

"TO THE LIONS"—A PICTURE.

BY META E. B. THORNE.

"O wonderment I look on her!  
So mild, and so serene,  
So peaceful is her countenance,  
So nobly calm her mien;  
Her large eyes gaze so trustfully,  
So steadfastly above;  
I know death hath no terrors, 'tis  
A messenger of love.

She standeth in her purity  
A mark for hostile gaze,  
Yet quails not; at her quiet strength  
I wonder in amaze.  
I seem to hear the harsh decree  
In words of ages past:  
"Away with her! To lions fierce  
Let her be quickly cast!"  
She falters not, although her cheek  
May lose its southern bloom;  
She seems too young and fair to meet  
Death's mystery and gloom.

The keeper's hand is on the latch;  
The barred door of the cage  
Doth open; the angry beast bounds forth,  
Mad with ferocious rage.  
"Jesus can keep His child," she cries,  
"In every trying hour!  
Saviour, I come! Receive my soul!"  
Then falls beneath death's power.

A piteous moan, and all is still!  
Hush! Heard ye not a sound  
As though ten thousand rushing wings  
Fanned all the air around?  
Methinks ten thousand murmuring tongues  
Fill at the silence now  
With cries of, "Victory! thou shalt wear  
His crown upon thy brow!  
The good fight thou hast fought, and thou  
Hast holy kept thy faith;  
That crown awaits all who like thee  
Are faithful unto death!"

A GOSSIP ABOUT MONEY.

"WONDER where we get the word money?" said Annie, looking up from the book she was reading.

Harry was the linguist of the family, and he answered promptly, "From the Latin *moneta*. This is from the root *monere*, to remind."

"Isn't it strange! I have just been reading that at one time axes were so highly valued that they became the basis of a money of account, the value of other articles being stated at so many axes!"

The young people all laughed at this, and Mr. Grey, who was present, suggested that they should find out all they could about this subject, and compare notes the next evening. They brought together so many curious and interesting bits of information that we are sure the classmates would be glad to listen to their talk.

"I have learned one thing," said ten-year-old Benny. "In old times *cattle* were used as money in Greece and Rome."

"And did you learn what word comes from this custom?" asked Mr. Grey.

"No, sir; I only saw that in a newspaper. What is it?"

"Our English word 'pecuniary.' We get it from *pecunia*, and this comes from *pecus*, cattle."

"That must have been a very inferior kind of money," said Hattie. "I think codfish, even, is better. At least it could be more easily handled."

"Was codfish ever really used for money?" asked Benny.

"Yes, indeed, and cocoanuts, slices of bread, soap, chocolate, eggs, and even a pinch of snuff!"

"I read that two kinds of money were known in Britain," said May;

"one known as 'living money,' the other as 'dead money.' The first consisted of slaves and cattle; the other of metal."

"In the thirteenth century," said Harry, "a kind of money was used in China made from the middle bark of the mulberry-tree, and stamped with the mark of the sovereign. It was death to counterfeit this money, or to refuse it. Of course, if the king said so it was valuable; but I thought that money was valuable because of what it was in itself."

"You didn't think bank-notes valuable for what they are, did you?" asked Hattie.

"Yes; because they can be redeemed in silver and gold. Of course, they would be worthless if the banks would not redeem them."

"We have seen that many things have been used for money which have little value in themselves," said Mr. Grey; "but we can readily see that it all depends upon whether people are ready to take the offered article or not."

"I wonder when gold and silver first began to be used?" said Hattie.

"We find precious metals spoken of as a medium as far back as in the time of Abraham," answered Mr. Grey. "Money was weighed, not coined, in those days. The invention of coins has been attributed to the wife of Midas, a legendary king of Phrygia, though some trace it to the Lydians about twelve hundred years before Christ."

"Has money ever been made from any of the metals except copper, gold, and silver?" asked May.

"Oh yes; iron and brass have been used, as well as tin and lead. Platinum has been coined in Russia. The Carthaginians had a kind of leather money; and it is said that in Sicily, where leather money was also used, a certain king compelled his people to give gold and silver in exchange for it."

"Everything has a history," said May. "I suppose that a large book might be written on this subject alone."

"Oh, yes! It is a subject which has cost more thought, and time, and trouble, than almost anything else; and even in these days of advanced civilization the money question is one to which many of the best men and truest lovers of their country are compelled to give attention."

"It is the question to which everybody has to give attention, I imagine," said Harry; "unless it may be the tramps!"

"Yes, and if the law compelled them to look the matter in the face it would be better for them, as well as for the country," added Mr. Grey.

"But, papa," said Hattie, "doesn't it make a man *small* to be thinking about money all the time?"

"Yes, I think so, if he is thinking about getting it for himself; but if he is planning for others, and trying to help anything or anybody by it, it is very different. Work that tends to *self* is always belittling; we have to go out toward others if we want to grow."

The foregoing talk suggests an idea which, no doubt, some of our readers who are set in families will be quick to act upon. Why not take some subject occasionally, as these young people did, and find out all you can about it, from books and from people, and then come together to talk it all

over! In this way you will impress it upon each other's mind, and be laying up a store of useful information for yourselves.

WINTER TRAVEL IN THE NORTH-WEST.

BY THE REV. J. SEMMENS.

II.

INDIAN WIGWAGS.

THE abodes of these children of the forest differ from each other as the tastes of the occupants do. Some are too low to admit of our standing erect, too small to allow much change of posture, smoky, and possibly filthy, and others are large, well-ventilated, and comparatively clean. Some are made of brush, covered with snow, others are built with poles and chinked with moss. A few are constructed of deer or buffalo skins. Close by each tent is a rude stage, six feet high, on which fish and meat are stored. Here and there are excavations whence the snow has been taken for cooking purposes. Leading off in various directions are numerous trails, snaring lines, trapping tracks, wood roads, the streets and avenues of an Indian village. Beyond and around all "the forest primeval, the murmuring pines and the hemlocks," the towering hills and the mountains, old, silent, and bare in the sunlight. No ceremony is required in seeking admission to a Cree tent. The occupant will not come forth and invite you in. You are expected to enter and receive in silence the cold shake-hands accorded you. After this sociality flows freely.

INDIAN FAMILIES.

Sitting around the fire are the heads of the family. The old grandfather and his two wives next the door. His children, and their wives or husbands, farther on in the order of their ages. Ranged behind their elders are the youngsters—under no conventional restraints—rolling over the puppy-dog, revelling in rabbit robes, or gnawing the meat from bones of rabbit or deer. The men are fresh-looking, even to old age; the women become shrivelled and haggard while comparatively young. The boys and girls are nearly always fresh and bright-eyed in time of plenty. Of course, famine makes skeletons of all. One observes the poverty of their appearance, the coarseness of their food, the irregularity of their habits, the untidiness of everything. Sadly we think that so bright a jewel as a human soul should be found half-buried beneath such awful surroundings. Yet we must not forget that the Almighty Sculptor can bring forth the hidden angel from the uncouth stone.

After speaking to them a few times about spiritual matters, visiting each camp, however lowly, having personal conversation with all the inmates, we commend them to the care of the Divine Father of all, and retrace our steps.

The difficulties of the way are many. There are chills and frostbites, weariness and snowshoe sickness, hoarseness and snow-blindness, and many other distracting experiences which we cannot enumerate here; but as long as health, strength, and provisions last, we can endure a good deal of hardship and suffering without murmuring or repining. Then we know we are doing the Lord's work, and there is a wonderfully-sustaining power in that thought. A voice Divine is continually saying to us: "Inasmuch as ye have

done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

HOME AGAIN.

Home at last! How sweet is rest to the weary. How delightful the comforts of home after long wandering. How pleasant is refined friendship after barbarian associations. How blessed to join in God's worship after being face to face with heathenism. How glorious it will be when we, like way-worn wanderers in a stranger's land, shall lay all our burdens at heaven's threshold, and rest, rejoice, and worship in the presence of the King.

PUZZLEDOM.

ANSWERS FOR LAST NUMBER.

I. PYRAMID.—

A  
T U B  
D A N E S  
B R I T T L E

II. RIDDLE.—Pump-handle.

III. ENIGMA.—What then shall I do when God raiseth up? and when He visiteth, what shall I answer Him?—Job xxxi. 14.

IV. DIAMOND.—

H  
H A D  
H U R R A  
H A R V E S T  
D R E S S  
A S S  
T

NEW PUZZLES.

I. CHARADE.

When summer comes and flowers appear,  
Decking the hills and each vale between,  
My first's sweet note we often hear  
As, sitting from tree to tree, he's seen.

My next is something very common  
In every city, village, and town;  
'Tis usually worn by elderly women,  
Who prize it as highly as a new gown.

My whole will name a famous outlaw  
Who, 'tis said, was both brave and bold;  
Of whom, no doubt, you've heard before  
In the story books of old.

II. CROSS WORD ENIGMA.

In fraud, not in deceit;  
In measure, not in feet,  
In true, not in right;  
In full, not in tight;  
In free, not in acquit;  
In humour, not in wit,  
In check, not in stop;  
In harvest, not in crop,  
My whole denotes use  
Without any abuse.

III. ENIGMA.

I am composed of 21 letters.  
My 11, 5, 18, 21 is used by cooks.  
My 15, 10, 5, 8, 4, 16, 14 are uncivilized people.  
My 3, 13, 6, 14 is a grain.  
My 3, 17, 6, 7 is used by gamblers.  
My 18, 20, 8, 5, 6, 21 is to hinder.  
My 6, 5, 2, 14 is condensed vapor.  
My 4, 17, 14, 7 is part of the body.  
My 15, 10, 17, 11 is to cure.  
My 9, 17, 21, grows on my 4, 16, 5, 21, and are covered by 4, 17, 19.  
My whole was a hero of the eleventh century.

IV. WORD-SQUARE.

1. A shelter. 2. A tropical tree  
3. Tondrill. 4. Occurrence. 5. Reposes.