

TRANSITION NUMBER.

We are glad to greet our readers for the first time in this our new form, and hope it will in every way meet with their approval. But such changes are not made in a day, and this one is not yet complete. This first enlarged number we would denominate the 'Transition Number,' with the hope that the next one will complete the change and be a fine sample of what the paper will be.

PRIZES FOR BIBLE STUDY.

Wisely given prizes are of great value in Sunday-school work. This has been proven to the publishers of the 'Messenger' many times over in the letters they have received from Sunday-school workers referring to the prizes we have offered in the past. That the children value them is shown by the numbers who have taken part in the different competitions. With this first number of the enlarged 'Northern Messenger' we offer new prizes for a new competition. Teachers, look at the particulars and see if it will not add new interest to your class this fall to have your scholars take part. Prizes are given both for juniors and seniors.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, ATTENTION!

A NEW BIBLE COMPETITION—SIX HANDSOME PRIZES.

Solomon is the subject of our Sunday-school lessons for the next two months. Every Sunday-school scholar, either in the Sunday-school proper or in the Home Department of the Sunday-school, is invited to send in to this office a sketch of the life of Solomon. For these **SIX HANDSOME PRIZES** are offered. Read carefully the following

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

1. Essays must not exceed 700 words.
2. Write on paper the size of note, and on one side of the sheet only.
3. Pin the sheets together at the left hand upper corner.
4. On the right hand upper corner of the first sheet write plainly (1) a fictitious name or motto, (2) your age, (3) the name of your Sunday-school and name and address of your superintendent.
5. Enclose in a sealed envelope your full name and post-office address. On the envelope write the fictitious name or motto which you have written on the corner of your sketch, and pin the envelope firmly to the upper left hand corner of the top sheet.
6. Sketches must be neither rolled nor folded, but mailed flat.
7. Sketches must be mailed not later than Nov. 30.
8. Address all sketches to
'Northern Messenger' Bible Competition,
John Dougall & Son,
Montreal.

AUTUMN QUERIES.

Have you taken stock of your available forces and laid your plans for the winter's work? Do it at once if you want to gather strong headway. Are your Sunday-school classes thoroughly reorganized with no absentee teachers? Have you in your library enough books? Enough books of the right kind? Have you decided what missionary work you will do this year, what money you need to raise as your school's share of the work of your denomination, and how you plan to raise it?

What work are you going to take up in your Christian Endeavor Society? You must do something besides 'talking good' one evening a week. If your society does not work it cannot thrive—it cannot even

live. The missionary society of your denomination is in great need of funds. Choose some one missionary for your very own, and pay at least one month of his or her salary this year. Write and tell him that you will do it. You will get a letter in return which will more than repay the effort and will help you raise the money.

THE BOYS' BRIGADE IN CANADA.

The Boys' Brigade, which has proved such a success in England, has come to Canada to stay. On another page is an account of the recent competition of the seven Toronto companies and the presentation of the flag by the Governor-General, who is president of the Canadian Brigade. The 'Northern Messenger' in its new form extends greetings to these young Christian soldiers of Canada, and wishes them Godspeed in their work. Boys, let us hear from you.

GRAVE STONES AGAINST SINS.

A Canadian Missionary, who has been in the heart of the late Armenian troubles, and who has been employed in distributing the relief funds wrote of one relief trip last June:

'I passed several large Moslem cemeteries in which each grave had at the head and foot an enormous stone, often the remains of a marble pillar, possibly from some Christian Church. The idea is that the grave stones are to be thrown into the balance when the final accounts are made up to weigh against sins committed. So the larger the stone the greater the chance of admission to paradise.'

THE CENTENNIAL OF VACCINATION.

Next year is to be an almost world wide celebration of the centennial of vaccination. On May 14, 1796, Dr. Edward Jenner was able to inoculate James Phipps, a boy about eight years old, with cow-pox matter. On the first of the following July the boy was inoculated with variolous matter, but, as Dr. Jenner had predicted, no smallpox followed. In 1802 the Royal Jennerian Society was organized, and in the first eighteen months more than twelve thousand persons were vaccinated. The result was that while during the latter half of the past century the deaths in England from smallpox had averaged 2,018 annually, in 1804 they fell to 622.

MORAL GYMNASTICS.

A college boy once wrote to his father:— 'It has always seemed to me that when we have unusually hard trials or temptations it is in a way only a compliment to our character, for we know that we shall never have any temptation that is, with God's help, too hard to stand.' There is the making of a man in that boy. Let boys learn to value moral gymnastics as they value physical training in the gymnasium and on the playground, and we shall hear less weak, sentimental talk of the temptations boys have to encounter and condoning of their wrongdoings on that account. Boys, be manly boys, and you will grow to be manly men.

WELL DONE, PARRY SOUND.

Mrs. Owen Hitchcox writes enthusiastically of the beautiful town of Parry Sound, on the Georgian Bay. In this town are five good hotels, and not a bar-room in any one of them. The liquor traffic has been outlawed since the inception of the town, through the influence of Mr. Beattie, known as Governor Beattie, the founder of the town. Mr. Beattie owned all the land upon which the town is built, and in making the sale of land to purchasers each deed had a

special clause prohibiting the sale of liquor for all-time to come.

During my work of six years as Gospel Temperance Lecturer, and after visiting almost every town and city in Canada, Mrs. Hitchcox says, 'it was indeed encouraging to find one town at least in our fair Dominion where the hotels were made to pay without the obnoxious bar-room.'

In private conversation with the manager of one of the best summer hotels in the country, he told me that he had proved after sixteen years' experience that hotel business could be made to pay well without a bar-room, and that any one saying anything to the contrary did not know what they were talking about. The rest of the hotels are carried on on the same principle, and the week spent in that town was a pleasure not soon to be forgotten, and I trust that the day is not far distant when the liquor traffic will be outlawed, not only in Parry Sound but in every town and city in this beloved Canada of ours.'

'MESSENGER' ARMENIAN FUND.

The following contributions have been sent in since our last issue:—From Picnic Grove Sunday-school, per Maggie A. Wightman, treasurer, \$10; H. E. W., Oakville, \$10; Somebody's Mite, \$1; A Friend, 50 cents; Cecelia Thompson, \$1; Sidney Presbyterian Church Sunday-school, per Chas. Ketcheson, \$6.50; Bethesda League, Precious Corners, per Mrs. J. W. Watt, \$5; Our Mite, a small gift from a Sunday-school class in Rockburn, Que., 50 cents; F. H. S., Vernon, B.C., \$1.

'NORTHERN MESSENGER.'

If YOU like the new 'Northern Messenger' YOUR NEIGHBORS are sure to like it too; but how are they to know of it unless you tell them? If you like the new form try to get it introduced into your Sunday-school. If you like it tell two of your neighbors about it, and so secure your own and their subscriptions for twenty-five cents each, and this not only for one year but for every year, as, if you get them to subscribe with you once they will be sure to do it again.

The rates of subscription are:—

One yearly subscription, 30c.

Three or more subscriptions to different addresses, 25c each.

Ten or more subscriptions to the same address, 20c each.

When addressed to Montreal, Great Britain and Postal Union countries, 26c postage must be added for each copy.

Sample package supplied free on application.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,
Publishers, Montreal.

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BABY'S OWN SOAP

PILES

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THE 'NORTHERN MESSENGER' is printed and published every week at the 'Witness' Building at the corner of Craig and St. Peter streets in the city of Montreal, by John Redpath Dougall, of Montreal.

All business communications should be addressed 'John Dougall & Son,' and all letters to the Editor should be addressed Editor of the 'Northern Messenger.'