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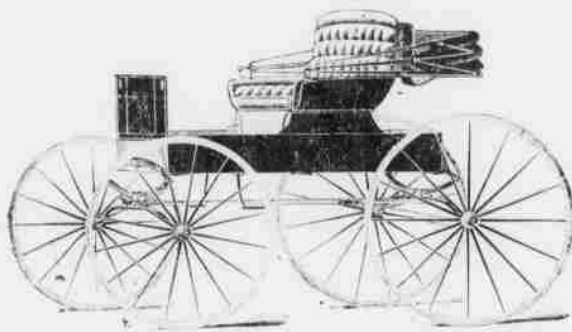
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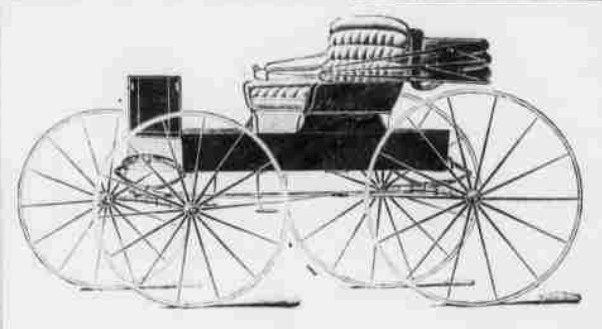
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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL,

Lesson III.—Fourth Quarter, For Oct. 20, 1907.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of Lesson, Josh. vi. 8-20—Memory Verse, 20—Golden Text, Heb. xi. 30—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

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Israel is now in the land, they have crossed the Jordan, and every step of the way is most instructive to the believer who really wants to "possess his possession." The story is a true statement of facts concerning each event, but all written for our profit alone. xv. 4; 1 Cor. x. 11. Chapter v is the story of Gilead, the circumcised, the first Passover in the land, the first corn of the land and the leading of the manna and the Captain to whom Joshua meekly and cheerfully submitted, all reminding us that, being dead and risen with Christ, there must be death to the flesh, constant renunciation of self, trust in the blood alone, eating the Lamb and whole-hearted surrender and obedience to our Captain, with our shoes off—that is, bearing in mind always that the whole affair is His, not ours, and we must never do a thing or take a step without His counsel. Moses at the bush about to lead Israel out and Joshua at Jericho about to lead Israel to victory in the land are the only two to whom the command was given, "Loose thy shoe from off thy foot" (Ex. iii. 5; Josh. v. 15). It becomes us who dwell with the King for His work to live with unshod feet and ever let our hearts say, "What saith my Lord to His servant?" "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" (Acts ix. 6.) However foolish in our eyes or in the eyes of others the commands of the Lord may seem, it is ours to obey; it is His to work. To ask men to step into the waters of Jordan, overthrowing its banks, and expect the river to stop flowing and pile its water up in a heap was the height of mad presumption in the eyes of worldly wise men, but God commanded, men obeyed, and God wrought for His name's sake.

So, now, to tell men to march round the walls of a great city, the armed men going first, then seven of the priests with trumpets of rams' horns, then others bearing on their shoulders a mysterious something covered with a cloth wholly of blue (Num. iv. 5. 6), then the rest of the host following, not a word uttered, not a sound heard but

the blasts from the rams' horns, what could seem more foolish? When the people of Jericho, who doubtless crowded the walls to see what was going on, saw this strange procession with no battering rams or heavy weapons of war they probably felt quite safe and as the days passed returned to their occupations with many a sneer at these foolish people. Perhaps there was a little stir in the city when on the seventh day some unwearied watchers spread the report that the procession was starting on a second round, and a third, and a fourth, and a fifth, and a sixth, but nothing came of it, and it may be that the interest waned again. But hark! It is the seventh round on the seventh day, and the silence is broken; the rams' horns give a louder, longer blast, and the great host shouts with a great shout, and the walls of the city fall down flat (verses 5, 20), and soon there are none living of all the people in the city except those who were in the house with Rahab, under the protection of the scarlet line (verses 21-25). It did seem a very foolish proceeding, but it was God's way. The Lord commanded; Joshua and the people obeyed, and the Lord wrought for His name's sake. When, at a later period in their history, Gideon's 32,000 were sifted down to 300 who went forth with torches concealed in earthen vessels and with trumpets also that again seemed ridiculous, but it was the Lord's way that no flesh might glory in His presence, and He wrought a great victory. David, without armor or arms except a sling and stone, going forth to meet Goliath must have seemed very presumptuous in the eyes of Israel as well as ridiculous in the eyes of Goliath and his followers, but the Lord wrought a great victory. Oh, that we might learn to lean upon the Lord alone, to see no one but Jesus only, to cease from man and man's wisdom and let God be glorified in us! God's way is so foreign to man's way, though as much higher as heaven is above the earth, that few seem able or willing to learn His way.

Doubtless all or very many have heard of that unfortunate number thirteen, but consider this lesson and note that the thirteenth round brought down the walls of Jericho, and let the number so despised become one of great encouragement. In the ark of the covenant carried upon the shoulders of the priests see the symbol of the presence of the Lord, who is still saying to all who go forth in His name, "Lo, I am with you all the days" (Matt. xxviii. 20, margin). In the rams' horn trumpets let mounted eyes see the sin offering and anointed ears hear the words, "They overcame by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony" (Rev. xii. 11).

See the ark mentioned ten times in this chapter and let the Lord alone be exalted. A lesson on prayer is suggested for today instead of the regular lesson, but if prayer means waiting upon and expecting from God (Ps. lxxii. 1) we have the very essence of prayer in this lesson. Then see in 11 Chron. xxxiii. 20, 21, how the prayers of Isaiah and Hezekiah saved Jerusalem and caused the overthrow of a mighty army.

CELEBRATION YEAR HENCE.

Of Battle of King's Mountain—Monument Secured by Congressman Webb Will be Completed Then and Occasion of Celebration Will be Unveiling.

The outlook now is that there is to be another great celebration on King's Mountain battle ground, in York county, South Carolina on October 7th, 1786. It will be on the occasion of unveiling the monument to be erected on the battle ground by the United States government in honor of American soldiers who participated in the notable fight that took place there October 7th, 1780, when the Americans under Williams, Lacy, Shelby, Sevier, Roebuck and others, defeated and utterly annihilated the British and Tories under Col. Patrick Ferguson.

As will be remembered, Congressman Webb, of Shelby, N. C., secured an appropriation from Congress of \$30,000 about two years ago to be used in improving the grounds and erecting a monument on the site of this notable battle, the one now generally conceded by historians as having been the turning point in the struggle for independence by the colonists. There was considerable delay by reason of the fact that the titles to the property were not in satisfactory shape for making a transfer to the government; but all this has long since been arranged, and at last the authorities have reached this work and it is the understanding that it is to be pushed without delay.

The Sun, a Foreigner.

"Sunset" Cox's most successful sally at his opponents in congress was his resolutions against free entrenchment, made when there was a fight on against lowering the duty on coal:

"Resolved, That all windows,

skylights, inside and outside shutters, curtains and blinds shall be permanently closed, as also all openings, holes, chinks, clefts and fissures, through which the light and heat of the sun have been allowed to enter houses, to the prejudice and injury of meritorious miners and dealers in gas coal to protect domestic industry."

"For the sun is a foreigner" explained Mr. Cox. "He comes from abroad, and we must shut out the light of the sun in order to gratify these Pennsylvania gentlemen who have a monopoly of this article of coal."

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AUCTION SALE
The undersigned will offer for sale at public auction Friday October 25, 1907, at the residence of John H. Coward, at Cedar Falls, Randolph County, his household and kitchen furniture, farming utensils, some stock consisting of horses, cattle and hogs, also a lot of corn, wheat, hay and fodder. Sale will begin promptly at 10 o'clock.
Terms cash.
W. H. LINDSAY,
Cedar Falls, N. C.
This September 15, 1907.

—WE TEACH—

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