

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON V, SECOND QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, APRIL 29.

Text of the Lesson, Genesis xiv, 1-15.  
Joseph Forgiving His Brethren—Golden Text, Luke xvii, 3—Commentary by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

1. "There stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known to his brethren." The seven years of famine had begun, and not only all Egypt, but all countries, came to Joseph to buy corn (xii, 56, 57). Ten of Joseph's brethren, at once recognized by him, but not by them, had come for corn, and nine had gone home with their sacks full and their money in their hands, with instruction to bring their youngest brother when they came again, Simeon meantime being detained as hostage.

2. "And he went abroad, and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard." Our lesson begins and ends with weeping, but it is weeping for joy. Consider the seven weepings of Joseph in chapters xiii, 24; xliii, 30; xlv, 2, 14; xvi, 29; i, 1, 17.

3. "And Joseph said unto his brethren, 'Is it any wonder that they were troubled and could not answer? How vividly would you mind the events of 20 years before as they looked upon the face of him whose pitiful cries and tears they would not regard, and how he has already been returning them good for evil while at the same time leading them to repentance.'

4. "And Joseph said unto his brethren, 'Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph, your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.' We can imagine them dumb with astonishment until he calls them near to him and repeats the astounding statement with the additional allusion to their guilt. It is all true, and after so long a time their sin has found them out (Num. xxxii, 23).

5. "Now ye are not grieved nor angry with yourselves that ye sold me hither, for God did send me before you to preserve life." He maketh the wrath of man to praise Him (Ps. lxxvi, 10), and Joseph had grace to see, not the hatred of his brethren, but the guiding hand of God. It is possible for us to see God in everything, and believe and rejoice in Him (Rom. viii, 28).

6. "For these two years hath the famine been in the land, and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest." As truly as there had been seven years of plenty, so surely would there be seven years of famine. Joseph simply believed God—he had no other means of knowing. "Abraham believed God," let our souls say, "I believe God" (Jas. ii, 23; Acts xvii, 35).

8. "And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance." How suggestive it all is of Jesus hated, sold, rejected, slain, yet still alive; a great deliverer, the only deliverer, and ere long now He will say to the nation of Israel, "I am Jesus, your brother, whom ye crucified." They shall see Him, and mourn, and welcome Him (Zech. xii, 10; xiii, 1).

9. "So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God." Joseph gives God all the glory for making him a father to Pharaoh and ruler over all Egypt. He has nothing but forgiveness for his brethren and praises for God. Jesus told Pilate that he could have no power against Him except it were given him by God (John xix, 11).

10. "And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast." Mark the repeated "near to me" of verse 4 and this verse and think of Israel a people near unto Jehovah (Ps. cxlviii, 14), and of all who were once afar off made nigh by the blood of Jesus (Eph. ii, 13). See even the flocks and herds included and think of all creation enjoying the great deliverance (Rom. viii, 21).

11. "And there will I nourish thee, for yet there are five years of famine, lest thou and thy household, and all that thou hast come to poverty." Assurance of continued and abundant supply for all. He who spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things (Rom. viii, 32)? Consider the daily rations and the day by day without fail of 11 Kings xv, 30, and Ezra vi, 9, and let your hearts rejoice.

12. "And behold your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh unto you." When the disciples were troubled as Jesus Himself stood in their midst after the resurrection, He said, Handle Me and see that it is I myself (Luke xxiv, 39, 40). Thomas was asked by the Jews about the wounds in His hands. He will say that He received them in the house of His friends (Zech. xiii, 6).

13. "And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt and of all that ye have seen, and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither." They would have to say when they told all that they could, "Father, we can't tell you the half of his glory" (1 Kings x, 20).

14. 15. "And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept. And Benjamin wept upon his neck. Moreover, he kissed all his brethren and wept upon them, and after that his brethren talked with him." What assurance of forgiveness! What tears of joy on the part of Joseph and of Benjamin! But did the others weep? The record does not say. Tears pent up sometimes come afterward. Joseph's heart is full as he gives of his bounty to his father and his brethren. What wondrous grace to these brethren, and yet how small when compared with the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ—the grace by which we are saved, and the full revelation of which we still wait for (Eph. ii, 8; Rom. v, 2; 1 Pet. i, 13).

## BETROTHAL OF DON CARLOS.

His Engagement to Princess Marie Berthe de Bohan Not Popular with Legitimists.  
The announcement of the betrothal of Don Carlos to Princess Marie Berthe de Bohan has been coldly received in the circle of the legitimist French nobility who dwell in that aristocratic Parisian quarter known as the Faubourg St. Germain. Like their ancestors of the epoch of the Restoration they are more royalists than the king himself and they consider that it is a messianic for the head of the royal house of Bourbon to ally himself with any but a royal and reigning family. Don Carlos is not only the pretender to the throne of Spain; he is also the head of that branch of the Bourbons which descends in direct line from Louis XIV., for the male line of Louis XV. became extinct on the death of the Comte de Chambord, while the Orleans line, the head of which is the Comte de Paris, descends from the Duc d'Orleans, brother of Louis XIV. This latter monarch, when he placed his second son, Philip, on the Spanish throne, was forced, owing to the Peace of Utrecht, to exact from him a renunciation for himself and his descendants of all possible claim to the French crown. So no chance to make such a claim arose until the death of the Comte de Chambord, when those French legitimists who refused to accept the Comte de Chambord set up Don Jayme, the son of Don Carlos, as a pretender, and formed a party known as the "Blancs d'Espagne," which has never secured any following.

Charles Marie de los Dolores Jean Isidore Joseph Francois Querin Antoine Michel Gabriel Raphael Prince de Bourbon Due de Madrid, known for short as Don Carlos, is now in his forty-sixth year. He is a widower. His wife, a princess de Bourbon, and a niece of the Comte de Chambord, to whom he was married in 1867, died in January of last year. He has five children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, is the wife of Archduke Leopold, son of Austria. He has but one son, the Don Jayme already referred to, now in his twenty-fourth year.

Since 1869 Don Carlos has been a prominent figure in Spanish politics. He has

DON CARLOS DE BOURBON.  
(Pretender to the Spanish throne and betrothed to Princess Marie Berthe de Bohan.)

made several armed efforts to establish his rights to the throne of that country, and the agitation on his behalf is carried on with unremitting activity by an organization specially constituted for the purpose. He is well able to do, for he is a man of great wealth, having added to his private fortune that of the late Comte de Chambord, who made him his sole heir. His claim to the Spanish throne is genealogically well founded. He is the direct male heir of the Spanish line of kings. On the death of Ferdinand VII., in 1833, without male issue, the succession passed, according to the legitimist theory, to his brother, Charles V. In 1855 the latter renounced his rights in favor of his son, Charles VI. Count of Montemolin, who was succeeded in 1861 by Don Juan, the father of Don Carlos, and Don Juan renounced his rights in favor of Don Carlos in 1868.

Meanwhile the throne was ascended in 1833 by Ferdinand VII.'s daughter, Isabella, grandmother to the present King Alfonso XIII. The contention of her supporters was that the Salic law—that is to say, the law which confined the inheritance to the throne to males—has been abolished by a decree issued in 1830 by Ferdinand VII.; but, on the other hand, it is alleged that he was without the right of altering the constitution.

The contemplated second marriage of Don Carlos is not unopposed by his position as a pretender. He has only one son by his first wife, and it is said that he is anxious to insure the succession of his branch of the Spanish royal house when a favorable occasion may arise.

The Princess Marie Berthe de Bohan, upon whom Don Carlos' choice has fallen, does not belong to either of the royal categories which fill the first two divisions of the Almanach de Gotha. The Kohans are a non-sovereign princely house, although by descent they may claim to connect with the ruling houses of Europe. They are the descendants of the former sovereign duke of Brittany, and they enjoy a large number of French titles, including those of the Prince de Guemenee, the Prince de Leon, the Prince de Soubise, the Prince de Rochefort and the Duc de Bouillon.

For some generations the main branch of the family has been settled in Austria, where the chief of the house enjoys the title of Highness, and is an hereditary member of the House of Peers. The bride of Don Carlos is a sister of Prince Alvin de Bohan, the present head of the house, and was borne in Teplitz in 1860.

## A Fox Up a Tree.

Sir Watkin Wynne's hounds had a singular experience the other Saturday. The meet was at Stycha, but the big wood proved blank, and none of the other covers were tried, but the hounds were taken on to Shavington. In the big wood a fox was met with that ran from cover within the park, then off for the far lodge and past the gas house and into Bow Hills, where he was killed after a most exciting twenty minutes. When returning across Shavington Park it was suggested by the keeper to try an old tree, and after a time Reynard was spied in the branches, and shortly afterwards dropped close to the hounds. The fox made a splendid run and got away.

## Fweddy's Sneezes.

"It's no use," said Fweddy, disconsolately. "I've been trying to see how I look in the glass when I sneeze, and when the sneeze comes I can't help closing my eyes to save my life, don't y'know."

—New York Mercury.

French Retreat from Moscow.  
On the retreat from Moscow the French lost and threw away over 60,000 muskets.

## FIVE GOOD AUTHORS.

MR. LOWELL'S OPINION OF BOOKS NECESSARY TO READ.

Shakespeare Not Placed Quite to the Fore—Homer Presents Man Most Nobly and Sincerely in the "Iliad" and the "Odyssey"—The Works of Others.

A previously unpublished essay of Mr. Lowell has appeared in the Century in which he speaks of the books necessary for one to read. There are certain books which are very few. Looking at the matter from an esthetic point of view merely, I should say that thus far only one man has been able to use types so universal, and to draw figures so cosmopolitan, that they are equally acceptable to the whole Indo-European branch, at least, of the human family. That man is Homer, and his poems, it seems to me, no further proof of his individual existence than this very fact of the solitary unapproachableness of the "Iliad" and the "Odyssey." The more wonderful they are, the more likely to be the work of one person. Nowhere is the purely natural man presented to us so nobly and sincerely as in these poems.

Not far below these I should place the history of the spiritual man as sketched with equal command of material and grandeur of outline. Don Quixote stands upon the same level, and receives the same universal appreciation. Here we have the spiritual and the natural man set before us in humorous contrast. In the knight and his squire Cervantes has typified the two opposing poles of our dual nature, as they appear in contradiction. This is the only comprehensive satire ever written, for it is utterly independent of time, place and manners.

Faust gives us the natural history of the human intellect, Mephistopheles being merely the projected impersonation of that skepticism which is the inevitable result of a purely intellectual culture. These four books are the only ones in which universal facts of human nature and experience are ideally represented. They can therefore never be displaced.

I have not mentioned Shakespeare, because his works come under a different category. Though they mark the very highest level of human genius, they yet represent no special epoch in the history of the individual mind. The man of Shakespeare is always the man of actual life as he is acted upon by the words of sense and of spirit under certain definite conditions. We all of us may be in the position of Macbeth or Othello or Hamlet, and we appreciate their sayings and deeds potentially, so to speak, rather than actually. Though a system of our common nature and not of our experience.

## Tuberculosis in Cattle.

Evidence multiplies to sustain the belief that tuberculosis is developed most readily in warm modern stables and under what may be called hot-house conditions. A writer in Country Gentleman in speaking of a case at Lenox, Mass., in 1888, when thirty-two cattle were destroyed, says: "These cattle were kept in a new barn built only after careful study into every detail. Stables were light and clean. Water was supplied in each stall. Even the most rigorous snap of a Berkshire winter failed to produce a freezing temperature in these stables, and for days at a time these cows remained inside, where they were well groomed and supplied with the best of feed and water. The warmth and comfort of these stables seemed to provide hot-bed conditions for the nurture of the tuberculous bacilli. Berkshire county has had at least six serious outbreaks, or rather developments, of tuberculosis since, all of which have occurred in herds of cows kept in costly barns of modern construction, with the best of care, and I know of no instance where cattle left to 'rough it' have been cured except in isolated cases which were easily traceable to hereditary infection."

## The Tea Cozy.

No housekeeper's equipment is complete without a tea cozy, and two or more are greatly to be desired. The cozy serves for coffee as well as tea, and sometimes do more towards making a success of breakfast than even the new-laid eggs or the steaming rolls. Every man feels himself wronged when his coffee or tea is cold, and let all things else be as good as they may, he will demand his morning repast a total failure if it happens that his favorite beverage is cold and insipid. A cozy is a very simple thing to make, and is particularly serviceable when made of velvet or silk in combination for the outside, with India or China silk for the lining. The shape is sort of half oval, with the usual 19 inches for the base line and 14 inches for the perpendicular. Layers of the lining should be tacked between the lining and outside sufficient to exhaust two ordinary batting bundles.

## Dry Rot in the Tower of London.

A remarkable instance of the growth of dry rot has recently been discovered in the armory of the Tower of London. In November a communication was made to the royal gardens from the Horse Guards, war office, to the effect that on repairing one of the wooden horses in the armory, believed to be more than 100 years old, a mass of fungus was found in the interior. It was cut out with a portion of wood to which it proved to be a large and characteristic specimen of the ordinary dry rot fungus (Merulius lacrymans, Jacq.). This fungus, as is well known, is very destructive to timber in close and ill-ventilated situations. The singular circumstance in this case is that it appears to have been introduced in its growth and killed and desiccated before it produced the smallest fragment of fructification.—Kew Bulletin.

## Great Expectation.

Tesla expects to soon have manufacturing electricity out of sunlight. Thompson has an improved process for welding metals. Another inventor has a storage-battery which will drive cars twenty miles per hour. The electricians are all hard at work. If statesmanship developed as fast as engineering and mechanical talent, we would have better times.

## Where They Treat Horses Well.

Roasted coffee and ground coffee beans mixed with honey are used to restore broken down horses in Germany.

## JAPANESE WOMEN.

Happy and Attractive Now, but European Fashions Will Spoil Them.

As a rule, the young and middle-aged Japanese women are quite good looking, subject to the peculiarities of their type. They have smooth, round faces, often with fresh color, liquid black eyes, exquisite hands and well-rounded arms. Their feet are not so attractive, being spread out by the use of clogs or pattens. This footgear tends to give them ungainly gait—a sort of waddle—and it is considered the correct thing to toe in. Their costume, almost always becoming as to material and color, makes them look a little dumpy. This is especially the effect of the great bow of the belt, or obi, worn on the small of the back, as much as a foot square. In most cases the faces wear amiable, contented expressions. They are not worn by care or thought.

The women of Japan are much better treated than their sisters in other Eastern nations, but they are considered distinctly inferior to the men, and are taught from their earliest childhood obedience—first, to their parents; then to their husbands, and finally to their sons when they become the heads of their households. But this does not appear to weigh upon the Japanese woman. She is cheerful, docile and contented with her lot, happy to serve in the station appointed her, with simple tastes and good digestion, and politeness which never fails. They are said to be good housekeepers always observant of their duties, but the simplicity of their housekeeping relieves them of a great measure of the care which wrinkles the brow of the New England housekeeper, for instance. Their houses, even the best of them, are the simplest structures imaginable, containing almost nothing of what we call furniture, and their dresses require no art in their cutting and manufacture.

Thus the two great causes of worryment from which our women suffer do not exist for these simple creatures. The introduction of Occidental dress is obviously a great mistake. It means a complete revolution of the Japanese household. It means the change from sitting on the clean matted floor to chairs and sofas. It means wrinkles for the smooth face of the Japanese woman. Besides, it means the loss of her charms and no compensation; for the Japanese woman in European costume is a dwarfish, dumpy little creature, as much out of her element as a duck on dry land. But what has a traveler to do with these questions?

## Condition of Eggs.

The flesh of diseased animals is very properly objected to as food. But the egg of a diseased hen is as much diseased as the flesh. Poultry cholera, roup and other virulent diseases are more prevalent in fowls than any diseases in other animals. Almost every farm flock has its receptacle for departed sick fowls back of the barn or in a fence corner, and in little graves in the garden under the currant bushes or grape vines. No notice is taken of the fact that the eggs of these hens have been gathered and sold for weeks preceding the final event, or a thought given that they were virulently unwholesome. Yet we have been told that hens had received the germs of diphtheria (which is rous in their case) and of tuberculosis from human subjects. But who has seriously considered the danger of infection by diphtheria or consumption, or of intestinal fever (which is the fowl cholera) from the eggs we eat. And fowl cholera is imminent danger of it that has been heretofore unannounced, so for as we know.—Hall's Journal of Health.

## Small Female Feet.

The craze for small feet is not nearly so pronounced as it used to be, and ladies do not feel disgraced when they are compelled to wear a large three or small four. For years efforts have been made by artists and doctors to inculcate a taste for larger feet, and to a great extent they have been successful. The granite sidewalk, however, has done more missionary work in this direction than all the talking and writing. While one walks on the grass it is pretty easy to keep the foot small and comfortable, but a few hours' tramp daily on granite or on asphalt makes a very small foot impossible and a very small shoe exceedingly uncomfortable. By careful measurement, however, it is impossible to make a shoe which looks a size smaller than it really is, and this is an art secret of which is not obtained in a few days or even years.

## A New Idea in Hearse.

An original idea for a hearse has occurred to a Baltimore man, which, if it comes into practical use, may revolutionize the custom at funerals which requires the mourners to accompany the coffin to the cemetery in coaches specially hired for the occasion. The coffin rests in a compartment on the top of a vehicle, being put in position by an apron which is lowered on the inside. In the forward part of the hearse is an apartment where the chief mourners may isolate themselves, providing they are not too numerous. The rest of the vehicle is for the friends. When the mourning party is a small one, such a hearse will commend itself to people of small means, although the vehicle would unquestionably attract more attention on the streets than funeral processions do now.

## Wild Geese "Wedges."

Wild geese that "pass in the night"—did you hear that weird "honk" Saturday evening? Curious, that flying in a wedge form. Rollo asks at breakfast how they knew enough to do so. His father gives this theory: Say that two geese attempt to follow their leader; now, in order that their wings may have room to play, they will naturally tail out and form a small wedge to start with. Then a fourth bird lines along behind the one on the left, and a fifth, in a desire to get as near the leader as possible takes after the one on the right; and so they keep on forming wedges of such varying length and irregular triangular shape as we see.

## Lung Surface.

Every well-developed adult of the human species has lung surface equal to 1,400 square feet. The heart's power is sufficient to lift itself 13,000 feet each hour.

## Blind Animals.

Cave animals of North America, according to Professor A. S. Packard, comprise 182 species of blind creatures, nearly all of which are mostly white in color.

## Cost of Iron-Clads.

The average cost of building a British ironclad is \$240 per ton; French, \$275; Italian, \$285; German, \$300.

## RECEDING GUMS.

A Dentist Speaks of the Disease as Peculiar.

"People are losing their teeth from a new cause nowadays," said a dental surgeon. "It is a complaint which seems to have become common only within the last fifteen years or so. 'Recession of the gums' is its called. Tartar is deposited at an abnormal rate, and this carbonate of lime secreted from the saliva pushes the gums back from the teeth. After a while, if nothing is done to prevent it, the trouble gets as far as the sockets, which become inflamed. Finally the teeth fall out."

A well-known statesman came to me fourteen years ago with a bad case of the disease. Every tooth in his head was loose, and one of them was so far gone that I took it between my thumb and finger and quietly lifted it out. Within three months I had fixed him up so that all the rest of his dental equipment was perfectly solid in his jaws. It was accomplished simply by removing the destructive tartar and preventing it from accumulating again; also with the aid of a little medicine applied to the gums. The distinguished patient of whom I speak comes to me every two or three months and undergoes a little treatment. In that way I have been able to keep his teeth for him thus far.

"It is a very peculiar disease. In a case so far advanced as the one I have described, it can hardly be cured. That is to say, the tendency to an accumulation of tartar cannot be stopped. All that can be done is to prevent it from accumulating by scraping it away at intervals and by medicinal application to the gums. In an early stage, however, the complaint is perfectly curable and the tendency in most cases can be overcome. But much care and continual attention are required. Otherwise the person will have lost some of his teeth by the time he is forty years old, and after that the rest of them will go rapidly. The making of false teeth has arrived at great perfection, but at best they are poor substitutes."

As I have said, this may be regarded as a new disease. At all events it is only in recent years that it has become prevalent. It is important that people's attention should be called to it. From seven years to twenty care must be taken of the teeth lest they decay. There is little danger of that after the twentieth year is passed. But from that time on one should look out for tartar. A month affected in the way I speak of is almost worse than a badly decayed mouth. The trouble means certain loss of the teeth unless looked out for and treated."

## Muskrat Skins in the Majority.

The other day there was a great fur sale in London. In four days, at one auction house, more than 3,000 skins were sold, and of these more than one-half—to be exact, 1,528,000—were muskrat. Next in number came opossum skins, 500,000 from Australia and 120,000 from America, while the odorous skunk and sportive raccoon furnished 240,000 and the sly little mink 150,000 more. By the side of these there were only 2,647 Russian sables, 1,469 beavers and a score of polar bears. The list of furs comprised also bears of several kinds, martens, wolves, foxes, lambs, chinchillas, monkeys, kangaroos and others. Vast as was this sale, it was only one of several of equal magnitude held during the season, the millions of skins being gathered from all the world to London and thence redistributed to well-nigh every land.—New York Tribune.

## Nervous Singers.

The effects of nervousness are varied and amusing. One young mezzo-soprano was prevented just in time from walking on to the platform in a huge pair of fur-lined overshoes, which were put on over her slippers, and which contrasted comically with her dainty gown.

Another songstress, who was gifted with a good verbal memory, was singing without notes. During a rather elaborate symphony, preceding the second verse of her song, she chanced idly to glance at the book of words which she was holding. Confusion followed. She could not link the melody with the poem. It was a terrible moment; but she stepped swiftly to the piano, glanced at the accompaniment, and, finished her song con amore. It appeared, on inspection, that by a printer's error two lines of her song had been left out of the book of words.—Atlanta.

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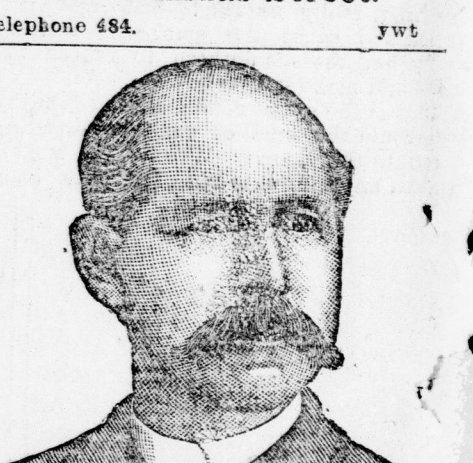
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