

## Correspondence

Cullister, Sandwick, Shetland.

Dear Editor,—I was much surprised to see a piece about Shetland in a recent 'Messenger,' so I thought I would write you an account of a Sunday-school picnic we had to the ancient Pictish castle illustrated. The island of Mousa lies about two miles from where we live; one mile by sea and another by land, on which the castle is situated. We met at the church and walked to the pier at Sandsaix where the packet was waiting to take us to Mousa Isle. It was a beautiful day and we enjoyed our sail very much. We landed at the Ham and had tea on the grass, and then went to see the chief places of interest. First we went to a place closed in by small hills from whence we could not see the sea; then to the ancient castle. When we got inside we climbed the strange winding stair running through the thick wall and were delighted to find ourselves at the very top where we could see the birds flying about. We thought it a very wonderful place. We also found a lot of beautiful shells by the seashore and a large number of gulls' nests built on the green turf, in quite exposed places, with three or four eggs in each. We also visited the ancient house where the proprietor of the island once lived, and various other places. We at last arrived at our landing-place, where we had tea again, and sang 'Shall we gather at the river.' Then we got aboard the packet-boat and sailed for home, thinking we had had the best picnic we ever enjoyed.

KATIE S.

(We were very glad to receive a letter from so far away as the Shetland Islands. Our readers will be very interested in it.—Ed.)

McLeod's Crossing, Que.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl ten years old. This is my third letter to the 'Messenger.' My father is a carpenter and he also keeps a farm. I go to school every day; I have only missed one day yet; my sister is our teacher; we have to walk two miles. I was at my grandmother's last July, and I had a very pleasant time. There is a high hill in their pasture and I used to go up there and see the places around, among which was a pretty lake. I have two sisters and three brothers. My birthday is on June 28. I think I saw a little girl's birthday that was on the 29th.

CATHE J. McD.

Fordwich, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I go to Sunday-school every Sunday and get the 'Northern Messenger.' I like to read the correspondence very much. I have two sisters. My papa died two years ago. I go to school every day; I am in the junior second. I am 8 years old. My teacher is a lady; she boards with us. We live in the village. We have some hens and chickens. My birthday is on Nov. 14. We are going to have an entertainment in our school this winter and a Christmas tree in our Sunday-school.

M. C. S.

Valley Junction, Iowa.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl eleven years old. Our school is out now, and I am writing with my cousin. I take the 'Northern Messenger' and enjoy reading it very much. I go to Sunday-school every Sunday. I live in the country. I have one brother and two sisters. This is my second letter. My studies are: geography, physiology, arithmetic, reading, spelling, grammar, music, penmanship, and drawing.

ADA M. F.

Dalkeith.

Dear Editor,—I go to school every day and I like it very well. I am in the third reader, I go to Sunday-school too. The river De Grasse runs down a little piece away from where I live and I often go fishing, I caught eight fish one night. For pets I have a kitten, its name is Beauty. I had one before, but it died, for it was getting old. The saw-mill we had was burned down, but they built another. It

is pretty cold here now, but it is hot in the summer. I was a week at Caledonia Springs and liked it fine. My birthday is on May 16 and my father's is on May 15. I got lots of presents on my birthday; I had a birthday party once, and I asked some of my schoolmates; we played lots of games, such as London bridge is falling down, pussy-in-the-corner, and many other games.

HENRIETTA. (Age 11.)

Lacadie.

Dear Editor,—I live six miles from St. Johns, Que. I have two brothers and no sisters; I am sorry I have no sister. My oldest brother is fourteen years old; I am the next, I am eleven, and my youngest brother is ten. My brothers and I go to school. I am in the third reader; I study reading, spelling, geography, grammar, writing, arithmetic and Bible; my teacher's name is Miss Ethel G. Lee, and I like her well. I have five pets, four cats, their names are Topsy, Tiny, Nettie and Kitty, and one dog, his name is 'Gwess'; he is eight months old; We have three horses; their names are Ponie, Teddie and Nellie. We have nine head of cattle, three sheep, and three pigs. Mother has quite a lot of hens and chickens. I have four geese and they are pets; they follow us all around. I have two grandmas and one grandpa and a great grandma living.

ALICE MARY S.

Jasper.

Dear Editor,—Having received the 'Northern Messenger' in the Sunday-school for a number of years I have always had the interesting letters read to me since childhood, so I decided to have my sister write, that my letter might be included in the correspondence page. I live on an island on the Rideau River. During the summer holidays I always have a great time, but as winter approaches I generally take my holidays away from home, because it would seem funny to go away from such a nice place when others are just going to enjoy its beauties. I am six years old, and I have just one sister who is sixteen years old; she is going to the High School in the spring and I am going to the public school. I like to go to Sunday-school, but I do not get there very often now.

PERCY W. E.

Guelph, Ont.

Dear Editor,—As I have only seen one letter from Guelph I thought I would write one. I go to Chalmer's Sunday-school and we get the 'Messenger'; I like it very much, and I take great pleasure in reading the correspondence and Little Folks' Page. I have four sisters and one brother. We have no dogs or cats, but we have three pet chickens; we all delight in feeding them. I go to school nearly every day; my studies are: grammar, arithmetic, history, spelling, physiology and composition; I like writing, grammar, also other subjects; I have a very nice lady teacher, both at Sunday-school and every day school. I take music lessons, and that is what I am very fond of. I have been up to Barrie this summer for a month, and last summer I was in Toronto for a month also. I was eleven years old on Nov. 5. I am in the third grade at school.

MARGARET O. MACK.

Valley Junction, Iowa.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl eleven years old, and live on a farm twelve miles west of Des Moines. I take the 'Northern Messenger' and like it very much. I wrote to the 'Messenger' once before and I saw my letter in print, so I thought I would write again. I go to Sunday-school and church. I go to school when there is school, but we are having vacation now. I study the fourth reader, arithmetic, physiology, geography, language, penmanship and spelling. My birthday is on Oct. 7.

AMY B. H.

Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Editor,—I go to school as most all children do, and love to study. Last time I wrote I said I had two sisters and one brother, but now I have two brothers and one sister. I am in the fifth grade at school and study geography, reading,

spelling, grammar, arithmetic, and music. I do not have as far to go to school as some children say they do; I just have to go four blocks. There are about 400 scholars attending the school I go to. I am fond of reading, and have read about nine different books from the library of this city. I go to a band of love and Sunday-school. I have one grandpa and one grandma, and they are both very old and good. I would like to get more subscribers for the 'Messenger,' and I am working for the Temperance Pledge Roll. My birthday is on Aug. 28.

MARY E. N. (Age 12.)

(Many thanks for your kind interest.—Ed.)

L'Avenir, Que.

Dear Editor,—I was born in Manitoba; my father died out there, so we came to live with our grandfather on a large farm in the country. We have twelve cows, six horses, and a large sugary of two thousand trees, and an orchard. We had seventy bushels of apples this year. L'Avenir is a small village with two churches, five stores, a post-office, a convent, two hotels, and quite a number of houses. We live two miles from the village. I have two miles to walk to school, and I am in the fourth reader. We had two aunts visiting us this summer, one from Manitoba and one from the States. I enjoy reading very much. My birthday is on Aug. 4. I had a party and quite a number of my schoolmates came. I have two brothers telegraph operators, and I have two sisters. I have got six dolls; one is nearly as tall as myself, and I call her Elsie. I have got a cat named Minnie; she is fourteen years old. I went to Drummondville this summer and went up to see the falls; they are directly under the iron railway bridge; it was nice to sit and watch them. My grandfather's name is Mr. S. Ployart, and a reader of the 'Witness'; he is eighty years old, and is active and smart yet. I take music lessons from my sister Marion. I like the 'Messenger' very much and would rather have it than any other paper. I like the correspondence and the Little Folks' page best. I am sending the pledge roll and hope you will be pleased with the names I have got.

ALINE R. (Age 10.)

(You worked splendidly, Aline; thank you very much.—Ed.)

Guelph, Ont.

Dear Editor,—We have been taking the 'Northern Messenger' for seven years and I think it is a very nice paper. I take much pleasure in reading the correspondence and hope to see my letter in print. I attend Mission Band in our Sunday-school. I am in the high fifth grade at school, and will be 13 years old on Nov. 13. I am taking music lessons and like them very much. I have a little baby sister eighteen months old, and she can say almost anything, she is so cute. My mother, sister and myself were at a surprise party on Hallowe'en and there were about 36 people there, and they did not go away until three o'clock the next morning; we had a nice tea about one o'clock, when we had raw and stewed oysters and other good dishes. There were so many at the table that they could not seat them all, so they got some planks to put on the chairs. We were very much disappointed when some big fellows stole all our taffy.

NELLIE MACK.

Pincher Creek, Alta.

Dear Editor,—I wrote once to the 'Messenger' and was very glad to see it in print; I wrote it in July, but did not see it in print till October, so you see it was a very long time getting in. I was going to tell you that I got some prizes at the Fair; I only got two second prizes; one was for a hand-made handkerchief, and the other was for writing in my copy-book. We get the 'Messenger' from our Sabbath-school. I like to read the correspondence page best of all. We attend Sabbath-school regularly, so you see we get the 'Messenger' every Sabbath. My eldest sister, Margie, and I milk five cows every night and morning. We have to