

Give to Jesus.

Of course you give two cents a week,
We hope that you give four,
To help the heathen o'er the wave,
The heathen at our door;
But are you giving all you can?
And doing all you may?
This is the golden age of earth,
A glorious giving day.

The thirty-fold, the sixty-fold,
Returned but yesterday;
Is multiplied a hundred-fold,
In every gift to-day;
For where arose two heads of wheat,
Now waves broad fields of grain,
And he who dares so largely sow,
Shall largely reap again.

O! sister, is your income small?
Can you-but give a mite?
Then cover it so deep with prayers,
It shall be hidden quite;
For 'tis the soil insures the crop,
And prayers make rich the soil;
Your mite-seed in a generous loam,
Will bring return for toil.

We're glad you give two cents a week,
And hope that you give four;
But have you settled on your knees,
That God requires no more?
Ask His advice, give as He bids,
He loves the generous soul;
Who gives to His, gives to Himself,
And He deserves the whole.

—Selected.

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TORONTO, MARCH 14, 1885.

The Bible in the Public Schools.

WE are glad to learn that arrangements have been made whereby the Holy Scriptures shall be read in every Public and High School; and that special facilities are being provided for the religious instruction of the children by ministers of the different denominations. We take from the public prints the following account of these arrangements:

A volume of Scripture Readings has been prepared under the direction of the Education Department in order to place in the hands of every teacher in a convenient form those portions of the Bible best adapted to the capacity of Public and High School pupils. This volume is not intended to be a class book to be used by the scholars, but as a guide to the teacher in his daily public reading of the Scriptures to the scholars. We are given to understand that "it has been carefully revised by representatives of all the leading religious denominations, and will be found to contain a course of lessons, so arranged as to include the most instructive portions of both the Old and New Testaments." The following are the regulations, which have

received the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council:

1. Every Public and High School shall be opened with the Lord's Prayer, and closed with the reading of the Scriptures and the Lord's Prayer, or the prayer sanctioned by the Department of Education.

2. The portions of Scriptures used shall be taken from selections authorized for that purpose by the Department of Education, and shall be read without comment or explanation.

3. Where a teacher claims to have conscientious scruples against opening and closing the school as herein provided, he shall notify the trustees to that effect in writing.

4. No pupil shall be required to take part in the exercise above referred to against the wish of his parent or guardian, expressed in writing to the master of the school.

5. When required by the trustees the Ten Commandments shall be repeated at least once a week.

6. The trustees shall place a copy of the authorized readings in each department of the Public and High Schools under their jurisdiction, within one year from the date hereof.

7. The clergy of any denomination or their authorized representatives shall have the right to give religious instruction to the pupils of their own Church, in each school-house at least, once a week, after the hour of closing of the school in the afternoon.

It is not a little which has been gained when the representatives of all the religious denominations of the Province have given their sanction to such a volume of Scripture selection, and to the use proposed by these regulations to be made of it.

No Christian of any name can object to the use of the Lord's Prayer, while the conscientious scruples of those who do object, whether they be parents, pupils, or teachers, are to be fully respected, and their rights carefully defended.

The following is an extract from the preface:—

"In conducting the devotional exercises of the school, as required by the regulations of the Department, the teacher would do well to remember that much depends upon the spirit in which the subject is approached. Reverence, decorum, and earnestness should characterize every exercise. Besides merely reading the lesson for the day, choice verses might be written upon the blackboard and committed to memory by the pupils. Selected passages might be repeated in concert, and thus, while carefully avoiding any attempt at giving a sectarian bias to the instruction imparted, the truths of the Bible might be impressed upon the pupils as the safest guides for life and duty."

"As bearing upon this department of the teacher's work attention is also called to the following regulation:—'Teachers shall not confine their instruction and superintendence to the usual school studies of the pupils, but shall, as far as possible, extend the same to their mental and moral training, to their personal deportment, to the practice of correct habits and good manners among them, and omit no opportunity of inculcating the principles of truth and honesty, the duties of respect to superiors, and obedience to all persons placed in authority over them.'"

We trust that the increased facilities

thus offered to the different ministers of the Province, or to their authorized representatives, for imparting religious instruction to the pupils belonging to their various Churches, will be largely taken advantage of.

The friendly co-operation of the different denominations lately recommended by Dr. Sheraton can now be brought to a practical bearing, for if all the representatives of the religious denominations in a school section agree together to support one person as their representative, the person thus appointed may regularly give religious instruction to the children connected with all the Churches which enter into the arrangement.

In the same way, in cities, if such an arrangement were entered into, one minister or his authorized representative, might take all the children of the Churches thus combined who attend one school, and another those of another, and so on. Thus in Toronto the work might be so divided among the members of the Ministerial Association, or other similar bodies, as to have authorized religious teaching given at least once a week to all who through their parents or guardians choose to accept it.

Hints for Young Christians.

NEVER neglect daily prayer, and when you pray, remember that God is present, and that He hears your prayers. 1 John v. 14.

Never neglect daily private Bible reading, and when you read, remember that God is speaking to you, and that you are to believe and act upon what He says. All backsliding begins with the neglect of these two rules. John v. 39.

Never let a day pass without doing something for Jesus. Every morning, reflect on what Jesus has done for you, and then ask yourself, "What am I doing for Him?" Matt. v. 3-16.

If you are ever in doubt as to a thing's being right or wrong, go to your room and consider whether you can do it in the name of Jesus, and ask God's blessing upon it. Col. iii. 17. If you cannot do this, it is wrong. Rom. xiv. 23.

Never take your Christianity from Christians or argue, because such and such people do so and so, that therefore you may. 2 Cor. x. 12. You are to ask yourself, "How would the Lord have me act?" Follow Him. John x. 27.

Never trust your feeling, or the opinions of men, if they contradict God's Word. If authorities are pleaded, still, "let God be true, but every man a liar." Rom. iii. 4.

The Jewish Surgeon.

In a garret room in London a poor woman lay dying. A surgeon, who was a Jew, in visiting her, said: "My poor woman, you seem very ill; I am afraid you will not recover. Can I do anything for you?"

"Thank you, sir," said the woman, "There is a New Testament behind my pillow, and I should be very glad if you would read a chapter to me."

The young man seemed surprised, but he took the Testament and did as desired. He continued to come and read to her for several days, and was greatly struck by the comfort and peace which the word of life seemed to give the poor invalid.

With almost her dying breath, the

poor woman gave the Testament to the Jewish surgeon, and urged him to read it. He took the book home with him, and determined to keep his promise. He read it diligently, and soon found Him of whom Moses and the Prophets wrote—Jesus the Messiah—and was enabled to believe in Him as "the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world."

A Noble Offering.

THE superintendent of one of the street-car railways leading out of New York in the country, told a touching story to a friend the other day which found its way into a city paper.

Sitting alone in his office one day, a strange gentleman entered, who proved to be an officer in the army. After some hesitation, he said, conquering great agitation:

"I have a favour to ask of you. I had a little boy, and I've lost him. He was all the world to me. When he was alive my wife used to search my pockets every night, and whatever loose change she found, she would put it away for the baby. Well, he's gone. Here is the box. We talked the matter over, and came to the conclusion we could not do better than to bring the money to you to pay the fares of poor sick children out of town during the summer. It would please him to know that he is helping to save the lives of other poor children. As soon as the box is empty we will fill it. While we live we will keep up the bank."

The box has been twice emptied and filled, and hundreds of sick or dying children have owed this dead baby their one breath of fresh air this summer.

How much more tender and true is such a memorial of the beloved dead than a pretentious monument, or even a painted church window, beautiful though they be! In England it is a frequent practice to build and furnish a life-saving station on the coast, in remembrance of a friend who is gone, and in this country memorial beds in hospitals are becoming a usual way of keeping in memory those we have lost.

Surely if the dead can look back on earth, they are better pleased to know that kind, loving deeds are done in their names than to see them emblazoned on cold stone in forgotten grave-yards.

The Lord's Prayer.

DEAR reader, have you ever thought how much is contained in the Lord's Prayer? It is indeed beautiful and instructive; and like a diamond in a queen's crown, it unites a thousand sparkling gems in one.

It teaches all of us—every one of us—to look to God as our parent: "Our Father."

It teaches us to raise our thoughts and desires above the earth: "Which art in heaven."

It tells that we must reverence our Heavenly Father: "Hallowed be thy name."

It breathes in hopeful words the saints' reward: "Thy Kingdom come."

And a submissive, obedient spirit: "Give us this day our daily bread."

And a forgiving spirit: "Deliver us from evil."

And, last of all, an adoring spirit: "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

—Friendly Visitor.