



Address - COUSIN JOY, 282 Princess St., St. John, N. B.

DEAR COUSIN JOY.—When I read so many of the nice letters written you by the mission girls, it makes me want to write you too. I take much pleasure in reading the PALM BRANCH; it is a dear little paper, and every one whom I have ever heard speak of it says so too. Our Mission Band is going to have an entertainment, I do hope it will be a success. We have the banner to use, which we have never had before. Mr. Cassidy, the returned missionary from Japan, was here a few weeks ago. He preached on Sunday and lectured on Monday evening. He told us a great deal about Japan and its people. The children were interested very much, especially the small ones. I think you must enjoy reading so many letters from different societies and hearing how they are getting along. I would like to ask a few questions but I guess I had better wait till next time. I am treasurer of our Mission Band, have been for two years. I remain your mission friend

Teeswater, April 8th, 1895. SUSIE BACON.

DEAR COUSINS:—There is a little boy named Frankie, four years old, that Cousin Joy knows and loves very much. By the way, there are a good many little boys and girls too that Cousin Joy loves very much. She isn't quite sure that she doesn't love all the boys and girls in the world. Well, this little boy went to "say his prayers" the other night. That is, he was told to say them but he didn't want to. After a while he consented, but he said "Anyway I don't want to say 'Now I lay me down to sleep.'"

"Would you believe it, I have known two or three Gran'mas who never went to bed at night without saying that dear little prayer! That was because they had learned it when they were little children and loved it. But Frankie didn't feel that way just then, so he was told he could change it for something else if he pleased. Well, he prayed for himself and his friends; and right in the middle of his prayer, what do you think he said? "And please don't let me have to pray any more!" Now I think that dear little boy felt tired, and just a little bit cross, don't you? He's very good and sweet most of the time, but then, you see, he has a little will of his own and does not want to be made to do things. God gave him that will to

want to do right with; but if his will goes a different way from God's it will make a cross for that dear little boy to carry. If you do not understand that as Cousin Joy tells it, won't you ask one of your grown up friends to explain it to you by making a cross and showing how your little will can cut across God's. It was this sin of disobedience and wanting to have our own way that made Jesus have to die on the Cross.

Suppose Jesus had answered that little boy's prayer out loud, and said "No Frankie, you need not pray to me any more; you need not thank me for all that I have given you, I will not listen for your prayer any longer." I think, after a while, he would feel about as sorry as if his own dear papa had said to him, "You need not speak to me any more. If you do not love me; if I have never been kind to you; if I have never given you what you wanted; I will not listen to hear you speak to me!" What would a boy do in such a case? Wouldn't he be very unhappy if he loved his father? Would he rest till he had made friends with him again?

Well, now, Jesus is our best Friend. He has done more for us than even our own dear fathers and mothers could do. He has thrown wide open the gates of the beautiful city of Heaven and invited us to come in and live with Him when we leave this world, as we all must do some day; and if we get acquainted with Him here and talk to Him every day as we can by prayer, when that time comes we shall not feel that we are going to a strange country, but to our own beautiful Home to meet our friends.

And while we are praying for ourselves, let us not forget to remind Him about those little far-off children in India, China and Japan, for He has invited them too, only some of them haven't got the invitation yet - How shall it come? Through you?

ANSWERS TO MAY PUZZLES.

DEAR COUSIN JOY:—The answer to puzzles for May are as follows: First Miss Jackson, Miss Anderson; second is THE PALM BRANCH.

Yours truly, EVA CROWN.

27 Summerhill Ave., Toronto. May 8.

DEAR COUSIN JOY:—I have just found out the puzzles for May. The first one is Miss Jackson, Miss Anderson; Second, THE PALM BRANCH, I like it better all the time.

Your little friend, BESSIE.
94 Summerhill Ave., Toronto. May 7th,

ANSWER TO MISSIONARY SKETCHES.

Exercises for Circles and Bands in March No., David Livingstone; In May No., Robert Morrison.

PUZZLE FOR JUNE

NUMERAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 18 letters,
My 18, 15, 4, 17 is what little girls love to play with.
My 6, 9, 4, 18 is what the world goes mad after.
My 14, 3, 13, 18 must be rooted out.
My 10, 5, 6, 12, 8 is what we must all do against sin and Satan,
My 16, 5, 6, 2, 11 is what we must all stand for.
My 1, 7, 5, 6, 3 is part of the body.
My whole is what Jesus says He is,