#### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

From the New York Observer

#### INTERNATIONAL LESSONS

BY REV. MENRY M GROUT, D. D.

FEB. 10.—The Conversion of Lydia.—Acts 16: 11-24.

Gount Text -- Whose heart the Lord opened, that she at United unto the things which were spoken of Paul. -- Acts 16: 14.

The central thing in these particular verses is the instructive account they give of a divine conversion; one in which the means and signs of the happy change are as clearly shown as is the blending in it of both divine and human agency. But we shall not need to look very closely to find in the narrative a number of others to claim our interested attention.

But first note the "we" which, appearing in the tenth verse, is here repeated and runs through the remainder of in this instance, was a damsel, subject to Valley and nothing else is tacked about the book. And so the writer, Luke, the beloved physician, has joined the missionary band. Possibly the Apostle has need of a physician's counsel and it. There were demoniacs in the Sa the breath of the community. E

gospel are now in Europe. Thay have followed Paul and his companions, and woman, and was admitted into the crossed the narrow sea which separates Asia Minor from Greece. A quiet and unheralded event, and yet one of immeasurable importance; grander in its by arms, or learning, or inventive not certain. At any rate it trienne, and always challenged adm genius, or any form of human valor or troubled Paul as similar following tion as he frequently rode into Wines skill. The beginning has been made of a kingdom more glorious and more enduring than that of the Cresars.

Passing to the main point of the marrative, we find an unwearied Apos-

1. Seeking work .- This was not for himself or in his own interest. It was love to Christ and to souls which impelled his steps. Troas was on historic ground. and so was Philippi. It was from a spot near to the former that the hero of the Odyssey and the Eneid set forth ; and at the latter that Augustus and Anthony gained a memorable victory over Brutus and Cassius. Philippi was moreover a Roman colony, a garrison town, and so a miniature of the Imperial city. But Paul was influenced by none of these things.

Was Paul destitute of historic interest and literary tastes? That nowhere appears. But what does appear is that he was fired by a nobler passion than that which kindles the selfish breasts of most modern sight-seeking tourists. He was seeking work; work for Christ and ·for souls. And so, loosing from Troas, the was soon at Philippi; and being at Philippi, he was not long in finding where the more devout were wont to congregate.

At Philippi his first need was to learn the character and religious opportunities of the place, and pehaps to procure something to do at his trade, since he would be changeable to none. But the Sabbath found him at the river's side, where was a proseuche or temporary structure, for prayer. The Jews, being few, had no syagogue. And only a com pany of women resorted to the river side. But the earnest worker does not wait for a crowd. He is glad to find one interested listener. He improves such opportunities as God puts in his way. Seeking work, he never fails to find

2. Gathering fruit .- Among those who had resort to the place of prayer, was a woman, named Lydia, whose trade had brought her hither from the distant city of Thyatira in Asia Minor. Most likely she was not a Jew, but a Jewish proselyte; for such seems to be the force phrase "which worshipped God." This phrase further indicates the hopefulness of her case. There was a measure at least of the fear of God in her heart; she loved to meet where refigion was the theme of discourse, and the voice of prayer was heard. Such persons are always hopeful. It was her conversion of which we are here told.

Note the process of the change. (a) She "heard." That which she heard was the gospel. The demoniac spoken of further on, testified that it related to "the way of salvation." To this she distened. (b) Then, God "opened her heart." Doubtless he had been doing his all along; now he so quickened her conscience and spiritural desires as to -make her more earnestly attentive. (c) Further, as a result of the Spirit's influence. "she attended unto the things which were spoken." This was some additional to the hearing. It im allies giving assent to the things heard, and devoting herself to them. It was not merely hearing, being moved, drop the might be saved, and going her way. The "attending" implies faith and obedience. Here were three things: a hear ing ear, a divinely quickened heart, a consenting will. If, when one hears the

way, she confessed her trust in Christ, and owned her allegiance to him. (b) She influenced her "household" also to enter the new way. If she had young children she put upon them, as well as upon herself, Christ's seal. If her house hold consisted of persons in her service, she interested herself in their religious welfare. She made hers a Chiristian home. (c) She opened her house to the messengers of the gospel; assumed her part in the burden of christian work (d) Further on (v. 40) we see that she was neither ashamed nor afraid to stand Reilly, clerk of the county court, by by the apostles when they were de- plying for a license to marry a l nounced and persecuted. These were sure signs. Hers was earnest faith, controlling the heart and life.

Note how this fruit was gathered : not by a formal discourse, but by religious the habit of a lifetime and declare conversation. How many opportunities sex is prepossessing and forty year

for this we let slip. 3. Silencing a troubler -The troubler, decided sensation in the Shenand demonfac possession. An evil spirit Pa, ne was brought up as a girl. No either enabled her to foretell the fu- ever questioned his sex, and his c ture, or stirred her up to pretend to do avowel that he was a man took a vior's day, and it would be too much to beth Rebecca Payne was one of a fan Also note that the messengers of the say there are none now. This woman of six daughters; was brought up eried after them, testifying to their dissociety in company with other members vine mission, much as dev is did to that of the family. He was always regar of our Saviour. Whether her cries were as a somewhat masculine girl, but scornful derision, or a half-understood one ever suspected he was a man. esults than any victory ever acheived longing of her heart for deliverance, is was a most graceful and dashing equ and testimony did the Saviour; and in the name of Jesus Christ he bade the hair trailing in the wind. He was spirit come out of her. Observe that of the most widely known ladies in his way of silencing this troubler was by an act of kindness to the damsel, at the same time it was one of sternness toward the evil spirit. We may always be stern toward any evil, or sin, or spirit of wrong doing. But sinners are to be p tied. To do them good is the best, as it is often the surest way to silence their opposition. Save them from their slavery to vice, intemperance, and hatred to the gospel, and they will be hinderers no longer.

> 4. Suffering for well-doing .- The trouble some damsel, who followed Paul, was a slave not to an evil spirit only, but to a company of masters who, with demoniac selfishness, made gain of her fortune telling. The command of the Apostle set her soul free. Her masters ought to have been glad. But selfishhess can go so far as to regret a sinner's salvation; as to make merchandise of another's soul; as to be angry when a slave of sinful habit is set free. How hard-ening is covetousness? There is no baser, more cruel, more satanic passion than that can grow to be. It was that which incited the owners of the de moniac slave at Philipi to their wicked traffic; as it is that which now incites to equally wicked traffic in intoxicating drinks, and in corrupting literature When her masters saw that their hope of gains was gone, they were enraged, and east Paul and Silas into prison. So now the traffickers in vile drinks and base literature are full of bitterness and a spirit of revenge when their ruinous work is hindered. Should this intimidate or discourage fidelity? Our Sa viour has told us beforehand that well doing will always be with cost. To de stroy the works of the devil will never be child's play. No great good is ac complished without suffering.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. There is no excuse for religious idlers; seekers after work find it.

2. The most effective preaching is to little groups, and single hearers.

Let workers seek and expect sudden the head of the conversions. For any sinner to delay is to increase guilt. The spirit says, come now.

4. Are you waiting for God to open your heart? Rather are you not holdit close against him? Might it not be said to you, "Ye do always resist the Holy Ghost."

5. The double work of rescuing vic tims of drink and vicious ways, and of defeating traffickers in the ruin of bodies and souls, is an important part of the work of the church. There are to-day no greater hinderers of the progress of religion than ardent spirits and

6. The secret of all opposition to re-ligiou is in the fact that it interfers with the world's love of gain and selfish indulgence.

Sometrino new in a conductor's outfit has recently been introduced on one
of the Brooklyn horse car lines. In the
fair-recording apparatus swung from
their necks, so the passengers can see
his fair noted, is a fixed watch, so the
passenger can also see the time. Of
this innovation a conductor lugubriously
said to a reporter of one of our contemporaries: "I come pretty near getting
mad sometimes, when a passenger
catches hold of me and turns me around
like a wooden man, to see what time it
is, but as that is what the watches are
for I don't know as I ought to object. I word, his will consents, he need concern himself no further; for he may be sure the Lord has been moving his theart.

Note the signs that the change was a true conversion. (a) "She was baptized." Openly, and in the appointed is, but as that is what the watches are for I don't know as I ought to object. I suppose at this rate they'll keep on fitting us out for the accomodation of the public until a man won't be considered fit for a car unless he has got a calendar stitched on to the back of his coat, a thermometer hanging from one button-hole, and a city directory hooked to a strap around his waist."

#### A Strange Story

A PROVINENT VIRGINIA SOCIETY LADY AF-TER POSING AS A WOMAN 38 YEARS ACKNOWLEDGES HERSELF A MAN.

One of the best known ladies of the Shenandoah Valley, Va., has tur out to be a man. Miss Elizabeth Re ca Payne, daughter of the late Jos P.yne, seven mile. from Winches who has lived for thirty-eight years lady, suddenly avowed herself to few days since a man, and startled . Hinton, who had resided in the Pa family as a domestic. The lady fired the heart of Mr. Payne with s passion as to compel him to throw age. The strange affair has caus ter with his habit and somewhat I valley. In addition to good birth : inherited acres he developed remai ble business talent for a woman w reverses in the family fortune rende it necessary for some one to pu shoulder to the wheel.

His sisters were distinguished their culture and personal charms and several of them married prominent

gentlemen. Rebecca Payne devoted himself to the management of a farm and to the supervision of a store which he had established at Rest, where he also held the appointment of postmistress. He also dealt in cattle and horses and became an expert in that way. All his enterprises prospered and he has acquired considerable wealth. Determining to marry be threw off his dresses and applied for a license from the court at Winchester but the astonished clerk, who like every body else, knew him as a woman, de' lined to issue a license for a woman to

marry a woman.

When Payne proved his real sex by producing the certificate of Dr. P. W. Maguire of Winchester, the license was still refused on the ground that Virginia law compels a m·n to have given n-meshich slow his sex hefore he can access which show his sex before he can act as a man before the law. Payne then de-termined to have his name changed at the March term of circuit court, which will meet on the first proximo. The affair is a nine days' wonder in the Shenandoah and has created more excitement than any event which has dis-turbed the social circles of the State for half a century. No explanation has been off-red as to why he has masque-raded so long as a woman. Rumor has it that Payne and his sweetheart went to West Virginia yesterday and were married, but this lacks confirmation.

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New York Observer.



#### COMMISSIONERS' SAL

OF UNSEATED LANDS.

In pursuance of an Act of Assembly passed on 9th day of March. A. D. 1824, the Commissioner courte County will self at public sale at the close, in the Borough of Belletonts, on Tuesday,

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**D**юнток, Jan. 27, 1882 The Rockford watch purchased Feb. 1879, has performed better than any Watch I ever had. Have carried it every day and at no time has it been irregular, or in the least unreliable, cheerfully recommend the Rockfo Watch. HORACE B. HORTON, at Dighton Furnace Co.

The Rockford Watch runs very ac curately; better than any watch I ever owned, and I have bad one that cost \$150. Can recommond the Rockford Watch to everybody who wishes a fine timekceper. S. P. HUBBARD, M. D.

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R. P. BRYANT.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS. ADVICE TO MOTHERS.

Ars you disturbed at night and broken of your eby a sick child suffering and crying with pain of citing teeth? If so, send at once and get at bottle; ting teeth? If so, send at once and get at bottle; the year of the send at the send of t



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and with great success to ge, No. 49 Fifth Avenue facilities for such a

-Fifty Sleighs at and below cost, at Bartruff's. You'd be surprised to see the ew sleighs, handsomely trimmed in velvet and plush, for \$20 and upwards. These sleighs must be sold to make room for bi spring work. Now is the time to save at east ten or fifteen dollars on a sleigh.

#### Precious Hope-Peruna.

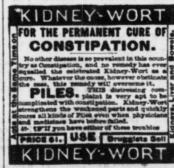
One morning while he (her husband) was holding her up in order that she could breathe more easily, after having a struggled with a bad speil of coughing, he made the remark that he did not believe she would ever get well, when she, in her weakness, said: "Yes, I will if you will bring Dr. Hartman." The doctor was brought. He prescribed a teaspoonful of Peruna every hour. She tenspoonful of Peruna every hour. She began to improve from the first dose she took. She told me to-ay she has never felt better in her life than she does now, and that she cannot say too much for Peruna. A. J. Miller. Her husband writes: "South Chicago, Ill., Dec. 19, 1881; I have a siving wiffer the property of the virus of Peruna in my wife.

ness of the virtue of Peruna in my wife who was saved from death by it. I cer. tify that every word on page 30 in Di ue in every particular.

T. S. EBERLINE







Mrs. Whiteman has opened her room in the BUSH HOUSE, and wishes to announce to the ladies of Bellefonte, that she has just received an immennee STOCK of the latest winter styles in

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