

Correspondence

Buckingham, Que.

Dear Editor,—In answer to your request in the 'Messenger,' that we would tell you what we thought of the different characters of our favorite books, I like 'St. Elmo' and 'Infelice,' by A. J. Evans Wilson, best. In 'St. Elmo' I like Gordon Leigh better than the hero, St. Elmo, but he (St. Elmo) lived up to what he professed to be, I think, although his standard was not very admirable. 'Edna Earl' was beyond description, she was so good and noble.

In 'Infelice,' 'Douglass Lindsay' was nicer, in my estimation, than 'Erle Palma,' because 'Erle Palma' was too hard, stern and unyielding. 'Regina Orme,' or rather 'Laurance,' I cannot find words to describe my admiration for her. She was 'divine.'

Next to these I like 'Knight Errant' and 'Donovan,' by 'Edna Lyall'; 'Only the Governess,' 'Mary St. John,' and 'Wee Wife,' by 'Rosa Carey.' I don't know which one I like best, but I think it is 'Only the Governess.' These are my favorites.

F. W. H.

Minnedosa, Man.

Dear Editor,—I get the 'Messenger' every Sunday in the Methodist Sunday-school. There is an average of about one hundred and seventy members in our Sunday-school. I think the 'Messenger' to be a very interesting paper, and I think all who get it like it. I go to school here, and I am in grade seven. I like school very well, although the work is a little hard at times. Minnedosa is a pretty little town surrounded by hills covered with trees and flowers, and the scenery here is very pretty. Minnedosa is the town where the Doukhobors were checked last fall. They were shut up in the rink over night, and in the morning they were taken on the train to Yorkton. The little Saskatchewan river runs through the centre of the town. We have eight colonies of bees, and last summer we got 850 lbs. of honey, and we intend taking it from them again very soon. We had two swarms the other day, and one alighted on a tree, while the other alighted at the gate.

WILLIAM G. S.

Bremerton, Wash.

Dear Editor,—I live in Bremerton, right near the Puget Sound Navy Yard. We have a fine view of the yard, and we can see the ships as they come into the bay and as they pass into the dry-dock. The bay on which the navy yard is situated is called Port Orchard Bay. It is about two and a half miles wide at the widest place. The dry-dock is one of the greatest in the world. The water is so deep that a battleship can come up quite near to the shore. At the entrance to the dry-dock the gate or caisson sits. This gate keeps the water out of the dry-dock when it is not in use. When the dry-dock is to be used it has to be filled with water. The water is pumped into the dock through holes in the gate.

There are three ships tied up at the navy yard wharf here now. They are the cruiser 'Philadelphia,' the gunboat 'Ranger,' and a large coal boat. There are quite a number of large buildings in the navy yard, such as the steam engineering building, the blacksmith's shop, construction and repair building, the pump-house, and the office-building. There are two large buildings being built now. One is the carpenter's and joiner's shop and the other is the equipment building.

I read the 'Messenger,' and I think it is a very nice paper. I like to read it very much, and my favorite books are Louisa Alcott's works, Rosa Carey's works and the Elsie books.

MATTIE M. P.

Owen Sound, Ont.

Dear Editor,—We have taken the 'Messenger' over ten years now, and all enjoy it very much indeed. I have a nice pony, five years old. We call her Minnie. We have only had her a year, and I feed her lumps of sugar. She sometimes is pretty

frisky, as she is full of fun. My birthday is on December 5. I will be twelve years of age then. In Owen Sound we have a kind of pleasure boat which runs from Balmy Beach to Owen Sound six times a day. This boat is called the 'Canada.' I think it can hold about five hundred or more. It just started yesterday to run again this summer. From Balmy Beach to Owen Sound is three miles. We have six in our family. I have two sisters and one brother. A sister of mine, fourteen years of age, died last September.

HELEN K. B. (age 11).

Middle Clyde, Shelburne Co., N.S.

Dear Editor,—As I have not seen any letters from around here, I thought that I would write one. I think the 'Northern Messenger' a nice paper. I like the 'Correspondence' best. I go to school, and I am in the eighth grade. My brother also goes to school, and he is six years old. He has been going one half term, and is now in the third grade. We have two and one-half miles to go. My studies are Reading, Geography, Canadian History, British History, Grammar, Health Reader, Book-keeping, Arithmetic and Algebra. We do not have school in winter, as it is too far to walk in the snow. I live on a farm. My papa has a strawberry patch, and in summer we have some to sell. We have two cows, two calves, a pig, and a pair of oxen, and we have a horse named Nettie. I am thirteen years old, and my birthday is on May 18. I would like to see some correspondence to the 'Messenger' from my cousins at P. L. T.

T. M. N.

Roskeen.

Dear Editor,—It is a long time since I have written a letter to you. The holidays have come at last, and I am glad. The weather is so hot now that it is almost impossible to put your mind to your studies. Our school is a new one. It was built last fall. There is an attendance of ten scholars nearly every day, and there are four classes. On Friday in the afternoon after recess, we have recitations, readings, and sometimes songs. The C. N. Railway runs through here. They are laying the rails just now, and the train will soon be running. We have church and Sunday-school in the school here. I am secretary-treasurer of the Sunday-school. My eldest sister will soon be home from college, where she has been studying for a second. I have a brother who is ranching in the North-West Territories. He went out there this summer. He said that after they reached there, a big storm came up. It was a rain storm. There had been an awful one before they went out there, which had killed hundreds of cattle. He says there are dead cattle lying all over the country. The roses are out in bloom again, and the strawberries are getting ripe. Oh, how lovely Nature is! Sometimes I think that summer is the loveliest season of the year. But I cannot tell, because in the winter I have such fun. There was a big fire passed through our farm this spring, and it destroyed a great deal of it. It burned its way a long way up in the mountains, but after a time a rain storm came up and put it out.

BERTHA M.

Cobden, Ont.

Dear Editor,—We have been taking the 'Messenger' for a long time, and I thought I would write and tell you about my trip to Ottawa, a distance of ninety miles. We had a splendid time. We went to the experimental farm and saw some of the loveliest flowers I have ever seen or will see. I am going to tell about another trip I had at Christmas to Sudbury.

Sudbury is a very pretty place, and I was twelve miles farther up, and there are a lot of mines of every description. Papa and my sister went to see them, but I did not, because it was snowing at the time. We live on a farm two miles from Cobden, and I go to school every day. I do not go to Cobden. I go to another small village called Ocoola, about a mile and a half from home. Some of my favorite books are 'Elsie's Girlhood,' 'Blest and Unblest,' 'Big

Brother Dick,' and I have read some of the Pansy books, and think they are very nice.

ESSIE P.

Balmoral, Man.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm two and a half miles from the village of Balmoral. My father has taken the 'Messenger' for about thirty-five years. I like to read it very much, and would not like to be without it. I think the continued story, 'A Fight Against Odds,' is a very good and interesting one. My sister and I went to school nearly every day, but we have vacation now. Quite a number of the boys around here rob the bird's nests and kill squirrels and gophers; sometimes they kill birds, too. One day at school the teacher found a squirrel's nest in his desk. It had four little ones in it. At recess he told some of the boys to take them out, so they took them out and put them beside the wood-pile. When we started for home one of the girls took a little squirrel home, but it got away in a few days. One of the boys took two of them, and they killed the other. I think it was very cruel. It will soon be berry-picking time, then I shall have to pick berries. One of my brothers went to Saskatoon this summer to farm. We have twenty-eight head of cattle and five horses. We have thirteen cows milking this summer.

GRETA D. M.

(Very neatly written.—Ed.)

Toronto.

Dear Editor,—We, that is, my class of girls and myself, send the 'Northern Messenger' to India, have for nearly two years, and have also been writing back and forth. This time I have received two letters in one envelope, but I think one is for you, so I will send both to you. I will also send a two-cent stamp to send them back again, as I would like to have them; or, if you want to keep yours, send mine back, anyway. I send the Pastor Picture Lesson Cards that are left over from our infant class, that is what he refers to in his letter.

Yours truly,

EVA E. McCOLL.

Kaleru, 25, 3, '03.

My Dear Madam,—I received the 'Messenger' and little Bible lesson pictures. I gave them to many caste people by taking recitation, two verses for each card. Many of the children crowded around me to get their cards by reciting the verses. Many Brahmans, who are called the greatest of all castes, heard the Gospel through these cards. Therefore, I give many, many thanks to you. Sixteen souls have come to believe in Jesus during the past year (1902). Please remember our church in your earnest prayers. We owe unto you all, because of sending the Gospel to us in many ways. I do not know how many years it will take for my countrymen to stand on their own legs.

Dear Editor,—I have taken the 'Northern Messenger' for nearly a year, and like to read it. Having read so many interesting letters in your paper lately, I have come to the conclusion that I will write too. I have a brother who is older than I am. He is pastor of Pittapur church. I also have a sister who is younger than I am. She married a preacher named Ramaswami at Nakkapalli. I studied at Ongole College in the last year. There God called me as a pastor through the Rev. J. E. Davis. I discontinued my studies. Now I am a pastor of Ramachandrapuram church. I am working for the Lord from my childhood. I pray to God to be a good and faithful servant in my bachelorship.

MORTA PRAKASAM,

Ramachandrapuram, G. Dt.,
India.

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Would each subscriber kindly look at the address tag on this paper? If the date thereon is July, 1903, it is time that the renewals were sent in so as to avoid losing a single copy. As renewals always date from the expiry of the old subscriptions, subscribers lose nothing by remitting a little in advance.