

Children's Work.

Mrs. Jas. Ledard, Supt., Owen Sound, Ont. to whom communications for this department should be addressed.

Jimmie State, and the Little Bird's Prophecy.

BY AGNES.

CHAPTER IX.

Now, the question of the future was to be solved. Of the farm, stock and implements, there was nothing left; all went to the creditors.

Kind hearted Mrs. Anderson, who had been with Mrs. State during all the trouble of her husband's illness, filled the breach again and took Mrs. State and Jimmie home with her to stay until things shaped themselves.

"Seems like I don't know where fer to go, nor what fer to do," said poor, dazed Mrs. State.

"The cloud is standing still, just now," answered Mrs. Anderson, "you must wait till it moves again. The wilderness is not a bad place to stay in when you have the cloud for company."

"I know what you mean," said Mrs. State, dully; "the pillar of cloud that led the children of Israel by day; it was fire at night."

"Yes, they couldn't get lost then, night or day, could they? Even the bairnies could get back."

"Yes, they could, unless they shut their eyes and walked away and meant to stay. A many does that," said Mrs. State.

"They do," assented Mrs. Anderson gravely; "but think what it meant to them; they couldn't get the bread God gave them from heaven, nor the water that streamed after them. It meant hunger and thirst, and more too; there were strange people in the desert. Like cowardly wolves, they were afraid to attack a great many, but were not afraid of one alone. It would be foolish, if it were nothing else, for them to stray and mean to stray. It was best to stay with their own people and be under God's protection."

"Yes," assented Mrs. State, but she said nothing more. She seemed to have no tears left, and sat bowed forward as though twice her years had passed over her head; her hands lay idle in her lap.

Mrs. Anderson prayed fervently and silently, "O God, bring her back and comfort her for the dear Christ's sake."

God hastens to answer a prayer like that. The Sunday that Jimmie was received into the church his mother walked firmly up the aisle and stood beside him.

"I did belong once, now I mean to stay where I can see," she explained in a tone every one could hear.

Mr. Hastings gladly took her hand in token of fellowship, guessing at her enigmatic speech.

The next day, Mrs. State was sitting sewing when Mr. Anderson came in with a number of letters and papers in his hand.

"Here is a letter for you, Mrs. State," he said.

She sat holding the letter in her hand a long time, looking at the address such shaky characters, you could fancy the person who wrote it was old and had a quavering, peevish, delicate voice.

The letter was from Mrs. State's father, and ran thus; it had no date:—

"dere darter,

"bein as yur husbands dead, i didnt tell yu that yure sister Sarah was married agane, 3 mths ago. i could not git to the funeral. I am ailin all the time and yur mother aint much beter. giv up yur place if yure got

K. D. C. the household remedy for stomach troubles.

eny and cum keep house for us, treat yu fare.

"Yure respectful sot,

"Jacob Thompson.

"P. S. i dont want no boyes ramping round, yu kin find a place for yure boy before cumming.

"J. T."

Mrs. State never dreamed of refusing her father's offer, though she knew him well; a just but hard man, respected, well-to-do, and sincerely impatient of those who were unsuccessful. But what had his patient wife not borne of constant, querulous fault-finding. No wonder that early in her married life, she chose this text for her support, "My grace is sufficient for thee," as one would choose a strong staff to climb Hill Difficulty. Now at three score years and ten, she was cheery and bright, as she had been fifty years before. The training and pruning of years is soon to show its result in the perfect flower; the worn wrappings, that have bound the blossom, will drop off and God will gather it up in His hand, and look into its heart and pronounce His work "very good."

It was the postscript of the letter that caused Mrs. State to spend a wakeful night. There was an agony in the thought of separation from her child she had not felt even at the death of her husband. He would be well cared for, she knew, but she wanted him. So it was decided that Mrs. State should go home to her father and mother, and Jimmie should stay with the Andersons and go to school and help about the place as usual.

"You don't pay me no wages, Mr. Anderson, till I've paid up that seventy-five dollars, you know," Jimmie said.

"All right," said Mr. Anderson, with the kind but canny smile some Scotchmen have. I cannot describe it; it means a lot of past and future thinking underneath.

Jimmie drove his mother into town to take her short railway journey. He felt very sober, indeed, but he was a child and could not guess at the pain in her heart. As she stood on the platform she kissed him, three hard, fierce kisses on the lips, with a strange look in her eyes, it almost frightened him.

"Be a good boy, James," she said; "mind your manners, and—and be good."

"I will try, mother; indeed, indeed I will."

(To be continued.)

Young People's Work.

FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

The Committee on Young People's Societies of the Co-operation of Disciples of Christ in Ontario: W. W. Coulter, Chairman; Reuben Butchart, A. Johnston.

Everything intended for insertion in this column should be sent to W. W. Coulter, St. Thomas, Ont.

C. E. Notes.

GEO FOWLER, GUELPH.

MARCH 25.—What is Christ's life doing for you? 2 Tim. ii. 1, 13. (An Easter topic.)

Much every way depends upon the resurrection of Christ. Paul says, "If there is no resurrection of the dead, neither has Christ been raised; and if Christ hath not been raised then is your preaching vain, your faith also is vain;" "Ye are yet in your sins." If we had not the divine assurance that our Saviour rose from the grave, upon what would rest our faith? "But now hath Christ been raised from the dead the first fruits of them that are asleep." Than this no fact is better established. Whately declared that no fact of history is more absolutely accredited by competent and abundant witnesses. The resurrection of Christ is the great proof of His divine mission and it stands

as a mighty witness for the truth of Christianity. Our faith is not vain. We believe not in a dead, but a living, ever-present Saviour. Christ rose; we, if we fall asleep in Jesus, shall be raised to live with Him forever in glory.

What then is Christ's life doing for you?

1. Is it ennobling your life? You have the highest, purest and loftiest of motives to actuate you, to fashion your life, not according to the world, but after Him who died to redeem you and who has left a perfect example. "The love of God constraineth us." Life is freighted with responsibilities and radiant with glorious privileges. It is a grand thing to live, and in the power of your Conqueror you are made fit to dwell forever in mansions of eternal grandeur and splendor.

2. Christ's life aids us to bear the burdens of suffering and affliction. Christ was made perfect through suffering. Hundreds of hearts would break, and thousands would go down speedily to an early grave if you could remove from them its strength, its support and the consolation that come from the loving Jesus. The same Jesus that brought joy and happiness to the widow of Nain, has brought and is bringing peace to thousands and millions of others.

3. Christ's life keeps us from being entangled in the affairs of this life. The world cannot give peace or rest. We are in the world, but not of it. It is not our home. The world spirit, which is in opposition to the spirit of Christ, brings nothing but vexation and remorse.

4. Christ's life fills our hearts with hope. "God in us the hope of glory." If we deny Him, He also will deny us; if we are faithful, He abideth faithful, for He cannot deny himself.

Let every member come to the meeting prepared to tell some one thing Christ's life is doing for them.

APRIL 1.—How and why should we pray? Matt. vi. 5-15.

Jesus taught His disciples to pray. The prayer which He taught them is not lo but it pulsates with mighty power and throbs with love divine.

Says Garrison "What a marvellous prayer this is, in its scope, in its simplicity, in its sublimity, in its adaptation to human needs! The more we study it the more wonderful will it appear in all these characteristics."

How should we pray?

1. "Not as the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets that they may be seen of men." (Matt. vi. 5.)

2. Pray in faith. Heb. xi. 6; Jas. i. 6; v. 15; Matt. xxi. 22; John xvi. 7.

3. Pray without ceasing. Luke xviii. 1; 1 Thess. v. 17; Acts vi. 4.

4. "Pray with the spirit and the understanding." 1 Cor. xiv. 15.

5. Pray with fervor. Be living examples of the Christ life. Jas. v. 16.

6. When you would pray, "forgive if ye have aught against anyone." Mark xi. 25.

7. Pray according to God's will. If you would know His will, search the Scriptures. 1 John v. 14.

8. Pray to God through one mediator. 1 Tim. ii. 5.

Why should we pray?

1. Because it is commanded. Matt. vii. 7; Luke xi. 9.

2. That we might increase in good works and develop in our Christian life. Luke xi. 13.

3. Because we need strength, wisdom and guidance. Jas. i. 5.

4. It is the way in which we can confess our sins and ask God's forgiveness. 1 John, i. 9.

5. Because we are the children of God, and as such it is most natural to

pray, not only for spiritual needs, but for temporal things. Matt. vi. 11.

"O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!"

"Prayer is the golden key which unlocks the treasure vault of heaven."

"O how praying rests the weary;
Prayer will change the night to day;
So, when seems life dark and dreary
Don't forget to pray."

"Learn this, young friends, and if you are proposing to yourself great life-tasks which will enroll your name among earth's benefactors, or to lift your character in any wise above the common mass, make up your minds to spend much of your time in company with God, seeking his counsel, becoming imbued with his spirit and being conformed to his image."—GARRISON.

Orangeville Y. P. S. C. E.

The Bethany Y. P. S. C. E. of the Disciples of Christ of this place held their first business meeting of this year, January 18th, and appointed their officers for 1894. The following are the officers: President, Mr. A. Hill; Vice-President, Mr. A. D. McMillian; Cor.-Secretary, Miss M. E. King; Rec.-Secretary, Miss A. E. Fielding; Treasurer, Mrs. A. Hill. We commence this year with seven active members and five associate members; four of the latter are members of the church.

In the last year we added to our society four active and five associate members, but we are sorry to have lost by removal two active and one associate, but hope they may be used in the good work wherever they may go.

We are pleased to have among us a number of brothers and sisters attending high school, who are taking an active part. Through the influence of these we frequently have outsiders attend both prayer and Sunday morning meeting.

Our treasurer reported us after having all expenses paid and sending \$7.00 to missions last year with a balance on hand to begin this year with.

We have changed our night of meeting from Monday to Thursday, and meet at 8 o'clock. We will be pleased to see any who come to town at our meetings.

Our society are making a banner to be given at the County Convention to be held in Shelburne, March 14 and 15, to the society giving the largest amount of money to missions per capita in the year, March 1st, 1893, till March 1st, 1894.

We would be pleased if any society could send us their badge.

M. E. K.
Box 161, Orangeville. Cor.-Sec.

Woman's Work.

Conducted by Mrs. S. M. Brown and Miss Jessie R. Agnew, 372 Shaw Street, Toronto. Everything intended for this column should be sent to Mrs. S. M. Brown, Winton, Ont.

O. C. W. B. M.

President, Mrs. W. B. Malcolm, 89 Church St., Toronto; Cor.-Sec., Miss L. V. Klock, 225 Maria St., Hamilton; Treasurer, Miss Jennie Fleming, Kilsyth.

A Missionary Tea.

GIVEN BY THE LADIES OF THE DISCIPLES CHURCH LAST EVENING.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Church of Christ held their annual missionary tea in the basement of the church last evening. The attendance was fair. Tea was served from 6 to 8. After devotional exercises the audience sang, "There is much we can do." The president, Mrs. Coulter, delivered the annual address, reviewing the cause in

D'FOWLER'S
EXT. OF
WILD
STRAWBERRY
CURES
*** COLIC ***
*** CHOLERA ***
CHOLERA-MORBUS
DIARRHOEA
DYSENTERY
AND ALL
SUMMER COMPLAINTS
OF
CHILDREN or ADULTS
PRICE 35 CTS
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS

St. Thomas for the past five years, showing that growth and progress had been made both spiritually and financially. Mr. Coll Price sang, "Throw Out the Life Line," in his usual effective manner. The secretary, Mrs. Campbell, read the annual report, setting forth clearly and concisely the obstacles overcome and advancement made, and urged more faithful service, with the assurance that the promised blessings are sure. In answer to the roll call the members responded with appropriate items regarding the work in foreign lands. A letter from Mrs. Knowles, who still holds membership, with an urgent appeal for more consecration and loving service for the Master, brought back to memory her faithful work in our midst, and the president requested that her name remain on the honorary list. The audience sang, "Blest be the Tie that Binds." "Woman's Work in Missions" was read by Mrs. Minchell, after which Mrs. Norsworthy, Miss Stevenson and Messrs. Price and Sinclair sang impressively, "Gather them in." Mrs. Shrimpton read, "Our Answer to the Call," setting forth the fact that only women can reach women in heathen lands, and that they have poured the brightness and wealth of their pure lives into the dark, desolate and empty hearts of their heathen sisters. Mrs. Price read an address, urging that self-denial and economy should be practiced during the present financial crisis, but that no retrenchment be made in extending the kingdom of our Lord. "Shout the Tidings of Salvation" was sung, after which Mr. John Campbell, in his usual happy vein, spoke encouragingly of woman's work, and referred in feeling terms to the faithful service of Mr. and Mrs. Knowles while in our midst, and assumed the pleasure of keeping Mrs. Knowles' name good on the roll. R. N. Price and W. W. Coulter gave words of encouragement. The singing, under the direction of Mrs. Norsworthy, was well received. The missionary hymn and Mizpah benediction brought an interesting and instructive anniversary to a close.—St. Thomas Times.

O. C. W. B. M.

CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT.

HOME MISSIONS.

Auxiliary at Hamilton.....\$ 4 92
" " Erin Village.....6 00
" " Owen Sound.....5 00

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Auxiliary at Aurora.....\$ 5 00
Mrs. E. H. Anderson, Hamilton 10 00
Mrs. Geo. Munro, Hamilton... 3 00
Miss Mary Reid, East Hamilton 1 00
Mrs. Robt. Reid, Ospringe... 1 00
Robt. Reid, Ospringe..... 1 00
Church at Kilsyth (collection) 3 50

CHILDREN'S WORK.

"Helping Hands" of Erin Village.....\$ 2 75

JENNIE FLEMING,
Treasurer,

San Diego, California,
Feb. 27th, 1894.

K. D. C. Pills cure chronic constipation.