NEWS IT

Telegraphic Briefs Fr Over the Globe.

CANADA.

Ottawa merchants have troubled with counterfeit $2 ately.

The N. R. A. has fixed the da he Palma Trophy competition eptember 13th.

Hawkesbury has voted $100,000 r a system of waterworks, $75,000 r sewers, and $20,000 for ood ads.

The Minister of Public Works nounced that the transportation the great lakes will be looked ter by a newly-created official.

The store and bank of Dixon Bros aple Creek, N.W.T., was robbed of 2,000. The thieves went through o feet of brick wall to get at the oby, which was in the vault.

The Territorial Sheep Breeders' Association will hold a sheep show and ction sale of rams at Medicine at from Sept. 30 to Oct. 3, with view to improving the quality of eep raised in the Northwest. Two rloads of imported first class reg tered rams from Ontario will be fered for sale.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Earl of Dudley will likely suc ed Earl Cadogan as Lord Lieuten t of Ireland.

J. Pierpont Morgan has purchased e residence of the Countess of idley, 53 Grosvenor street, Lon n, which the Countess had decor ed recently at a cost of $200,000.

Hammersmith has been offered 10,000 for the erection of a free brary by Mr. Carnegie, who also poses to provide playing grounds r the children of Finsbury.

It is estimated that England's blic treasury has lost $1,250,000 the selling of valuable refuse m the Woolwich arsenal, formerly ed in repairing roads, for 44c a r, when it was worth $50 a ton.

Lack of sunshine in Merrie England s injured trade for the icemen, easurers, boatmen, milkmen, grocers, uit and flower sellers, and the far rs, whose crops are poor and m one to three weeks late.

The English cotton manufacturers, o have for so long depended on United States for their raw ma ial, have raised a guarantee fund $250,000 for the purpose of pro ting the cultivation of cotton thin the British Empire.

UNITED STATES.

General Manager McNichol has in ated that the C.P.R. will secure ine of its own into St. Paul.

man-eating shark, weighing 1, pounds, and measuring twelve t, was caught by hook and line the North Carolina coast.

test has been made of a secret cess of manufacturing paper from hulls at Gas City, Indiana, by Chicago cereal manufacturer.

President Roosevelt has approved Immigration Bureau circular de ring that natives of Porto Rico the Philippines going into the ted States must submit to the mination enforced against alien migrants.

he funeral of the Rev. Jacob ller, a Dunkard preacher, who has n pastor of the church in the vil e of Hancock, Md., for more than ty years, during which time he er accepted a salary or took up ollection, took place on Monday.

GENERAL.

otor cars are now being used a nwayo.

gypt exported 532 tons of cigar s during the last year.

ape Town's British and Colonial hibition will be opened in Novem 1903, for a period of four nths.

train on the railway at Laur Rosas, in Algeria, was stopped a mass of snails, which invaded line and covered the rails.

mallpox continues epidemic in badoes. All the other British Indian islands have imposed a rantine against that colony.

is stated that Lucchini, the derer of the Empress of Austria, the victim of the terrible pun ment of solitary confinement, has his reason, and is now incarcer d in a lunatic asylum near Gen.

he famous Sphynx in Egypt may ruined by the change of temper re caused by irrigation works, ich have produced 15 to 18 days' n annually, where formerly there s only an inundation of an hour's gth.

new process for the manufacture rtificial marble has been patent in Berlin. Asbestos, dyeing mater , shellac and ashes are pounded a stiff mass and then subjected high pressure. In appearance it not be distinguished from genuine ble.

ING TO VISIT IRELAND.

Liverpool Paper Says His Majesty Has So Promised.

Liverpool despatch says:—Ac ing to the Daily Post of this King Edward has promised the Secretary of Ireland, George dham, to visit Dublin, Cork and ast in February, at the latest ibly in November.

TO RELEASE MACKIE.

tion Circulated on Behalf of Bank Robber.

Kingston despatch says: An effort is about to be made to re the release of Robert Mackie enced to serve 10 years in the ston Penitentiary for compli in the Napanee Bank robbery, month Mackie will have serve years.

THE AGED CHRISTIAN.

Can Testify of the Protecting Care of a Divine Father's Love.

(Entered according to Act of the Parliament of Canada, in the year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Two, by William Baily, of Toronto, at the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.)

A despatch from Chicago says:—Rev. Frank De Witt Talmage preached from the following text:—Psalm xcii, 14, "They shall bring forth fruit in old age."

Old age is a haunting spectre. It has terrorized the generations past more than even the fear of death. The most hated and feared of all the Grecian philosophers was he who used to stand upon the street corners of Athens frightening the passers by with these solemn words: "You will be an old man. You will be an old woman." He frightened the passersby because most people do not want to become old. They are afraid of coming to the time when they will be a burden to their children and their friends. They are afraid of the time when their earning capacity shall cease, for then, in the race of life, they will be jostled and left far behind by the speed and the strength of the younger generation. They are afraid of the years when they will have to walk with a cane or crutch or sit in an invalid chair waiting for the time when the coffin maker will finish their casket and the undertaker will order their grave to be dug. To show how depressed some people are over the fact of growing old I would read a letter which I received some time ago from one of my people:

Dear Mr. Talmage.—Last night in your sermon you stated that this is the age for young men. You did not have time to speak one word in favor of the usefulness of the old people. I was sorry. I knew some sitting near to me who would be heavy hearted on account of their old age. This morning an aged member of your church called upon me. He said he was so depressed over your remarks last night that he could not sleep. With tears in his eyes, he said, "I wonder if old people will be wanted in heaven." Now, my dear pastor, I would like you, if possible, to preach a sermon upon the blessings of old age. I would like you to preach a sermon to cheer up those who have passed the zenith of their earthly life and are sliding down the other side and nearing the landing place of eternity. You will, will you not, ?"

It is in answer to the request in this letter that I am going to speak this morning to the old folks. I will gladly try to refute

THE POPULAR FALLACY

that old age for the Christian is merely a time of tears, for physical and mental pains, and for depressing helplessness. The words of my text do not state that an aged Christian's twilight of life upon earth is a gloomy and a sullen sunset. They do emphatically imply that the last days of an aged Christian's life should be among his happiest and most useful days. Those days should be compared to the time when the orchard's branches are bending under the heavy load of the ripened autumnal fruit.

My aged Christian friend, there may be other brains just as keen as yours. There may be other hearts just as willing to make sacrifice for their Lord and Master as yours, but no Christian can as powerfully testify of the protecting care of a Heavenly Father as you can testify and so he can truly speak out of his own experience. The saint who is nearing the end of life has the clearer view of heaven. You can speak about the goodness of God from personal experience, as my father spoke to me a few years before his death by telling me this remarkable incident:—When he was a young minister, he used to keep a diary, in which he made a record of all the requests he made to God concerning matters which were then weighing upon his heart. By some mishap he lost that diary, and he forgot about those prayers he had offered. Some twenty or thirty years later he found that diary. When he opened it and read the many requests that he had made nearly a quarter of a century before, he found out that God had answered every one of his prayers. God had answered them with better results than even his faith at that time had dared to hope. So the aged Christian "opens the book of memory. As he fingers the many soiled leaves of that book he testifies how God cared for him when he was a young man. He testifies how God cared for him when he was middle aged, and he testifies how the love of God is protecting and caring for him now that he is an old man. He testifies just as the aged psalmist testified of God's goodness when he wrote, "I have been young and now am old, yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread." He can testify, as did Joshua when he assembled the people together at the close of his long life and said, "Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth; of all the good things which the Lord spake all are come to pass, and not one thing hath failed thereof." He testified as an honest witness carries conviction in a court-room because he tells of that which he has seen and personally experienced. He testifies as

ONE HAVING AUTHORITY.

Never let any man tell you that the aged Christian influence is a useless influence. The Bible distinctly says, "They shall still bear fruit in their old age." No better fruit can it bring than the personal testimony of God's faithfulness, which your children will never forget. When skeptics assail them with doubts, they will be able to say, "my father put God's promise to the proof, and he declared that he had found them true."

The aged Christian influences for good those who are near to him because he is able to lavish upon them a wealth of boundless, fervent, tender Christian affection. While we are young and even middle aged we spend most of our time in doing for others rather than in showing the sweet manifestation of our affections. We are like Martha, who went into the kitchen to cook Jesus a dinner, rather than like Mary, who sat at the feet of Christ.

The statement that the aged Christian can exercise a mighty influence for good over the lives of those who are nearest and dearest to him, is especially true if those dear ones in turn have children of their own. I do not believe a man ever fully appreciates the love of a parent until he himself is married and has babies about his own family table. It is only after a man who has had the worries and the anxieties of his own home troubling his heart, it is only after he has stood by the side of the cradle and nursed his baby boy through the awful sickness of diphtheria, it is only after he has got his own family burial plot and has dug therein a little grave for one of his own babies, that he begins to fully appreciate what his father and mother in their time have done for him.

So, my aged Christian friend, if you have children who have children of their own your work on earth is not yet done. Now that your own children feel so grateful to you on account of your past and present love, you can mould them and influence them and purify them by that same love better than ever before. Perhaps by that love you can influence them even more for Christ and eternity now than when they were young men and young women standing upon

THE THRESHOLD OF LIFE.

The aged Christian is able to inspire the spirit of reverence in the hearts of many with whom he comes in contact. This spirit is a growth, not an act. It is a germ seed which often takes years and years to develop, and not an entity which springs into being at a jump or a bound. It generally starts away back in the nursery. If the child learn to respect his mother, then it is very easy for him to learn as a boy to respect his teachers, then it is very easy for him as a young man to learn to respect his Christian employers. If a young man respects his Christian employers, then it is very easy for him as a middle aged man to learn to respect the aged Christian servants who for years have been living at the divine Master's feet. If the middle aged man respect God's aged Christian servants, then it is very easy for him to learn to respect the God whom those Christians serve and to communicate that respect to others.

Thus God uses your physical weaknesses and your mental helplessness for a purpose. When he sees you, an aged Christian parent, being tenderly cared for in your old age by a loving son; when he sees that son giving to you the best room in the house and the easiest arm chair and the softest bed; when he sees that son trying to make your last days upon earth happy and peaceful, then we can imagine him saying: "That young man who is caring so tenderly for his aged Christian parent is capable of great love for me and my children. The young man who is true to his old mother, by my grace will always be true to me. I will honor him, because he has honored one of my aged servants." Did not God say in His Ten Commandments, "Honor thy father and thy mother, that the days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee?" When the young minister respects the old minister, and tries to honor the venerable, white haired missionary of Jesus Christ, then the Lord knows that the young man wants to honor Him because the young minister has tried to honor God's aged disciple. When the young physician respects the Christian physician, then the Lord knows that the young man would like to be as the old physician is. What we admire in others, that we would generally like to reproduce in ourselves.

THE AGED CHRISTIAN

is a living evidence that for most of us earthly life is to be very short. Therefore what we are to do for Christ we must do soon or we shall never be able to do it at all. Sixty or seventy or eighty years are a long time to live, but most of us will never live so long. Aye, most of us will never reach even middle life. If you speak to an aged Christian, you will find that he is like a November leaf, hanging almost solitary and alone after the thousands and the tens of thousands of autumnal leaves have been torn from their branches by the equinoctial winds. You will find that most of his contemporaries died when he was comparatively young; that nearly all the rest died when he was in middle life and that only a very few companions of his youth are alive to walk by his side. The statisticians declare that a third of the human race die in infancy. At least one-third of the remainder die before twenty-one years of age have been reached, and only 6 or 7 per cent. of the human family live to be sixty years of age or over. So the mere presence in this world of an aged Christian, with 93 or 94 per cent. of his contemporaries gone, is a perpetual warning that we must be about our Father's business or the death summons shall come, and we shall find that we have accomplished nothing.

And if some of our aged Christian friends are waiting for a little while in order to carry the latest gospel news to the dear ones on the other side of the Jordan, what will they be able to tell our fathers and mothers, our brothers and sisters, our wives and little children, who have gone beyond and are awaiting our coming? Will they be able to tell our beloved ones that they must keep a place by their side for us in one of their heavenly mansions? Oh, my brother and sister, I see by the tears in your eyes that you are anxious, in reference to the message our aged Christian friends will have to bear. Shall we plead with God that our dear friends may be allowed to live just a little while longer so that we all may, here and now, give our hearts to Jesus? Then, ye aged Christian friends, carry the news as soon as you might to that bright and happy land. Carry the news that, by the blood of Christ, we have all been cleansed from sin. Tell them that we have all been purged with hyssop until we are clean, that we have been washed until we are

WHITER THAN SNOW.

Thus, ye aged Christians, I want you to realize that the words of my text were written for you. "They shall still bring forth fruit in their old age" means that your work and usefulness will not be finished until you draw your last breath, until you take your glorious departure. So, aged Christians, as your aged parents sweetened your life when you were young, you, by the blessing of God, are sweetening ours. May your work be to you a happy work until at last the angel of the resurrection comes to call you to your eternal reward. May we be as faithful to our trust as you, who are still faithfully bearing fruit in your old age.

And so, my aged Christian friends, I believe that you are the favored ones. You are the Christians who will carry the message to our dear ones as well as to your own. When you go, I want you personally to take to my mother and father my love, just as my father sent his love to his boy. Tell them for me that by the grace of God we all want to meet them soon.

RAILWAY CASUALTIES.

Greater Than in Wars of 1812 and 1846 in United States.

The New York World says: In the first three months of this year 813 persons were killed and 9,958 wounded by railway collisions and accidents of all kinds. Of this total 53 passengers only were killed and 826 injured; all the rest were railway employees. This large crop of deaths and wounds was the fruit of 1,220 collisions and 838 derailments. These figures are just made public by the Interstate Commerce Commission. They cover only a quarter of a year. Multiplied by four, we get these as the probable totals for the full year: Killed, 3,252; wounded, 39,832.

That is to say, a larger number of persons are killed every year on our railways than were killed in the war with Great Britain from 1812 to 1815, and the war with Mexico from 1846 to 1848 added together, and five times as many are wounded as were wounded in both those historic conflicts. Yet if these figures for 1902 are not exceeded they will be a marked improvement over those for 1900, in which year 7,855 persons were killed and 50,320 wounded on United States railways, which exceeded the combined totals of the Union soldiers killed and wounded in the terrible battles of Antietam, Gettysburg and the Wilderness.

Surely peace hath her sacrifices no less shocking than war. Is it not possible to make railway operation less destructive of human life and limb?

THE KING AS A CLUBMAN.

When the King was Prince of Wales he belonged to a number of London clubs, but since his accession to the throne the list of institutions to which he belongs has been somewhat curtailed. Among the clubs of which King Edward is still a member are the Marlborough, United Service, the Garrick, the Guards', the Junior University, Royal Yacht Squadron, the Royal Dorset and Royal Thames Yacht Clubs, and the Turf Club.

BANK NOTE FORGERY.

An extraordinary method of fabricating bogus bank notes has just been detected in Brussels. The operators cut small pieces from real notes, and put them together with infinite dexterity on a tissue paper, so fine that the fraud could only be with difficulty detected when the bogus note was held up against a strong light. From ten good notes an eleventh of higher denomination was manufactured in this way.

Facetious Old Party—"Now, Bobbie, can you tell me why it is that babies are born without hair?" Bobbie—"Well, p'r'aps it's to get them used to it against the time they gets as old as you is!"

"The simpler the gown," someone had said, "the prettier a really beautiful woman appears." They all nodded and presently one dear thing went over to another dear thing and remarked, quite casually: "What an elaborate gown you have on, dear!"

Father—"You seem to look at things in a very different light since your marriage." His Newly-married Daughter—"Well, I ought to after receiving fourteen lamps and nine candelabras for wedding presents."

Sympathetic Visitor—"Poor man! What are you here for?" "For stealing a ring, miss." "Poor fellow! And don't you sometimes regret your wasted opportunities?" "Indeed, I do, miss. There was a necklace worth $5,000 in the show case that I stole the ring from and not."

FOR THE HOME

Recipes for the Kitchen. Hygiene and Other Notes for the Housekeeper.

WATERMELON PRESERVES.

Cut a melon open and scoop out the meat clean, then cut the rind into broad pieces, leaving some quite large. Peel each piece with a sharp knife exactly as you do a lemon, taking off all the green and removing also every vestige of the pink part. For every eight pounds of fruit, provide six of sugar, four ounces of green ginger root and five large lemons. After you have peeled the melon rind, cover it with cold water and add a level teaspoonful of salt; leave the rind in this solution 24 hours; then put it into fresh water in which you have dissolved a saltspoonful of alum, and let it stand over night.

Next morning wash it well and with a sharp penknife cut it in fancy designs, and there is exercise for great taste and ingenuity in this part of the work.

I was once entertained by a Virginia housekeeper, says a writer in an exchange, whose watermelon preserves were as beautiful as jewels. Their translucency was wonderful, and the crystal jar seemed to hold imprisoned gold and topaz. Among the designs were oak and grape-vine leaves and the exquisite maple leaf. Stars and crescents, a tiny fish, rings, and even a bunch of grapes, with delicate tendrils curling above, were seen through the clear glass; and held in the sunlight a perfect shower of golden gleams delighted the eye.

After the alum bath the rind is soft yet firm, and can be cut in fancy shapes with little vegetable or garnish cutters. The rings were cut out with an empty yeast powder can, and the little disks taken from the centre of each by a thimble. These disks were pretty in themselves, serving to fill up spaces. After the carving is done, lay all the pretty things in cold water until syrup is ready. Slice the lemons, rind and all, but take out the seeds; put into boiling water to cover and boil thoroughly tender, which will be in about half an hour. Scrape and slice the ginger very thin and put it on to a boil; it will take a couple of hours, more or less, to get this tender, according to the toughness of the root, but it must be thoroughly tender before you use it. Put the sugar in a preserving kettle, allowing a pint and a half of water to the six pounds; use for this the water in which the lemons were boiled, adding plain boiling water to make the proper quantity. Let the sugar dissolve slowly and come to a simmering point.

While the lemons and ginger are boiling put the rind into boiling water to cover and boil about three-quarters of an hour, or until it looks evenly transparent; then drain from the water and dry as thoroughly as possible, even absorbing the moisture from the pieces by means of a soft towel. Lay them on a flat china dish to cool; they will look dejected and limp and almost discourage you, but that is just the way they should look at this stage.

Now you must boil your syrup hard until it bubbles and froths and sputters well; then set to one side and let it subside into quiet before you skim it. Put into the syrup the rind, the lemons and the ginger, adding some of the water in which the ginger was boiled; this is a wonderful improvement if the water be pungent of the root. Boil until you see your pretty designs fill out thoroughly and each become rich and translucent; then skim the fruit carefully from the syrup and put into wide-mouthed jars, placing them to show well through the sides. Boil the syrup about 20 minutes longer; pour a generous supply over the fruit and cover while hot.

All this sounds very complicated, but it will fully repay you for the labor expended. If, however, you want a sweetmeat that tastes just as good, although will not look as pretty, cut your rind into small squares, oblongs or cubes, and carry through the same soaking and cooking process.

WAYS OF COOKING EGGS.

Egg Croquettes.—Boil eggs for about ten minutes. Chop very fine. Allow six eggs for six croquettes, one cup milk, one teaspoonful butter, two teaspoons flour, a little chopped parsley, a dash of onion, pepper and salt. Make the cream sauce in the usual way. Mix with the eggs and set aside to cool. When cold, form into desired shape, dip in egg and in cracker crumbs, and fry in smoking hot fat. Serve with tomato sauce.

Egg Fondue.—Beat six eggs lightly, add salt, pepper and five tablespoons very finely chopped cheese. Melt one tablespoon butter in a saucepan, turn in egg with cheese and stir until eggs are of jelly-like consistency. Serve immediately on squares of hot buttered toast or a dish garnished with yellow nasturtiums and a few green leaves.

Snow Eggs.—One quart milk, six eggs, four tablespoons sugar, one teaspoon lemon. Separate yolks and whites. Beat whites to stiff froth. Let the milk with sugar added come to the boil in a saucepan. Drop in the whites of eggs, a spoonful at a time. Cover the saucepan for two minutes, turn snowballs over, and cook for two minutes longer. Take out with a skimmer and place in fancy dish. Take milk from fire and allow it to cool a bit. Beat the six yolks, add four teaspoons cold milk, and stir all into the hot milk. Place saucepan again on fire and stir until just below the boiling point. Add flavoring. Pour mixture over the snowballs, dust over with sugar and shredded cocoanut. Serve ice cold.

Eggs and Tomatoes.—Take the tomatoes left over from dinner. Rub through a colander, let them boil, and add a good pinch of soda, a bit of butter, salt, pepper and a few cracker crumbs. Scramble six eggs. Put on a hot platter and pour hot tomatoes over them. Garnish with parsley. A delicious supper dish.

Decorative Pickled Eggs.—Put hard-boiled eggs into a jar with pickled beets. They will color a beautiful shade of pink, and sliced make a nice garnish.

Oyster Omelet.—Select 25 good oysters, and cook in saucepan until pails are well cooked. Drain and save the liquor. Put in a saucepan one teaspoon butter and one of flour. Add to the liquor enough milk to make ½ pint. Stir until boiling; add oysters, salt and pepper. Stand over hot water to keep hot. Make a plain omelet with six eggs. Put omelet on good-sized platter. Pour oysters over it and serve immediately.

Dutch Omelet.—Make three small omelets. Spread with jelly or sweetmeats as with a layer cake. Sprinkle with sugar.

Eggs and Celery.—The yolks of hard-boiled eggs chopped fine with celery make a delicious change for a supper dish. Make a cream sauce well seasoned, and mix with eggs and celery. Pour over pieces of buttered toast. Garnish with the white of eggs cut in rings, and some green celery leaves.

Puff Eggs, Baked.—Toast uniform slices of bread and butter well. Place in a shallow pan. Beat the white of an egg until it stands alone. Place in a square on the toast and carefully drop in the yolk. Sprinkle salt, pepper and dots of butter over the top. Brown in a hot oven and serve at once. Garnish dish with parsley.

ADVICE NOT TO BE FOLLOWED.

Reading in bed is seriously advised, so the newspapers say, by a physician as conducive to "repair and resting," "relieving congestion," emptying the veins overfilled by prolonged eye work. Certainly the one who gives this strange pernicious advice could never have tried the plan. Some years ago there was described a patent device for suspending the book over the horizontally placed head of a sick person whereby reading would be possible without holding the book in the hands. Even then one wonders how the light could be made to fall properly upon the page. Without a method of the kind not even a well person could hold a book five minutes above the eyes. Reading in bed has killed thousands of good eyes. Unless one sits up in bed as if in a chair it is impossible to hold the book in such position that the arms are not quickly tired and so that the light falls on it properly. When reading lying down there is traction upon the inferior recti muscles which is highly injurious. Every patient should be warned never to read in bed except when sitting up as vertically as in a chair.

THE MOST OF YOUR YARD.

You often hear people say: "Oh, yes, I love flowers, and I'd have lots of them, too, but I have no place for them. Just look at my yard—nothing will grow in it." Now the reason why nothing would grow in it is chiefly because nothing is planted in it. I don't care how gravelly or worn out the soil in a yard is, these defects may be remedied with comparatively little trouble, and there are very few people but who can have at least one plot of flowers if they want it. Of course, there are families, even in the country, who are so driven with work that flower-growing has to "take a back seat," if it is attempted at all, and such people are excused. But the person with plenty of time who laments that he—or she—cannot grow flowers because "the yard is in such terrible condition," is woefully lacking in enthusiasm to say the least.

ENGLISH OIL WELL.

For some time past it has been believed that a large subterranean petroleum lake exists at Heathfield, near Tunbridge Wells, England, and it is now announced that an American syndicate has been formed for the purpose of working it. Eight shafts are to be sunk, and of these three are already made, while a fourth is in progress, and a depth of 350 feet has been reached with encouraging results, though the shaft will probably have to be sunk another 200 feet. But it seems rather extraordinary that it should have been left to American enterprise to work this large and possibly very lucrative field.

MUNICIPAL BRIDEGROOMS.

An amusing story is told of the crowning of the Rose Queen of a country district near Paris. The elected Queen, as one of the formalities of awarding their dower, was asked by the mayor for the name of her fiance. "I have none," she replied. Notified that a sweetheart was indispensable, the young lady added timidly: "I thought the municipality provided everything necessary." Straightway a young swain presented himself as an aspirant, and, being as promptly accepted, all things became regular and in order.

SIAMESE DRESS AND JEWELS.

Now that ladies wear so many jewels in the day time a sequence of color should be thought of. The Siamese arrangement may, perhaps, afford suggestions. In that country on Sunday red silk with rubies is worn; Monday brings a silver and white dress and a necklace of moonstones; Tuesday is dedicated to light red, with coral ornaments. Wednesday is devoted to green, with emeralds. Thursday sees a display of variegated colors, with cats' eyes. Friday the lady is arrayed in pale blue with flashing diamonds; and Saturday the more sombre, darker blue, with sapphires to match.

THE S. S. LESSON.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON AUG. 24.

Text of Lesson, Num. xiii, 1-3, 25-33, and xiv, 1-4. Golden Text, Ps. xi, 4.

1-3. And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Send thou men that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel.

When they came to the borders of the land which God had promised to them (for it was only eleven days' journey from Horeb to Kadesh-barnea), Moses said, "Behold the Lord thy God hath set the land before thee. Go up and possess it, as the Lord God of thy fathers hath said unto thee. Fear not, neither be discouraged." But the people came to Moses and asked that men be sent to search out the land and bring back word as to the way to go and what cities to enter (Deut. 1, 2, 21-23). The idea of spies therefore originated with Israel, and the Lord gave commandment to have it so, because they wanted it so, just as afterward the Lord commanded Samuel to give them a king, because they persisted on having a king like other nations (I Sam. viii, 4-9, 10-22). Read Ex. iii, 7, 8; vi 6-8 and consider it well and say in the face of such assurances if the people's request for spies was not simply a lack of faith in God.

25-29. And they returned from searching of the land after forty days.

They could not but testify that it was as God had said, a land flowing with milk and honey (Ex. iii, 8; xxxiii, 3), but they had been using their natural eyes more than the eyes of their hearts (Eph. i, 18, R. V.), and instead of seeing only God and His goodness and His promises they saw difficulties which seemed to them insurmountable, for they forgot the deliverance from Egypt, and the dividing of the Red Sea, and the quails and the manna so wondrously given, and so they talk of walled cities and giants and a strong people, and they seem not to reckon upon God at all. They believed not His word (Ps. cvi, 21, 22, 24).

30. And Caleb stilled the people before Moses and said, Let us go up at once and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it.

This was no vain boast or reliance upon themselves, but words uttered from a heart stayed upon Jehovah. Hear Caleb and Joshua in chapter xiv, 6-9: "If the Lord delight in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it us; * * * only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; * * * the Lord is with us. Fear them not." Listen to this same Caleb forty-five years later when he asked Joshua for the mountain where the giants were, "And now, behold, the Lord hath kept me alive, as He said, these forty and five years, * * * If so be the Lord will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the Lord said" (Josh. xiv, 10-12). He wholly followed the Lord and relied upon Him.

31-33. But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.

Thus they brought up an evil report of the land, a slander upon the land (xiv, 36). They saw the giants, and they saw themselves as grasshoppers. It was a case of "we" and "they," but not a word about God. They are stronger than we! We were in their sight as grasshoppers. In our conflicts with the enemy as we pass through this wilderness or sojourn in the pleasant land everything depends upon our point of vision. If we see things from our standpoint, the giants and walled cities will seem very real, but if, like Caleb and Joshua, we stand with God all difficulties will seem as nothing. When David went to meet Goliath, he did not consider his own weakness.

xiv, 1. And all the congregation lifted up their voice and cried, and the people wept that night.

No wonder they acted thus when they were so unbelieving and rebellious against God. They were within sight and reach of the good land, but occupied with themselves and despising the promises of God and even God Himself. See the record of a previous weeping in Num. xi, 4, 10, 18, 20, and a later one in Num. xxv, 6, and note that it was all because of unbelief, as was the weeping of Mary Magdalene at the tomb on the resurrection morning. Joy and peace come by believing, but in no other way (Rom. xv, 13; John xiv, 1, 27; xx, 27-29).

2, 3. And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron.

They even wished they were dead or might die in the wilderness, and many of them got their wish. Their thought was to get rid of their trouble. They had no thought or desire that God might be glorified in their death. Contrast John xxi, 19; Phil. i, 20. See records of other murmurings in Ex. xv, 24; xvi, 2; xvii, 3; Num. xvi, 11, 41. They did not consider that their weeping was in the ears of the Lord and their murmurings against Him (Num. xi, 18; xiv, 26, 27; Ex. xvi, 8) nor that when they complained it displeased the Lord (Num. xi, 1).

4. And they said one to another, Let us make a captain and let us return into Egypt.

The Lord Himself was their captain, as He also is ours (Josh. v, 14; II Chron. xiii, 2; Heb. ii, 10), but they wanted no more of Him. Stephen says that in their hearts they turned back again into Egypt, and Nehemiah says that in their rebellion they appointed a captain to return to their bondage (Acts vii, 39; Neh. ix, 17). Let us consider what is written about looking back in Gen. xix, 26; Luke ix, 62; xvii, 32, and contrast looking forward and upward in Prov. iv, 25; Heb. xii, 2; Phil. iii, 20.