

O, who can tell how many hearts are altars
to his praise,
From which the silent prayer ascends
through patient nights and days!
The sacrifice is offered still in secret and
alone:
O world, ye do not know them, but He can
help His own.

—Adelaide Procter.

"I bless God," said Mr. Flavel, one of the best and sweetest of the old Puritan divines, on the death of his father—"I bless God for a religious and tender father, who often poured out his soul to God for me; and this stock of prayers I esteem the fairest inheritance on earth."

"Work shall be prayer, if all be wrought,
As Thou wouldst have it done;
And prayer, by Thee inspired and taught,
Itself with work be one."

What the telescope is to the eye, the bicycle to the foot, the telephone to the voice, and the steam-driven machine to the hand, in enlarging and increasing human power, prayer is to the soul, because it links us with the mighty power of God; it touches springs that unloose spiritual forces which are eternal in their duration and universal in their scope.—F. B. Meyer.

Five Alpine climbers were roped together,

TEACHING HINTS AND HELPS

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades in the school.

For Bible Class Teachers

AN ANALYSIS

In the opening verses of the chapter, Samuel declared his uniform and unfailing integrity in the service of God and his people, from his youth to old age. vs. 2-5. The people assented to the truth of this statement. v. 5. He then recalled outstanding facts in their history, showing especially the wonderful works God had wrought in their behalf, and that to His sovereign goodness and mercy they owed everything. He pressed home upon their consciences the lesson, that when they forsook God it went ill with them, and when they cried for

first a guide, next a traveller and so on. The guide in the rear stumbled. In spite of the notches cut in the ice he pulled after him the traveller ahead, and those two, the second guide, and then the second traveller. The guide in front held his position by driving his axe into the ice, and so all were saved. The rope is intercessory prayer, and the guide in front is Christ.—Peloubet.

Light from the East

THUNDER—The wheat harvest on the highlands of Judaea is usually in the early part of June, and thunder-storms, although common during the winter, are exceedingly rare in the summer. All primitive people regard thunder with a certain superstitious fear, and in the Old Testament it plays a large part in the communications of God to His people, and in the discomfiture of their enemies. Even to those of us who understand its nature and cause, its startling suddenness and awe-inspiring sound, combined with the possible danger from the lightning, causes considerable uneasiness during a very violent storm. Until very recently the great body of people thought it a direct expression of the displeasure of God. I have known intelligent men in Scotland so afraid during a thunder-storm, that they would fling down their tools and run to the house whenever they heard the first peal.

mercy He graciously granted them signal deliverance and prosperity. They are now, as the outcome of their own persistent demand, under a changed form of government; and in view of this fact, the following points are emphasized in the lesson.

1. *Their obligation to serve God remains unchanged.* (a) They have rejected God and procured a king, but the fact that they are in this respect like the surrounding nations, that their sinful desire to this effect is gratified, does not absolve them from allegiance to God. They are still His chosen peculiar people. The precepts of the decalogue are still binding upon them, as well as the ordinances of the Levitical Code. They are not free to cease offering the sacrifices therein enjoined and to resort to the worship of