

spring is coming, the organ grinder is on our streets, the boys have had their time at marbles, the girls at jack-stones—signs of returning sunny skies more sure than the robin's note or the crow's discordant *caw*.

THE *Old Testament Student*, which we notice in our literary column, has in its March and April numbers some very decided and wise remarks upon the study of the Bible in our Theological Halls. Very justly it contends for Bible study as the most important element in the curriculum, and says that in some institutions of sacred learning Bible study is a farce. One of our own students expressed lately the sentiment of many: We want an experienced interpreter who will carry us through one or several typical books of the bible in such a manner as to teach us how to interpret. Dr. Howard Crosby, in an article on this subject in the *O. T. Student* writes:—"I cannot believe in a distinct chair of Biblical Theology as distinct from Systematic. The two should be one—every seminary student's theology should be evolved from this careful reading under the guidance of his professors. This would make sound theologians and powerful preachers." But there is Bible study and Bible study. We have been at Bible studies where the sole exercise appeared to consist in stringing together a number of texts having some particular word, but with a marvellous disregard of connexion or meaning. Nor is it Bible reading to pore over some verse or chapter, reading into it the moods of one's own mind. Nor can reading about the bible unfold its teaching. The Bible is, or should be, the minister's hand-book, and it is an important part of theological training, how reverently, boldly and truly to handle it. "Language drill," says the *Student*, "is a poor substitute for Bible study. It is invaluable, if thorough, but let not those who give it, or those who receive it, think for a moment that it is all that is needed."

One unwise act will bring down a philosopher's reputation ere a hundred can bring down a fool's.

Deceit and falsehood, whatever conveniences they may for a time promise or produce, are in the sum of life, obstacles to happiness.

If virtue was more appreciated by us, and evil less complicated in our actions, the people of the next century would all be good. The works of one generation are examples for the next.

## Correspondence.

### OUR MISSIONARY'S LETTER.

GEORGETOWN.

There was a very good attendance here in the Sunday school. The scholars are all connected with families in the church. As in many other schools the "Pilgrim" lesson papers are used, and very much appreciated. Little has been done by the children for foreign missions in this part, but no doubt much will be in the future. I preached to large congregations, both morning and evening. A good collection was taken up at one service. Some of the people assured me that they would help support my work in the future. Altogether my visit to this place was pleasant and profitable. Rev. Jas. Pedley, the newly-settled pastor, is working hard; is much appreciated by his people, and confidently expects to see matters improve very much in the church, and that at no far distant date.

BARRIE.

The meeting here was not, certainly, among the largest we have had, but we spent a profitable time, and a good collection for the number present was taken up; while at the close of the meeting some of the friends assured me that they would do more for foreign missions than they had done in the past. I am afraid that the battery of the Salvation army has done mischief to this church, but the bulwarks are being rebuilt and strengthened, so as to defy the assaults of such feeble things, and a good class of officials is going to command the fortress, so that with skillful generalship the outlook will be very much improved before long.

EDGAR.

This place is in the country of storms. What a night it was; snowing, drifting, and pitch dark; still we were not discouraged, we had a fine meeting, and considerable interest was manifested in our missions.

RUGBY.

The roads were heavy, and blocked in places from the storm of the previous night. The people, however, turned out pretty well, and at the close of my address I was told that they would help to keep me in Africa, no doubt because they hoped my presence there would be of some good.

DALSTON.

For the first time a foreign missionary meeting was held in our church here. The night was dark and wild yet the people in very good numbers were in attendance, and some declared that there would have been a larger gathering had they known what kind of an address they would have heard.