

SHABBATH-SCHOOL LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON FOR DECEMBER 20.

Text: "The Birth of Christ." Matt. II. 1-12--Golden Text: Luke II. 10--Commentary.

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the days of Herod the king, there came wise men from the east... He was foreordained before the foundation of the world...

When he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he said to them: "Whom do you suppose the Christ should be?"

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceeding great joy. It would not have been a great thing for them if they had seen the star, because they stopped to inquire of the king...

At an auction a ruler jar of common cartharone was bought by a seller of perfumes for a penny. But he filled it with attar of roses...

SELECT RELIGIOUS READING

WORK-FILLED AND WORD-FILLED SERMONS.

Sermons may be divided into many classes but there are two great general divisions which embrace most pulpit productions. They are the sermons filled with words and the sermons filled with work.

Truth runs close upon the verge of error, and there are no high boundary walls. One may easily step across the border without being conscious that he has passed into an enemy's country.

Inactivity is the "very root" of thousands of church members. You will never gain a good appetite for God's word, or a flush of joy on your countenance, until you lay hold of some earnest, self-denying work...

Nature is full of death. The leaf falls, the tree droops, the gray curls are wreathed with the graves of her children. The air is tremulous with knells; there are vacant places in our homes; the dust is strewn over the faces that we loved.

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

THREE DIED IN FLAMES.

Trio of Children Burned to Death at Irwin.

Three children of John Falenquest, of Irwin, aged 4 months, 4 and 6 years, were burned to death. Falenquest and his wife had gone to their farm, about two miles distant, leaving the children alone...

The bondsmen of A. L. Bloss, postmaster at Delmont, have removed him and placed T. M. Humes in charge of the office. Bloss had not made his quarterly report to the department and his books show a shortage.

A west train on the Altoona, Clearfield & Northern Railroad, consisting of one engine and a passenger coach, jumped the track at Westport, Pa. The coach rolled 30 feet down the side of the mountain, where it lodged in the bushes, and catching fire from the stove, burned. A passenger and two trainmen escaped miraculously.

Rev. I. O. Baker, pastor of the English Lutheran church at Erie, has been arrested and taken to Girard on a charge of libel preferred by A. Frieski, an evangelist whom Rev. Mr. Baker charged with being an impostor.

Jacob Bodenheimer, a wool and hide merchant of Scranton, committed suicide by hanging himself to the bedpost in his room. No cause can be assigned for the act.

John Matland, the school teacher of Butler county, charged with selling liquor without a license, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$1,000, with three months imprisonment.

George Erb, aged 33, confessed to the Harrington murder to the marshal of Edward Nutter, last February in Fort Smith, Ark. Immediately after having confessed he was sent to jail.

Harry Miller, aged 18 years, fell from a tree at Sharon and broke his shoulder blade and received internal injuries.

Archibald Biehnauer, a brakeman of Harrisburg, was killed and six cars wrecked on the Pennsylvania railroad near Columbia.

Harry L. Harrison, a truckman whose home is at McKees Rocks, was killed by a train at Jacobs Creek, near West Newton.

William Trought, employed at the Jamieson coal works, near Jeannette, was killed by being crushed between two cars.

The co-operative glass works at Beaver Falls will start down December 19 for two weeks for important repairs.

Colvin Russell, of New Greenville, was seriously injured by being trampled under the hoofs of a vicious horse.

The Groff house, at Safe Harbor, was destroyed by fire, the inmates having a narrow escape. The loss is \$5,000.

Horace Schall, an oyster dealer of York, was thrown from a Northern Central train, and instantly killed.

J. J. Lowery, of Hyndman, has been appointed mercantile appraiser for Bedford county.

Hanged by Accident. Vernon White, a thirteen-year-old boy, was accidentally hanged at Omaha, Neb., as the result of a boyish prank.

Boy Ends His Own Life. Harry Steelhill, fourteen years old, blew his brains out with a shotgun in Maplewood, Ohio, because his parents refused his request to accompany them to visit a neighbor.

MARKETS. PITTSBURGH. Grain, Flour and Feed.

WHEAT—No. 1 red, 95 1/2 @ 100. No. 2 red, 95 1/4 @ 99. CORN—No. 2 yellow ear, 89 1/2 @ 90. No. 2 yellow dent, 89 1/2 @ 90.

APPLES—Hand-picked, per bushel, 1.40 @ 1.50. LARD—No. 1, 11.00 @ 11.50. BUTTER—Creamery, extra, 24 @ 25.

NEW YORK. FLOUR—Patents, \$ 7.50 @ 1.15. FLOUR—No. 2 red, 5.30 @ 5.50. CORN—No. 2, 4.10 @ 4.20.

LIVE STOCK. CATTLE. Prime, 1,500 to 1,600 lbs., \$ 4.50 @ 4.80. Good, 1,200 to 1,500 lbs., 4.00 @ 4.30.

Medium, 85 to 90 lbs., 3.75 @ 3.85. Fair, 75 to 80 lbs., 3.50 @ 3.60. Common, 70 to 80 lbs., 3.25 @ 3.40.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

A foot of newly fallen snow changes into an inch of water when melted. The colors penetrating deepest are the blues and the greens, the red being out off first.

Keiler has shown in Madagascar that the corals always grow out in the direction of the strongest light.

The Geyers of the Yellowstone National Park are failing. Their forces has fallen off fifty per cent. in sixteen years.

The Du Ponts, of Wilmington, Del., have a horseless family carriage, with a seating capacity for eight persons. The motive power is electric.

A thirty knot torpedo boat destroyer, the Captain Orella, built by the Lairds for the Chilean Government, made an average of 30.17 knots on her trial trip on the Clyde.

Leaving out patients that were moribund at the time the injection was made, 5794 cases of diphtheria treated in private practice in this country by the antitoxin method gave a mortality of only 8.8 per cent.

The air tight compartment theory of building ships was copied from a provision of nature shown in the case of the nautilus. The shell of this animal has forty or fifty compartments, into which air or water may be admitted, to allow the occupant to sink or float as it pleases.

The making of artificial ears seems to have reached scientific perfection within the last decade. Made of a specially prepared rubber, flesh colored in the rough, they are painted by hand in exact imitation of the remaining ear of the unfortunate customer, and as carefully "toned" and marked as an artist's picture.

The maker gets a hundred dollars apiece for them.

Egyptian Onions. English imports of onions have increased from Egypt, and it is acknowledged that this country is at present the most active and aggressive competitor in the onion trade.

The Egyptian onion is a handsome and useful vegetable, and by selecting the best strains of seed the quality tends year by year to improve. The Egyptians know two varieties—the "baal" and the "miskoul"—but supplies of the latter kind are seldom sent abroad, as they absorb so much moisture from the frequently irrigated ground in which they are grown that they do not stand a sea voyage well.

The Buffalo Goat. "Down on the Onchita River, in Arkansas, near Camden, they have goats known as buffaloes," said H. P. Phordike, of Little Rock, at the Ebbit. "No one ever calls them goats, and no place in New Jersey can be found where the buffaloes are more numerous than the buffaloes along the Onchita. I was stopping with a farmer and after supper he read the county paper aloud in a drawing tone that nearly put me to sleep, when suddenly he slipped the paper and jumped up. 'Jerusalem, wife,' he exclaimed; 'this paper says the buffaloes are all gone from the West and the Government fellers don't know where there are any more. It says they are worth \$50 apiece. Tell the boys in the morning not to go out with the team, but we will all start in and catch enough of the pesky buffaloes to make us rich. The idea that buffaloes that cover our horses and cows here are worth big money up North.' I did not have the heart to undeceive him, he was so genuinely happy over his discovery, and so far as I know he caught the buffaloes."—Washington Star.

Alcohol as Fuel. In France, Belgium and Germany experiments are being made with a view to the use of alcohol instead of petroleum in lamps. Alcohol burns with a bluish-yellow flame which is hardly visible, but the flame has a great heat, and it is proposed to utilize this property for the production of a strong light, on the principle of incandescent gas, by using special burners which will become incandescent.

Experiments made with one of the ordinary incandescent burners now in use, fitted to a lamp filled with alcohol, much under "proof," has given the most satisfactory results, and show that the consumption of alcohol for a given candle power is only half that of petroleum, and that the air remains more pure. Of course the duty on alcohol makes it dearer, but the production of a commercial alcohol of a nature which would prevent fraud and be free from duty is taking place in France, and there is great probability that alcohol lamps will be seen on the market at no distant day.

Chosen by the Government. Columbia Bicycles. STANDARD OF THE WORLD. If YOU are able to pay \$100 for a bicycle, why be content with anything but a Columbia? The experts who made the choice decided that Columbia were worth every dollar of the \$100 asked for them.

Very Unpleasant. Mrs. Easy. Duty to think of such a thing happening to dear John, when he's always prayed that he might die a natural death. Doctor—Why, madam, what do you mean? Mrs. Easy—Didn't you tell me, doctor, that John was passing away very fast? Doctor—I certainly did, madam, and so he is. Mrs. Easy—And I'm sure, doctor, there's nothing natural about that to John—Boston Courier.

ASK FOR THE BOOKLET "ON LIGHT" AND "BURNED BY LIGHT". GIVES THE BEST LIGHT IN THE WORLD AND ABSOLUTELY SAFE.

A New Furniture Plant. The Minerva, O., Furniture company, have incorporated and will erect a new plant of double the capacity of the present one. This firm has run steadily to the full capacity, all through the panic, and now the prominent merchants are buying it freely.

More Mills Resuming. Work has resumed in the Shenango and the Lawrence glass factories at New Castle, Pa. At the tin plate mill and the tube mill the forces have been increased.

There is a brighter outlook for better times among the glass workers of South Jersey. After Christmas there is every prospect that not one factory in the counties south of Camden will be idle.

Starvation on the Increase in India. The mortality from famine in the Bombay and Belaghat districts in India is steadily increasing. Hundreds of people have died from starvation in the Conda districts.

Letters Short of Postage. The State Department is informed that about twenty-five per cent. of the letters sent from the United States to foreign countries are short in the necessary postage.

THE LABOR WORLD. The United States has 6,000 barbers. Brooklyn has 117 union cigar factories. Great Britain has 80,000 textile workers.

Reports agree that in Chicago there are 25,000 unemployed. According to good authorities, there are now out of employment in New York City no fewer than 177,000 skilled workmen.

About 4,000 have been turned in for label circle checks to the Brooklyn Consumers' Label League since that organization was formed a few months ago.

More than 10,000 persons are engaged in the manufacture of explosives in England. Last year forty persons in the business were killed and 167 injured by accidents.

The Independent Short Ironers and Laundry Workers' Union reports having secured an increase in wages of ten and fifteen per cent. in a number of shops in New York.

Labor saving machinery was recently introduced at Limerick. Instead of doing Bishop O'Dwyer's appeal for the displaced men secured a gift of \$2500 from the firm.

All the secret work of the order of the Knights of Labor has been practically changed. There is a new secret sign, grip and password to be given to the district and local assemblies.

English boot and shoe workers want a minimum wage fixed for those between eighteen and twenty years of age. One apprentice to every five employed is also desired, instead of one to three.

Business Hirsch is said to have promised \$400,000 for the purpose of founding a pension fund for officials of the Oriental Railways. The benefits are to be kept exclusively by officials who have been in the service before 1890 when the late Baron Hirsch ceased to be connected with those railways.

Superintendent Asbell is hiring all the nice, good-looking "widows" he can get to manipulate the looms at the Jackson (Ga.) cotton factory, and it is capable of giving them preference over any other help in the various departments. There are now about ten beautiful young widows occupying the factory dwellings, and nearly every day witnesses an addition to the force.

FRENCH REMEDY RESTORES VITALITY. Made a Well Man of Me. THE GREAT 20th Day.

ROYAL MEDICINE CO., 271 WEST WABE, CHICAGO, ILL. For sale at Middleburgh, Pa., by W. H. SPANGLE.

FATFOLKS REDUCED. A SPECIALTY. BLOOD POISON. FRAZER AXLE GREASE. BEST IN THE WORLD. Outwearing qualities are unsurpassed, actually outlasting two boxes of any other lard. Not affected by heat. GET THE GENUINE. FOR SALE BY DEALERS GENERALLY.