

Correspondence

THE ROYAL LEAGUE.

Dear Boys and Girls,—I am glad that so many of you have joined the Royal League of Kindness. I am sure we are all specially glad to welcome the 208 little Hindu girls who have already proved themselves such true members. The pledge in Hindi was very interesting, too. I hope that all the League members will remember each other in their prayers, asking our Heavenly Father to bless their efforts at making the world brighter by kindness.

One of you has written me a letter which probably expressed the feelings of a good many. 'Leigh' says though he might do kind deeds, he could not promise always to think kind thoughts. It is quite true that 'doing' is often easier than 'being,' but being is the most important, and the kindnesses that spring from loving thoughts are more continuous and far-reaching in their effect than the 'kind deeds' which are done merely as a matter of duty or in the fulfilment of a pledge. However, we would not on any account discourage anyone from joining the Royal League, for the society is laid on broad foundations on purpose to take in everyone who will 'try to be kind,' even if one's efforts are not always successful. This is your society, and we want you all to join.

Your loving friend,
THE CORRESPONDENCE EDITOR.

ROYAL LEAGUE OF KINDNESS.

- Myrtle McMath (aged 12).
- Nora Johnson (aged 11).
- Edward McIntosh (aged 18).
- Leigh Herrett.
- Grace H. Manson (aged 13).
- Beatrice Edwards.
- Hugh Bowman.
- Wm. Jas. S.
- Gladys Jickling.
- Ewart M. Graham (aged 11).
- Mabel F. M.
- E. G. G. (aged 10).
- Esther G.
- Althea Campbell.
- Rodney Campbell.
- Lucy Campbell.
- Inez Campbell.
- Earl Storie.

WHAT IS GOOD?

'What is the real good?'
I asked in musing mood.
Order, said the Law Court;
Knowledge, said the school;
Truth, said the wise man;
Pleasure, said the fool;
Love, said the maiden;
Beauty, said the page;
Freedom, said the dreamer;
Home, said the sage;
Fame, said the soldier;
Equity, the seer;
Spake my heart full sadly,
'The answer is not here.'
Then within my bosom
Softly this I heard;
'Each heart holds the secret,
Kindness—is the word.'

—John Boyle O'Reilly.

Sutton Junction, Que.
Dear Editor,—I live in the country, and do not think I would like living in the city at all. I have no sisters or brothers. I go to school every day, and like my teacher very much. I am in the Fourth Grade; it is the highest grade in our school. Our teacher gives us the 'Messenger' every week or two, and I like it very much, especially the correspondence. I am twelve years old. I think May is the nicest month of the year. I have no pets, only a horse, whose name is Mollie.

MABEL L. H.

Sunderland.

Dear Editor,—I have never written to the 'Messenger' yet, so I thought I would. We get the 'Messenger' at two Sunday-schools, Baptist and Presbyterian. We have had a hard, cold winter, and lots of snow. I was at Toronto in March for the first time, and the snow was so bad we could not go by the usual

route, and went a hundred miles out of our way. Mamma was with me. I have one grandma and grandpa, and I love them very much. I also have two sisters and one brother. For pets we have a kitten called Tibby Tingle and a dog called Bowzer. We have a cow, a horse and some hens, and a lovely fruit garden, and a large lawn to play on. My sister Laura is very fond of books. I have five dolls. The name of our house is Spruce Lawn.

HAZEL G. P.

Placentia Bay, Nfld.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl eleven years old. My birthday is on April 7. I go to the school, and am in No. 5 Book. I have three brothers and two sisters. My brothers' names are Douglas and Walter and Aleck, and my sisters' names are Gladys and Hilda. I have no pets except a cat. We have three sheep and one calf. I take the 'Messenger' and like it very much. I have never written to it before. One of my brothers goes to school, but my sisters are too small to go yet. In the harbor in which I live there is a church, two schools and a hall. I am very fond of reading. I have read a great many books, such as 'The Lamplighter,' 'Elsie's Holidays at Roselands,' 'Castle Blair,' and many others. The steamer 'Argyle' brings the mail here once a week. I like to read your letters very much. I read all that is in the 'Messenger.' I hope I will see my letter in print.

EVELYN B.

London, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I will now write a letter to your warmly-welcomed paper. I go to Knox Sunday-school, and like my teacher. I go to Grand Avenue School, which is in London South. I live on Redout street, which was once called Queen street, one block from the country south. I have not written to the 'Messenger' before, and so I thought I would like to see one of my own letters in your paper in the correspondence. We have two horses, two cats and a dog. The horses' names are Fanny and Dextor. The cats' name are Tom and Nigenss, and the dog's name is Nibs. He came to us one night when it was raining hard and thundering and lightning. Father opened the door and saw him on the back veranda, and let him in, and he has stayed with us ever since. He is very fond of horses, and he goes everywhere with the horse.

ISABEL D.

Grand Ouse, N.S.

Dear Editor,—This is my second letter to your paper. I have taken the 'Messenger' for quite a long time, and enjoy reading it very much. I live on a farm. I have two brothers and two sisters. I am the eldest of the family. I go to school, and I am in the ninth grade. I like to go to school. My birthday is on April 16. I was thirteen years old last April. In the summer we catch quite a number of trout here in a large brook not very far from our house. I am short of news, so I must close. Wishing the 'Messenger' and all its subscribers happiness.

MURDOCH A. McP. (aged 13).

Toronto, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I think the 'Messenger' is the best paper for children I have ever read, and there are such a number of lovely stories. I go to school every day, and I nearly always stand first in our class. I saw my name in your April Birthday Book, and I was very glad. I suppose you have heard of the terrible fire we had here. I would like to join your Royal League of Kindness, and I will try:—

- To speak kindly to others.
- To speak kindly of others.
- To think kind thoughts.
- To do kind deeds.

NORA J. (aged 11).

Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Editor,—I have heard of the 'Messenger' through my niece, who sent it to me. I think it is a lovely paper, and I like to read the stories and letters that are in the 'Messenger.' My teacher's name is Miss M., but she has been sick, and she is not coming any more this term. Our substitute is very nice. We lived in the country on a farm for quite a while, but it was pretty lonesome there, so we moved to Cleveland, Ohio. It is a very smoky city; we had a lot of hens, but after we moved to the city we killed a number and we brought some of them along. We have no

cats or dogs. I had a cat named Tom Shale. It was a lovely cat, too, but when we moved we left it.

P. H.

Durham, Ont.

Dear Editor,—As I have never written to the 'Messenger' before, and I was sending my name to the Birthday Book, so I thought I would write. We have taken the 'Messenger' as long as I can remember. We also take the 'Witness.' I live about two miles from Durham. It is quite a big town. There is a cream separator factory, a cement factory and a furniture factory. The cement factory was only built two years ago. It gets the cement marl from a lake about five miles from the factory. There have been several picnics from here lately, but I was only at one. We went by the train to the lake, where they get the marl. I had a good time. We went out in the boats while there.

A. M. McG.

Seaforth, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have taken the 'Messenger' since January last, and enjoy reading it very much. I am a girl of ten. I have two sisters and two brothers. There is one sister and one brother older than me. I go to the school every day that I can. My mother died last July. My sister, who is fourteen years, keeps house, and I have to help her all that I can. So I have not much time for play. I belong to the Methodist Sunday-school, and it is just across the road from where I live. I have just a mile to go to school.

EDITH V. T.

Amherstburg.

Dear Editor,—My home is on the Detroit river, about a mile from the point where it enters Lake Erie, and it is very pleasant to watch the boats in summer and skating on the ice in winter. This county is not particularly noted for its scenery, as it is very flat, but a number of people along the shores of the river and lake take people from Windsor and Detroit to board for the summer. These people come here on account of the bathing, and the cool air which blows over the water. The town of Amherstburg, near which I live, is one of the oldest in the Province of Ontario. It is an historical old place, as Fort Malden was near it. There is a stone in a gentleman's yard upon which the famous Indian Chief Tecumseh stood to harangue his men before a battle which was fought at Fort Malden during the campaign of 1812. I would like to join the Royal League of Kindness, and hope you will accept my name as one of the members.

GRACE H. M. (aged 13).

Rockville, Ont.

Dear Editor,—There is a creek near our school, where we go fishing in the spring, and we enjoy it very much. There is only an average of nine going to school here, as it is not a very large settlement, and it is too far for some to come.

ETHEL I. W.

Lachute, Que.

Dear Editor,—I think May is about the nicest month of the year. I have three brothers and two sisters, their names are Janet, Maggie, Carswell, John and David. I have an uncle, aunt and three cousins in China, and an uncle and aunt in Spokane, Washington. I wonder if any little girl's birthday is on the same day as mine, which is on Nov. 23. We are going to have a new schoolhouse this summer, and I think it will be quite a change from the old one which was built about eighty years ago. I am in the third book. I have read quite a few books. Among the books I have read are: 'Little Threads,' 'Nelly's Dark Days,' 'A Braid of Cords,' and 'The Birds' Christmas Carol.' I like to go to both the day-school and the Sunday-school.

M. ALICE McC. (aged 11).

Owen Sound, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I received your premium Bagster Bible, and am very much pleased with it. We wish you all success, and hope the 'Messenger' may go far and wide. It is a very nice paper.

JEANIE N.

Wolfville, N.S.

Dear Editor,—I like the 'Messenger' very much. Every week I watched eagerly for it while the story of 'Dalph' was going on. I liked very much that article called 'Manners of Girls.' I will be ten years old next September.

MARJORIE T. (aged 9).