

For the New Year.

These are the gifts I ask
Of thee, Spirit serene :
Strength for the daily task,
Courage to face the road,
Good cheer to help me bear the traveler's load,
And, for the hours of rest that come between,
An inward joy in all things heard and seen.

These are the things I prize
And hold of dearest worth :
Light of the sapphire skies,
Peace of the silent hills,

Shelter of woods and comfort of the grass,
Music of birds, murmur of little rills,
Shadow of clouds that swiftly pass,
And after showers the smell of flowers
And of the good brown earth,
And, best of all, along the way, friendship and
mirth.

Henry Van Dyke.

Apple-ology.

(We are indebted to a reader of *SUNSHINE* in London, England, for the following ingenious anagram which, he says, appeared some twenty-three years ago—another theory of the slang phrase "23 skidoo." Having being brought up in the "Auld Kirk," drilled and re-drilled in the Shorter Catechism, we find it extremely difficult to believe that our first parents were such omnivorous apple-eaters, but—Well, read the anagram.—EDITOR.)

LONDON, Eng., 28th Oct., 1908.

The Editor of *SUNSHINE*.

Dear Sir,—I am sure all your readers are glad to notice the remarkable figures relating to your office published in each addition of your interesting periodical, but I am sure your executive will admit that they are not so wonderful as those given in the accompanying anagram. I am not aware who is the author of it, but I understand that it appeared in an insurance paper here some twenty-three years ago.

Yours truly,

"E. L. A."

ADAM AND EVE AND THAT APPLE.

The story completely told. But who can read it?

How many apples did Adam and Eve eat?
Some say Eve 8 and Adam 2—a total of 10 only.
Now we figure the thing out far differently.
Eve 8 and Adam 8 also—total 16.

We think the above figures are entirely wrong.
If Eve 8 and Adam 82, certainly the total will be 90. Scientific men, however, on the strength of the theory, that the antediluvians were a race of giants, reason something like this: Eve 81 and Adam 82—total 163.

Wrong again; what would be clearer than if Eve 81 and Adam 812, the total was 893?

If Eve 811st and Adam 812, would not the total be 1623?

I believe the following to be the true solution: Eve 814 Adam, Adam 8124 Eve—total 8938.

Still another calculation is as follows: If Eve 814 Adam, Adam 81242 oblige Eve—total 82,056. We think this, however, not a sufficient quantity. For although we admit that Eve 814 Adam, Adam if he 8081242 keep Eve company—total, 8,082,056.

All wrong. Eve, when she 81812 many, and probably felt sorry for it, but her companion, in order to relieve her grief, 812. Therefore, Adam if he 81814240fy Eve's depressed spirits. Hence both ate 81,895,854 apples.

In Praise of Our Nonforfeiture System.

MADRAS, 13th August, 1908.

THE SUN LIFE ASSURANCE CO. OF CANADA.

Dear Sirs,—Accept my thanks for cheque handed me this day by your agent for Madras Presidency, Mr. G. Motiram, in settlement of policy of assurance No. 100840 held by my late husband, D. S. Gnanaprakasam. The settlement has been made promptly and without trouble or expense on my part, and I appreciate it very much, as well as all the kind and considerate treatment accorded me. I also desire to express my high appreciation of the Company's system of nonforfeiture, by means of which the policy was kept in force when my husband was unable to pay premiums for over two years. Only for this excellent provision I would not now be receiving this most needed amount.

I wish the Sun Life of Canada all prosperity.

Yours truly,

MANOMONEY GKANAPRAKASAM.

A certain Congressman is the father of a bright lad of ten who persists, despite the parental objection and decree, in reading literature of the "half dime" variety.

"That's a nice way to be spending your time," said the father on one occasion.

"What's your ambition anyhow?"

"Dad," responded the youngster, with emphasis, "I'd like to have people tremble like aspen leaves at the mere mention of my name."—Lippincott's.