

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

JULY 12, 1883.

THE PLAIN OF JERICO.

JOSHUA 5, 10-15; 6, 5.

1.—The necessary preliminaries having been attended to, the Israelites proceeded to keep their first Passover in the Promised Land. There is no record of more than one Passover having been observed during their wanderings in the wilderness (Num. ix. 1). This was thus of more than ordinary importance, after so long an interval, and celebrating the completion of that deliverance which began the night when their fathers left Egypt. The people were not only out of Egypt, but in Canaan. In the first Passover they celebrated the beginning of the fulfilment of God's promise to Abraham; the second found them far advanced through the wilderness; this was eaten when they were really in the land. The feast of Christ our Passover will be ever fresh and precious, and the fulfilment of His promised deliverance of us will be ever seen advancing, as we continually bring our new experiences to aid us in expounding the meaning of the service. But we must not lose sight of the fact that this Passover was intended to be as much a preparation for future conflicts as a celebration of past deliverances. They were in the Promised Land, but they had not yet conquered it. Even while they were observing their feast the foes they had to contend with were close at hand, and a full view of the difficulties to be overcome was before them in the strong walls of Jericho. It required some faith to enable them to feast with gladness of heart under such circumstances; but they were realizing what the future sweet singer of Israel long afterwards so beautifully expressed: "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies."

Among the incidents connected with this first encampment the manna ceased to fall (verses 11, 12). They "did eat of the old corn of the land" the day after the Passover, and the next day the manna ceased to fall. The people had no doubt been so alarmed by the miraculous passage of the Jordan and the invasion of so vast a host, that they had precipitately fled into the city for refuge, leaving all their stores behind them. Thus the immediate withdrawal of the manna would both remind them of its miraculous origin, and show them that in future they were to depend on their own exertions. The Gilgal, as the first encampment, could not fail to be of importance in the history of the Israelites. The tabernacle appears to have remained there until its removal to Shiloh (Judges xviii. 1). It was one of the places regularly visited by Samuel, where he held his courts of justice (1 Sam. vii. 16), and where sacrifices continued to be offered before the Lord. During all that period, it seems to have been one of the chief sanctuaries of the nation, but there is no indication that a town was ever built there. It seems always to have retained its original character of a camping ground for special purposes, rather than a settled place of a town.

2.—The appearance of this mysterious stranger took place "when Joshua was by Jericho" (ver. 13). It seems possible that Joshua had gone out from the camp quietly—perhaps by moonlight—to reconnoitre the city, and while considering what would be the best plan of attack, he was suddenly confronted by a man with a drawn sword. Nothing daunted by this unexpected appearance, he enquired whether the stranger was of them or their foes. The reply to this enquiry was such as to cause an immediate change in the attitude of the leader of Israel; he prostrated himself on the ground and enquired, "What saith my Lord unto His servant?" It is very clear from the whole narrative that this mysterious visitor was. The name under which He announces Himself is so similar to one of the Divine names—The Lord of Hosts; the instruction He gives to Joshua is so identical with that given to Moses at the burning bush, and Joshua's reverence is so marked, that it is almost certain that this Divine person who had appeared to the patriarchs and to Moses on so many important occasions.

3.—The simple arrangements for the daily procession of the Israelites around Jericho were to impress the truth more deeply, both on the Israelites and Canaanites, that the overthrow of the city was entirely due to Divine power. The seven days' delay was also intended to teach the Israelites salutary lessons. The Lord could as easily have overthrown the walls on the first day as on the seventh. He was not waiting to rather up His power for the destruction of the Canaanites. He could have spoken and destroyed the city and the idolaters at a word. The Lord had a more exalted war. His battle was with human hearts. He was seeking to overcome these Israelites rather than those Canaanites. He would subdue them to Himself with faith and build them last with wonder, and thankfulness, and love. (Abhidin from the W. M. S. S. Mag.)

A society has been formed in England under the presidency of the Archbishop of Canterbury which has for its object "the Christianizing, simplifying, and cheapening funeral and mourning ceremonial."

TO AVOID DROWNING.

It is a well-known fact, says the Scientific American, that any person of average structure and lung capacity will float securely in water if care is taken to keep the hands and arms submerged and the lungs full of air. Yet in most cases people who are not swimmers immediately raise their hands above their heads and scream the moment they find themselves in deep water. The folly of such action can be impressively illustrated by means of a half empty bottle and a couple of nails, and the experiment should be repeated in every household until all the members—particularly the women and children—realize that the only chance for safety in deep water lies in keeping the hands under and the mouth shut.

Any short necked, square-shouldered bottle will answer, and the nails can easily be kept in place by a rubber band or string. First ballast the bottle with sand, so that it will just float with the nails pointing downward, then by turning the nails upward the bottle will be either forced under water at once, or will be tipped over so that the water will pour into the open mouth, and down it will go. To children the experiment is a very impressive one, and the moral of it is easily understood. It may prove a life saving lesson.

USEFUL HINTS.

An invalid should never be allowed to touch hot rolls or hot bread in any shape.

Vegetables are the life and soul of healthy living, and should not be neglected at any meal.

Cold boiled potatoes used as soap will clean the hands and keep the skin soft and healthy. Those not overboiled are the best.

Spirits of ammonia diluted with water, if applied with a sponge or flannel to discolored spots on the carpet or garments, will often restore color.

To cure a felon: As the parts begin to swell, wrap the part affected with a cloth thoroughly saturated with the decoction of iodine, and the felon is dead.

Mix a little carbonate of soda with the water in which the flowers are placed, and it will preserve them for a fortnight. Common salt-petre is also a very good preservative.

To remove spots from furniture, take four ounces of vinegar, two ounces of sweet oil, one ounce of turpentine. Mix and apply with a flannel cloth.

In many parts of France parsnips are extensively planted for the feeding of milch cows. A French writer says the richness of the Jersey and Alderney butter is due largely to the feeding of parsnips.

An occasional dose of raw onions is excellent food for poultry, but should not be fed too freely, or the eggs will be tainted. A moderate ration twice a week will be often enough, and will have a good effect upon the health of the hens.

The following is recommended as a cure for neuralgic headache: Squeeze the juice of a lemon into a small cup of strong coffee. This will usually afford immediate relief in neuralgic headache. Tea ordinarily increases neuralgic pain, and ought not to be used by persons affected with it.

As the time for sowing spring barley comes on care should be taken not to feed whole oats to horses ploughing or cultivating for the barley crop. Many farmers wonder at the presence of oats in their barley when they know the seed was clean, and in the majority of cases the evil can be traced to the suspected source.

Improve yourself in every way possible, now in the long golden days of youth. Further on you will find work and caring for creature wants crowding in upon you, and in all probability self-improvement will then be found to be hard to carry on. Make sure of these, your best days. You will never regret it.

To get rid of spiders upon house plants get a pail or tub of hot water, just hot enough to bear the hand in it. Turn the pot bottom upward, holding the soil with a cloth to prevent it falling out, and dip the plant in the water, and keep it in half a minute. This will kill the spiders; sprinkle a little sulphur on the soil.

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Did She Die? "No." "She lingered and suffered along, pining away all the time for years." "The doctors doing her no good." "And at last was cured by this Hop Bitters the papers say so much about."

A Daughter's Misery. "Eleven years our daughter has suffered on a bed of misery. From a complication of kidney, rheumatic trouble and nervous debility, Under the care of the best physicians, 'Who gave her disease various names, 'But no relief." "And now she is restored to us in good health by as simple a remedy as Hop Bitters, that we had shunned for years before using it."—THE PARENTS.

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MOTHERS! MOTHERS! MOTHERS! Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with the excruciating pain of cutting teeth? If so, go at once and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately—depend upon it; there is no other remedy. There is not a mother on earth who has ever used it, who will not tell you at once that it will regulate the bowels, and give rest to the mother, and relief and health to the child, operating like magic. It is perfectly safe to use in all cases, and pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States. Sold everywhere. 25 cents a bottle. Feb 10

For toothache, neuralgia, cuts and rheumatism use Parrott's Pain Killer. See adv. in another column.

REST AND COMFORT TO THE SUFFERING.—Brown's Household Panacea has no equal for relieving pain, both internal and external. It cures Pain in the Side, Back or Bowels, Sore Throat, Rheumatism, Toothache, Lumbago and any kind of Lache. "It will most surely quicken the Blood and Heal, as its acting power is wonderful." "Brown's Household Panacea," being acknowledged as the great Pain Reliever, and of double the strength of other Remedies or Linctament in the world, should be in every family handy for use when wanted, "as it really is the best remedy in the world for Croup in the Stomach, and Pains and Aches of all kinds," and for sale by all Druggists at 25 cents a bottle. Feb 10

TO CONSUMPTIVES.—The production of a remedy that "may truly be said to so alter the prospects of the Consumptive as to give hope of cure in not a few cases, and of much prolonging of life in by far the greater number," is the only remedy worthy of the name which, if carefully and faithfully used may arrest and cure the disease, and it is pretty sure to retard it and prolong life more than any other known remedy." is a great desideratum. Yet, this desideratum is fully met in Robinson's Phosphorized Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Lacto-Phosphate of Lime, which is universally acknowledged wherever introduced, to be the best preparation of Cod Liver Oil extant, and which, if "carefully, faithfully, and persistently used, will rarely fail to produce marked beneficial results. Prepared solely by Harrington Bros., Pharmaceutical Chemists, St. John, N. B., and for sale by Druggists and General Dealers. Price \$1.00 per bottle; six bottles for \$5.00. June 22—1m

One of the greatest trials that housekeepers have to undergo during the hot weather, is that of washing day. Happily there is practical relief for them in the use of James Pyle's Pearline.

For Cramps, Pains in the Stomach, Bowels Compliant or Chills, use Perry Davis' Pain Killer. See adv. in another column.

REV. G. FRED. DAY, Musquodoboit Harbor, Nova Scotia. May 4 1y

GOT HIM OUT OF BED.—I was confined to my bed with Rheumatism, could not move hand or foot. A clergyman called to see me and advised me to use Minard's Linctament. I did so in three days, was out of bed and resumed my work as well as ever. JAS. LANGILLE, Springfield, Annapolis Co., 1882. mar 2 1m

BELLSLE, KING'S CO., N.B. July 9th, 1880. I have used Graham's Pills myself and in my family, and find them to be the most effectual physic I have ever known, and I have tried all the popular Cathartic Pills in use. They cause no griping, do not leave the bowels costive after their use, and are most effectual in removing diseases of the Liver and Bowels. I have proved them to be a superior Dinner Pill, and without hesitation I recommend them to the public. (Deacon) JAMES KIRKSTAD.

AT METHODIST BOOKROOM

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