The Prince of Peace—Isa. 9: 1-7—Christmas

entary. I. Great darkness (vs. 1, 2. 1. Nevertheless-"A transition word from the dark picture of chapter viii. from the dark picture of chapter vii. 5-22, describing the woes from Assyrian predominance to the bright dawn and consummation of the Messianic era." Shall not be such—The darkness shall not be as great as it has been. There was a ray of encouragement for those who were ready to receive the prophet's words. Zebulun—The country of Galilee around the Sea of Galilée was the land that principally suffered in the first Assyrian invasion.

2. The people in darkness—The

that principally suffered in the first Assyrian invasion.

2. The people in darkness—The people of Judah. They were at this time under a two-fold darkness: 1. The darkness of outward trouble. See II. Kings XV. 37, xvi. 4-8, 17; II. Chron. xxviii. 5-8. 2. They were in moral darkness. Ahaz had led the people into the most abominable practices in honor of the heathen divinities whose worship he had established in his kingdom. Finally, towards the close of the reign, he shut up the great doors of the temple (II. Chron. xxviii. 24), discontinued the offering of incense and the morning and evening sacincense and the morning and evening sac-rifice, and left the whole interior to

, neglect and ruin.
A Great Light. (vs. 2-5). 2. A great light—The sudden change from dense darkness to the shining light which the prophet saw is quite remarkable. What light was thos? The promise of redemption; the prospect of the coming of Impraved.

Immanuel.

Hast multiplied the nation—Isaiah with prophetic eye pierces the centuries and sees the hosts that would come under the reign of the Messiah and be numbered with the true spiritual Israel. And not increased—See R. V. for correct And not increased—See R. V. for correct rendering. They joy before thee—The prophet notes it to be a religious joy, for it is said to be before God—that is, in His presence, and with a grateful ack-nowledgment of His benefits.—Lowth.

nowledgment of His benefits.—Lowth.

4. Thou hast broken the yoke—"The
Jews were successively delivered from
the burdensome and galling yoke of the
Assyrians, Chaldeans, Persians and Macedonians; but these deliverances were only a shadow of redemption from the yoke of Satan; and that redemption seems here especially predicted as if already accomplished." As in the days seems here especially predicted as if al-ready accomplished." As in the days of Midian—As Gideon with a handful of men conquered the hosts of Midian, so Messiah, the "child" (v. 6), shall prove to be the "Prince of Peace," and the small company under Him shall overcome the mighty hosts of Anti-christ. See the same contrast in Micha v. 2.5—L. R. & F.

v. 2-5.-J., B. & F. 5. For every battle—It was the custom 5. For every battle—It was the custom of antiquity to pile the arms of prostrate enemies, the spoils of less value, and their spotted garments, into a heap and then burn them.—Rosewin. All that belongs to war shall be swept away; the war itself shall die. The Messiah abolishes all war, but not until His foes are the results of the mighty. The Everlasting Father. The term father means much to many children but

Unto us.—The prophet spake of the predicted blessings as if already communicated. Angels say, "Unto you," but this child was born for the benefit of us men, of us sinners, of all believers, to the end of the world.—Scott. "In the far distance the prophet foresaw the Redeemer of the world. A little later came the vision of the suffering Savior (Isa. liii.); then the town where he should be born (Micah v., 2): a more complete revelathen the town where he should be born (Micah v., 2); a more complete revelation came through Daniel." A Son is tion came through Daniel." A Son is given—God's gratuitous gift, upon which man had no claim John iii., 16). A gift of love, of joy, of universal fitness to our needs, of eternal enrichment, of forrever increasing value; and this gift insures all other gifts (Rom. vii., 32).—Funk. As Son of man Jesus was "a child born"; as Son of God he was a "Son given".—Spurgeon. Government. iven."--Spurgeon. Government--isign of Government, the sceptre, the sword, or key, was borne upon or hung from the shoulder. All government shall be vested in him. His name name stands for all that the man is and has—his character, his principles and his property. Wonderful—Because his nohas—his character, his principles and his property. Wonderful—Because his noture was both human and divine. Whoever refuses to believe in the supernatural must pause at the manger. He can go no farther. How Godhood and manhood could be knit together in the person of Christ is beyond us. But things incomprehensible are not incredible. All divine works are wonderful. There are marvels enough in a drop of water to bewilder the wisest.—Burrell. Counsellor—One who has wisdom to guide himself and others. Jesus was the embodiment of the wisdom of God. He was a Savior, both God and man, a personal revelation of God's love, a perfect character and example. He is our Counsellor, never guiding us astray, but always by the best ways to the best ends. Mighty God—"God the mighty" One. As he has wisdom, so he has strength; he is able to save to the Mediator that po less a nower than that of the mighty of God could accomplish; it?" most; and such is the work of the Medi-ator that poless a nower than that of the might? God could accomplish it."— Com. Com. Everlasting Father—Ex-pressing the divine love and pity for men, a love that can never fail for it is men, a love that can never fail for it is everiasting. The Father pitieth his children that are weak in knowledge, and instructs them; pities them when they are froward, and bears with them; when they are fallen, and helps them up again; when they have offended, and upon their submission forgives them; when they are wronged and rights them again; when the submission forgives them; upon their submission forgives them; when they are wronged and rights them. Thus "the Lord pitieth them that fear him."—Henry. Prince of Peace—As a King he preserves, commands, creates peace. His peace both keeps the hearts of his people and rules in them. He is the Author of all that peace which is the present and future bliss of his sub-

IV. The Messianic Kingdom (v. 7). 7. Of the increase, etc.—The government shall increase in numbers, in power, in the completeness of its rmule. It shall increase in the blessings it bestows. It is like the powers of nature, which are exhaustlesss. There is no limit to their application to the uses of man With application to the uses of man. With our marvellous inventions and dis-ries of what nature can do, we have athered bpt s few rays from the

of light, a few sprays from the blessings God has ni store for et. Throne of David—To rone of David means to people of God; and it sat on David's ridicu

henceforth every kingdom can ture. Nothing is really ettled till it ers of evil so one is doomed prince of dar darkest Africa shall be form to the light shall scatter the darkness, and the Sun of Righteous ness with healing in his wings shall change winter into spring, and night into day."

PRACTICAL SURVEY.

The land of Ze bulun and the land of Naphtali, because to their sins, were permitted by God to be overrun by their enamies. This wa - His punishment because they forgot His law. Still, they did not repent, and greater punishment was visited upon them. Notwithstanding their persistent wickedness God visited them in great mercy, not because they repented and thus in some measure deserved mercy, for their conduct merited only God's wrath, but because "His mercy endureth forever." In the midst of their idolatry God sends the greatest blessings of all time.

The liberty of the sons of God who are made free by the power of divine grace is pictured to us in verse 4. The yoke of the devil is a galling yoke, His burden is a heavy burden. He wields a cruel rod as an oppressot, What a grievous yoke is the drink labit!

All the great conquerors who have appeared among men have made their conquests by the sword. They have been great generals, great warriors; they have left multitudes of slain in the wake of their triumphant march, have waded through rivers of blood on their way to power and glory. But a mighty Conqueror is now to appear who will come to power and glory by a very different way.

Inspiration always gives the right names to characters. Here is a person whose character cannot be expressed in one name. Five are used to convey to us as clear an idea of this wonderful personage as we can comprehend. PRACTICAL SURVEY.

us as clear an idea of this wonderful per-

us as clear an idea of this wonderful personage as we can comprehend.

His name shall be called Wonderful.
Why? Because he is wonderful from every standpoint. He was wonderful in the prophecies concerning him. He was promised when man was driven from the garden of Eden. His nationality was fixed in the promise to Abraham. His tribe was named as that of Judah; his family as that of David; the place of his advent, before Judah lost her independence. These, with many other proph-

ence. These, with many other prophecies,, stamp him as wonderful in this respect. He was wonderful in his birth. He was wonderful in his death. The m-He was wonderful in his death. The m-fidel Rosseau truly said, "If Socrates died like a philosopher, then Jesus Christ died like a God." Counsellor. The teru embraces, am-ong other ideas, that of giving advice or counsel and that of acting as an ad-

vocate. The Revelator represents the Savior as a counselor.. The Mighty God. Jesus was born of woman, therefore he was a man, but the was and is at the same time God—

war itself shall die. The Messiah abolishes all war, but not until His foes are either swept away by His judgments or submission by His love.—Cowles.

111. A vision of the Messiah (v. 6). 6. very much more to their offspring than they are—comfort, protection, support, assistance and much more. But ne matter how near to the ideal any father approaches, the time will come when it will be said "Father is dead." proaches, the time will come when it will be said, "Father is dead." He can then no longer protect, comfort and support, Here is one who never dies, the everlast-

ing Father.
The Prince of Peace. How sad to think The Prince of Feace. How sad to think that man has never been content to live in peace. History is largely the record of man slaying his fellow man. The wars of the last half of the nineteenth Christian century are sorrowful to contemplate. The opening of the twentieth century is not reassuring. Yet the Prince of Peace has made wonderful conquests. We look hopefully forward to the time when man shall learn war no more.

J. Emory Coleman. SEES TOWN'S FALL IN A VISION Marion, Ind., Women Claim to Have Got Message From God.

Marion, Ind., Dec. 12.—"Marion shall soon close her parlors of pletsure." Mrs. Viola Pownell said this message came to her in a vision from God, it being written on the northwestern sky, in large letters of stars that resembled electric lights now in was in educations. lights now in use in advertising. So im-pressed was she with the vision, she claims, that she had bills printed and distributed about the city to warn the

people of an impending danger.
The placard read as follows:
"Marion shall soon close her parlors of pleasure. These were the words of God "Marion shall soon close her parlors of pleasure. These were the words of God gave me in a vision. It seems like God is going to pour out His wrath on this city. God never allowed destruction on a city or people without sending a warning first. You will find the answer to my vision in Habakkuk, second chapter, second and third verses, and Ezekiel, second chapter, seventh wave Ezekiel, second chapter seventh wave Ezekiel seven

ond chapter, seventh verse.

second and third verses, and Ezekiel, second chapter, seventh verse.

Mrs. Viola Pownell.

Mrs. Pownell said: "The affair has been the cause of a great deal of worry to me. When it was presented to me I did not care to tell it to relatives or friends, as I thought they would ridicule me and say I was fanatical or insane.

"I kept the affair a secret for some time, but I seemed to be impressed daily that it was my duty to heed the warning. I continued to resist until I began to lose sleep and was unable to eat. I then decided to seek a solution by prayer. I prayed for guidance and was told to seek my Bible.

"This did not satisfy me, because I am not a great reader of the Bible and am unable to understand a great deal that I do read. I attempted to dismiss the thought from my mind, but for three days and three nights I was unable to eat or sleep.

"I again prayed for instructions and was told to seek my Bible. I opened the book and in flaming lines I read: 'And the Lord answered and said, write the vision and make it plain upon tables.

the Lord answered and said, write the vision and make it plain upon tables that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time but at the end it shall speak and not lie: though it tarry, wait not for it, because it will surely come, it will not tarry. This was the second and third verses of the second chapter of Habakkuk. I did not know such a book existed in the Bible.

people of God; and t sat on David's —to rule it. From I had seen and read that I again prayed.

"Take it or Leave it Alone"

That's your privilege. But all the same it's the

Ceylon Tea. One trial will make you a convert. Sold only in sealed lead packets. Black, Mixed or GREEN. By all grocers.

Received the highest award and gold medal at St. Louis.

The Pall of Rheumatic Pains When a sufferer finds permanent relief in sich a meritorious medicine as South Ameri-an Rheumatic Cure, how glad he is to tell the C. W. Mayhew, of Thamesville, Ont., couldn't walk or feed himself for months—four years ago three bottles of this great remedy cured him—not a pain since—isn't that encouragement for rheumatic sufferers?—82

ULTIMATUM TO SULTAN. Must Remove Customs Officials at

Scutari. Vienna, Dec. 12.—Unless the Ottoman Government dismisses and punishes by noon Thursday the gendarmerie com-mander and the Customs officials at Scutari, who recently forcibly detained the Austrian-Hungarian mails, Austria

In an answer to this prayer I was again told to seek my Bible. Again I opened it, and read: 'And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear or whether they will forbear, for they are rebellious.'

"This was the seventh verse of the second chapter of Ezekiel. I have no explanation to make, except as stated. Id not believe in clairvoyance, am not a religious fanatic or spiritualist. I am a member of the Congregational Church, attempt to live a Christian life and do what I think is right."

Mrs. Viola Pawnell is the wife of Wesley Pownell, a dealer in fruits and vegetables. She is 34 years of age and the mother of four children. She is said to be of sound mind and never known to be eccentric or fanatical.

Pile Terrors Swept Away.—

Dr. Agnew's Ontment stands at the head as a reliever, healer, and aure cure for Piles

Dr. Agnew's Ointment stands at the head as a reliever, healer, and sure cure for Piles as a relever, nealer, and sure cure for Piles in all forms. One application will give comfort in a few minutes, and three to six days' application, according to directions, will cure chronic cases. It relieves all itching and burning skin diseases in a day. 55

AUSTRIAN ULTIMATUM.

BROUGHT THE PORTE TO TIME AND THE CRISIS IS OVER.

Constantinople, Dec. 12.-The Porte yielded to the Austrian demands regarding detention of Austrian mails, and the incident may be regarded as closed. Threatened complications have, therefore, been averted. The Austrian ultimatum demanded

will order a naval squadron that is now lying ready at Pola to carry out a demonstration at some Turkish port.

The Austrian Ambassador's prompt and the chief of police of Scutari, with-



To be a successful wife, to retain the love and admiration of her husband should be a woman's constant study. Mrs. Brown and

Mrs. Potts tell their stories for the benefit of all wives and mothers.

"Dear Mes. Pinkham:— Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will make every mother well, strong, healthy and happy. I dragged through nine years of miserable existence, worn out with pain and weariness. I then noticed a statement of a woman troubled as I was, and the wonderful results she had had from your Vegetable Compound, and decided to try what it would do for me, and used it for three months. At the end of that time I "Dele Mes. Pinkham:—Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will make every mother well, strong, healthy and happy. I dragged through nine years of miserable existence, worn out with pain and weariness. I then noticed a statement of a woman troubled as I was, and the wonderful results she had had from your Vegetable Compound, and decided to try what it would do for me, and used it for three months. At the end of that time I was a different woman, the neighbors remarked it, and my husband fell in love with me all over again. It seemed like a new existence. I had been suffering with inflammation and falling of the womb, but your medicine cured that and built up my entire system, till I was indeed like a new woman.—Sincerely yours, Mes. Chas. F. Brown, 21 Cedar Terrace, Hot Springs, Ark., Vice President Mothers' Club."

Suffering women should not fail to profit by Mrs. Brown's experiences; just as surely as she was cured of the troubles enumerated in her letter, just so surely will Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cure other women who suffer from womb troubles, inflammation of the ovaries, kidney troubles, nervous excitability, and nervous prostration. Read the story of Mrs. Potts to all mothers:



" DEAR MRS. PINKHAM : - During the early part of my married life I was very delicate in health. I had two miscarriages, and both my husband and I felt very badly as we were my husband and I felt very badly as we were anxious to have children. A neighbor who had been using Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound advised me to try it, and I decided to do so. I soon felt that my appetite was increasing the headaches gradually decreased and finally disappeared, and my general health improved. I felt as if new blood coursed through my veins, the sluggish tired feeling disappeared, and I became strong and well.

"Within a year after I became the mother of a strong healthy child, the joy of our home. You certainly have a splendid remedy, and I wish every mother knew of it.—Sincerely yours, MES. AREA POTTS, 510 Park Ave., Hot Springs, Ark."

rings, Ark."

If you feel that there is anything at all If you feel that there is anything at all unusual or puzzling about your case, or if you wish confidential advice of the most experienced, write to Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass., and you will be advised free of charge. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has cured and is curing thousands of cases of female troubles—curing them inexpensively and absolutely. Remember this when you go to your druggist. Insist upon getting

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vauetable Compo

in three days, failing which Austria would make a naval demonstration at Salonica, and would demand a settlement of all pending questions, including official recognition of the schools under Austrian protection. The energetic attitude of Austria in ordering a squadron of warships to be made ready induced the desired action on the part of the Parts.

Market Reports The Week.

Toronto Farmers' Market.

The offerings of grain on the street to-day were moderate, with little change in prices. Wheat steady, with sales of 200 bushels of red at \$1 to \$1.03, 100 bushels selling at \$4 to \$4.00 bushels selling at \$4 to \$5.00 bushels selling at \$45 to \$10.00 bushels selling at \$45 to \$10.00 bushels selling at \$45 to \$10.00 bushels of \$10.00 bushels selling at \$45 to \$10.00 bushels of \$10.00 bushels bushels \$1.00 to \$1.00 bushels \$1.00 bushel Toronto Farmers' Market.

Aed cloves
Timothy . . .
ressed hogs .
Apples, per bbl.
Eggs, per doze
sutter, dary
reamer Ducks, per lb.

Cabbage, per dozen ...

Cabbage, per dozen ...

Potatoes, per bag ...

Caupliflower, per dozen ...

Caupliflower, per dozen ...

Celery, per dozen ...

Beef, hindquarters ...

Do., forequarters ...

Do., choice, carcase ...

Do. medium, carca ...

Mueeon, per cwt. ...

Veal, per cwt. ...

Lambs, per cwt. ...

British Live Stock Market. London, Dec. 10.—Live cattle are quoted at 9½c to 13c per pound; refrigerator beef t 8½c per pound; sneep at 10c to 12½c per

Leading Wheat Markets.

wholesale trade at Ottawa is fairly large, trol. Barkis seems to be willing, and although in some lines more of it is on account of the coming holidays.

NEWS IN BRIEF

A most successful test of new Ontario peat as fuel has been made at Winnines. The peat is manufactured near Fort Frances. is manufactured near Fort Frances.

Mrs. J. Robertson, of Barwick, Ont., cut her throat while termorary insane at Winnipeg, and was found by her aged mother in a dying condition when the family returned from church.

a dying condition when the laminy returned from church.

In the Dutch Chamber a Roman Catholic Deputy declared that the troops in Sumatra had behaved like Huns and Tartars, slaughtering women and children for purely commercial objects.

Senator Proctor presented to the Senate a memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Vermont, protesting agi inst reciprocity with Canada.

While leading his waxon with sand in the

While loading his wagon with and-pits at Carleton P. O. vest

Report That Garrisons Will be Withdrawn.

Halifax and Esquimalt No No Longer Needed.

Canada Ready to Look After Them Itself.

(Toronto Globe,) A reconstruction of the military and naval forces of the empire is in progress that demands more than a bystanders notice from the people of Cam da. The Admiralty has decided to practically withdraw British warships from Canadian waters. The North American equadron, with headquarters at Halifax, and the North Pacific squadcon, with headquarters at Esquimalt, will be dispersed, and but two vessels, probably secondclass cruisers, left to represent Britain's naval power in these waters. This step naval power in these waters. This step is taken in pursuance of a new policy of. Imperial defence, the cardinal feature of which is the concontration of a great naval force in home waters—a force that may strike at a moment's notice. At present the greater part of the British navy is in far off seus doing police duty and could not readity be concentrated in time of war.

in time of war.

The Broad Arrow, in an article on the The Broad Arrow in an article on the coming changes, says: "The disappearance ance of warships from colonial waters will not move the colonials to agonized despair, as the disappearance of the redcoat dil. The first colony to experience the effect of the new policy is Canada, of or already the North Atlantic squadron has been reduced in strength. This was inevitable owing to the growth of the United States, with the increased mobility conferred upon the navy by modern science. The defence of British intercets in the western hemisphere is best attained, not by the maintenance of a relatively small force in the North Atlantic, but by powerful fleets within a week's steam."

Following upon the abandonment of

New York ... 1.16% 1.12% 1.16% 1.16% 1.17% 1.16% 1.17% 1.16% 1.17% 1.17% 1.16% 1.17% 1.17% 1.17% 1.16% 1.17%

ditions here.

At Quebec wholesale trade in general shows no great signs of activity. Colder shows no great signs of activity. Colder ing the South African war Canada garweather is wanted. Collections are still risoned the forts on both the Atlantic and Pacific, a special service regiment of 1,000 men being raised for the purpose. At the Colonial Conference of 1902 the According to Bradstreet's advices, trade conditions at Winnipeg are satisfactory in all departments. The American demand for Canadian wheat has had

There is a continued depression in the salmon industry.

Hamilton reports to Bradstreet's sy the wholesale movement of Christmas goods is heavy and trade generally is fairly active. Retail stocks are meeting with a better demand, and collections are improving somewhat. The industries are active and trade prospects are bright.

Business conditions at London are fairly satisfactory. The pre-holiday trade so far compares favorably with that of former years.

Bradstreet's advices say the volume of wholesale trade at Ottawa is fairly large, the regarded as of great imperial visue, and not as a part of Canada's land defences. Other men, other manners. Brodrick is gone. Arnold-Forster is in control of the same o

ELEGANT

14K. RING

The Mikado has written three poems, extolling the patriotism of his people. The value of the fortune left by the late r. Kruger amounts to no less than £750,

GOLD WATCH THE MUTUAL ORE OF