

EASTER TIDE.

"THE Lord is risen, indeed!"
Oh, verily most dear, most sweet,
That makes my faith and joy complete—
My soul's sufficing creed,
That all the past illumines,
Irradiates earth's glooms,
Sheds light on future tombs—
And kindles Adam's dust, and mine,
To immortality divine!

"The Lord is risen, indeed!"
Then death is not an endless sleep;
Grim warders shall not always keep
My flesh with ruthless greed.
Since the dear Christ arose—
Conqueror of those last foes—
Which my true life oppose.
Lie where I may, low winds shall wave
Sweet Easter-flowers above my grave.

"The Lord is risen, indeed!"
I hear His resurrection song,
This sacred morning, roll along
The paths of mortal need.
He could not rise alone;
For me the hindering stone
And watch were overthrown.
Since He is risen I shall arise,
He lifts me to th' eternal skies.

"The Lord is risen, indeed!"
He lives that I may live through Him;
And this, 'mid doubts and dangers dim,
Is my sufficient creed.
Oh, happy Easter morn,
For all of woman born
Who put not Christ to scorn,
But lay their weakness in His tomb,
To vanish with its mortal gloom.

—William C. Richards.

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Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLKS:

Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, APRIL 4, 1885.

THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED.

THIS is the glad salutation with which we welcome the glorious Easter-day. What blessed truths are wrapped up in this the Church's watchword, which is repeated all along the ages by the believing sons of men. He, the Lord of life, died once for us. He has thus transformed death. It is no longer, what before it seemed to be, the end of all life, the dark hopeless gulf into which our hopes, our labours, our loves descend, never more to return. Death is proved to be but an experience of life, away from life to life.

He died once. He liveth ever. He is the living Christ. Do we really believe this? Has this truth taken possession of our hearts, dispelled our fears, inspired our work? What room is there for unbelief and despondency? Can he ever fail us? Is he not more

than sufficient for our utmost need? Do we live in him? Oh that we were lifted out of the cold dead formalism in which we have been held; and that we felt the quickening power of the life of the living one. May he grant us all this Easter blessing. May we awake to a new hope and a new life, a life of unselfish devotion, a life of holiness and goodness, a life which death will only come to usher into its glad fruition and completeness.

EASTER JOYS.

WHAT especially has afforded the world joy and peace? It was the resurrection of Christ from the dead. There was joy on his advent, and angels joined in the glad refrain, "Glory to God in the highest." There is real joy also after Jesus suffered the agonies of the cross to see him come forth victor over death and the grave. How sad were all his disciples and friends to see him suffer and die! How dark the world as the Son of man expired on the cross! What a solemn stillness brooded over the holy city as Joseph took him down, and laid him in his rock-hewn tomb! With what sadness all who loved him spent that night and the succeeding day. Grief had settled down on many hearts who had learned to love the Prince of Peace. But, oh, the joy when it is announced on the morning of the third day that "He is not here, he is risen." Though doubts were mingled with fears, yet how great the joy when the fact is fully declared. Then the darkness fades before the rising light. Then gloom departs like mist before the sun. Then sorrow flies from despondent hearts, and joy and peace begin their loud acclaim, "All hail, all hail." Oh, what a load is lifted from the despondent friend to know that Christ the Lord is risen from the dead, and has conquered the powers of eternal darkness and woe.

It is joy even to-day. The Christian rejoices in such a Saviour. The Christian Church hails this day with anthems of praise, for it declares her victory over the great enemy of sin. It makes the demon of despair rage and quake at this strong potentate, who fears neither death nor the grave. With what joy we should celebrate this festival. How appropriate to consecrate one's self to his service as an offering of joy for his salvation.

DR. NELLES'S admirable article "On Preaching," in the *Methodist Magazine*, has attracted much notice. It has been reprinted in full in the *Southern Methodist Quarterly Review*, and has been quoted in the *Chicago Current*. This Quarterly also reprints from the *Magazine* the Rev. S. B. Harrison's article on "Agnosticism at the Grave," the substance of which was previously reprinted in the *New York Christian Advocate*. The article on "Canadians on the Nile" has been reprinted in part in the *Chicago Christian Advocate*. The *New York Methodist Review* also highly commends the *Magazine*. Such recognition of a Canadian periodical by foreign journals is very gratifying.

RECEIVED from an anonymous donor 50 cents for Children's Hospital and 50 cents to send S. S. papers to poor schools.

"HE IS NOT HERE."

NOW unexpected was this announcement to the women who were still seeking to show regard for their dear Saviour. They could scarcely wait until day-break, but hurried on through the twilight to bear precious spices to the Saviour's tomb. They still expected the body of Christ where Joseph had laid him. Their mission was that of unfeigned love. What startling news when the angel said, "He is not here, he is risen." At first their minds were confused and could not be satisfied. They feared that he had been stolen from the grave, but still they felt that he had power over death and the grave. So he had. He came forth from his narrow prison. He arose the first fruits. He triumphed. He thus subdued his enemies. He put to confusion the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees. He was no longer the mean, contemptible Nazarine of former days. He now is the wonder of wonders. Nature seemed to be in close harmony with the spiritual. Jesus the spiritual sun shed his glory o'er a darkened world. He broke the power of reigning sin. "He is not here" indicated that he was somewhere. He was not overcome, neither disqualified for the greatest trials. He triumphed after all human vengeance had been expended.

Men of Invention and Industry. By Samuel Smiles, LL.D. Pp. 382. New York: Harper Brothers. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.50.

The world is always willing to hear whatever the author of those famous books, "Self-Help," "Character," "Thrift" and "Duty," has to say. He has given us here another volume of industrial biography full of inspiration to every reader. The men whose achievements are here recorded are some of the less known inventors or "captains of industry." Among them are Pheneas Pett, one of the pioneers in British ship-building; Francis Smith, who introduced the screw propeller; John Harrison, inventor of the marine chronometer; Frederick Koenig, inventor of steam printing; the Walters of the *Times*, and other benefactors of mankind. Of special interest is the chapter on students in humble life, rich in lessons of hope and courage to the young and to all who are engaged in the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties.

"The *Canadian Methodist Magazine*" for March. Toronto: William Briggs; \$2 a year, \$1 for six months, single number 20 cents.

There are four well-illustrated articles in this number: "Wanderings in Spain," "How Tiles are Made," "The Cruise of the Challenger," and a Life Sketch of General Gordon, with portrait. Dr. Daniel Clark, Medical



'SMOKE NOT.'

Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, contributes an admirable paper on "Worry," and the Rev. W. S. Blackstock one, "Some Salient Aspects of American Methodism." Two capital stories are given—"Bible Braid," and "Skipper George Netman, of Caplin Bight." A chapter of Hymn Studies, and Life Sketch of the late Dr. Richey, and other articles, make up an excellent number. Back numbers can still be supplied.

SMOKE NOT.

HAVE a pipe of tobacco, water-man?" said a young man at one of our seaports. "No, thank you, sir, I don't smoke."

"Don't smoke?"
"No, sir, haven't smoked a pipe this ten year. One of my customers, a Miss Johnson, gave me this tract, 'Smoke Not' Well, sir, that tract hit me upon every point: it was written so well that it described every feeling a great smoker has. Well, I finished my pipe, knocked out the ashes, stopped smoking, gave up a bad habit, and, without any offence, sir, it would be a good thing if you would read the tract and give up a bad and injurious habit."

It is much better still, boys, never to begin an evil habit like this.

THE DOG AND THE TELEPHONE.

AN intelligent dog was recently discovered wandering about the streets of an American city, by a gentleman who knew it. He at once asked its master by means of the telephone whether he had lost his dog. The reply came, "Yes; have you seen it?" To which the further instruction was sent, "Suppose you call him through the telephone." Accordingly, the dog was lifted up and the ear-piece placed at his ear. "Jack! Jack!" shouted its owner, whereupon Jack, recognizing the voice, began at once to yelp most vigorously, and licked the telephone in a friendly way, evidently thinking that its master was inside the machine.