

MISSION.) This place was visited by the Rev. Mr. ...

PRESENT EXTENT. In the year 1875, during the winter ...

between the two points is scarcely ...

the cause did not attend the circuit ...

regular weekly prayer attended, the recent ...

have just been held and interesting ...

Will probably be proceeding to ...

is prospering. The new divided ...

G. O. H.

BIBERAN NOTES.

A. D. 33. LESSON V. PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN. Oct. 29.

HOME READINGS.

MONDAY—The Lesson. Acts 8, 26-40. TUESDAY—The Gospel, its Authority. Mark 16, 1-20. WEDNESDAY—The Gospel, its Success. Acts 2, 37-47. THURSDAY—The Gospel to the Gentiles. Acts 10, 34-48. FRIDAY—The Gospel at Philippi. Acts 16, 1-15. SATURDAY—The Gospel at Philippi. Acts 16, 16-34. SUNDAY—The Gospel in Prophecy. Isa. 53, 1-12. TOPIC—Immediate Salvation through Faith in Christ.

GOLDEN TEXT—He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Mark 16, 16.

DOCTRINE—Christian baptism. Matt. 28, 19; Mark 16, 16; Acts 2, 41; 16, 14, 15.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

Philip left at Samaria by the apostles, is sent to do other missionary work on the road between Jerusalem and Gaza. The delightful story of his meeting the Ethiopian eunuch, their conversation, and the eunuch's conversion and baptism, our lesson narrows, taking for its T. the Philip and the Ethiopian. It furnishes a beautiful illustration of the TOPIC, namely, Immediate Salvation through Faith in Christ. Let the teacher throughout the entire lesson be earnest in urging a present salvation upon those who are unsaved. It may be your last chance. Come to the class with a full soul and with prayer. The GOLDEN TEXT recites the condition of salvation contained in our Lord's commission to his disciples: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." The eunuch filled this condition, and was saved. The OUTLINE makes three parts of the account: 1. "Salvation sought;" 2. "Salvation found;" 3. "Salvation professed." The DOCTRINE to which we are directed is Christian Baptism.

BIBERAN NOTES.

After the departure of the apostles, Philip, who had brought the Gospel to Samaria, is divinely made the instrument of its going into Africa.

26. THE ANGEL—Rather, an angel, audibly speaking, and probably visibly appearing. For other ministries of angels in the early church, see chap. 5, 19; 10, 3; 12, 7; 27, 23. GAZA—A city on the southern frontier of Palestine, sixty miles from Jerusalem, older than Abraham. Gen. 10, 19. Sampson's exploits here are narrated in Judges, chapter 16. There are three routes from Jerusalem to Gaza, the southernmost of which may well be called DESERT. The angel directs Philip to go southward from Samaria until he strikes the desert road. For what purpose he does not say, and Philip does not ask, but obeys.

27. AROSE AND WENT—Such prompt, unquestioning obedience is beautiful. The why and wherefore he found when the time came. So shall we. ETHIOPIA—A country in Africa, south of Egypt. The kingdom of Meroë is here meant, which was governed by a succession of queens designated by the common name of CANDACE, as kings of Egypt called Pharaoh. EUNUCH—This class of persons, employed in kings' palaces, often attained great influence and high office in the State. This was true in the present case; he was a man of distinction and GREAT power, and had charge of the finances of the kingdom. He had come to JERUSALEM, more than a thousand miles, to WORSHIP at one of the great feasts. He was not a Jew, but a believer in Jehovah, most likely a proselyte from paganism to Judaism, and a devout seeker of salvation in the best way he knew.

28. RETURNING—Philip seems to have struck the DESERT road just as the eunuch came along in his CHARIOT, on his journey homeward, reading the prophecies of Isaiah. It was not enough for him to worship; he would know God's word and God himself. He must at Jerusalem have heard of Jesus and the Christians, and whether studying the Scriptures with reference to the Messiah or not, he was in the right mind to learn the truth.

29. THE SPIRIT SAID—By an inward prompting. Philip now learns why he has made this long journey on foot and alone, and he is ready. It does not follow that only that is our Christian duty to which we feel prompted.

30. PHILIP SAID—Quick to obey. HEARD—Orientals reading to themselves read aloud: so Philip at once recognized the passage. At the right moment he broke in with Yea, but, (so the Greek.) UNDERSTANDEST THOU? The most unlearned finds food to his soul in God's word, yet he could find more and richer could he better fathom his depths. So with the eunuch; and Philip is sent to help him.

Alexander, B. C. 285. The passage is a prediction of the Messiah. LAMB DUMB—So our Lord quietly submitted to his death.

33. HUMILIATION—How low down he went! JUDGMENT—A far trial was denied him. GENERATION—That is, the men of his time. LIFE TAKEN—They killed him.

24. OF WHOM—Did the prophet predict his own or another's death?

35. PREACHED JESUS—Because the passage speaks of Jesus. Philip took up the prophecy, explained it, and showed the facts agreeing with it in the case of Jesus. He told him of Jesus' death to save sinners, the way of salvation by believing in him, and of baptism in his name.

35. A CERTAIN WATER—What or where is not stated; whether a stream or a fountain; but there was enough for baptizing.

BAPTIZED—The question shows that Peter had explained the nature and necessity of the rite. The eunuch accepts the truth on its first hearing, believes in Jesus, and is immediately saved, and will at once bind himself to Christ's services.

37. AND PHILIP—This verse is wanting in the oldest manuscripts, and the best Greek texts omit it. It may have been taken from early baptismal formularies. It cannot be quoted to prove that faith must precede baptism. Yet that there was some conversation, and that the eunuch avowed a faith in Jesus as Messiah, the Son of God, cannot be doubted. Faith in Christ is an essential prerequisite to baptism in the case of an adult, for he has sinned personally, and faith only can bring him into a state of salvation. But this rule does not apply to the infant for the good reason that the infant is already in that state of salvation, through the atonement and without the condition of faith, and was therefore entitled to baptism as truly as was the believing eunuch.

38. WENT DOWN—Philip and the eunuch BOTH stepped from the chariot, and BOTH went into the WATER. In the hot, dry desert, it was natural enough. In no other case is the administrator said to enter the water with the candidate. INTO, however, is not under; nor is OUT of, ver. 39, up from under. Philip went as far INTO the water as did the eunuch, whether into its edge, to the ankles, or to the knees. BAPTIZED—After getting into the water. How? In preaching Jesus he could not have omitted the mighty work of the Pentecost, when Jesus BAPTIZED his disciples by pouring out his Spirit upon them. Water baptism must have the same form with Spirit baptism. The element used affects not the mode. Besides, in the very prophecy which the eunuch had been reading, it is said of Christ, "So shall he sprinkle many nations," (Isa. 52, 15), that is, by sending down the Holy Spirit. And Jesus had just baptized his soul, by the Spirit falling upon him. Philip baptized him as his Saviour had, by the water shed down and falling upon him, thus beautifully picturing (as only thus it can) the heavenly baptism.

39. CAUGHT AWAY—Miraculously. REJOICING—Happy in the love of Jesus, to whom he had consecrated his life. Tradition gives him the name of Indich, and Irenæus makes him the apostle of Arabia Felix and Ethiopia.

40. AZOTUS—Ashdod, eighteen miles north of Gaza. Thence he went northward along the coast, preaching to Caesarea. Acts 21, 8, 9.

LESSONS. 1. A salvation from sin now is the only one that avails. Christ always saves from sin as soon as we are prepared for it. Repentance precedes it, and that is required now. So does faith, and faith renders all to Jesus' use. The truly earnest soul has a short road to salvation—believe and be saved. Mark 1, 41; Acts 9, 18; 16, 34; Rom. 4, 3; 10, 9; 1 John 5, 14, 15. 2. Baptism is the outward visible sign or symbol of the Holy Spirit's work in the soul, in the inward spiritual baptism. It is the seal of our covenant with God. (See Bap. Cov.) It binds us to Christ's service and a holy life. It means our deadness to sin, our living to God, our union with Christ. It is a duty for all. Acts 2, 38; 8, 36; 22, 16; Rom. 6, 3, 4; Gal. 3, 27; Col. 2, 12, 20; 3, 1.

DANGERS OF THE SEA.

The steamer Arbitrator left New Orleans, August 23, when about 100 miles east of Halifax, N.S., she struck a ledge of floating ice, and ran right upon it as far as the foremast. She then made water rapidly, and went down stern foremost, the ice holding her up forward. After being in the boat several hours, the crew were picked up by the brigantine Baltic, and landed at Dublin.

A train was carrying a clergyman, and five or six youths, who kept scoffing at religion, and telling disagreeable stories. The good man endured it all, simply remarking as he got out: "We shall meet again, my children." "Why shall we meet again?" said the leader of the band. "Because I am the prison chaplain," was the reply.

MACDONALD & CO. IMPORTERS OF CAST AND MALLEABLE IRON PIPE, BRASS AND COPPER TUBES, SHEETS, ETC. RUBBER HOSE AND STEAM PACKING. ENGINEERS BRASS FITTINGS.

SUI GENERIS. OUR TEACHERS BIBLE. CLEAR PRINT BIBLES, FOR BIBLE STUDENTS, &c. HAVE BEEN RECEIVED Direct from the Publishers.

MASON & HAMLIN CABINET ORGANS. UNEQUALLED in UNAPPROACHED in capacity and excellence by any others.

BUCKEYE BELL FOUNDRY. Superior Bells of Copper and Tin. Superior Bells of Cast Iron.

TEMPERANCE HOTEL. St. Georges St, Annapolis Royal. M. PORTER - PROPRIETOR.

SEALING WAX. A good Quality of BOTTLE WAX very suitable for use in Post Offices, &c.

METHODIST BOOK ROOM. 125 GRANVILLE STREET, HALIFAX.

MONEY. Received on Deposit at Six per cent interest with withdrawal at short notice.

LOANS. Made on approved Real Estate security, repayable by Monthly or Quarterly instalments, extending from one to ten years.

MENEELY & COMPANY BELL FOUNDERS. WEST TROY, New York.

1876. FALL STOCK 1876. FASHIONABLE DRY GOODS, WITH ALL THE LATEST NOVELTIES. INSPECTION SOLICITED. JOST BROTHERS 141 GRANVILLE STREET HALIFAX, N.S.

JOB PRINTING. REPORTS, PAMPHLETS, Posters, Handbills, Cards, Billheads, Circulars, Custom and Mercantile Blanks.

AGENTS WANTED for the New Historical Work, OUR WESTERN BORDER. A Complete Graphic History of American Progress.

FOR SALE. The subscriber offers for sale a Two Store Dwelling House (nearly new) in the centre of Hantsport.

HALIFAX INFANTS' HOME. BAZAAR. The Ladies of the Infants' Home intend holding a Bazaar in the last week of October.

DURANG'S RHEUMATIC REMEDY. Will most positively cure any case of rheumatism or rheumatic gout.

CONDENSED CERTIFICATES. NATIONAL HOTEL, Washington, D.C., Dec. 2, 1874.

A CHEAP POPULAR EDITION. Uniform in Size and contents with No. 1 Pocket edition, bound in Leather Cloth, edges turned over.

PROVINCIAL BUILDING SOCIETY. Office—102 Prince William Street. St. John, N.B.

TO CALEB GATES & Co., MIDDLETON, Annapolis Co., N.S.

MY DEAR FRIEND, I have always, until of late, been a bitter enemy to all patent or occult preparations, in the shape of medicines for the sick.

I am truly surprised that such a valuable, and at the same time, safe compound, should not meet with the liberal patronage that it in my opinion, so justly merits.

I am yours most respectfully, WILLIAM KENNEDY, M.D.