

Sunday School Column

Side Lights on Next Sunday's Lesson for Teachers and Pupils

By CHAS. K. MEYERS.

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- Dec. 15 The Boy Samuel 1, Sam. 3: 1-21.

We are introduced this week to the early history of the great prophet Samuel. In his day he wielded most powerful influence over the children of Israel, and it is well to note his early surroundings. Like Sampson, John the Baptist, and the blessed Jesus, Samuel was a child of promise. We find his mother, Hannah praying earnestly in the temple at Shiloh, desiring that she might be the mother of a man child, and she vowed before God that if the babe was given her, she would "give him unto the Lord all the days of his life." Her prayer was answered. She named her boy Samuel because she said "I have asked him of the Lord". When he was weaned she took him to the temple and made formal presentation of her boy before the Lord through Eli the high priest. Her joy was so full that she was inspired to speak in languages similar to that given to Elizabeth, and to Mary the mother of Jesus, as recorded in the first chapter of Luke's gospel. Hannah left her child here. Each year she came up to the temple bringing for her son "a little coat." Samuel grew up a good boy and became the personal attendant of Eli the high priest. The verses of the lesson tells how one night when Samuel was but a lad the Lord called, and he thought it was Eli, and went to him; how at last he answered, "Speak Lord for thy servant heareth," and was told that Eli had committed offense "because his sons made themselves vile and he restrained them not." For this he was to be punished. Eli when told of events to follow bowed his head feeling that his punishment was deserved. With this statement of the lesson and its surroundings we pass to the practical things for us today.

First.—The mother Hannah. In her, we find the ideal mother, for she felt her child came from the Lord and was not a burden upon her. She rejoiced in prospective motherhood, and felt that she was bringing into the world a child for the Lord. Mark that she fulfilled her vow. Many of us make great promises to God and our fellow men, when in trouble or wanting some great favor, but how often with the receiving of the favor, all remembrance of the vow or pledge passes away. The broken vows to God wreck the path and life of thousands of people. As Hannah felt that her child came from God and dedicated him to a good life, so should every mother dedicate her son and daughter. Not for the ministry or purely religious life necessarily, but to obey God's law and shape their lives in accordance with the teachings of Jesus and St. Paul.

Second.—Samuel was ready to hear and to obey faithfully what God told him. So he was told many things and grew in favor with God and man.

Third.—Eli was punished for the wickedness of his sons, because he restrained them not in from their wrong doings. Thus the lesson of this day comes in two ways home to parents. Their position is one of responsibility. They may think because they themselves are good and pious, and attend church that this will suffice. But God expects them to "make good" in the bringing up of the children and if there is a failure, a punishment will come. Good example, continued right teachings must ever be shown.

Call on Saturday Dec. 14 at Nielson House and leave your Eye and Ear troubles with Dr. Weber. 49 2t.

When your Watch Stops

You cannot make it go by shaking it.

When the bowels are constipated you can disturb them with cathartics but, like the watch, they will not be able to do their allotted work until they are put into proper condition to do it.

One cannot mend a delicate piece of mechanism by violent methods, and no machine made by man is as fine as the human body.

The use of pills, salts, castor-oil and strong cathartic medicines is the violent method. The use of the herb tonic laxative,

Lane's Family Medicine

is the method adopted by intelligent people.

Headache, backache, indigestion, constipation, skin diseases—all are benefited immediately by the use of this medicine.

Druggists sell it at 25c. and 50c.



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FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS BUYING.

YOU'LL find more good things here to give as Christmas presents for a man or boy than you'll see anywhere else; things that will give pleasure and that will be sensible at the same time.

We've a lot of Hart Schaffner & Marx fine clothes to show you; and while an overcoat or a suit is not a common gift for Christmas, you'll find anybody you give one to, very well pleased with it; and with you. Such a gift will cost you \$18.00 to \$22.50; best money's worth you ever had. Make yourself a present of that kind.

We have some very fine neckwear for you; 50c and up, always acceptable. No man has ever too many neckties.

Smoking Jackets, Men's Jewelry, Shirt and Cuff Studs, Scarf Pins. Men's gloves, Umbrellas,



And many other little things that careful dressers want. They're inexpensive here and good.

PRAIRIE GROVE BATTLE

Veteran John Richardson Relates a War Experience.

AN IOWA GENERAL'S ACTION

Marches To Rescue and Then Gives Battle.

With every union veteran there is some particular battle, of the late war, in which he participated which he remembers better than any other. Often it is not a battle which ranks with Gettysburg, Shiloh, Corinth, Richmond or Vicksburg, a battle however which at the time was most important to the Union cause in the locality where it was fought, and in which the soldier in question felt as if he bore important part. Such a battle was "Prairie Grove" to John Richardson of Denison. It was fought Dec. 7, 1862, in the northwestern part of Arkansas not from the southern line of Missouri. Mr. Richardson was a member of Co. A. 20th. Iowa and as a private, was there. On last Friday he told the children in Miss Thompson's room at the north brick about the battle and then we had him give a little description of it for our readers.

It would appear that as the fall of 1862 came, on the southern sympathizers, both regular and bushwhackers, gathered in the northern part of Ar-

kansas under commands of Parsons, Frost, Raines and Marmaduke, all in command of Gen. Hindman and the spirits of the slave cause ran high, for there were but few Union troops in that part of the country. There were about 3,000 men with Gen. Blunt not far from the Confederates and he was much alarmed for himself, and of course his enemies expected a signal victory. Blunt sent word of his condition to Gen. Herron a volunteer general from Iowa who like the western officers acted vigorously. Without an order from Gen. Schofield he started to relieve Blunt. On the march only one hour was given each day to eat or sleep. They reached the enemy and western soldier like gave battle with every man in line, no reserves. For what happened we give Mr. Richardson's account. Herron was arrested later on for marching without orders, but won promotion. We don't blame any man who made that march and won that fight for being proud of the deeds of the Union boys that day. Here is a condensed account of the battle.

Sunday morning, December 7th, dawned bright and beautiful, and found Herron's foot-sore and exhausted men upon the banks of the Illinois River, twelve miles from Cane Hill, where Gen. Blunt was supposed to be. Herron's troops had covered a distance of 120 miles in three days and nights with but little rest and food.

Up to this time Herron had received no news from Blunt, but being within 12 miles of him, supposed that he would soon make a junction

with his force. Instead of this, however, Herron, to his astonishment, discovered that the entire rebel army was in his front, and that it was in line ready to give him battle. Reliable information placed the strength of the Rebel army at 22,000. Herron after a hasty consultation with his subordinates, decided to fight, not only this, but he immediately assumed the offensive, and attacked the enemy in his chosen position. Herron's troops were all thrown to the front, and by 10 a. m. were in the thickest of the fight, not a man being held in reserve.

Besides their superior number the Confederates had a decided advantage in position. They held the top of the mountains and fought under cover of the woods, while Herron's forces were compelled to move across open fields and up the mountain side to attack them.

Herron evidently realized that he was playing a desperate game, with great odds against him. He made repeated charges, and his troops were repulsed again and again, but he continued to charge. From ten o'clock until dark the fighting was terrific and neither army was forced back of their original battle lines as established in the morning. The distance between the two armies was less than a mile, and over this territory they fought back and forth during the entire day, the ground being strewn with the dead and wounded. In many places Confederates and Federals laid in heaps to-

gether.

At this critical moment, when the Union boys were wishing for Blunt and darkness, a courier came dashing down the beautiful valley, from the right of the Union line. He held his hat high in the air and waved it continually. He was in plain view of Herron's men, and all eyes were watching the lone rider. And this man brought the glad tidings that Blunt had arrived from Cane Hill and was getting his batteries in position on the right of the Union line, and soon after the ground was shattered by the terrific thunder of his 36 pieces.

Herron's men were wild with excitement, and answered Blunt's artillery salute with cheers, and were in turn answered by the wild yells and shrieks of Blunt's Kansas Infantry as they came into the fight on the double quick.

At this moment Hindman moved his infantry down the mountain and into the valley. The rebel line advanced almost to the muzzles of the Union cannons, but were hurled back, leaving many dead and wounded behind them. The fighting now became general all along the line and continued until dark. Darkness put an end to the fearful slaughter and the Union troops laid down in line of battle expecting to renew the bloody work a daylight on the next morning. But they were doomed to disappointment, for soon after dark, Hindman muffled his cannon wheels, fled to the rear, and beat a retreat under cover

of the darkness.

An so ended the battle of Prairie Grove. It is known as a Union victory and so it was, but it was a victory by a scratch.

FARMERS CAN MAKE TILE

Plan by Which Farmers Can Make Tile at Home

In these times when increased attention is being given to irrigation and drainage, it is of value to know that a farmer can make all sizes of tiling on his own premises, usually taking the bulk of the materials required right from his own ground. There is scarcely a farm in the county but will yield somewhere on its broad acres sufficient sand and gravel to make, with the addition of a little cement, all the tiling necessary. This is such an important field for the use of cement that it will be given particular attention at the Cement Product Exhibition to be held in Chicago December 17 to 21. Machines for making tile will be on exhibition, actually doing the work. The machines have now been so perfected that they will turn out all sizes of tile up to twenty-four inches with remarkable rapidity. Cement tiles will work well. There is a big factory at Belmont which is putting out all the cement tiles it can make. Tiling works well in both dry and wet weather.

Kitchen Cabinets, cheap. 42-tf John Fastje.