

and Illinois, where the lot of herself and husband has since been cast. Her mother, Mrs. Fuller, had the painful pleasure of being with her during her last illness. Her end was peace. Her only sorrow was for the dear ones she was leaving, her husband, whose labors and trials she had amply shared and helped to sweeten; her three children, (two girls and a boy,) now left without her care; and her widowed mother, who had only a few weeks before been bereaved of her own mother.

She had learned however to cast all her cares upon Him on whom she had already cast her own soul, and whose realized presence sweetened the chamber of death as it had sweetened her path through the wilderness. She was in the 28th year of her age. She fell asleep early in the morning of the 14th December, to awaken in the brightness of that land of which it is said "There shall be no night there."

Her remains were conveyed to Whithy, and interred beside those of her late father in the Union cemetery, on Thursday the 17th December. — "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Poetry.

THE BIRTH OF THE NEW YEAR.

The ice-king in his palace held high carnival last night,
And danced with the aurora among the shadows of the morn;
And the aurora tripp'd it with step so soft and light
You could not hear her foot-fall on the ice-king's palace floor.

And what can be the meaning of such goings on as these?
Such hopping, skipping, jumping, with step so soft and light?
Oh, wait and I will whisper, keep quiet if you please;
A birth was in the palace, just at the "noon of night."

And they have wrapt the baby in blankets soft as down,
In blankets made of snow-flakes, as pure as pure can be;
But don't you go and blab it all through and through the town,
But tell it in a whisper, as it was told to me.

The babe is full of promise, and has rich and plenteous store
To give as it grows older, to the good, and brave, and true;
Go tell it to your neighbors, go tell from door to door,
But only in a whisper, as I now tell to you.

The baby is the *New Year*, a thing of joy and light,
A thing of spotless beauty, fresh from the heavenly sphere;
Don't soil its radiant garments, but let them still be white,
Don't utter in its hearing one word it should not hear.

And, as the babe grows older, it doubtless will bestow
On those who do their duty, on those whose hearts are pure,
Some tokens of approval to cheer them here below,
Some foretaste of the goodness that ever shall endure.

Whithy, Ont., Dec., 1885.

ROSS JOHNSON.

Literary Notices.

THE LORD'S DAY: ITS UNIVERSAL AND PERPETUAL OBLIGATION. A Premium Essay. By A. E. Waffle, M. A. The American Sunday school Union, Philadelphia, Pa. pp. xv. and 412. Price, \$1. By mail, \$1.12. This book was awarded the thousand-dollar premium in a competition open to all who chose to write. Time enough was allowed for comprehensive study and mature thought. The writer had access to leading books upon his theme. No important phase of the question escaped him. While he gives the pith of manifold discussions the work is not a compilation. Any one who reads it will be assured that he has secured the latest and ablest statement of the whole Sabbath question, and will be furnished with a sufficient store of weapons for offence and defence from this armory. It is masterly in argument, clear in plan, rich in illustration, and bristling with telling facts. The style is pleasing and scholarly—the language forcible. The reader is carried along by the progressive march of the discussion, the grace of the diction and the enthusiasm of the writer, until he reaches the end, wishing he had further to go in such a delightful way.

Among the many interesting and vital topics treated in this remarkable book are the varied views of the Sabbath, as the sublatarian, ecclesiastical, dominical,

humanitarian and Christian view; the present state of the question, the Sabbath necessary to man's physical nature (fully illustrated by facts), the Sabbath needful for man's mind; for man's social good; and especially for man's moral and religious welfare. The Sabbath of the Bible is shown to be made for man, from its early history, its place in the moral law, and from its never having been repealed. The reasons for the change of day are stated, showing why Christians generally observe not Saturday but Sunday, and the grounds for observing the Lord's day. The inadequate grounds of the churchly, the love, and the dominical theories are forcibly shown. The abuses from which Christ freed the Sabbath and his sanction of a rest day are clearly pointed out.

Perhaps the most popular portions of the book are those on the proper observance of the Sabbath. What things are prohibited, as labor for worldly gain, Sunday excursions, Sunday newspapers, Sunday mails, Sunday trains; what are allowable, as works of mercy, ministering to the sick and afflicted; works of necessity and acts of worship—are wisely distinguished. Useful suggestions on spending the Sabbath in the home are added.

Sunday laws, and the grounds for Sunday legislation are ably discussed; and also the obligation of the nation to protect the Sabbath. The appendix gives a most valuable list of authorities and works on the subject; an effective diagram, illustrating the exhaustion and recovery of man's physical nature by rest—all the texts of Scripture from the Revised Version relating to the Sabbath, an abstract of Sunday laws in the United States, the recent Sunday labor report to the Massachusetts legislature, and very valuable practical suggestions on how Sabbath observance may be wisely promoted.

PELOUBETS notes on the International Lessons for 1886 are before us, and are obtainable from *The Upper Canada Tract Society, Toronto*. These notes have won for themselves a foremost place among our Sunday school helps. They make no pretense to critical power, but are eminently adapted for their purpose, viz: providing the busy teacher with ready aid in the performance of his task. Simple, practical, evangelical, they are not readily excelled, and the price, \$1.25, puts them within easy reach.

THE GRIP Publishing Company has put forth a Canadian Christmas number, with characteristic portraits and lithographs of Canadian winter scenes. It has a number of prettily written Christmas articles, and being a purely Canadian production is worthy of patronage. We do confess however to one thing, viz: A desire to see Canada illustrated other than in a winter dress. Our artists thus far have given us ice palaces and skating rinks, snow shoes and tobogganing, as though we were entirely within the Arctic zone.

THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT, Rev. J. Burton, B.D., Editor, will be published (D.V.) on the first and fifteenth of each month, and will be sent free to any part of Canada or the United States for one dollar per annum. Published solely in the interest of the Congregational churches of the Dominion. Factors of churches and friends in general, are earnestly requested to send promptly local items of church news, or communications of general interest. To ensure insertion send early, the news column will be kept open till the tenth and twenty-fifth of each month.

All communications concerning the subject matter of the paper, all books, etc., for review, and all exchanges to be sent to THE EDITOR, CANADIAN INDEPENDENT, Box 2148, Toronto, Ont.

All correspondence regarding subscriptions, advertisements and general business to be directed to Mr. W. R. CLARK, Bowmanville, Ont.