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Coupons from *Duke's Mixture* may be secured with tags from HORSE SHOE, J. T. TINSLEY'S NATURAL LEAF, GRANGER TWIST, coupons from FOUR ROSES (10-in. double coupon), PICK-PLUG CUT, FLEMING CIGARETTES, CLIX CIGARETTES, and other tags or coupons issued by us.

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson II.—Second Quarter, For April 13, 1913.

### THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Gen. xxviii, 10-22. Memory Verses, 20-22—Golden Text, Gen. xxviii, 15—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

Isaac, having endorsed the going away of Jacob, blessed him again, and this time truly, and sent him away to his mother's people that he might find a wife among the daughters of Laban, his mother's brother. So Jacob went out from Beersheba, where Isaac seems to have continued to live since the record in chapter xxvi, 32, 33, and went toward Haran.

Haran was the name of Lot's father, and he died in Ur before Abram was called out. It was also the name of the place where Abram tarried until Terah, his father, died (chapter xi, 32). It was from thence Rebekah came to be the wife of Isaac. It would have been a long journey for Jacob from Beersheba to Bethel in one day (between forty and fifty miles), so it was perhaps his second night out on which he had this remarkable experience. That matters not, however. It was the dream or vision that counted rather than the time when.

That one who had acted as Jacob had should have such a revelation from the Lord is the wonderful part of the transaction. There are, however, two very prominent facts in all the Scriptures which continually attract our attention. One is the exceeding sinfulness of man, with his deceitful and desperately wicked heart, and the other is the exceeding riches of the grace and love of God.

It does not matter as to the kind of ladder, whether steps of stone or some other kind. But the great fact is that Jacob saw a way of access from earth to heaven, angels ascending and descending, and he heard Jehovah from the top of the ladder talking to him most graciously and in such words as no mortal could expect or by any means deserve.

Because of Jacob's unworthiness and the wondrous grace of God notwithstanding even I have ventured to appropriate and have proved in world-wide journeyings the comfort of verse 15.

The Lord, who stood above the ladder and spoke the words of love and grace, no doubt referred to that night and that event when he said to Nathaniel, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man" (John 1, 33). Some day when the New Jerusalem shall have taken its place over the earth and the elect church glorified and the elect Israel all righteous and the holy angels shall all be in perfect accord with the Lord in administering the affairs of the kingdom we may think of and understand this vision more fully. Meantime let us think of Him who is "the way, the truth, the life," who became man for us. The ladder was set up on the earth. It starts from just where you are. You may step on it if you will, but it must be with both feet clean off the earth, actually in Christ.

It reaches heaven; it is not too short. To mount day by day we must look up steadfastly and see Him who is in heaven for us. Run with patience, looking unto Jesus. The angels will be always ministering (Heb. xii, 1, 2; 1, 14). Notice the four "beholds" of verses 12, 13, 15. Between the time of Jacob's leaving home and this night's experience it looks as if the Spirit had been working some true penitence in Jacob's heart, and this special revelation and message was the result of it. When we turn homeward the Father always runs to meet us, according to Luke xv, 20.

Such overwhelming grace made Jacob feel somewhat as Simon Peter did when the Lord filled the ships with fishes and Peter said, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord" (Luke v, 8). We do well to remember that the Lord is ever with us and that every place with Him may be to us the house of God and the gate of heaven.

The pillow becoming an anointed pillar and the fact that believers are called stones (1 Pet. ii, 5) suggest that instead of being prone upon the earth we may become upright, anointed living stones to the glory of God.

Jacob's vow in verses 20 to 22 may be good or not so good. If he is bargaining with God after all the gracious assurances, as our authorized version would seem to indicate, then his language and his spirit were poor indeed. But if he said, "Since, on seeing that God will be with me" (verse 20), his words are better. He has been considered by some a very mean man, but if any who read these words do not give the Lord at least a tenth of their income are they not meaner than Jacob?

No further incident of his journey is mentioned, but he certainly had enough to think about and to comfort and sustain him for years to come in that vision. He reached his destination, met his cousin, Rachel, at the well, helped her to water her father's sheep, for she kept them, and was heartily welcomed to Laban's home. He loved Rachel, agreed to serve seven years for her that she might become his wife, and they seemed unto him but a few days for the love he had to her (xxix, 9-20).

In Rom. xii, 12, we find this statement: "Jacob fled into the country of Syria, and Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept sheep."

## Farm and Garden

### FINE COLONY HOUSE.

It Has Given Good Results in Sheltering College Men.

This shed roof colony house, designed by the Massachusetts Agricultural College, has its wall made of commercial roofing without boards. It is boarded up eighteen inches around the bottom to give stability to the frame and also to form a scratching base so that the paper will not be worn through near the floor.

In building this house the frame was put together, then boarded up eighteen inches around the bottom and seven-eighths inch strips nailed on the outside of the studding from the boarding at the bottom to the top in order to bring the studding out even with the boards. Two inch mesh wire was then



Photograph by Massachusetts Agricultural College.

### SHED ROOF COLONY HOUSE.

stretched over the studs, and over the wire was nailed the commercial roofing. The wire was used to give stiffness to the roofing.

The frame for the base or floor is made of 2 by 4's. These are fastened to the runners by lag screws. Two inch mesh wire is stretched over the opening in front. A canvas screen is hung at the top and lowered in very stormy weather or on extremely cold nights.

This building was used during the winter for a pen of Silver Pencilled Wyandottes. There were no frozen combs, and the egg production was good. They were placed in this house about the 1st of February.

### MATERIALS.

Strips and braces, 1 1/2 by 2 1/2 10 feet long; 3 1/2 by 3 1/2 12 feet long; Rafters, 4 1/2 by 2 1/2 9 feet long; Sills and joists, 2 1/2 by 4 1/2 8 feet long; 6 2 by 4 6 feet long; Runners, 2 1/2 by 4 10 feet long (chestnut); Floor, 150 feet matched stuff; Roof, 2 rolls commercial roofing; 50 running feet of 1/2 inch by 2 inch strips; 15 board feet for door; 120 square feet 2 inch mesh wire; 12 square feet 1 inch mesh wire; 11-3 yards of muslin; 2 hinges; 1 latch; 4 lag screws; Nails. Estimated cost where good lumber and material are used (without labor), \$13.50.

### ORCHARDS MEAN HOMES.

It is a fact not generally conceded that those who have good orchards seldom desire to sell their farms. A good orchard is significant of a good home, and as a rule a good home is not for sale. Why not plant an orchard and make the home more attractive?—Farm and Ranch.

### The Value of Leaves.

Leaves are nature's own fertilizer, and the wonderful richness of forests and newly cleared land is due to the amount of decayed leaves and vegetable matter in the soil. This is humus, and every farmer ought to know the value of humus in the soil.

### They Clean Up Fields.

Your pastures may be poor, the hillsides may be cut by numerous gullies, and the place may be overrun by wild vines and tough shrubs, but a flock of sheep will make it as clean as though swept by a broom within a couple of years.

### HONEY AND WAX.

The excessive rearing of broods at the wrong season or increase in the number of colonies greatly reduces the surplus honey crop by consumption.

Instead of fussing with the bees the beekeeper had better devote his time to getting things in shape for the coming season—putting hives and sections together, for instance—and thus have all things in readiness for the rush in June.

It is a mistaken economy to use little strips of foundation in either the section boxes or the brood frames, for, while the full sheets will cost a little more, yet the compensating advantages of the full sheets will more than pay for the added cost in straighter and better combs.

There are three principal brood diseases. Two of these—American foul brood and European foul brood—are known to be infectious. From these two diseases there must be differentiated the third one, an apparently noninfectious disorder, the so-called "pickled brood." Larvae dead of this latter disease are practically free from microorganisms. The exciting cause of this disorder is not yet known.

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