

The German Emperor's Birthday.

GREAT Emperor! on thy natal day
We would our humble homage pay
To thee, to whom, by grace of Heaven,
The glorious privilege was given
Of re-uniting in one State,
So many people of the great,
Though much divided Teuton race,
Which in Europe holds the far'most place.

Four score and ten the years have been
That thou the light of earth hath seen;
Four score since thou, a playful boy,
Wore thy first uniform with joy.
Yet, 'ere seven years, you had to face
The giant of the Frankish race,
Who brought your country bitter woe,
But to his own begot a foe.

Six and twenty were the States,
Which, as history relates,
Singly opposed his onward course;
Combined, they had sufficient force;
To have withstood his knavish tricks,
But as a bundle of strong sticks,
When bound together, can't be broken,
Singly, each, easily as words spoken.

In unity there must be strength,
Long parted people owned at length,
So seventeen years ago, a king
Did to a German Emperor spring,
You, then a king of but one State,
Became the Emperor of the great
Confederation, that combined
To revenge the ills of all their kind.

For all the great Teutonic race
Had met the Giant Taton to face,
Had each been conquered in his turn,
So every patriot heart did burn
To have revenge upon that nation,
One time the scourge of all creation;
And anxious yet to raise the pean
As chief of nations European,

But you who led them in the fight,
You showed much nerve in your might.
You only changed the frontier line,
Made German both sides of the Rhine;
And made the Frankish people pay
What they'd previously taken away,
With interest thereon, well computed,
And thus their arrogant boasts refuted.

Sunday School Mission Work in Toronto.

A VERY fair audience of Sunday-school teachers assembled in the lecture-room of the Metropolitan Church, the occasion being the meeting of the Methodist Sunday-School Association. The first subject discussed was

TEMPERANCE IN SUNDAY-SCHOOLS,

which was introduced by Ald. Bousstead, who gave a characteristic temperance talk, illustrating the manner in which he introduces the temperance subject in the Metropolitan school, of which he is superintendent. He was followed by spirited five minutes' addresses from teachers and Sunday-school workers in the different schools. The next subject, Sunday-school work

AMONG THE NEGLECTED CHILDREN,

was introduced by Mr. George H. Flint. This paper was followed by one read by Mrs. Sheffield, who is doing an important work in St. James' Ward. She said:—This subject is one of the most important that can come under our notice from whatever standpoint we may view it. The lowest motive that can actuate us in giving early

attention to it, and yet one that cannot be ignored, is that of self-defence. If we fully realized the condition of things we would stand appalled at the prospect before us. Here we have the coming criminals and beggars of our city and country unless now, while they are still young, something be done to counteract the pernicious domestic and street education they are receiving. This work is more hopeful now than it ever will be in the

FUTURE OF THESE YOUNG OUTCASTS.

There is no time to lose, and thoughtful Christian men and women should not be satisfied until all are provided with the means of rising from their sin, degradation and poverty to self-respect, good citizenship and usefulness in the community. Speaking only of cases that have come under the writer's observation, in the centre of this city, where may be seen daily on our street corners scores of girls and boys selling papers, sweeping crossings, cleaning boots, etc., the lives of these poor little waifs are scarcely better than those of domestic animals. To speak of the houses they live in as "home" is cruel irony. There may be one or both parents, but drink, that curse of our country and age, destroys the comfort and peace that should be found there. Filth and brawling make the place hideous, and the street, with its cold and wet, is preferable. These children early learn to swear, lie and steal. It is impossible for those who have never mingled with them to imagine the cunning and utter disregard of truth which is habitual with them. You really cannot be sure, as a rule, that anything they tell you is true. But this is not all; it is

THE HIGHEST AMBITION

of some of them to be burglars, as was shown by one little fellow, only about seven years old, who boasted to the writer of having robbed a safe of \$200 and of tucking the bills under his vest until, as he said, "he stuck out all around." He told of this purely imaginary exploit before a number of other boys, one of whom he honoured as an accomplice, but this lad refused to be considered a partner in the transaction, and declared the whole story a fabrication. Our young hero, whose name is Johnnie, then said, "Well, we broke into a peanut stand and stole peanuts." This assertion the other did not deny, but admitted the theft. The ability to obtain and imbibe a large quantity of whiskey is

CONSIDERED ANOTHER ACCOMPLISHMENT.

One Sunday little Johnnie made an effort to secure the admiration of the assembled boys by saying that he drank a bottle of whiskey the day before. When he failed to convince the teachers of his statement on this point, at least as to quantity, and was expostulated with on the terrible future he was preparing for himself, he was undaunted and unabashed. On being asked what he wished to do when a

man, meaning what occupation he would prefer, he replied, "to bum the streets," whatever that may mean; I fear it is nothing very praiseworthy. He claimed to possess fifty cents on the day he drank the whiskey, with which he bought it. That boy preferred to buy whiskey to either food or clothing, although he was in a most ragged and filthy condition in midwinter. He has three brothers, one of whom appeared in the Police Court a short time ago, and it was said of him that he had been in the habit of stealing ever since he knew how to use his fingers. This is only one of many such cases. Perhaps, however, no pernicious habit has as great a hold on them as the use of tobacco, and never is this disgusting practice more offensive than as it is carried on by these lads. Some of them seem to

PREFER TOBACCO TO SWEATMEATS,

a most unnatural taste for a child. They chew it constantly, and, until forbidden, used it in the Sunday-school. But just here it is necessary to say a word for the encouragement of those who may fear to come in contact with this class, especially to ladies, who may feel that they could not undertake such work. These boys, as a rule, try to please their teachers, though it may be in rather a rough way. To illustrate this an instance may be given from the Sunday-school already referred to, which shows the rather peculiar way in which these youths desire to be agreeable. When they first came to school last October they all had quids of tobacco in their mouths. With its attendant filthiness this practice became intolerable, and they were told how much the teachers disliked the use of tobacco at all, and were requested not to chew any more in school. They instantly put the offensive weed out of sight, and next Sabbath none of these boys attempted to use it in school. However, a new boy, who had not been there before, was present, and when he did what they had done only a week before they took him by the collar and

LED HIM OUT TO EMPTY HIS MOUTH,

and then brought him back again. Since then the boys themselves have attended to this department of the work, and have assisted their teachers in abolishing this nuisance from the school, so that, with one or two exceptions, the matter has not required a rebuke from the teachers. A few have signed the pledge against both liquor and tobacco. Though rough, these boys seem to possess a sort of native gallantry, and not one of them has ever been rude to one of us. Each one seems to consider himself a policeman, and very often the efforts of one to keep others in order, while very amusing, only increase the disturbance. It is kindly meant, though we could do without the assistance thus rendered. They are very severe in their judgment of each other, and if they had the passing

of sentences, there would be little leniency. Many interesting incidents might be given, but from the foregoing the state of these children may be imagined. As a mission field, this is

A WORK AT OUR OWN DOORS,

and we cannot shirk the responsibility that has been laid upon us of teaching and helping these uncared-for ones. As we look into the faces of precocious, restless, dirty children, we cannot but think of the grand possibilities in their future, and we long for wisdom and patience and love, as well as faith, to deal with them so as to foster whatever good there may be in them and to implant a yearning after a better and higher life. How to really help them, body and soul and mind, is a problem that many in our city are now, happily, striving to solve. To help the body without pauperizing, to help them to help themselves, is

THE POINT TO BE REACHED.

Whole families are quite willing to be beggars, and it is a delicate and difficult matter to help without hurting their independence—to help judiciously. There is no doubt many come to school for what they get, but we care not for motives at first; they may learn something that will in time change the motive. They seem to have no ambition to be more respectable in appearance, and are as happy in rags as anything else; at least, so it would appear, for they sometimes warn us against each other, that clothing given may be sold. It is scarcely possible to do much good if these children are only brought under healthy influences for one hour a week, and it is therefore desirable that a Band of Hope night school, mothers' meeting and savings bank be started as soon as practicable. There is also much visiting to be done. Here are

FIELDS OF USEFULNESS

for those who, because they love Christ, love those he died to redeem. While there is so much to do we cannot be held guiltless if we neglect to work in some part of the Lord's vineyard. It is nothing less than a duty. To the unemployed Christian we extend a cordial invitation to join us and help in this work. There is enough variety to give you a choice as to what share you will undertake. But beyond its being a duty, I believe all who will give it a trial in the spirit of earnest, persistent Christian work, will find it a pleasure. It brings its own reward with it, even in the present; but how unspeakable will be our joy in the future if we have been the means of bringing even one soul from darkness to light, and we hope to see many of these children become centres of influence for good which will reach beyond any calculations we can make. This is possible, and this is what we are striving for and aiming at. And then how our hearts will glow when we hear the words, "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these, ye