

A Hymn for the New Year.

I see not a step before me,
God hangs a mist o'er mine eyes,
And on each step in my forward course
He makes new scenes arise;

I see not a step before me,
As I tread on another year;
But the past is still in God's keeping,
The future his mercy shall clear;

For perhaps the dreaded future
Is less bitter than I think;
The Lord may sweeten the waters
Before I stoop to drink,

It may be that he has waiting,
For the coming of my feet,
Some gift of such rare blessedness,
Some joy so strangely sweet

Oh, restful, blissful ignorance!
It is blessed not to know;
It keeps me still in the arms of God,
Which will not let me go;

So I go onward, not knowing;
I would not if I might;
I would rather walk in the dark with God
Than walk alone in the light;

Cullings from Exchanges.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE VOICE.—It is soberly stated that in Switzerland a milkmaid or milkman gets better wages if he has a good voice, because the shrewd Swiss know that a cow will yield much more milk if soothed with a pleasant song during the process of milking.

A writer, under the pseudonym of Pan-Aryan, in the Review of Reviews has an optimistic article entitled "On the Threshold of Universal Peace." He believes with the Mayor of Antwerp, who said, in welcoming the late Peace Congress to that city, "Peace is in the hearts of all men in civilized countries," and calls attention to five propositions that have been put forth recently, "not by obscure enthusiasts, but by practical men of world-wide fame."

The Chicago and Alton railroad company has issued an order prohibiting its employees from using any intoxicating drinks while they are on duty, and from visiting gambling resorts. It is a highly commendable thing for the company to do, whether viewed from the standpoint of the railroad company's interest, or the employees' or the public's.

follow the example set by the Alton company. Concerning toppers as railroad men, one of our city dailies well says: "There is no place on a railroad for toppers. They ought to go elsewhere and get some work which involves no responsibility and where their misconduct can endanger neither life nor property. Let them dig ditches and clean streets. But with their tremulous hands and shattered nerves they cannot be trusted by any railroad officer who wants his road to have a record of freedom from accidents."

THE FIGHT FOR THE SCHOOLS.—It has been a long time since London was so stirred over an election as over the one just held for the members of the London School Board. Intense excitement was early manifested, for it was very clear that both parties were unusually in earnest, and the issues were so momentous. Over half a million children were concerned, and the aim—avowed and disguised at the same time, for the Moderates, or Deggleites, were very shifty—of the one party involved starved schools, medieval texts, theological definitions and an extension of the State establishment of religion. The Progressive standard was raised for good education, liberty of conscience and the use of the Bible in Board Schools without creeds and priests to interpret it.

A COMING AGE OF DOCTRINES.—The Rev. John Watson, of Liverpool, recently delivered an address at the Presbyterian College, London, on "The Coming Revival of Dogma," which was very striking and suggestive. The main thought was that the age of destructive criticism was passing away, and that there were signs it should give place to an age when doctrine would be enthroned in higher esteem. Referring to the past, he spoke of the first age of mystical experience; then the age of dogma; then that of scholasticism, followed by that of criticism. He said, "We have been born into the age of criticism, and have been baptised into its spirit."

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE.—The eulogies poured out on Upper Canada College last night are possibly well deserved, but the thought is prompted

that the brains and energy of the graduates had as much to do with their future success at the discipline and teaching of the school. When the high schools and colleges shall have been in existence as long as Upper Canada College, many of them will have as brilliant honor rolls as has that old institution, if, indeed, several of them have not already quite as good a showing. The objection to the Upper Canada College is that it is a class institution kept up as a Government school. It is doing the same work as the high schools, and not doing it so well. It is not prosperous, it has made heavy drafts on the Provincial purse and it is rivalling successful Government schools. If the admirers of the College wish to continue its existence they should maintain it as a private institution.—Toronto Star.

DEATH OF SIR JOHN THOMPSON.—This sad event, which we were able only to chronicle in the briefest terms last week, has evoked expressions of sorrow and sympathy from all parties, not only in the Dominion, but in the Mother Country. Making due allowance for the generous impulse which prompts, in the presence of death, to forget the faults and recall the virtues of the dead, it has yet been made abundantly evident that the departed Premier stood very high in the estimation of political opponents, as well as political friends, throughout the Dominion. Nay, as not unfrequently happens with men of noble character, his political opponents are found to have been, in some instances, his personal friends. For our own part, having followed pretty closely Sir John's public life since his entry into the Dominion Government, we deem it scarcely too much to say that from the date of such entrance, and more particularly from the time when he became, by the force of circumstances, the virtual, as afterwards the actual, leader of the Government, Canadian politics were raised to a higher plane. Though we have not always been able to approve of the stand which Sir John felt himself constrained to take in the debates touching the scandal investigations of the past few years, and have in a few cases felt bound to express our conviction that he had failed, in some measure, to raise above the exigencies or prejudices of party, we are glad to be able to join in the almost unanimous expression of respect for his genuine integrity of character, as well as in admiration of his great ability. No matter which party holds the reins of Government during the next decade, we believe that it will be a period comparatively free from corruption in public life, and that for the changed state of political and public feeling, which gives promise of such reform, a large share of the credit is due to the much-lamented statesman whose mortal remains are now being brought across the Atlantic in one of the swiftest warships of the Imperial navy.—The Week.

Now is the Time.

The benefit to be derived from a good medicine in early spring is undoubted, but many people neglect taking any until the approach of warmer weather, when they wilt like a tender flower in the hot sun. Something must be done to purify the blood, overcome that tired feeling and give necessary strength. Vacation is earnestly longed for, but many weeks, perhaps months, must elapse, before rest can be indulged in. To impart strength and to give a feeling of health and vigor throughout the system, there is nothing equal to Hod's Sarsaparilla. It seems perfectly adapted to overcome that prostration caused by change of season, climate or life, and while it tones and sustains the system it purifies and renovates the blood.

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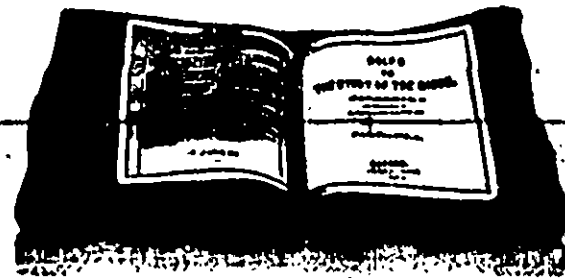
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SPECIMEN OF TYPE.

46 Jacob sendeth Benjamin. GENESIS, 43. Joseph entertaineth his brethren. CHAPTER XLIII. And when Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the ruler of his house, Bring these men home, and slay and make ready; for these men shall dine with me at noon. And the man did as Joseph bade; and the man brought the men into Joseph's house. And the men were afraid, because they were brought into Joseph's house.



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