

quitoes are at their worst. Our services are necessarily not very long at such times, for it becomes almost suffocating at last. Very often there are two or three cases of fainting, and it is, indeed, pitiable to see my school children falling off their seats sometimes, though this is partly owing to want of food. I give them a tea-party now at such times, so that the poor little things are better able to stand the heat. Our school average is nearly sixty in summer, and now it is only two! With all its heat, our little church was a place of joy and praise last summer. We had two English, two Indian, and one Eskimo service each Sunday, with a large Sunday school, besides baptisms and sick visiting. During the past summer, I have travelled 300 miles in boats. On my journey in August, we got wind-bound at Little Whale River, and my stock of food ran short two or three days before we could get a fair wind. My Eskimo friend, Moses, gave me a little fish, but he and the others were very short, while our crew had to eat the unripe berries to help them over Sunday. The next day we got to Great Whale River, and there we heard that the master had sent a canoe for us with some food.

The Indians think a great deal of a bear, especially a black one. I was almost going to say that he used to be their god, and he was not very far short of it. They have numerous superstitious ideas concerning him, and it will take many years' teaching to get them out of some. Many think he does not sleep all the winter, but simply retires to meditate. It is a common belief among them that he understands when they speak to him, and some believe he has a soul like a man. I have gathered the Indians together and spoken very plainly about these very foolish ideas, and one old man was perfectly convinced, but I am afraid that it will be a very long time before many of their ideas will be given up. Bear's meat is the greatest delicacy they have, and they always make a feast when one is caught. Whoever gets it generally hands it over to the oldest man in the tent. This is a recognized law amongst them, showing their respect for the old men.

Before they eat a bit themselves, a piece of fat or meat is thrown into the fire. Why this is done I cannot find out for sure, as they are very chary about letting their minister know the pros and cons of many of their customs. Some of the better taught say it is a sign of thankfulness to God for giving them their food, but it is a custom known to them before ever they knew about God, the Giver of all good things. It is most probably done in honor of the animal; at least, so I was told by one who is well acquainted with their ways and customs.

Moosonee, December, 1894.

Books and Periodicals Department.

Short Studies in Ethics. By Rev. J. O. Miller, M.A. Toronto: The Bryant Press.

This is meant as an elementary text-book for schools on the great subject of right and proper living. It is a timely book for the present day, when the only object of school training seems to be the intellectual advancement of the pupil. But to train the child's intellect without, at the same time, surrounding him with the influences of religion, or at least morality, is a dangerous thing for the state and a piece of great cruelty and injustice to the child. Mr. Miller has offered a very pleasant and effective little book on the subject. It deals with such questions as duty, obedience, truthfulness, courage, purity, etc., not in a dry, heavy manner, but with a brightness which is commendable, each article being well supplied with anecdote and illustration.

(1) *The Sunday at Home*; (2) *The Leisure Hour*; (3) *The Boys' Own Paper*; (4) *The Girls' Own Paper*; (5) *Friendly Greetings*; (6) *The Collager and Artisan*; (7) *Light in the Home*; (8) *The Child's Companion*; (9) *Our Little Dots*. The Religious Tract Society, 56 Paternoster Row, London. The articles, stories, and illustrations in *The Sunday at Home* for July are all good and helpful. The same may be said of *The Leisure Hour*. "Sunday at Cambridge" in the former, and "Favorite Sketching Grounds," "Rambles in Japan," and "Valparaiso," in the latter, may, perhaps, be specially mentioned. *The Boys' Own Paper* is full of attractions for boys, and has a summer number to gladden their hearts. The same may be said of *The Girls' Own Paper*, changing merely girls for boys. "The Story of Estelle," a penny tale for the people, is a pretty little romance of Brittany.

The Missionary Review of the World. Funk & Wagnalls Co., 30 Lafayette Place, New York. Price, \$2.50 a year. The July number contains, as usual, many interesting and valuable articles. "Life among the Redmen of America," by Rev. Egerton Young, of Toronto, gives some exceptionally entertaining and inspiring incidents from the writer's life and work among the Indian tribes of the great Northwest. In "Transformations in New Guinea and Polynesia," Rev. Dr. McFarlane, the pioneer missionary to New Guinea, tells of the wonderful story of the changes which the Gospel has wrought in the hearts and lives of the savages of the south seas. The editorial and general intelligence departments are by no means behindhand in their items of interest, or in the suggestiveness of comment and criticism.

(1) *The Expositor* (one shilling); (2) *The Clergyman's Magazine* (sixpence). London: Hodder & Stoughton, Paternoster Row. *The Expositor* for July has seven useful articles on Biblical questions, that on "The Fall and Its Consequences," by Sir William Dawson, and "The Kingdom of God," by the Rev. John Watson, being, perhaps, specially worthy of note. Mr. Watson thinks that too much emphasis has been put upon "the Church" and not enough upon "the kingdom" of God. The distinction between the two is very well worked out. *The Clergyman's Magazine* gives many hints for sermon-writing and instruction in Bible and Prayer Book. It has also an interesting description of "Latimer, the Preacher of the Reformation."

The Review of Reviews. New York: 13 Astor Place; \$2.50 a year. The July number gives a wonderful amount of information for twenty-five cents, and several very good pictures, that of the promoters of the original Atlantic cable, with Cyrus W. Field in prominence, being specially noteworthy. Australian politics are given a special place by a long and exhaustive article on "The Political Leaders of New South Wales."

The Religious Review of Reviews. London, England. Price, sixpence. The first announcement in the June number is the resignation of Canon Fleming as editor, which will be regretted by all who have had the pleasure of reading his well-conducted and useful magazine.