

LESSON

LESSON IX—JUNE 1, 1913.

Joseph Tests His Brethren—Gen. 44: 1-24.

Commentary.—I. Joseph and his father (46:28-34). Judah seems to have been the leader among the sons of Jacob. He had made the effective plea before Joseph in behalf of Benjamin, and had been ready to shoulder any needful responsibility. Therefore, he was chosen to go in advance to Joseph, that he might inform him of the approach of Jacob and his household. The meeting between Jacob, here called Israel, and Joseph was most affecting. We do not wonder that "he fell on his neck and wept on his neck a good while" (v. 29). The patriarch was then ready to die, since he had seen alive his beloved son, long mourned as dead. Joseph's high standing in the court of Pharaoh well qualified him to be an intercessor in behalf of his family, and to secure a most favorable location for them, even though they were shepherds, and shepherds were "an abomination unto the Egyptians" (v. 34). The fact that the Egyptians detested shepherds probably arose largely from the oppression of the shepherd kings over the nation. Some time before this, herds of shepherd people from the East swept over Egypt and ruled over them, and just previously to Joseph's time this dynasty had been expelled. It is also claimed that shepherds were held in detestation because they ate the flesh of cattle, and to the Egyptians cattle were sacred. Joseph counseled his brothers to make a frank acknowledgment to Pharaoh that they were by occupation shepherds.

II. Pharaoh welcomes the Hebrews (vs. 1-10). 1. Joseph came and told Pharaoh. Pharaoh had extended to Joseph's people a cordial invitation to remove to Egypt, and Joseph informed the King of their arrival. Joseph was careful to pay proper respect to Pharaoh in the land of Goshen. Joseph had promised them a place in Goshen (Gen. 45:10), and Pharaoh had promised them "the good of the land of Egypt" (Gen. 45:18). 2. Took some of his brethren even five—Nothing is said as to which five were chosen. They were to represent the family. 3. What is your occupation—Joseph had intimated to his brothers (Gen. 46:33) that this question would be asked. Their occupation would determine their standing and location in Egypt. The answer was frank and wise. As shepherds they could not hope to be placed in high positions, but would be given a place suitable to their occupation. The Hebrews' answer prepared the way for them to occupy the land of Goshen, which was best adapted to their business as stock raisers, was least exposed to the influence of the Egyptians, and was at the same time near to the residence of Joseph. They could remain a separate people socially and religiously and become the great nation that the promise had indicated. 4. The famine is sore in... Canaan—Two years or more famine had reduced Canaan almost to destitution, let thy servants dwell in Goshen. The brothers of Joseph do their request most respectfully.

6. The land of Egypt is before thee. The offer of Pharaoh was as liberal as it could well be, and shows his appreciation of the ability and services of Joseph. Joseph had virtually foretold the famine, and had most wisely made provisions for the years of want, and now a reward was bestowed in the advantages afforded Joseph's kindred. In... Goshen let them dwell—It was their choice and best adapted to their needs. The region includes the northeastern portion of Egypt from the delta of the Nile to the Syrian desert. Rulers over my cattle—Pharaoh was ready to advance Joseph's kindred to any positions they were qualified to fill, and he left the appointments to the judgment of Joseph. From this and other passages we note that stock raising was carried on in Egypt.

7. Joseph brought in Jacob... before Pharaoh. The picture of Joseph's affection and respect for his father is charming. There was a strong contrast between the culture and courtly appearance of Joseph, and the rude shepherd's garb of Jacob, yet Joseph presented his father to the king. This is forever a rebuke to that false and silly pride that makes a young man ashamed of his father and mother because they are not stylish. Jacob blessed Pharaoh—Probably the patriarch pronounced a benediction upon the king. 8. How old art thou—How many are the days of the years of thy life?—R. V. The question was suggested to Pharaoh as he looked at the venerable Hebrew and was amazed because of the interest he had in him. 9. How old art thou—How many are the days of the years of thy life?—R. V. The question was suggested to Pharaoh as he looked at the venerable Hebrew and was amazed because of the interest he had in him. 9. How old art thou—How many are the days of the years of thy life?—R. V. The question was suggested to Pharaoh as he looked at the venerable Hebrew and was amazed because of the interest he had in him.

11. Joseph placed his father and his brethren—Assigned to them a place of abode according to his promise, the direction of Pharaoh and the wish of his kindred. Gave them a possession—Assigned them to acquire property—Put out Com. In the land of Ramesses—This is the same region that is elsewhere called Goshen. In Exod. 12:37 we read that Israel set out from Ramesses for Canaan. This was a favorable region for nomadic people. The land nearest the Nile was more fertile, but this was irrigated from the Nile and well suited to grazing. 12. Joseph nourished—He tenderly cared for his father's family, providing food and every other needful thing. His position in the kingdom afforded him large personal revenue, and he was able to give liberally to his people. According to their families—Distribution was made according to the size of the various households.

IV. Jacob's request (47:28-31). Jacob had Joseph with him during the first seventeen years of his own life, and Joseph had Jacob with him during the last seventeen years of his father's

life. Jacob considered Canaan his home and Egypt only a place of sojourning. He saw his end approaching, and caused Joseph to make a solemn pledge that he would bury him in the land of Canaan. He believed God's promise that Israel should be led out of Egypt and placed in the land that had been promised to Abraham, Isaac and himself, and he wished to be buried in the burial place of his fathers. When Joseph had promised to grant his request Jacob "bowed himself upon the bed's head" or upon the top of his staff (Heb. 11:21). The Hebrew word may mean either bed or staff.

Questions.—How many of Jacob's family went into Egypt? Who was sent ahead to Joseph? How did Joseph go to meet Israel? Describe the meeting between Joseph and his father. What went with Joseph to Pharaoh? What question did Pharaoh ask Joseph's brothers? Why were not the Egyptians well disposed toward shepherds? What privileges did Pharaoh give the Hebrews? Describe the meeting between Pharaoh and Jacob. Where were the Hebrews located? By what other name was the region called?

PRACTICAL SURVEY.

Topic—Israel in Egypt.
I. Territorial distinction.
II. Religious recognition.
III. Temporal sustenance.

I. Territorial distinction. In the strength of the encouragement which God's fourfold promise gave to Jacob, he at the age of one hundred and thirty years, journeyed to Egypt. Judah had taken a chief part in the journey, separating father and son. His conduct had restored confidence so that Jacob here put him forward in managing the family reunion. The Israelites were located by themselves, Joseph had promised his brethren a home in Goshen, which afforded them many advantages in its proximity to Canaan, in its adaptation to the pastoral life and in its nearness to Joseph at the capital. However great his authority, Joseph would not use it in assigning Egyptian territory without Pharaoh's consent. His first care then on the arrival of his family was to confirm the grant. In this, Joseph presents a splendid combination of official duty and filial piety, of religious and political equity. Prudence was strikingly exemplified in Joseph's conduct in presenting his brethren before Pharaoh. As a prince, Joseph was not ashamed of his father before so many of his contemporaries. Pharaoh's reception of the strangers was due to Joseph's influence, his personal exemplification of the religious life. Joseph counseled his brethren not to disguise their calling when they stood before the king, although it was despised among the Egyptians.

II. Religious recognition. Joseph introduced Jacob and his family to Pharaoh. Apparently overwhelmed by the venerable appearance of Jacob, Pharaoh inquired his age. Jacob respected Pharaoh's office and Pharaoh respected Jacob's age. Their interview was pathetic and beautiful. It was a strange meeting, Jacob and Pharaoh, a patriarch and a prince, an Israelite shepherd and an Egyptian monarch, Jacob, the old shepherd who had no possessions but a divine promise, and Pharaoh, the king who wielded the sceptre of the most splendid monarchy in the world, present a most striking contrast. Things seen and temporal, and things unseen and eternal have seldom stood more directly face to face than here. But there was something in that old pilgrim which made him a most companion for kings. Jacob stood before the Egyptian monarch as the embodiment of that which had faded into a dim tradition in Egypt. Pharaoh felt humbled before that lonely, lofty pilgrim. He was a strange, bewitching, so powerful. He stood there before the world's chief potentate, who knew no man superior to his own, and yet Pharaoh possessed noble qualities. He was a man of far-reaching plane and high achievements. As he sat there royally robed and guarded, at the height of human power and splendor, and gazed upon the pensive face of Jacob, a sense of his inferiority must have stolen over him, for he bowed beneath the blessing from a superior hand. Spiritual grandeur possessed that aged and weary pilgrim.

III. Temporal sustenance. There is touching beauty in the interview between the veteran Israel and the prosperous Joseph. His old son was his comfort and support in his last days, in spiritual as well as temporal things. He provided for his comfort and peace in his declining years, which numbered the same as those in which his father had cared for him in childhood. He pledged himself to bury his father in the land of his fathers. The support of purchase, Joseph had direction from Pharaoh to dispense liberally to meet the full necessities of his people. This evidence of Joseph's full forgiveness of his brothers' wrong against him, and his love for them in the abundant provision he made for them, completes the picture of one of the most beautiful characters in history.—T.R.A.

MEASLES EPIDEMIC

Outbreak Still Unchecked in Ontario.

Toronto, Dec. 28.—The epidemic of measles that has been ravaging the province for the past few months has no signs of abating. During May, according to returns of the Provincial Board of Health, there were 1,200 cases, of which 15 resulted in death. Last year's May figures showed only 58 cases and 12 deaths. While there is twice as much measles in Ontario as a year ago, the figures do not give an entirely accurate comparison, owing to the fact that up to last fall quarantine was not required for anything but complications. The great difficulty the health department has experienced in fighting measles is that the average person does not consider the disease a serious one, and necessary precautions are neglected. It is a fact, however, that measles is a most contagious disease, and one of the most common causes of death among small children. The May returns, apart from measles, show an improved state of health generally, the increase in tuberculosis cases being due to more complete returns.

Eager Young Man, Who Has Called up Adored One—'I can't wait any longer, dear, I really had to phone. Will you marry me? Gentle voice, in reply—'Why, yes, of course, I will. But haven't you got the wrong number?—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

FARM GARDEN

FARM NOTES.

Scientists tell us that the compound of nitrogen are broken up during warm weather by the rapid growth of minute germs that live in the soil, and that it is due to the presence of these germs that the soil is not adapted to one's soil, to secure such a large amount of nitrogen. This is running the germ theory into the ground.

Animals are not unlike people in their demand for a variety of foods. We would be much less efficient than we are if we fed them only one kind of food. The same is true of the animals. Do not limit the feed of the animals, but plant a variety of crops or trees.

Plant crops that give the best assurance of production. It is never safe to depend on the crop that has been yielding well on the farm and substitute one that others have had signal success raising. It may be that it is not adapted to one's soil, and we may not understand its requirements.

The start in cultivation means a great deal more in economical management than is generally supposed. A bad start means both added expense and less harvest at harvest time. An even start with crops in cultivation generally means a better crop, and a less expense in keeping down weeds.

Cornstalks are valuable as a fertilizer. The nitrogen which an acre of stalks contains would cost at least \$4.50 if bought in the form of commercial fertilizer.

Duck eggs are in demand by confectioners they impart a glaze to their icing which can not be had with hen eggs. For making plum pudding duck eggs are more economical than hen eggs, and are both larger in size and richer. In the household of the writer duck eggs are used in making all kinds of cakes, omelets, and puddings generally, and they are also relished fresh.

The result show that butter and beef can be produced cheaply on a ration of ensilage than is possible by any other method of feeding, and the best all-around feed for the cow is ensilage. The cow's coat is a pretty good index of her condition, especially at this season of the year.

The soil is a great labor-saving device. It doubles the value of the corn as a fertilizer, and returns back to the soil added fertility of great value and importance.

There should be no misunderstanding in regard to the fact that lime does not make the soil more fertile, but it does make it more fertile. It does not supply any of the available nutritive elements which are ordinarily contained in fertilizer. Still, lime is a very important element in the reaction of the soil, or by the failure, partial, or complete, of the leguminous plants, the fullest returns cannot be secured unless lime is added as a soil amendment in conjunction with manure, or other fertilizers, potassium and nitrogen.

A well-graded barnyard, on soil with good natural drainage, is very desirable as a site for a stable, and, in addition, it is a great labor-saving device. A winter-exercising yard, save much labor in cleaning cows when compared with the quagmire one sometimes sees, may be graded under the name of barnyard.

Cream separators and silos are good indications of progressive farming. The silo is a profitable line of farming because it is a means of producing foods with the least cost of fuel, and the best all-around minimum cost in marketing farm products.

Soil is not a dead, inert substance, as many suppose. It is an active, virile force, full of energy and power, and the farmer should realize that it is well worth his while to study its requirements.

One of the reasons why failure occur in dairying is because proper attention is not given to details. There are those who will say, "I don't care for details, I'll give you the general idea of the business, and you can take care of the details." This is a waste of time. For this reason, they are always losing out. A man who is always giving heed to the leakage that is so constantly going on, the old fable that for the want of a nail the shoe was lost, and for the want of the shoe the rider was lost, applies to all kinds of business. A man who is always giving heed to the leakage that is so constantly going on, the old fable that for the want of a nail the shoe was lost, and for the want of the shoe the rider was lost, applies to all kinds of business.

THE POULTRY WORLD

INFERTILE EGG TROUBLES.

Probably more annoyance is caused during the hatching season through infertile eggs than by all the other troubles that beset the poultry keeper, although they are many. What is more exasperating than to find that half the eggs put under the non too common broody hen, or in the incubator during the early part of the year, are clear, and half the valuable room has been taken up by unhatchable eggs. Of course with the best of management and care it is not possible to get a 100 per cent. every time, still there is no doubt that a large improvement might be effected by different methods in many cases.

Immature stock is often a reason, and many breeders use only second season birds. Still there is abundant evidence to prove that well grown and properly fed pullets give a good percentage of fertile eggs.

Old cock birds, especially the male, often give bad results, while the number of hens to each male is another reason, and inbreeding tends in the same direction. Stale eggs or those that have been badly jarred in traveling, I have actually clear, become added or have such weak germs that they will not hatch. But while the above causes and perhaps many others may be the reasons of a large number of infertile eggs, the fact is that the stock of birds is the fault in a great number of cases.

"Old" eggs, that are infertile, a man will say, "but they are terribly infertile." After asking a few questions it is discovered that while they were feeding and treating the birds quite correctly to produce a large egg yield, they are entirely unaware that for breeding stock to do their best a different diet was necessary. Every season experiment and practice go to prove that, though soft mash is desirable for a high egg yield they are not the best for stock birds if fertile eggs are wanted. To get the best hatching results a slight falling off in the egg yield must be put up with.

The soft mash must be cut down to twice weekly, and a good grain food substituted. Wheat and oats and a good scratch food should form the staple feed to which may be added a few peas, while in cold weather corn in moderation may be introduced. Other grains, such as milo, may be given occasionally as a variety. Fat birds are useless in the lot, and under seed, buckwheat and the breeding pen, and all grain should be fed in litter, so that the birds may keep themselves fit and in good health by plenty of exercise. It is much easier to keep a bird lean than to reduce it once it has got overfat. Occasionally the birds should be handled wisely on their perches at night, and if fed on too fat, steps must be taken to reduce them after their food or to give them more exercise. Careful attention to the feed is sure to be repaid quickly by better fertilized eggs.

REMARKABLE BIRDS, THESE! Remarkable developments in poultry have been discovered in and about London, Eng.

A well-known Sussex breeder of Hallsam possesses a two-and-a-half-year-old speckled Sussex hen which, at the end of her first year, was in appearance a hen, laid a quantity of eggs, sat and reared a brood of chickens. Last year she did not lay, but moulted into a cock's plumage, with the exception of the headgear, which is normally a pullet's.

A Partridge Wyandotte hen has been presented to the Natural History museum which presents a specially peculiar case.

The bird was hatched in 1910 and moulted normally in the autumn of that season and again in 1911. After the 1912 moult her plumage became in all respects that of a cock. Although she still lays eggs, not one of them has been hatched.

A. R. Cooper, of Knaresborough, has had a Blue Leghorn female with a male's headgear, but in this case the bird did not lay any eggs.

POULTRY POINTERS. Gather the eggs twice daily. All dressed birds should be isolated. White wash is very effective against vermin.

Turn the eggs before caring for the incubator lamp. Straw and hay make excellent material for the hens' nests. Keep the nests clean and provide one nest for every four hens. When wet washes are fed be sure they are crumbly and not sticky. A well ventilated cellar makes a good place to operate the incubator.

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS

FARMERS' MARKET. Dressed hogs, heavy... \$12.25 \$12.50 Do, light... 13.00 13.50 Butter, dairy, lb... 25 25 Eggs, dozen... 28 25 Spring chickens, lb... 45 00 Hens, lb... 21 22 Turkeys, lb... 22 25 Apples, bbl... 2.50 3.50 Potatoes, bag... 1.00 00 Beef, forequarters, cwt... 12.00 13.50 Do, choice sides... 10.75 11.75 Do, medium... 8.75 10.50 Do, common... 7.00 8.50 Mutton, light... 10.00 12.00 Veal, common... 9.00 11.00 Do, prime... 11.00 14.00 Spring lambs... 6.00 8.00

SUGAR MARKET. Sugars are quoted in Toronto, in bags, per cwt., as follows: Extra granulated, St. Lawrence... \$4.40 Do, Republic's... 4.00 Do, Acadia... 4.36 Imperial, granulated... 4.25 No. 1 yellow... 4.00 In barrels, 5c per cwt. more for lots, 5c less.

LIVE STOCK. Export cattle, choice... \$ 7.10 \$ 7.25 Butcher cattle, choice... 6.25 7.25 Do, medium... 6.00 6.50 Do, common... 5.25 5.50 Butcher cows, choice... 5.25 6.25 Do, medium... 4.50 5.00 Do, canners... 3.50 4.00 Do, bulls... 3.00 6.25 Feeding steers... 5.00 6.00 Stockers, choice... 4.50 6.25 Do, light... 2.00 3.50 Milkers, choice, each... 35.00 75.00 Springers... 30.00 65.00 Sheep, ewes... 5.00 6.50 Bucks and culls... 4.50 6.50 Lambs... 7.50 8.50 Hogs, fed and watered... 10.10 Hogs, f.o.b... 9.50 Calves... 7.50 8.50

OTHER MARKETS. WHEAT. Open. High. Low. Close. May... 95 3/4 98 1/2 95 3/4 95 3/4 Oct... 90 1/4 91 1/2 90 1/4 90 1/4

MINNEAPOLIS WHEAT. Minneapolis—Close—Wheat—July 89 3-8; September, 90 7-8 to 91c; No. 1 hard, 91 7-8; No. 1 Northern, 90 3-8 to 91 3-8; No. 2 do, 89 3-8 to 90 3-8; No. 3 do, 87 1-2 to 88 1-2; Oats, No. 3 white, 37 1-2; Rye, No. 2, 55 to 57 1-2; Flour, first patents, \$4.60 to \$4.85; second patents, \$4.25 to \$4.60; first clears, \$3.30 to \$3.70; second clears, \$2.50 to \$3.20. Bran—Unchanged.

DULUTH WHEAT. Duluth—Close—Wheat—No. 1 hard, 91 3-8; No. 1 Northern, 90 3-8 to 91 3-8; No. 2 do, 89 3-8 to 90 3-8; No. 3 do, 87 1-2 to 88 1-2; Oats, No. 3 white, 37 1-2; Rye, No. 2, 55 to 57 1-2; Flour, first patents, \$4.60 to \$4.85; second patents, \$4.25 to \$4.60; first clears, \$3.30 to \$3.70; second clears, \$2.50 to \$3.20. Bran—Unchanged.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK. Cattle, receipts 4,000. Market steady. Beef, extra India mesquite—Nominal. Pork, prime mess, western—Nominal. Hams, 50c per lb. to 70c. Bacon, Cumberland—55c to 60c.

BUFFALO LIVE STOCK. East Buffalo, N. Y. despatch—Cattle—receipts 50; steady. Veals—receipts 125; active and strong; \$6.00 to \$10.75; a few \$11. Hogs—receipts 2,000; active and 10 lower; heavy mixed Yorkers and pigs, \$8.75; a few \$9.00; roughs, \$7.75 to \$8.50; stags, \$6.90 to \$7.00; dairies, \$8.50 to \$8.85.

Wheat spot steady. No. 2 Manitoba—55 3/4. No. 3 Manitoba—54 1/4. Putney's easy July—54 3/4. Oct—54 1/2. Corn, old steady. Dec—25 1/4 to 25 1/2. American mixed new—24. Putney's new July dried—54 1/2 to 54 3/4. July Lantana—48 1/2 to 54. Sept. Lantana—48 1/2 to 54. Flour, winter patents—80c to 85c. Hops in London (Pacific Coast)—44, 10-15, 10s.

Beef, extra India mesquite—Nominal. Pork, prime mess, western—Nominal. Hams, 50c per lb. to 70c. Bacon, Cumberland—55c to 60c. Sheep, 14 to 16 lbs—55c. Long clear middles, light—25 to 30 lbs—72c. Long clear middles, heavy—35 to 40 lbs—78c. Short clear backs, 16 to 20 lbs—67c. Shoulders, square, 16 to 20 lbs—65c. Lard, prime western, in barrels—55c to 60c. American, refined—55c to 60c. Canadian, refined—55c to 60c. Caneas, Canadian, finest white—old—62c. Colored new—58c to 60c. Colored old—61c. Talow, prime city—62c to 65c. Australian—60c to 62c. Turpentine, spirits—26c to 30c. Resin, common—12c to 15c. Petroleum, refined—9c to 10c. Blended—10c to 12c. Cottonseed Oil, Hull, red, spot—38c to 40c.

AMUNDSEN TO TAKE PLANES. Cleveland, Ohio, June 9.—Two hydro-aeroplanes will accompany the party headed by Captain Roald Amundsen, the explorer, on their expedition which starts from San Francisco for the South Pole this fall, it was stated by Amundsen here last night.

WIFE-SEATER TRIES SUICIDE. Berlin, Ont. despatch—A man, 23, for being drunk and abusing his wife, Brunshaw Burchacke, three times attempted to end his life by hanging in the cellar to-day. He tied portion of his clothing together, forming a rope, which he threw over the top of the cell. An officer caught him putting his head through the noose. Later in the day he made two more attempts, and when frustrated became violent.