

BETTER THINGS.

Better to smell the violet cool than sip the glowing wine;
Better to hark a hidden brook than watch a diamond shine.
Better the love of a gentle heart than beauty's favor proud;
Better the rose's living seed than roses in a crowd.
Better to love in loneliness than to bask in love all day
Better the fountain in the heart than the fountain by the way.
Better to be fed by mother's hand than eat alone at will;
Better to trust in God than say, "My goods my storehouse fill."
Better to be a little wise than in knowledge to abound;
Better to teach a child than toil to fill perfection's round.
Better to sit at the master's feet than thrill a listening state;
Better suspect that thou art proud than be sure that thou art great.
Better to walk the real unseen than watch the hour's event;
Better the "Well done!" at the last, than the air with shouting rent.
Better to have a quiet grief than a hurrying delight;
Better the twilight of the dawn than the noonday burning bright.
Better a death when work is done than earth's most favored birth;
Better a child in God's great house than the king of all the earth.
—George Macdonald.

A BAD EXAMPLE.

Rev. John Wilson, of Woolwich, told the young men at the Pastors' College the other day that he knew of a young minister who was first led to drink by one of his deacons, and who when the habit grew upon him was expelled from the same church by the aid of that same deacon. He afterwards appeared at the door of the college he had left with high hopes,—in rags and ruined.

PLEASING ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The following extracts are only a few of the many congratulatory letters received. A. W. Leeman, Salisbury, N. B., writes as follows about the Biblical Geography:—"I think it just suited to all Bible students and indispensable to Sabbath school superintendents and teachers who have an interest in their work for imparting information on Bible lands. In my Sunday school work I would not be without it if it cost twice the money."

George Norwood writes as follows:—"The picture "Christ before Pilate" received this afternoon and is very much approved of."

Another successful competitor says:—"I received the book all right and am well pleased with it; it is well worth the trouble."

Little Harmon Cole says of his prize Animal Slips:—"I have my prize; it is lots of fun; I have got the measles. When we get done, Georgie is going to get names; as is bigger. I am seven."

Williard Caver, Carleton Place, writes as follows:—"I got the Animal Slips on New Year's day and I think they are very nice. I showed them to some of my friends and they thought they were just splendid."

Those desiring to work for a premium will be supplied, on application by post-card, with samples and premium list.

MISSIONARY MESSENGERS.

More and more of our missionary Messengers are making their way towards the rising sun. In response to our offer of a few weeks ago, many letters have come in containing sums of money ranging all the way from 80 cents to \$10.00, all of which the writers wish to be spent in sending copies of the Northern Messenger to missionaries

in foreign countries. The following are extracts from a few of the letters:—

"Enclosed you will find \$2.28 for which please send six copies of the Messenger for one year to one of the many missionaries in Japan. Please send the papers to one not already supplied with your publications and oblige, A FRIEND OF MISSIONS."

Six copies have been sent to Miss F. White, Kyoto, Japan.

"I see by your valuable paper if one choose to give to the missionaries and will forward the money to you you will send papers to them. I will enclose \$10 and you may use it as you think best, as you know where they will be needed. Please do not publish my name."

This money has been appropriated as follows. Ten copies have been sent to the Rev. J. W. Saunby, Kofu, Yamanashi, Ken, Japan; nine to Rev. F. A. Cassidy, Shigoka, Suruga; and nine to Rev. C. T. Cocking, Shigoka, Suruga.

Our first subscription received for China is from a gentleman who sends \$1 for Northern Messengers to be sent to the Rev. G. L. MacKay, Tamsui, Formosa.

"Enclosed find \$1.72 for which please send four copies of the Northern Messenger to a mission of school in Japan for one year and oblige A FRIEND TO MISSIONS."

Four copies for thirteen months have been sent to the Rev. D. R. McKenzie, Kanagawa, Kayn, Japan.

Still another writes:—"I have seen your offer for sending papers to Japan, I think it a good work that will be blessed and rewarded. I have only lately started to serve the Lord and I find it is the best way to live and am anxious to do all I can to help his work along, so I send \$1 to send the Northern Messenger to the ladies' school you mentioned, or to use in any other way productive of most good."

We sincerely hope that this work will go on and grow. If any of our subscribers wish their papers to go to missionaries of any special denomination, kindly let us know and we will write and secure suitable addresses from the secretaries of such boards. For the benefit of those who may have mislaid a back number, we will give again the table of reduced rates for which the Northern Messenger will be supplied to missionaries in foreign fields.

Table with 3 columns: Number of copies, Duration, Price per copy. Includes entries for 2 copies for one year at \$1.74, 3 copies at \$1.52, etc.

Address all letters JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal.

"CHRIST BEFORE PILATE."

Every subscriber to the Messenger, either in clubs or singly, can have a copy of the picture "Christ before Pilate," by sending 25 cents in addition to the subscription price of the paper.

NEW CLUB RATES.

The following are the NEW CLUB RATES for the MESSENGER, which are considerably reduced:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies, Price. Includes entries for 1 copy at \$0.30, 10 copies at \$2.25, 20 at \$4.40, 50 at \$10.50, 100 at \$20.00.

Sample package supplied free on application JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

MONTREAL DAILY WITNESS, \$3.00 a year, post-paid. MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS, \$1.00 a year, post-paid. JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal, Que.

CANADIAN STORIES.

The plan adopted by the publishers of the Witness and Messenger in setting all the schoolchildren in Canada and Newfoundland to work writing true stories of adventure or descriptions of pioneer life, has met with commendation from every portion of the country. The first to recognize its value were educationists, who have not stinted their praise in its favor, and offers of assistance have come from the highest authorities. The superintendents of education have written heartily in its favor. These are a few of the letters received from public school inspectors of Ontario:—

"I cannot speak too highly of your proposed competition. It will not only stimulate talent among the boys and girls, but bring out a host of interesting historical stories."

ARTHUR E. BROWN, Morrisburg, Inspector for Dundas County.

"Your proposed enterprise is a laudable one, and I wish you much success in presenting it."

(Rev.) ROBERT TORRANCE, Inspector for the city of Guelph.

"Your enterprise is most commendable. The county of Welland should furnish a large share of incidents worth preserving. Lundy's Lane, Niagara Falls, Brock's Monument, Laura Secord, Indian legends, etc., etc., are suggestive."

R. HARCOURT, (M.A., M.P.P.), Inspector for Welland.

"Any aid in my power in furtherance of such a worthy object will be cheerfully given, and I hope your scheme will stimulate to a marked degree the study of pioneer life in our young country."

THOS. HILLIARD, Inspector for Waterloo.

"Am in sympathy with the views expressed in your scheme, and will aid the competition in every legitimate way that I can."

ARCHIBALD SMIRLE, Inspector for Carleton County.

"It will be a pleasure to me to assist you in any way I can."

THOMAS PEARCE, Inspector for Waterloo Co. and towns of Galt and Berlin.

"Respecting the prize competition I believe your scheme will effect a national house-cleaning of the cobwebs of pioneer memories. I hope your enterprise will receive a deserving response, and I shall be glad to do anything I can to make it successful in the West."

JOHN DEARNESS, London, Inspector for East Middlesex.

Mr. James L. Hughes, the public school inspector for Toronto, in a complimentary letter on the subject, thus alludes to his early relations with the Witness:

"It was the paper taken by my father when I was first able to read, in the County of Durham. When I was a farmer's boy I began writing for the newspapers by sending you an occasional rhyme, and you probably conferred the highest honor of my life on me by inserting the first I sent you."

Mr. Hughes has fought many a hard battle in the newspapers since those days. Mr. J. E. Hodgson, Inspector of high schools for Ontario, writes:—"I think your enterprise is highly worthy of success."

The following letter from Mr. William Crockett, Chief Superintendent of Education for New Brunswick, is very encouraging:—"I am in hearty sympathy with your proposed plan for a Dominion Prize Competition, and shall be happy to co-operate with you in every way I can. May I ask you to allow an additional prize for this Province to meet the case of Portland, which has been a city since 1851 and has a school attendance of about 2,500 pupils. Your plan is intended to embrace all the cities of the Dominion, and your omission of Portland by name arises, no doubt, from not being aware that it is a city. Portland has accordingly been added to the list of cities."

We again enumerate the prizes.

One "Dominion" prize for the best of all the stories, selected from the best of the "Province" prizes. This is a Remington Type-writer, with cover and four-drawer desk, worth \$125, a most useful article for all writers, as MS. type-written has a much better chance of acceptance than when written by the pen.

EIGHT "Province" prizes for the best stories in each province and Newfoundland; Alberta, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, and Keewatin being grouped with Manitoba as one. These prizes will be a complete set of the works of Francis Parkman, all bearing on events connected with the early history of Canada.

TWO HUNDRED AND FOUR "County" prizes for the best story from any county or city. For these prizes will be given a set of "Macaulay's History of England," in five volumes, in clear print, on good paper and strongly bound in cloth.

A prize of the Northern Messenger for a year for the best story from each school.

The cash value of these prizes, not counting the Messenger, is \$1,265.

We ask our older readers to bring this competition, which will do more than almost anything else in educating the young to think well of their native country, under the notice of the members of their families attending school.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Our subscribers throughout the United States who cannot procure the international Post Office orders at their post-office can get, instead, a Post Office order, payable at Rouse's Point, N. Y., which will prevent much inconvenience both to ourselves and to subscribers.

A GOOD REPUTATION—BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES have been before the public many years, and are everywhere acknowledged to be the best remedy for all throat troubles. Mrs. S. H. Elliott, Ridgefield, Conn., says: "I have never been without them for the last thirty years. Would as soon think of living without breath." They quickly relieve Coughs, Sore Throat, and Bronchial Affections. Price 25 cents. For sale everywhere, and only in boxes.

IMPORTANT TO TEMPERANCE PEOPLE.

Persons who abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors can obtain a Life Insurance Policy, free of charge, in one of the strongest, safest, and best Societies in the country if applied for at once. Address (mention the Northern Messenger), INSURANCE AGENCY, Post Office Box 2923, New York City.

MADE WITH BOILING WATER. EPPS'S GRATEFUL-COMFORTING COCOA MADE WITH BOILING MILK.

JOLLY BABIES. Is your baby jolly? or is it peevish? Lactated Food nourishes babies perfectly, keeping them healthy. Babies living upon it sleep well nights, laugh and crow days, always plump and happy. Regulates the bowels and helps in teething. At druggists, 25c., 50c., \$1.00. WELLS, RICHARDSON & CO, Montreal, P. Q.

THE "WEEKLY WITNESS"

—AND— MANUAL OF BIBLICAL GEOGRAPHY.

The revised edition of Dr. Hurlbut's "Manual of Biblical Geography," is being much appreciated. It is prepared specially for the use of students and teachers of the Bible, and for Sunday school instruction, and contains over fifty maps, twenty-five of which are full page size, 12 in. by 10, and one of the Old Testament world, covers two pages. Besides these the Manual contains a large number of special maps of important localities, mountains, cities, etc., and also a large number of colored diagrams showing heights of mountains, areas of tabernacle and temples and Bible weights and measures, with accurate views of the principal cities and localities. The retail price of this book is \$2.75. By a special arrangement with the publishers we are enabled to offer this valuable work with one year's subscription to the Weekly Witness for only \$2.75, the price charged for the book alone; or we will send it and the Northern Messenger for one year to any address for \$2.00.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, "Witness" Office, Montreal.

THE WITNESS.

A DAILY PAPER mailed to any address in Canada and the United States for \$3.00 a year, that contains the latest news and most interesting reading, valuable market reports and everything that any person who wants to be kept fully informed of the events happening all over the world, cares to know.

A WEEKLY PAPER mailed to any address for \$1.00 a year, with the world's news summarized, much interesting reading for the home circle, valuable hints worth many dollars a year to the thoughtful. Question and Answer columns by eminent specialists which are much thought of by subscribers, and a circulation of 31,000 copies, showing its great popularity.

"CHRIST BEFORE PILATE."

A perfect copy of a picture which was sold by the artist for \$120,000 cash, a single copy being sent to any subscriber to the Daily or Weekly Witness and Messenger for 25 cents in addition to the subscription prices.

Send for sample copies of the papers and subscribe for them.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal, P. Q.

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