

CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL

An Illustrated Monthly Publication Devoted to the Interests of Canadian Women and Canadian Homes.

Official Organ of the Women's Canadian Historical Society and the Woman's Art Association of Canada.

PUBLISHED BY

THE J. S. ROBERTSON CO.,
Mail Building, Toronto, Can.

SUBSCRIPTION ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

Foreign Subscription (except United States), One Dollar and Fifty Cents per Year.

SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS.

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

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25 Cents The Canadian Home Journal for four months—a trial trip to new subscribers. Every number contains two pages of music.

EDITOR'S CORNER.

"Merry Christmas." AN old and familiar wish, and one that never grows old or lacks in freshness as the years move on. There is much that is formal even in the handshake and reception that we tender friends in various ways, but there is less of the insincere in the "Merry Christmas" wish than in any other. The spirit of goodwill that the Christmas season reflects in the highest degree permeates mankind, and they more easily forget the animosities and bitterness of the outside world at this period than at any other time—or as the outcome of any other influence. A particular halo should surround the Christmas that is now just at our doors—the last Christmas of a wonderful century. The wish of this Corner is that in the very fullest sense this may prove a Merry Christmas—joyous, happy and fruitful—to the many, and ever increasing number of readers of the CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL.

The Old Century. It is very near the end—and varied will be the retrospect of each one accordingly as the interests of the individual extend. It is universally conceded that this century is the most remarkable of all that have gone before it, if we except the first century, the events of which have meant so much for the world. The progress in material affairs has been the greatest in the world's history. Has equal progress manifested itself in other directions? An interesting review of the century has been given by Mr. W. T. Stead, whose writings are always interesting, even though we cannot agree with everything he will say. Mr. Stead has no misgivings in his mind as to the material progress of the past one hundred

years. Never before, in any century, has man achieved such brilliant victory over matter. To make steam his carrier, electricity his messenger and the sun his painter have been achievements so conspicuous as to stamp the century with a glory all its own. He has serious doubts, however, whether equal progress has been made in matters moral. The question is asked: "Is the average man or woman more like a god now than he or she was at the beginning of the century? Has the race climbed higher toward the ideal which was presented in realized shape for the world, in the Man of Nazareth? There are more people in the world now on this threshold of 1901 than there were living in 1801. Are they better people?"

An Answer Wanted. We could hardly have a more fitting symposium for the January number of the CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL—the first number of the Twentieth Century—than a brief, but intelligent, answer to these questions from our readers. May we not ask that between now and the end of the year they give us their impressions of this question—an answer to the three or four questions that we have given in the previous paragraph. It will be helpful to every reader that he or she should give a little time to meditation on this subject. It would be interesting and helpful to others that through these columns they should make these impressions known. We shall hope to receive a considerable mail within the next few weeks, discussing this important question of the morals of the nineteenth century. Has it been a period of retrogression or progression?

True Patriotism. THE natural enthusiasm that followed the return of "Our Boys" from South Africa has in some degree spent itself, and yet it has by no means died out. There has been the usual toasting and banqueting of the returned heroes, to be followed before the month closes with a public banquet in Toronto to Colonel Otter and his men who will have returned by that time. There is always danger of going to excess when the emotions are given full swing. Every true Canadian rejoices in the growth of patriotic sentiment of recent years, and especially within the past twelve months, but may it be leavened with good common sense and with those motives and aspirations that are in no way simply surface-building. True patriotism will reach beyond the excitement of the hour—real courage and bravery will show themselves in other ways besides on the battle-field. Only as these things tend to make men stronger in the higher things individually will they represent the best illustration of patriotism.

BLESSED Lord! how much I need
Thy light to guide me on my way.
LONGFELLOW.

Velocity of Electricity.

Of the velocity of the spark discharge some notion may be formed from the brief duration of its light, which cannot illuminate any moving object in two successive positions, however rapid its motion. If a wheel be thrown into rapid rotation on its axis, none of its spokes will be visible in daylight; but if the revolving wheel be illuminated in a darkened room

by the discharge of a Leyden jar, every part of it will be rendered as distinctly visible as though it were at rest. In a similar manner the trees, even when agitated by the wind in a violent storm, if illuminated at night by a flash of lightning, appear to be absolutely motionless. By a very ingenious application of this principle, Wheatstone has shown that the duration of the spark is less than the one-millionth part of a second. The apparatus is the same in principle as the revolving wheel. By a modification of the apparatus, Wheatstone was also enabled to measure the velocity with which the discharge of a Leyden jar was transmitted through an insulated copper wire. It was at the rate of 288,000 miles in a second.

Letters to the Publishers.

THE following letters to the publishers of the CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL, acknowledging receipt of various prizes that have been awarded for competitions announced, speak for themselves. Other competitions are in progress, and the outcome will be made known in later numbers of the JOURNAL.

25 MADISON AVE.,
TORONTO, Nov. 11, 1900.

THE J. S. ROBERTSON CO.,
Publishers CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL,
Mail Building, City.

GENTLEMEN,—I hereby acknowledge with thanks receipt of your cheque for \$4.86, being equivalent to the sovereign offered in your first prize competition for first correct answers. Yours respectfully,
JUDSON F. DAVIDSON.

LANGLEY, B.C., Nov. 20, 1900.

THE J. S. ROBERTSON CO.,
Publishers CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL,
Mail Building, Toronto, Ont.

DEAR SIR,—HOME JOURNAL is arriving all right so far. Am very well pleased with it. I was as much surprised as delighted to receive the \$2.50 prize in the late Bible competition. Kindly accept my thanks for your promptness in sending it.

Yours truly,
A. H. P. MATTHEW,
Box 56, Langley, B.C.

"PINE GROVE," WHITE OT, ANNAPOLIS CO., N.S.,
Nov. 26, 1900.

THE J. S. ROBERTSON CO.,
Publishers CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL,
Mail Building, Toronto, Ont.

GENTLEMEN,—I have received set of studs sent by the CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL. They are very nice. Many thanks for them. I am, yours truly,
M. B. SPAIN.

LAUDER, MAN., Nov. 24, 1900.

THE J. S. ROBERTSON CO.,
Publishers CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL,
Mail Building, Toronto, Ont.

GENTLEMEN,—I received your valuable premium—lady's blouse set—for the CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL—and find it a great deal better than represented. I wish to thank you for the same. I value the HOME JOURNAL very highly and would not willingly do without it. Besides being interesting it is very instructive. Yours respectfully,

(MISS) EDITH HYMERS.

BELLEVILLE, ONT., Nov. 26, 1900.

EDITOR CANADIAN HOME JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR,—I received the shirt waist set and think they are very nice. With many thanks.
Yours respectfully,

ETHEL IRVINE.

WIFE: "Harry, my new frock is either perfectly stunning or else it is hideous." Harry: "How do you know?" Wife: "I met Edith Binks when I was out, and she didn't even mention it."