

xiv. 2, and xviii. 2. It was by lot that their "portion" was divided to the Twelve Tribes.

LESSONS.

1. With regard to the use of the lot, observe that the Apostles and the company of believers went first as for as human wisdom would lead them, and then only they tried the lot. After the Spirit was poured out,—after the day of Pentecost,—the lot was never employed.

2. Peter takes the lead in these matters. The Lord honours him still, although he denied Him. Peter repented, and was forgiven and restored. He was now ever ready to stand forth boldly and do any work for his Redeemer.

3. The awful fate of Judas is a warning to old and young not to betray, or crucify afresh, the Son of God, by giving Him up for "thirty pieces" of silver, or any amount.

4. Those who feed the flock of Christ—even the Sabbath School teachers who feed His "lambs"—should have living knowledge of the Lord and a sincere devotion to Him.

5. Christ knows the secrets of all hearts.

6. Prayer to Christ is the best resource of the Church in every difficulty.

DOCTRINE.

God controls all events. Rev. iv. 11; Dan. v. 21; Ps. lxxvi. 7.

SECOND SABBATH.

SUBJECT:—*Pentecost.* Acts ii. 1-14.

Pentecost. Literally "fiftieth,"—the fiftieth day after the first day of the Passover. It was the feast of the completion of harvest. On this occasion "Pentecost" probably occurred on the first day of the week, the "Christian Sabbath." The disciples were all assembled—probably all the disciples of Jesus who had come up to the feast. The place of meeting is not known.

V. 2.—*Suddenly*—unexpectedly. The sound heard was not caused by a gust of wind, but is compared to a rushing mighty wind.

V. 3.—The sound appealed to the ear; the next sign, the tongue of fire, appealed to the eye. The flames each resembled a tongue, and one rested on each believer's head.

V. 4.—The sound and the flame were but signs of the wonderful presence of the Holy Spirit.

V. 5.—Jews came from distant countries to the feasts, and to visit the Holy City.

V. 6.—The sound mentioned in v. 2, was probably heard at a distance, and excited the multitude.

Vv. 7-11.—The apostles and disciples spoke in many different dialects, so that

hearers from the far east and north, from the west and south, were addressed in their own "tongue," or language.

LESSONS.

1. Mark the faithfulness of Jesus: He had promised the Comforter, and now the promise is fulfilled.

2. The outpouring of the Spirit was in answer to prayer.

3. The wind is an emblem of the Spirit; in its mysterious coming and going, in its purifying and refreshing influence. Fire, also, is an emblem, in its brightness, warmth, cleansing power.

4. The Holy Spirit makes use of the "tongues" of those in whom He dwells.

5. The miracle of the "tongues" on the day of Pentecost is an emblem and a pledge of the day when all languages shall be consecrated to Christ.

6. Even in the face of these miracles, some sneered and blasphemed. Men can harden their hearts and shut their eyes against miracles even. There were mockers then; and there will be mockers till the end.

DOCTRINE.

True revival is from God, Is. xlv. 3; Joel ii. 28; Acts ii. 17, 18.

News of the Church.

Presbytery of St. John.

The Presbytery met in Calvin Church on the 26th November. There was a very full attendance of members, and Mr. James Allan having given in his commission for Saint David's, had his name added to the roll.

MR. GRAY'S RESIGNATION OF NORTON.

Mr. Jack not having yet summoned the people of Norton to appear for their interests before the Presbytery anent Mr. Gray's resignation, commission was renewed to him to do so, that the matter may be disposed of at next meeting.

SALT SPRINGS AND GOLDEN GROVE.

Mr. Alves stated that he had conferred with leading people of these settlements, and that he had been informed by them that the congregation are in a state of readiness to give a call to a minister, and that they wish the Presbytery to take steps in order to carry out their wishes. After consideration of the means of support likely to be afforded to a minister and other matters, it was resolved to proceed in the moderation of a call, and Mr. McKay was appointed to preach at Golden Grove for that purpose.