

Correspondence

L., Ont.

Dear Editor,—My father is a minister and we have just started to take the 'Northern Messenger.' I am twelve years of age and I expect to try the entrance this year. I have had la grippe and have not been to school very regularly. We have a pony named Maud and we like to go out for drives.

JOY SHAW.

M., Sask.

Dear Editor,—As I have never written to you before, I am going to do it now. We live on a farm about twenty miles north-west of North Battleford, and six miles from Jack-fishlake. The country that I live in is a very nice one. There are a few high trees here and there on it. But there are quite a

and I am in the part second class now. I have two brothers and two sisters. I have a doll and her name is China. She has brown eyes and yellow hair. This is the first time I have written to the 'Messenger.'

ANNIE CAMERON.

B. C., P. Que.

Dear Editor,—I am nine years old. We have school in our house and I am in the third reader, but am ready to go into the fourth. It was very cold this winter, but did not keep us from playing out. I enjoy reading your 'Messenger' very much.

J. H. WEST.

K. S., N.S.

Dear Editor,—I am thirteen years old and am in the fifth grade. We have two departments in our school. We live in a small cottage and have just one acre of ground. My father was lost at sea over a year ago, and

I like to get the 'Messenger' just as much as I used to in the East. My brother and I each have a collie dog. I call mine Rex. They are good dogs to fetch the ducks that we shoot out of sloughs. I rode horseback every day to school last fall and the dogs used to come a mile across the prairie to meet me after four. I got Dickens' Child's History of England for a Christmas present and I find it very interesting.

RALPH C. RUSSELL.

[A very good letter, Ralph. We shall be glad to hear from you again.—Ed.]

S., Ont.

Dear Editor,—It is very stormy to-day, and I cannot go outside to play. I live near a lake and have had a good time skating this winter. I got a pair of skates for a Christmas present. I am the eldest of the family and have two brothers and two sisters. I am nine years old. We have three-quarters of a mile to go to school, but it has been cold, so my little sisters could not go.

HAZEL WAGG.

O., Alberta.

Dear Editor,—I want to tell the little boys and girls a story about the gophers: 'The gopher digs a little round home in the ground and makes a little warm nest to live in through the cold winter for itself and its little ones. There are some little striped and spotted gophers, and the brown ones drive the pretty ones away. If the gophers will not come out of their hole when a trap is set, we can drive them out by pouring water in the hole. Our dog Punch likes to catch them. The gophers hide grain in their home for winter. In summer they eat garden stuff and destroy much of the young crops and also birds eggs. They are as big as red squirrels. There are a great number of them here. We see them stand up like little old men; they look so funny, and people tell me they call like a bird. They are the color of old grass. I had a little gopher and it got sick, and I put a string on his neck and let it walk out of doors to see what it wanted to eat, and it hunted until it found wild sage, so I guess that is the gopher's medicine. If the boys and girls like this story I will write another some time about a pet badger we had once.

Your little deaf reader,

BLANCHE HENDERSON (age 10).

[We shall be very glad to hear from you again, Blanche.—Ed.]

OTHER LETTERS.

L. W. Postil, O., Ont., walks three miles to school and thinks it is good exercise.

Sadie B. N., Port Morien, N.S., considers 'the letter that the little Dutch girl wrote was very good.' Sadie lives near the sea.

Cecil Froats, W., Ont., says he has a rabbit cat.

Edna Jean C., Clarence, Ont., writes, 'Two tressels on the C. N. O. in this section have given way. It is good it is not completed or, with the trains running, there would have been an accident.' Then she asks this riddle: What is better than presence of mind in a railway accident?

Bernice R. Hill, N., Alta., says, 'My teacher offered a prize to the one who could learn the books of the Bible first. I learned them first and got a Bible for a prize.'

Frances A. Cook, I., N.S., says, 'I went to my aunt's on Saturday and liked the ride on the train very much.'

Ruby Johnston, M., Sask., goes to school on horseback. 'My papa bought me a side saddle. My pony is white.'

Gracie MacLeod, S. B., Ont., writes, 'I am planting some flower seeds and hope to have a nice flower bed. Last summer we had some nice flowers and I used to like to gather bouquets for the house and to send away.'

Ruth Thayer Macdonald, L. C., N.S., has a dog named Darkey and he is the only play-fellow I have. I have lots of fun with him.'

Grace Evelyn Cavanagh, E., P.E.I., says, 'We have two horses and a colt and we have great times with her in the evenings.'

We also received little letters from B. A., E., Ont.; Gladys Deans, S. C., P. Que., and one without a name from Avonmore, Ont. All riddles sent, but not printed, have either been sent without answers or asked before.



OUR PICTURES.

1. 'The Old Homestead.' Maggie Aldcorn, S. P., Ont.

2. 'Sparrow.' Barbara Dickson, B., Ont.

3. 'Gun.' Cecil Millar (age 10), C., Ont.

4. 'House.' Harold M. Lefurgey (age 12), N.B., P.E.I.

5. 'Box.' Lula M. Dymond (age 10), N.P., P. Que.

6. 'House.' Freda Auger (age 7), M., P. Que.

7. 'A Pig.' Mary McLeod, P., P.E.I.

8. 'S.S. Scotia.' H. H. Reid (age 9), P. H., N.S.

9. 'Gray Bird.' Percie Kramp, S. D., Ont.

10. 'Slipper.' Frances A. Cook (age 9), I., N.S.

11. 'Tea Pot.' Murray Martin (age 8), H., Ont.

12. 'In the Sugar Bush.' Myrtill Middleton (age 12), H., Ont.

13. 'A Squirrel.' Maud Taylor (age 10), L.N., N.B.

14. 'A Fish.' Russel D. McLeod (age 8), P., P.E.I.

15. 'Waggon.' Gladice Crothers (age 7), M., P. Que.

16. 'Ferns.' Laura L. Currie, L., Man.

17. 'Our Schoolhouse.' Sirina Fisher (age 9), S. H. R., N.S.

18. 'Baby Having a Walk.' Jenet Shaddock (age 11), B., Ont.

18. 'Ducks.' Amy Froats (age 10), F., Ont.

20. 'Bird.' Minnie Whaley (age 12), M. C., Ont.

21. 'Roses.' John L. Geldart, R. G., N.B.

22. 'Pail.' Caroline Hagar (age 7), A., Ont.

23. 'Sailboat.' Bernice Crothers (age 9), M., Que.

24. 'A Boy.' D. Dewar (age 11), G., Ont.

25. 'Umbrella Holder.' Laura B. Sutherland (age 13), S., N.S.

26. 'A Flower.' Earl Auger (age 14), M., P. Que.

27. 'A Swan.' Louis Diamond (age 10), C., P.E.I.

28. 'A Crocodile Jig.' Wilbert Wright (age 13), T., Ont.

29. 'Paws and Claws.' F. Ralph Burford (age 9), H., Ont.

30. 'The Pig Family.' Robert J. Warcup, M., P. Que.

31. 'The Hare and the Tortoise.' Katherine Dow (age 10), S. M., N.S.

32. 'Plant.' Pearl Stirtan (age 5), S., Ont.

33. 'The Sheaf.' — (age 12), Avonmore, Ont.

34. 'Our House.' W. R. Geddes (age 9), D. L., Ont.

few bluffs. What we call bluffs are just a lot of trees all in a bunch. The winters here are very cold, but not too cold for us to go to school. I am nine years old and going to school. I have two sisters and three brothers.

HAROLD FITZGERALD.

A., Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl living on a farm a few miles north of Welland. I go to school, but I have a long way to go, and the snow was so deep that I could not get there. But it was good sleighing.

MAUD H.

A., Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl living on a small farm a few miles south of St. Catharines. I go to school, but I have been sick a lot and have to stay home a great deal. I like horseback riding very much and ride in the summer when the weather is nice.

MARY B.

T., Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl six years old. I started going to school last summer

my two brothers, who are 17 and 15, and my mother support the family. There are eight of us.

BURTON G. MOSHER.

B., Ont.

Dear Editor,—My brother and sister and I have got our seeds and are going to have a garden of our own this year. We selected sweet peas, nasturtium, ten-weeks-stocks, and forget-me-nots for flowers, and some vegetables. We are glad to see the birds come back. There are a great number of crows around now, and some robins and a blue jay that we have noticed.

H., Sask.

Dear Editor,—My father bought me a single-barrel shot-gun for my birthday. I have shot a prairie chicken, or pigeon-tailed grouse, with it. There is another kind of grouse here which lives in the bluffs. I am sending a drawing of one. I have four hens and they will eat out of my hand; one has layed 21 eggs. The G. T. P. steel gang was working north of here the third week in January. Our nearest town will be Kelliher, ten miles from here. I like the West very much and