

## FOR THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

## International S. S. Lesson.

LESSON IX.—SALUTARY WARNINGS.—NOV. 28.

(1 Pet. iv. 1-8.)

GOLDEN TEXT—"Be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer."—1 Pet. iv. 7.

TIME AND PLACE—Written probably about A.D. 63 at Babylon.

INTRODUCTION—The Apostle Peter, who wrote this epistle, was at Babylon (some suppose that he was at Rome, a mystic name for which was Babylon) when tidings were brought to him by Sylvanus, or Silas, of the sufferings to which the Jewish Christians of Asia Minor were exposed under the fierce persecution which had been begun by Nero against all who bore the name of Christian. He sent them the letter from which our present lesson is taken for their comfort and encouragement.

VERSE BY VERSE—1. "Suffered for us in the flesh."—He suffered on the cross for us in his human nature. "Arm yourselves likewise with the same mind."—Have the same spirit of obedience and consecration to the will of God. "For he."—That is, the disciple of Christ. "Hath ceased from sin."—He hath forsaken sin, turning from it unto God.

2. "In the flesh."—That is, in obedience to the desires of the sinful heart. "To the will of God." Obedient to that will.

3. "May suffice."—We have given time enough to sin. "The will of the Gentiles."—By conforming to the vicious heathenish practices. "Lasciviousness, etc."—Describing the evil practices of the heathen world, many of them connected with the rites of the pagan religion.

4. "Think it strange."—The heathen could not understand that spiritual change which led the disciples of Christ to forsake all their wicked practices.

5. "Shall give account."—In the great day of judgment. "Him that is ready to judge."—The Lord Jesus Christ who is to judge the world in righteousness. "The quick."—The living.

6. "Preached also to them that are dead."—While they were still alive. "According to God in the Spirit."—In obedience to the will of God as revealed by the Spirit.

7. "The end of all things."—The end of the present dispensation and the world. "Be . . . sober."—Of sound mind, self-restrained, not given to excess. "Watch."—For the coming of Christ and the end of all things.

8. "Fervent charity."—Christian love for each other. "Shall cover the multitude of sins."—Christian love leads to leniency towards the sins and faults of others.

THOUGHTS.—The Apostle Peter comes under notice as the author of this lesson. He writes in a different style from Paul, but the same grand truths are the theme of his pen. The portion chosen for this lesson is somewhat difficult, in parts, to understand, but within the close reasoning is found wholesome truth. Warning is necessary, as well as comforting doctrine. The warning in this portion under consideration is pungent, indeed, and bears no uncertain sound. There is also a reminder of a judgment to come, and a summing up of all worldly affairs not far distant. Then he turns to the old, old sweet theme of love, which is the queen of Christian graces.

## CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

## DAILY READINGS.

First Day—Exhortation to Godliness.—1 Pet. i. 1-25.

Second Day—Warning against fleshly lusts.—1 Pet. ii. 1-25.

Third Day—Exhorting to Unity and Love.—1 Pet. iii. 1-22.

Fourth Day—Salutary Warnings.—1 Pet. iv. 1-19.

Fifth Day—"Be Sober, be Vigilant."—1 Pet. v. 1-15.

Sixth Day—"Live Soberly, Righteously, and Godly."—Titus ii. 1-15.

PRAYER MEETING TOPIC, Nov. 28.—"How can we consecrate ourselves to the temperance and similar reforms?"—Luke i. 5-17. (International Temperance Sunday.)

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

Canada's entire contribution to missions in 1891 would not pay Canada's drink bill for four days.

A nation equal to half the total population of the United States and Canada die annually in heathen lands without God.

If for every heathen who passes into eternity one resident of Toronto passed away with him, in 48 hours there would not be a living soul in the Queen City.

Canada spends eighty millions annually in liquor, an average of \$16 per head. She gives half a million of dollars for missions, an average of 10 cents per head.

The annual receipts in the saloons in Chicago amount to more than double the sum given by the United States for missions.

## TEMPERANCE.

The more a man denies himself, the more he shall obtain from God.—Horace.

If our people were more sober I think crime would almost disappear from amongst us.—Baron Döwse.

No stone should be left unturned to counteract the great sin of intemperance.—Stanley.

Every days experience tends more and more to confirm me in my opinion that the temperance cause lies at the foundation of all social and political reform.—Cobden.

There is nothing good written under the inspiration of drink. Burns did not write the "Cotter's Saturday Night," Byron did not write "Childe Harold" under the inspiration of drink. Our best men have been sober men. Sheridan has been an exception among the latter, but even Sheridan sobered himself to compose his speeches. His very jokes were elaborated when sober, and in secret, to be told in the House, as if they were the inspiration of the moment. Our hardest working public men have over been our most temperate men.

## OUR YOUNG MEN.

"The glory of young men is their strength," and that strength should be employed in crushing out the giant evil which threatens the very life of our beloved country.

Never in the history of the world was there greater or grander opportunity for doing valiant service for humanity than is now offered in this contest with King Alcohol. He is rich and he is desperate, and should be opposed by the sterling Christian manhood and womanhood of the nation.

We appeal to the young men on our farms, in our stores and factories, in school and college, to every member of the C.E., to come to the help of the Lord against the mighty. Rally to the aid of suffering mothers, wives and daughters, rally to free your comrades from the spell of the foul demon, rally to protect the young, the pure and the innocent from the ravages of this destroyer, rally to save the homes of America from their unrelenting energy and rally as one man to give the coming generations a clean field and a fair chance for sobriety and success. It is yours to say whether this Dominion shall live to be a blessing to the millions yet unborn or go down in corruption and ruin because its citizens had not the courage to attack and conquer its greatest enemy.

## UNDER THE EVENING LAMP

## THE "BURYIN'" OF ZEB HOLT.

BY CAROLINE H. STANLEY.

(Conclusion.)

"He told me," continued the minister, "something of how he felt when his term expired. He had had a good deal of time to think, and he had planned out his future life. He would go back to his old home—among his old neighbours; they had known of his early life, and they would help him to begin again. He determined to talk freely with them about it—not to evade it at all—and then to live such a life of self-sacrifice and helpfulness to others as would partially atone for his sin. He knew he could never outlive the shame of having been a convict, but he would bear that as a part of his punishment, and by his devotion to his family he would try to make up to them for the loss of son and husband and father all these years.

"Brethren, this was what he hoped to do. Let me tell you how it ended. On the train he met a man from Gasconade who had once lived in Franklin. Holt made himself known to him and asked for news from his family. The man looked at him in amazement. Then he told him. His wife had gone off with another man, six months after he went to prison, taking the child with her. The man was the one her name had been coupled with. It was true after all!

"Zeb said he thought he must have been dazed, for when the man left him he sat there trying to think what he should do now, and where he should go, and he couldn't seem to think clearly of anything. Pretty soon the conductor came to him and asked if his ticket hadn't been to Franklin.

"Yes," he said, 'it had.'

"He found he had gone several miles beyond, but the conductor slowed up and let him off. He said he sat down by the track and wondered if it wouldn't have been better for him to have gone on after all. But he thought of his