

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

JULY 13.

THE ARK IN THE HOUSE.

2 SAMUEL 6: 1-12. David after having established himself at Jerusalem sought, after the manner of oriental monarchs, to strengthen his throne by numerous alliances with foreign nations by marriage, 2 Sam. 5: 13. He was attacked by his warlike neighbors, the Philistines, whom he however signally defeated, 2 Sam. 5: 17-25. Then his plan was to bring the ark to Jerusalem, and thus make that city the religious as well as the political centre of the nation.

NOTES.

Had, same as Badah, the old name of Kirjath-jearim; see Josh. 15: 7; an ancient hill town, 9 or 10 miles from Jerusalem, where the ark had been for nearly 20 years, 1 Sam. 7: 1-2. *Abnathab*, probably a Levite, and inhabitant of Kirjath-jearim. He may have been dead, and the house still called by his name, as Eleazar his son was in charge of the ark, 1 Sam. 5: 1. *Gibbon*, the hill, or Gibeon, of Ammah, "so here 'the hill,' i. e. of Kirjath-jearim. *Ushah and Merib*. It is not known whether they were Levites. Nothing is known of them except in connection with the incident of our lesson. *Hoops*, much like our harps. The harp was amongst the earliest musical instruments invented; see Gen. 4: 21. *Pathings*, a kind of lyre with ten strings. *Tambour*, also called tambore, a kind of drum or tambourine. It was usually played by women, Ex. 15: 20; Ps. 65: 25. *Corsets*, probably some kind of instrument with bells, which gave a sound by being shaken. The word is different from the one usually translated crotchet or trumpet; the latter was commonly made of a ram's horn or of metal. *Cymbals*, like our cymbals, round plates that are struck together. *Obed-edom*—second of *Ebon*, a Levite of the family of Merari, 1 Chron. 15: 21, a skillful performer on the harp. 1 Chron. 25: 4-8. He and his eight sons were also appointed to be royal porters, 1 Chron. 26: 4-8; and he was one specially appointed to minister before the ark on Zion, 1 Chron. 16: 4, 5. *Gittah*, the inhabitants of Gath, the royal city of the Philistines, were so called. *Obed-edom*, however, was probably from the Levitical city of Gath-rimmon in Manasseh, Josh. 21: 8, 25.

EXPLANATIONS.

Thirty thousand, perhaps delegates "chosen" from all the nation; see 1 Chron. 13: 1-5. The Greek version reads "seventy thousand." *Ark of God*, or ark of the covenant made by God's special direction, Ex. 25: 10-15. It was a box overlaid with gold, containing the two tables of stone given to Moses on Sinai, 1 Kings 8: 9, and perhaps earlier, also a pot of manna and Aaron's rod, 1 Chron. 16: 4. Originally it was to be kept in the holy of holies of the tabernacle; now only in curtains or a sacred tent. It was regarded with sacred veneration as over its lid, the mercy seat, God was wont to manifest himself in visible form, Ex. 25: 22. *By the name*, literally "upon which is called the name, the name of Jehovah of hosts," etc. *Cherubim*, the golden figures of two-winged beings on the mercy-seat, Ex. 25: 18-20. The law required the ark to be carried on its staves by Levites, Ex. 25: 14. *House of Israel*, the people. *Placed*, the word means to dance to music. *On the woods*, literally, "with all his woods;" in 1 Chron. 13: 8 it is "with all their might." The Hebrew words are very similar. *Threshing floor*, a level circular space where the earth had been beaten down hard; on this the grain is threshed, or trodden out by animals. *Put forth*, reached forth; it was specially forbidden to touch the ark, Num. 4: 15. *Smote it*, or were throwing it down. Some think that Uzzah was killed by lightning. *Disobed*, G. grieved and vexed. *Mad as a hatter*, literally, "broke forth;" see Ex. 13: 22. *Presumptuous*, "breach of Uzzah." *Unto him*, shows that he was already living in the city of David or Zion. *Brought up*, with ceremonies appropriate to the occasion, see 1 Chron. 15; and not on a cart, but as the law required, 1 Chron. 15: 26. *With gladness*, refers to the festal music.

1. Seek the presence of the Lord; 2. No good work succeeds by unlawful means; 3. God wants implicit obedience; 4. Music is not to be neglected in our worship; 5. God's judgments are terrible; 6. The presence of the Lord confers blessings.—*Schools' Hand-book.*

HOT WATER REMEDIES.

There is no remedy of such general application, and none so easily attainable, as water, and yet nine persons out of ten will pass by it in an emergency to seek for something of far less efficiency. There are but few cases of illness where water should not occupy the highest place as a remedial agent. A strip of flannel or a napkin folded lengthwise, and dipped in hot water and then wrung out, and then applied around the neck of a child that has a cold will usually bring relief in ten minutes. A towel folded several times and dipped in hot water, and quickly wrung and applied over the seat of the pain in toothache or neuralgia, will generally afford prompt relief. This treatment in colic works almost like magic. I have seen cases that have resisted other treatment for hours yield to this in ten minutes.

There is nothing that will so promptly cut short a congestion of the lungs, sore throat or rheumatism, as hot water when applied promptly and thoroughly.

Pieces of cotton batting dipped in hot water and kept applied to old sores, or new cuts, bruises and sprains, is the treatment now generally adopted in hospitals. I have seen a sprained ankle cured in an hour by showering it with hot water, poured from a height of three feet.

Tepid water acts promptly as an emetic, and hot water taken freely half an hour before bedtime is the best of cathartics in cases of constipation, while it has the most soothing effect on the stomach and bowels. This treatment continued for a few months, with proper attention to diet, will cure any curable case of dyspepsia.

Headache almost always yields to the simultaneous application of hot water to the feet and back of the neck.

FOR TREES OR PLANTS.

Professor Hubbard gives the following way of mixing kerosene and soap for spraying trees or water-g plants infested by insects: Kerosene, two gallons; common soap or white oil soap, half gallon; water, one gallon. Heat the solution of soap, and add boiling hot to the kerosene. Churn the mixture by means of a force pump and spray nozzle for five or ten minutes. The emulsion, if perfect, forms a cream, which thickens on cooling, and should adhere without oiliness to the surface of glass. Dilute before using, one part of the emulsion with nine parts of cold water. The above formula gives three gallons of emulsion, and makes, when diluted, thirty gallons of wash. The percentage of kerosene may be increased somewhat without danger, and stronger washes may be needed for some kinds of insects.

USEFUL HINTS.

A most effective remedy against pulmonary consumption, it is said, has been found in aluminium and its compounds.

In digging out ferns put your hands close under the root or bulb and pull it gently but "bodily." Before transplanting put the roots in water. Ferns require shade and a cool soil.

A very little cream of tartar in the frosting of a cake will hasten the hardening process. If the knife is often dipped into water while spreading the frosting, it will give a gloss or polish greatly to be desired.

The currant worm eats the leaves of the bushes and ruins the crop. Try a dusting of air-sieved lime in the early morning when the dew is on. A sure remedy, but costing more, is white hellebore, powdered to be obtained at the drug stores, and applied at once, as above.

When a nursery tree is taken up it is deprived of half or more of its roots. Take the top is left, because the nursery man knows that the inexperienced buyer will judge of the trees by the size of the top. It is important that each branch be cut back to diminish the demand upon the roots before the planting is done.

Crude carbolic acid will disinfect drains. It is better largely diluted, for thus it reaches further. It is a poison. There is a carbolic soap prepared for killing insects on animals. We lost a valuable dog which got some of the soapsuds in his mouth. There is a finer carbolic soap used for toilet purposes. It is healing.—*New York Herald.*

Pink cream, which is very ornamental for dessert or for tea, is easily prepared, and well repays one's efforts. Take the juice of red raspberries or of strawberries or currants; sweeten to suit the taste; mix sweet cream until it is like froth, mix with the juice of the fruit. Serve in a glass dish. The proportion of cream to juice is a matter of taste; enough juice should be used to color and flavor the cream.

A correspondent of a leading religious paper in this city asks: "Shall I feed candy to the dogs when there are children near by?" Yes, if you value your children's health, and if the dogs are very mean ones belonging to your neighbors, spare the children and give the animals all the candy they ask for, especially if it is the kind which is made of terra alba and colored with poisonous dyes.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Carefully conducted experiments have demonstrated the fact that seasoned wood, well saturated with oil when put together will not shrink in the driest weather. Wheels have been known to run many years, even to wearing out the tires. Very many dollars might be saved annually if this practice were adopted. Boiled linseed oil is the best for general use, although it is now known that crude petroleum, on even old wheels, is of great benefit.

If cistern water has acquired a foul odor, says Dr. Kezlie, in the *N. Y. Tribune*, it may be disodorized by some oxidizing agent such as chlorate of soda or Labarraque's chlorinated soda. This can be found at any good drugstore, put up in quart bottles for use. To get the best results, the material should be poured into the bottom of the cistern, using for this purpose a gaspipe reaching to the bottom. Two bottles, costing about twenty-five cents each, will clean an ordinary cistern.

TESTIMONY OF WORTH.—Mr. G. E. Hutchins, of Rossway, Digby County, states that his wife had been sorely afflicted with Salt Rheum in the hands for a long time, and could find no relief from the pain and distress until she used Gates' Nerve Ointment which after using for a short time relieved her of all pain and soreness. He recommends it very highly to those similarly afflicted as a powerful and speedily healing Ointment.

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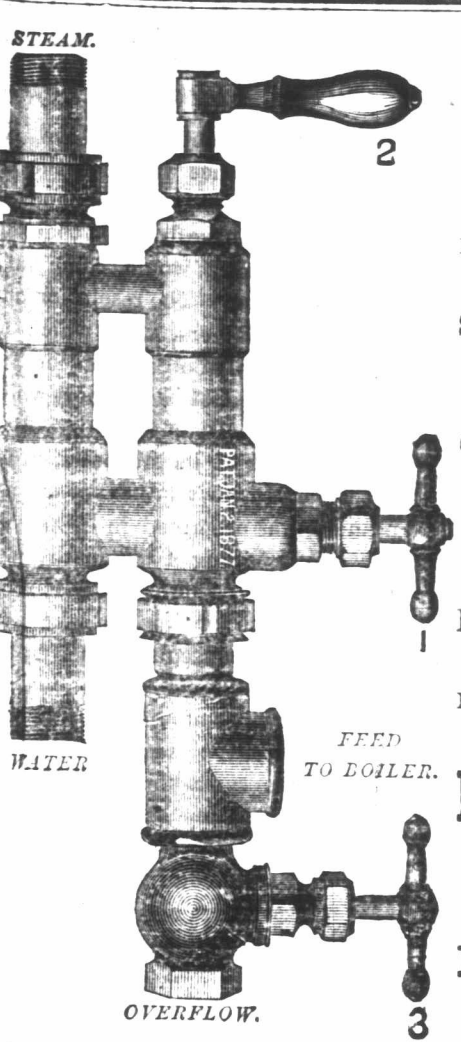
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