

REVIEW.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"The Day-spring from on high hath visited us."—LUKE 1:78.

Central Truth.—God with us.

In this paper we are to review the quarter's lessons. They are all taken from the Gospel by St. Luke, and they include the first seven chapters. Luke, the author of this Gospel, was probably a Greek, a native of Antioch, a physician by profession, and a man of general literary culture. Yet very little is known of him, as with the exception of his own references to himself in the Book of Acts, there are only three passages in the New Testament in which he is mentioned, viz., Col. 4:14; Phil. 24, and II. Tim. 4:11.

His Gospel was written in Greek, and probably either at Caesarea or Rome, A. D. 57-60. As a life of Christ, it begins with his birth, and goes as far as his ascension, giving us much which the other Evangelists do not record, probably because it did not lie within their own personal knowledge." Thus, as a biography, the Gospel by Luke is more comprehensive than any.

Six of this quarter's lessons are taken from chaps. 1 and 2, which are peculiar to St. Luke, and which present the facts in a most graphic and interesting form. Probably no account of the birth of Jesus has been found so attractive to the young.

The first lesson, Jan. 2, was ZACHARIAS AND ELIZABETH.
LUKE 1:5-17.

And it presents a beautiful picture of a pious household, where the heads of the family are described as "both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless."

To these godly people a most welcome announcement was made by an angelic messenger, that a child should be born to them, whose birth should be an occasion of joy and gladness, and whose gracious work it should be to turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. He was to be the forerunner of the promised Messiah. Coming "in the spirit and power of Elijah," he was to prepare the way of the Lord; and by his stern and awakened ministry, John, the Baptist did arouse the consciences of the people, and thus prepared them to welcome the coming Saviour.

Lesson second was THE SONG OF MARY.
LUKE 1:46-55.

This sacred ode is called the "Magnificat," and is always used in the evening service of the Church of England. "It is the last Psalm of the Old Testament, and the first of the New." Under the influence of the Holy Spirit, Mary, the mother of Jesus, was inspired to sing this lofty and beautiful ode, and to "bring the approaching Messiah the fragrance of the noblest flower of Hebrew lyric poetry."

It is a song of high ascription and praise to God for his personal holiness and his mighty deeds, embodying the very spirit of high devotion, and taking a very exalted rank in Christian poetry.

Lesson third was THE PROPHECY OF ZACHARIAS.
LUKE 1:67-79.

This also is a poem, known as "the Benedictus," and it is also used in the services of the English Church. Its form is that of a thanksgiving ode, and it is in honor of the Messiah and of his saving work for his people.

This Saviour was heralded by the child of Zacharias, and his praises were sung by John's venerable father in the temple many centuries ago, and they have been recited ever since by the Church of God in all ages.

Lesson fourth, THE BIRTH OF JESUS.
LUKE 2:1-20.

gave us the sweet and blessed story of the Nativity; the divine announcement to the shepherds; the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem; the birth in the manger; the chorus of the angels; the visit of the shepherds, their joyful praises,—all these are the circumstances which surround the greatest event which the history of the world has ever recorded.

Lesson fifth was SIMEON AND THE CHILD JESUS.
LUKE 2:25-35.

Simeon, or Simon, was a holy man, distinguished by God by the gracious promise that he should live to see the Saviour. This lesson gives us an account of how the promise was fulfilled, and of the interesting scene in the temple, when the aged saint, taking the infant Jesus in his arms, chanted the beautiful strain of the "Nunc dimittis," prophesied the coming glories of Messiah's work, and pronounced a benediction upon Joseph and the Virgin Mother of our Lord, to which the Christian ages have ever responded, Amen!

Lesson sixth was THE BOYHOOD OF JESUS.
LUKE 2:40-52.

This lesson tells us all that we know of thirty years of our Lord's earthly life. The silence of the sacred narrative is most impressive. The journey to Jerusalem with the child and the remarkable scene that occurred there with Jesus and the doctors is the principal feature. A consciousness of his relation to his divine Father seems now to be dawning on the wonderful child's mind, while he "increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man."

Lesson seventh was THE PREACHING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.
LUKE 3:1-15.

We are here told of John's characteristics as a preacher, the rousing and solemn tone of his message, and the marked effect which it produced on his hearers. In him Moses and Isaiah

seemed both combined. He was a preacher of repentance, this stern prophet of the wilderness, and warned his hearers to "flee from the wrath to come." But he pointed them to a higher and better preaching, to which his was introductory—the preaching of the Gospel by the Messiah, who was mightier than he—and thus teaches us that "the Law is our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ."

Lesson eighth was THE PREACHING OF JESUS.
LUKE 4:14-21.

We are now introduced to Jesus as a preacher, and to the character of his message. He unfolds in his sermon the nature of his mission, so different from John's, and teaches us that he comes with good news for the poor, with healing for the broken-hearted, deliverance for the captive, sight for the blind, comfort for the sorrowful, and a pardoning God, ready to accept and save sinful men. So, after the reprover of sin, comes the preacher of pardon; and the threatenings of the Law, the good words of the Gospel; after John, Jesus, the loving, sympathizing Saviour.

Lesson ninth was CHRIST HEALING THE SICK.
LUKE 5:12-20.

This lesson presents Christ as a healer of the sick, and of one who in the nature of his disease, the leprosy, illustrated the pitiable case and terrible fate of the sinner whom Jesus came to save. The paralytic also mentioned in this lesson was a type of man diseased and helpless, yet saved through faith in Him who is able and willing to save to the uttermost all that come unto God by Him.

Lesson tenth was WITNESS OF JESUS TO JOHN.
LUKE 7:19-28.

This lesson shows us the bold and fearless forerunner of Christ, a captive in the gloomy Castle of Machorus, hard by the Dead Sea, which he was to leave only for the grave.

He is anxious to know whether he whose fame has reached his dungeon is indeed the promised Messiah, and he sends his friends to ask of Jesus himself. The answer comes duly back, and when John hears the wonderful story of what Jesus does, he recognizes fully the marks of his divine mission, and is ready now to seal his testimony with his blood.

Jesus, in turn, speaks of John in high terms, and gives him his proper place in the sacred history.

Lesson eleventh was THE SINNER'S FRIEND.
LUKE 7:36-50.

The last lesson is a very sweet and attractive one. It shows Jesus stooping to pardon and bless a penitent sinner, whom others scorned, but who was deeply conscious of what she owed to him, and gave him back the grateful love of her heart. It shows us our Saviour just as we all need him, willing to cleanse and purify the deepest stains, and ready to forgive and bless the very chief of sinners.

THE LAST ACT.
SPEAKER RANDALL LAYS DOWN THE GAUL.

In the House at Washington on Friday, the 4th of March, Mr. Conger said that it was with pleasure he was permitted to offer the following resolution: "That the thanks of the House are due and tendered the Hon. Samuel J. Randall, the speaker, for the ability, fairness and courtesy with which he has presided over its deliberations during the Forty-sixth Congress." This resolution was adopted, the only negative being cast by Mr. Young.

Mr. Randall, at high noon, said: "The work of the Forty-sixth Congress is done. Before uttering the final words of its adjournment, precedent justifies a few appropriate reflections. In 1874 the Democratic party, after a long interval, obtained control of this House. With the close of this session it is again in a minority. At the outset it had to face a financial crisis almost unparalleled in our history, labor unemployed, trade depressed, commercial distress, widespread gloom everywhere. It stopped extravagance, established economy in administration, restored confidence, and now with gladness it beholds the republic launched on a career of unexampled prosperity. It found gold at a premium and the notes of the government at a discount. It leaves the credit of the United States better than ever before and unequalled in the money markets of the world. It has witnessed the removal of sectional distrust and the restoration of perfect unity within our borders. It has given birth to a new era of fraternal concord. Men of all classes and every section seem now to strive who shall best serve the common weal. With the expenditures of the government lessened, and the payment of interest reduced, the crowning triumph of Democratic administration was the effort to refund the public debt at three per cent. [Slight laughter on the Republican side.]

I am sincerely grateful to the members of the House on every side for the vote of thanks with which they have honored me. I am sensible how much I owe to the generous forbearance and active good will of my fellow members. Thrice elected to an exalted position, it may be personal pride for me to remark that no decision of the chair has ever been overruled, but it is of higher import, and the renown much more enduring to the House of Representatives, that its fair fame for that entire period is unstained. Members have differed widely, and yet, manifestly acting from a deep conviction of duty, they have won mutual esteem. For myself, I shall retire from the speaker's chair with no unkind feeling towards a solitary member. Wishing you one and all a safe return to your homes, it only remains for me, in obedience to

the mandate of the constitution, to declare this House adjourned without day. [Applause on floor and galleries.]

SNOW.
From the Chicago Tribune.

Once upon a time a man, or a woman, composed several stanzas in eulogy of the beautiful snow. The author of the poem aforesaid became very enthusiastic on the subject and indulged in much ill-considered, extravagant praise of snowflakes, fully justifying Locke's remark that "Enthusiasm is founded neither on reason or divine revelation, but rises from the conceits of a warmed or overweening imagination." Poets are not usually highly gifted in the manner of common sense, but our snow eulogist knew enough to conceal his or her name from the public. The poem has been much admired in summer time, with the thermometer above 90 degrees, and upon these occasions many would-be literary thieves have preferred claim to its authorship. But the rogues have never been believed.

The public have waited rather impatiently for somebody of the Spartan type of character to appear in mid-winter, with the thermometer at 40 degrees below zero, and file a claim to the authorship of "The Beautiful Snow." It were better, however, for that man or woman that he or she had never been born. The public are looking for that author now; they want to know him in; they agonize to bury him under tons of his "beautiful snow"; they want to hold him fast to the storm until he is congealed into an icicle; they want to plunge his good right hand in the deep, deep snow and hold it there until the pen with which he indited so many beautiful lies about "the beautiful snow" drops from his nerveless fingers, frozen stiff as a marlin-spike; they want to imprison him in a snow-house without a roof and feed him on icicles, and snowflakes, and snowbanks, and snowballs. The railway men want to lash him to a snow-plow, and, putting on all steam, plunge him, head-foremost, at sixty miles an hour, into the deepest snow-drift between the two oceans. The beautiful snow, indeed! Does any man court martyrdom? Let him announce himself as the author of one line, good, bad, or indifferent, in eulogy of the crystallized vapor called snow, and he will speedily become food for worms.

Meteorologists, it is said, distinguish by means of the microscope six hundred varieties of crystals of snow, some of which, it is pretended, are extremely beautiful. In an ordinary winter season not more than fifty or a hundred varieties of the snow crystal exhibit themselves to mortals. In this year of grace, 1881, every variety known to the meteorologists has already made its appearance, and there is good reason to expect a record of new discoveries to the extent of several hundred fresh specimens. Poets and scientists may delight to magnify snow crystal with a view to detect new manifestations of the beautiful, but we tremble for the fate of that rash man who is detected in the act of magnifying snowdrifts during the month of March, 1881. Imagine the righteous indignation of the pedestrian wading through three feet of snow, who by chance encounters a meteorologist in the act of magnifying the drift in his path a hundred-fold in the effort to discover a new variety of snow crystal? Let him beware of the wrath of that pedestrian with his mouth, ears, eyes, and nose full of the "watery particles congealed into white crystals." It were better for the foolish meteorologist "that a millstone were hanged about his neck and he were cast into the sea."

"As chaste as snow," is a favorite simile of the poets. Nothing could be more absurd. Does not every crystal of it "fall"? And it no sooner falls than it is stained by every base contact—a vile thing to be trodden under foot of men. Its coldness is a mere pretense. At the very first temptation it melts, and then, disgraced and shamed, it hides its guilty head in the dust of the earth. "The beautiful snow" of which the poet sings so rapturously is as cruel as the grave. It penetrates a thousand crevices in the abodes of poverty, chilling their thinly clad inmates—half fed children, with bare legs and arms, huddled about scanty fires in wretched hovels, and old men with pinched faces and white hairs clothed in rags, crouching in the far corners of fireless attics. In mockery of suffering and misery the beautiful (?) snow crystals, reduced to fine dust like grains of sand, steal on the wings of the wind into leaky tenements, spread themselves noiselessly over the carpetless floors, and as noiselessly drift into heaps on the rude furniture. Beautiful snow, indeed! It is rather an angel of wrath whose breath freezes and whose tears drown. It is an insidious monster which descends upon the earth in little particles of aerial lightness, only to combine in vast masses of an impact so solid as to be resistless. It blocks all the gates of commerce. It covers the iron track of the railway mountains high, and, engulfing the puffing and screaming locomotive, chills it to death with its Arctic breath. It stops the postal car, pulls down the telegraph wire, freezes the electricity out of the telephone, and so isolates mankind, holding them aloof from one another.

It envelops the careless traveler in its fleecy folds, blots the path from his eager gaze, freezes the very marrow in his bones, stifles his last despairing cry for help with a fiendish shriek of its ally the wind, and buries him on the trackless waste where he falls. Out upon the wretched poet who affronts the common sense of mankind by a eulogy on snow! It is a cruel, relentless fiend, whose every crystal part is a menace of death and destruction. It has but one redeeming feature—it is more than a match for the railway monopolists. It has abolished unjust discrimination in rates, put a stop to pooling, and reduced the consolidators and their locomotives to silence. Now let the author of "Beautiful Snow" be brought forth and crucified.

HORATIO SEYMOUR'S VIEWS.

HOW THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY MAY ACHIEVE SUCCESS IN THE STATE AND NATION.

The Syracuse Courier publishes an interview with ex-Gov. Horatio Seymour on the political situation and the importance of the coming campaign in his State. The Governor was found at the residence of Senator Conkling in Utica. On account of over-exertion and exposure during the campaign last fall, the Governor has been compelled to forego the pleasure of outdoor exercise for nearly four months. On Saturday week he ventured to ride in an open sleigh for the first time this winter. He was very much gratified to find that the ride did him good, and has since enjoyed a sleigh ride on several occasions. After a rambling conversation on various topics the ex-Governor said:

"It seems to me that the policy of the Democratic party is a plain one. It outnumbers the Republican organization, as is shown by the returns. Although the latter party had the assistance of nearly a hundred thousand office-holders, besides the support of large numbers who voted for its nominees for the purpose of promoting plans in which they are interested, both Mr. Hayes and Mr. Garfield not only received less than a majority of the votes of the American people, but they were actually beaten as regards the number of their supporters by the Democratic candidates. The controversies in the Republican party are more widespread and deeper than those in the Democratic party. Nothing more is needed to the success of the Democratic party than a firm and steady adherence to its principles. It is true that these have been too frequently lost sight of; but many schemes will be developed by the Republicans under the teachings of Mr. Garfield that power gravitates more and more into the hands of the general government, for which Mr. Garfield rejoices. His speeches upon this subject are invitations to all manner of schemes to besiege the capitol. This will arouse the public mind to the necessity of returning to a constitutional policy. While there are dissensions in both parties, the long-continued power of the Republicans has engendered controversies throughout the mass of this party while the troubles in the Democratic ranks are mainly local and more easily cured.

"It is certain that the fate of the Democratic party depends upon the addition to its members of the young, the unselfish and the active. Old men and their quarrels are the great causes of the destruction of political organizations. As I am one of them, I have a right to speak freely. In the natural course of events, a large share of those who now disturb the Democratic party by their quarrels will have passed away, and most of the others will be rendered inactive by old age and physical infirmities. Age and experience have taught me to admire the unselfish and enthusiastic action of young men, and I believe that the Democratic party must be restored to power through their efforts."

"What about the divisions of the Republican party in this State?"

"I think that they are wide and deep, and cannot be healed over. The divisions grow from differences of principles and purposes, as well as from controversies about offices and power. The adherence of great numbers to the Republican organization is unnatural and cannot be lasting. They do not agree with its principles or its purposes. They will gradually desert from its ranks. They cannot follow the lead of Mr. Garfield in favor of the centralization of power and the usurpations of the general government. The passions and the prejudices which have led them into the support of the Republican organization are dying out, and they will be compelled by their convictions to withdraw from its ranks."

"How should the Democratic campaign in this State be conducted this fall?"

"It should be conducted by a firm and temperate discussion of all public questions. The principles of the Democratic party should never be disregarded or lost sight of. The principles which underlie the forms and structure of our government must be kept uppermost in view, whenever the prosperity of the people, irrespective of parties, depends upon their maintenance. There must be harmonious action. Local controversies and side contests for power will not imperil party success, but will dishearten the people to whom that party looks for support. Broad and liberal views should henceforth characterize the dis-

ussion of every topic, and these discussions should not be marred by any display whatever of passion and prejudice. I have always believed that the Democratic party is most closely allied to the people, and that it most nearly represents their interests, and I have faith that I shall see it restored to power in our national councils."

HOW IT IS DONE.

THE MODUS OPERANDI OF THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

The details of Wall street operating are a mystery to those who have not taken a hand. The person who wants to speculate does not know where to begin or how to take the first step. How much money must he put up as a margin? What does the broker do, and how much must the broker be paid for making the purchases? These are constantly recurring questions. Dozens of letters are sent to New York newspapers on the subject, and the writers seem to imagine that there is something very mysterious about the whole business. As a matter of fact the reverse is the truth. Nothing is simpler than a purchase for a rise. Selling stocks short is just a trifle complicated to a novice, but is easy to understand. The beginner usually starts his speculative career by purchasing 100 shares of stock, although a less number may be bought. He seeks a trustworthy broker, and is told that to purchase 100 shares, he must deposit with the broker 8 or 10 per cent. of the par value of the stock. Dealings in the New York Exchange are so scaled that 10 per cent. means \$1,000, and most brokers require this sum from strangers. This deposit is called the margin. The broker then opens an account with him by placing \$1,000 to the credit of the customer. The next step is for the customer to select a stock that is likely to advance, and having made up his mind that Erie, for instance, is the card, he simply says to the broker: "Buy me 100 shares of Erie." Off goes the broker like a shot to the Stock Exchange, where he dives into a crowd of one thousand other brokers. The floor of the great room has upon it a score or more of knots of men, pushing, surging and yelling at the top of their lungs. One knot is the St. Paul clique, another the Reading clique, a third the Erie crowd. Our broker rushes into the Erie coterie, elbows men out of the way, holds his right hand high in air, and knowing that the one man about whom the crowd is surging has some Erie stock to sell, and hearing a dozen other men, with their hands in the air, yelling "39 1/2," he jumps up in the air higher than all the others and yells "40." Thereupon the centre of the group makes a rush at him and shouts, "Sold." All this means that our broker has offered to pay \$40 a share for 100 shares of Erie, and the other man has sold it to him, the other brokers having bid only \$39.87 1/2 for it. The two brokers jot down the transaction in their memorandum books, and the broker who sold it reports the sale. Instantly is flashed over the wire and into every broker's office in the city the new quotation for Erie of 40. The broker who sold rolls up 100 share certificates of Erie and sends them to our broker, who puts them in his safe and sends back a check for \$4,000, the price of the stock.

Our new customer then "holds 100 Erie." He may "hold" it as long as he pleases so long as the price of Erie advances. If Erie is in demand the price will advance. When it is quoted at 41 it has advanced \$1 a share, and our friend is \$100 ahead in the transaction, that is, he would be \$100 if he were to sell his 100 shares at the price of 41. The two brokers jot down the transaction in their memorandum books, and the broker who sold it reports the sale. Instantly is flashed over the wire and into every broker's office in the city the new quotation for Erie of 40. The broker who sold rolls up 100 share certificates of Erie and sends them to our broker, who puts them in his safe and sends back a check for \$4,000, the price of the stock.

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A PENNSYLVANIA BOY.

Nearly forty years ago, in South Huntingdon township, Westmoreland county, says the Pittsburg Telegraph, lived John Hinton. He was an orphan boy, rude and uneducated, and had wandered there from the neighborhood of Masontown, Fayette county.

With no known relatives, he was kicked from one family to another till manhood, enlisting then in the war. At its close he helped to escort the Cherokees beyond the Mississippi. From Indian Territory he went to New Orleans and shipped as a common sailor on a vessel bound for the East Indies. At the bay of Madras, on the western shores of the bay of Bengal, he deserted, and enlisted in a British regiment. He served many years, and during the memorable Sepoy rebellion was noted for his daring bravery. At his discharge he was presented with a gold medal by the Governor General himself.

He is next heard of traveling in a caravan from Delhi, westward across the Indus river, through Afghanistan and Persia, to Turkey and back.

In time, from trading, he became immensely wealthy, and was the owner of five caravans containing over 13,000 horses and camels and fifty elephants.

In 1854 he visited Cabul, the capital of Afghanistan, for copper, great quantities of which are there mined and smelted. His magnificent retinue attracted the attention of the Ameer, and he was invited to an audience—an honor never before received by a Christian. A present of a hundred of his best horses and a three-tusked elephant made the Ameer his eternal friend. When, yearly, it was followed by similar presents, beside camels and merchandise, John Hinton gained the monopoly of trade from the summit of the Hindoo Kosh Mountains to the confines of Belochistan, and in real power is second only to the Ameer himself.

About 1870 he was made Military Commander of the District of Herat, and in 1876 suppressed a local rebellion to the great satisfaction of his sovereign. Trained in the arts of war among the savages of North America, and among the superstitious natives of India, where he became thoroughly familiar with British soldiers and resources, together with his years of service as the idolized commander of the Mohammedan tribes to tens of thousands half-civilized men, he is to-day the ablest soldier in Asia.

A Maiden's Raid Upon the Treasury.

The following story of a determined little woman is told by a correspondent in Washington of the Atlanta (Ga.) Republican: "One bright morning last spring the Hon. John Sherman was sitting in his office, when suddenly a bright-haired pretty girl dashed into his presence. She was apparently 16, and had about her an air of business which even the cold gaze of the Ohio statesman could not transform into maiden fright or flurry. Deliberately taking a seat, the girl said, 'Mr. Sherman, I have come here to get a place.' 'There are none vacant,' was the reply. 'I know you can give me a place if you want to, and I am as much entitled to it as anybody. My father spent his life in the United States army, and when he died he left nothing. The responsibility of the family is on me, and I think I've got as good a claim as any one else on the government.' 'What kind of a place do you want?' 'I don't care what it is, but I must have work at once.' Mr. Sherman assured her that there were ten applicants for every one place, and there was very little chance. She very deliberately told him that such an answer wouldn't do, and declared that if he would allow her she would come up every day and black his shoes if he couldn't do better for her. The Secretary was struck with her determination and charmed by her bright face and her sprightly manner. He told her to come back. In less than a week she had a good place in the treasury, which she still holds. Every morning she walks to the department with the step of a business little woman who is proud that her delicate little hands can be the support of others. She receives a \$100 a month, and supports in comfort her mother and sister. This brave, bright young woman is May Macauley, formerly of Atlanta. Her father was a lieutenant in the Eighteenth Infantry."

CIRCUMSTANCES alter cases: "Yes," said the young lady, who was going sleigh riding, to her maid, "I will put on leggings and my thick overshoes. I don't care about my cardinal hose. Mr. Griff is a careful driver. He never upsets."

SURPRISE parties are coming into vogue again. The person who is to be surprised issues the invitations through a friend.

A WOMAN cannot become a successful lawyer. She is too fond of giving her opinion without pay.

RIDING on a turpentine is a sure way to obtain information. At every gate you are tolled something.

THE reason people are afraid of lightning is because it makes such a thundering noise.

THE ice crop this year will be large enough to warm a great many pocket-books.