### Choose Your Friend Wissly.

Choose your friend wisely, Test your friend well, True friends, like rarest genus, Prove bard to tell; Winter him, summer him, Know your friend well.

Oft bosom companions Are dangerous things, Rifling your honey, But leaving their stings, Orseling and crawling, Like bees without wings.

Leave not your secrets At every man's door, High tides will shift thom, Like sands on the shore-Gift them and shift them. Now higher, now lower.

Take advice charily: Many a man Dates back his ruin To change of his plan, Choose your friend wisely And well, if you can.

#### Superstition in the Highlands.

There is no subject that has given so much play to the fancy of the Highlanders as the sort of hide and seek game the spirits of the dead seem to play among the living; in fact, the more illiterate part of the peasantry seem to dwell on the very borders of the unseen land, and the severing veil appears to be a most shadowy one. And though there is something more poetio in the imagination that peoples the mountains and glens with apirits visitant than in the more material Badduceism of the southron, yet, we know the eye that sees double is diseased as well as that one whose vision is dim. If a "reverend granule" in the least degree superstitious—heard in the south a "rustling" or a "groaning" among the "boortrees" whilst at her prayers in the darkness, she would at once con-clude it was the devil; but a Highland woman would be much more apt to think it was the ghost of some one departed, who had wrongs unrevealed or unavenged, or died with some secret locked in his or her soul. And there live at this day in the Highlands hundreds of brave stalwart men who would fight fearlessly upon a battlefield, but who would shiver and quake like an aspen on a lonely road at night if they heard the scream of a sea-bird, or if a dog crossed their path, if a moteor was seen to flash over the heavens, or a light was seen glimmering in the distance.

The pretty burying gro nd of Cillechoireal, or St. Cyril, is in the brace of Loch-aber, and can be seen from the coach that daily runs from Fort William to Kingussie. It is a lovely spot, the very ideal of a peaceful resting-place to sleep well in "after life's fitful fever;" but there was a time when peace was a stranger there, and the whole countryside was, night after night, disturbed with the shoutings of unnight, disturbed with the shoutings of un-earthly combatants—those who had been enemies rising again under the curtain of night to renew their feuds and fight their battles over again—the clashing of battle-axes and claymores—not to speak of the slashing of the Dochinasie sticks—were heard far and wide. The breaking of bones, and screams of the vanquished and the and screams of the vanquished, and the wild flendish laughter of the victors, made the atrongest heart quake, whilst the timid and the fearful were almost dead with terror. This state of matters went on for a considerable length of time, until at last one dark stormy night matters came to a crisis. Women shricked with terror in their homes, and strong men could only pray and cross themselves. It seemed as if all who had ever been buried there were up and at it.

The wind blew as 'twad blawn its last, The ratilin's showers rose on the blast;

The speedy gleam the darkness awallowed-Loud, deep and laug the thunder believed. But above the bellowing of the thunder, the rattling of the showers, and blowing of the raging wind, came the shrieks of that "hellish legion" and the noise of their demoniac warfare.

At length one man stronger in faith than

his neighbors volunteered to go for the priest, for he could no longer bear to see the state of terror in which his wife and daughters were, and he feared they might even die before these awinl hosts would "scent the morning air."

#### Sic a night he took the road in. As ne'er poor sinner was abroad in.

And his brave heart was duly rewarded, for he got safe to the priest's house, and told his tale in eager haste. The priest, who was a very holy man, set out for the scene of the dreadful meles. In crossing the river Spean, the man carried the elergyman on his back, and when they got to the further shore, he took one of his shoes and made holy water in it, and after many prayers he went alone to the buryingground, leaving the messenger in a state of terror at the river-side. In "that hour o' nicht's black arch the keystone," the priest bravely entered the scene of unholy war-fare, and he resonsecrated the place amidst the yells of the vanishing spectres, and from that day to this ellence reigns in Cil-lechorireal: "and there at peace the askes mix of those who once were fees." And the respectable and sensible man who told me this tale, and who believed in it himself most devoutly, lies now there as eep quietly with his ancestors.

Another story was told me by a sailor from the west coast of Ross-shire. Near his native place was a wild moor that for years was so haunted that no one would venture upon facing it after dusk. The most awful lamentations were heard as from a young man in great distress. He always (requested the one spot, and at the same hour every night the agonising wail that loaded the night winds with pain be-gan. They knew he wanted to communigan. They knew he wanted to communicate his grief to some person, but no one had courage enough to venture near him. At length an old soldier came the way, and when he called at the roadside inn for refreshments, they advised him not to face the moor as night was near, but to take his bed there at once, as he seemed worn with transless of the second worn with transless of the second worn with travel, and he would be sure—if he did face the muor—to return as hundreds had done hefore him, whenever the voice of woe that haunted the place would fall upon his ear. The soldier laughed their fears to seem and passed on. In the middle of the moor he late.

heard the plaintive cry, and he fearlessly asked the young man the cause of his

"Alas!" he cried. "Alas! I cannot coase to wail, there is no rest forms while my fake love—who vowed in this spot so often to be mine for ever, and whose falseness caused my early death—sleeps nightly in the bosom of the man whom she married because he had more of the world's goods than I had.

"And where is this false love of thine, young man, whose voice is so full of ser-row?" said the soldier.

"She is the mistress of the inn you passed near the end of this moor," replied the young man in the same sad voice.

"Come with me and you will get the hand she falsely promised you," said the soldier, and the young man followed him

to the window of the inn.

The soldier cried for a draught of ale; and the landlady—who was in bed—arose hastily, saying "I was sure you would return; I had better undo the door and let you in?"

"Not just yet," said the soldier, "I have

"Not just yet," said the soldier, "I have a friend with me who cannot enter—hand him a draught of ale—you need not bring a light." The woman hastily obeyed, and when she opened the window and gave out the pot of ale, her hand was clasped by an the pot of alc, her hand was elasped by an icy cold one, and her eyes fell upon the paic, sorrowful visage of her dead lover. She gave a loud ery, and fell lifeless upon the floor; and the lamentations of the broken-hoarted young man were never again heard on the moor, and the wayfarers got leave to travel undisturbed.—Mary Mackellar, in Celtic Magazine.

### British and Foreign Notes,

THE net gain of Chinese in California in 1876 was 8,425. The arrivals in ten years have been 70,500.

THE Sabbath schools of the United States gave about one-third of the contributions to missions last year.

THE British Evangelical Alliance will hold their annual conference in the city of Oxford, next autumn.

Pope Pius has \$82,000,000 deposited in the Bank of Italy. He can probably keep the wolf from the door while he lives.

THE Y. M. C. A. of Philadelphia reports 2,458 members. There is still a debt of \$79,400 on the new building and property.

PREPARATORY work for the Exhibition of 1878 in Paris is going on rapidly, and the foundations of the main building will soon

THE Jesuits, according to an annual just published by themselves at Vienna, now number 9,546. France has a larger number than any other country.

A BIBLE colporteur in Brazil has been furnished with a wagon by Virginia Presbyterians, and with Portuguese Bibles and Testaments to fill it by a friend in thi city.

England, the land of roast beef and mutton-chops, is now drawing largely on Canada and the United States for both, and, moreover, pronounces "the articles excellent.

NINETERN young Liberians are in the colleges in the United States preparing for usefulness in their native land. It is said that 500,000 freedmen are willing to emigrate to Africa.

THERE are 127,059 members of the Evangelical churches in Philadelphia, of which 40,652 are of the different branches of the Presbyterian family, and 80,608 Metho-

ONE of the rooms in the Y. M. C. A. Building in Ban Francisco is in future to be used by the French Reformed Church, the first of this denomination ever established in California.

THE Chinese government have secured the services of three English scientif.c gentlemen to go to China for three years for the sake of exploring a particular district for minerals.

FRANK BUCKLAND, the English naturalist, advises ladies to wear snake skins for trimmings, on the ground that they would not mings, on the ground that they would not only be elegant, but would cause the extermination of the deadly reptiles, a more desirable result than the wholesale destruction of song-birds which fashion requires.

an anggested that the Palcetin explorers should visit Mount Nebo in search of the valuable treasures of the Temple, which according to the book of Maccabees Jeremiah was instructed to deposit there; they included the Tabernacle, and the Sacred Ark with the Tables of Stone on which the Ten Commandments were written.

JAPANESE intelligence of the latest date states that there has been great rejoicing throughout the country owing to a large reduction of taxes. The railroad between Osaka and Kicta was opened on Feb. 5th, in the presence of a large assemblage of Japanese dignitaries and most of the foreign diplomatists, who traveled from Tokio to Kioto by special invitation as guests of the government.

THE Emperor of Brazil recently visited the Pope. He expressed the hope that the Pope would, in accord with the Brazil-ian government, assist in removing all ec-clesiastical difficulties in Brazil. The Pope replied that the church was rather accustomed to smooth than to create obstacles. He hoped to be able to restore religious harmony, which had always been the glory

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Efforts will be made during the coming year to make the Preserrence increasingly attrective and useful to the large constituency it sims to represent. To this end the Editorial staff will be strongthened; a larger variety of Missionacy In telligence will be farnished by Dr. Fraser, For-mosa; Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, and Rev. James Douglas India: and special papers are expected from the following gentlemen:

Rev. Dr. Waters, St. John, N.B. Rev. Prof. Bryco, M.A., Winnipeg, Ma. Rev. Principal MoVicar, LL.D., Montreal. Rev. John Cook, D.D., Queboc. Rev. Prof. Gregg, M.A., Toronto. Rev. John Isling, M.A., Dundas. Rev. Prof. McKerras, M.A., Kingston

Rov. W. D. Ballautyne, B.A., Pembroke, Rov. G. M. Grant, M.A., Halifax, N.S. Rev. W. Houston, M.A., Bathurst, N.B. Rev. Goo. Bruce, M.A., St. Catharines.

Rev. John Gallaher, Pittsburg, O.; etc., etc. Rev Alexander M'Kay, D.D.

The Sabbath School Lessons will be continued; nd increased attention will be paid to the question of Prohibition now happily growing on the public mind All matters affecting the interests of our Church shall have prompt and careful attention; and the legislation likely to come before next

General Assembly will be fairly discussed, and its
bearing on the future of Presbyterianism in the
brief, and to the point, from the pens of Dominion duly examined.

We invite the cordial co-operation of ministers, olders, and people generally to aid in extending the circulation of the Parshyterian. Much has been done in this way already; but much still re-mains undone. Our circulation is now 6,000; there is no good reason why it should not be 16,000! If each of our present subscribers will only send DEANOTHER NAME We shall at once reach 12,000; and then to get the remainder will be a comparatively easy matter. Friends, help us in this par-

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### Sabbath School Bresbyterian FOR 1877.

Notwithstanding the almost insurerable diffi-culties in the way of getting our Sabbath Schools to even introduce the S. S. Parshythman, we have resolved to continue the publication for another year, believing that superintendents and teachers will ere long see the justice and propriety of mak-ing room—among the numerous papers usually ordered—for a few copies of a monthly got up specially for our own schools.

It is true that we have not by any means reached our ideal of what such a paper should be; but marked improvements will be made in the next volume.

marked improvements will be made in the next volume.

In order to insure an interesting quantity of reading matter the paper will be placed in charge of a gentlaman in every way competent to conduct such a publication; the illustrations will be more numerous; and the issue of the periodical earlier and more regular than in the past. Last year way promised letters from the Rev. J. Fraser Campbell; but he only left a couple of months ago, so that it was impossible to redeem this promise, Both Mr. Campbell and Mr. Douglas will (D.V.) write during the coming year, and Dr. Frazer, who is miready so well and farourably known to our young readers, will continue his valuable contributions.

Miresters and superintendents are earnestly in-

putions.

Ministers and superintendents are earnestly invited to forward their orders without delay, so that we may know in good time the number to be printed for January.

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OPINIONS.

minion, Postal Laws, etc., etc.

OPINIONS.

The YMAR BOOK has established for itself a high character, not only in Canada but in the United States, for editorialability audeare, fulness, clearness, and correctness in matter and arrangement, in witness of which statement we append one or two of the many notices and reviews that have reached the Publisher.

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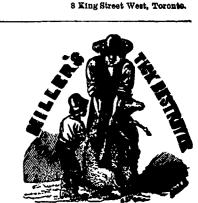
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