INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR JANUARY 18.

Subject: Paul at Thessalonica and Berea Acts xvii., 1-12-Golden Text, Psa., 119, 105-Memory Verses, 2-4-Commentary on the Day's Lesson.

I. Preaching in Thessalonica (vs. 1-4). "They." Luke changes from "we" to "They." Luke changes from have have which shows that he must have they" which shows that he must have the whole of the have the h been left behind. "A synagogue." The Jews must have established themselves in large numbers in this city; their syna-gogue appears to have been the only one that existed in Northern Macedonia. No synagogue had been built in Philippi, Amphipolis, or Apollonia; the Jews who dwelt in those cities possessed only a place of prayer (Acts 16: 13), and they belonged, as it were, to this synagogue in

2. "As his manner was." To always begin with the Jews, and not to turn to the Gentiles until the Jews refused the gospel, that their mouths might be stopped from clamoring against him because he breached to the Gentiles. "Three Sabbath days." This does not imply that Paul kept the Jewish Sabbath as a sacred day, but the Jews would assemble on that day in greater number. This does not indicate the length of Paul's stay in the city. "Reasoned." Here we see his method of In accordance with the Old Testament Scriptures Paul discussed with them concerning the Messiah. First, that according to the prophecies it was necessary that the Messiah should suffer and rise again; secondly, that this One, namely, Jesus, is the Anointed One.

3. "Opening and Alleging." Proving by citations. His method seems to have been this: 1. He collected the Scriptures that spoke of the Mesiah. 2. He applied these to Jesus Christ, showing that in Him all these Scriptures were fulfilled, and that He was the Saviour of whom they were in expectation.

4. "Some—believed—were persuaded." Of Jews, a small minority; of the Gentiles a multitude became Christians; so that at Thessalonica there was mainly a Gen-tile church. "Consorted." Cast in their lot with. They clave to Paul and Silas, and attended them wherever they went. "Devout Greeks." That is, Gentiles who were proselytes to the Jewish religion, so as to renounce idolatry and live a moral life. "Chief women." "First in rank and social position; also proselytes to the Jewish religion.'

II. Paul and Silas accused (vs. 5-9). 5. "Which believed not." These words are not in the Greek and should be omitted here. "Envy." "Jealousy," malice, hatred, spite at seeing persons of rank be-coming Christians, by which the Jewish influence was weakened. "Lewd fellows." Vagabonds who hung around the markets, serving for pay in mobs, as in the present instance. "Uproar." They began a riot with the mob they had gathered. They devil still carries out his designs by setting souls as well as cities in an uproar. With whom Paul and Silas lodged. He may have been one of Paul's kinsmen (Rom. 16: 21), but of this we are not certain. The mob intended to seize Paul and Silas and bring them out, to bandon them to the passions of the ex-

6. "Dragged Jason." The Jews were ent on carrying their can, and not finding Paul and Silas, they seized their nost. with some other Christians, and dragged hem before the magistrates of the city. World upside down." After having made the sedition and disturbance the Jews charged it all on the peaceable and innocent apostles. They would have it thought that the preachers of the gospel were mischief makers, that they sowed discord, obstructed commerce and invert-

ed all order and regularity.
7. "Hath received." The insinuation is that by harboring these seditious men Jason has made himself a partaker in their sedition. "Do contrary," etc. There was as yet no law against Christianity, but the accusation was meant to declare the Christians enemies to the established government, and opposed to Caesar's power, in general, to make decrees. "There is another king." His followers said, indeed, Jesus is a king, but not an earthly king, not a rival of Caesar; nor did His ordinances interfere with the decrees of Caesar, for He made it a law of His kingdof to "render unto Caesar the things that

are Caesar's." "Troubled the people." They had no ill opinion of the apostles or their doctrine and could not see that there was any danger to the state from them, and were, therefore, willing to overlook them, but when they were represented as enemies of Caesar, the rulers were obliged to suppress them, lest they themselves should

be charged with treason.
9. "Security." Whether by depositing a sum of money is not quite clear. What they did was in accordance with the Roman usages, and gave sufficient security for the good conduct of Paul and Silas. They were doubtless required to pledge themselves that they would not attempt to carry out any plans of treason, and that they could do, for the charge was ialse, and they were not inclined to make

III. Founding the church in Berea (vs. 10-12). 10. "Sent away." They did not go as condemned disturbers, but because it seemed clear that any further efforts were useless at that time. "Unto Berea." Fifty or sixty miles southwest of Thessalonica, a town even still of considerable population and importance.

il. "These were more noble." The comparison is between the Jews of the two places, for the triumph of the gospel at Thessalonica was mostly among the Gentiles. They were not so bigoted and prejudiced—not so peevish and ill-natured. They had a freer thought, lay more open to conviction. "Searched the Scriptures daily." Since Paul reasoned out of the Scriptures, and referred to the Old Testament, they had recourse to their Bibles, turned to the places to which he referred, read the context, considered the scope and drift, compared other places, examined whether Paul's explanations were genuine, and his arguments forcible, and then

determined accordingly.

12. "Many of them believed." The natural result of honest study of the Scriptures. "Honorable women." The gospel was proclaimed to all, and each individual was left to decide for himself. These Greeks were heathens, or proselytes to the Jewish religion. The gospel made no distinction between nations, therefore, the Christian church at Berea was made up Christian church at Berea was made up

of Jews and Gentiles. 13-15. As soon as the Jews at Thessalonica learned that Paul was preaching the gospel with some success at Berea, "they came thither also, and stirred up the people." The brethren then immediately sent Paul to Athens by boat, but Siles and Timothy remained at Berea. As soon as Paul reached Athens he sent back word to Siles and Timothy "to come to him with all speed," but Paul did not remain long at Athens, and before they reached him he had sone on to Corinth.

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Hearing, as a rule, is more acute with the right than with the let car

Old Sofas, Backs of Clairs, etc., can be dyed with PUTNAM FADELESS DYES.

The English language is spiken by 115, Origin of "The Finnan Haddie."

Many years ago at a seport town on the North Sea,, Port Lehen, a fire occurred in one of the sh-cutting houses, and partially burne the end of the structure, which waspiled full of lightly salted, freshly caght haddock, which were lying o beds of

dry kelp. After the flames were exinguished and the charred top and se of one of the piles of fish were reloved, the Maister pulled out one of le slightly smoked haddock, still war from the heat. He smelt it, while he curious group of men around him atched his every move. He tore of piece of the fish, and, and tasting, took another bit, sagely nodded h head, and passed it over to the forean, Sandy, saying: "Taste you it, Cdy! It is

nae so nasty." This proved to be a gat day in Port Lethen, for every flerman in the town had a haddle giv him free of cost that had been cod by the smoke from the burningelp; and from that time until theresent no one in Port Lethen or the later fishing village a mile away, Hon, ever cured a haddock except smoking

them over the burning search. The cleverness of the Hon fishdealers in being the first put this new cured haddie on the aket won for them the glory of the te named "Findon Haddie," which abbreviated later on into "Finnaladdie."

#### Reflections of a Bach

"Has Mr. Washington apriginal ideas?" "One," answered is Cay-enne; 'the idea that his vierre original is exclusively his ow-Washington Star.

City Nephew-I noticed thhe hired man didn't drink coffee break-

Farmer Bentover-No! Fafraid it will keep him awake during day. -Puck.

"Reckon we'll have good ather ler Christ'mus?

He Kept Cool.

One of the pluckiest things I have ever witnessed, says a traveler, happened when I was staying for the night at a country inn. I was on a cycling tour at the time, and I had just put up my machine when a man on horseback galloped up to the inn door. The horse was a splendid animal, young and spirited, but its rider managed it with the most perfect case. On dismounting he asked that his steed might be turned out to pasture-a request which was granted.

In the morning as I was about to recommence my journey I overheard the horseman inform the landlord that he could go and catch his horse himself, as it was difficult for a stranger to approach him.

"No. no." said the landlord, pointing to the meadow. "D'ye see that bull?"

We both turned and saw a red-eyed savage-looking bull regarding us from over the hedge. Not far away from him the horse was placidly feeding.

"He looks nasty," said the stranger. "Nevertheless, I'm going to fetch my horse. I should also advise your bull to keep his distance." We both looked at him. There was

something in his cool assurance that was very taking.

#### Science in Business.

In a recent issue of the journal of the British Society of Arts some striking examples of the effect of the use of science in German factories are given. In 1840 154,000 tons of beet root were crushed, from which 8,-000 tons of raw sugar were produced -about 5 1-2 per cent. In 1860 1,500,-000 tons were treated, and produced 128,000 tons of sugar-8 per cent. Last year 12,000,000 tons were crushed and yielded 1,500,000 tons of raw sugar-13 per cent. This increase of quantity, as well as percentage' of product is due entirely to scientific treatment. The production of dry colors, chemicals and dyes in Germany shows a corresponding increase in production and dividend-paying capacity, which is due to the constant maintenance of laboratories or trained scientists, whose only purpose is to improve and cheapen processes.

#### New York Women's Clubs.

The New York Ladies' Club, now nonexistent, was the most exclusive in the metropolis. Its initiation fee was but \$20, and the annual dues amounted to \$30. It costs \$25 to join Sorosis, while something like \$33 will pay the dues and for the various breakfasts and dinners, says Ainslee's Magazine. You can become a patroness of a fashionable hospital or a life member of almost any old thing for \$100. At the newly quartered Woman's Club in New York, dining and writing rooms, dressing rooms and attendant maids, sleeping rooms, where for \$1 you may put up for the night; lockers, where a change of clothing may be kept; telephone, telegraph and messenger service, Turkish and Russian baths, with a trained nurse-all these are obtainable with annual dues of but \$15.

Gladys-He said he would die if I

refused him.

Ethel-And still you refused him Gladys-Oh, yes! I think he will live long enough to propose again .- Puck.

If we forget our offenses God is not likely to forgive them. Nibsy Murphy-If I didn't me mudder'd wash it.-Judge.

TALE OF A BASHFUL MONKEY.

Simian at Philadelphia Will Only Chum with a Cat.

The Zoo has a bashful monkey. The keepers call him "Bashful Willie. He was born in the Garden one year ago, and is the son of the large Japanese monkey, whose destructive proclivitties have earned for her the sobriquet "Carrie Nation."

Carrie was with Willie in a separate cage until he was four months old. He was then placed in the large cage with the other monkeys, but he was found to be too bashful to live in their company. He kept on bowing right and left, but was too timid to eat or even drink in the presence of others.

A special cage was placed in Keeper McCrossan's office, and there in solitude Dashful Willie is thriving. The only company he enjoys is Snake Keeper Hess' white cat, which has become famous for having one blue and yellow eye. The cat pays regular visits to Willie and allows him to pul! her tail through the bar.

A few days ago Willie had a cough, and it was thought advisable to bring the mother to.him, but even Carrie was repulsed by Willie, who screamed loud and buried his head in a corner. -Philadelphia Ledger.

#### Chew Tons of Gum.

Cleveland claims to be the headquarters of gum chewing and chewing gum, says The Chicago Record-Herald. It is asserted that more gum is manufactured in that city than any other, difference in population not being considered, and the two greatest manufacturers of chewing gum are numbered among the merchant princes. They find it difficult to spend their incomes. But Chicago can claim the second place, and the best judges estimate that our people use about a ton of gum a day-that is, 2,000 boxes containing 200,000 pieces and costing \$2,000. That is a very small expenditure for the amount of pleasure and good that is derived from the habit; for, while gum chewing may not be refined or elegant, it is considered very healthful. It aids digestion, prevents dyspepsia, cures insomnia, concentrates the mind, and promotes meditation.

## Mother

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