

FOUR THINGS TO BE.

Some of them we are. All of them we should be and may be.

1. BRITONS.

Such we are. Not merely subjects to an Empire far over the sea, but part of an Empire that circles the world, an Empire whose people are the most numerous, whose sway is the widest, whose arm is the mightiest, whose laws are the most righteous, whose government is the purest, whose subjects are the freest, of all the nations upon earth.

Let us be thankful for what Britain has been enabled to do for the world's uplifting, thankful that we are Britons, and let us seek so to live that the name Briton may ever shine more brightly in all that is good and pure and true.

2. CANADIANS.

Such we are. Citizens of the greatest Colony of the greatest Empire; a colony embracing half a continent, with a healthful climate, a fertile soil, best and valuable forests and fisheries and mines. We have freedom, safety, knowledge, and the good influences of religion almost all over our land.

The affairs of our country, the keeping of its homes, the working of its farms, the building of its houses, the sailing of its ships, the tending of its shops, the teaching of its schools, the healing of its sick, the making of its laws, the filling of its pulpits, all that concerns it, will soon be in the hands of those who are now boys and girls, some of them reading these lines. With them rests the making of the Canada that is to be a few years hence, for they will be living, thinking, working Canada.

One thing,—the thing,—that makes a country great and good and free, is the Bible; and one way of making Canada a good land to live in, a name that the world will honor and in which God will be well pleased, is to have the Home Missionary and the Bible sent to every dweller, French and English, over all our broad land.

3. PRESBYTERIANS.

Most of the readers of the CHILDREN'S RECORD are Presbyterian in name. The name is a good one. Our church is so named because those who are chosen to manage her affairs are Presbyters, or elders. Our Church thinks that its form of Church Government, and its teaching, are such as

Scripture teaches. We love all other Churches of Christ, but we think our own the best.

This name, too, we can honor and make more bright by our lives. The possession of the name brings its duties.

4. CHRISTIANS.

This is the best and greatest name. Without it all others are of little value. If one has that name, it is well, whatever other names he may have or lack.

This is the name of the four which you must get for yourself. You are a Briton, and Canadian, and perhaps Presbyterian, because you were born in a British, Canadian, Presbyterian home, for these are outward things and not part of ourselves. But being born and reared in a Christian home does not of itself necessarily make you a Christian. It should help you to be one. It will help you if you follow its teachings, and there will be greater guilt if you are not one. But what Jesus Christ wants is the trust of your heart upon Him, the giving up of your heart to Him, and the obedience of your life to Him. To give Him that trust and that obedience is to be a Christian.

One can be British, Canadian, Presbyterian, when a child, and one can be a Christian when a child, and be a better, happier child for being a Christian. Is that fourth name yours?

SORRY ENOUGH TO QUIT.

A gentleman once asked a Sunday school what was meant by the word repentance. A little boy raised his hand.

"Well, what is it, my lad?"

"Being sorry for your sins," was the answer.

A little girl on the back seat raised her hand.

"Well my little girl, what do you think?" asked the gentleman.

"I think," said the child, "it's being sorry enough to quit."

That is just where so many people fail. They are sorry enough at the time, but not sorry enough to quit.

"Politeness costs nothing," says the old proverb, "and buys everything." Shall we not secure this talisman, boys and girls, as we prepare for our journey through life?