The Prisoned Angel.

A mlock of marble caught the glance Of Buongrotti's eyes,

Which brightened in their solemn depths Like meteor-lighted skies

Listening, there stood beside him one Who smiled the while he heard

"I'll hew an angel from the stone " Such was the sculptor's word. Soon mallet deft and chisel keen

The stubborn block assailed: And blow by blow, and pang by pang. The prisoner stood unveiled.

A brow was lifted, high and pure: The waking eyes outshone:

And as the master sharply wrought A smile broke through the stone. Beneath the chisel's edge the hair Escaped in floating rings,

And plume by plume was slowly freed The sweep of half-furled wings. The stately bust and graceful limbs

Their marble fetters shed, And where the shapeless block had been An angel stood instead.

Oh, blows that smite, oh wounds that pierce This shrinking heart of mine '

What are ye but the Master's tools, Forming a work divine? Oh, hope that crumbles at my feet!

Oh, joy that mocks and flies! What are ye but the clogs that bind My spirit from the skies?

Sculptor of souls! I lift to thee Encumbered heart and hands: Spare not the chisel set me free, However dear the bands.

How blest if all these seeming ills Which draw my thoughts to thee, Should only prove that thou wilt make An angel out of me!

LESSON NOTES.

FOURTH QUARTER.

STUDIES IN JEWISH HISTORY.

LESSON X. B.C. 9921 Dec 8

SOLOMON AND THE QUEEN OF SHEBA.

1 Kings 10, 4-13, Memory verses, 6 S.

GOLDEN TEXT.

She came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, a greater than Solomon is here. Matt. 12, 42.

OUTLINE.

1. The Queen, v. 1-5.
2. Her Wonder, v. 6-9
3. Her Gifts, v. 10-13.
Time.—992 B. C.

Prace. -- Jerusalem.

PLACE.—Jerusalem.
GONNETING LINES.—The reign of Solomon was magnificent. He not only governed justly, but he made his kingdom one of the wonders of the earth. The years following the decication of the temple were spent in the creation of public buildings and private pilaces, and in fortifications on his country's outposts. His fame spread among the rations, and caused the incident of the lesson.

lesson. ... APLANATIONS.—Conce ming the name of the Lord Doubtless this means the report ANTANATIONS.—Conce ming the name of the Lord Doubtless this means the report of the extraordinary things God had done for fine had gone abroad. Hard questions Enigmas or riddles, which were a delight to the Orient d mind. They were accustomed to test wisdom by one's ability to answer. A reggreat train—Or, as we should now say, "a caravan." Gold, precons stones. These constituted the native product of that country. His ascent by which he went up—Solomon's palace was below the platform of the temple, and he constructed a subterran-Solomon's paace was below in a patrian of the temple, and he constructed a subterran-can passage 250 feet long and 42 feet wide to join them. No more spirit in here-Perhaps, her own feeling of pride and wisdom haps, her own feeling of pride and wisdom was all gone. One commentator says "she fainted away." One hundred and twenty talents of gold—A very large sum of money, not absolutely reckonable, but said by scholars to be more than three millions of our money. Almng trees—Wood of some aromatic tree, highly prized; some say sandal wood, and others, tragrant fre.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. The Queen.
Who was the Queen of Sheba?
In what quarter of the world did Jesus say she lived? Matt 12, 42.

Her Wooder.

What was the effect of her observations on herself?

What was the character of her words to

What commentary was only a few years later furnished on verse 8? I Kings 12 4.

Did this queen understand the nature of

the worship of the true God? Would not such a worship as Solomon's, in offerings and sacrifices, seem like a

magnificant idolatry?
What corroboration of the magnificence of the temple equipment does later history give? Ezra I. 7-11.

3. Her Gifts.

What Oriental custom still remaining is suggested by verses 10 and 13? What illustration of the prodigality of kings in giving was once afterward given in Israel's history? 2 kings 5, 5. What was the condition of the people in these Oriental monarchies? What light on the causes of their condition of each condition of the people in the condition of the cause of their conditions of the condition of the cause of their conditions of the condition of the cause of their conditions of the cause of the cause of their conditions of the cause of the cause of the cause of their conditions of the cause of the ca

tion do such incidents give?
What is always the effect of concentration of wealth in the hands of the few?

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Here is illustration or the lesson of Jesus: "To him that hath shall be given." There were many lepers in Israel: no gifts for them.

Jesus taught the great lesson from this

The queen visited Solomon, and rever-

enced him.
"I am greater than Solomon." Do you teverence him?
Homage for the king! But let the king

The queen saw Solomon's riche

Have you seen the riches of Christ? She saw the power of Solomon. Have you fet the power of Christ's love?

HISTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. To understand Solomon's power, read the story of his life in 2 Chron. It you can get Stanley's History of the Jewish Church, read about Solomon in vol. 2, pp. 184-287, or in teikie's Hours with the Bible, vol. 3, pp. 337-455.

pp. 337-455.

2. Do not fail to read the remainder of chapter 10.

3. Write from your study a brief story

of Solomon's life.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

11. From whence did Jesussay the Queen of Sheba came? "From the uttermost parts of the earth." 2. For what did she come? "To test Solomon's wisdom." 3. What was he own testimony of him and his langdom? "The half has not been told." 4. How does Jesus say she will appear in the judgment? "In condemnation of her generation." 5. What will be take leads of their condem. 5. What will be the basis of that condemnation? "She came from the uttermost,"

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION. Accountability. CATECHISM QUISTION.

56. Does God care for you? I know that he cares for me, and watches

over me always by his providence. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.—Psalm 23. 6.

LESSON XI. B.C. 9841 SOLOMON'S FALL.

1 Kings 11, 4-13. Memory verses, 9, 11. Golden Text.

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed less he fall.—1 Cor. 10.

OPHINE.

1. The King's Folly, v. 4-8. 2. The Lord's Anger, v. 9-13. Time. 984 B.C. Place.—Jerusalem. Connecting Links.—The honou

Time. 984 fb.C.
PLACE.—Jerusalem.
Connecting Links.—The honours conferred upon Solomon, the great wealth that flowed into his kingdom, and his power Hebrews 1, 3; Nehemiah 9, 6; Psalm 103, 19; Psalm 145, 15, 16; 1 Timothy 6, 15.

What custom common among Orientals is suggested by verse 1?
What oors this visit show in regard to Solomon's fame?
What oot of the king might have brought hou into her notice? Chap 9, 26.
What was the character of her country?
Verse 2.
What was the things which she saw?
What was the ascent to the house of the Loid?

Loid?

among the nations, proved sources fruitful of temptation. His count became a centre of sensual pleasure and indulgence of every kind, and the worship of Jehovah was defiled by abominations copied from the idolatrous peoples around. Solomon himself gave way to his pride and lust, and his last years were disfigured by debauchery and profligacy. It is this story of his full to which our lesson brings us.

EXPLANATIONS:—When Solomon was old

EXPLANATIONS. - When Solomon was old He was not more than fifty-two years old, but has his his had been very eventful. Turned away his heart—Incredible almost, he became an idolater—The hill before Jerusalem—This is still called the Mount of Oflence. Will rend the kingdom—A prophecy of the divided monarchy which came to pass very soon after Solomon's death.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME STUDY.

The King's Folly.

What was the natural effect of Solomon's Inxurious life?

How did his court differ from that of other Oriental monarchs?

How did his court differ from that of their from that of

David ? To what sins did he become addicted?

What was the cause of his lapse from righteousness?

righteomness?
Had this sin ever been forbidden? Deut.
7, 3, 4; 23, 3-6.
In what visible forms did he show his idolatry?

What name remained to mark the site of his folly?

The Lord's Anger.

What is meant by the Lord being angry with him?

On what two occasions had the Lord ap

peared unto him? Chap. 3. 5; 9. 2 By what command had God given him warning concerning this sin? Chap.

9, 6, 7.
What punishment was he to be made to

suffer? What would Solomon know that division must mean for his kingdom

What was the one saving feature in the coming doom?

How was this prophecy fulfilled? Chap. 12. 16, 19, 20.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

Solomon did not become wicked in his old age suddenly. He had been growing so for forty years.

Solomon tried to serve God and mammon. He failed. Men are still trying and still

failing.
David sinned, and bitterly repented.

Solomon sinned, and never thought of re-

Had it not been for David's credit, his son's account would have been far over-drawn. It was David's account that saved his kingdom. Worldliness rained Solomon. It will rain

every one on whom it fastens.
"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

HINTS FOR HOME STUDY.

1. Study out the causes of Solomon's fall.
2. Find what particular commandments there were against connection with the Ammonites, and the reasons therefore.

3. Locate the Hill of Offence, or Mount of Corruption, as it was called.

4. Learn the character of the worship of Ashtoreth.

5. Find instances in after history of kings who followed Solomon's example.

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

1. What was the occasion of Solomon's fall? "His heart was not perfect with God." 2. What form did his sins assume? He worshipped false gods." 3. What was the effect on his character? "It corrupted and debased him" 4. What was the effect on his kingdom? "It caused its division." 5. Why did this come upon him? "He had broken God's covenant." 6. How does our Golden Text warn us? "Wherefore let him," etc. let him," etc.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.-Apostasy.

VATECHISM QUESTION.

57. What is the Providence of God?

The Provider e of God is his preserva-tion of all his creatures, his care for all their wants, and his rule over all their actions.

S. S. LESSON HELPS FOR 1890.

PELOUBET'S SELECT NOTES.

8vo, cloth. Price \$1.25.

QUESTION BOOKS, in Three Grades. Price, each, 200, net, or 170, each by the dozen.

ALSO.

Vincent's Select Notes on the International S. S. Lessons,

With MAPS, ILLUSTRATIONS, etc. 8vo, cloth, net, \$1.25.

QUESTION BOOKS, in Three Grades. Each, 20c.; 17c, each by dozen.

Monday Club Sermons on the S. S. Lessons.

12mo, cloth, \$1.25.

Dr. Pentecost's Commentary on the S. S. Lessons for 1890.

Invaluable for Teachers. Paper covers, 60c.; cloth bound, \$1.

H Pocket Bible FOR \$1.00,

WITH YOUR NAME IN GOLD LETTERS.

MOROCCO BINDING, CIRCUIT COVERS,

GILT EDGE,

ELASTIC BAND.

Containing References, Psalms and Paraphrases, and Maps. Size, 41 x 62. Weight, 16 ounces.

Send the name, clearly written, with your order, and it will be sent at once.

C.L.S.C. BOOKS

FOR 1889-90. Outline History of Rome. Vincent and Joy \$0 70

Political Economy Ely.... How to Judge of a Picture. Van 1)vke The Bible in the Nineteenth Century. Townsend Preparatory and College Latin Course in English (in one Vol.) Wilk-

Chantauqua Course in Physics.

Steele The Complete Set Mailed postfree for \$5.

WE SELL AT PUBLISHER'S PRICES NO ADVANCE FOR DUTY.

WILLIAM BRIGGS

29 to 33 Richmond St. West and 30 to 36 Temperance St., Toronto.

C. W. COATES, MONTREAL, QUE. S. F. HUESTIS, HALIPAX, N. S