SAILING O'ER THE SEA

## SIX GIRLS. BY A. B.

A group of bright eyed maidens gathered one afternoon on the broad shady lawn of the old Lathrop place in the brisk, wide awake, little village of M.

Ethel and May settle down into the hammock. Margaret proves her right to be called strong-minded by her companions by showing herself regardless of the possible onslaught of bugs and beetles in taking the green sward for a chair, and the great trunk if the noble elm for a back to her seat. Lill, bright, audacious Lill, brings grand-ma's footstool for her own accommodation, and with a contented sigh, plants herself at Miss Lathrop's feet, and Bess and Amy and Madge draw close to the centre of the group. Six bright, happy girls, six carnest young hearts just beginning to realize that being alive means something more than eating and sleeping and frolicking.

"Girls," the teacher began, and the merry chatter ceased, and eyes, blue and gray and brown, turned toward her, "girls, you all heard what Mr. Fremont had to say last Sunday about the state of affairs in Dakota, how girls and boys were crowded into shanties and log houses week after week, while we sat in our comfortable carpeted school-room ; how large neighborhoods in some places are entirely without churches ; and the people, too poor and too busy to go to a distance, grow careless and indifferent, and the little children are growing up intogodless American citizens. Now, girls, here we are, seven of us, what can we do to help?" Then Miss Lathrop picked up her crochet needle, and for the space of half a minuto naught was heard but the drowsy, midsummer insect hum. Then a suggestion came from the ham-

mock : " Have a fair, I suppose.' "Oh ! I'm tired and sick of everlasting fairs," quoth Lill, "Let's make some real honest money. I've been thinking a good deal lately, and I don't believe it's exactly giving to take money from our fathers to buy worsted and lace and ribbons, and then take money' from our mothers in pay for the fancy things we've made. I had a long think about it Sunday after tea, and know what I'm going to do, and if the rest will each do something, we can make it worth while. Let's each go to work, and do something useful, something that somebody really wants.

"Lill's plan is a good one, I think," said Miss Lathrop, " and I propose we try each in her own way; meet once a month to report, and perhaps get suggestions one from the other, and then, at the end of six months, we will send the profits to some one place. In the mean time I will try to learn particulars of a needy school, and then we will feel that we are working for real girls and boys and not for an object.  $Lill_{2}$ let us have the benefit of your ideas. You spoke first."

A flush crept up into the young girl's face. "You know," she began, "they say I make good home-mado candies, they always sell well at fairs, and now I mean to let it be understood that I will make them for any one who will buy, and besides, I mean to write out, either in tiny blank books or on stiff cards, about a dozen recipes with very particular directions about the making of the candy, and sell those for about ten cents each.'

"Grandma said the other day," spoke up Bess, in answer to a glance from Miss L., "that she would buy cookies from me overy Saturday, if I would take the trouble to make them, for it makes her tired nowa-days to stand to roll them out, and in all the forty-five years that Grandma has kept house, I don't believe her cookie pot has

been once empty." "'May," said Ethel suddenly to her com-panion in the hammock, "do you remem-ber that dreadful grease spot on your sleeve where Hal spilt the ice cream last summer ?

"Indeed I do, and I said good-bye to that dress till you wrought some magic with a bit of sponge and an innocent looking bottle : and from that day to this I have never seen the spot."

"I made that cleanser from a recipe Aunt Mary had," answered Ethel, "and I don't see why I can't make it and sell it : I'm sure that is something everybody wants, for as long as there are boys there will be grease spots."

Then it was Mary's turn to speak, and

# DUET. Music by RSV. I. BALATEL Con Spirito {We're a happy pilgrim band, Sailing to the goodly land; With a Though the tempest rages long, There is One among the throng Who will When the mighty billows swell, With the caved it shall be well. Tho the Roll - ing waves shall not overwhelm, For wo've Jesus at the helm, And he'll Tho' for man - y a ges past She has braved the stormy blast, She's the Safe a - mid the rocks and shoals, She has landed many souls, Safe at Ho I yes in ners, hear to - day, There is danger in your way, By the There is dan - ger un - der - neath, And a - bove a storm of wrath, And the 2 8. CHORUS. swelling sail we onward sweep guido the sail • or o'er the deep. breakers roar .up • on the kea; guide us eato • ly o'er the sea, old ship of Zion as of yore; home on Canaan's hap - py shore. ohart of fol • ly you are led; rooks of destruction just ahead. ing o'er the are sail ing, sail ing, sail ing, sailing, We. ing o'er the sea, L -2 0 We aro drift aro drift ing toward the ng, drifting. drifting, drifting. drifting, o'er the se are drift lea, We are drift ing toward the lea. drifting tward the lea, We are drifting drifting, drifting, drifting, drifting, tward the le . ~~

she engerly broke in, "Mother told me Upon this work he was fully set even when only yesterday that, if I would keep Ted quiet for half an hour every afternoon and We are the salt of the earth—a penetrateach him his letters, so that he can begin at school in the fall, she would pay me regularly once a week; I thought then I couldn't, he fidgets so, but I want to do my share for Dakota, and I'll try.

"You know, girls, I've had some missionary hens for a year; I can't neglect little Yank se Miang, or whatever his name is, out in China, but I can have some Dakota hens, too; chickens pay better every year." Thus spoke Margaret.

And dainty Bess promised the proceeds of her brush for six months. The girls all knew that her exquisite dinner cards brought good prices at the store in the city, where her handiwork was always welcomed. Miss L.'s crochet work fell in her lap.

Well, girls, we've made a beginning. word to the wise is sufficient, I see, youhave left hardly anything for me to choose, but when you all come here four weeks from to-day, I think I'll be ready, and by that time I hope to have some definite knowledge about a church or school house we may help to build. Let us keep before us the thought that we are trying to make good men and women for this, our own dear country, and surely they have a right to the glad tidings as well as we."—Ex.

#### "ONE THING AT A TIME."

Concentration of effort will succeed. David said "one thing have I desired of David said "one thing have 1 usual the Lord, that will I seek after." Jesus said, "one thing is needful, and Mary hath chosen that good part." Paul said, "This one thing I do." There are many necessary duties which domand our care and command our interest, yet must no. be h engrossing affairs of life. To tay ours should be first. If we are truly sceking to live for God's glory, the primary object of Object to the scenario of the scenario of the scenario.

ting, diffusive power for positive good ; we are the light of the world, to shine with heavenly splendor, and thereby guide the feet of the wanderer into the way of eternal life. He who gashes overy tree in the forest will bring no wood to the market; he who swings his gun toward each bird which flies will bag no game ; nor will you, fisherman, rushing with feverish haste from pool to pool, catch fish.--George E. Needham.

Be noble-that is more than wealth; Do right-that's more than place ; Then in the spirit there is health, And gladness in the face.

Feorge Macdonald.

#### ADDRESS.

Address all letters to the Northern Mesenger, care of John Dougall & Son, 321 and 323 St. James street, Montreal, Que.

# NEW CLUB RATES.

The following are the NEW CLUB RATES for the MESSENGER, which are considerably reduced :

reauco						1
1	copy.				0 30	Ĺ
,10	copies	to one	address.	!	2.25	
20	<b>~</b> ((	"	·' .		4 40	
50	" "	""	".	10	0 50	
100	"	"	".	2	00 0	
Sam	ole pac	kago si	applied f	ree on a	pplica-	1
tion	JOHN DOUGALL & SON.					
	Publishers, Montreal.					
ų •	•		• · · ·		192	1
1. 22	••	-			÷.,	Ē
Mon	TREAL	DAILY	WITNESS	s, \$3.00	n year,	F
i post-pa	1a. 1	IONTRE	AL WEE	KLX WJ	TNESS.	

### NEW BIBLE COMPETITION. BIBLE BIOGRAPHIES BY YOUNG READERS, THE BEST TO BE PRINTED.

Since the close of our Prize Bible Competition last year the Editor of the Messenger has been in constant receipt of letters uring that the plan be continued. These requests were not responded to at once because of the interest of our readers being largely centred in the "Dominion Prize Competition" and one scheme of the kind was considered enough for our young people at a time. These stories are now, however, all written and the few weeks to be

spent waiting for the results to be made known, our boys and girls will find quite a good time to launch forth on a new plan of work.

OUR AIM

this year is to so direct the study of our young people that they shall at the end of their term, if we may so call it, be as familiar with the life story of a number of the more prominent characters in the Bible as they are at examination time with any of the kings, queens or notables of whom they have learned in their Canadian, English, or Ancient histories.

#### OUR PLAN

is to take one character at a time and offer first, second and third prizes for the best story of his or her life, written wholly by the boy or girl who sends it in. All competitors must be under eighteen years. We will begin with

THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM.

FOR THE BEST short account of the life of Abraham (not exceeding 500 words) we will give a handsome reference Bible.

FOR THE SECOND BEST, also a reference

Bible, in a less expensive binding. FOR THE THIRD BEST a handsome cloth-

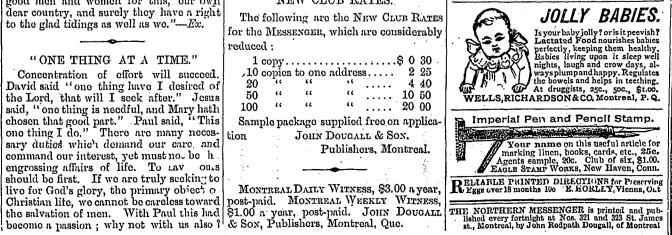
bound copy of one of "Pansy's" popular stories.

The stories must all be sent in to this office not later than one month after the date of this paper. They must not exceed five hundred words in length, must be written on one side of the paper only, and contain the name, age, and address of the writer clearly written on the upper right hand corner of the first page. Use either note paper, or sheets of foolscap divided in four, and on no account roll the manuscript to send it. In judging of the merits of these, accuracy of detail, composition, writing and general neatness will all be taken into consideration. The best story, with the name of the writer, will be printed when the results are announced. Address all stories.

Northern Messenger Bible Competition, JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal.

# OUR NEW STORY.

The beautiful story of "Laddie" begun on the Family Circle page will run through four or five numbers, and is sure to be enjoyed by both young and old.



8