

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON VIII, SECOND QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, MAY 20.

Childhood of Moses—Text of the Lesson, Exodus ii, 1-10—Golden Text, Psalm cxv, 15—Commentary on the Lesson by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

"And there went a man of the house of Levi and took to wife a daughter of Levi." We learn from chapter 20 that the man's name was Amram, and that his wife's name was Jochebed, which signifies Jehovah in honor, and Amram lived 137 years. Their names are also given in Num. xvi, 59, and the fact that they had three children—Aaron and Moses and Miriam, Amram's sister, Levi was the third son of Amram and Leah, and his name signifies "gathered." All the Levites were afterward joined unto Aaron in the special ministry of the tabernacle (Num. xviii, 2). There were separated among the children of Israel as a special offering unto the Lord instead of the first born of all Israel and as a gift to Aaron (Num. viii, 13-19).

"And the woman conceived and bore a son." And when she saw him that she was a goodly child she hid him three months. It is written in Acts vii, 20, that he was "exceedingly fair," or, as in the margin, "fair to God." He was the youngest of the three children, Miriam being the oldest and Aaron next. The testimony in Heb. xi, 23, is, "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child, and they were afraid of the king's commandment." It implies a promise on the part of God—it is simply confidence in God that he will do as he has said. God had said to Abraham that he would bring his son out of bondage in the fourth generation (Gen. xv, 16).

"And when she could not longer hide him she took for him an ark of bulrushes and daubed it with slime and pitch and laid it in the flags by the river's bank." This is the second of the three things mentioned in Scripture, each one made for a like purpose—viz, to preserve that which it contained. Let us mother in her imagination pass through this experience and say if she does not want to see Jochebed and ask her, "How could you do it?" The river, to the waters of the deluge, meant death. The child is virtually put in the face of death, and yet it is evident that God would give her back her child. There is no power for God in our lives. We know the place of death and resurrection. See John xii, 24; Phil. i, 10.

"And his sister stood afar off to watch that would be done to him." Let some mother who has a little baby before her imagine herself in the place of Miriam. Can she fancy the mother, having obeyed the promptings of the Spirit of God, now giving herself to earnest prayer in quiet of her own home. She has prayed even unto death and now can only say, "My soul, wait thou only upon God, for my expectation is from him" (Ps. lxxii, 5).

"And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river, and her maidens walked along by the river's side, and when she saw the ark among the flags she sent her maid to fetch it." He is in everything that concerns his people, and oftentimes we must stand still and see what He will do. It is not till we are at our wits' end, all our own wisdom swallowed up, that we see the wisdom and power of God (Ps. cxxvii, 27-30, margin).

"And when she had opened it she saw the child, and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrew children." See how God works! He has the daughter of Pharaoh's compassion for the babe. He made the babe weep for her. He is in it all. How little she dreamed who was watching and controlling her that day or that she was looking upon a child chosen by God to shake her father's kingdom to its very center! Old Simon and Anna knew that the little child in Mary's arms was the Salvation of Israel, God's great Deliverer (Luke ii, 24, 38), but this woman knew nothing.

"Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee? Can you see Miriam standing afar off, and while she watched the spot in the river where her brother lay, lifting up her heart to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, at He would save his daughter? Presently she sees the king's daughter draw near to the very spot. Oh, how she prays!

"And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called her child's mother." Quietly let out of sight, but then how swiftly she sped onward! Did she laugh or cry, or pth? Could she speak when she saw her other, or must she wait to recover breath while the mother, with faith and expectation, waits to hear? Some day we will tell us all about it, for it was a story never to be forgotten in that home. Perhaps a mother who could do as she had done could restrain her joy enough to say to Miriam, Let us give thanks to the God of Israel. See, my friends, how God works. Blessed indeed are all who yield so fully to Him that He can work in them unhindered both to will and to do of His good pleasure (Phil. ii, 13).

"And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away and nurse for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child and nursed it." With emotions controlled she receives into her arms her own dear child with a promise of wages if he will care for her. I wonder if she heard that promise of wages or if Miriam had hitherto to remind her that they might as well not have some money. But as due them from the king's daughter. "And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son." And she called his name Moses, and she said, Because I drew him out of the water. The king who ordered all the male children to be cast into the river is actually sheltering one of those very children who shall be the instrument of God against the kingdom of Egypt. Thus he that sitteth in the heavens laughs at the vain plotting of satan and of man against Him. "The Lord bringeth the council of the heavens to naught. He maketh the devices of the people of none effect. The counsel of the Lord standeth forever, the thoughts of His heart to all generations."

Liniment for sale everywhere.

THE MODEL SKIRT.

What Its Maker Says Will Interest and Instruct Every Woman Reader.

The New York World has discovered a new skirt expert in that city. She is young, and her observations will be read with interest.

"At present," she says, "all the skirts made for everybody but brides are round; that is the fashion. All are not 'true' by any manner of means. I should say that more than half 'ride up,' making the front length shorter than the back. There are two ways to account for this 'dip'—the skirt is cut wrong or the woman's position is false. If the design is incorrect, it will never hang right, as every tailor and modiste knows; but a great many crooked skirts would be perfect if the woman stood properly, or if she allowed herself to be fitted in her natural attitude.

"Women study Delsarte and practice gymnastics; they have physical ideals. I know this because they tell me. Well, when they are being fitted they take perfect positions, that is, the stomach in, plumb with the chin. This shortens the front line, lengthens the back line and results in a fine carriage. The skirt is made, it is absolutely perfect when it goes home. Unfortunately, interest in physical exercise is short lived. The pupil forgets, falls back into the old attitude, stands with her stomach and chin out, her chest and back in, reversing the measurements and the beautiful skirt is from two to five inches shorter in front than it is in the back. The dressmaker is held responsible, but as an actual fact the blame belongs on the other side. These points should be taken into consideration in 'standing' for a dress.

"Another thing—as women get stout and as they advance in years they run down in the back. It is impossible to locate the waist line without using a pad or hooks. The majority object to the pad, and so we put one or two hooks on the waistband and even then it is necessary to make the skirt longer in front, if there is a tendency to flesh.

"Another grievance plump women have against the dressmaker is the hitch or plait that falls in the front of the skirt. Many suppose it is caused by the prominence of the abdomen; this is an error. The cutter is to blame. If it were cut in the proper waist and long enough in front that plait would not occur. Skirts, as they are cut now, require stiffening, both to hold the fullness in the back and to keep them out from the feet. This does not imply a load of hair cloth. There is grass linen, there is a stiffening as loose woven as cheese-cloth, for example, which adds very little to the weight of the skirt. It is used in the back, and it sets the skirt off to perfection, being a bunsle and extender combined.

"A skirt is never pretty with a facing. There are two objections to it—damage to footwear and the hardness it gives the hem. House skirts are as soft finished at the hem as the cuff of a sleeve; skirts for the street are turned up two or three inches; the edge is corded with velvet or velveteen, both for effect and service, and the silk lining is protected by a pinkish stuff. A silk lining is so superior to every other that more style can be had from a stuff dress over silk than a fine cloth or silk made over cotton lining. The silk does wear out, there is no denying that, but it is a satisfaction to the end.

"The model skirts are not made with a pocket or a seam in the back any more; both are concealed at the side. Best results are obtained from a three-seam skirt; that is to say, the front breadth is gored to suit the figure and the rest is in one piece. Side pockets are not recommended. Although they are popular, rather ornamental and decidedly useful, they destroy the fit of the front gore.

"For the women who are not as well formed as they wish they were, there are endless means of improvements. Light-weight materials, hair lines and dark colors will always modify big hips and short stature. Rough surfaces, checks, plaids and flower designs on the other hand magnify the hips and abdomen—and reduce also the apparent height. Bright colors and light clear designs give the wearer a youthful appearance and are suggestive of agility and cheerfulness; black dark stuffs and superabundant trimming are heavy looking.

Three Outdoor Garments.

Buff faced cloth with zouave and frill of silk of a darker shade, trimmed with narrow black ribbon.



Full sleeve, with deep cuff, and collar with three rows of guipure. Hat of fine straw gillie color, the crown shot with lizard-green and trimmed with ribbon to match.

Coarse Gobelins blue cloth with deep shoulder frill edged with tulle, and long bow in front of tabac satin ribbon. Full sleeve with mousetraps cuff. Pointed crown hat of velvet, shot in three colors—pink, heliotrope and yellow; the brim of silk to match, with five rolls of velvet and silk roses with osprey.

Fancy hose with wide silk sash of Vandyke brown. Sleeves tight to elbow with double puff. Yoke trimmed with deep frill set off with ruche of Vandyke brown silk ribbon. Sailor hat with turned back front and large bows of cream satin ribbon; roll of the same edging the brim.

The Smallest Dog in the World. The little Archduchess Elizabeth, daughter of the widowed Crown Princess Stephanie of Austria, and the pet of the Austrian imperial family, is the fortunate owner of the smallest dog in the world. It can play about upon a human hand and it is of the silk-haired terrier breed. It formerly belonged to Mrs. Waldmann, keeper of a cafe in Vienna. The miniature creature is thirteen centimetres high, seventeen long and weighs about a pound.

Mrs. Waldmann thought the tiny thing so charming that only a royal child should possess such a rarity. She accordingly applied to the Crown Princess for permission to present it to the little Archduchess as a Christmas gift. Frau Waldmann took the dog with her to the court and showed it to the royal mother. All were at once taken with the terrier's droll ways and its fine little head, and a few days afterwards the dog found its way in a small basket to the castle.

TALKS ON ASTRONOMY.

Mrs. Proctor Tells the Children Something About Ceres and the Asteroids.

If we could visit the little planet Ceres we would find that it is much smaller than our earth and that it receives seven times less light and heat from the sun than we do.

When we watch this asteroid through a telescope we find that it looks like a bright red star of about the eighth magnitude. The year on Ceres lasts as long as four years and about eight months on our earth.

While the astronomers were admiring Ceres another asteroid was discovered the very next year by an astronomer called Olbers. He found that it traveled at about the same distance from the sun and was also very small, like Ceres. This new planetoid was called Pallas, and it was discovered on the 28th of March, 1802.

On the 2d of September, 1804, yet a third planet belonging to the same family was observed, and the discoverer gave it the name Juno, while on the 28th of March, 1807, Olbers found a fourth, which he named Vesta.

Astronomers began to believe that a large planet which had once traveled between the paths of Mars and Jupiter had been destroyed and that Ceres, Pallas, Juno and Vesta were four of its fragments. But for many years no new planets of this family were discovered. At length, on the 8th of December, 1845, the observer Hencke discovered a fifth member of this strange family, and sixth on the 1st of July in the year 1847. Since that time scarcely a year passes without the discovery of some new members of the family, until now no less than three hundred are known, all traveling between the paths of Mars and Jupiter, but some much nearer to the sun than others. Many of them have paths which are very oval, and many travel on paths very much like that of the planets which our earth travels. But they all move round the sun in the same direction as the earth and the other planets. Astronomers do not now believe that the asteroids are the fragments of a larger planet which was destroyed. There are good reasons for believing that there are thousands of asteroids—many of them, however, being probably too small to be seen with any telescope yet made.

Vesta, the largest and brightest of the planetoids, has a diameter of about 320 miles. None of the rest are much more than 100 miles in diameter, while some newly discovered ones are not much larger than the moons of Mars—that is, from 10 to 20 miles in diameter. Then again, the asteroids are so small that, if they were all rolled into one, they would make a planet only about one-fourth the mass of the earth. The asteroid which travels in a path nearest to the sun is Medusa, and it has a year lasting as long as three of our years and forty days. The asteroid Thule, which is the most remote from the sun, has a year lasting ten days less than nine years.

I wonder what it would be like if we could live on these little worlds, and if we would prefer it to our own planet, earth.—Mary Proctor in New York World.

THE WILY SPIDER.

The spider hid in his mossy nook spinning his web so fine, And Little Miss Muffet, Quite near on her tuffet, Sat down at ease to dine.

The spider ventured a bit too near The dinner sprang up in dismay, And Little Miss Muffet, Deserted her tuffet, And hastily ran away.

The wily old spider looked on with a laugh, Forgetting his bare cupboard shelf; Poor Little Miss Muffet, He sat on her tuffet, And ate up the dinner himself.

Ben Franklin Recalled. In the Washington Post the other day there was an interesting account of some money which that many-sided man, Benjamin Franklin, left to the people of Boston 100 years ago.

He directed that the \$5,000 he bequeathed to the town should be put at interest and left to accumulate for a century. Then half of the amount accumulated in that way was to be taken, and given to some good purpose for the benefit of the people of Boston. The other half was to be kept at interest for another century, at the end of which time the State and the city were to be equal sharers of it. Benjamin Franklin evidently did not believe that the world was coming to an end in 1894.

From his original \$5,000 there are now \$700,000. The half of this is now to be taken to build and equip an industrial training school.

An Old Civilization. When the Japanese Emperor and Empress celebrated their silver wedding on March 9 last, the Empress for the third time in her life appeared in a public function with her husband. This was almost like a revolution there, and the Emperor meant by it, they say, to show that his wife was his equal. I have not room enough to describe all the wonderful things that were seen and done on that day; but think of this: The music that was performed had been composed 1,800 years, 987 years, and 1,160 years ago. That shows how old the civilization of that country is and how carefully the old traditions and learnings have been preserved while Europe was losing half of hers.

The Dressmaker's Apron. Dressmakers and milliners while at work must wear aprons to protect their dress, to keep the materials clean that they are using, and to give them a tidy appearance when interrupted by a customer. White aprons of cambric, lawn or nainsook, and made of a centre front and two gored side pieces reaching nearly to the foot of the skirt, are usually worn for this purpose.

Such aprons need only a deep hem, though clusters of tucks and bands of inserting are never out of place as trimming. The belt and wide strings are of the material, and a large pocket on either side is an absolute necessity. The waitress apron is often bought ready made for this use and large pockets added.

EGYPT'S NEW MINISTRY.

The Story of Nubar Pacha's Long Official Career.

The cabinet crisis in Egypt has resulted in the resignation of Riaz Pacha and the accession to power of Nubar Pacha. In



THE KHEDIVE OF EGYPT.

summoning the latter to his presence he sent Lord Cromer in accordance with a pledge given to the British government last year, that the Khedive would in future consult with the Queen's government before making any ministerial changes.

Henceforth Prime Minister, Nubar Pacha, is sixty nine years of age and has had a wide experience of public affairs. He was secretary to Mohamed Ali and to Ibrahim Pacha and under Ismail was Minister of Public Works in 1864 and Minister of Foreign Affairs in 1867. It was while he was Foreign Minister that Ismail obtained from the Sultan the title of Khedive with its regular descent from father to son. Henceforth Nubar Pacha will be considered of a substantial increase in the tribute paid yearly to Constantinople. The principal work of his career was the establishment of mixed tribunals. In 1867 he addressed a memorandum to the Khedive on the subject of the perils of the judicial administration in Egypt. Two years after he presided over a commission appointed by delegates from Great Britain, France, Austria, Prussia, Russia and Italy, which accepted his reforms in principle, leaving him to work out the details—a task which mainly occupied twenty years of his busy life.

Nubar held various offices under Ismail and his successor, Tewfik, but since his sudden dismissal in 1888 has been little before the eye of the public. He speaks and writes fluently the various European languages and might readily pass for one of the English gentlemen with whom by preference he associates, were it not for the swarthy complexion which proclaims the Oriental. Though conciliatory in his manner, Nubar Pacha is something more than a courtier. He is indeed firm and proud to a fault and possesses the faculty of saying what he means in a way which successive Khedives have not always found agreeable.

The object which he has always set before him has been to render his country self-respecting—free at once from Khedivial despotism and from foreign privilege. He has, therefore, a task of considerable difficulty before him, placed as he is between an imperious young sovereign and the uncompromising agent of a foreign Power.

Next to the President himself the most notable members of the new Ministry are foreshadowed above are Boutros Pacha, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mazloum Pacha Minister of Finance. Boutros is a Copt and as the Copts in Egypt are the best accountants and seem to have a genius for arithmetic he was apparently in the place for which nature destined him in the last Cabinet as Minister of Finance. What manner of Foreign Minister he will make remains to be seen, but he has been a good public servant, having been for many years in the Ministry of Justice, and may fairly be said to have earned promotion. He is



RIAZ PACHA

(The Egyptian Premier who has resigned.)

a man of small stature, with a round, clean shaven face, whose features rarely light up and who often seems half asleep. Mazloum Pacha was Minister of Justice in the last Cabinet. He is comparatively quite a young man, speaking French perfectly and an excellent representative of the new school of educated Egyptians who owe their training to France, and especially to Paris. He is tall and thin and of courteous and refined manners. The late Khedive appointed him Governor-General of the Isthmus of Suez, and Abbas on his accession nominated him Governor of the Suez Canal. He is one of the most energetic men in Egypt, and his French training will certainly not prejudice him unduly in favor of the English. It is said that of all the Ministers constituting the late Cabinet Mazloum alone enjoyed the confidence of the Khedive, and that Abbas would have made him Prime Minister some time ago instead of Riaz had it not been that Mazloum himself, knowing that Lord Cromer would not sanction his nomination, had so directed all his efforts to maintaining the Ministry in power.

Lord Cromer's task, difficult as it has been in the past, is not likely to grow lighter as time goes on. Whatever the final outcome of the situation may be the British government may at least console themselves with the reflection that they could not have a more able representative. Lord Cromer knows more about Egyptian politics and the Egyptian character than any other official living. He was formerly a European Commissioner of the Public Debt, and subsequently, on the establishment of the Dual Control, practically ruled the country in co-operation with his French colleague, M. de Blignieres.

The Deadly Compositor. Subbe Scriber (rushing into the sapotum)—You made a beastly mistake in your paper yesterday.

Editor.—What was it? Subbe Scriber—I sent you an account of our family reunion, headed "A Gathering of the Clans."

Editor.—Well? Subbe Scriber—And it was printed, "A Gathering of the Clams!"

AN IDEAL GREAT MAN'S WIFE.

Mrs. Gladstone's Wonderful Tact in Watching Her Husband's Many Moods.

The watchful care which Mrs. William Ewart Gladstone continually exercises over the health and comfort of her distinguished



MRS. GLADSTONE.

ed husband is the subject of frequent comment among her intimates. Possessed of a forceful intellect and strong womanly sympathies, she uses these characteristics in such a way as to make the ex-premier think her the cleverest woman in the world. Out of all the members of her household she alone knows just how to manage her venerable husband, who in recent years has occasionally manifested a disposition to indulge in what would be regarded as tantrums in less distinguished men. On one occasion recently a leading London journalist, while dining with the Gladstones, got into a heated argument with the sage of Hawarden over some question of public policy. While the discussion was at its stormiest a servant quietly slipped a card into the hand of the dining newspaper man. On it were the words written in Mrs. Gladstone's large, angular hand: "We never contradict Mr. Gladstone."

The visitor then for the first time noticed that the grand old man wore a flushed and excited look. He at once took the hint, and after feebly contesting the point for a few moments longer confessed himself worsted and peace was restored.

MRS. BEECHER IN STRAIGHTS.

The Widow of Brooklyn's Famous Preacher Forced to Leave Her Old Home.

Much against her will, Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher has been compelled to leave the comfortable brick house at Hicks and Orange streets, Brooklyn, where she has so long resided. The widow of the noted pastor met with some severe financial disasters in the past year, and now finds herself unable to pay the \$300 a year demanded. She has moved into a small flat in the Plymouth apartment-house, on Orange street, near the church, where so many years her late husband conducted services. Some time before his death Mr. Beecher picked out the corner from which his widow has just moved. It was then vacant and he had intended to build a home there. Shortly after he died a row of brick houses was built there, and the



MRS. HENRY WARD BEECHER.

widow engaged the one on the spot which had met with favor in her husband's eyes. She had expected to pass the remainder of her days there, but financial reverses have now compelled her to move into less expensive quarters. Mrs. Beecher will be 82 in August.

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