

Grahame, a long breath of relief escaping from her. 'But what ails you, dear?'

'I'll tell you. Some time ago I got acquainted with a fellow called Osborne. He is a rascal, I know now; but when father told me, two months ago, to drop his acquaintance, I saw no reason for such a command. Well, I can't tell you how, but I got to gamble with him, and father had to pay my debts. He told me then, that if he ever had to do so again, he would send me off to my uncle in India. Well, Osborne is at me again (I haven't played with him since, mind), and he says that I still owe him ten pounds, and I can't prove that I do not, though I feel sure he is lying; for he says I was half drunk when he won it from me. Will you help me, Lizzie?' added Charlie pleadingly. All the pride in Lizzie's nature had blazed up at Charlie's shameful recital, and she answered scornfully, 'Help you! No, indeed. Do you think I despise papa's commands as you do?' 'Then hey for India, and yellow fever,' said Charlie with affected carelessness, as he turned from her. But the next instant Lizzie's hand was on his arm, and said, 'Oh! Charlie, you don't think papa will send you to India?' 'Papa generally keeps his word, Lizzie.' 'Oh! anything but that,' murmured Lizzie clinging to her brother; they were motherless. 'I have not enough of money, Charlie; but,' she added, unclasping a valuable bracelet, 'take this, and with what I have, there will perhaps be enough.' 'No, Lizzie,' said her brother, 'I have been too selfish already. I do not despise my father's commands, though my conduct may seem to believe me; you living here, secure from such temptation, cannot know how difficult it is to break away from bad associates when they appear friendly, and you may thank God daily that you have never learned to like wine as I have.' 'Oh! Charlie, have you really got to like wine?' 'I have not forgotten to love you and my father, so, Lizzie, dear, let me go to India, and don't grieve over-much. It is the best plan, I've thought for long. It will cut me loose from all those fellows that have got such a hold of me, and I shall be free, among strangers and in new scenes, to begin a new life, as I hope to do. This scrape with Osborne has brought matters to a crisis. I will tell my father all, and accept his punishment.' 'Oh! no, Charlie, no,' implored Lizzie; 'I did not really mean these cruel words I said. We will pay that debt somehow, only stay and let us see you become the noble man you might be.' 'Don't talk nonsense just now, Lizzie. Your words have done me good, for they have compelled me to examine and see how meanly I've been acting. And how can you dream of my being noble until I am master of myself? Besides, would it be honorable to keep our father in the dark about my doings? No, dear, I have sown my wild oats, and I must reap the harvest. If I only could save you from grieving on my account.' His sister's cheek grew very pale as he spoke; but she simply said, 'I believe you are right.' He kissed her white lips, and left her with an aching heart. His father, beneath a cold exterior, had a heart full of love to his children, and it was a severe trial to him to carry out his promise and send his son to India. He was much pleased with his humble penitent manner, and it comforted both Mr. Grahame and Lizzie to know that he had begun to study his Bible ere he left his native land. He sailed two months after his conversation in the garden with his sister, and very lonely the house was without his firm, quick step, and the hearty ringing of his voice. He wrote regularly home, however, and told his sister, without reserve, of his temptations, and spoke humbly of his efforts to overcome his habits. Six years passed away, and then his father entreated him to return. He was wearying much to see his son, and Lizzie was going to be married, and wished her brother to be present on the occasion. Charlie obeyed readily, and the slim youth returned to England, bearded, broad-shouldered, and browned with the sun, and Lizzie could scarcely feel that he was the same at first. Yet he was just as hearty and loving as ever; but his temporary banishment had made him a strong ally of cold water, and one of his aims in life was to bring others by example and precept to give up in its favor the use of wine and other intoxicating drinks.—'League Journal.'

Correspondence

Dear Boys and Girls,—I am glad to have some more names on the 'Honor Roll of Bible Searchers,' and I should like a great many more of you to make up your minds to study these verses and find where they are in the Bible.

I am glad so many of you are praying for the soldiers in South Africa. They need to be constantly remembered before God. Pray that they may be brave Christian soldiers fighting against sin and temptation. Pray that their hearts and their camps may be kept pure so that God may dwell with them as he dwelt in the camps of the Israelites long ago.

I hope you will read about the Indian Famine and pray for the missionaries who are doing everything they can for the relief of the suffering natives. If you can send any money for this work, we will be glad to acknowledge it in the 'Messenger' and to forward it to a good missionary in India, to give food to the starving ones. If you can not give money you can give prayer. And if you can give money you must pray that God will bless every cent of it, and that it may be used not only to give bread to the starving people, but to teach their poor starved souls about Jesus, the Bread of Life.

Your loving friend,
THE CORRESPONDENCE EDITOR.

White Oak, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am sending you a copy of a letter, which I received from the Rev. Mr. Owen, of the Mission School, Port Macleod, N.W.T. Perhaps some of the readers of the 'Messenger' would like to send something to the children in the home. I am sending the 'Northern Messenger' this year to them. I wonder what will they say when they see this letter?

FRED R. SHORE, (aged 10.)

Church Missionary Society, St. Paul's Mission, MacLeod, N.W.T., Jan. 1st, 1900.

Dear Fred,—An answer to your letter is the first one for me in the new century. Do you feel a hundred years old now that you have lived in two centuries. I judge not from your letter. Well, your little books were much appreciated by the children, though more by the girls than boys, for the boys are not fond of reading. You see that it is reading in a foreign language, and, of course, it is more or less slow. However as the girls are very fond of reading, any books will be most acceptable. This afternoon the boys and some of the girls are away at the ice, and some have skates, which they are learning to use well. In some ways they are like white boys and girls, but in some ways very different. If you want to help us in other ways, I will give you a chance, by enclosing a card, the use of which you will see. We are always needing money to help our home, for fifty children need lots to eat and wear. Old clothes are acceptable, but old boots are hardly much good, for it is so stony here that some new ones don't last long. I like to see fellows of your age starting out to work for God, for the younger we start, the happier life we have, and it is happiness we all are looking for, isn't it. Well, good-bye to you and your two brothers. I hope you have all had a very happy Xmas and bright New Year.

From your friend,
ARTHUR deB. OWEN.

Hantsport, N.S.

Dear Editor,—I have two sisters and two brothers. We have a parrot named Cora, She whistles and sings and calls each one of the family by their names. I take music lessons and am getting along well. I go to school and am in the fifth grade. At my last grading I got an average of 93. My teacher gave me a prize for my lessons and conduct. It was a book called 'Arabian Nights.' My birthday is on April 8th, just

the same day as Annie B's birthday is, only I am two years older than she is.

JOY L. (aged 10.)

Roseville.

Dear Editor,—I live at Roseville, in the County of Lanark. I have three brothers and one sister. I have been taking the 'Messenger' for some months and like it very well. My father is a cheese maker. We live about five miles from the town of Smith's Falls, which has a population of five thousand. I think I will always take this paper, it is so interesting.

MAGGIE C. (aged 11.)

Rosanna, Ont.

Dear Editor,—Rosanna is a small place, consisting of a post office, a church and a fine brick school-house. It is about five miles east of Tilsonburg. I was very much interested in Violet M's letter of Milton, Ont. I would like her to write to me. I get the 'Messenger' at Sunday-school, and I like it very much. I am thirteen years old; and my birthday is on April 30.

VIOLET W. (aged 13.)

Campobello, N.B.

Dear Editor,—I go to Sunday-school and get the 'Messenger.' I enjoy reading the little letters very much. The school-house is only a few steps from my home.

EVA M. M. (aged 10.)

Pt. Fortune.

Dear Editor,—I go to school. There are twenty scholars. We have eight little pigs and two big fat pigs. We have four horses and fourteen cows.

KATIE E. R. (aged 11.)

Pt. Fortune.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm. We have five cats and one dog named Rover.

OLIVE J. R. (aged 7.)

Springfield, P.E.I.

Dear Editor,—I take the 'Messenger' and I love to read the boys' and girls' page. I have two sisters, Annie and Edna, but no brothers. We go to school. Our teacher's name is Miss Brown, she is very kind when we know our lessons. I have two pets, a dog named Watch, and a cat named Eliza. I go to Sunday-school. Our minister's name is Mr. Chapman.

WALTER D. (aged 11.)

Gagetown, Queen's County, N.B.

Dear Editor,—My father owns a tug boat and we often go on it for a trip to St. John and other places. He makes me go on the boat and cook and steer sometimes for him while he sleeps. He has to go night and day. We play baseball at school, and have great fun. My aunt takes the 'Messenger' for my father, and I love to read it. We haven't any pets, but one little pig, and a cat. I have one brother and two sisters.

A. B. (aged 10.)

Fredericton, P.E.I.

Dear Editor,—I live in the country and go a mile and a half to school. I have two brothers and two sisters. Our baby's name is Sheldon. My birthday is June 14.

A. M. McL. (aged 10.)

Burleigh, Ont.

Dear Editor,—Last year I had the whooping cough and had to stay at home on Christmas day, but I had a good time. I have two uncles up near Port Arthur, and two living near here.

MAGGIE L. (aged 12.)

Hunter River, P.E.I.

Dear Editor,—My eldest brother is in Manitoba. One of my brothers has a wheel. We have three horses and twelve cows. I go to school and am in the second reader. My teacher's name is Miss Oxenham.

ETHEL B. (aged 6.)

London, Ont.

Dear Editor,—We moved into London last December, and since that my dear father died. I have two brothers. One of them goes to the High school.

BLANCHE (aged 12.)

Dear Editor,—I have two brothers and two sisters. I have no pets. I go to school. My teacher's name is Mr. Chambers. We all like him. I live five miles from Owen Sound.

MANIE (aged 8.)