

God Hath Spoken.

Ezlon is master of Israel;
(Godspake not for eighteen years);
God's people are slaves to the infidel;
Their guerdon is blood and tears.

King Ezlon takes rest in his private room
From the labor of state and power;
He has no ruth for Israel's doom;
His slaves, without, pale and cower;

Left-handed Ehud, the Benjamite,
A tribute of gold doth bear:
(A hand on the palace wall doth write):
Softly, the courtiers jeer.

"A word in secret, with thee, O King!"
The king and he are alone;
"A message from God to thee I bring!"
A flash—a fall—a groan.

The king lies dead on his chamber floor;
His slaves have found him so;
Safe in Seirath, Ehud no more
Fears his sin and Israel's foe.

"To the fight, O Israel! God again
Hath spoken, and we are free.
By the fords of Jordan ten thousand men
Another sin will not see.

MATTHEW R. KNIGHT, in Canada.

Literary Notes.

One of the best numbers of *Toronto Grip* that we have had for a long time was that of January 25th. The cartoons which are and have always been *Grip's* most interesting and attractive feature, were strong and timely. *Grip* is to be congratulated on its continued improvement.

The issue of the *Journal of the Royal Colonial Institute* of London, England, for January, contained a very interesting paper entitled "Notes on British Guiana," which was read before a meeting of the Institute by Mr. F. im Thurn, M.A., C. M. G.

A special bulletin of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, which was issued recently, contains a paper on "The teaching of Agriculture in the Public Schools," by C. C. James, M.A., Deputy Minister of Agriculture. The paper urges the adoption of some plan of instruction in agricultural methods by the rural public schools.

The promised improvements in the *Farmer's Advocate* of Winnipeg was made promptly in January. The paper now appears semi-monthly in a new form and is very much more nicely arranged. The reading matter will prove interesting to farmers and Manitobans of every class. The *Advocate* should get the support of every one interested in the progress of this country.

The January number of the *Lake Magazine*, which has just been issued, is undoubtedly one of the best ever presented to the public. From beginning to end it is full of matter which is not only interesting and amusing, but instructive as well. A well written article on Mexico, with accompanying illustrations, occupies the first pages; then comes a stirring article on Woman Suffrage, from the well known pen of Katherine McKenzie; a political article by Knapp, dealing in a masterly way with the question of the day, Canada and Imperial Federation, and a number of short poems, stories and sketches, chief among which is "The Girl in Canada," by Stuart Livingston, and "A Northwest Sketch" by Marguerite

Evaus, completes the contents. The *Lake Magazine* is published by the Lake Publishing Company, Toronto, for 15¢ a number, or \$1.50 a year.

The January number of *Canada* contains a story by Prof. Roberts; Nehilakin, an Indian legend; a Battle with an Indian Devil; poems by J. F. Herbin, A. A. Macdonald, Wm. Merlin, and the Editor; a review of Fletcher's "Nestorius;" the "Editor's Talk;" "Home Topics," and other miscellaneous matter. Prizes to the amount of \$100 are offered for the best poem and prose articles appearing in *Canada* during the year. It is seldom we meet with a publication which we can recommend so heartily as this. At this low price, 50 cents a year, it ought to have a very wide circulation. A sample copy may be obtained at any time by sending a post-card to the publisher, at Hampton, New Brunswick.

The statistical number of the *Puget Sound Lumberman* published at Tacoma, Washington, which is just out, is the only number ever published giving a correct resume of the lumbering industry of the Pacific Northwestern States. As the forests of the world are being rapidly cut down, the future supply of lumber must come from this coast, and this being the case the figures presented in the *Lumberman* are of more than ordinary interest. Among the special features of this number are the following: Senator Warner Miller's special article on the Nicaragua Canal. "Output of lumber, lath and shingles in 1891 in Washington, Oregon and British Columbia." "The forest area of the Pacific Northwest." Descriptive articles in regard to the different varieties of wood. Illustrations of the big trees, lumbering centers, methods of logging, saw and shingle mills, etc.

Timber in Athabasca.

In his report on last year's trip through the Athabasca country, Northwest Canada, surveyor W. Ogilvie makes the following remarks regarding its timber resources:

"On the Athabasca, from the mouth of the Pembina down to Fort McMurray, the valley is narrow and from two hundred to three hundred feet deep. In the bottom of the valley there is much spruce and some poplar that would make fair lumber. On the uplands, as far as I saw, there are many places where a similar quality can be obtained, but, as a rule, the trees are much smaller than the people in the eastern provinces are accustomed to see made into lumber, though they would compare favorably with those used in the other parts of the Territories. From McMurray down to the lake the banks are lower and the valley wider, until near the lake there are little or no perceptible banks. Here there is much fine merchantable spruce, but unfortunately it cannot be brought to market without the aid of a railway, the streams in the country flowing in a contrary way. This objection does not apply so forcibly to that part of this river above Athabasca Landing, as all the timber above this point and on Lesser Slave river and lake could readily be floated down to this point, and as it is only about 96 miles from thence to Edmonton by the cart trail, and it is probably the point where the first railway north of Edmonton will cross the Athabasca river, its timber resources stand a chance of being utilized much earlier than those on the lower river. I am sorry to say, however, that long before it will be necessary to resort to this, much of it may be burned, as such is the case along the trail

between Edmonton and the Landing. In 1894 I passed over this trail twice and saw many groves of fine spruce, but last summer I saw that much of the best of this timber had been completely burned off. Then the country in the immediate vicinity of the Landing was all heavily timbered, much of it merchantable. Last summer, especially in the Tawasana valley and vicinity, the country resembled prairie nearly as much as the country in the immediate vicinity of Edmonton does.

Saskatchewan Notes.

A Battleford citizen has a pair of young moose bulls which he intends breaking to harness.

Bishop Pascal, of Saskatchewan has gone to Franco in connection with the affairs of his diocese.

Rev. Father Galse, of Reindeer Lake, 700 miles northeast of Prince Albert, Sask., arrived at that town lately. He has not been within the confines of civilization for 33 years, and is now en route to Paris. He travelled the entire distance by dog-train, and was 21 days on the journey.

Assiniboia Notes.

The shareholders of the Indian Head Farmers' Elevator Company, Ltd., decided at a recent meeting to go on with the erection of an elevator.

Building operations promise to be brisk in Medicine Hat next summer. Already tenders are being asked for the building of several private residences.

There are already forty entries for the stake races to take place at the Regina summer meeting, some from as far east as Toronto, as far west as Vancouver, and as far south as New Orleans.

An agitation is being carried on in the Territories through the press and otherwise, to get the Dominion Government to issue scrip to the Mounted Policemen who served during the rebellion of '35.

The Ogilvie Milling Company intend increasing the capacity of their mill at Winnipeg by building an addition to it.

A neat little pamphlet was issued a short time ago by the C. P. R., containing the full report of the delegates who came from the maritime provinces last year to examine and report upon the advantages, resources, etc., of Manitoba and the territories. Much information is given about the country, which will be specially valuable to intending settlers. Copies of this pamphlet can be had from any of the C. P. R. agents.

It is said that the French Transatlantic Company are perfecting a scheme which they intend to urge upon Britain and other maritime nations for adoption. Their proposal is to moor ten powerful floating lights along the route usually taken by all steamers in their journey from the south of Ireland to the Newfoundland coast. The signals would be fully two hundred miles apart, and would be connected together and with both shores by electric cables, along which the current for lighting these immense signals would be sent. —*Liverpool Journal of Commerce*.