REV. DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON

The Brooklyn Divine's Sunday Sermon

Subject : "The Gambling Evil."

TEXT: "Let My people go that they may serve Me; for I will at this time send all My plagues."-Ex. 13, 14.

Last winter, in the museum at Cairo, Egypt, I saw the mummy or embalmed body of Pharaoh, the oppressor of the an-clent Israelites. Visible are the very teeth that he gnashed against the Israelitish brickmakers, the sockets of the merciless eyes with which he looked upon the overbur-fined people of God, the hair that floated in the breeze off the Red Sea, the very lips with which he commanded them to make bricks without straw. Thousands of years after, when the wrappings of the mummy were u-rolled, old Pharaoh lifted up his arm as if in imploration, but his skinny bones cannot again clutch his shat-tered scepter. It was to compel that tyrant to let the oppressed go free that the memora-ble tem plagues were sent. Sailing the Nile and walking amid the ruins of Egyptian cities, I saw no remains of those plagues that smote the water or the air. None of the frogs croaked in the one, none of the lo-custs sounded their rattle in the other, and the onthe the stars or the murrain, and Last winter, in the museum at Cairo, the cattle bore no sign of the murrain, and through the starry nights hovering about the pyramids no destroying angel swept his wing. But there are ten plagues still sting-ing and befouling and cursing our cities, and like angels of wrath smiting not only the first born but the last born first born but the last born. Brooklyn, New York and Jersey City,

The bridge already fastening two of them together will be followed by other bridges and by tunnels from both New Jersey and Long Island shores, until what is true now will, as the years go by, become more em-phatically true. The average condition of public morals in this cluster of cities is as good if not better than in any other part of the world. Pride of city is natural to men in all times, if they live or have lived in a metropolis noted for dignity or prowess. Cæsar boasted of his native Rome, Lycurgus of Sparta, Virgil of Andes, Demosthenes of Athens, Archimedes of Syracuse, and Paul of Tarsus. I should suspect a man of base heartedness who carried about with him no fealing of complecency in record to the feeling of complacency in regard to the place of his residence; who gloried not in its arts or arms or behavior; who looked with no exultation upon its evidences of prosperity, its artistic embellishments and scien-

I have noticed that men never like a place where they have not behaved well. Men who have free rides in prison vans never likes the city that furnishes the vehicle. When I see in history Argos, Rhodes, Smyr-na, Chios, Colophon and several other cities claiming Homer, I conclude that Homer behaved well. Let us not war against this pride of city, nor expect to build up ourselves by pulling others down. Let Boston have its commons, its Faneuil Hall and its magnificent scientific and educational institutions. Let Philadelphia talk about its mint, and In-dependence Hall, and Girard College, and its old families, as virtuous as venerable. When I find a man living in one of those places who has nothing to say in favor of them. I feel like asking him, "What mean thing did you do that you do not like your native city" New York is a goodly city, and when I say that I mean the region between Spuyten Duyyil Creek and Jamaica in one direction and Newark flats in the other direction. That which tends to elevate a part elevates all. That which blasts part blasts all. Sin is a giant, and he comes to the Hudson or Connecticut River and passes it as easily as we step across a figure in the carpet. The blessing of God is an angel, and when it stretches out its two wings one of them hovers over that and the other over this. In infancy the great metropolis was laid down by the banks of the Hudson. Its infancy was as feeble as that of Moses sleeping in the bulrushes by the Nile; and, like iam, there our fathers stood and watched it. The royal spirit of American commerce came down to the water to bathe, and there and it. She took it in her arms, and the child grew and waxed strong, and the foreign lands brought gold and ships of spices to its feet, and stretching ite nto the proportions of a metropolis, it has looked up to the mountains and off upon the sea-the mightiest of the energies of American civilization. The character of the founder of a city will be seen for many years in its inhabitants. Romulus impressed his life upon Rome. The Pilgrims relaxed not their hold upon the cities of New England. William Penn has left Philadelphia an inheritance of integrity and fair dealing, and on any day in that city you may see in the manners, customs and principles of its people his tastes, his coat, his hat, his wife's bonnet and his plain meeting house. The Holland-ers still wield an influence over New York. I Grand old New York! What southern thoroughfare was ever smitten by pestilence, when our physicians did not throw them selves upon the sacrifice! What distant land has cried out in the agony of famine, and our ships have not put out with brealstuffs! What street of Damascus or Beyrout or Madras that has not heard the step of our missionaries! What struggle for national life in which our citizens have not poured their blood into the trenches! What gallery of exquisite art in which our painters have not hung their pictures! What department of literature or science to which our scholars have not contributed! I need not speak of our public schools, where the children of the pordwainer and milkman and glassblower stand by the side of the flattered sons of merchant princes; or of the insane asylums on all these islands where they who went cutting themselves, among the tombs, now sit, clothed and in their right minds; or of the Magdalen asylums, where the lost one of the street comes to bathe the Saviour's lest with her tears, and wipe them with the hairs of her head—confiding in the pardon of Him who said: "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone at her." I need not speak of the institutions for the blind, the lame, the deaf and the dumb, for the incurables, the widow, the orphan, and the outcast; or of the thousand armed machinery that sends streaming down from the reservoirs the clear, bright, sparkling, God given voirs the clear, bright, sparking, God given water that rushes through our aqueducts, and dashes out of the hydrants, and tosses up in our fountains, and hisses in our steam engines, and showers out the conflagration, and sprinkles from the baptismal fout of our churches; and with sliver note, and golden sparkle, and crystalline chime, says to hun-dreds of thousands of our population, in the authentic words of Him who said: "I will; be thou clean " be thou clean ?" All this I promise in opening this course of and the set of the set I so the sears ago, when an association for theme. I Some years ago, when an association for the suppres. In of gambling was organized, an agent of the association came to a prom-hent citizen and asked him to patronize the society. He said, "No, I can have no inter-est in such an organization. I am in no wise affected by that evil." At that very time is son, who was his patrner in husiness, was one of the heaviest players in Hearne's fa-mous gambling establishment. Another re-throwing that his first bookkeeper, though re-ceiving a salary of only a thousand dollars, was losing from fifty to one hundred dollars is right. The president of a railroad com-pay refused to patronize the institution, anying, "That society is good for the defense of merchants, but the railroad people are not inversed by this evil," not knowing that, at hat very time, two of his conductors were spending three nights of each weet at fare tables fit New York. Directly or indirectly, the evil strikes at the whole world. "The society is pool for the defense of merchants, but the railroad people are not into evil strikes at the whole world."

than you bazard. The instrument of gaming may differ but the principle is the same. The shuffling and dealing cards, however full of temptation, is not gambling, unless stakes are putup; while, on the other hand, gam-bling may be carried on without cards or dice, or billiards or a ten pin siles. dice, or billiards or a ten pin alley. The msn who bets on horses, on elections, on bat-tles-the man who deals in "fancy" stocks, or conducts a business which hazards extra canital or see into the back of the stock of the sto or conducts a business which hazards extra capital, or goes into transactions without foundation, but dependent upon what men call "uck," is a gambler. Whatever you ex-pect to get from your neighbor without of-fering an equivalent in money or time or skill is either the product of theft or gaming. Lottery tickets and lottery policies come into the same category. Fairs for the founding of hospitals, schools and churches, conducted on the raffling system, come under the same denomination. Do not, therefore, associats gambling necessarily with any instrument. denomination. Do not, therefore, associate gambling necessarily with any instrument, or game, or time, or place, or think the prin-ciple depends upon whether you play for a glass of wine or one hundred shares of rail-road stock. Whether you patronize "auction pools," "French mutuals" or "book-making," whether you employ faro or billiards, rondo and keno, cards or bagatelle, the very idea of the thing is dishonest, for it professes to be-stow upon you a good for which you give no equivalent.

stow upon you a good for which you give no equivalent. It is estimated that every day in Chris-tendon eighty million dollars pass from hand to hand through gambling practices, and every year in Christendom one hundred dred and twenty-three billion one hundred million dollars change hands in that way. There are in this cluster of cities about eight hundred confessed gambling each eight hundred confessed gambling estab-lishments. There are about three thousand five hundred professional gamblers. Out of the eight hundred gambling establishments, how many of them do you suppose profess to be honest? Ten. These ten profess to be honest because they are merely the ante-chamber to the seven hundred and ninety that are acknowledged fraudand ninety that are acknowledged fraud-ulent. There are first class gambling estab-lishments. You go up the marble stairs. You ring the bell. The liveried servant in-troduces you. The walls are lavender tinted. The mantels are of Vermont marble. The pictures are "Jephthah's Daughter" and Dore's "Dante's and Virgil's Frozen Region of Hell"—a most appropriate selection, this last, for the place. There is the roulette table the finest the costlicat most exputsion table, the finest, the costliest, most exquisite piece of furniture in the United States. There is the banqueting room, where, free of charge to the guests, you may find the plate and viands and wines and cigars sumptuous beyond parallel.

yond parallel. Then you come to the second class gam-bling establishment. To it you are intro-duced by a card through some 'roper-in." Having entered, you must either gamble or fight. Sanded cards, dice loaded with quick-silver, poor drinks, will soon help you to get rid of all your money to a tune in short meter with staccato passages. You wanted to see. You saw, The low villains of that place watch you as you come in. Does not the panther, equat in the grass, know a calf when he sees it? Wrangle not for your rights in that place, or your body will be thrown bloody into the street, or dead into the East River. You go along a little further and find River. You go along a little further and find the policy establishment. In that place you bet on numbers. Betting on two numbers is called a "sadde," betting on three numbers is called a "sgig," betting on four numbers is called a "horse," and there are thousands of our young men leaping into that "addle" and mounting the "gig." and behind that "horse" riding to perdition. There is always one kind of sign on the door-"Exchange," a most appropriate title for the door, for there, in that room, a man exchanges health, peace and heaven for loss of health, loss of home, loss of family, loss of inmortal soul. Exchange sure enough and infinite enough. Men wishing to gamble will find places just suited to their capacity, not only in the underground oyster cellar, or at the table back of the curtain, covered with greasy cards, or in the steamboat smoking cabin, where the bloated wretch with rings

set the means to continue the game; has written the counterfeit signature, emptied the banker's money vault and wielded the assassin's dagger. There is no depth of meanassassin's dagger. There is no depth of mean-ness to which it will not stoop. There is no cruelty at which it is appelled. There is no waraing of God that it will not dare. Merci-less, unappeasable, fisrcer and wilder it blinds, it hardens, it rends, it blasts, it crushes, it damns. It has peopled our pris-ons and lunatic asylums. How many rail-road agents and cashiers and trustees of funds it has driven to dis-grace, incarceration and suicide! Wit-ness years ago a cashier of a railroad who ness years ago a cashier of a railroad who stole one hundred and three thousand dol-lars to carry on his gaming practices. Wisness forty thousand dollars stolen from a Brooklyn bank within the memory of many of you, and the one hundred and eighty thousand dollars taken from a Wall street thousand dollars taken from a Wall street insurance company for the same purposel These are only illustrations on a large scale of the robberies every day committed for the purpose of carrying out the designs of gamblers. Hundreds of thousands of dol-iars every year leak out without observa-tion from the merchant's till into the gambling hell. A man in London keeping one of these gambling houses boasted that he had ruined a nobleman a day; but if all the saloons of this land were to speak out they might utter a more infamous boast, for they have destroyed a thousand noble men a year. nen a year.

Notice also the effect of the crime upon lomestic happiness. It has sent its ruthless lowshare through hundreds of families, unwere disgraced, and the sons grew up to the same infamous practices or took a short cut o destruction across the murderer's scaffold. fome has lost all charms for the gambler. How tame are the children's caresses and a wife's devotion to the gambler! How drearly whe's devotion to the gambler! How drearily the fire burns on the domestic hearth! There must be louder laughter, and something to win and something to lose; an excitement to irive the heart faster and fillip the blood and fire the imagination. No home, however bright, can keep back the gamester. The sweet call of love bounds back from his from oul, and all the endearments are consumed in the flames of his passion. The family Bible will go after all other treasures are lost. and if his crown in heaven were put into his aand he would cry: "Here goes one more game, my boys! On this one throw I rame, my boys! On this one throw I take my crown in heaven." A young nan in London, on coming of age, received a fortune of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars, and, through gam-bling, in three years was thrown on his nother for support. An only son went to a southern city; he was rich, intellectual and slegant in manners. His parents gave him on his departure from home their last bless-ing. The sharpers got hold of him. They lastered him. They lured him to the gam-ng table, and let him win almost every time for a good while, and patted him on the back and said, "First rats player." But ful-iy in their grasp they fleeced him, and his thirty thousand dollars were lost. Last of all he put up his watch and lost that. Then he began to think of his home and his old he began to think of his home and his old and mother, and wrote thus:

"My Beloved Parents-You will doubtless feel a momentary joy at the reception of this letter from the child of your bosom, on whom you have lavished all the favors of your declining years. But should a feeling your declining years. But should a realing of joy for a moment spring up in your hearts when you should have received this from me, cherish it not. I have failen deep-never to rise? Those gray hairs that I should have honored and protected I shall bring down with sorrow to the grave. I will bring down with sorrow to the grave. I will not curse my destroyer, but oh! may God avenge the wrongs and impositions practised apon the unwary in a way that shall best please him. This, my dear parents, is the last letter you will ever receive from me. I humbly pray your forgiveness. It is my dying prayer. Long before you have re-beived this letter from me the cold grave will have closed upon me forever. Life to will have closed upon me forever. Life to me is insupportable. I cannot, nay, I will not, suffer the shame of having ruined you. Forget and forgive is the dying prayer of your unfortunate son." The old father came to the postoffice, got the letter and fell to the floor. They thought he was deed at first; but they brushed back the white hair from his brow and fanned him. He had only fainted. I wish he had been dead, for what is life worth to a father after his son is destroyed? When things go wrong at a gaming table they shout: "Foul! wrong at a gaming table they shout: "Foul! Foul?" Over all the gaming tables of the world I cry out: "Foul! foul! Infinitely foul. Shall I sketch the history of the gambler? Lured by bad company he finds his way into a place where honest men ought never to go. He site down to his first game, but only for pastime and the desire of being thought sociable. The players deal out the cards. They unconsciously play into Satan's hands, who takes all the tricks and He site down to his first game, both the players' souls for trumps-he being a sharper at any game. A slight stake is put up just to add interest to the play. Game put up just to add interest to the play. Game after game is played. Larger stakes and still larger. They begin to move nervously on their chairs. Their brows lower and eyes flash, until now they who win and they who lose, fired alike with passion, sit with set jaws, and compressed lips, and clinched flats, and eyes like fire balls that seem starting from their sockets, to see the final turn be-fore it comes: if heim never and fore it comes; if losing, pale with envy and tremulous with unuttered oaths cast back A few years have passed and he is only the wreck of a man. Seating himself at the game ere he throws the first card, he stakes the last relic of his wife, and the marriage ring which sealed the solemn yows between them. haustion he dreams. The bright hours of the past mock his agony, and in his dreams fiends with eyes of fire and tongue of fiame circle about him with joined hands to dance and sing their orgies with hellish chorus, chanting "Hail brother " kissing his clammy forehead until their loathsome locks, flowing with screents, crawl into his bosom and sink their sharp fance and suck up his life! their sharp fangs and suck up his life's blood, and coiling around his heart pinch it with chills and shudders unutterable. Take warning! You are no stronger than tens of thousands who have by this practice been overthrown. No young man in our cities can escape being tempted. Beware of the first beginnings! This road is a down grade, and every instant increases the mo-mentum. Launch not upon this treacherous sea. Split hulks strew the beach. Everlastsea. Split hulks strew the beach. Everlast-ing storms howl up and down, tossing un-wary crafts into the Hellgate. I speak of what I have seen with my own eyes. I have looked off into the abyss, and I have seen the foaming, and the hissing, and the whirl-ing of the horrid deep in which the mangled victims writhed, one upon another, and struggled, strangled, blasphemed and died---the death stare of eternal despair upon their countenances as the water gurgled over them. To a gambler's deathbed there comes no hope. He will probably die alone. His for-mer associates come not nigh his dwelling. When the hour comes his miserable soul will when the hour comes his miserable soul will go out of a miserable life into a miserable eternity. As his poor remains pass the house where he was ruined, old companions may look out a moment and say, "There goes the old carcass—dead at last," but they will not get up from the table. Let him down now into his crave. Plant no trees to cast its hedd into his grave. Plant no tree to cast its shade there, for the long, deep, eternal gloom that settles there is shadow enough. Plant no "forgst-me-not" or eglantines around the spot, for flowers were not unade to grow on such a blasted heath. Visit it not in the sun-shine, for that would be mockery, but in the dismal night, when no stars are out and the spirits of darkness come down horsed on the wind, then visit the grave of the gambler!

I WONDER! BY H. CATTERSON SMITH.

I wonder if in after years It will be mine to know The sweet enthraiment of that love Which does through fiction flow.

I wonder if, when heart shall ache And throb in every vein. I still shall feel the having loved Were all in all to gain.

I wonder, when the hand of Fate Shall draw Life's curtain by, If then more clearly I shall know Its wherefore and its why.

I wonder if I then shall gain Desire devoutly prayed, And, after waiting, clearer se That love atone delayed.

. . Stay, dearest child; put down the book, And banish from your sight All that o'er childish happiness Would cast unhealthy blight;

All that in midst of home and love n any way you find, uld take from you God's dearest gift-Wo A pure, contented mind.

## PERSONAL.

THE wife of Francis Scott Key. : grandson of the author of the "Starspangled Banner,"is abont to go on the stage. Mrs. Key is a granddaughter of that brilliant lawyar and statesman, William Pinckney, of Maryland, and is a familiar figure in Baltimore society. Her maiden name was Tiffany, and she is connected with Rev. Dr. Tiffany.

'I'wo bright Chicago women, Isabella A. Wylie and Elizabeth A. Gougar, have formed a novel firm. They took the money earned by school-teaching, united their capital, and opened an office at 108 Dearborn street, under the firm name of Wylie & Gougar. Here they d al in real estate, loans and renting. The Chicago Post say they already have more business than they can attend to. Their customers are largely schoolteachers.

THE mourning of the young Queen of Holland is of white, in the old fashion whose observance gave Mary Queen of Scota the name of the "Reine of Scots the name of the Blanche" after the death of her first husband, the Dauphin.

MRS. ISABEL POLAND RANKIN, daughter of the late Luke P. Poland, has given to the town of Morristown, Vt., \$1,000 toward a library which is being established there.

Ex-JUSTICE STRONG, of the Supreme Bench, is one of the handsomest men in Washington. He has the firm, erect bearing of a man in the prime of life, high, broad forehead, calm, deep-set eyes and snow white hair. His air is that of a refined scholar.

MISS AGNES WESTON, "the sailors friend," an English lady well known for her life-long philanthropy, has been made superintendent of work among the sailors for the World's W. C. T. U.

MR: HIRAM HITCHCOCK, of New York, has endowed a hospital in memory of his late wife, Mary Hitchcock. It is being erecred at Hanover, New Hampshire, and will offer opportunities for clinical study to the students in the medical department of Dartmouth Colge. The hospi al will be less than half a mile from the college, and will stand in a park of fifteen acres, on a site overlooking part of the Connecticut Valley. Any patient not suffering from infectious disease will be eligible for admission, and it is believed that the professional staff will be made up of physicians from the town and the college. The hospital will probably be ready for occupancy during the coming autumn, and will be so liberally endowed financially as to do away with the necessity for soliciting outside assistance. EMPEROR WILLIAM is showing many good streaks in his rule. He has given orders that in government factories no women shall do night work. MISS PINCENEY, the lady who is at the head of the Margaret Winthrop Hall, the home where a number of girls of the Cambridge School live, is working out an interesting experiment successfully, under the directon of Arthur Gilman. She is making a real home for girls away from home at school. A visit to Margaret Winthrop Hall shows how completely the pleasant life of the red hot upon the heart-or, winning, with home is kept separate from the pleasant hysteric laugh-"Ha, ha! I have it! I have life of the school. THE Baroness Althea Salvadar, whose letters from Paris to American newspapers have made her quite well known, s an accomplished musician, and her salon is one of the most charming in The game is lost, and staggering back in ex-haustion he dreams. The bright hours of Paris. She is a tall and slender blonde. quite pretty and always elegantly dressed. The baroness is an American girl, being a descendant of an old New Hampshire family. JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL'S sister, Mrs. Putnam, of Boston, is noted as a linguist, and is the author of some very able papers on Polish and Hungarian literature. She has also written a dramatic poem. Mrs. Putnam was born in 1810, and is nine years older than her distinguished brother. MISS AGNES K. MURPHY is a stockholder and the only lady member of the New York Real Estate Exchange. She attended to her father's real estate business for some time previous to his death, and afterward joined the Exchange. HERR OTTO EHLERS, & German exolorer who was commissioned by the German Emperor some time since to survey the great mountains of Kiliman jaro and its neighborhood, is at present engaged in a somewhat adventurous tour of observation in the Himalayas. DR. KATE BUSHNELL will probably visit England this year. She intends to make a trip round the world in the interests of the World's Women's Christian Temperauce Union. MR. RUDYARD KITLING'S story, "The Light that Failed," will be published by Messrs. Macmillan at the beginning by Messrs. Macmillan at the beginning of March, with two or more extra chapters.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON. SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 159L Naaman Healed.

LESSON TEXT. G Kings 5 : 1-14. Memory verses: 13-14.) LESSON PLAN.

TOPIC OF THE QUARTER: Sinning and Serving. GOLDEN TEXT FOR THE QUARTER. Godliness is profitable unto all things. - 1 Tim. 4 : 8.

LESSON TOPIC: God's Servant Healmg the Sick.

( 1. Afflicted with Leprosy, LESSON OUTLINE: 2. Seeking a Cure, vs. 5 3. Gaining a Cure, vs. 10 GOLDEN TEXT: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases .- Psz. 103 : 3.

DAILY HOME READINGS : M.-2 Kings 5 : 1-14. Naaman healed. T.-Lev. 13 : 1-17. Detection of leprosy. W.-Lev. 14:1-18. Cleansing the leper. T.-2 Kings 7:1-20. The lepers of Samaria.

F .- Mark 1 : 40-45. Jesus heals a leper.

S.-Luke 17:11-19. Jesus heals ten lepers.

S.-1 John 1 : 1-10. Cleansing blood.

LESSON ANALYSIS.

## L AFFLICTED WITH LEPBOSY. A Great Man:

Naaman .... was a great man, .... and honorable (1). Only in the throne will I be greater

than thou (Gen. 41:40). Moses was very great in the land of Egypt (Exod. 11:3). Mordecal was great in the king's house (Esther 9:4).

Not many mighty, not many noble, are called (1 Cor. 1 : 26). II. A Hopeless Sufferer:

But he was a leper (1).

He is unclean: he shall dwell alone: without the camp (Lev. 13:46). Put out of the camp every leper (Num. 5:2).

He was a leper unto the day of his death (2 Kings 15 : 5). Jesus, Master, have mercy on us (Luke 17:13).

III. A Cheering Message:

Then would he recover him of his eprosy (3).

Then the priest shall announce him clean (Lev. 13: 6): I will cleanse them from all their

iniquity (Jer. 33: 8).

He went away therefore, and washed (John 9:7) Be subject therefore unto God (Jas. 4: 7). III. Tne-Cure: And he was clean (14). The children of Israel went .... upon the dry ground (Exod. 14. 22). Thy faith hath made thee whole (Matt. 9: 22). Her daughter was healed from that hour (Matt. 15: 28). He....came seeing (John 9: 7). 1. "Go and wash in Jordan seven times." (1) Naaman's great ex-pectations; (2) Elisha's humiliating directions. 2. "So he turned and went away in a rage." (1) Disappointed; (2) Hamiliated; (3) Enraged. 3. "How much rather then." (1) The less preferable to the greater; (2) Obedience preferable to rebelhon; (3) Health preferable to dis-

He that humbleth himself shall be ex-

sited (Luke 14. 11

LESSON BIBLE READING.

MIRACLES AT THE JORDAN.

Crossed by the people (Josh. 3 : 14-17 ; 4:19-24).

Elijah fed before Jordan (1 Kings 17 : 1-6).

Crossed by Elijah (2 Kings 2 : 8). Crossed by Elisha (2 Kings 2 : 14). Naaman healed (2 Kings 5 : 9-14).

Iron caused to swim (2 Kings 6 : 1-7).

LESSON SURROUNDINGS.

INTERVENING EVENTS. - Two further miracles are recorded in 2 Kings 4: 38-44,-one, a purifying of poisonons pottage; the other, an increase of a supply of food. Both these took place during a famine. It is probable that this famine is that of seven years, spoken of in 2 Kings 8 : 1-6. As Gehazi is introduced in that passage, it is inferred that he was not yet a leper, hence that the healing of Nasman should be placed after this famine. At all events, it seems it seems likely that the wars spoken of in 2 Kings 6 8-23 (including Lesson 12) occurred before the events related in Lessons 10 and 11).

PLACES .- Probably first in Damascus, the capital of Syria, one of the most ancient cities, 133 miles northeast of Jerusalem, on an elevated plain, more than two thousand feet above the sea-level; still a large and flourishing place. Elisha was living in Sanaria. The Jordan was about twenty-five miles east of Samaria, but where Naaman bathed is unknown; probably at the nearest ford accessible by chariot from Samaria.

TIME .- Either in the fifth or eleventh year of the reign of Joram. The later date is to be accepted if the famine (2 Kings 8) preceded. B. C. 891 or 885, according to the chronology of Joram's reign, usually accepted. Davis seems to fix it in B. C. 850-849; that is, before the famine. (The figures in the margin of our reference Bibles, B. C. 894, are based upon the view that the order of the narrative in these chapters is chronological.) PERSONS .- Naaman, a Syrian genersl; his wife and a little Hebrew maid; Ben-hadad II., king of Syria; Jehoram, or Joram, son of Ahab, king of Israel (not to be confounded with his contemporary and brother-in-law, Jehoram, or Joram, son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah); Elisha and a messenger; the servants of Naaman. INCIDENTS. - A captive Israelitish maid in the family of Naaman, a leprous Syrian general, tells her mistress that the prophet in Samaria can cure her master of his leprosy. When this saying is known, the king of Syria writes a letter to the king of Israel. Naaman, taking great treasure with him, brings the letter to the king of Israel. The latter rends his clothes, thinking the letter a pretext for a quarrel. Elisha, bearing of this, sends word to the king, bidding Naaman come to him. He comes to the house, and Elisha sends a messenger bidding him wash in Jordan seven times. Naaman is angry, having looked for an immediate cure by the hand of the prophet; he speaks of the rivers of Damascus, and turns away in a rage. His servants remonstrate with him, and he obeys the prophet, and is cleansed of his leprosy.

and winks in the unsuspecting traveler---providing free drinks all around--but in gilded parlors and amid gorgeous surround-

Again, this sin works ruin by killing indus-Again, this sin work reaping scores or hun-try. A man used to reaping scores or hun-dreds or thousands of deliars from the gaming table will not be content with slow work. He table will not be content with slow work. He will say: "What is the use of trying to make these fifty dollars in my store when I can get five times that in half an hour down at "Billy's?" You never knew a confirmed gambler who was industrious. The men given to this vice spend their time, not ac-tively engaged in the game, in idleness or intoxication or sleep, or in corrupting new victims. This sin has dulled the carpenter's saw and cut the band of the factory wheel, sunk the cargo, broken the teeth of the farmer's harrow and sent a strange lightning to shatter the battery of the philoso-pher. The very first idea in gaming is at war with all the industries of society. This crime is getting its lever under many

a mercantile house in our great cities, and before long down will come the great establishment, crushing reputation, home, com-fort and immortal souls. How it diverts and sinks capital may be inferred from some authentic statement before us. The ten gamauthentic statement before us. The ten gam-ing houses that once were authorized in Paris passed through banks, yearly, three hundred and twenty-five millions of francs. Where does all the money come from? The whole world is robbe 11 What is most sad, there are no consolations for the loss and suffering entailed by gaming. If men fail in lawful business, God pities and society commiser-ates; but where in the Bible or insociety is there any consolation for the gambler? From what tree of the forest cozes there a balm that can soothe the gamester's heart? In that bottle where God keeps the tears of His children are there any tears of the gambler? Do the winds that come to kiss the faded cheek of sickness, and to cool the heated brow of the laborer, whisper hope and cheer to the emaciated victim of the game of hazard? When an honest man is in trouble he has sympathy. "Poor fellow?" they say. But do gamblers come to weep at the agonies of the cambler? the gambler?

In Northumberland was one of the finest estates in England. Mr. Porter owned it, and in a year gambled it all away. Having lost the last acre of the estate, he came down from the saloon and got into his carriage; went back, put up his horses and car-riage and town house and played. He threw and lost. He started home, and in a side alley met a friend from whom he borrowed ten guineas; went back to the saloon and be-fore a great while had won twenty thousand He did at hear a backs of the saloon and be-Giles. He died at lass a beggar in St. Giles. How many gamblers felt sorry for Mr. Porter? Who consoled him on the loss of his estate? What gambler subsoribed to put a stone over the poor man's gravel - Not -

Futhermore, this sin is the source of un-Futhermore, this sin is the source of un-counted dishonesties. The game of hazard itself is often a game of cheat. How many tricks and deceptions in the dealing of the cards! The opponent's hand is ofttimes found out by fraud. Cards are marked so that they may be designated from the back. Expert gamesters have their socomplices, and one wink may decide thegame. The dice have been found loaded with platina, so that "doublets" come up every time. These dice are introduced by the gamblers, unobserved hy honest men who have come into play; and this accounts for the fact that ninety-nine this accounts for the fact that ninety-nine out of a hundred who gamble, however wealthy they began, at the end are found to be poor, miserable, ragged wretches, that would not now be allowed to sit on the door-step of the house that they once owned. In a gambling house in San Francisco a young man having inst come from the miner de ounts for the fact that nin however man having just come from the min es de posited a large sum upon the ace, and won twenty-two thousand dollars. But the tide twenty-two thousand dollars. But the tide turns. Intense excitement comes upon the countsances of all. Slowly the cards went forth. Every eye is fixed. Not a sound is heard uptil the ace is revealed favorable to the bank. There are shouts of "Foul!" "Foul!" but the keepers of the table produce their pistols, and the uproar issilenced and the bank has won ninety-five thousand dollars. Fo you call this a game of chance? There is no chance about it. chance about it.

But hese disbonesties in carrying on of the game are nothing when compared with

The people of the United States consume twenty-eight out of every 100 pounds of sugar made in the world, and we call her remorse. thirty pounds of coffee in every 100.

REMENVI, one of the most famous of violinists, will begin a concert tour in the United States, in September 1891.

AMERICA's first street-car line was built in 1826.

WHEN conscience oversleeps herselt,

Heal the sick, .... cleanse the lepers (Matt. 10: 8). The lepers are cleansed (Matt, 11: 5).

 "He was also a mighty man of valor, but"— (1) Rich; (2) Honored; (3) Valiant; (4) But .-- (1) Posresed of much good; (2) Afflicted with serious evil.

L "A little maid." (1) Her lowly position; (2) H r tender years; (3) Her early faith; (4) Her confident confession; (5) Her wide useful-DORN.

3. "Thus and thus said the maid." (1) The maiden's story; (2) The prompt repetition; (3) The happy result.

IL SEEKING A CURE.

I. Effort: Go, and I will send a letter unto the

king of Israel (5). That will 1 give to the man of God, to tell us our way (1 Sam. 9:8). He....took....silver,....gold, and.... raiment (2 Kings 5: 5). have sent Naaman, .... that thou may-est recover him (2 Kings 5: 6). A man's gift maketh room for him (Prov. 18: 16).

I. Dismay:

He rent his clothes, and said, Am I Jod? (7). Am I in God's stead? (Gen. 30: 2).

See how he seeketh a quarrel against me (1 Kings 5: 7). His knees smote one against another (Dan. 5: 6).

The king....covered him with sack-eloth (Jonah 3: 6). II. Confidence:

He shall know that there is prophet in Israel (8).

Let it be known this day that thou art God (1 Kings 18: 36). They said, The Lord, he is God (1 Kings 18: 39). We have confidence in the Lord (2

Thess. 3: 4). know him whom I have believed (2 Tim. 1: 12).

1. "Go and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel." (1) The king's command; (2) The king's correspondence; (3) The king's success. "That thou mayest recover him of his leprosy." (1) Naaman's hope-less disease; (2) Israel's supposed power; (3) Syria's imperious demand; (4) Elishas triumphant suc-

3. "So Naaman ... stood at the door the house of Elisha." (1) Elisha's lowly home; (2) Naaman's gorgeous retinue; (3) Jehovah's beneficent purposes.

III. GAINING & CURE.

The Command: Go and wash in Jordan seven times (10).

peak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward (Exod. 14: 15). Your out for the people, that they may eat (2 Kings 4: 4).

to, wash in the pool of Siloam (John

Se baptized, and wash away thy sins (Acts 22: 15). I. The Submission:

Then went he down, and dipped him-

elf.... in Jordan (14). Moses stretched out his hand over the sen (Exod, 14: 21).

Little Eph Well's Luck as a Fisherman.

A peculiar accident occurred yesterday afternoon, a west side youth named Eph Wells being the victim. Wells and another lad proceeded to Kohlman's Lake early in the morning on a fishing excursion, and angled during the entire forenoon without getting a bite. Wells was fishing without a rod, and had the business end of his line adorned with a large frog, the other end being wrapped round his finger. Suddenly a large fish seized the bait and made such a determined rush therewith as to cause the strain on the line to cut the young fisherman's finger almost to the bone. Surgical aid was obtained, and it was at first thought that the member would have to be amputated. The operation has been deferred, however, and it is hoped that the finger may be saved without resorting to. amputation .- St. Paul Globe.

-At a quarry near Salt Lake, Utah, recently a frog hopped out of a pocket in the center of a rock which had just been blasted. The animal was of small size and perfectly white. Its eyes were unusually large, but apparently blind. Where the mouth should have been there was only a line. The frog died next morning.

-It has been estimated that the volume of water poured into the Rio da la Platta Bazil, exceeds the aggregate discharge of all the rivers of Europe put fogether. Its sitimary flow at some points is 100,000 cubic feet per second. The ordinary volume of water in the Uruguay River averages 11,000,000 of cubic feet per minute,