Lesson VIII. describes the terrible misery and destruction which came certainly fall upon the impetuous ones. The awful deeds of the drunkard are described, while God is exalted above every evil way. Lesson IX. tells us how God chose a king to reign after Saul. Samuel was rebuked for his continued grief over Saul, and sent to Bethlehem to anoint one of the sons of Jesse to be king. The youngest one, whom none so much as expected to be present, was chosen. God knew his worth, and allowed all the others to pass, but chose David to be king, and at this time, He gave His Spirit in new measure to rest upon David. Lesson X. records the first public victory which David won. Without being invited, David offered to fight in the front ranks for Israel against the Philistines. He faced the armed giant, having only his sling for a weapon. Yet he slew Goliath, and gained entire victory for Israel. Lesson XI. gives the sad picture of Saul as he was after God rejected him. He sought to destroy his own son because he would befriend the noble David who had so generously helped him. Lesson XII. records the birth of Christ. The shepherds were the first to receive the message, and they at once spread the news abroad.

PRACTICAL SURVEY.
God's extended mercy to Israel amid all their failures to obey Him is seen in Lesson I., where the solemn visit was made by the angel of the Lord to Israel at Bochim. Everything added to the solemnity of this occasion. There was actual repentance and evidences of it. For this cause God raised up judges in Israel.
God's prevailing power in behalf of His people is beautifully portrayed in Lesson II., where Gideon so faithfully regards all God's directions, which are given him in the time for battle. Only the presence of God would have ever alarmed such a great company and cause them to become their own destroyers. Thus it is seen that God ever assists His obedient children.
God's providences ever mark the way to happiness for all who will be guided by them. He never fails to have instruments to carry on His work, as is seen in Lesson III. Though there be famine and war, and idolatry on every side, God has some who are loyal to Him.
God's love of virtue is observed in Lesson IV. Samuel, the child of devoted parents and consecrated to the service of the Lord, was not forgotten by his God. The call which He gave Samuel and the time and place which He gave it, show plainly that God honors the faith and love of His children, who, amid discouraging surroundings, devote their best gifts to Him and His service. Such gifts become mighty in the hand of God.
God's gifts to His people ever prove a blessing to His cause and a strength to His people. Lesson V. shows Samuel in his office as prophet and judge, leading the people to confession and repentance. He was faithful in one office and entrusted with another.
God's forbearance with Israel is seen in Lesson VI. Though He had given them laws and guided them since they left Egypt, and though He had given them judges and a faithful prophet in Samuel, they ask repeatedly for something else. Nothing but a king will meet the demands of their hearts. But before they are granted this choice of a king the Lord reviews before them His dealings over them. Then He gives them

the best man among them for their king. And on this very occasion they openly showed who among them would be obedient among them when they were granted a king.
God's unchangeableness is clearly marked in Lesson VII. The changeable Israel found that a king was but a man like themselves, ready to change with the seasons. Though Saul stood high in his character, he fell very low and dishonored his office as king and God as his Maker. Disobedience and deceit led him to ruin. God's cause suffers at the first approach of intemperance. Lesson VIII. Every particle of indulgence on the part of one of God's children in the direction of strong drink or intoxicating drink is a chain which the devil fastens about them to drag them finally into eternal ruin. The first steps begin in the use of imitations or home made drinks used around the family table. Vainly these parents who do this hope to thus keep their family from the public houses. But in this they draw iniquity with the cords of vanity which rapidly paves the way to sin of deepest dye.
God's distinguished ones are carefully concealed from the public gaze. They are precious in His sight, and He prepares them for effectual service while they are faithfully engaged in private life. He does not rely upon human accomplishments alone, but He chooses them early and bestows His spirit upon such as will be true to Him and His service. Lesson IX. Though David did not at once enter upon his public work in the office of king, his heart was prepared for every command from God. The condition of public matters and the circumstances surrounding David made it appear to be the best and most faithful prophet, Samuel, a matter of impossibility to go to Bethlehem and to the family of Jesse, yet God spoke differently.
God's means are effectual. However they may appear in the sight of humans they are full of divine power. Lesson X. No stone which God directs ever falls without certain success. No person whom God arms for battle ever fails a victim to failure. The apparent insignificance of God's instruments only works a mighty power toward victory. David was young and fair, and not at all informed in military pursuits. Yet he was most ready to follow God's directions. His ignorance proved his fitness for God's design.
God's designs are often accomplished through the very means which men use to destroy them. God makes the wrath of man to praise Him. Lesson XI. Saul's severe treatment toward his son was designed to overcome his love for David and thus bring him so under his father's power as to make him instrumental in the death of David, the anointed king of Israel. There could be no doubt as to the line of duty and Jonathan was well assured that David must escape. Had there been indecision on his father's part, there might have been disaster. As it was the question was solved.
God's love for man is seen in His gift of a Saviour, His only begotten Son. Whatever else of love had been seen in His dealings with His people, Jesus was His love's highest expression. Yet He gave men no room for selfish interests, from a worldly standpoint, but made it possible for all to be redeemed from the curse of a broken law. The lowliness and humility which characterized the birth of Jesus was honored by heavenly hosts. They saw the greatness and glory of this event and left heaven to sound their praises on earth. The fulfillment of all prophecy came in the Jesus in the manger at Bethlehem. In Jesus every need should be supplied and man's peace would be secured through Him.
The great love of God appears so clearly expressed, as we behold His dealings with His people through their varied experiences and peculiar circumstances, through all ages. In contrast with this we see the weakness of humanity, in their repeated failures to obey God's holy law. Amid this condition of affairs God sent His only Son, the costliest gift earth ever received. He accomplished all things needed through His own death.

IN WHAT MONTH WERE YOU BORN
If a girl is born in January she will be a prudent housewife, given to melancholy, but of good temper.
If in February, a humane and affectionate wife and tender mother.
If in March, generous and impulsive, but apt to be headstrong.
If in April, inconsistent, not very intelligent, but likely to be good-looking.
If in May, handsome, amiable and likely to be happy.
If in June, impetuous, will marry early and be frivolous.
If in July, passably handsome, but with a sulky temper.
If in August, amiable and practical and likely to marry rich.
If in September, discreet, affable and much liked.
If in October, coquettish and likely to be unhappy.
If in November, liberal, kind and of a mild disposition.
If in December, well proportioned, fond of novelty and extravagant.

MAKING PAPA HAPPY.
Mamma and baby returned from a walk. "O," says mamma to her husband, "such good news. Baby talks. He has just said his first word."
"Really?"
"Yes, just fancy. We were in the Zoological gardens, standing before the monkey cage, when baby cried out, 'Look at papa.'"—Pittsburg Bulletin.

THE WRETCH.
Benedict—Have you ever pictured yourself snugly ensconced in a pretty home with a lovely wife?
Bachelor—Whose wife, Johnson?—Judge.
London bakers are all selling bread for 4 cents per two-pound loaf, although they claim that bread cannot be sold at that figure and leave a margin to pay the cost of delivery. The drop was caused by one firm cutting the price from 5 to 4 cents.

POISON PROOF STOMACH.

Captain Vetro is Not Affected by the Deadliest of Drugs, But Devours Them all With Avidity—Can Discern on Porcelain, Though It Is Too Hard to Masticate—Blackwell's Island Patient Who Makes a Pin Cushion of Himself.

That queer physical specimen known to the medical fraternity of Europe as Captain Vetro, says the New York Journal, astounded a jury composed of several of the most eminent physicians of New York last Tuesday afternoon. He defied all the laws of nature by swallowing sufficient poison to sting enough glass and common paving stone to destroy 20 families, and was as easy after it all as if he had just consumed a soft-boiled egg.

The private inspection was arranged by the Journal, and in order to make the test thorough and beyond dispute several of the more prominent medical men were invited to test the poisons and observe carefully the taking of the drugs and the after effects. The meeting took place at the Madison Avenue Hotel, of Madison Avenue and Fifty-eighth Street. Previous to the gathering all the drugs that the human marvel agreed to consume were purchased by a Journal representative in open market. The following articles were selected:

From Chemist Wichelns, No. 192 Greenwich street—Rough on rats (arsenic), indigo, copper vitriol, iron chrome kail. From Eimer & Amend, Eighteenth street and Third Avenue—Phosphorus, verdigris.

To this death-dealing mass was added several bunches of common sulphur, matches and a section of paving stone, picked up in the street, several porcelain plates, two ordinary drinking glasses, a lot of coal and coke and a box of printers' ink, possibly the most noxious compound ever placed upon the market.

CHALLENGE TO DEATH.
At 4 o'clock the physicians present seated themselves in a semi-circle about the awful feast in such a way that every movement of the poison eater could be observed. Vetro stood in a cleared space away from the table, under a strong electric light and not four feet from the medical jury.

"Gentlemen," he remarked, finally, "on what shall I begin? I have no choice as for any order of consumption. You name the article and I will begin."
"The physicians' heads went together for a moment and then Dr. Coelet said: 'Try that glass.' He pointed to the drinking glasses, just such as a gentleman has thrust at him when he remarks 'The same.' The glasses had been broken into several pieces. Without a moment's hesitation Captain Vetro picked up the plate of Dr. Walker, of Georgia, selected a piece, and the strange meal was begun. The human ostrich bit off a piece about an inch and a half square, held it for a moment between his lips, and then crunched it into a quare cut myself only a few times. Then he gulped, and when his tongue and mouth were again inspected all was gone. Another, a third, and then a fourth piece of glass went the same way. To prove conclusively that nothing was left in his mouth Vetro crunched into a thousand tiny bits the jury. When the water was taken from his lips it was crimson. The glass had cut his mouth slightly.

"That's very unusual," he remarked. "I've been eating glass for seven years and never suffered from internal hemorrhage."
"Never," answered Vetro.
"What is the largest quantity of glass you have indulged in at one time?"
"A half of a quart champagne bottle."

DINES ON PORCELAIN.
Even the medical men were startled by the statement. An ordinary brown flower-pot, such as stands on many a window sill, and can be found in a thousand gardens of New York, was next served up. Captain Vetro, on eating until the physicians expressed themselves as satisfied.
"That's easy compared to this," he remarked, picking up a piece of the heavy porcelain plate. It was about a quare cut myself only a few times. "You will bever," said Vetro, "that I bite with the teeth on the left side of the jaw. I started in with them, and I find that they are the strongest, but I can masticate with both sides of my jaw."
With these words he placed the porcelain between the two rows of white ivory, strained until his face grew a beet-red, and then—Crunch! The teeth had gone through the piece of plate, and everyone's molars went on edge as he munched a bit about the size of a silver dollar.
"What teeth!" was the ecstatic murmur of Dr. Bergman, one of the dental authorities of the metropolis. After this coal and charcoal were considered easy, but Vetro tried a bit of each to lead up to the paving stone. Then he consumed a formidable chunk of that, rinsed his mouth out thoroughly and announced himself in readiness for the poisons.
It was decided that he should try the matches first. A bottle of beer was brought from the hotel cafe. Into half a glass of beer the man with the copper interior put a box of matches and stirred the mess until the sulphur heads were dissolved. It was a dose sufficient to sicken the strongest man, if not to place his life in danger. Just what it tasted like can be gathered from Captain Vetro's manœvering just before he tossed it off. He drew a long breath first, and after it was down called for water "Quick!"

KEROSENE AND SAWDUST.
Then a mixture of kerosene and saw-

TURKEY AND PLUM PUDDING.

Here is How to Treat These Prime Dishes of the Feast.

First, then, select a fat hen turkey, singe it over a little burning alcohol. Cut off its head, leaving a long neck. Now, with a sharp knife, cut lightly the skin of the leg at the "knee" joint, but not too deep. Bend the foot back and the upper tendons will loosen; take a wooden skewer, and gently pull them out. Then cut through the cartilage until you see a "nest" of tendons; pull one at a time until you remove in all seven. By this you have made of the leg one of the best and most tender pieces of the turkey.

Turn the turkey on its breast, make a long slit in the back of the neck, and take out the crop without tearing the skin of the breast. Cut the neck now even with the body, but leave the skin long as before. Make the next vent in the tip of the breast bone; loosen the intestines and take them carefully without a break; with a sharp knife cut around the large intestines and remove the whole. Cut the oil sack from the rump, and the turkey is drawn.

Place it on a board and with a sponge or cloth wash the skin well, rinse and dry quickly. Sponge out the inside to remove the clotted blood. Fold the skin of the neck back and fasten back the wings. Sew the legs in shape. Place the bird in a large pan, rub the breast with a piece of onion, dust it with pepper, and place over it all the fat taken from the turkey. In the pan put a half pint of water, in which you have dissolved one teaspoonful of salt; run it into a very hot oven and keep basting every ten minutes.

When a good rich brown, cool the oven a little and cook more slowly. It will require two hours to roast a ten-pound turkey, without filling. Dish the bird, pour the fat from the pan, allowing two tablespoonfuls to remain, to which add two tablespoonfuls of flour, mix well, add one pint good stock, stir constantly with a wooden spoon, add one teaspoonful salt, half teaspoonful of kitchen bouquet and a half salt spoon of pepper, strain and serve at once.

ENGLISH PLUM PUDDING.
A Two Guinea Prize Plum Pudding.—Out of five hundred recipes sent the Queen the following was awarded the prize: One pound of raisins, one pound suet, chopped fine; three quarters pound of stale bread crumbs, one-quarter pound of brown sugar, grated rind of one lemon, one-quarter pound of flour, one pound of currants, one-half pound of nutmegs (grated), five eggs, one-half pint of brandy, one-half pound of minced candied orange peel.

Clean, wash and dry the currants. Stone the raisins. Mix all the dry ingredients well together. Beat the eggs, add to them the brandy, then pour them over the dry ingredients, and thoroughly mix. Pack into greased small kettles or moulds (this will make about six pounds), and boil for six hours at the time of making, and six hours when wanted for use. Serve with hard or brandy sauce.

THE LAW OF SELF DEFENCE.

Life in "Wild and Woolly Chicago" is not a very sacred thing, and it is a common thing for the city policemen to pet bullets after anyone whom they desire to overtake, no matter how trifling the offence of which he may be suspected. Perhaps it is that lax regard for life and personal liberty which is characteristic of Chicago, that leads the Chronicle of that city to ridicule the British idea of self-defence. It says of the British law:

A man assaulted and in danger of his life was compelled to retreat as far as possible before he was justified in resistance to such an extent as would cause the death of his assailant. A new rule in the law of self-defence has been announced by Judge Arnold, of the Court of Common Pleas in the city of Philadelphia. In Judge Arnold's instructions to the jury he said that a man assaulted and in danger of his life was not compelled to retreat, but might advance to defend himself, and might continue to advance until his assailant was killed or driven away. He said that this was not English law, but it was common sense and American justice. Judge Arnold is not widely known to public fame. But he has enunciated a new principle in criminal law which is of the highest value.

We don't know Judge Arnold, and we don't know how his view of self-defence accords with United States law and precedent. But we do know that the Chronicle's statement is a travesty on British law. With us the rights of a citizen under a plea of self-defence are bounded, broadly speaking, by necessity. But a man is not required to take risks by turning his back on a would-be murderer. In the words of Frankshaw on our criminal code, which is in harmony with the law of Britain: "The right of self defence proceeds from, and is limited by, necessity. . . . A person, assaulted by another, is not, as a matter of course, required to run, and thus increase his danger. . . . And where an attack is made, with murderous intent, evinced by a sufficient overt act, the person attacked is under no duty to fly; but may stand his ground, and kill his adversary, if such killing become necessary in order to save himself. We think that it is as far as self defence should go; if it means more than that in Chicago then we are sorry for Chicagoans."

DOLLARS AND SCENTS.

A rose by any other name would smell as sweet.
As truly would, I ween, a dozen such;
But just to make the sentiment complete,
A rose by any other name would cost as much.
The report is confirmed in Yokohama that China has offered Chansom-Bay to Russia for a winter station.
The French Budget Committee has confirmed the arrangement for the new submarine cable from Brest to New York.

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Two inches of tallow candle were crushed and then a lump of sulphate of iron was crushed and mixed with sulphur and water. This mixture that the physicians were unanimous would in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred close the earthly career of the average man. Then a lump of blue vitriol that was mixed with it a moment later would have made it an absolute certainty.

In another moment he was preparing a sandwich of bread and printers' ink. The black, sticky mass was spread on a slice of bread about an eighth of an inch thick, and that man ate the foul mixture as if he enjoyed it.
"Try the rough on rats," said someone.
"Certainly," replied Vetro. "I want to add, though, that I have never used this stuff before I came to this country three weeks ago. I don't know how much I can stand."
"It's arsenic you know," warned Dr. Bernham.
"I know that, so I'll only take a teaspoonful."
This is the dose that has sent many an unfortunate on the long journey, and several of the medical board were evidently anxious about the result. Before anyone spoke, however, Vetro placed the poison on a piece of bread and munched contentedly.

A MEAL ON PHOSPHOROUS.
In the centre of the table stood a small bottle containing six sticks of phosphorus, which might have been made of wax candles. They were preserved in water.
"Phosphorous," said Vetro, passing it around.
Everyone, including C. P. Halpin, the famous analytical chemist, who was present, agreed that it was the deadly poison and plenty of it. The bottle would have done for a platoon. Captain Vetro picked up a pair of tongs, fished out a stick of phosphorous and bit off an inch of the stuff. He slipped the remainder back into the bottle of water, as it was already beginning to smoke. Two minutes later he bit off a second piece. His mouth was a luminous cave. It was convincing beyond doubt, and the physicians looked at the man in wonder. Vetro's thin, pale face was as calm as if he were waiting for a street car.

"Where were you born?" asked one of the amazed.
"Chicago," replied Captain Vetro.
A HUMAN PINCUSHION.
Over in the Incurable Hospital on Blackwell's Island lives a veritable human pincushion—not the kind they have in dime museums, but a man who is absolutely insensible to pain. The driving of tacks into the flesh of Thos. Vreeland only makes him smile. He experiences no sensation other than amusement at the consternation displayed by the spectators. When an eminent M. D. toys with the eyeballs of the only painless man Mr. Vreeland seems flattered at the attention from one so distinguished, and when asked for his views on the fleshy part of his arm the pincushion says not a word.

This peculiar patient is a carpenter sixty years of age. He was born in New York city, and worked here at his trade until he became an inmate of the almshouse, about ten years ago. One day last summer Dr. D. Le Roy Culver, house surgeon of the Incurable Hospital, had his attention drawn to the painless man in a rather peculiar manner.

"How did it feel?" asked Vreeland that I had no pain when the doctor went to a question. "Well, it was entirely by accident. About a year ago I sat down to sew up a rent in the leg of my trousers. As the tear was in a handy place, just above the knee, I did not remove the garment. I sewed up the rent good and strong, and thought I had done a fine job of needlework until I got ready for bed that night.
"Then I found that I had sewed the breeches fast to myself without knowing it. All the stitches had to be ripped out before I could go to bed, and my job of tailoring had to be done over again the next day."
And the painless man chuckled as he thought of the joke on himself.

Dr. Culver then took a pin and pushed it deeply into the calf of Vreeland's leg.
"Go ahead; you can't hurt me," the patient cheerfully remarked.
In turn the pin was buried in the wrist, neck, cheek and forehead of the living cushion, to his evident enjoyment. As a final test the eyeball experiment was tried, but it had no more effect than the others. The patient positively refused to feel any pain.

"They can do anything they like—break a leg or pour hot metal down my back. I won't feel it," said Vreeland. "I like to have the doctors experiment with me, because my case puzzles them so much. How do I feel? Oh, just like other men in regard to the rest of my senses. Now and then I have spells of melancholia, so I take my canes and walk about the yard. Then I feel better.
"Chewing tobacco is my great pleasure. I've used the weed in that form ever since I was a little boy, but I don't suppose I ever bought three cigars in my life. I'm a house carpenter and builder and always made good pay until the first symptoms of this trouble came on, about twelve years ago. Since then I haven't been much good, though I did a little carpenter work in the city here after being admitted. My legs bother me so that I can't stand still very long, but must keep moving."

The tactile sense of the patient is the same as in a healthy man. As Vreeland sat with his eyes shut Dr. Culver touched him lightly here and there with the tip of a finger. Each touch was accurately located as soon as made.
WHY IS IT?
The meanest thing in this whole wide, wicked, fatiguing world is the stingy man—and he is the creature whom every woman abhors.
Next to the mean man in iniquity is the woman who allows a man to spend money on her, unless he be her father, husband or fiancée—and she is the woman whom every man likes.

KEROSENE AND SAWDUST.

Then a mixture of kerosene and saw-

RES. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.