

shells that they swallow. They grow to a great size. The largest cod that was ever taken weighed seventy-eight pounds, and was five feet eight inches in length.

LESSON XXXI.

ON SCRIPTURE HISTORY.

CHAPTER I.

BIRTH OF ISAAC, AND EXPULSION OF ISHMAEL.

Ha-gar	o-be-di-ence	o-ver-pow-er-ed
E-gyp-tian	cir-cum-cis-ed	i-ma-gin-ing
in-her-it	re-joic-ings	Pa-ran
wil-der-ness	oc-ca-sion	Ar-abs
Ish-ma-el	Beer-she-ba	

The promise which God made to Abraham, when he commanded him to leave his native country, and go into a strange land, and which had afterwards been so often renewed, was, that he should be the father of a great nation. When many years had elapsed without any prospect of this promise being fulfilled, Sarah appears to have doubted whether the nation was to be descended from her; and she, therefore, persuaded Abraham to comply with a custom, which still prevails in some Eastern countries. Taking Hagar, an Egyptian slave, she gave her to Abraham, that the children born of her might inherit his name and riches. When Hagar saw that she was about to be the mother of a family, she despised her mistress, for doing which she was so hardly dealt with, that she fled into the wilderness. As she was standing by a fountain, the