



My dear Guests,—

The following are the results of the recent Memory Gem contest: In Class I. the winner is Miss Olive Kidd, Cookstown, Ont.; closely following are A. L. McDiarmid, Cora G. Pound, V. M. Thomas, Ross W. Doan and Lizzie Noonan. In Class II., Miss Mabel A. Scott, Fairview Farm, Dominion City, Man., is the fortunate competitor; with Alice Bligh and Mary Ker (whose papers received equal marks) a close second; Constance Wilson, Annie Lamont and K. C. McDiarmid are third in merit, while Winnie Spaulding, Maggie Telfer and Rachel Patterson all sent very good papers. Our old friend, Janet Waterman, Fraser-ville, Ont., wins in Class III., with a very good margin; hers will, if possible, be published in next issue; Mabel L. Pound, Verne Rowell, Jessie Fawcett and Alice E. Bull being the other contributors.

Some of the contributors lost marks by using one or more quotations which appeared in last contest, and which were debarred this time. This was the case with your paper, "Annie Laurie," as also with your sister's (?).

To forgive being divine, "Jewess," I hope you will relent and be merciful to me, as it was not my fault that I did not see you. I was not nearer than Peterboro; should I ever go that way again, perhaps, we could arrange a meeting; I always enjoy meeting my "Advocate" friends, whether new or old. I have not your flower essay now, for which I am sorry, as it might have been useful to you.

Maggie T. is thoroughly welcome to make herself as comfortable as possible in the Nook, and I hope she will keep her resolve to try again, undaunted by want of success this time. No, I did not hang up my stocking, but Santa Claus, or his representatives, were very good to me, notwithstanding. On behalf of the "Advocate," my Guests and myself, I thank you for your good wishes, which I am sure all reciprocate.

Thank you, "Margareta," for your pretty little souvenir w/ the bonny Scotch Thistle on it. You are very patriotic, girlie. Kind regards to all.

My thanks are also due to Alice Bligh and V. M. Thomas for kind wishes; I hope both will enter the lists again, and that they may have better success next time.

Jean M—, I shall send your story to "Cousin Dorothy," to whose corner it belongs, but I shall be pleased to have you enter some of the Ingle Nook contests.

OUR COMPETITIONS.

We again offer three prizes for the three best sets of Memory Gems, selected from Canadian authors only. Each set to contain ten, and only ten, quotations, which may be either prose or poetry, preferably not very long. The author's name must accompany each quotation. The prizes will be awarded in one general class. Contributors should sign their names on their papers, as well as on any letter which may accompany them. All contributions must be sent to address given below, and must reach Pakenham by Feb. 20th. This contest should have a special interest for all.

THE HOSTESS.

Ingle Nook Chats, Pakenham, Ont.

PRIZE MEMORY GEMS—CLASS I.

By Olive Kidd, Cookstown, Ont.

"Now in the sunset glow I stand so near
The hills of light that all the past grows clear;
Even griefs transfigured in this softer ray,
Take on new forms and shine above my way.
With dawning triumph in the words I read,
'He taketh from us nothing that we need.'"

—Frances L. Mace.

"Be still, sad heart, and cease repining,
Behind the clouds is the sun still shining;
Thy fate is the common fate of all;
Into each life some rain must fall,
Some days must be dark and dreary."

—Longfellow.

"The little worries that we meet each day
May be as stumbling-blocks across our way,
Or we may make them stepping-stones to be
Of grace, O Lord, to Thee."

—A. E. Hamilton.

"Heaven is not reached by a single bound,
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount to its summit round by round.

"We rise by the things that are under our feet—
By what we have mastered of good or gain,
By the pride deposed and the passion slain,
And the vanquished ills that we hourly meet."

—Dr. J. G. Holland.

"St. Augustine! well hast thou said
That of our vices we can frame
A ladder, if we will but tread
Beneath our feet each deed of shame.
Nor deem the irrevocable past
As wholly wasted, wholly vain,
If, rising on its wrecks, at last
To something nobler we attain."

—Longfellow.

"'Would'st thou,' so the helmsman answered,
'Learn the secret of the sea?
Only those who brave its dangers
Comprehend its mystery.'"

—Longfellow.

"Say not, 'twas all in vain—
The anguish and the darkness and the strife.
Love thrown upon the waters comes again."

—Anna Shipton.

"Not what we give, but what we share,
For the gift without the giver is bare;
Who gives himself with his alms, feeds three—
Himself, his hungering neighbor and Me."

—Lowell.

"Without a recognition
You passed Him yesterday—
Jostled aside, unhelped his mute petition,
And calmly went your way.

"Oh dreamers, dreaming that your faith is keeping
All service free from blot,
Christ daily walks your streets, sick, suffering, weeping,
And ye perceive Him not."

—Margaret J. Preston.

"To comfort and to bless,
To find a balm for woe,
To tend the lone and fatherless
Is angel's work below."

—W. W. Howe.

PRIZE MEMORY GEMS—CLASS II.

By Mabel A. Scott, Dominion City, Man.

If God hath made this earth so fair,
Where sin and death abound;
How beautiful, beyond compare,
Will Paradise be found.

—Montgomery.

Happy the man, and happy he alone,
He who can call to-day his own,
He who, secure within himself, can say—
"To-morrow do thy worst, for I have lived to-day."

—Dryden.

Whoever you are as you read this,
Whatever your trouble or grief,
I want you to know and to heed this:
The day draweth near with relief.
No sorrow, no woe is unending;
Though heaven seems voiceless and dumb,
As sure as your cry is ascending
So surely an answer will come.

—Ella W. Wilcox.

It needs not great wealth a kind heart to display,
If the hand be but willing it soon finds a way;
And the poorest one yet in the humblest abode
May help a poor brother a step on the road.

—Swain.

Give love and love to your life will flow,
A strength in your utmost need.
Have faith and a score of hearts will show
Their faith in your word and deed.
Give truth and your gifts will be paid in kind,
And honor will honor meet,
A smile that is sweet is sure to find
A smile that is just as sweet;
For life is a mirror of king and slave;
'Tis just what we are and do.
Then give to the world the best you have
And the best will come back to you.

—M. S. Bridges.

There is pleasure in the sunshine that sleeps on the
hill;
In the fall of the water; in the leap of the rill;
In the leaves that are stirred by the breath of the
wind;
But nowhere such pleasure as in words that are kind.

—D. C. Colesworthy.

Human bodies are sic fools
For all their colleges and schools,
That when na real ills perplex them,
They make enow themselves to vex them.

—Robert Burns.

"The Holy Supper is kept indeed,
In whatso we share with another's need,
Not what we give, but what we share,
For the gift without the giver is bare;
Who gives himself with his alms feeds three,
Himself, his hungering neighbor and Me."

—Lowell.

Speak gently; it is better far
To rule by love than fear.
Speak gently; let no harsh words mar
The good we might do here.
Speak gently; 'tis a little thing
Dropped in the heart's deep well;
The good, the joy which it may bring
Eternity shall tell.

—David Bates.

Earth gets its price for what earth gives us,
At the devil's booth are all things sold,
Each ounce of dross costs its ounce of gold.
For a cap and bells our lives we pay;
Bubbles we buy with a whole soul's tasking;
'Tis heaven alone that is given away,
'Tis only God may be had for the asking.

—Lowell.

Famous Prescription for all House-keepers.

DR. O. B. JOYFUL,

21 Sunshine Avenue,

Office hours: 6 a.m. to 12 p.m.

A little dash of water cold,
A little leaven of prayer,
A little bit of sunshine gold,
Dissolved in morning air,
Add to your meal some merriment,
Add thought for kith and kin,
And then as a prime ingredient
A plenty of work thrown in;
Flavor it all with essence of love
And a little dash of play;
Then a nice, old book and a glance above
Complete the happy day.
Take daily, and repeat.

Recipes.

DOMINOES TO PLEASE THE CHILDREN.

Dominoes are not difficult to make. Beat half a pound of butter to a cream, adding gradually two cupfuls of sugar; add the yolks of four eggs. Beat thoroughly; then fold in the well-beaten whites, and three cupfuls of pastry flour sifted with two teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Pour into greased shallow pans to the depth of half an inch. Bake in a moderate oven for fifteen minutes. When done turn out on a cloth to cool, and when cold cut with a sharp knife into oblong pieces the shape and size of a domino. Cover the top and sides with white icing; when this has hardened, dip a wooden skewer into melted chocolate and draw the lines and make the dots of the dominoes. Children are always delighted with these little cakes.

SAND TARTS AND GINGER SNAPS.

Sand tarts are excellent. Beat half a pound of butter to a cream and add half a pound of granulated sugar; then add the yolks of three eggs and the whites of two, beaten together; add a teaspoonful of vanilla and just a little grated nutmeg. Mix in sufficient flour to make a dough. Dust your baking-board thickly with granulated sugar. Take out a piece of dough; roll into a moderately thin sheet; cut with round corners, and bake in a moderate oven until a light brown. Dust the top of the sheet with sugar instead of flour, to prevent the roller from sticking. By adding half a pound of cleaned currants to the above recipe you will have Shrewsbury currant cakes.

The tiny little ginger snaps and Jackson snaps may be made several weeks before using, and will be the better for keeping. For ginger snaps rub half a pound of butter into two pounds of flour; add a tablespoonful of ground ginger and half a pound of brown sugar; mix thoroughly; then add gradually a pint of molasses; as the dough must be exceedingly stiff, possibly you may not require the entire pint. This condition will depend entirely upon the grade of the flour used. Knead thoroughly, and roll out in a thin sheet; cut with a small round cutter, and bake in a moderate oven until they are quite brown and crisp.

To make Jackson snaps, beat half a pound of butter to a cream, add gradually a pound of sugar, then one egg well beaten, one cupful of water, and the juice and grated rind of one lemon. Knead in about a quart of sifted flour—possibly a little more. The dough must be hard and elastic. Roll in a thin sheet and bake the same as ginger snaps.

AN INEXPENSIVE COFFEE FRUIT CAKE.

To make coffee fruit cake, beat half a pound of butter to a cream; add one cupful of brown sugar. Dissolve a teaspoonful of baking powder in two tablespoonfuls of water; add it to half a pint of New Orleans molasses; add this to the butter and sugar; add a teaspoonful of allspice, one egg well beaten, a tablespoonful of cinnamon and one grated nutmeg. Mix a quarter of a pound of shredded citron, two pounds of seedless raisins and three-quarters of a pound of cleaned currants. Measure three cupfuls of pastry flour; take sufficient from it to flour the fruit thoroughly. Add half a pint of warm, strong coffee to the sugar mixture; then add the flour; beat until smooth; add the fruit, pour into well-greased cake pans, and bake slowly in a moderate oven.