

as usual. I let him see I had just as much confidence in him as ever, and I never had greater faithfulness in one of my clerks. I believe he would have gone through fire and water for me. Our beloved governor became interested in him, and after a while made a position for him better than I could give, and at last I persuaded Max to leave me. I think there were no more devious paths after that. His road went straight on, and I know he has had a useful and a happy life. —The Congregationalist.

A Suitor's Recommendation.

While in North Tonawanda, New York, recently, we enjoyed a brief conversation with the Rev. James Moss, whose early ministry and ours began in the same locality. He knew very many of the persons we once knew. He told of a local preacher who had a beautiful daughter named Phoebe, whose hand was sought by a devoted young Methodist named Darling. When Phoebe told her father what was up, the old man went to his book-case and took down the missionary reports covering a period of twenty years. He found Darling's name down at first for an annual contribution of one dollar, then for two dollars, then five, then ten, and latterly twelve. He replaced the books and turning to his daughter said, "It's all right, Phoebe, go ahead!" When Mr. Darling came at length to ask the local preacher's consent for his daughter's hand, he found him ready with a hearty, 'Yes.' A happy marriage followed and a new Methodist home was soon joyously dedicated. —Michigan Advocate.

Thy Hand.

A tender child of summers three,
Seeking her little bed at night,
Paused on the dark stairs timidly.
'O mother, take my hand,' said she,
'And then the dark will all be light.'

We older children grope our way,
From dark behind to dark before;
And only when our hands we lay,
Dear Lord, in thine, the night is day,
And there is darkness nevermore.

Reach downward to the sunless days,
Wherein our guides are blind as we,
And faith is small and hope delays;
Take Thou the hands of prayer we raise,
And let us feel the light of Thee.
—John G. Whittier.

Correspondence

A book is offered as prize for the best letter sent in before the end of January. We would again remind our correspondents to write clearly on one side only of the paper. Address all letters 'Messenger Correspondence.' Next week we will give an 'Honorable Mention' list of all those whose letters we have not had room to print. We are pleased to receive so many letters with their kind wishes and interest. Look up on the map the towns from which the letters are written; you will find it an interesting way of learning geography.

Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Editor,—We have had the 'Messenger' for nearly a year, and watch for its coming every week. I have three brothers and two sisters. I go to Sunday-school.

LILLIAN (aged 10).

Glencoe, N.B.

Dear Editor,—Glencoe is a small but very pretty place. It is situated about four miles from the Restigouche River, and is altogether surrounded by mountains. The land between these is very level, and has many very pretty shade trees all over the valley.

There is a brook running through the town which is very picturesque. Some places the sides of it are low, with large beeches; other places, the sides of the banks rise into steep bluffs through which the water flows very rapidly. We are having a new railway run through here, which is, I

think, partly spoiling the beauty of the place, but will open up a country that will be worth a trip through. We always look forward to the mail day on which we get the 'Witness' and the 'Messenger.' We have been taking the former for about thirty years and the latter about twenty-seven, and think there are no papers like them.

MAMIE.

Woodstock, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I live near the pretty town of Woodstock, Ont. It is surrounded by railways. They manufacture furniture, pianos, stoves, brooms, bicycles and many other things. We have a creamery factory grist mills and saw mills. We also have a fine court-house, a hospital, a house of refuge, and several fine churches.

HAROLD E.

St. Catharines.

Dear Editor,—We live in the country in a frame house, and keep a small farm. I am ten years old, and am in the fourth book. We had a gathering of all the Sunday-schools of the city in our church on Thanksgiving day.

CARRIE C.

Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Editor,—I used to live in Vancouver, and know 'Blanche.' I like my teacher very much. We have lots of snow here, and good skating. I have taken the 'Messenger' for two years. We can't do without it.

MELVIN G. J.

Nantyr.

Dear Editor,—We get the 'Northern Messenger' in our Sunday-school. I like reading the correspondence very much. I have four sisters and two brothers. We live in a pretty part of Ontario, near Lake Simcoe. We have boating and bathing during our summer holidays.

JENNIE (aged 10).

Lower Selma.

Dear Editor,—We have a dog named Robinson Crusoe, and a cat named Timothy, and a canary bird named Charlie. We have taught Crusoe some tricks. He will kiss us, and will stand up on his hind legs and beg for food; and also he will shake hands. He is a brown dog, with bow legs and long ears. Papa says he is a water spaniel.

CLARA (aged 11).

Salmon Creek.

Dear Editor,—I belong to a Mission Band called 'Little Jewels.' We are studying about the mission work in Trinidad. My oldest brother and I belong to a lodge called the 'Loyal Crusader,' and we learn about the evils of intemperance.

EDNA (aged 8).

Union, Ont.

Dear Editor,—My pets are a cat, a pair of pouter pigeons and a little pony. My pony is so little some folks call it a big sheep, but he is bigger than that. He is strong, and sometimes when we want him to go over a bridge he is a little stubborn. He will come in the house if we let him. He will kiss me and shake hands, and will beg for something to eat, and bow.

NINA (aged 12).

Teeswater, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I would like if Jane Katherine M. would write again, as my mother came from Scotland and has seen the places which she mentions.

J. A. (aged 12).

Hawkesbury, C.B.

Dear Editor,—I am a boy of eight. I like to read the letters in the 'Messenger.' I get it in the Sunday-school every Sunday. I have one brother but no sister. I have a dog and a marmoset that came from Brazil; it looks something like a squirrel, but it has a tail much longer. I have a horse named Dewey. My papa goes to sea. He is going to join his ship in Boston.

WILLARD (aged 8).

Bouchette.

Dear Editor,—I came from Scotland; there were one hundred and twenty-nine boys came with me from the Orphan Home. I was glad when we started for our journey, although I was very sick for a couple of days, and was glad when we arrived again at Brockville, where we rested for several days. I have two brothers; they came out with me. I am living in a small place

now. There are three little girls and one little baby boy seven months old named Clifford. I like the place very well. I have a pet dog; his name is 'Guess.'

ALEX (aged 12).

Lorne.

Dear Editor,—I live beside the lake, and I think it is a very pretty place to live in the summer. We have a boat and we set nets every fine night and get lots of fish. There is a little island about a quarter of a mile from the shore called Stoney Island, which we often row out to.

B. E. R. (aged 12).

Campobello, N.B.

Dear Editor,—I have a brother, Johnny, seven years old. I live on an island, and can watch the boats and vessels as they pass.

EVA MAY (aged 9).

Dunnville, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I think it sad for the people of Dawson City, and I heartily join with Miss Etta, of St. Catharines, in sending Christian papers up there. The town of Dunnville is a very pretty place on the Grand River, and is five miles from Lake Erie.

EMMA R.

Jackson.

Dear Editor,—I like the 'Messenger' very much. We live in a country village. There are two churches and one school-house about one mile from here. I have four brothers and two sisters.

LILLIAN PEARL (aged 9).

Maplegrove.

Dear Editor,—I enjoy reading the correspondence in the 'Northern Messenger,' of which my brother is a subscriber. I have two pets cats and two dogs. I go to school regularly, and like my teacher well. I am also learning to play on the organ, and to accompany my brother Herb, who plays on the violin.

LLOYD (aged 8).

Glen Levit, N.B.

Dear Editor,—I live in a place where there are more than a dozen pretty high mountains. They look very nice in autumn, when the leaves are colored. They are very dark looking now, even though the ground has on its carpet of snow.

JAMES (aged 10).

Gladwin.

Dear Editor,—We all go to school. We like our teacher very much. The school-house is one-half of a mile from our home. My father is an engineer. I have relatives in Canada.

LENA M. H. (aged 10).

St. Etienne, Que.

Dear Editor,—I go to school all the summer, but do not go to school in the winter, for it is too deep snow. I had a garden at school, but all the flowers froze. My cousins came from Colorado last August to see us, and we had a pleasant time with them.

FLORENCE ISABELLA (aged 10).

North Troy, Vt.

Dear Editor,—My sister subscribed for the 'Messenger' for me. She used to take the 'Messenger' when she was little. I have about two miles to walk to school. We have one horse, seventeen hens and two cats.

MURIEL (aged 11).

Bouchette.

Dear Editor,—I take the 'Messenger' and like it very much. I have not got any pets but my books, and I would not part with them for a great deal.

MAUD.

Corrie.

Dear Editor,—I have taken your paper for more than four years, and have found it very good. You had some very good illustrations for Prohibition, and I am very glad it passed. I have a darling little sister. For pets I have a dog named Toby, a calf and a sheep. I am pleased to see one of our neighbors, Annie G., writing.

S. R. J. (aged 10).

Glen Sutton.

Dear Editor,—I like to read the 'Messenger' very much. My papa is a clergyman, and has taken fifty copies of the 'Messenger' for the Sunday-school for the last year. There is beautiful scenery around here.

H. A. J. L. (aged 8).