LOYAL HOME WORKERS

Motto: Pro Patria.
Flower: Forget-me-not.
Objects: Progress, patriotism

EDITOR'S CHAT.

Cherish the Little Moments, for Many Moments Make a Long Eternity.

If young people only knew that it is in making the most of the moments that life is well made up, they would not fritter so much time away. They have a vain belief that one must have unlimited and unemployed time in order to become well informed and well educated, and so waste the opportunities that are so many.

Burns, the plowboy, found time for books, though engaged in arduous and uncongenial toil. In our own country his experience is duplicated by such a host of successful men that it is needless to enumerate.

Cherish the moments as they run. Cultivate habits of thought and contemplation. Read little and think much.

Better an hour a day of careful, attentive reading than a whole week of idle skimming. In reading go over and over the page, or paragraph, before you until you have made the writer's thoughts your very own.

It is not enough that you can recall the exact words before your mind's eye; you must have found the meaning in your soul.

Our boys and girls are, or ought to be, ambitious to excel; to fit themselves for the best places. This can only be done by concentration of purpose and application in whatever is undertaken. Application of the rules of composition will lead to correct forms of speech. Be careful, then, how you adhere to or imitate rude and vulgar forms of speech. Good, strong, common-sense language marks the well-educated man or woman.

A prominent educator estimates that a half-hour each day steadily given to the comprehension—mark the word—of real books in history, science, literature, is three hours a week, more than 12 hours a month, and more than 12 solid days, of 24 hours each, a year.

Just think of it, and try and estimate how many half-hours you are spending in more than idleness that might profitably be given to the cultivation of your mind for noble purposes.

NEWSPAPER GOSSIP.

In your reading, avoid the sensational as much as possible. Accounts of murders and suicides and betrayals and wrong doing of every sort which one finds in the average newspaper is nothing more nor less than common gossip—gossip by the wholesale, transferred from the streets to the printed page.

Beware of it. It is unwholesome. It crowds out high and holy thoughts. It breeds a taste for sensational reading of the worst stripe.

Keep your mind pure and clean and receptive. Be chary of the thoughts you take in, and when you once get them hold on to them. They will grow and strengthen until your heart and life is full of beautiful things.

A PRETTY PICTURE.

One of these bright Midsummer days a very pretty picture found its way to the Editor's desk. It is a picture of one of our earliest and stanchest C. C. friends, Annie L. Williams, who is seated before a table placed in the picturesque park forming a portion of the grounds of Annie L's, home at Saugus, Mass.

Annie L. is writing a letter. The table is strewed with C. C. souvenirs; a small American flag is fastened in her organdy gown, and at her throat is the C. C. badge, while a large American flag is fastened to the back of her chair. At her feet are the newspapers of Boston and Saugus, with THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, whose title can be read, in a conspicuous place.

To her left are trunks of the grand old forest trees that sing to her grand anthems of American Progress and Patriotism while she writes. On the trunk of one hangs THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE Calendar, with its army corps emblems and G.A.R. and W.R.C. badges.

"In such a beautiful nook who could not think high thoughts and live noble lives," somebody seems to be saying.

And yet you could not, and you, and you, unless you had cultivated the love for reading and for quiet contemplation which makes such surroundings inviting. There are people, and plenty of them, who would feel like running away from themselves if left alone in such a spot.

Cherish the moments, always remembering that everyone makes his own atmosphere. Remember that while circumstances may check they cannot wholly change the development of the human soul.

"Just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined" refers to the shaping of character only. You may make an apple tree run like a vine, but it is an appletree still. Keep on cultivating your tree, and it will bear good fruit, though diverted from its upward trend.

HAPPY HOUSEHOLD.

Camphor as a Remedy in Cholera Epidemics. A Few Simple Recipes.

The use of camphor as a remedy in cholera, colds, and manifold maladies has long been acknowledged. Patients suffering from grip have found it invaluable.

And now it is brought to our attention that camphor is a sure remedy in cholera. Lord Ponsonby, writing to his brother, the Bishop of Derry, stated that to his knowledge camphor drops had proved to be a certain cure for cholera, both in France and Germany, whenever taken in time, and the cure is generally effected before it is possible to procure a physician—that is, in less than an hour.

Dr. Samuel R. House, of Siam, says he seldom lost a case of cholera if called before collapse, and his sole remedy was 10 drops of spirits of camphor in 10 teaspoonfuls of water; dose, one teaspoonful of that every 15 minutes, or oftener, until relief was obtained.

The camphor remedy referred to by Lord Ponsonby was issued in handbill form by the Hibernia Printing Office, Dublin, Ireland, during the severe visitation of the cholera in 1826, and was the means of saving thousands of lives. It was used with valuable effect in 1848, and is as follows: "Dissolve one ounce of camphor in six ounces of spirits of wine, and give a small bottle of it to any intelligent person in your neighborhood who will undertake to administer it to his poor neighbors when they are seized with cholera, or any of its symptoms, without deviating in the slightest degree from the following instructions:

"When a person is seized with symptoms of cholera, such as vomiting, purging, sudden weakness, coldness, or spasms, do not give him brandy or whisky, or any kind of medicine whatever, but put him to bed at once, covering him warmly, not overloading him with bedclothes, and as soon as you possibly can let the patient take two drops—not more—of the camphor mixture, on a little pounded sugar, in a teaspoonful of cold or iced water. In five minutes after let him take a second dose of two more drops in the same way, and in five minutes more repeat the same thing.

"He is then to wait 10 or 15 minutes, to see whether or not there is a sense of returning warmth, with a disposition toward perspiration, and manifest decrease of sickness, cramps, etc., when, if necessary, he must take two drops, as before, and repeat the dose every five minutes until 12 or 14 drops have been taken.

"In administering this remedy you must particularly observe that if the patient takes anything of any sort or kind, except cold or iced water, while the medicine is intended to operate, its whole effect will be destroyed, for the least foreign medicine will neutralize the camphor, which is given to check vomiting and to produce a free, warm perspiration."

FOOD TO THRIVE ON.

Do not feed your family on sweets and sops. Give them plenty of plain, wholesome food and enough out-door exercise to digest it. It is mistaken kindness to seek to satisfy good, healthy appetites on knick-knacks.

You may have heard of the story of the city-bred man who went to the great Northwest lumber regions at the head of a gang of laborers. He was determined to feed them well while they were cutting down trees and hauling them to the river banks, to go down the stream with the ice floes.

So fresh beef, a variety of vegetables and deserts, with the usual beverages—coffee and tea, bread and butter, were served them without stint. For a few days they seemed content, and then murmurs of dissatisfaction with their diet reached his ears. What could be the matter? He interviewed one of their number, more outspoken than the rest, and this was what he got:

"We can't work on fresh meat; we don't care nothing for desserts, without it is apple pie and doughnuts. What we want is salt pork, potatoes, cabbage, pork and beans, and onions. Give us plenty of those and we'll be satisfied."

So the bill of fare was changed, the expenses of the table reduced from one-half to one-third, and all traces of dissatisfaction disappeared.

CONVERSATION CLUB.

Our Prize Winner, and His Comments on Liberty-Loving Americans, Domestic and Imported.

OUR ROLL CALL.

[The letters v.s. mean veteran's son, v.d. veteran's daughter and v.w. veteran's widow; members of associations will be marked S.V. and D.V.]

Charles S. Holman, v.s. 21st Mo., Rutledge, Mo.; Winna Berry, v.d. 29th Mo., Carthage, Mo.; Alex McDonald, v.s., Mt. Vernon, N.Y.; Lucy A. Hutchinson, v. wife, 599 Van Buren street, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Lizzie Newland, Lyde Hitchcock Eno, Watson Sprouls Eno, Grant McDonald Vielee, Frank Shaw Eno, Newton Sprouls Eno, James Ealy Eno, Simpson's Store, Pa. Desiring correspondence: Elmer G. Carr, Howell, N. J.; Wm. D. Fitzger, 256 Grove street, Jersey City, N. J. Total, 14,495.

OUR PRIZE WINNER.

The prize paper this week is from the pen of A. L. Seaman, Adjutant-General, N. T. C. C. Guards. It was specially prepared for the third annual Reunion, Missouri Division, N. T. C. C. G., and is written in the broad spirit of nationalism that inspires the ranks of those whose motto is "Progress and Patriotism." The award is a copy of the "Excelsior Webster Pocket Speller and Definer of the English Language," which, it is hoped, he may find useful in his busy life with pen and ink, and books and ledgers, and C. C. O. reports.

AMERICA AND AMERICANS.

Friends, have you ever paused to think what is going to become of our country if we Americans, liberty-loving people, both domestic and imported, born-grown or naturalized, who live under the flag of progress, civilization, and good Government, permit the atrocious attacks on our system of Government by anarchists and disruptionists?

These fellows, who would have us believe that Washington, and Jefferson, and Adams were the mistakes of nature, and that Lincoln was troubled with softening of the brain; that our system of Government is all wrong; that we have been going more wrong every day, and that for over a hundred years we have been a deluded people are suffering from a bad case of *non compos mentis*.

Well, I'm sorry that we are fools and that we insist upon being foolish. But, then, what can one expect of us? We have inherited this *malaise*, and I hope, as sure as I live, that God will give us the strength, the power of endurance and the love of our country to perpetuate this malady of patriotism for a thousand years to come.

An anarchist's idea of Government is conceived in barbarism, and is dedicated to despotism. They are for spoils, plunder, and for what they can get out of our scheme of existence by any other means than abiding by the law or being honest. They meet secretly, and God alone knows their mischievous and evil plotting. What they say I know not; what they do we all know. They are designated by such titles as "White Caps," "Clan-na-Gaels," etc.

We never know their plans, until some day the sun dawns upon us bright as ever. A cloud had passed over us that night. We pick up the morning paper and read in startling headlines:

"Murdered! A foul crime! John ——, a reputable citizen, foully murdered, then dumped into the river; suspicion placed on the Clan-na-Gaels or White Caps," etc.

On watching the case from day to day we learn that the suspicion was correct; that the detectives have traced the foul deed down to a Clan-na-Gael or a White Cap. Bomb-throwing is not the least of their manical creed.

You all remember that the widely-known and honored Russell Sage was the victim of a little tragedy of bomb-throwing that was calculated to do more harm than it did. Yet this, my friends, all this is their idea of good Government; of setting things right; of reforming our governmental and social law. Heaven deliver us from such law or Government. I suppose when we get down to that, that it will be quite the fad to wear iron armor to a ball, or sit down to a dinner with a six-shooter by the side of your plate.

You also remember that that grand old veteran, a man fearless in the performance of his duty and the right, Gov. Oglesby, of Illinois, strung six of these beautiful reformers up for their prepossessing audacity in trying to carry into effect some of their good reforms.

These are but instances cited of what vagrants or disruptionists are secretly plotting in all large cities in the United States. They owe more allegiance to a power other than the Constitution of the United States, and they seem to believe that that power can declare their allegiance to our sacred Constitution and flag null and void.

But you say: "Why fear? The people of our country will not be trampled on; they will not allow the Clan-na-Gaels or White Caps and the like to do any harm!" Well, maybe so; but it would seem rather uncomfortable to have a fellow drop in on you and throw a bomb at your feet without letting you know something about it. Then, too, it would not promote the greatest joy to be notified that unless you left town within a certain time you'd be "a —— dead man," would it?

Washington said: "The best way to prevent war is to be prepared for it." Some, too, can say: "The best way to prevent war or attacks from these disruptionists is not only to be prepared for them, but to get rid of them. When they are caught wandering loose they ought to be locked up; and they are known, many of them."

There is still another class not so dangerous in violent acts, but in whom ignorance and superstition has bred seeds of dependence rather than independence; recognition to a power other than the Constitution of the United States, and to whose allegiance it is their sworn belief they owe their first obligations. Is this American?

An American is any citizen of the United States, natural or foreign born, who from the very inmost feeling of his soul can say: I do subscribe to the Constitution of the United States and the American flag through life. That is what I call an American, and I am afraid that there are some people in this country who think they are Americans who never read the Constitution of the United States, and if they have, and understand it, are pretty good at believing what they do not believe. Perhaps they do not know what they do believe.

An American who can subscribe to the definition I have given of an American was never, and never will be, convicted in any court in the land of the crimes I have mentioned in this article as the first steps in anarchy, or in anything foreign to a true allegiance to our country's Constitution and flag.

Thus I say America for Americans, meaning that for me there is no better Government in the hands of honest men, of independent and liberty-loving men, of men who shall see that the Constitution of the United States is sacredly obeyed, and that the will of the American people is preserved; that they are protected from the secret plottings of disruptionists and the demagogy of those who profess to abide faithfully by our Constitution, but who secretly and openly oppose it.

Keep open the eye, alert the ear, and put none but Americans on guard to preserve our National Union, liberty and safety. Loyally, yours,

Amos L. Seaman.

THE C. C. MATRIMONIAL CIRCLE.

FRIENDS OF THE C. C.: There have been many happy C. C. events of the season, but none that was more enjoyable or presented a more beautiful picture than that which took place Wednesday evening, June 21, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Wish, three miles north of Caledonia, O. It was the solemnizing of the marriage vows of their daughter Della E. to Jno. C. Brockelsby.

The apartments were beautifully decorated, and the bridal party was surrounded by a mass of ferns and roses, artistically arranged. The guests, about 50 in number, had already assembled, and at 8:30 o'clock the happy couple were ushered in by Hattie Brockelsby and Don E. J. Brockett, of Cleveland, O. The bride was beautiful in tan faille silk, with white roses and smilax garlanded about her neck, while the groom was handsome all in black. After the ceremony and congratulations a bountiful repast was served. At a late hour Mr. and Mrs. Brockelsby bade their friends adieu and took their departure for their new home at Marion, where they will be happy to meet any of their C. C. friends. They were well remembered by their friends, and were the recipients of many rich and beautiful presents. A Guest.

WHAT DO YOU SAY, GIRLS?

C. C. FRIENDS: Although a silent member, I would beg leave to mention a topic which may not be as interesting as "Lizzie's Beau," and other contributions, but to my mind a very important one. It may be a "chestnut," or an uninteresting subject, but the decision depends on our C.C. girls. It is, "Should the Woman Vote?" Loyally—

J. A. Musbee, Eikhart, Ill.

WILL C. C.'S SEND SUBJECTS?

Though prize competition has not been strong, I hope the interest may increase. Those, like myself, who live in the country, would find it much to their advantage if the subjects were announced several weeks in advance, as they were several weeks since.

Very truly—T. E. Hickmon, Bradford, Ark.

WHO ETCHED THE STONE?

C. C. FRIENDS: In a cerinin Maine village there once lived a man who was always telling that when he died he was going to heaven and have a crown to wear. Well, in the course of time he died and was buried, and on the marble slab which marked his grave there came out the form of a man with a crown on his head. Can any one give an explanation?

I have seen it my myself, so know it be a fact.

Hazel Wood, Sargentville, Me.

PASSING IN REVIEW.

A soldier's daughter and a poor, starving widow, living in the wild West, want a position as housekeeper in some respectable family. If any one wanting a housekeeper will furnish me one full-fare ticket and one-half fare ticket I will work for them until they are paid.

Mrs. Mary Storey, Bucklin, Kan.

The article in Editor's Chat on "Careless Letter Writing" brought to mind a similar experience of my own. A sketch of Clayton Bartlet appeared, with his portrait, in the Picture Gallery, address Wadsworth, Dak. Wishing for a correspondent in Dakota, I wrote him, but my letter was returned from St. Paul, saying, "No such postoffice in the State named." Now, what is the true address of the brother named?

Maggie E. Dial, Correctionville, Iowa.

Inez Woodruff Wightman, Flat 3, 454 Fulton street, Chicago, writes that she will still receive and forward monthly contributions, to be in before the 15th, of from five cents to $5 to Mabel Woolsy, and urges all to liberality on behalf of the helpless little invalid. Mabel herself, whose address, at present, is Orwell, O, sends her best thanks. Olive Martin, Pekin, Ind., makes a plea for Mabel, and says: "You who cannot send money, send scraps of calico, worsted, or silk, or all of them. Mabel is piecing a quilt of each kind, and pieces will be thankfully received. Her address is Orwell, O.

"I indorse G. Elmer Slater's article, which appeared in a recent issue. Some of our C. C. friends manifest but little interest in any kind of work undertaken, and seem to forget that Progress is our aim as well as Patriotism. Let each one of us try to do better. Begin to-day; do not wait until to-morrow. Write a letter to the sick, send your pennies to the needy, and your vote on the relief-fund question to Sister Addie Stevens. Do all this and any work you may find to do. Our Editor and some of the members have done so much for us. Let us fall into line and work with them."

YAKEY IN CINCINNATI.

DEAR C. C.: Though I have been silent for a long time, I still have the interest of the C. C. at heart. I have changed my residence since last writing to the C. C. from Sunny Kansas, and am now living in Cincinnati, O. I will be pleased to see any C. C. who should chance to attend the Sons of Veterans National Encampment, which is held here Aug. 12 to 16. I am employed with the Cincinnati street railway, and can be found by inquiring of any employee of the Vine Street Cable Division, either on the car or at power house. Yours of the C. C.,

A. Lyon Yakey, Ahrens street, Mt. Auburn, Cincinnati, O.

N. T. C. C. GUARDS.

News from Busy Workers for Progress and Patriotism from Divisions East and West.

Commander Loui M. Stockton, of Pennsylvania, would remind the Keystone Guards who joined the Guards from January to June that their dues should be in for the year ending June 30, 1893. Let the same be forwarded to P. E. La Munyan, Quartermaster, 2628 Braddock street, Philadelphia, Pa., so the books can be put in proper shape before the next Reunion, to be held at Philadelphia Sept. 20 next.

Frank A. Buker, Lincoln, Neb., Chairman of the Program Committee for the coming Nebraska Reunion at Grand Island, asks all who contemplate attending to forward names to him at once. They will also please say whether they will take part in the program.

A. S. Rockwell, Waterbury, Conn., urges Connecticut Guards to contribute to the flag fund without delay. He desires to exchange C. C. letters and autographs.

Commander Loui M. Stockton, of Pennsylvania, hopes the Pennsylvania Guards will not give up recruiting, now that the banner contest is ended. He urges C. C.'s who promised to join to send in applications.

Blanche Thompson, Millersboro, Neb., hopes the C. C. Guard who wrote her from Grand Island, Neb., asking her to join the Guards, will write again, as she cannot find the letter, and wishes to be enrolled in the Nebraska Division, N. T. C. C. G.

Mary M. Culver, Forrestville, Conn., writes that she will ever cherish pleasant memories of the Connecticut Reunion; those sweet voices singing songs of praise; the beautiful stories of men's travels up the hill of life; all perfectly enchanting. The only regret was that greater numbers were not in attendance. She urges all the C. C.'s to join the Guards and make themselves heard through THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, so loved by all.

TENNESSEE DIVISION.

DEAR BROTHER AND SISTER GUARDS: The Tennessee Division is still alive. We are coming to the front slowly but surely. We now have 36 members on the roll, and more in sight. We made a splendid growth last year; let us try and do as well this year. Let us take no backward step, but press steadily onward; let every member try and get one new one this year.

I want every veteran's son and veteran's daughter who lives in Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia, who reads this and who is not already a C. C. and who wishes to join, to write me at once for full information, always inclosing stamp for reply.

Now, do not hesitate, but write at once. We want every loyal veteran's son and veteran's daughter in our ranks. Come and join us and help us push the cause of Progress and Patriotism.

I, too, am in favor of better organization, but I do not think the titles of the officers need to be changed. Do away with the Division committees, raise the dues to 20 cents, but no higher. Let each Division have a local fund of its own.

Brother Hargrove is all right about the printed matter. By all means let us have it. I have never attended a Guard Reunion, nor have I met many members, but I am just as loyal as the next one, and have done what I could to push the Order forward, but could have done more if I had had some printed matter.

I want to see that done which will place us on a solid foundation, and I hope the members who will meet at Indianapolis this Fall will remember those who cannot attend, and enact such laws as they think will meet the approval of the Guards everywhere. Yours for Progress and Patriotism,

Lou M. Staring, Grand View, Tenn.

TO THE MICHIGAN GUARDS.

DEAR MICHIGAN GUARDS: Do you realize that it is only a short time before the Reunion at Indianapolis, and that we have not yet our flag to carry as Michigan's emblem? We have raised all but $9.25, and are exceedingly anxious to secure this amount at once; so, Guards who have not contributed, will you not send your contributions at once? And if there are those of you who have contributed, and who are willing to give a little more, it will be highly appreciated, for I will feel greatly disappointed if we cannot carry a flag to Indianapolis. Now, I beg of you, please heed this call. To the one sending me the largest contribution before Aug. 30, whether from Michigan or any other State, I will send my cabinet picture. Ever loyally.

Nellie M. Hinds, Chairman of Flag Committee, 134 Summit street, Ionia, Mich.

TO THE MISSOURI GUARDS.

Having been duly elected Commander of Missouri Division, C. C. Guards, I assume command, and make the order that is to be carried out: Miss Sallie Barnum, of Warrensburg, is appointed Adjutant; Will G. Moore, of Pleasant Hope, Quartermaster, and M. Ed Stanfield, Odessa, Investigator. Committee on Rules—Mollie E. Slocum, Kansas City, Chairman; Nina Yates, Lexington; James T. Phillips, Broadland; Amos L. Seaman, St. Louis, and Maud Murphy, Mexico. Committee on Progress—Nina Yates, Lexington, Chairman; W. S. Rynearson, Trenton, and John Murphy, Wheatland. Committee on History—Effie M. Cherrington, Deepwater, Chairman; Enoch M. Hays, Republic, and Charles E. Mills, Orrick. Committee on Benefits—Carrie Hallowell, Carthage, Chairman; G. M. Wakeman, Odessa, and H. Adella Henderson, Bonnityville. Committee on Recruits—Winnie Packard, Kansas City, Chairman; Clara Stanfield, Odessa; W. Ed Graves, Maryville; Ella Seaman, St. Louis; Enoch M. Hays, Republic, and May M. Wimer, Louisiana. Committee on Patriotism—Anna Marquardt, St. Louis, Chairman; Susie Moore, Pleasant Hope; Maud Yates, Lexington; Anna Lord, Quincy; Mabel Harp, Macon; Emmit Woods, Orrick; M. Ed Stanfield, Odessa; Mrs. E. F. Bynum, Clarence.

The appointments made for the committees are hereby announced, and they will be honored and obeyed accordingly. All members behind with their dues at the end of the year 1893 shall be suspended.

The Quartermaster is hereby directed to notify, in duplicate, all members of the Division of delinquency, that the next annual report will be in full and complete.

The Adjutant shall keep a correct report of all moneys received and disbursed, that all can have free access to the books and papers, to post themselves on our noble work.

All officers and committees appointed will report at once for duty.

W. S. Moore, Commander, Pleasant Hope, Mo.
Sallie Barnum, Adjutant.

PENNSYLVANIA, RALLY!

FRIENDS OF THE C. C.: I hail from the glorious Keystone State, and am proud of it, too. I am more proud of our noble band, the C. C., and would urge all who have any desire to continue and show their love for Progress and Patriotism to join the ranks of the Guards.

Somehow we all have not taken the interest in this work during the past six months which we should have done. Some few seem interested, but the majority of us remain quiet and do nothing toward the advancement of this a mighty cause.

I agree with Mr. Slater regarding the "Don't care affair." You all should think your vote of as much account as any others. We all have the same privileges; all of us can express our opinions. My C. C. friends, do not think that I am scolding or finding fault with any one, as I include myself, too. As far as I can ascertain there are only two Guards in our County (Indiana), and I think there should be more.

Did you ever think that we are to take the place of our fathers and mothers, and if another war should ever take place, would you want to see any one taking part on a side that advocated the destruction and overthrowing of our Government? I think that if we are taught the true principles of the C. C. we would never think of danger in this direction. O! rouse ye, each and everyone, and come and make our C. C. Division what it ought to be. What do the rest of you Guards think? Believe me to be true to my country and to its noble sons and daughters, who think everything of Progress and Patriotism. Yours, Pro Patria—

Austin L. Weamer, Plumville, Pa., S. of V., and member of C. C. Guards of Pennsylvania.

THE LATCH-STRING IS OUT.

Keystone Circle, No. 1, meets at the home of Sister Anna Gibson, 631 Haiket street, Braddock, Aug. 31. It is hoped we will have a large meeting.

All Guards and C. C. who pass through Pittsburg on their way to Indianapolis or the World's Fair are cordially invited to stop off and see us. We promise you a good time. We ask the western Pennsylvania members particularly to attend. All are cordially invited. Hour of meeting, 1:30 p. m. For further information write to Sister Gibson, or the Secretary, John M. Anderson, Speers, Pa.

SUNDAY MEDITATION.

A Study of the International Sunday-School Lesson Appointed for Aug. 20, 1893.

Subject: St. Paul Before Felix, Acts, 24: 10-25.

[One reading these notes should first carefully study the paragraph from the Holy Scriptures as indicated above.]

INTRODUCTION.

The lesson last week was located at Jerusalem.

23: 23, Jerusalem to Cæsarea, 55 miles. In 21: 8 we found St. Paul went to Cæsarea. V. 15 shows he went thence to Jerusalem. In the interval he uttered his grand speech to the mob in the Court of the Gentiles, a court of the Temple. (22: 1-21.) The next day he delivered a short speech before the sanhedrim (23: 1-6). He escaped assassination through the prompt action of the Chief Captain, Claudius Lysias, who helped him clandestinely to get away from Jerusalem to Cæsarea. On the route he was well protected, having 200 Roman soldiers for his guard. (23: 23, 24.) He wrote a letter to the Governor, Felix. His enemies followed him up, appeared before Felix, led on by an orator named Tertullus. (24: 1-9.) Very serious accusations were made against St. Paul at the court of Felix. The Apostle had an opportunity to defend himself. The charges against him were: 1. He was a pestilent fellow. 2. A mover of sedition, trying to stir up the Jews against the Roman Government. 3. He was a ringleader of the Nazarenes. 4. He profaned the Temple. We cannot understand St. Paul's defense very well unless we have a good idea of the charges which he was obliged to face: 1. He was pestilent. The word translated pestilent is stronger yet in sense. He was a pest, a pestilence. His presence in society was like a loathsome, contagious disease. The reference is to his moral condition. He is viewed subjectively and regarded as a corrupt man—one who should be gotten out of the way for the good of society. 2. He was seditious. Tertullus did not imply the Jews were troublesome if let alone, but Paul made them uneasy, dissatisfied with the Roman Government. He tried to lead them into commotions of a political kind. The idea Tertullus wanted to convey may be that St. Paul, by not being loyal to the Mosaic laws and customs, kept the Jews in a broil and cultivated in them a constant exciting tendency. 3. Ringleader of the Nazarenes. St. Paul could not be a subordinate in any sphere. He was a born leader. The term ringleader is a military word, and means the commander of a body of soldiery. Christians were called Nazarenes by way of contempt. St. Paul was a principal man everywhere he occupied position. A Nazarene was a follower of the Nazarite; that is to say, of Jesus of Nazareth. The birth of Christ in Nazareth was rather against him, from the fact the place was held in contempt. The followers of Christ were a sect in the sense they were a party, a religious body. The ringleader of a class held in utter aversion could not hope much mercy. 4. A profaner of the Temple. (V. 6.) This charge was based on a mere supposition. (21: 28, 29.) At Jerusalem enemies of St. Paul declared he had taken Trophimus (21: 29) and Greeks (Gentiles) (21: 28) into the sacred inclosure. That was a capital offense among the Jews; it was blasphemy. Proved against one, and his chances of escape were little. With a fair trial St. Paul could have shown himself innocent. He was in danger at Jerusalem, because the people had become a mob and lost reason.

St. Paul's Answer.

The Apostle put in a general denial. 1. He was of good character. Association with him was not vitiating. He tried to have a conscience void of offense toward God and toward man. (V. 16.) They could not find evil-doing in him. (20.) 2. He had no disposition to excite the people. He would not even argue unless in complete coolness. (12, 18.) No one saw him disputing. Not only in the Temple, but in a synagog, in a city street, everywhere, he avoided heated discussions. His methods led to quiet and self-restraint and sound reasoning. He went up to Jerusalem to worship. (11.) 3. He was not a ringleader in the offensive sense of that word. He led. He wanted followers. He wanted people to become Nazarenes in the sense of being followers of Jesus. But he would have people understand Christianity, be free from prejudice, and disposed to calm argument. 4. He held the Temple in great respect. He could not have been tempted to invite into the interior courts of the Temple any but purified Jews. He went through a ceremonial process of purification before entering the Temple. (V. 18.) He would not pollute the Temple by excited discussion leading to states of mind desecrating to a holy place. (12.) He was true to the Hebrew creed. (V. 18.)

St. Paul's Method.

1. He addresses the court (Felix) in the most respectful, courteous, forensic style.

2. He was the more disposed to explain because he felt sure that Felix must, from long association, have become familiar with the customs and laws of the Jewish people, and thus able to give a just decision in matters relating to them. (10.)

3. He gave reasons. It had been but 12 days since he went to Jerusalem. Men leading off in sedition have to take time to organize and secure a nucleus for general attack. No sound ringleader would expose his purpose to a crowd here and there.

4. He asks for proof. Mere assertion will not do. There was much of the lawyer skill in St. Paul. He knew his rights. Men accused should have opportunity to reply in explanation or disproof. (Vs. 13, 19, 20.) There must have been the greatest consciousness of innocency on the part of St. Paul. He was not afraid of the truth. It was a brave challenge which St. Paul uttered. (20.) The absence of witnesses (19) was a bad indication. Could witnesses *versus* St. Paul have been found, they would surely have accompanied Tertulius to Cæsarea.

5. The word heresy always needs explanation. (14.) To the anti-Christian the religion of Christ is heresy. That is heresy to a man which is contrary to his opinion. To the Heathen Judaism was heresy. To the Jews Christianity is heresy.

6. We sometimes wonder at the power of St. Paul. Wherein did it at least in much part lie? In his belief. He had confidence "in all things which were written in the law and the prophets." (14.) A man cannot amount to much who has not real real ideas—ideas real at least to him—to defend. The terms "law" and "prophets" stood them for the Old Testament. St. Paul held to the truths of that document, and, holding close and earnestly to them, could not go far astray.

7. St. Paul held not only doctrines which led him in right courses of daily practice in temporal concerns, but he also was rightly indoctrinated as to the future. He believed there is a life beyond this world—that we are accountable beings—and that, governed by such a hope, he would be very inclined to do what is most correct in all matters of conduct as to God and as to human beings. At the resurrection he would not wish to be of the "unjust." (15.)

8. The Apostle explains why he went to Jerusalem. (17.) He did not go a seditious, troublesome man. He was on a beneficent tour. The Jews of Jerusalem who had become Christians were in great destitution, and St. Paul had taken up some collections on his missionary journey and had brought them to the poor people of the capital. No fear from such a man.

9. He was loyal to his Church. He brought offerings to present at the Temple. He respected the House of God.

10. The particular doctrine which he declared was offensive in special to the Sadducees. But the Jews should have been liberal enough to tolerate honest difference of opinion. St. Paul could as properly believe in the resurrection as Sadducees could deny it and ridicule it. Jews as such could not certainly find fault with the teaching of said doctrine, because it was the belief generally held, or at least not generally denied.

11. No overt criminal act could be proved against the Apostle.

12. Tertullus was not permitted to press the case.

13. Felex was evidently a fair man. He wanted no one-sided, partial hearing, but desired the case put over until reliable witnesses could be present. He must have been kindly disposed toward St. Paul. He ordered him to be treated as considerately as was practical in the case of a prisoner. Certainly, until proved to be guilty, it was right to be allowed interviews with friends. (23.) Nor should he be denied reasonable freedom. If a friend brought some relishable dish or needed raiment or agreeable cordial he was to be admitted to St. Paul's quarters.

Suggestions.

1. There should be dignity in all judicial proceedings. (10.)
2. When called on legally for explanations of conduct reply cheerfully. (10.)
3. Regular-constituted authority should be recognized. The mob at Jerusalem could not have dealt fairly with a criminal or an accused person.
4. Disputing is not reasoning. (12.)
5. Loyalty to one's Government is demanded of Christians. No seditions are to be tolerated. (12, 18.)
6. When you charge another with any wrong you must give reasons and have witnesses.
7. Believe in the Holy Scriptures. (14.)
8. Live so you can challenge public opinion.
9. Comfort in the doctrine of the Resurrection.

REUNIONS.

Annual Meetings and Other Matters Pertaining to Various Organizations.

CONNECTICUT.

W. H. H. Ellis, Secretary, Norwich: Reunion and basket picnic, 18th Conn., Quinebaug Lake near Danielsonville, Aug. 16.

Wm. F. Smith, Secretary, New Haven: Reunion 6th Conn., Savin Park, New Haven, Aug. 16.

John C. Taylor, Secretary, Room 45, State House, Hartford: Reunion Co's I and B, and the band, 1st Conn. H. A., Pleasure Beach, near Bridgeport, Aug. 16.

ILLINOIS.

C. Zoll, President, Vermont: Reunion 84th Ill., Vermont, Aug. 30.

INDIANA.

A. W. Jones, Mitchell: Reunion ex-soldiers, Mitchell, Aug. 24, 25, and 26.

IOWA.—

Frank Critz, Secretary, Richmond: Reunion 30th Iowa postponed until next year, by order of the committee.

KANSAS.

R. Osborn, Chairman Executive Committee: Reunion 6th Kan. Cav. and 2d Kan. battery, Fort Scott, Aug. 24, 25, and 26.

MAINE.

I. J. Dunham, Secretary, Winterport: Reunion 1st Me. H. A., Orono, Aug. 24.

MASSACHUSETTS.

E. D. Howe, Secretary, Gardner: Reunion Veteran Association of Co. I, 5th Mass., G.A.R. Hall, Marlborough, Aug. 16. This association includes all comrades who served in Co. I in the three months', nine months' or 100 days' campaigns. All comrades are requested to send their addresses, with street and number, if any, to the Secretary.

The 8th Mass. held its Reunion at Gloucester, and elected its officers as follows: Com., Lieut. Fitz W. Perkins, Salem; First V. C., Capt. Josiah F. Kimball; Second V. C., William H. Jordan; Third V. C., Capt. W. E. Perry; Fourth V. C., Capt. S. F. McLearn; Q. M., Francis E. Coffin, Newburyport; Chaplain, Capt. Samuel W. Littlefield; Paymaster, Hon. Albert Titcomb; Surg., Simon Dodge. A banquet was held in the evening at which many speeches were made.

MICHIGAN.

Caleb T. Smith, Secretary, Lansing: Reunion 9th Mich., Aug. 15, Chapman House, Michigan avenue and Grand street, Lansing.

The seventh Reunion of the 7th Mich. was held at Lowell. A dinner was served before the business meeting. The President, James McPherson, was presented with a gavel made from timber cut at Camp Benton, the first camp of the regiment. The next meeting will be held in Leslie in June, 1894. The officers elected were: Pres., H. W. Brazie, of Minneapolis, Minn. Sec. and Treas., J. A. Lombard, of Leslie. Vice-Presidents—Co. A, James Donaldson; Co. B, C. A. Brink; Co. C, W. W. Wade; Co. D, Samuel McFetchridge; Co. E, A. H. Marsh; Co. F, James McPherson; Co. G, Robert King; Co. H, W. H. Blanchard; Co. I, R. B. Mason; Co. K, Chas. Hamilton. Capt. Williams made an able plea for a stone to mark the spot where Col. A. E. Steele fell at Gettysburg, and subscription was started by the members and the matter put into the hands of the new Secretary. In the evening an excellent program was rendered, and after the ceremonies closed the boys avowed the Reunion a rousing success.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G. T. W. Froelich, Oquawka, Ill.: Reunion Henderson County (Ill.) ex-Soldiers and Sailors' Association, Oquawka, Aug. 23, 24 and 25.

N. R. Thompson, Jamestown, N. Y.: Reunion Chautauqua County Veterans' Union and the G.A.R. Association of Western New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania, Chautauqua, N. Y., Aug. 25 and 26.

T. J. Gordon, West Plains, Mo.: District Encampment of southern Missouri and northern Arkansas, West Plains, Aug. 22 to 25 inclusive, under charge of John W. Rollins Post, 247.

D. O. Riley, Secretary, Litchfield, Ky.: State Reunion of Kentucky soldiers, Lebanon Junction, Aug. 11 and 12.

The patriotic people of Latty, O., and vicinity, are making elaborate preparations to give the ex-soldiers of Paulding County, Ohio, the grandest Reunion and free dinner on Aug. 24 ever given in northwestern Ohio. All ex-soldiers are cordially invited to participate with us. Gen. W. H. Gibson is expected to be present.

W. H. Skinner, Secretary, Bethany, Mo.: The 12th Reunion of the ex-soldiers and sailors of the Third Congressional District of Missouri, and the eighth Reunion of the Harrison County (Mo.) Brigade of ex-Soldiers, Sailors and Sons of Veterans will be held together at Mount Moriah, Mo., Aug. 23, 24, 25 and 26.

A Reunion of such of the officers of the 56th U. S. C. T. who were visiting the Columbian Exposition took place at the Palmer House, Chicago, June 30, on invitation of Col. Charles Bentzoni, now Major 1st U. S. Inf., commanding Fort Angel, Cal. The following-named gentlemen sat down to a sumptuous repast interspersed with pleasant reminiscences of old army days away down in Dixie: Col. Charles Bentzoni, Fort Angel, Cal.; Maj. D. A. LaForce, Ottumwa, Iowa; Capt. T. J. Abels, Decatur, Ill.; Capt. O. R. Sensibaugh, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and Capt. W. H. C. Jaques, Ottumwa, Iowa. Letters of regret were received from Capt. S. I. Clark, Helena, Ark.; Capt. Charles C. Waters, Little Rock, Ark.; Capt. S. H. Ferree, New Salem, Ill.; Capt. J. M. Thomas, Denver, Colo.; Lieut. W. O. Kretszinger, Dennison, Tex.; Dr. James Sykes, Bethany, Ill.; Lieut. E. C. Coombs, Hanover, Ill.; Lieut.-Col. J. M. Reed, Little Rock, Ark., and Capt. F. P. Beaker, St. Louis, Mo