

SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From International Question Book)

LESSON III—JULY 19.

OMRI AND ABAB.—1 Kings 16: 25-31

COMMIT VERBS (30, 33)

GOLDEN TEXT.

The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the Lord.—Prov. 15: 9.

CENTRAL TRUTH.

The wicked turn to godliness and worse.

DAILY READINGS.

- M. 1 Kings 15: 1-14.
W. 1 Kings 16: 1-19.
Th. 1 Kings 16: 19-31.
F. Josh. 6: 17-27.
Sa. Prov. 1: 1-15.
Su. Matt. 9: 1-12.

TIME—No. 92,984. Some fifty years after the last lesson.

INTERESTING HISTORY.—1 Kings, chs. 15, 16. 2 Chron. chs. 28, 29. Fifty years have passed since the Kingdom of Israel was divided. Neither was perfect, but Judah was the better of the two. After Rehoboam and his son Abijah there followed two long reigns of good kings, who brought the people back to religion and to God. But the Kingdom of Israel grew worse and worse. Jeroboam's line ended with his son, and his son's one of his family was slain. The usurper Baasha was treated in the same way. Then Omri, a general, was chosen king, and he and his son Abiah led the people farther and farther away from God.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.

1. THIRTY-THIRD YEAR OF ASA. BC. 925. OMRI, THE SIKING OF ISRAEL, WAS GENERAL IN THE ARMY. HIS DEED IS UNKNOWN. TWELVE YEARS FOUR OF THESE WERE SPENT IN THE CIVIL WAR, AND FOR ONLY EIGHT DID HE REIGN OVER A UNITED KINGDOM. THE THIRTY-FIFTH YEAR OF ASA MARKS THE BEGINNING OF THE EIGHT YEARS, NOT OF THE REIGN. TUZULU, A FORTY MILES FROM SHECHEM, 24. THE HILL SAMARIA, SIX MILES FROM SHECHEM. A PLACE SPECIALLY BUILT FOR HIS CAPITAL. TWO PALACES: IN 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, HIS SIX; SETTING UP THE IDOL CALVES, AND LEADING THE PEOPLE INTO IDOLATRY. 27. BOOK OF THE CHRONICLES: IN THE BEGINNING OF HIS REIGN HE WAS A STRONG-WILLED WOMAN, BEAUTIFUL AND ATTRACTIVE, AND AN IDOLATER. ZIDONIAN: ON THE COAST OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA. THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL RECALLED TYRE AND SIDON. BAAI, THE SUN GOD. 31. THE HOUSE OF BAAI, A SPLENDID TEMPLE ASH built for his idol. 32. MATHA, A GROVE; A WOMAN PILAR, THE SYMBOL OF ASHTORETH or ASTARTE, REGARDED AS THE WIFE OF BAAI. SHE WAS LIKE THE GREEK VENUS, AND WAS WORSHIPPED WITH IDOLATROUS RITES. 33. HOP, THE BETH-ELITE LADY, WHO LIVED AT BETH-EL, THE SEAT OF ONE OF JEROBOAM'S IDOLS. BETH-EL: JERICO; A CURSE WAS LAID UPON WHOEVER ABOUT TO BUILD THIS CITY. (See Joshua 6: 26.) HIS FATHER DIED WHEN HE BEGAN TO BUILD, AND HIS SUCCESSOR WHEN HE HAD COMPLETED IT.

SUBJECTS FOR SPECIAL REPORTS.—The intervening history.—Omri, Abab, Jezebel.—Baal.—The "grove."—The rebuilding of Jericho.

QUESTIONS.

ASTROLOGY.—How much time intervened between the last lesson and this? Who reigned in the Kingdom of Judah during this time? Were they good or bad kings? Name the succession of Kings in Israel. What was the general condition of things there?

STUDY THE GROWING WORSE AND WORSE.

- I. OMRI.—OUTWARD SPLENDOR AND INCREASE (25-31 vs. 25-28). Who was Omri? How long did he reign? In what years before Christ? Where was his capital? For how much did he purchase the hill of Samaria? From whom did the place receive its name? What was the character of Omri's reign? Why is it said that this evil was "in the sight of the Lord"? Whose bad example did he follow? What was Jeroboam's sin? What worse did Omri do? What is meant by "provoking the Lord to anger"? Are all good beings indignant at sin? Is God angry with sin? What is meant by "the Lord's anger"? What lesson can you learn from his history?
II. ABAB.—WORSE AND WORSE THROUGH BAD COMPANIONS (vs. 29-31).—Who succeeded Omri? How long did he reign? What was his character? What did he do that was worse than the deeds of those who went before him? Who was Jezebel? What was her character? What influence did she have over Abab? Why is it dangerous to make bad persons our intimate companions? What does David say of him? What does Solomon say? (Prov. 1: 15; 4: 14; 9: 12-14; 11: 29; 22: 24, 25). What does Paul say of him? (1 Tim. 5: 12; 2 Tim. 3: 6, 7). How did Abab love idolatry? What was Baal? What is meant here by "grove"? What account is given here showing the evil in Baal's worship of the times? Where do the "hill lives" under what special evil influences? (1 Kings 12: 25-28, 31). What curse was pronounced on the remnant of Jericho? (Josh. 6: 26). How was it fulfilled? Was Hiel's act a defiance of God's Commandment? (2 Sam. 1: 16).

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

- I. The tendency of the sinner is to grow worse and worse.
II. A nation may have splendid buildings and gain great victories and yet grow worse and worse.
III. It is an awful thing to lead others into sin.
IV. One wrong step leads to another.
V. God is angry with the wicked every day.
VI. Bad companionship destroys the character.
VII. The results of alliance with a heathen: (1) he repeated his father's sins; (2) he led others to sin; (3) he led to idolatry; (4) he provoked God to anger; (5) defiance of God.

LARGE DISTRICTS near Canton, China, have been flooded and there has been much loss of life.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, July 8, 1885.

The British grain markets are very quiet but are steady. Red winter wheat is quoted at 6s 10d to 7s 2d; Canadian Pans at 5s. 8d.

The local grain market remains very quiet. We quote.—Canada Red Winter, 95c to 96c; Canada White, 94c to 95c; Canada Spring, 95c to 97c; Peas, 75c to 79c; Oats, 35c to 36c; Rye, 72c to 74c; Barley, 50c to 65c; Corn, 65c to 64c.

FLOUR.—The market is dull, though there is a fair local demand. We quote.—Patents, \$4.90 to \$4.90; Superior Extra, \$4.35 to \$4.45; Extra Superfine, \$4.20 to \$4.25; Fancy, \$4.15 to \$4.20; Spring Extra, \$4.00 to \$4.10; Superfine, \$3.55 to \$3.65; Strong Bakers' (Manitola), \$4.50 to \$4.60; Strong Bakers' (Canadian), \$4.25 to \$4.40; Strong Bakers' (American), \$4.70 to \$4.80; Fine, \$3.60 to \$3.65; Middlings, \$3.40 to \$3.50; Pollards, \$3.00 to \$3.50; Ontario bags, (bags included), Medium, \$2.10 to \$2.15; do, Spring Extra, \$1.95 to \$2.00; Superfine, \$1.85 to \$1.90; City Bags, (delivered), \$2.30 to \$2.35.

MEALS.—Oatmeal, \$4.30 to \$4.80 per hl. Cornmeal, \$3.00 to \$3.10 per hl.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter continues quiet, and the market is devoid of interest. We quote.—Creamery, 17c to 19c; Eastern Townships, 15c to 17c; Morrisburg and Brockville, 14c to 16c; Western 12c to 14c; old make, 6c to 12c, as to quality. Cheese is decidedly firm at 7c to 7 1/2c for fine to fancy. The public cable is now at 40c. Last week's exports consisted of 1,437 packages of butter, and 36,336 boxes of cheese.

Eggs are about a cent and a half higher this week at 13c to 14c per dozen, in cases.

HOG PRODUCTS are quiet and lower. We quote.—Western Mess Pork, \$13.50; do., Short Cut, \$13.50 to \$14.00; Canada Short Cut, \$13.50 to \$14.00; Mess Beef, \$15.50; India Mess Beef, \$25.00; Hams, city cured, 11c to 11 1/2c; do., canvassed, 12c to 13c; Lard, in pails, Western, 9c to 10c; do., Canadian, 9c; Bacon, 11c; Shoulders, 7c to 7c; Tallow, common refined, 7c to 7 1/2c.

ASHES.—Pots continue steady at \$3.65 to \$3.70 per 100 lbs.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

There has been a large increase in the supply of butchers' cattle lately, but they are chiefly "grass-fed" and not very fat at that, many of them being rather lean for profitable killing. Good stall-fed cattle continue to sell at from 5c to 5 1/2c per lb for butchers' use, and up to 6c per lb for shippers. Stock in fair condition sell at from 4c to 5c per lb and leanish animals at 3c to 3 1/2c. Calves are rather scarce and higher priced, but sheep and lambs are very plentiful and prices are declining. Sheep sell at from \$3.25 to \$3.50 each and lambs at from \$2.00 to \$4 each. Fat hogs are dull of sale and prices are about 4c per lb. Milch cows are still plentiful and prices easier. A few extra cows bring over \$50, but the general prices of pretty good cows are from \$35 to \$45 each, and of common cows \$25 to \$35 each, while small heifers sell at from \$15 to \$24, each. The horse market is very dull this week and few sales have been made.

FARMERS' MARKET.

There has been a rather small attendance of farmers at the markets here of late, but market gardeners and traders are numerous and with abundant supplies, prices are generally unchanged, except that hay is advancing owing to light supplies and combinations among the dealers. New potatoes, of very fine quality for so early in July, are offered in considerable quantities and sell at about \$1.00 per bushel for the best, while the culls sell down to fifty cents. Cabbages and cauliflowers are getting plentiful and prices are declining. There are no changes in the butter market, but fresh laid eggs are dearer. Poultry, especially spring chickens, are plentiful and lower in price. Oats are 80c to 95c per bag; peas, 80c to 90c per bushel; beans \$1.25 to \$1.50 do.; potatoes 25c to 45c per bag; turnips, carrots, and beets, 30c to 50c per bushel; butter, 15c to 30c per lb.; eggs 14c to 22c per dozen; apples \$5.00 to \$7.00 per barrel; drossed hogs 6c to 6 1/2c per lb.; turkeys \$2.00 to \$2.50 the pair; fowls 65c to 80c do.; ducks 85c to 95c do.; spring chickens 25c to 60c do.; hay \$11.00 to 15.00 per 100 bundles.

NEW YORK, July 7, 1885.

GRAIN.—Wheat, 95c bid July; \$1.00 August; \$1.02 Sept.; \$1.05 bid October. Corn, 53c July; 54c August; 54c Sept.; 55c bid Oct. Oats, 36c bid July; 33c bid August; 31c bid Sept.

FLOUR is somewhat lower again this week. We quote.—Spring Wheat, No. 2, \$2.50 to \$2.70; do., Superfine, \$2.90 to \$3.00; Low Extra, \$3.20 to \$3.75; Clear, \$3.85 to \$4.45; Straight, \$4.40 to \$5.00; Patent, \$4.95 to \$5.65. Winter Wheat—No. 2, \$2.75 to \$3.40; Superfine, \$3.40 to \$3.65; Low Extra, \$3.40 to \$3.75; Clear (R. and A.), \$4.00 to \$4.50; Straight (R. and A.), \$4.35 to \$5.35; Patent, \$4.80 to \$5.65; Straight (White Wheat), \$4.60 to \$5.30; Low Extra (City Mills), \$3.55 to \$3.70; West India, sacks, \$3.80 to \$4.05; West India, barrels, \$4.90 to \$5.00; Patent, \$5.00 to \$5.70; South America, \$5.00 to \$5.85; Patent \$5.00 to \$5.85. Southern Flour—Extra, \$4.00 to \$5.25; Family, \$4.60 to \$5.60; Patent, \$5.25 to \$5.80; Rye Flour—Fine to Superfine, \$2.90 to \$4.50.

MEALS.—Cornmeal, \$3.25 to \$3.35 in brls. FEED.—100 lbs, or sharps, \$18 to \$20; 100 lbs, or No. 1 middlings, \$16 to \$17; 80 lbs, or No. 2 middlings, \$14.50 to \$15; 60 lbs, or No. 1 feed, \$14.50 to \$15.00; 50 lbs, or medium feed, \$14.50 to \$15.00; 40 lbs, or No. 2 feed, \$14.50 to \$15.00. Rye feed, \$17.00.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter—Creamery, ordinary to fancy, 13c to 20c; State half firkins, ordinary to fancy 11c to 17c; Western dairy, ordinary to choice imitation creamery, 8c to 15c; Western factory, ordinary to choice, 6c to 12c. Cheese—State factory, night skims to fancy, 3c to 7c; Ohio Flat, fair to prime, 5c to 6c; Skims, Pennsylvania, 1c to 1c.

Eggs.—State and Pennsylvania, in brls, 13c to 13 1/2c; Canadian, fine, 13c; Western, fair to fancy, 11c to 12c.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN COMMISSION appointed by the American Government state that the people privately talk of annexation to the United States. The newspapers advocate a protectorate over Peru by the United States Government.

AN AMERICAN TRAMP named Gillis has been arrested on suspicion of murdering Callaghan, the miserly old cemetery keeper of Charlotetown P. E. I. The watch of the murdered man and a large sum of money were found on Gillis.

AT THE DOMINION DAY CELEBRATION at Ottawa, Eustache Dupont, one of the returned Egyptian voyageurs was presented by Mayor McDougall with one of the Royal Humane Society's medals for having at the risk of his life jumped the dangerous rapids 300 miles up the Nile and saved a comrade named Lavallee.

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