

ty-two sheep. We had a very good crop of hay and grain this year and a good lot of potatoes and apples. We have a nice plum tree and it had over three bushels of plums on it this year. ADA A. B.

Central New Annan, N.S.

Dear Editor,—We have been taking the 'Messenger' for quite a long time and enjoy it very much. I go to school, and I am in the eighth grade. I have been going to school in Dartmouth, Halifax Co., lately. I sometimes crossed the harbor in a steamboat to Halifax. My last teacher there was Miss McKay. This summer as Miss McKay was coming to spend vacation in New Annan I came home with her. I was very glad to see my folks after being away seven months. I have a brother named Ross; he is 10 years old, and a little one, Willie, also a little sister named Fannie. Mamma has quite a large number of house-plants. We have some prospects of a railway running through New Annan, connecting Tatamagouche with Truro. I was 12 years old last September. LIZZIE K.

Harold, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I live on the farm and have quite a number of cattle; we send milk to the factory; we have four working horses and three cows; their names are 'Daisy,' 'Nell' and 'Dell'; I have a pet cow; she is all white, and I call her 'Pearl.' We have a dog and cat; their names are 'Jack' and 'Kit.' We have also a canary; she doesn't sing very much; her name is 'Maggie.' I have one brother and three sisters; they are all older than I am; my one sister goes to school with me; we are both in the same book. We have had a very wet summer. I have to go to school about three-quarters of a mile, and we don't like to go very much, it's so wet. We live eleven miles from Marmora, where so many men are engaged in the gold mines. I am nine years of age. E. KATHLEEN B.

Big Bras d'Or, C.B.

Dear Editor,—I have been taking the 'Messenger' for some time, and like it very well. I go to Sunday-school and day-school. I have two miles to go to school, and am in the tenth grade; I like drawing best of all my studies. I live near a brook on which there is a mill; there is a great deal of lumber hauled to it in the winter months; it is in operation all the year. I am very fond of reading and have read about 25 books, among which are: 'Evangeline,' 'Lady of the Lake,' 'Vicar of Wakefield,' 'In His Steps,' 'Inez,' 'Kingsley's Heroes,' 'Macaulay's Lays' and 'Beautiful Joe.' I have quite a few house-plants, including fuschias, a rose-bush, pineapple, calceolaria and eight varieties of geraniums. U. G.

Living Springs, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I go to school almost every day; I tried the Entrance this year, but failed; I am going to try again. We live five miles from the town of Fergus. I have three brothers and one of them goes to school. My oldest brother takes the 'Messenger,' and we all enjoy reading the stories very much. The 'Weekly Witness' has been coming to our place for almost fifty years; my grandfather took it as soon as he came out from Scotland. The 'Messenger' has been coming ever since it was started, and it has always been liked. My birthday is on Feb. 16; I will be fourteen. I go to Sunday-school all summer. My father is superintendent, but we do not have any Sunday-school in the winter. JENNIE M. R.

(You are very faithful readers of our publications.—Ed.)

Expiring Subscriptions.

Would each subscriber kindly look at the address tag on this paper? If the date thereon is Dec. 1902, it is time that the renewals were sent in so as to avoid losing a single copy. As renewals always date from the expiry of the old subscriptions, subscribers lose nothing by remitting a little in advance.

HOUSEHOLD.

Closets, and Their Care.

(Mrs. A. C. McPherson, in the New York 'Observer'.)

The average house contains too few closets, especially those built a score of years ago. The modern house, if comfort and convenience are the two essentials considered in its construction, will possess many closets. Each bedchamber ought to possess its closet, while kitchen and dining-room will have closets galore. A hall closet is one of the handiest places imaginable; many articles which cannot be placed upon the hall table or rack may be relegated to its seclusion. A closet in the parlor is a luxury—let me call it so—we have cognizance of only two homes having closets in parlors. The architect planned the one in the home of a friend very cunningly. It was unnoticed among panellings, etc.

Besides the closets enumerated a general closet will be found very convenient, especially if the family be large. This closet should be fitted with several shelves, upon which boxes, packages, etc., of articles belonging to the different members of the family can be stored, and where each one's possessions will not be invaded through mistake.

Closets should be aired often and cleansed at least once a year. No garment should be placed in a closet without first removing all dust, soiled spots, etc. Footwear should be well brushed, straightened, all creases smoothed out and then placed in their respective receptacles. Closet floors should be scalded with water, to which a few drops of carbolic acid has been added, afterward wash and wipe dry. Linoleum or oilcloth makes very good coverings for floors of closets, matting may be used also.

Where at all practicable, light and air should be admitted into the closet direct, where these two influences must be had indirectly the closet should be situated so as to admit of as much air as possible, when desired.

The closet does not always receive the proper attention it should, the laws of hygiene are often ignored, and thus disease is courted through ignorance or indifference. Closets in which the footwear of the family is stowed from year to year, even when past wearing, ill-smelling and green with mold, soiled, ragged or moth-eaten garments, which should have been given to the ragman long ago, pieces of carpeting, hats, soiled, battered and broken, musty books and magazines, odds and ends, feathers, discarded corsets, fit only for the fire, etc., these are the closets which send out microbes and endanger the health of the family. The real and true use of the closet should never give way to that of a mere 'catch all.'

Selected Recipes

Crumb Steak.—Put three-fourths of a pound of steak through a meat cutter. Mince a tablespoonful of onion and fry to a delicate brown in a little butter. Add the chopped meat, a cup of bread crumbs, half teaspoonful of salt, dusting of pepper and enough cold gravy or stock of any kind to mould into shape. Cool, shape, roll in crumbs, dip in beaten egg, again in crumbs and fry. If desired, serve with a little brown gravy poured around.

Bean Soup.—Wash your beans and soak them over night in water to which a little soda has been added, then rub them well to remove the skins which are absolutely indigestible and innutritious. It is mainly to the skins that we owe the gases generated by eating beans. Now place them in your kettle, cover with cold water and let them boil until tender, after which mash and sift through a fine sieve. Have a quart of milk and cream heating in a double boiler and thin to the proper consistency. Season to suit taste. Serve hot with strips of well toasted bread, also a slice of a lemon. This soup is very nutritious and good for chil-

dren who are delicate, also for those who do not care for or wish to use little or no flesh food.—'Journal of Hygiene.'

HALIFAX TO VANCOUVER.

Gavin E. Robertson, Perry Station, Ont., says:—For twenty-seven years the 'Witness' has been a welcome visitor in our home. We feel that we cannot part company with it. Should the time ever come when only one paper comes to us that one must be the 'Witness.' May it long wield an influence for good from Halifax to Vancouver.

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