

late self-surrender. She was ready to lay aside her own plans and do His will: "Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to Thy word." In the R. V., the marginal rendering is "the bondmaid." She desired no greater vocation than to be used by God in any way He might choose, as His slave, expecting no reward. No wonder He was able to work mightily through her. No one need fret about lack of opportunity and a narrow environment. God can easily provide opportunity—He can do anything He chooses through a life that is really surrendered to His will.

We spend so much time, money, and nerve-force in pushing our own plans. We worry when the way looks dark before us. We are conceited over apparent success, and disheartened over apparent failure. Does not this prove that our lives are not wholeheartedly placed at our Master's disposal?

The Psalmist says he keeps his eyes on God, as the eyes of a servant look unto the hand of his Master, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress. In Eastern countries the mistress will often give an order by a movement of the hand, without a spoken word, and a servant who is on the watch will hasten to obey. If we are to work faithfully under our Master, we must keep our eyes on Him. We must remember His presence often during the day, and ask—with full purpose of obedience—"Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" Our prayers must not be self-willed pleading for our own will to be done, but under the petition for our heart's desire must always be the unshaken foundation prayer: "Nevertheless, not my will, but Thine, be done."

It is easy to say this, but it takes a lifetime to learn the lesson of self-surrender perfectly. Perhaps you think that I imagine myself to have learned it—because I preach "Trust" to you so often. Indeed, no! Day after day I stumble over the big words in God's primer—His first book. But I am quite sure the lesson is worth learning, and that the Master's patience will not fail; therefore I pray and struggle for trust, and the capacity for ready obedience. He can do His work through trained workers, and we cannot get our training easily. Let us accept the daily lessons thankfully, rejoicing when the Master is evidently taking trouble over our progress. It is easy to thank Him for pleasant days, let us not forget to thank Him for the hard and valuable lessons set us from time to time. Let us work under His direction, expecting lasting success. His is the power.

"Great things attempt for Him, great things expect,  
Whose love imperial is, Whose power sublime."

DORA FARNCOMB.

## The Beaver Circle

### Our Senior Beavers.

[For all pupils from Senior Third to Continuation Classes, inclusive.]

### A New Competition.

Dear Beavers,—We haven't had a competition for a long time, have we? How would you like to write on the following:

All the girls write about "Boys."  
All the boys write about "Girls."  
The letters to be at this office not later than March first.

Now, Beavers, do your very best. The letters need not be very long, but they should be bright and interesting. . . By the way, we have not forgotten that we promised to print a few of the Honor Roll letters in the Garden Competition. Next time perhaps there will be room.

### Ski-ing.

Have any of the Beavers learned to ski? How do you think you would like to take a big jump, as the man in the picture is doing? You would be afraid of coming down in such a way as to hurt your nose, would you not? But the people in Switzerland, Sweden, and Norway, are very expert on skis, and after such leaps in the air, can keep

their balance and glide off down the mountain sides like birds.

Skating is becoming very popular in many parts of the world, especially where there are hills. The other day we saw a picture of a merry skating party in Wales, while such parties may be seen on any fine winter day in many parts of the United States and Canada. Indeed, it is said that should there chance to be an international contest, Canada will stand a very good chance of coming off with honors.

I hope you, will learn to ski; it is good, healthful exercise. But if you do, don't try high jumping too soon.



Ski-Jumping in the Tyrol.

### Captain Ben's Valentine.

By J. Graham.

"Secrets, secrets again!" said Mother Harper, as she saw the children whispering together in groups.

"I thought there would be no more secrets for another year, now that Christmas is past, and old Santa Claus gone back to his home in the North. Whose birthday is coming? And what are these secrets all about?"

"Oh, mamma! said Mabel, 'is it possible that you've forgotten that St. Valentine's Day comes next week?'"

"Why, bless your heart, child! I had forgotten all about the good old saint. Whom are you going to send Valentines to this year?"

"The same ones as last year, Lillie and May, and all the rest of our crowd, and maybe some new ones. We have not decided yet," said Mabel, as she turned her head away to hide the guilty look, which she felt sure had crept up into her face.

She wondered what her mamma would say if she knew of the valentine she had made for the boys to send old Ben Leamont, the old sea captain, who lived at the other end of Scott's farm, and whose house they passed on their way to school every day.

She was startled out of her reverie by hearing mamma say, "Well, I'll leave you to choose your valentines yourselves this year, trusting that my children will make wise choice."

Mabel tried to ease her conscience by saying to herself that she was not sending the valentine to Old Ben herself. But still, if she had not made it for the boys, they could not have sent it, as she was the artist of the group.

How she wished she had not done it now. She felt sure the boys would not give her the sketches back, they had been so delighted with them, and had laughed at the grotesque-looking pictures so heartily.

Captain Ben was the special ogre of almost every child in the village. He scowled fiercely, and shook his doubled fist at them whenever he met them, and if they dared stop but a few minutes to peep at the beautiful flowers in his old-fashioned garden through the bars of his gate, he'd set his pet dog, Pincher, on them, a tawny, yellow creature, with wicked, snappy-looking eyes, who seemed as though he understood that war was



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## Cream of the West Flour

the hard wheat flour guaranteed for bread

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## Prices Direct to the Farmer

We want to make "Cream of the West" flour better known in every locality in Ontario. And with this end in view we offer the following special prices to-day on flour and feed direct to the farmers:

### FLOURS

	Per 98-lb. bag
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Queen City Flour (Blended for all purposes) . . . . .	2 40
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	Per 100-lb. bag
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"Bullrush" Middlings . . . . .	1 35
Extra White Middlings . . . . .	1 45
"Tower" Feed Flour . . . . .	1 55
"Gem" Feed Flour . . . . .	1 70
Whole Manitoba Oats . . . . .	1 45
"Bullrush" Crushed Oats . . . . .	1 50
Whole Corn . . . . .	1 45
Feed Cornmeal . . . . .	1 50
Cracked Corn . . . . .	1 55
"Geneva" Coarse Feed . . . . .	1 55
Manitoba Feed Barley . . . . .	1 40
Barley Meal . . . . .	1 45
Oil Cake Meal (old process) . . . . .	1 70

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