At this distance it looks as though Spain is suffering from a serious impediment in her pocketbook.

The flag factories of the United States find it impossible to keep up with their orders. This evidence of accentuated patriotism cannot be very encouraging to Spain.

The Austrian government has enlarged the boundaries of Vienna to such an extent that the metropolitan area is now half as large as London, twice as large as Paris and three times larger than Berlin

Since the Declaration of Independence the United States has had six wars, not counting the little differences with the Indians. These were the war of the revolution, the war of 1812, the war with the Barbary states, the Mexican war and the civil war. The war with Spain makes the sixth.

It is said that a big trade in American bicycles will soon be opened up in China. An American bicycle which sells for \$100 here brings \$225 in Chinese silver. As the average Chinaman makes from 20 to 25 cents a day it would be interesting to know how long it will take him to save enough money to buy a bicycle.

Naval experts are not going to see so many disputed questions settled in the "Yanko-Spanko" war as they hoped. What modern ships can do against modern forts, how great a role destroyers will play in naval battles, will still be debated after all the light that can be had from the experience of the present war. It is the personal equation which vitiates the conclusions. Spanish gunnery has been so bad that it has done little to determine the power of forts to resist ironclads. Spanish mechanical skill has been so poor that the ineffectiveness of torpedoboat destroyers in Spanish hands proves little or noth-

A statistician has recently published in Paris, France, what purports to be a horse census, and some of his figures just at this time, when the government is buying horses, are interesting. According to this expert, Russia leads the world in the number of horses. Her total is placed at 22, 000,000 head, and the United States comes second with 12,000,000 head. The Argentine Republic is third, and Austro-Hungary and the German Empire are tied for fourth place, with 3,500,000 each. France is credited with 2,880,000, and the United Kingdom with 2,790,000. This expert says that England and France have the most valuable horses, with the United States and Canada ranking next.

It is estimated that the steam pow er of Great Britain is equal to the united strength of 1,000,000,000 men The number of persons employed in her coal mines is but 200,000, and of these fully two-thirds dig coal for other uses than for engines, leaving 66,666 men to mine the coal necessary to do the work of 1,000,000,000. The engines are made by 60,000 men, so that 126,666 men furnish the means of doing the work of 1,000,000,000 the strength of each being thus multiplied nearly 8000 times. This gives to each man, woman and child of a population of 35,000,000 some thirty willing slaves, born fully grown, exempt from sickness, needing no clothes, eating only fire and water, and costing merely the work of one man in 8000.

In mineral wealth Cuba is capable of taking high rank. Gold and silver have not been found in paying quantities. Copper was mined at Cobre by the natives before Columbus discovered the island, and there is strong proof that native copper was carried ncross to Florida and used by the Florida Indians hundreds of years ago. The mound-builders of that state buried with their dead copper ornaments and utensils hammered from native copper, which always has an admixture of more or less foreign matter. As no copper ore is found in Florida, or in that portion of the United States, and, as that found in the United States or in Mexico does not correspond chemically with that buried in the mounds, it occurred to Professor R. H. Sanders, of the Acad emy of Natural Sciences, in Philadelphia, that it was possible that these mound-builders had water communication with Cuba. In the early part of the present century some English capitalists purchased these mines in Cuba, which are nine miles from San-From 1828 to 1840 an average of from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 worth of copper ore was shipped annually to the United States from these mines How much was shipped elsewhere is not known. Large quantities of copper still remain unmined in this lo

## SYMBOLS FOR THE ARMY.

N CORPS, DIVISIONS AND BRI-

Order by General Miles-Not Like Civil War Designs-Ingenuity Exercised by War Department Officials-Distinctive Badges and Pennants Preserved.

General Miles has issued a general order designating the symbols, flags and pennants by which the various army corps, divisions and brigades army corps, division may be identified.

may be identified.

The order prescribes corps badges and pennants entirely different from those which were in use by the army during the civil war. It was the original purpose of the war department to adopt for the present army hadrae presidely like those for the badges precisely like those for the corresponding corps during the civil war, but the idea met with much opposition from prominent soldiers of that war. They maintained, with force, that their badges and pennants were distinctive; that they had been baptized in the blood of many a hardfought field, and that their individuality ought to be preserved. This view was acceded to by the war officials and a new set of designs was prepared.

Following is a part of the text of the general order:

When the land forces of the United States are organized into army corps, divisions and brigades the same will be designated by the following symbols, flags and pennants, made according to descriptions and designs in the office of the quarter-master

Symbols.

Cavalry corps, a winged horse foot; artillery corps, crossed conical projectiles, with round shot above centre; 1st Corps, a circle over a letter I of special design; 2nd Corps, a four-leaf clover; 3rd Corps, a three-tooth clutch; special design; 2nd Corps, a four-leaf clover; 3rd Corps, a three-tooth clutch; 4th Corps, a caltrop; 5th Corps, a fire-bastion fork; 6th Corps, a six-tooth sprocket; 7th Corps, a seven-pointed star; 8th Corps, two circles overlapping each other, resembling the figure 8; 9th Corps, a buzz saw with nine teeth; 10th Corps, two triangles, point to point resembling the letter nine teeth; 10th Corps, two triangles, point to point, resembling the letter X; 11th Corps, badge of 10th Corps, with horizontal bar through centre, representing XI; 12th Corps, a square with clover leaf at each corner, thereby showing twelve small circles; 13th Corps, a palm leaf with thirteen palm leaf with thirteen Corps, a paim lear with rinteen spikes; 14th Corps, a square with one half circle on each side; 15th Corps, an anchor; 16th Corps, a bugle; 17th Corps, a spearhead; 18th Corps, a battle-ax; 19th Corps, an arch; 20th Corps, a broom.

Designating the Divisions. The division of a corps will be repesented by the color of the symbol, as follows:
First division, red; second division,

First division, red; second division, white; third division, blue.

Corps headquarters will be designated by a swallow-tail flag of yellow.

Division headquarters will be designated by a flag four feet on the staff and six feet fly, with the corps symbol in the centre, as follows:

First Division—A white flag.

Second Division—A blue flag.

Third Division—A red flag.

Third Division—A red flag.
Brigade headquarters will be distinguished by triangular pennants four feet on the staff, as follows:

First brigade, red; second brigade; white; third brigade, blue.

Colors of the pennants to be as follows, reading from the staff to the

First Division First brigade-Red, white and blue;

corps symbol in red.
Second brigade—White, blue and

red; corps symbol in red.
Third brigade—Blue, white and red; corps symbol in red.

Second Division First brigade-Red, white and blue;

corps symbol in white.
Second brigade—White, blue and red; corps symbol in white.
Third brigade—Blue, red and white; corps symbol in white.

Third Division First brigade-Red, white and blue; corps symbol in blue. Second brigade—White, red and

blue; corps symbol in blue.
Third brigade—Blue, white and red; corps symbol in blue.

Meaning of Flags,

The corps of engineers will be designated by a swallow-tail flag 5 feet on the staff and 5 feet fly, with swallow tail 1 foot deep; flag to be divided in two horizontal stripes of equal width, the lower stripe to be of blue, bearing the castle symbolical of the engineers the castle symbolical of the engineers in white, occupying a space 2x3 feet; the upper stripe to be white, bearing the corps symbol in red, bordered in white 2 inches, and edged in blue 11-2 inches, 2 feet high, or occupying a space 2 feet square.

The divisional engineers will be The divisional engineers will be designated by a swallow-tail flag 4 feet on the staff and 4 feet fly, with swallow tail 9 inches deep; the flag to be divided in two horizontal stripes of equal width, the lower stripe blue, the upper stripe white (with exception of that for the second division, which will be red), bearing the corps symbol, 18 inches square, in the color of division to which the command be

The corps cavalry will be designated by a swallow-tail flag 5 feet on the staff and 5 feet fly, with swallow tail 1 foot deep; flag to be divided in two horizontal stripes of equal width, the lower stripe to be of yellow, bearing corps all box in blue contains and the stripe of the crossed sahers in blue, occupying a space 2x3 feet; the upper stripe to be of white, bearing the corps symbol in red bordered in with 2 edged in blue 1 inch, 2 feet high or occupying a space 2 feet square.

The divisional cavalry will be designed.

nated by a swallow-tail flag & feet the staff and 4 feet fly, with swallow tail 9 inches deep; flag to be divided

in two horizontal stripes of equal width, the lower stripe yellow and the upper white (with the exception of that for the second division, which will be blue), bearing the corps symbol 18 inches high, or occupying a space 18 inches square, in the color designating the division to which the commands belong.

"Silence in Heaven," the Subject—The Mighty Import of the Cessation Described to Exception Described.

commands belong.

The corps artillery will be designated by a swallow-tail flag 5 feet on the staff and 5 feet fly, with swallcw-tail I foot deep; flag to be divided in two horizontal stripes of equal width, the lower stripe to be of red, bearing crossed cannon in yellow, oc-cupying a space 2x3 feet; the upper stripe to be white, bearing the corps symbol in red, bordered in white ches and edged in blue, 1 inch feet high, or occupying a space 2 feet

The divisional artillery will be designated by a swallow-tail flag 4 feet on the staff and 4 feet fly, with a swallow tail 9 inches deep; flag to be divided in two horizonal stripes of equal width, the lower stripe to be of red and the upper white (with the ex-ception of that of the second division, which will be blue, hearing the corps which will be blue), bearing the corps symbol 18 inches high, or occupying space 18 inches square, in the col designating the division to which the

Members of the provost guard, when on duty, may wear upon the left breast, as a badge of authority, the corps symbol in tin or white metal.

## WHEN A BIG GUN GOES OFF.

Scientific Men Do Not Know All That

Takes Place—Avoiding the Shock.

Not one man in ten thousand has a Not one man in ten thousand has a clear idea of just what happens when a big cannon is fired. The physical manifestations are numerous. Even professors of chemistry and physics are stumped when they want to differentiate all the gases set loose and the peculiar effects they induce. The puff of whitish smoke, the flash of fire, the dim image of the flying projectile, the roar and the recoil are all familiar, but back of these is a complex mass of back of these is a complex mass of phenomena most bewildering to the mind of any but an artillery expert.

First, the cubes, disks, hexagons or irregular lumps of powder are chemically transformed into a powerful, expanding gas the instant firing takes place. Then there are innumerable by-products that even chemists do not

The explosion of gunpowder is divided into three distinct stages, called the ignition, inflammation, and combustion. The ignition is the setting on fire of the first grain, while the inflammation is the spreading of the flame over the surface of the powder from the point of ignition. Com-bustion is the burning up of each grain. The value of gunpowder is grain. The value of glippowder is due to the fact that when subjected to sufficient heat it becomes a gas which expands with frightful rapidity. The so-called explosion that takes place when a match is touched to gunpowder is merely a chemical change, dur-

ing which there is a sudden evolution of gases from the original solid. It has been calculated that ordinary gunpowder on exploding expands about 9000 times or fills a space this much larger as a gas than when in a solid form. When this chemical change takes place in a closed vessel the expansion may be made to do a work like that of foreign a projectile along like that of forcing a projectile along the bore of the great gun or test tube

in the line of least resistance.

The hardest work a gunner is called upon to do is to stand the tremendous shock. The forces exerted by these gases in expanding seem to radiate in all directions from the cannon, as rip-ples are caused by dropping a pebble in a pool of still water. As a matter of fact, it has been discovered that these lines of forces are exceedingly these lines of forces are exceedingly complicated affairs, and play very queer pranks about the cannon. As a result few people know just which is the safest or the most dangerous position for a gunner to take besid his gun. In the case of the great 13-inch packs are not promitted as a position back. guns on our monitors, a position back of the gun is much easier than one nearer the muzzle.

A Spanish Trick-1585.

The relations between the two countries, which Drake's raid into the South sea had for a time threatened with open rupture, had greatly improved, at least in outward appearance, and in 1585, under special promises of immunity from molestation on reli-gious or other grounds, Philip had in-vited to his ports a fleet of English corn ships, in order to supply the de-ficiency of his own harvests. No sooner, however, had the English ships arrived than an embargo was laid upon them, and their crews ar-

One ship, the famous Primrose of London, managed to escape. While lying off Bilbao quietly discharging her cargo she had been visited by the corregidor of Biscay and his guard disguised as merchants. Suddenly called upon to surrender the cree called upon to surrender, the crew flung themselves upon the Spaniards, drove them all overboard, and made Some of the discomfited Spaniards, as the shore boats fled, were seen clinging to the English vessel. These were humanely rescued and carried in triumph back to England, and among them was the corregido himself. Upon him were found hi official instructions, setting forth expressly that the embargo was ordered for the purposes of the expedition which Philip was preparing against the English. This was enough for the Queen and the powerful public opinion of commercial circles in Logary which had obstinately charge to don, which had obstinately clung to pacific relations with Spain. A retal-iatory embargo was proclaimed, letters of general reprisal were issued, and Drake was let loose. —Publication the Navy Records Societe, Great Britain.

"Silence in Heaven," the Subject—ine Mighty Import of the Cessation De-scribed in Revelations—Half Hour-Which Have Determined Destinies.

Text: "There was silence in heaver bout the space of half an hour."—Reve

Text: "There was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour."—Revelations, viii., 1.

"Take this watch and keep it," said a dying Christian as he picked it up from the stand at his pillow. "I have no more need of it. I am going where time shall be no longer." But it seems from my text that heaven was at least once measured by an earthly time-piece.

The busiest place in the universo is heaven. It is the center from which all good influences start; it is the goal at which all good results arrive. 'The Bible represents it as active, with wheels and wings and orchestras and processions, mounted or charloted. But my text describes a space when the wheels ceased to roll and the trumpets to sound and the voices to chant. The riders on the white horses reined in their chargers. The dox-ologies were hustied and the processions halted. The hand of arrest was put upon all the splendors. "Stop, Heaven!" cried an omnipotent voice, and it stopped. For thirty minutes everything celestial stood still. "There was silence in heaven for the space of half an hour."

From all we can learn it is the only time heaven ever stopped. It does not stop, as other cities, for the night, for there is no night there. It does not stop for bankrupteles, for the inhabitant never says, "I am sick." It does not stop for bankrupteles, for its inhabitants never fail. It does not stop impassable streets, for there are no fallen snows or sweeping freshets. What, then, stopped if for thirty minutes? Grotius and Professor Stuart think it was at the time of the destruction of Jerusalem. Mr. Lord thinks it was in the year 311, near the closs of the Dioelettan persecution and the beginning of the wars by which Constantine gained the throne. But that was all a guess, though a learned and brilliant guess. I do not know when it was, and I do not care when it was, but of the fact that such an interregnum of sound took place I am certain. "There was silence in heaven for the space of half an hour."

And, first of all, we may learn that God and all heave

And, first of all, we may learn that God and all heaven then honored silence. The full power of silence many of us have yet to learn. We are told that when Christ was arraigned "He answered not a word." That silence was londer than any thunder that ever shook the world. Ofttimes, when we are assailed and misrepresented, the mightiest thing to say is to say nothing, and the mightiest thing to do is to do nothing. Those people who are always rushing into print to get themselves set right, accomplish nothing but their own chagrin. Silence! Do right and leave the results with God. Among the grandest lessons the world has ever learned are the lessons of patience taught by those who endured uncomplainingly personal or domestic or political injustice. Oh, the power of patient silence! Eschylus, the immortal poet, was condemned to death for writing something that offended the people. All the pleas in his behalf were of no avail, until his brother uncovered the arm of the prisoner and showed that his wrist had been sacrificed for his country at the battle of Salamis. That silent plea liberated him. The loudest thing on earth is silence if it be of the right kind and at the right time. There was a quaint old layan, spelled in the old style, once sung in the churches:

The race is not forever get

By him who fastest runs. hour."
And, first of all, we may learn that God

The race is not forever get

The race is not forever get
By him who fastest runs,
Nor the Battel by those peopell
That shoot with the longest gun.
My friends, the tossing sea of Galilee seemed more to offend Christ by the amount of noise it made, for He said to it: "Be still!" Heaven has been crowning Kings and Queens unto God for many centuries, yet heaven never stopped a moment for any such occurrence, but it stopped thirty minutes for the coronation of Silence, "There was silence in heaven for the space of half an hour."

of half an hour."

Learn also from my text that heaven must be an eventful and active place, from the fact that it could afford only thirty minutes of recess. There have been events on earth and in heaven that seemed to demand a whole day or whole week or whole year for celestial consideration. If Groties year for eclestial consideration. them some food, and she took them aside and showed them that it was her ownchild she was cooking for the ghastly repast. Six hundred priests were destroyed on Mount Zion because, the temple heing gone, there was nothing for them to do. Six thousand people in one cloister were consumed. There were 1,160,000 dead, according to Josephus. Grotius thinks that this was the cause of silenee in heaven for half an hour. If Mr. Lord was right, and this silence was during the Diocletian persecutions, by which Sil.000 Christians suffered death from sword and fire, and banishment and exposure, why did not heaven listen throughout at least one of those awful years? Not Thirty minutes! The fact is that the celestial programme is so crowded with spectacle that it can afford only ono recess in all eternity, and that for a short space. While there are great chorouses in which all heaven can join, each soul there has a story of divine merey peculiar to itself, and it must be a solo. How can heaven get through with all its solos, as well as all its recitatives, with all its cantafas, with all its grand marches, with all its victories? Elernity is too short to utter all the praise.

Not only are all the triumphs of the past to be commemorated, but all the triumphs to come. Not only what we now know of God, but what we will know of Him after everlasting study of the Deilte. If my text had said there was silence in heaven for thirty days, I would not have been startled at the announcement, but it indicates thirty minutes. Why, there will be so many friends to hunt up; so many of the greatily good and useful that we will made to take the we will want to sac, so many of the unservathole things of earth we will need explained; so many of earth we will heed explained; on has of earth we will be kept in having pointed out to us the horse and heroines that the world dever fally appreciated—the yellow fever and cholera doctors, who died not flying from the broket, and jerked the rope would have lifted him to safety, put a blind miner who wa

emil of the gailery," and then giving the command to the other miners till they digged themselves so near out that the people from the outside could come to their rescue. The multitudes of men and women who got no crown on earth, we will want to see when they got their erown in heaven, I fell you heaven will have no more half hours to sware.

Besides that, heaven is full of children. They are in the vast majority. No child on earth who amounts to anything can be kept quiet half an hour, and how are you going to keep 500.000.000 of them quiet half an hour. You know heaven is much more of a place than it was when that recess of thirty minutes occurred. Its population has quadrupled, sextupled, centupled. Heavenhas more on hand, more of rapture, more of knowledge, more of intercommanication, more of worship. There is not so much difference between Washington, a mudhole seventy years ago, and Washington now, the most beuntiful city on earth; not so much difference between New York when Canal street was far uptown, and when the wear of the compared with that, and if we now have no time to spare. Silence in heaven only half anhour!

My subject also impresses me with the immortality of a half hour. That half hour mentioned in my text is more widely known than any other period in the calendar of heaven. None-of-the whole hours of heaven are measured off, none of the years, none of the centuries. Of the millions of ages past, and the millions of ages past, and the millions of your whole life in cernity. They decide everything. I am not asking what you will do with the years or months or days of your life, but what of the half hours. Tell me the history of your whole life in cernity. The right or wrong things you can think in thirty minutes, the right or wrong things you can both in the story of your whole life in cernity. The right or wore things you can do in thirty min

are glorious or baleful, Inspiring or desperate.

Look out for the fragments of time. They are pleess of eternity. It was the half hours between shooing horses that made Eliku Burritt the learned blacksmith; the half hours between professional calls as a physicial that made Abercrombic the Christian philosopher; the half hours between his duties as selool master that made Salmon P. Chase Chief Justice; the half hours between shoe lasts that made Henry Wilson Vice-President of the United States; the half hours between canal boats that made James A. Garfield President. The half hour aday for good books or bat backs, the half hour a day for prayer or indolence; the half hour a day for helping others or blasting others; the half hour before you go to business, and the half hour after your return from business; that makes the difference between the scholar and the infield, between the Saint and the domon, between the saint and the domon, between things of your life and mine were certain half hours.

demon, between triumph and catastrophe, between heaven and hell. The most tremendous things of your life and mine were certain half hours.

Remember, we are mortal yet, and cannot endure the full roll of heavenly harmonies, and cannot endure even the silent heaven for more than half an hour. Harki the clock in the tower of heaven begins to strike, and the half hour is ended. Descend! Come hack! Come down! till your box is done. Shoulder a little longer your battles. Weep a little longer your griefs, And then take heaven not in its fullest half hour, but in its mightlest pomp and instead of taking it for thirty minutes, take it world without end.

But how will you spend the first half hour of your heavenly ditizenship after you have gone in to stay? After your prostration before the throne in worship of Him who made it possible for you to get there at all, I think the rest of your first half hour in henven will be passed in receiving your resurd if you have been faithful. I have a strangely beautiful book, containing the pictures of the medals struck by the English Government in honor of great battles; these medals pinned over the heart of the returned heroes of the army, on great ocasions, the royal family present, and the royal bunds playing—the Orimean medal, the Legion of Honor, the Victoria Cross, the Waterloo medal. In your first half hour in heaven in some way you will be honored for the earthly struggles in which you won the day. Stand up before all the royal house of heaven and receive the insignia while you are announced as victor over political misfortane, as victor over the droughts and freshets of the farm field, victor over the temptations of the stock exchange, victor over domestic infelicities, victor over mechanic's shop, victor over home worriments, victor over home worriments, victor over home worriments, victor over home worriments, victor over home victor ov

Thy saints in all this glorious war Shall conquer though they die;
They see the triumph from afar,
And size it with their eye.
If heaven is all this while halted, what if the when on the march? If heaven all this while sliont, what will it be when full triumph? Many years ago, at the full triumph? Many years ago, at the s all this while silent, what will it be when a full triumph? Many years ago, at the Trystal Palace, in New York, Julian gave a great concert, 2009 voices and 3000 players, apon instruments. He controlled that great harmony, beating time with hand and toot, and to myself, who had never before neard music on a grand scale, it was overpowering. But oh, when 'hey shall come from the north and the south, and the east and the west, and sit down in the temple of God and the Lamb, and Christ shall ise, and all heaven shall rise with Him, He shall control that barmony with once wounded hand and once wounded foor, and it will be like the voice of many waters and the voice of mighty thunderings. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive blessing and riches and honor and glory—and power. Amen and amen!

A NORWEGIAN'S PRAISE OF US. Captain Gade, of the Royal Navy, Com-

pliments the American Gunners pliments the American Gunners.
Captain Gustav Gade, of the Royal Norwegian Navy, has returned to Washington from Santiago, where he witnessed the destruction of Cervera's fleet. He was sent by Fis Government to study the war. He said: "I think the battle at Santiago was the grandest sight that has ever been witnessed. Your gunners are wonderful marksmen, and the work of your navy has set at rest forever any doubt in the minds of such nations who may have been so delated that Americans do not know how to sight.

fight.
"Your army is a fine body of men. Your regulars are without a doubt as well drilled as any European army, and they appear to me physically and intellectually far above the average of European soldiers."

Pensions For Our New War.

Pensions For Our New War.

Owing to the number of applications for pensions being received as a result of the war with Spath, Commissioner H. Che Evans, of the Pension Bureau, Washington, has established the "Division of '98." To this all applications originating through service in the present war will be referred. Medical of eleers of the Pension Bureau estimate that at least two-thirds of the men who have been sent to Cuba and Porto Rico will eventually become pensioners.

## THE SABBATH-SCHOOL LESSON.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR AUGUST 14.

Lesson Text: "The Shunammite's Son"-II Kings iv., 25-37—Golden Text: Ps. lv., 22—Commentary on the Lesson by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

25. "So she went and came unto the man of God to Mount Carmel." In the town of Shunem there was a great woman who, with the consent of her husband, prepared a chamber for Elisha and furnished it with a bed, table, stool and candiestick and constrained him to turn in thither whenever he passed that way (verses 8-10). They had no children, and Elish in gratitude for their kindness to him asked God, and He gave them a son. One day when the lad was grown he was in the field with the reapers and his father. He was suddenly taken with pain in his head, was carried home and in a very short time died on his mother's knees. She laid him on the bed of the man of God, shut the door, called for a servant and an ass and hastened to Carmel to Elisha.

26. "Run now, I prav thee, to meet her and say unto her, Is it well with thee? Is it well with they husband? Is it well with the child? And she answered It is well." Even though our grief be very great and our heart be breaking, with confidence in God we can say, "It is well." We can say with Eli, "It is the Lord; let Him do what seemeth Him good" (I Sam, iii., 18), or with Job, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath hid it from me and hath not told me, Gehazi would have sent away, as the disciples would have sent away, as the disciples would have sent away, as the disciples would have sent away, the mothers with the children, and perhaps in something of the same spirit in which they also found fault with Mary of Bethany when she with the reliace, and perhaps in something of the same spirit in which they also found fault with Mary of Bethany when she with the previous ointment anoined our Lord and to their fault finding He said, "Let her alone." There are still those who find fault with others for clinging too closely to our Lord, but happy are all whom He approves.

23. "Then she said Did I desire a son of my Lord? Did I not say, Do not deceive me?" I suppose she thought the ter never to have had such a gift than to, have received him and then when he find taken hold of her heart t

If it is at other times wiser to be alone with God.

34. "And he went up and lay upon the child." The verses go on to tell just how he did it, mouth to mouth, eyes to eyes, hands to hands. The late C. H. Spurgeon, to whom I am indebted for many thoughts on this lesson, said that to stretch encoding down to a child was the bardest kind of stretching, but unless we can find graze to put ourselves as far as possible in the place of the children whom we seek to reach, seeing and thinking as they do, we may not hope to reach them.

35. "Then he returned and walked in the house to and fro and went up and stretched himself upon him, and the child sneezed seventimes, and the child opened his oyes." First the flesh waxed warm, then followed the sneezing and then the opened eyes. The boy might have revived at once, as in the case of the little girl or the widow's son or Eutychus, but our Lord does not often do the same work in the same exact way any more than He makes two leaves or two faces exactly alike.

36, "And he called Gehazi and said, Call this Shunamite. So he called her. And

more than He makes two leaves or two faces exactly alike.

36, "And he cailed Gehazi and said, Call this Shannanite. So he called her. And when she was come in unto him he said, Take up thy son." Now she received him alive from the dead, more to her than ever before, yet doubtless held henceforth with very different feelings from formerly. In the first place, he was, like Isaac, a supernatural child (verse 14), and now he was a child actually given back from the dead, so that this great woman of Shunem was made to see the great power of the God of Israel in a twofold way.

37 "Then she went in and fell at his feet and bowed herself to the ground, and took up her son and went out." Let some mother who has lost an only son describe this mother's joy at such a time and under such eircumstances. We may imagine her bowing before God with him and saying like Hannah, "He shall be given to the Lord as long as he lives." Let all our hearts turn more fully to the Only Begotten Son God whom God spared not, but delivered Him up for us all, and let us remember that with Him He has freely given us all things (Bom, viii., 32). May no one and no thing come between our hearts and Him.—Lesson Helper.

Many insects can fly faster than

Many insects can fly faster than birds. The common house-fly can ordinarily fly 25 feet a second. But when it is alarmed, it has been found that it can increase its rate of speed to over 150 feet per second. If it could continue such rapid flight for a mile in a straight line, it would cover the distance in exactly 33 seconds.

Japanese officials are less corrupt than any other in the world. There may be exceptions, but these are astonishinely few. In strict attention to duty the Japanese officials of all ranks rival the Germans, but while the latter are somewhat stiff and overbearing in manner, the Japanese are very polite.

Last year penalties in eighty-seven cases, amounting to \$400,600, were incurred by constructors for the British Navy, owing to delays: they were enforced in two cases only to the extent