

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

From the Bible Question Book. LESSON VIII. [28th Nov. 15:25] THE PLAGUE STAYED. COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 24, 25.

15. So the Lord sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed; and there died of the people from Dan even to Beer-sheba seventy thousand men.

16. And when the angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the Lord repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that he destroyed the people, It is enough; stay now thine hand. And the angel of the Lord was by the threshing-floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

17. And David spoke unto the Lord when he saw the angel that smote the people, and said, Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly; but these sheeps what have they done? Let thine hand, I pray thee, be against me, and against my father's house.

18. And God came that day to David, and said unto him, Go up, for an altar unto the Lord in the threshing-floor of Araunah, the Jebusite.

19. And David, according to the saying of God, went up as the Lord commanded.

20. And Araunah looked and saw the king and his servants coming on toward him; and Araunah went out, and bowed himself before the king on his face upon the ground.

21. And Araunah said, Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant? And David said, To buy the threshing-floor of thee, to build an altar unto the Lord, that the plague may be stayed from the people.

22. And Araunah said unto David, Let my lord the king take and offer up what seemeth good unto him; for he hath offered burnt-offerings, and threshing instruments and other instruments of the oxen for wood.

23. All these things did Araunah, as a king, gave unto the king. And Araunah said unto the king, The Lord thy God accept thee.

24. And the king said unto Araunah, Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price; neither will I offer burnt-offerings unto the Lord my God; for that which doth cost me nothing, so David bought the threshing-floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

25. And David built there an altar unto the Lord, and offered burnt-offerings and peace-offerings. So the Lord was entreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.

GOLDEN TEXT. So the Lord was entreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.—2 Sam. 21:25.

HOME READING. M. 2 Sam. 19:136. The King's Return. T. Ps. 20:149. The King's Thanksgiving.

W. 2 Sam. 20:141. The King's Family. Th. 2 Sam. 21:14. David's Sin. F. 2 Sam. 21:15. The King Stayed. Sa. Ps. 18:35. My Mercies Recounted. S. 2 Sam. 21:17. Last Words.

LESSON PLAN. 1. Wrath against Sin. 2. Repentance and Atonement. 3. Mercy and Deliverance. Time.—H.C. 107. Place.—Jerusalem.

LESSON NOTES. I.—V. 15 THE MORNING—of the day on which the prophet came to David. FROM DAN—the most northern extremity of the land. BEER-SHEBA—the most southern point. V. 15 STRETCHED-OUT HIS HAND—had sent him forward to Jerusalem. 14 FROM 21:16 THRESHING-FLOOR OF ARAUNAH—on Mount Moriah north-east of Zion, and Beth without the city.

11.—X. 17 DAVID SPEAK—see the notes on 10:19 and 14:17. V. 17 I HAVE SINNED—comp. to 1 Chron. 21:17. His intercession prevailed, and the Lord said to the angel, Stay thy hand. V. 18 GOD CAME TO DAVID—the command of the angel of the Lord. 1 Chron. 21:18. HEAR AN ALTAR—an assurance that his repentance and prayer were accepted.

11.—V. 21 TO BUY THE THRESHING-FLOOR—Araunah was willing to give it, but David would not worship him with what cost him nothing. V. 24 FIFTY SHEKELS OF SILVER—about thirty dollars. In 1 Chron. 21:25 we read that David gave for the place six hundred shekels of gold by weight—about five thousand dollars. Perhaps the price here named was for the threshing-floor alone, and the larger price in 1 Chron. 21:25 for the entire landed property of Araunah. V. 25 BUILT THERE AN ALTAR—according to the Lord's command. 1 Sam. 13:9. 1 Chron. 21:26. In due time the temple was built there.

WHAT HAVE I LEARNED? 1. That God sometimes sends judgments upon sinners and nations in punishment of their sins. 2. That the true penitent acknowledges his guilt and seeks himself on the mercy of God. 3. That God will answer the prayer of the penitent. 4. That it is a sad thought to the true penitent that his sin and folly have brought evil upon others. 5. That God has shown his acceptance of Christ as a sin-offering for us by exalting him to heaven.

THERE is danger in overestimating the importance of the scholar gaining a thorough knowledge of the Bible as a means towards securing his conversion. Whilst such knowledge is important, it is also true that this knowledge is often acquired only to be used against the Bible in the effort to break down its influence. The end to be accomplished is not the impartation simply of knowledge, but saving knowledge.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Aug. 12, 1884.

The downward course of the wheat market still continues, and there is not much sign of the actual bottom being reached, although it cannot be far off with Chicago under 80c. Some new wheat red winter chiefly, has been upon the market, and the sample is splendid, very much superior to that of last year, which was very poor milling stuff. All the authorities are now earnestly advising farmers to sell at once, as the hoarding of grain will not be remunerative to them while it will greatly effect business for the worse. It is pointed out that shipments from India have now ceased, but that they would revive at an increase in price, which would satisfy those who wait for an advance and thus the markets of England at least, would be rapidly glutted. The present prices in Canada appear to be still too high, and a drop in it will, it is probable, take place, before any great amount of business is done.

Chicago has again gone down to or three points, and futures are weakening steadily, although the market to-day is of a cent dearer than yesterday. September wheat is about 4c lower than last week, October 4 1/2c lower, and November 4c lower. We quote September at 79 1/2c; October at 80 1/2c and November at 81 1/2c. Corn is about 4c lower all round at 50 1/2c Aug., 49 1/2c Sept., 48 1/2c Oct., 47 1/2c Nov., and 47 1/2c a year.

The local market is a good deal more lively than this time last week, and prices are very much lower, Canada Red Winter being 10c a bushel lower, and Spring 14c a bushel. For all that there is still a wide difference between the views of buyers and sellers. We quote Canada Spritz, is quoted at \$1.00 to \$1.02; Canada Red Winter, \$1.00; to \$1.02; Canada White, \$1.00; Peas, 92c per bushel; Oats, 40c per bushel.

FLOUR.—There is not much change on the flour market, and things are beginning to get into trim for the fall trade. We quote as follows:—Superior Extra, \$5.15 to \$5.35; Extra Superfine, \$4.70 to \$4.80; Fancy \$4.25 to \$4.35; Spring Extra \$4.20 to \$4.30; Superfine, \$3.25 to \$3.40; Strong Bakers' (Can.), \$4.75 to \$5.00; Strong Bakers' (American) \$5.25 to \$5.60; Fine, \$3.00 to \$3.20; Middling, \$2.85 to \$3.00; Pollards, \$2.45 to \$2.75; Ontario bags, (bags included) Medium, \$2.25 to \$2.35; Spring Extra, \$2.15 to \$2.20; Superfine, \$1.65 to \$1.75; City Bags, (delivered) \$2.75 to \$2.80.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—Cheese. The market is somewhat firmer, prices being a half cent to a cent better. Low grade is being worked off, but there is a scarcity of the higher grades. The public cake is one and a half shillings better. Cheese being worth in Britain 52 shillings a hundred. Quotations are: 9 1/2c to 10c for grades other than fine fancy, which fetch from 10 1/2 to 10 3/4. Butter is not moving very fast in this city. Prices are firm. The quotations are as follows:—Creamery at 20 1/2c to 21c; Townships 17 1/2c to 19 1/2c; Western 14c to 16c.

Eggs are in fair demand under rather light receipts at 18 1/2c to 19c per dozen.

HOG PRODUCTS are quiet and unchanged. The following are the quotations:—Western Mess Pork \$19.50 to \$20.00; Hams, city cured, 14c to 14 1/2c; Bacon, 13c to 14c; Lard, in pails, western, 10 1/2c to 11c; do, Canada, 10 1/2c; Tallow, common refined, 6c to 8c.

ASHES are quoted at \$3.90 to \$4.05, for Pots as to tars.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

The supply of common and inferior butchers' cattle continue in excess of the demand and prices have a downward tendency, except for superior large steers fit for shipping to Britain shippers sell at from 5c to 6c per lb. according to quality and really fine stall-fed cattle would bring more. Good butchers cattle sell at from 44 to 45 per lb. Common dry cows at \$25 to \$35 each or 3c to 3 1/2 do, and lean small stock at from \$10 to \$20 each or 2 1/2 to 2 3/4c per lb. There is an active demand for good lambs and these bring from \$3.25 to \$4.00 each. Common lambs sell at from \$2.00 to \$2.75 each. There is no change to note in the price of live hogs which range from 6c to 6 1/2c per lb. There is an improved demand for good milk cows, but small cows and strippers are difficult to sell. The horse market is very quiet with very little doing in it.

FARMERS' MARKET.

There has been a much larger attendance of farmers at the markets here of late than for some weeks previously and the market gardeners are crowding the market with nearly all kinds of seasonal produce. There is a brisk demand for most kinds, yet prices have a downward tendency, especially is this the case with grain, hay, apples, blueberries, potatoes and other roots, green corn, tomatoes and melons. Butter and eggs have been advancing in price of late, but honey is getting plentiful and lower priced. Poultry are in good supply at about former rates. The prices of flour and meal are unchanged, but feed is rather scarce and higher in price. The supply of hay is very large and prices are again pretty low. Oats are \$1.05 to \$1.20 per bag; peas \$1.00 to \$1.10 per bushel; new potatoes 4c to 5c per bag; tub butter 17c to 20c per lb.; eggs 20c to 30c per dozen; apples \$2.50 to \$4 per barrel; blueberries 65c to 70c per box containing four gallons; hay \$4.50 to \$7.50 per 100 bundles.

NEW YORK, August 11, 1884.

GRAIN.—Wheat 90 1/2c August; 91 1/2c Sept; 93 1/2c Oct.; 95 1/2c Nov.; 96 1/2c Dec. Corn, 59 1/2c Aug.; 59 1/2c Sept. and 60c Oct.; 58 1/2c Nov. Rye, quiet, 66c to 72 1/2c. Oats in fair demand, 34 1/2c August; 32 1/2c Sept.; 32 1/2c Oct. Barley, nominal. Pease nominal.

FLOUR.—quotations are:—Spring Wheat-Superfine, \$2.50 to \$2.90; Low Extra, \$3.25 to \$3.40; Clears, \$3.95 to \$4.65; Straight (full stock), \$4.50 to \$5.65; Patent, \$4.85 to \$6.25. Winter Wheat, Superfine, \$2.75 to \$3.15; Low Extra, \$3.95 to \$4.90; Clears (R. and A.), \$4.45 to \$5.25; Straight (R. and A.), \$4.45 to \$5.80; Patent, \$4.90 to \$6.10; Straight (White Wheat), \$4.35 to \$5.40; Low Extra (City Mill), \$3.40 to \$3.70; West India, sacks, \$4.15 to \$4.25; barrels, West India, \$4.90 to \$4.95; Patent, \$5.25 to \$5.75; South America, \$4.75 to \$5.00; Patent, \$5.25 to \$5.75. Southern Flour—Extra \$3.60 to \$5.00; Family, \$5.10 to \$5.75; Rye Flour—Fine to Superfine \$3.00 to \$4.50.

MEALS.—Cornmeal, \$3.10 to \$3.50 in bags; oatmeal, \$5.00 to \$5.90 per bbl.

SEEDS, dull. Clover 9 1/2c to 10 1/2c; Timothy, \$1.50 to \$1.60; Flaxseed \$1.50 to \$1.60.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—Cheese is in fair demand, 8 1/2c to 10 1/2c; Butter in small demand at 9c to 23c.

Eggs, steady, 18c to 19c per dozen.

PROVISIONS.—Pork, Mess, old to new, \$15.60 to \$17.50; Beef, Extra, Mess, \$12.00 to \$12.50 Lard \$7.45 to \$7.82.

A SCHOOL POUND-PARTY IN WASHINGTON.

The following paragraph tells the story of an effort made by the teachers and pupils of a school in Washington: The great destitution experienced by those immediately connected with the school was the primary cause. After discussing various plans for instant relief, the one that I shall mention was adopted. Each teacher pictured in glowing words the wants of the needy, and while the little hearts were overflowing with sympathy, a call for volunteers was made. "How many will deprive yourselves of something you really want and give it to the poor? How many will keep the pennies intended for taffy and pickles this week, and make it your offering?" It would have cheered the heaviest heart to see the little hands go up, and "I'll try" depicted in each countenance. Those who had no money to spare were to bring a pound of anything good to eat, or that was useful. All contributions were to be in by the end of the week, and distributed Saturday. The result was, 550 pounds, 20 pairs of men's shoes, some half-worn clothing, and \$32. One child with a happy face brought the teacher a penny and a neatly wrapped package. "I expected to bring two pounds," Miss S. a pound of flour and a pound of candy. "I couldn't bring the flour, but here's the candy."

Something else was accomplished by our "pound party," for such we called it, which I consider of more value than what has been mentioned. A keener appreciation of others' wants was kindled in those children; eyes were opened to note the distress of hitherto unnoticed companions, and hands were now anxious to supply their wants. I mention

a single incident as an example. In one of the primary grades, the teacher noticed a little girl sobbing as if her heart would break. Upon being questioned as to the cause, she exclaimed, "I haven't anything to give to the poor!" Immediately another little girl stepped up and whispered, "Mrs. W. I brought two pounds; put Mamie's name on one of mine."

Is not an object lesson which arouses sympathy and tenderness toward our fellows well worth trying?—Journal of Education.

MONTREAL DAILY WITNESS, \$3.00 a year, post-paid. MONTREAL WEEKLY MESSENGER, \$1.00 a year, post-paid. WEEKLY MESSENGER, 50 copies to one address, \$2.00. JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal Que.

CAMPAIGN TRACTS.

PUBLISHED BY DIRECTION OF THE DOMINION ALLIANCE.

No. 2. Sir Alexander Galt's great speech at Sherbrooke, on Prohibition viewed from the standpoint of a political economist.

No. 3. A Synopsis of the Scott Act, showing the steps necessary in inaugurating a contest.

No. 4. The Rev. Mr. Brothour's striking speech at Ottawa, on the remarkable success of the Scott Law in the county of Halton.

No. 5. A Sermon, by the Rev. Mr. McFarland, of St. John, N. B., on the duty of Christian citizens.

No. 6. The Barley Question: Facts and Figures for the Farmer, by a Toronto merchant. Price, 25 Cents a Hundred.

No parcels will be sold for less than a Hundred Copies, and 5 Cents extra for Postage on Single Parcels, and 3 Cents for each additional hundred, must accompany orders.

The National Temperance Society's Tracts are on hand at the WITNESS Office, and will be forwarded at cost to all who remit for them. They are as follows:—

- 1. A miscellaneous series of 24 tracts, from two to twelve pages, by some of the best writers of the country, suitable for all classes of people, and adapted to every phase of the work—\$1.00.
2. Seventeen four-page illustrated tracts—10c.
3. Teachers' series prepared by a committee from the Woman's Christian Temperance Union; especially adapted for teachers—5c.
4. One-page handbill tracts, 79 kinds, 25c.
5. Children's Illustrated Tracts, 4 pages, 122 kinds—30c.
6. Twenty-nine Temperance Leaflets or Envelope Tracts, neatly printed on tinted paper—20c.
7. Union Leaflets, especially adapted to woman's work. Prepared by a committee from the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, 77 numbers—30c.
8. Young People's Leaflets, by the same, especially adapted for young people—10c.
9. Penny Papers—a series of 12 page Tracts, prepared by the same—10c.
10. Union Handbills—Cider series, 40 numbers—10c.
11. Beer series, 57 numbers—10c.
If any money is forwarded for assorted supplies, we shall send the best assortment we can to the extent that it pays for.

Money must invariably be in our hands in advance, as there is not even a margin to pay for answering letters.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Our subscribers throughout the United States who cannot procure the International Post Office orders at their Post Office, can get instead a Post Office order, payable at House's Point, N. Y., which will prevent much inconvenience both to ourselves and subscribers.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRAPEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—Civil Service Gazette.—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in packets and tins (4 lb. and lb.) by grocers, labelled—"James Epps & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London, Eng."

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER is printed and published at Nos. 25, 26 and 27 St. James street West, Montreal, by JOHN DOUGALL & SON, composed of John Dougall, and J. D. Dougall, of New York, and John Hugh Dougall of Montreal.