

each New Year's Day at the old homestead. Sometimes the grandchildren and great-grandchildren would swell the company to large proportions. The rare and beautiful sight of such occasions was the unbroken family of thirteen as they were seated at the table. The aged parents occupied the ends, and ranged on either side were the eleven gray-haired boys and girls. The circle was one in spirit as well as in form. All owned the same Heavenly Father, and spent the day in praise and sweet foretaste of the eternal home.

Taken as a group, the McLean family form a beautiful, if not a brilliant, cluster. No one is a very lustrous gem, nor yet dull and small. They are all above the average, in physical strength, intellectual gifts and moral virtues. It is seldom that as much time, health, sound sense and practical godliness can be found in a family of like number.

While five of them are living, and likely to live for years, it is too early to settle their average length of life, which is now nearly seventy-seven years. The father died at ninety-three. The mother survived him six years, and "slipit awa" at ninety-five. Neil, the eldest son, after serving his generation by the fear of God, "fell on sleep" at eighty-five. John, the second son, is buoyant at eighty-seven, and appears to have momentum enough to keep him going to the hundred.

The chief glory of the family is not length of days, nor yet well-balanced minds, so much as genuine sympathy and goodness. They overflow with "the milk of human kindness." "Hospitality without grudging" is well illustrated in them and their posterity to the third and fourth generation. McMaster students who have labored in the Ottawa Valley know to their joy and comfort the abundance of this grace in Clan McLean. The mother and daughters were like Dorcas, always clothing and caring for the destitute, and the men folk were like Barnabas, sons of consolation. The McLean home in Lochaber since its beginning has been generally recognized as the centre of cheerful beneficence. If the young people of the neighborhood wished an evening's reviving fun; if the poor and afflicted needed relief and sympathy; if a tramp wanted a meal and lodging; if a family of emigrants needed a home for a month until a spot in the bush could be cleared and a house built, all