

ing at his bench a new and better idea took possession of his mind.

'I am poor,' he said within himself; 'my family needs every cent I earn; it is growing more expensive every year; soon I shall want to educate my children. Ten cents a day for beer! Let me see—that is sixty cents a week, even if I drink no beer on Sunday. Sixty cents a week! That is thirty-one dollars and twenty cents a year! And it does me no good; it may do me harm. Let me see,' and here he took a piece of chalk and solved the problem on a board. 'I can buy two barrels of flour, one hundred pounds of sugar, five pounds of tea, and six bushels of potatoes for that sum.' Pausing a moment, as if to allow the grand idea to take full possession of him, he then exclaimed, 'I will never waste another cent on beer!' And he never has.—'Ram's Horn.'

It's Nothing to Me

'It's nothing to me,' the mother said;
'I've no fears that my boy will tread
The downward path of sin and shame,
And crush my heart and darken his name.'
It was something to her when her only son
From the path of right was early won
And madly cast in the flowing bowl,
A ruined body and shipwrecked soul.

'It's nothing to me,' the voter said;
'The party is my greatest dread.'
Then he gave his vote to the liquor trade,
Though hearts were crushed and drunkards
made.

It was something to him in after life
When his daughter became a drunkard's
wife.

And her hungry children cried for bread,
And trembled to hear their father's tread.

'It's nothing to me,' the young man cried;
In his eye was a flash of scorn and pride—
'I heed not the dreadful things you tell;
I can rule myself, I know full well.'
'T was something to him when in prison he
lay

The victim of drink, life ebbing away,
As he thought of his wretched child and wife,
And the mournful wreck of his wasted life.

—'Christian Endeavor World.'

A New Incentive to Juvenile Smoking.

The pernicious habit of cigarette smoking among boys has recently received an unexpected impetus through the 'enterprise' of one or two firms of manufacturers, who are offering money prizes for complete sets of certain portraits of celebrities, which are given away with each packet. To the craze for 'collecting' is thus added the sinister influence of a bribe to keep on buying cigarettes for the sake of the portraits. A more objectionable temptation could scarcely be concocted, and already it is evident that there is a marked increase in juvenile smoking. In certain European countries the practice of juvenile smoking is prohibited by law. It would be well if it were so here.—'The Christian,' London.

What Message Did He Send?

An American brewery did between Aug. 1, 1900, and July 31, 1901, what no such institution ever did before since the world was made. It made and sold over a million barrels of beer. The president was in Europe when the year closed and the figures were added together. He felt so rejoiced over the news that he telegraphed his congratulations to all employees. Wonder what message he would send to the poverty-stricken men who drank the stuff, and to the women and children whose homes were cursed by it, and to the men who went into drunkards' graves soaked and besodden by his accursed beer.—'Michigan Christian Advocate.'

Sample Copies.

Any subscriber who would like to have specimen copies of 'Northern Messenger' sent to friends can send the names with addresses and we will be pleased to supply them, free of cost.

Correspondence

Lennox, Man.

Dear Editor,—As I have not seen any letters from this district, I thought I would write. We get the 'Messenger' in our Sunday-school, and like it very much, especially the Correspondence. I do not go to school. I was in Winnipeg last winter and had a nice time. I have two sisters married in Winnipeg, and one, single, at home.

MAY C. (Aged 14.)

Hoosick Falls, N.Y.

Dear Editor,—This is my first letter to the 'Northern Messenger.' I have taken it for three years. I think it is a very nice paper. We have only been here a week. I have no pets. I had a kitty, but when we moved, we had to give her away. I have one sister and no brothers. My sister's name is Viola. I am in the advanced fifth grade. I am ten years old.

FLOSSIE M. L.

Prince Albert, Sask.

Dear Editor,—I get the 'Messenger' and I enjoy reading it. Many of the 'Messenger' readers think it is very cold in this country, can ride the bicycle or drive. My father keeps a livery stable; we have four rubber tired rigs beside others and we live on the banks of Sask.; in summer time it is a very pretty place; on the north side is a thick pine wood where all kinds of berries grow, and we cross on a cable ferry. A short distance away are two islands. We have four churches and a hospital. There are six rooms in the school I go to and I am in the second book.

MARGARET D. (Aged 9.)

Sea Island, B.C.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm. I have two brothers and one sister. I go to school every day. My teacher's name is Miss Carter. I go to Sabbath-school and my Sunday-school teacher's name is Miss McLeary. I am in the second reader. I was nine last Oct. For pets I have two cats, Minnie and Romp. I have a dog named Rover; he brings home the cows and makes himself generally useful. I have a pony called Maggie, and she has a nice colt called Bobs. I went to Vancouver and saw the Duke and Duchess. The city was beautifully decorated and beautifully illuminated at night. We like the 'Messenger' very much. My papa has taken the 'Witness' for years, and mama says her father took it for years.

GERTIE MAY R.

Great Burin, Newfoundland.

Dear Editor,—I have taken the 'Messenger' for two years, and enjoy reading it very much. My brother and I go to school. I am in the third reader. My teacher's name is Mr. Guy. I like him very much. The name of our school is Avondale. It is near a pond. In winter we have fine fun skating on it. During the holidays this summer, I went with papa to St. John's, the capital of Newfoundland, and enjoyed the trip very well. I have two brothers and twin sisters. My sisters are five years old.

GEORGE B. L. (Aged 8.)

Walden, Vermont.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl eight years old. My grandpa lives in Canada. It has been four years since I visited him. He sends me the 'Messenger.' I enjoy reading it very much. My father and mother are both dead. I have no brothers or sisters. I live with my aunt and uncle. I attend the village school and as we live half a mile out, I ride to and from school on my wheel that my uncle bought for me last July. My cousin who is sixteen, has a bicycle too, and we have lots of fun riding together. My cousin is away attending High School this fall, and when she comes home she will be surprised to see my letter in the 'Messenger.'

STELLA MAY W.

Toronto, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have just seen one letter from Toronto, so I thought I would write. I have one brother and no sisters. I go to school and I like it very much. I wonder if any little girl's birthday is the same as mine, Aug. 2. I am eight years old. I have no pets. We live very near the school, and my little friend that I liked best of any moved to New York.

GLADYS W.

Hamilton, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I saw my letter in the 'Messenger' and was very much pleased. I suppose you think I am writing very often, but I enjoy writing to the 'Messenger' very much. A young friend of mine is going to write. His name is Jack Quinn; he is a nice little boy; we play together, and often, in the summer, we go down to the beach with our mamas. He used to be the errand boy in the 'Morning Post,' but it broke up. I am going to school now, and enjoy it very much.

ETHEL R.

Calgary, Alta.

Dear Editor,—I have read so many letters out of the 'Messenger,' I thought I would like to see my letter in the paper. I know a girl who takes the 'Messenger.' My name is Jack Hutchings. My father is head boss of the Great West Saddlery Company. I had a pony but he was too wild. My brother Douglas has a dog. I am the oldest of my brothers and sisters. There are four besides me. Douglas is next to me. I have a sister four years old. Her name is Marian. I have two brothers, Stewart and Harry. I am eight years old. My birthday is on July 17. At school I am fifth in my class.

JACK H.

Billtow.

Dear Editor,—I go to Sunday-school and get the 'Messenger.' I like to read it very well, especially the letters. I have seven brothers and four sisters. One sister is dead and one brother too. I have taken the 'Messenger' four years. I have two cats and one dog. The dog's name is Jack.

LULA A. S.

'Sunny Side Farm,' Vankleek Hill, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am going to get mamma to write a letter for me to the 'Messenger.' I have been wanting to write one for a long time, but I can only print yet. I waited till mamma had time to do it for me. I'll tell her everything to say. My sister Edna takes the 'Messenger.' My papa takes the 'Daily Witness,' and my mother and my brother Willie takes the 'World Wide.' I have another brother; his name is Gordon, and I have a brother (Hilton) in heaven. But I want to write about a cat we have, and we all think she is the cutest cat ever was. She is as black as a crow and she has a dear little kitten just as black as herself. We call the cat 'Witch.' She is the best mouser ever could be. She caught a weasel and brought it to her kittens but they would not eat it; soon after that papa found her at the barn with one of her eyes hanging out (in her cheek and she was suffering so that she would not eat. They suppose she was fighting with a weasel, or, perhaps, a rat, which tore her eye out. Mamma was saying she would not catch any more rats (with only one eye) but just a day or two after didn't she come to the house with a great big rat. She could hardly carry it she was so weak, and gave it to her kittens and then ran off again because the kittens hurt her eye when they came round her. Her eye is all healed up now, but, of course, she can't see with it. We have a pretty little white dog (pure white when she is clean) her name is 'Topsy' and she has the cutest little puppies and such times as they have playing, but people always want them and when they are old enough, take them all away on poor Topsy. I go to school when I am well, but just now I have the whooping cough and can't go. I think I have the best teacher in the world. Your little friend,

LYMAN. (Aged 8.)

Genoa, Dec. 17, 1901.

Dear Sirs,—Many thanks for the nice Bible which I received from you as a premium. I am very much pleased with it.

EVA W. GORDON.

The Bagster Bible referred to above was forwarded in return for a list of four subscriptions to 'Northern Messenger' at thirty cents each.

A Propos.

In selecting a publication don't let bulk, or cheapness, or premiums outweigh your better judgment. Neither the family food nor the family reading are matters to trifle with. Parity and wholesomeness should be the first consideration in either case. The result will be healthy minds in healthy bodies. Good quality often costs more but is always the most satisfactory in the end.