

THE STRANGER.
AN EASTERN FRIEND.

AN aged man came late to Abraham's tent. The sky was dark, and all the plain was bare. He asked for bread, his strength was well nigh spent. His haggard look implored the tenderest care. The food was brought. He sat with thankful eyes. But spoke no grace, nor bowed he towards the east. Safe sheltered here from dark and angry skies, The bounteous table seemed a royal feast. But ere his hand had touched the tempting fare, The Patriarch rose, and leaning on his rod, "Stranger," he said, "dost thou not bow in prayer? Dost thou not fear, dost thou not worship, God?" He answered, "Nay." The Patriarch sadly said: "Thou hast my pity. Go 'eat not my bread."

Another came that wild and fearful night, The fierce winds raged, and darker grew the sky; But all the tent was filled with wondrous light, And Abraham knew the Lord his God was nigh. "Where is that aged man?" the Presence said, "That asked for shelter from the driving blast? Who made thee master of thy Master's bread? What right hadst thou the wanderer forth to cast?" "Forgive me, Lord," the Patriarch answer made, With downcast look, with bowed and trembling knee. "Ah me! the stranger might with me have staid, But, O my God, he would not worship Thee!" "I've borne him long," God said, "and still I wait: Couldst thou not lodge him one night in thy gate?"

Harpers' Magazine.

VARIETIES.

"We're very proud of our ancestry, you know." "Yes; but how would your ancestry feel about you?"

The Home for Aged Methodists in Baltimore was built at an expense of \$100,000.

We do not say "work hard," but "work easily." Put your whole mind upon it, take it with tact and all will run well.

The parents of Rev. Charles H. Spurgeon recently celebrated their golden wedding. The father still preaches, though not regularly.

A GENTLEMAN in Brooklyn, celebrating the birth of a daughter on the day of the opening of the bridge, proposed to call her Victoria, in honor of the Queen's birthday, whereupon a friend suggested that a more appropriate name would be Bridget.

An elderly resident of Newport was approached by an agent for a cyclopaedia. "I guess I won't get one," said the elderly resident, and frankly added: "I know I never could learn to ride one of the pesky things."

A VERY young lady addressed her father at the breakfast table the other morning:—"Pappy, I want a new hat and a new pair of shoes," "I suppose so. What don't you want?" remarked the paternal. "Well," answered little miss, "I don't want any cigars."

"Aw, I hev such a dwdedful cawld in me head," remarked an Ivy street dude, as he stroked his tender mustache. "Better that than nothing," was the response of a bright maiden, "only," she added, "it must be rather lonely for the cold."

A VERY polite and impressive gentleman, meeting a boy in the street, said, "My dear boy, may I enquire where

Robinson's shop is?" "Certainly sir," said the boy, very respectfully. After waiting a few minutes, the gentleman said, "Well, my boy, where is it?" "I have not the slightest idea," said the urchin.

The Rev. Mr. Davidson, an ex-missionary to Japan, in a recent address to a Sunday School said:—"Translated literally, an invitation to take one of the new chairs in Japan would read, 'Will you be pleased to hang up your loins on this box?' In welcoming a friend after a protracted absence, a native of Japan says, 'It is a long time since your honourable person has been hung up on my eye.'"

LONDON World.—The idea of a sovereign, and that sovereign a woman, who, withdrawn from the gaze of her people, watches them patiently and lovingly, notes what is amiss with them, mingles her tears with theirs, rejoices with a personal joy in their happiness—the idea, we say, of a Queen who does this in the way that it is done by Her Majesty, touches the hearts and the thoughts of the people in an altogether exceptional way.

LESSON NOTES.

THIRD QUARTERLY REVIEW.

Sept. 30.

REVIEW SCHEME.

[TO THE SCHOLAR.—1. Read carefully all the lessons of the quarter through the week. 2. Study the questions and answers in the LESSON CATECHISM, at the end of each lesson. 3. Learn and repeat the TITLE and GOLDEN TEXT of each lesson. 4. Carefully study these questions until you can answer them all. 5. Find something in each lesson for yourself to do or be.]

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

Lesson I. *Joshua, Successor to Moses.* Josh. 1. 1-9.—Who was Joshua? What did God tell him to do? What promise did God make to him? What book was he to study? What is the GOLDEN TEXT?

Lesson II. *Passing over Jordan.* Josh. 3. 5-17.—Where is the Jordan? Where were the Israelites? How did they cross the Jordan? By whose help did they cross? What is the GOLDEN TEXT? When do we need God's help?

Lesson III. *The Plains of Jericho.* Josh. 5. 10-15; 6. 1-5.—Where was Jericho? Whom did Joshua meet before Jericho? How was Jericho taken? Repeat GOLDEN TEXT. What victory will faith in God give us?

Lesson IV. *Israel Defeated at Ai.* Josh. 7. 10-26.—Why were the Israelites defeated? Who took of the accursed thing? How was he discovered? What was done to him? Repeat GOLDEN TEXT. Against what sins are we here warned?

Lesson V. *The Reading of the Law.* Josh. 8. 30-35.—Where was the law read? Where was it written? Who heard it read? What is the GOLDEN TEXT? What blessing do we find in obeying God's law?

Lesson VI. *The Cities of Refuge.* Josh. 20. 1-9.—What were the cities of refuge for? Who were allowed to find refuge in the cities of refuge? How long was he to remain there? How many were there? What is the GOLDEN TEXT? Who is our refuge?

Lesson VII. *The Last Days of Joshua.* Josh. 24. 14-29.—What did Joshua urge the people to do? Repeat the GOLDEN TEXT. What was Joshua's choice? What was the people's choice? What was made a witness to the covenant? Why should we choose God's service?

Lesson VIII. *Israel Forsaking God.* Judg. 2. 6-16.—What is the GOLDEN TEXT? How long did Israel serve God? When did they begin to forsake God? What did they serve? What penalty did they suffer? Whom did God raise up to help them? What idols do people serve now?

Lesson IX. *Gideon's Army.* Judg. 7. 1-8.—Who was Gideon? Against whom did he fight? How large was his army at first? How was it made smaller? How many were finally chosen? What is the GOLDEN TEXT? What kind of warriors does God desire?

Lesson X. *The Death of Samson.* Judg. 16. 21-31.—Who was Samson? What were

some of his exploits? How was he taken prisoner? What did his enemies do to him? How did he die? What is the GOLDEN TEXT? Whose death accomplished greater benefits to God's people than Samson's?

Lesson XI. *Ruth and Naomi.* Ruth 1. 14-22.—Who was Naomi? Who was Ruth? What was Ruth's resolution? (GOLDEN TEXT.) Where did Naomi and Ruth go? Who was a descendant of Ruth? How does God reward those who choose his service?

Lesson XII. *A Praying Mother.* 1 Sam. 1. 21-28.—Who was the praying mother? How were her prayers answered? Who was her child? What vow did she make concerning him? (GOLDEN TEXT.) How may we have our prayers answered?

Lesson XIII. *The Child Samuel.* 1 Sam. 3. 1-19.—Where did the child Samuel minister? Who was the high-priest? How did God speak to Samuel? How did Samuel answer the Lord? (GOLDEN TEXT.) What did God tell Samuel? How does God talk with us now?

Special Quarterly Service.—Topic: Education. 1. What is education? 2. Who should seek education? 3. The Church and education.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

B. C. 1141.] LESSON I. [Oct. 7.

ELI'S DEATH.

1 Sam. 4. 10-18. Commit to memory vs. 17, 18.

GOLDEN TEXT.

His sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not. 1 Sam. 3. 13.

OUTLINE.

1. The Battle. v. 10, 11.
2. The Watcher. v. 12-15.
3. The Report. v. 16-18.

TIME.—B.C. 1141.

PLACE.—Shiloh, in central Palestine.

EXPLANATIONS.—*The Philistines fought*—The battle was at Ebenezer, where afterwards God gave the Israelites a great victory over the same enemies. *Israel was smitten*—Though they had the ark in the camp it did not save them from defeat. *Into his tent*—Into his home, is the meaning. *There fell*—Slain in the battle. *The ark was taken*—The chest containing the law of God and the token of God's presence with His people. *Two sons of Eli*—They were very wicked, though priests of God, and deserved to die, as was shown in the last lesson. *Came to Shiloh*—Where the tabernacle was. *Clothes rent*—earth upon his head—Oriental tokens of mourning. *Eli sat watching*—Very anxious for the ark of God. *All the city cried*—As they heard the sad news. *What meaneth*—He heard the noise, but no one had ventured to tell him its cause, and being blind he could not see the faces of the people. *Told Eli*—Told him what is related in the following verses. *I am he*—I am one that came from the army and know all that has happened. *My son*—Eli was, as priest and judge, the father of all the people. *The messenger answered*—His words are of gathering trouble: a story of sorrow simply told. *When he made mention*—The ark of God was dearer than all else, because it was believed to have God's presence with it. *From off the seat*—The seat had no support at the back. *An old man*—About ninety-eight years.

TEACHINGS OF THE LESSON.

- Where does this lesson show—
1. That God forsakes the people that forsake him?
 2. That sin and neglect bring sure punishment?
 3. That God's warnings are sure of fulfillment?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. For what did the Israelites send when about to fight with the Philistines? For the ark of God. 2. Why did not the ark save them from defeat? Because they had forsaken God. 3. Who were slain in the battle? The two sons of Eli. 4. What became of the ark? It was taken by the Philistines. 5. How did the news affect Eli? He fell down and was killed.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—God's fidelity to his warnings.

CATECHISM QUESTION.

39. How long did He tarry on the earth after His rising from the dead? Christ tarried forty days on the earth after His rising from the dead, conversing with His Apostles, and instructing them further in the Gospel, and in the doctrines and rules of the kingdom.

Knowledge Acquired by Electricity.

When will mankind know or realize that the utmost limits of its power have been reached? Motive force, light, communication of thought, the voice even been transmitted, all these things are now familiarized, but who would have thought that it would ever become an active and impressing method for imparting to the mind a knowledge of Scripture, Geography, History or Music but such is now actually the case.

THE ELECTRICAL INSTRUCTOR

now for sale, does all this and more. A more ingenious method of imparting knowledge and amusement simultaneously could not be devised, it is a most unique idea, and commends itself to all who have an interest in instructing and amusing children, but not only will youth appreciate them; one and all admire them.

The following subjects have been prepared: OLD TESTAMENT, NEW TESTAMENT, TEMPERANCE, GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, MUSIC.

PRICE 75 CENTS EACH.

Elegantly bound in cloth, gilt and black lettered.

The most amusing, instructive and mysterious scientific novelty of the present day.

Mailed post free on receipt of price.

Address,

WILLIAM BRIGGS,
78 AND 80 KING ST. EAST,
TORONTO.

STANDARD LIBRARY.

Previous numbers of this Library were known by the name Standard Series. A list of these 79 books can be had on application. It is proposed to issue 26 books in the year, or one every fortnight. The regular selling prices of the 26 books in this country, would aggregate from \$50 to \$100. Our prices will be from 15 cents to 25 cents each; the average will be about 20 cents; in all about \$5.20.

Any book in the list mailed post-free on receipt of price.

No. 15. SCOTTISH CHARACTERISTICS.

By Paxton Hood.

He must be a bold man who will undertake to portray a Scotchman. He has generally been found too hard a case, one who could always hold his own against all comers, and finally turn the laugh upon his critics. Johnson, who hated Scotchmen, was no match for the Scot's dry sarcasm. Johnson, in his dictionary, in defining the meaning of oatmeal, said: "Food for horses and Scotchmen" and the Scotchman who saw it wrote on the margin: "Were there ever such horses? Were there ever such men?" If, however, the work is to be done at all, there is not a man in Great Britain who is so well fitted for the task as Paxton Hood. No man knows them better. He was near enough to them to know them intimately. He was far enough away to be able to take in their grand proportions of character. His wit, humor, sarcasm, which abound in all his writings, are apparently concentrated in this. Some of the anecdotes we have seen before, but Mr. Hood tells them in such a quaint way that we find a new interest in them. The old as well as the young will be amused and greatly edified.

No. 14. WINTER IN INDIA. By the Right Hon. W. E. Baxter, M.P. Price 25 cents.

This is the last and the best of a number of most charming books of travel by the Hon. Mr. Baxter, who took many journeys in Europe, Asia, Africa and America. By the aid of this book we can accompany him through his winter tour in India.

We cannot give lists of the forthcoming issues.

WILLIAM BRIGGS,
78 & 80 King St. East, Toronto, Ont.
Or, C. W. COATES, Montreal, Que.,
S. F. HUESTIS, Halifax, N. S.