

moderator, Mr. Jamieson, put the usual questions to Mr. Herridge and ordained him, the Presbytery laying on their hands, after which Dr. Moore addressed the pastor, and Mr. Clark the people. The Rev. Mr. Herridge, sen., the father of the newly inducted pastor, being present, engaged in prayer. It was a commonly expressed opinion that all the services were deeply interesting and impressive. The salary of Mr. Herridge is to be \$3,000 per annum and use of a manse. On Tuesday the 7th August the regular quarterly meeting of Presbytery was held. There was an unusually good representation of members for the month of August. Mr. Bayne, of Wakefield, was appointed moderator for the next six months. Several church records were examined and attested in the usual form. Messrs. Donaldson and Nesbitt, a deputation from the Hull congregation, addressed the court in reference to having such a change effected as would give them a minister to themselves, the afternoon services as at present not being so much in the interest of the congregation as services morning and evening would be, and stating that they thought \$350 might be raised if they had the full time of a minister or missionary devoted to the congregation. There was, after deliberation, a committee appointed to confer with the congregation anent the matter. The chief difficulty in the way was the unusually large grant that would be required from the Home Mission Fund. The matter will be disposed of at the meeting on the second of October. Written exercises were read by Messrs. Rondeau (French) and Pollock (English), students, and approved by Presbytery and the clerk was ordered to certify them to college accordingly. An exercise was prescribed Mr. Higgins, not present, to be given in to the committee on the examination of students before he leaves the field. Mr. Bayne reported on the ordination and induction of elders into the French Presbyterian Church, of Masham. Mr. Henry Brown appeared before the Presbytery and made application to be admitted as a student for the ministry of the Church. His application was received after examination as to his motives, and he was instructed to meet with the Presbytery's Committee on the examination of students to guide him as to the year of the literary course on which he should enter. Mr. W. H. Geddes, who had completed his theological curriculum, appeared to undergo examination for license, and after examination, was licensed to preach the everlasting Gospel of Christ. Dr. Moore submitted the report of the Committee to prepare a finding on the Presbyterian visitation of the congregation of Carp and Kinburn, which was received and adopted. Mr. Farries gave a cheering account of the progress being made in the mission field of Plantagenet and Mr. Pollock, student missionary there submitted a subscription list, in which the amount of about \$450 was promised toward the missionary in that field. The Presbytery unanimously agreed to make application for a grant of such an amount as would enable them to secure the services of an efficient missionary. Dr. Moore reported on the work of French Evangelization within the bounds, and laid such facts before the Presbytery as revealed a state of things demanding strenuous effort on the part of our Church, if we are to keep pace with the cry for help which comes to us from some of the stations visited by himself in the course of the past month. In one of the fields the evidence of progress in the presence of opposition and persecution is showing itself. Certain recommendations, all of which were adopted, were submitted. Standing Committees for the year were struck. Deputations were appointed to visit the mission fields within the bounds and hold missionary meetings before the student missionaries return to college. Messrs. Findlay (convener), Bayne, Shearer, and Scrimger were appointed a deputation for the mission fields of Aylwin and Desert, Cantly and Portland, Chelsea and East Templeton. Messrs. McDiarmid (convener), McClelland, McKay, and Higgins were appointed to visit Bearbrook. The scheme for the visitation of congregations within the bounds paying less than \$750 and manse was considered and arrangements for entering upon the work made, so as to have the report respecting those who may be able to do this without aid before the Presbytery at the October meeting. It was agreed to hold the next quarterly meeting in Bank Street Church, Ottawa, on the first Tuesday of November, at ten o'clock a.m. Presbytery adjourned, to meet in St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, on Tuesday, 2nd October, at ten o'clock a.m.—JOSEPH WHITE, Pres. Clerk.

SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHER.

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

LESSON XXXIV.

Aug. 26, }
1883. }

GIDEON'S ARMY.

{ Judges vii.
1-8.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"The sword of the Lord and of Gideon."—Judges 7: 20.

CENTRAL TRUTH.—The Lord can save by many or by few.

CONNECTION.—Two hundred years had passed away. Four times the people had run into idolatry, and four times they had been oppressed and evil-intreated by enemies; sometimes for many years. Othniel, Ehud and Barak had been raised by God to deliver them. Under the fourth oppression (by the Midianites), when the people "cried unto the Lord" (Judges 6: 7) God raised up Gideon.

NOTES.—Gideon: a "mighty man of valour," who "through faith turned to flight the armies of the aliens." (Heb. 11: 32, 34.) He governed in Israel forty years. (Judges 8: 28.) When called to rescue Israel from the Midianites he sent messengers to the tribes and blew a trumpet (Judges 6: 34) to gather them together. But God gave Gideon two signs. A fleece was wet with dew, but there was no dew on the ground. The next night there was dew on the ground and none on the fleece. Gideon gathered an army of 32,000 men, but God reduced it to 300. Each man had a pitcher with a torch in it and also a trumpet. They kept the torches in the pitchers so as not to be seen until they got close to the Midianites. Then throwing down the pitchers they raised the torches aloft, blew the trumpets with all their might and shouted the battle-cry, "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!" The Midianites were utterly confused at the sudden blaze of the torches and the shrill sound of the trumpets, and fled in terror. Midianites: an ancient people who bought and sold goods in Palestine in the time of Jacob. (Gen. 37: 28.) Moses fled from Egypt to Midian (Ex. 2: 15), and married the daughter of a priest of Midian, Jethro (Ex. 3: 1). The Midianites lived in the peninsula of Arabia near Mount Sinai. They had large herds of cattle and camels, and jewellery in abundance (Judges 8: 26), which Gideon took for spoil.

I. GIDEON'S ARMY.—Ver. 1.—Jerubabab: a name that was given him from his destroying the groves and altars of Baal. It means, "Let Baal plead;" thus speaking of Gideon as one who was "in conflict with Baal." Gideon: a "hewer," or "feller." Well of Harod: supposed to be a great fountain seen at the foot of Mount Gilboa, north side. In the valley: of Jezreel, here six miles wide (north to Moreh or "Little Hermon").

Ver. 2.—Too many: if they gained the victory, they would think it was their own bravery, and not the Lord's might that had prevailed. Mine own hand hath saved me: God would not let Israel say that. It is God who saves us from the yoke of sin!

Ver. 3.—Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return: and the Midianites being more than four to one, 22,000 of the people went home discouraged. Oh! faint hearts, when God was among them! From Mount Gilead: perhaps there was another "Mount Gilead" west of the Jordan—some elevation so called. Or "Mount Gilead" might be a rallying cry, indicating the cause or standard of Gideon, who was of Gilead. Some think it is a copyist's error for "Gilboa."

II. THE LORD'S THREE HUNDRED.—Ver. 4.—Yet too many: still the people would think they delivered themselves. What a foe to all right trust *self-trust* is! I will try them: test them, or put them to the proof. The army would know nothing of this—only Gideon. We often do not know when we are being tested: but we have the benefit of the trial all the same.

Ver. 5.—Lappeth of the water: in the East they often throw up water into the mouth with the hand very skilfully. Much less time consumed than in getting down to the water with the mouth. These men showed watchfulness and zeal. They would suppose they were marching to battle, and would waste no time, nor indulge themselves.

Ver. 6.—Three hundred men: Gideon's three hundred, the three hundred at Thermopylae, Scarlett's onset of three hundred at Balaklava—thus in history "three hundred men" have often distinguished themselves. Bowed down: the Rabbies explain it that these men had been accustomed to abject and long prostrations in Baal's worship, and the two different actions indicated (though unthought of by themselves) who were of Baal, and who of Jehovah.

Ver. 7.—By the three hundred men: by these men who have been drawn out of the large number; by the men of faith; for God can save by many or by few. What an influence, for ages after, this deliverance must have had on the public mind.

Ver. 8.—Victuals in their hand, and trumpets: the question may be asked, "Did the rest of the 32,000 men do anything to help Gideon's victory?" Yes; they left provisions for the three hundred, and each chief of a band left his trumpet and torch (or "lamp") so that each man of the three hundred, posted a distance apart, and blowing his trumpet, and flashing his torch, and breaking his "pitcher," would seem in the darkness like the leader of a band. And the Midianites would think an overwhelming host had suddenly attacked them.

PRACTICAL LESSONS.

1. The victory of Gideon is a strength to good principles all over the world, and for all time. Christianity is engaged now in just such an onset, and the enemy is "beneath us in the valley."

2. Whenever God has work to do, He finds a man to do it.

3. In as small things as "lapping water," a man's character is revealed and tested.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

OUT of 11,030 sittings in the ten city established churches in Glasgow, only 5,205 are let.

It is generally anticipated in University circles that the Deanery of Exeter will be offered to Canon Liddon.

CANON LIDDON has been working hard on his "Life of Dr. Pusey," and hopes to have it published this year.

TWELVE per cent. of the suicides in England, and twenty-five per cent. of those in Germany are due to intemperance.

UNITED STATES bonds to the amount of \$5,000,000 each are owned by the Duke of Sutherland and Sir Thomas Brassey.

A PASSION play is to be produced at Emerald, a small village near San Francisco, it is said, as a summer attraction next year.

AN analysis has been made of the waters of the Nile, which shows that it is infected with putrid matter to above the cataracts.

AT the funeral of the Duke of Marlborough Dr. Horatius Bonar's hymn, "I heard the voice of Jesus say," was sung by the mourners.

LORD PENZANCE has sentenced Rev. Mr. Mackonochie, the well-known ritualist to deprivation of ecclesiastical preferment with costs.

A SOUTH CAROLINA Baptist church contains in its old record the expulsion of a woman for "doing too much talking in the neighbourhood."

REV. DR. ANGUS, for thirty years President of Regent's Park Baptist College, London, has received testimonials recently to the amount of \$12,000.

IN a Massachusetts liquor trial the Court said that if a druggist delivered liquor over a counter in a public place to those who called for it, then he kept a public bar.

IN all parts of India preaching in the public squares has been practised largely by Christian missionaries, and they are now imitated by both Hindoo and Mohammedan priests.

THE Rev. Thomas J. Norris, pastor of the Nazareth Primitive Baptist Church in Alabama, went to his church while ill and presided over a conference meeting lying in a bed.

MR. GEORGE F. BARBOUR, of Bonskeid, has contributed £1,000 for the establishment of an hospital at Choo-chow-foo under the auspices of the Chinese mission of the English Presbyterian Church.

THE Palestine exploration fund has indirectly recovered from a Bedouin tribe, east of the Jordan, pieces of skin containing portions of Deuteronomy and the Commandments made about 800 years B.C.

PLACER mining in the old style has been revived in San Francisco. Gold was discovered in digging a cellar, and several men have since been industriously using pans, at a profit of about \$3 per day.

PHILADELPHIA has found cheap cabs possible. The Reading Railroad Company, as well as the Pennsylvania, is now running hansoms and four-wheelers, and there are still others engaged in the business.

Pius IX.'s statue is now in the Church of Santa Maria Maggiore, Rome, under the chief altar. Pius IX. is represented on his knees praying. The statue cost 50,000 francs, and was paid for by the cardinals.

DR. Bagg has written to the newspapers indicating that in his opinion the resolution of the Aberfeldy congregation to dispense with the necessity of their minister speaking Gaelic is illegal and un Presbyterian.

THE oldest episcopal clergyman in London is dead. Mr. Abhiss, who had been for sixty-four years rector of St. Bartholomew-the-Great, in West Smithfield, has suddenly passed away at the age of ninety-three.

IN addition to the Back Bay Park in Boston, with its costly bridges and viaducts, and the ornamental embankment on the Charles, the Cambridge side of that river is to be improved by private enterprise to match it.

CARDINAL HOWARD, who has arrived in England from Rome, is said to be charged by the Pope with a mission of special importance to the Roman Catholic Church in Great Britain, and also with a semi-official mission to the Foreign Office.

CANON ANSON, who recently resigned the rectorship of Woolwich, in order to engage at his own expense in mission work in the North-West of Canada, has declined the bishopric of Central Africa, and will pursue his original intention.

DR. C. WORDSWORTH has intimated his intention to resign the office of Bishop of Lincoln. He is seventy-six years of age, and does not feel physically able to overtake any longer the spiritual oversight of the largest diocese in England.

ON a recent Sunday the people's warden of St. Paul's Pendleton, Manchester, and the ritualistic vicar had a struggle in the chancel for the bag containing the offertory. The vicar snatched the bag from the warden, and the money was scattered on the floor.

A BOSTON rascal got a living for a while by hanging around the post-office, pretending to be a clerk, and inducing silly people to give him the money they wanted to send in registered letters. He told them that "under a new rule" they would get no receipt.

DR. JOHNSON, of Belfast, having gone to South Africa for the benefit of his health, arrived at Lovedale at the time of Dr. Somerville's visit, and took part in several of the special services held by the Scottish evangelist. His addresses, full of spiritual energy, made a deep impression.