

Java.

BY JOAQUIN MILLER.

"And darkness was upon the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God moved upon the waters."

[It will be remembered that in the month of September the most destructive earthquake ever known devastated the Island of Java, causing the death of over 1,000,000 persons.—Ed.]

THE oceans roar; the mountains reel,
The world stands still with bated breath.
Then burst of flame! and woe and weal
Lie drowned in darkness and in death.
Wild beasts in herds, strange, beautiful birds,
God's rainbow birds—gone in a breath!

O God, is earth then incomplete?
The six days' labour still undone
That she must melt beneath Thy feet
And her fair face forget the sun?
Must isles go down and cities drown
And good and evil be as one?

The great warm heart of Mother Earth
Is broken o'er her Javan Isles.
Lo! ashes strew her ruined hearth
Along a thousand watery miles
I hear her groan, I hear her moan
All day above her drowning isles.

Tall ships are sailing silently
Above her buried isles to-day.
In marble halls beneath the sea
The sea-god's children shout and play;
They mock and shout in merry rout
Where mortals dwelt but yesterday.

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TORONTO, NOVEMBER 10, 1883.

Metropolitan Sunday-School Anniversary.

THE sixty-fifth anniversary of this school—the oldest in Toronto—was celebrated on October 7th and 8th. The report of the school for the year was very encouraging—indicating great prosperity under the energetic superintendency of J. B. Boustard, Esq. The Monday evening meeting was quite a union affair. It was addressed by the Rev. C. O. Johnston, Primitive Methodist; Rev. Dr. Thomas, Baptist; R. v. J. McEwen, Presbyterian, and the Rev. Dr. Stone, Methodist Episcopal. The singing of the school, under the leadership of Mr. Torrington, was magnificent. The pastor, Rev. Hugh Johnston, preached the anniversary sermon of the Sunday-school. He took his text from Deuteronomy xxxi. 12: "Gather the people together, men and women and children, and the stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn to fear the

Lord your God, and observe and do all the words of this law." He said the work of teaching the Christian religion should employ every Christian hand. Education was one of the great questions of the day before the statesmen and philanthropists. What was education if it was not based upon the Christian religion? The great purpose of the Church was to teach the truth, and the Bible was the only source of spiritual truth. To-day the Bible stood without a peer among the religious annals of the world. It was now translated into 300 tongues, and it emanated from a little spot of land one-fourth the size of Ontario. The ancient command was that they should teach the Word to all. Fathers and mothers exercised a most powerful influence over their children; would they fashion them for honour or for shame? He believed that the Sunday-schools were mighty agencies for the increase of home Christian influence. With home piety, when family prayer was held, they had the source of national stability. Next to the home was the sanctuary, through which agency tens of thousands of families were made more intelligent by the teachings of the Word therein. They could not but think that the Sunday-school was the great instrumentality God had given to the Church for teaching the children. More could be accomplished in a Sunday-school than in a public school. The Sunday-school and home were the places where the Christian character was formed. In closing he beseeched his hearers to look after the formation and moulding of the characters of their children, and asked them to be true Christians so that their children would follow their example.

THE Secretary of the General Conference Sunday-school Fund calls attention to the fact that the treasury is approaching near to exhaustion. The fund, though it has never been large, has been one of the most useful that the Church has ever provided for any of its departments of work. It has aided in the organization of mission schools, in nourishing feeble schools into strength, and thus in the forming of churches where none existed before. The resources now available are low. The only way to reach increased funds is through the regular annual collections by the schools. We invite to this matter the attention of the ministers and Sunday-school people of the Church.

Reviews of Books for Winnowed List.

The Voice of Home. The design of this volume is to show the evil results of the moderate use of stimulants in the home, how it counteracts other good influences, moulds the habits of life, leads to intemperance and consequent evils. It is unquestionably one of the best books of its class.

JOHN LATHERN.

The book entitled *Arthur's Home Stories* contains a series of interesting life-pictures, such as are found portrayed almost every day within the precincts of our homes and communities. The lessons are of great value, and the morals drawn are of a practical and constant importance. The careful perusal of the book will do both old and young good—bring the old to see the mistakes of the past and, if heeded,

will prevent the young from making similar ones. J. E. HOWELL.

The Prince of Goodfellows. It is biographical in form, but is probably a temperance tale founded in fact. The above book reveals the wretchedness, misery, and suffering brought on a helpless family through the influence of strong drink. It also reveals the important truth that God supports the weak, and helps those who manifest principle and do right. I think it might be of use to growing boys and girls. ALEX. CAMPBELL.

Elsie's Santa Claus. By J. H. MATTHEWS. The tone and spirit of this book is good. The lessons inculcated are those of kindness, charity, and helpfulness to others. There is nothing in it to do any harm, and considerable of what is good. The trouble is we give our young people such an over-abundance of this kind of reading—fiction-stories, with a fair share of moral teaching thrown in. This book will rank somewhat high, however, among these goody-goody little tales. I heartily wish for our young people something more manly, pithy, religiously attractive, and spiritually impressive, than I consider the great mass of our S. S. library books are. JAMES C. SEYMOUR.

Lilies or Thistle-down. Well written and deeply interesting. Conveys wise lessons as to training of children.

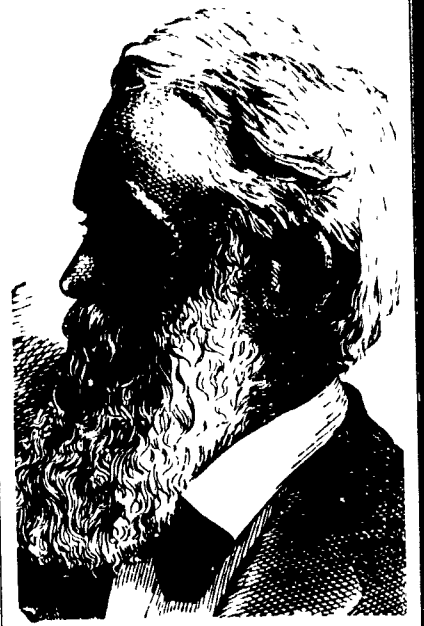
D. G. SUTHERLAND.

C. L. S. C. Items.

THE Editor has received the following from a young man in a far-off part of Manitoba:—

"You will probably remember that I wrote you in regard to some systematic course of reading just about three years ago, and that you sent me circulars of the C. L. S. C., and also said you would be happy to hear of my success in prosecuting the 'course,' etc. Well, owing to a change of circumstances and other unforeseen events, I have been unable to take the 'course,' though I procured some of the books, and have been a constant subscriber to the *Chautauquan*; and I must thank you for sending me those circulars. The little I have read in the 'course' has been a very great benefit to me, indeed. It has improved my mind, and given me a greater desire for more knowledge; but, perhaps, better still is this: This year myself and a younger brother—I am twenty-two years old—have joined the 'circle,' and we are at present talking about getting up a 'local circle,' and, indeed, have things about arranged for it. I was so pleased with all this that I could not refrain from writing and telling you, as you were the one who first sent me the circulars."

BLOCKED IN.—The train had run into a snow-drift, and the engine was butting its head in vain against a six-foot bank. "For once the iron horse appears to be beaten," remarked a fat woman in a second-class carriage. "You shouldn't call it an iron horse," mildly reproved a solemn-faced man. "Why not?" asked the fat woman, in some surprise. "Because it's block tin," softly murmured the solemn-faced man, as he gazed out of the window across the wintry waste, with a far-away look in his eye.



Dio Lewis.

DIO LEWIS may be called the Apostle of Physical Culture. He has made this his hobby for years.

In 1860 he established his Normal School for Physical Training at Boston, Mass. Within seven years more than four hundred persons were graduated, and went out into all the land, teaching the new school of physical training.

Another interesting phase of Dr. Lewis' work is found in the great seminary which he established at Lexington, Mass. His object was to illustrate the possibilities in the physical development of girls during their school life. His buildings, accommodating 200 persons, were placed upon the first battlefield of the Revolutionary war. The school soon grew to one hundred and fifty young women, gathered from all parts of the country, including the Pacific Coast, Central America, and the West Indies. They came to see what could be done by the new methods for their nervous, enfeebled bodies. The marvellous triumphs of this institution during the years which Dr. Lewis devoted to its management, he gives in the *North American Review* for December, 1882. As he says in that paper, hundreds of grateful parents are familiar with the facts. Girls who came unable to ascend a single flight of stairs without suffering, in a few months were able to walk five to ten miles without inconvenience.

Dr. Lewis has published several volumes on health, some of which, like "Our Girls" and "Weak Lungs," have had enormous sales.

He has now removed to the city of New York, to establish a large monthly magazine, to be called "Dio Lewis' Monthly," and to be devoted to Sanitary and Social Science.

The first number is to hand. It promises to be of great value in promoting physical culture—the important desideratum of the Roman poet—*mens sana in corpore sano*.

AN old gentleman who had provoked the hostility of a fashionable lady whom he had known in boyhood, was asked by his wife what he had done to incur the lady's displeasure. "Nothing at all," replied the innocent old man. "On the contrary, I was very cordial to her, and spoke of the time when I used to carry her to school nearly half a century ago!" His wife threw up her hands in amazement, and murmured, "How stupid men are!"