

Our Young Folks.

A TITTLE LESSON.

Look up, dear child, to the happy stars
That glitter in heavenly spaces;
No discord their lovely order mars,
None covet their neighbour's places;
Yet some flash out on the wide, dark night,
And some just shimmer with faint, sweet light.

It matters little so each but shine
With all the strength it can gather;
The gleam of the least is a gift divine,
Not mighty, but precious rather;
No star its fellow-stars envies or shames,
And the dear Lord calleth them all by their names.

DON'T BE TOO POSITIVE.

Boys, don't be too certain. Remember that nothing is easier than to be mistaken; and if you permit yourself to be so very positive in your mistakes a great many times, everybody will lose confidence in what you say. Never make a positive statement unless you know it is as you say. If you have any doubts, or if there is room for any, remove the possibility by examination before speaking, or speak cautiously. Don't be too certain. "John, where is the hammer?" "It is in the corn crib." "No, it is not there; I have just been looking there." "Well, I know it is; I saw it there not half an hour ago." "If you saw it there it must be there of course; but suppose you go and fetch it." John goes to the corn-crib and presently returns with a small axe in his hand. "Oh, it was the axe I saw; the handle sticking out from a half-bushel measure; I thought it was the hammer." "But you said positively that you did see the hammer, not that you thought you saw it. There is a great difference between the two answers. Do not permit yourself to make a positive statement, even about a small matter, unless you are quite sure; for if you do you will find the habit growing upon you, and by-and-by you will begin to make loose replies to questions of great importance. Don't be too certain."

A WORD WITH GIRLS.

Every girl desires to be attractive, but many girls make the mistake of thinking that beauty is the first requisite. This is a great mistake. This winter I have been meeting some young girls frequently, and have learned some lessons. One of the prettiest, if not the prettiest of the number, is the least attractive, because she is selfish. Her own comfort, her own pleasure, appeals to her first, always. She will make an engagement and break it without the slightest hesitancy. Her beauty gives her not the least advantage after the first weeks of acquaintance.

Another girl, whose best friend could not call her pretty, is wonderfully attractive. The other girls turn to her for suggestions, and they are usually followed; if she makes an appointment, she keeps it; if she takes the responsibility for any part of the work the girls are attempting to do, she does it thoroughly.

Another girl comes into the circle, sits down, folds her hands, and does not even take the trouble to look interested.

Not long ago there was a picture in *Harper's Bazar* representing a young society girl and a girl friend. The following conversation was supposed to be taking place:—

"What do you find to talk about, meeting the same people so constantly? How do you manage?"

"I just sit and smile and try to look intelligent."

The girl who tries to look intelligent must have a desire to please strong enough to make her put forth some effort, when she meets people, to interest them. It is a question whether a thoroughly selfish girl is ever an attractive one.

There is another mistake we make that robs us of both power and pleasure; we think ourselves sensitive when we are simply self-conscious. We go through the world expecting people to notice us to the exclusion of others, to take extra steps to greet us: we decide from some trifling act that they do not think of us as we do of them; make ourselves miserable by a thousand fancies that we should never entertain for a moment, and actually think ourselves superior to others because we entertain such thoughts, "because we are so sensitive." It is not sensitiveness, it is out-and-out self-consciousness, which is next door to selfishness, and, when nursed and cherished, is much more pernicious in its effects on the character. If we study our own manners, we will find that we are constantly resenting what we are pleased to term "slights," and as a consequence are many times rude, and intentionally rude. Now we can make up our minds to one thing. A sensitive person is never intentionally rude. A sensitive person is quick to understand the mood or condition of another, rather than the expression of another's feelings. Sensitive means quickness of understanding as well as quickness of feeling, and brings people closer together instead of separating them. If we wish to gain the love and interest of those whom we meet, we must first forget ourselves; a forgetfulness that goes far to produce the desirable quality we call attractiveness, a quality that we find, as we grow older, is quite independent of beauty.

THE COST OF A BIBLE.

The first English translation of the Bible, as our young people are aware, was made by Wycliffe, A.D. 1380. Before that, the price of a Bible in Latin was equal to fifteen hundred dollars of our money. Even after Wycliffe's copy was finished the value of a new Testament was one hundred and fifty dollars of our money.

Tyndale was the first who had a Bible printed in English. The first edition was bought up and burned, but he soon got out a second. He was betrayed into the hands of the enemies of truth, and strangled at the stake. His body was burned to ashes, "but the Word of God is not bound."

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS.

THE annual congregational meeting of Knox Church, Belmont, and Kilmartin Church, Yarmouth, was held on February 10, the pastor, Rev. J. A. Brown, B.A., in the chair. The report of Session showed that during the year eighty-three were added to the roll: seventy-four on profession of faith, total membership at present, 300. The treasurer's report showed total receipts from all sources \$4,000. The Sabbath school reported a total membership of 250, and receipts \$71. The congregations added \$100 to their pastor's stipend. The young people of the congregation recently presented their pastor with an elegant gold watch and two fine robes.

THE annual meeting of Cooke's Church, Chilliwack, was held on the 18th Feb., when reports were read from the Session, Managers, Treasurers, Sunday school and Ladies' Aid, which were on the whole very satisfactory. The income showed a marked increase over last year, and the field has been much extended and now the Rev. W. R. Ross is assisted by a student, and gives weekly five services, besides Sunday school and week night meetings. It would surprise you people of the east to know how the people of the west give to the support of Church ordinances but you can multiply your giving by five and you will have an estimate of what it is like. Marked progress has been made since the arrival of Mr. Ross among us.

THE annual meeting of Knox Church, Perth, was held recently. Reports were received and read from all the organizations of the congregation, showing the work generally to be in a healthy and satisfactory state. The mission funds amounting to \$375, were allocated to the various schemes. The old board of managers was re-elected, Mr. J. W. Motherwell taking the place of Mr. Robt. Smith, Mr. James Allan was re-elected Treasurer, Mr. W. T. Walker, Secretary, Mr. M. R. Dodds Treasurer of the Mission Fund, and Mr. J. A. Kerr, precentor. Mr. Crosbie was re-appointed caretaker at the same salary as last year. A full report of the year's work will be published in pamphlet form, and be placed in the hands of each member of the congregation.

THE annual meeting of Knox Church, Glenallan, was held on the 14th January, and that of Chalmers Church, Hollin, on the 8th. These congregations form one charge under the pastoral care of Rev. H. Norris. The reports submitted show these congregations to be in a flourishing and happy condition. The amount of money raised for all purposes during the year is \$1,581, an increase over the previous year of \$285. Of the amount raised \$398 was paid on stipend, \$353 for missions and benevolent purposes, and \$330 for incidental and congregational purposes. There are 100 families and 258 communicants in the charge. There were thirty-one names added to the roll last year, twenty-nine on profession of faith and two by certificate. There are about 200 in the Bible class and Sabbath schools.

KNOX CHURCH, Portage la Prairie, held their annual meeting recently, in the lecture room, at which there was a large turnout. The different committees reported, showing progress all along the line. The Treasurer's report shows receipts \$4,130.60, and expenditure \$4,021.05, leaving a balance on hand \$109.55, and the amount collected for missions is nearly \$1,200. The membership is at present 386. The following officers were elected for managers: John Hunter, T. H. Medcalf, J. D. Morton, T. B. Milar, A. D. Mackay, E. Brown, W. W. Miller, H. S. Patterson, Trustees: R. C. Brown, John McLeod, A. McLean. D. B. Hanna was elected chairman of Managing Committee. Treasurer, W. W. Miller. Choir leader, Charles Burley. Auditors, John McDonald and R. S. Thompson. A committee was appointed to select a new church site.

THE annual meeting of Melville Church, Brussels, was held on February 3rd, Rev. John Ross, B.A., pastor, in the chair. Reports were submitted from the Session, Board of Management, Sabbath school and Missionary Association, all of which indicated progress during the past year. The number of families increased from 105 to 115, and the membership rose from 211 to 223. The financial statement showed that \$1,565.31 had been received for ordinary purposes, which met all expenses and left a surplus. The Missionary Association reported that \$559.08 had been contributed from all sources in missionary and benevolent work, being the largest sum ever raised by the congregation. Total receipts for the year, \$2,124.39. The managers elected were Messrs. A. Stewart, W. Innes, J. M. Martin, T. Davidson, W. Ainley, W. Work, H. Forsyth, A. M. McKay and R. K. Ross, with O. Smith as treasurer.

THE charge of Burns Church and Moore Line held their annual meeting in the early part of the year; the following brief statement will show their standing. There are now 250 members in good standing on the rolls. There has been nineteen added and twelve lost. The attendance has been good and the Sabbath schools especially prosperous. One thousand nine hundred and fifty-five dollars have been raised for general purposes, \$238 for the schemes and \$73 for other benevolent purposes. Of the amount raised for the schemes \$76 went to Home Missions, \$81 to Foreign Missions and \$39 to French Evangelization. The Sabbath schools raised \$60 for missions and Elder Neil contributes \$20 per annum to Indore College. At the annual meeting the managers laid their heads together and concluded that the minister's house needed renovating, so on the evening of February 25th they installed in the manse stables a fine chestnut horse whose pedigree is unblemished to which they added the hearty wish that it might grow old in the service of the congregation.

THE annual congregational meeting of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Ingersoll, was held in the Church a short time since, at which a large congregation was present. Rev. Mr. Hutt occupied the chair, and D. M. Sutherland was appointed secretary. The reports of the different schemes of the Church were read, showing that something like \$3,000 had been raised for all purposes in connection with the Church, and that during the year the liabilities had been reduced by over \$300. The Sabbath school reports showed a growing interest in this branch of Church work, and it was manifest that the Church was in a fairly prosperous condition. After the reports had been adopted, it was resolved to purchase the lot on the south side of the church, in order to enlarge the church edifice. The managers were authorized to take steps to enlarge the building, as soon as a sufficient sum had been subscribed for such a purpose. This step was considered absolutely necessary in order to accommodate the large number of persons applying for pews—the present building not having anything like sufficient seating accommodation. We are glad to see St. Paul's prospering so well, under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Hutt.

THE annual meeting of the congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Peterborough, was held some time since. Tea was served by the Ladies' Aid Society from six to eight o'clock in the school room. The meeting, at which there was a good attendance, was most harmonious throughout, in pleasant contrast to the last annual meeting. Rev. William White opened with devotional exercises. Mr. Robert Tully was appointed chairman and Mr. T. H. Best secretary. After the reading and confirmation of minutes of the last annual and special meetings, the chairman of the Board of Managers read the financial statement, which was adopted. The statement

showed total expenditures of \$3,960, of this amount over a thousand dollars being extraordinary expenditure for grant to Rev. Mr. Bell and repairs to church. The receipts showed an overdrawn bank account of \$2,906.85. Messrs. J. W. King and T. Fitzgerald being the retiring managers, both were re-elected, and Mr. John McClelland was elected manager in place of Mr. R. W. Grubbe, resigned, Dr. Bell and Mr. A. McFarlane resumed their places on the Board. Mr. McClelland was re-elected representative on the Nicholls Hospital Board. Messrs. R. W. Grubbe and J. J. Douglass were appointed auditors, and the meeting adjourned.

THE annual report of Fort Massey Church, Halifax, N. S., Rev. Dr. Burns, pastor, for 1890, is just out in a neat pamphlet of eighteen pages. There are nine elders and eleven managers. Pastor's visits and calls, 832; additions to communion roll, by profession, eleven; by certificate, ten; dismissions, twelve; baptisms, five; marriages, nine; deaths, eight; membership, about 250. Mr. H. P. Stairs is superintendent of the Sabbath school. The male and female Bible classes are conducted by Professor Seth and Mrs. Burns respectively. There is a Missionary Association, also a Ladies' Association, a Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, a Mission Band, a Mite Society, a Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour. Total receipts for congregational purposes, \$4,653.94; Schemes of Church, etc., \$2,011.29; debt extinction fund, \$1,277.84; total for Schemes of Church, \$7,943.07. Missionary Association, \$1,056.02; Sabbath school, \$234; Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, \$170; Mission Band, \$67.30; Session Fund, \$95.97; special cases, \$153; individual donations, \$235; total, \$2,011.29; Taking the different objects together, the total is as follows: For Foreign Missions, \$587.30; Augmentation, \$280; Home Missions, \$205; colleges—Halifax, \$150 and Manitoba, \$40—\$190; French Evangelization, \$115; Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, \$20; Presbytery, Synod, Assembly and Record, \$60; Session fund, \$95.97; special benevolent cases, \$222.53; Individual donations, \$235.49; total, \$2,011.29. Total for all purposes close upon \$8,000.

THE annual congregational meeting of King Street Presbyterian Church, London, was held lately. A good number of members and adherents of the Church was present, and an agreeable and altogether interesting time was spent in listening to the reports and in electing officers. The pastor, Rev. Walter M. Roger, occupied the chair, and opened the meeting with prayer, after which Mr. F. Cheesbrough was called upon for the report of the Session. The report indicated that the Church in this respect was in good condition. There had been no diminution in the membership during the year by death, and thirty members had been added, while the number removed from the roll was twenty-six. The membership of the Church now numbers 150. The Sabbath school was in a healthy condition, as the report showed. The number of scholars added during the year was sixty-three, while the number that left was thirty-seven, leaving a total on the roll at present of 200. The receipts during the year amounted to \$132.32, and the disbursements to \$113.59, leaving a balance of \$18.73 to the credit of the school. The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour, upon presenting its report, was tendered a vote of thanks for the way in which it had worked during the year. An interesting report from the Ladies' Aid Society was read, which showed that \$107.25 had been raised, of which \$71.10 had been paid out in necessities for the church, leaving a balance on hand of \$36.17. A treasurer's statement from the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society showed contributions to the amount of \$28.37 for the year. Mr. John Hutcheon, treasurer of the Church, presented the report of the managers, which was very satisfactory. After the adoption of the managers' report Rev. Walter M. Roger vacated the chair, and Mr. George Logan was appointed to the position. Mr. William Brown then rose and moved, seconded by Mr. William Main, a vote of thanks to the pastor for his untiring efforts for the welfare of the Church during the past year, which was carried by a standing vote of the congregation. Rev. Mr. Roger thanked the congregation for this show of confidence, and said his efforts in the future, as in the past, would be to promote the interests of the Church in every possible way. The election of officers resulted in but few changes being made. The Board of Managers will be composed of the following: Messrs. G. W. Logan (chairman), W. A. MacKay (secretary), John Hutcheon (treasurer), I. St. John, F. Mutch, Turfiff, Dick, Stewart, Goforth and W. Buskard. Messrs. Hutchinson and W. Reid were appointed auditors for the coming year.

THE annual meeting of the congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Berlin, was held in the church building recently. There was a large attendance. After a short religious service conducted by Rev. A. B. Winchester, Mr. John McDougall was called to the chair, and Mr. J. King appointed secretary. Reports were read by Mr. Alexander Roy, Session clerk, from the Session, by Mr. King from the Board of Managers and treasurer, by Mr. William Cleg-horn from the Sunday school, by Rev. Mr. Winchester from the Ladies' Aid Society, and by the secretary of the meeting from the Auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. These reports were exceedingly interesting, and showed the affairs of the congregation to be in a prosperous and promising condition. The report from the Session referred in fitting terms to the removal of the Rev. Donald Tait, B.A., the induction of his successor, the large attendance at the weekly prayer-meeting, the services of the choir and of the superintendent and teachers of the Sunday school, and other matters. Four new members had been added to the Session during the year, and a Young People's Association had been started, which was doing good work. The managers reported the total cash income as \$1,763.55, the total cash expenditure, \$1,873.50; the assets, \$146.45, and the liabilities, \$129.95, leaving a surplus of \$16.50. The ordinary plate collections were \$793.96, an increase of \$210.55 over the previous year. The weekly offerings, \$300.20; pew rents, \$395.50, and special collections, \$20.33. The Ladies' Aid Society had donated \$80, and \$40 net had been received from Rev. J. F. Dickie's lecture. The expenditure had been unusually large owing to improvements in the lighting, ventilation and seating capacity of the church. The minister's stipend had been increased \$200, and was, since May 1, 1890, \$1,400. In the body of the church thirty-two new sittings had been added, and the sittings in the gallery had been increased to fifty. The Sabbath school report showed that steady and substantial gains had been made in attendance, regularity, collections, and in the interest manifested in all the different departments of work by both teachers and scholars. An infants' class had been formed and teachers' meeting held weekly, while the attendance of children at the church services on Sabbath morning had largely increased. This was due to the interesting series of sermons to the young which had been delivered at those services by Mr. Winchester. The finances of the school were also satisfactory. The intended enlargement of the school building, at a cost of \$1,200, would be attended with excellent results. The report from the Ladies' Aid Society showed a good deal of helpful work in many ways. The Auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society reported steady progress during the year, an increased membership, interesting meetings and contributions for mission purposes. The following gentlemen were elected managers: W. Ross, chairman; J. King, secretary; D. B. Dewar, treasurer; D. McDougall, L. VanCamp, E. Smythe, W. A. Greene, jr., M. Nelson and W. Metcalfe, jr. Messrs. R. Smythe and A. Macpherson were re-elected auditors.