

over. We therefore, by our ungodliness, join ourselves to, adopt and support, the sin of all sinners; we stand with Judas and all traitors; with Nero and all cruel rulers; with the leaders of all vile interests and bad causes. We have, therefore, guilt with them; we shall, if we repent not, be overwhelmed in the penal fires which will consume them. O, verily, our sin is great! We have much to be forgiven.

Jesus Christ, in a very sad spirit, spoke of the wrath to come, of weeping and gnashing of teeth, of outer darkness for the ungodly; and is not this, his language, according to the truth of things? He spoke of our sinfulness with a tone of infinite seriousness and pity; he manifested for our salvation an intense solicitude; he was ready to suffer for our salvation any cross; and in all this was he not perfectly true, entirely warranted by the fact of the greatness of our sin? Of a truth the sinful state is a very grave matter. The debt is very great. We have much to be forgiven.

Are we forgiven? One evidence of our forgiveness is that we have some sense of the greatness of the forgiveness, and have some love to him who has forgiven much. If we are not sure of our forgiveness, make sure of it at once. There is forgiveness with God that he may be feared. God himself, in the gift and death of his dear Son, has made the path adown which he comes to you, offering free forgiveness. Go, meet him in that path with penitence and faith. Great as thy sin is, to the vastness of the divine mercy it is but as a pebble on the shore of the vastness of the ocean. Believe, and God takes up thy sin, that pebble, and casts it into that ocean of his mercy. I know that forgiveness cannot undo the deeds that are done, they remain historical facts, but God can cease to hold you responsible for them. I know that even divine forgiveness does not cancel the secondary consequences of sin, but God's forgiveness makes their character; makes them chastisements, yielding righteousness. But what is the supreme penalty of sin, the one thing the really penitent soul dreads? It is this: Separation from God—his wrath. To be God forsaken—that is the hell, the condemnation. Here that is terrible; but in the spirit world, where there are no carnal delights and worldly excitements to interest the abandoned soul, to be forsaken of God must be unspeakable loss and punishment. Now it is this supreme penalty of sin that the divine penalty can and does completely cancel, entirely put away. To the penitent and believing soul God can and does draw nigh; he comes to it; he dwells with it; he loves it; he assures it of his love, breathes into it his peace, inspires it with his spirit, keeps it by his providence unto life eternal. 'Her sins, which are many, are forgiven.' 'And he said unto the woman, thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.'

Victorian Indian Orphan Society.

This association, which has been pursuing its course with increased endeavor to cope with the added difficulties owing to the terrible famine which is threatening and already invading large districts of Central India, has met with an additional calamity in the loss by death of its beloved and indefatigable, self-sacrificing and devoted secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Crichton.

From the inception of the work, eleven years ago, to the time of her brief, fatal illness, she was devoted to its service, and rendered it incalculable benefit by her unceasing labors to forward the interests of the Society for the benefit of the orphan children and the comfort of the missionaries who have the work in charge in India. Only a few hours before her death she manifested her devotion to the cause by dictating a letter to her daughter regarding the work of the Society, and since her death it has been found that she remembered it by bequeathing \$300 to it.

Of a charming personality and sweet graciousness of manner, together with fervent piety and devotion to the work of Christ, she had become endeared to every member of the Association as a personal

friend. She was an inspiration to the little band of workers who met from month to month to discuss ways and means for carrying on this most hopeful work among some of the rescued orphan children of the famines of 1897 and 1900.

Being gifted with a facile pen and the power to describe and make clear the needs of the work, together with an aptitude for detail, she rendered such valuable service as to become almost the mainspring of the organization, and was always ready with her counsel, guidance and help.

It has pleased God to take her in the midst of her usefulness, and the Society, while deeply sympathizing with her family in the loss of a beloved mother, hardly knows as yet how to face the future without her loving counsel and ready help. It will, however, be necessary, on behalf of the orphan children, whose care the Society has undertaken, to press on with the work and endeavor to carry on many of the useful projects to which she so readily lent her aid and support, and though for the moment almost dazed by the sudden loss of their beloved secretary-treasurer, yet trusting in the aid of a Higher Power the work must be prosecuted, and the Society would ask all those who in the past have been kind enough to render assistance to the work to continue to do so, and in view of the sad condition of affairs prevailing at present in India, to take an even deeper interest in the work than heretofore. Kindly address all communications for the future to the care of Mrs. A. T. Taylor, 205 Maryland street, Winnipeg.

Work in Labrador.

THE FOOD QUESTION.

St. Anthony, May, 1908.

Dear Mr. Editor,—How many unnecessary troubles of life arise along this coast, as elsewhere, simply from need of better knowledge, it is hard to say. Slowly, but steadily, our friends are imbibing the elementary rules of sanitation. The breath of all the fresh air sermons has not been spent in vain, and on our journeys we have had the pleasure more than once of seeing windows opened and mats on the floor with inscriptions in almost offensive letters, 'Do not spit,' continually emphasizing the lessons of our health catechisms. But in our efforts to lessen the monotony of diet which causes so many digestive troubles, and their very various unpleasant results, we have, until recently, found little encouragement.

The cheapest of our farinaceous foods, corn meal, which is little more than half the price of flour, is only used for feeding the dogs when the stock of fish offal and seal meat has given out. Our American lady friend teaching arts and crafts has fortunately a natural penchant, for, among others, the culinary art, to which she has added considerable acquired skill. She has succeeded in showing some half dozen ways in which this article, that is to be found in nearly every house, can be made attractive, and at last (the fisherman's ultra-conservatism notwithstanding) an applicant has journeyed up over twenty miles to buy two gallons of 'that stuff the lady makes cakes of.' He was delighted when it was shown to him that it was only a finer ground specimen of the same meal he was giving the dogs that hauled him, and he returned fully determined to trespass on the supplies originally laid up for the team. Better still, at a local function, at that end of this coast most needing it, certain preparations of the meal were sent over by her as missionary tracts. The report has come back that these unknown strangers received a welcome beyond that extended to any of the time honored friends such as flour-buns and molasses-cakes, and were generously 'taken in,' as all strangers ought to be. Moreover, when it was explained what the ingredients were, and they proved to be within their reach, a most gratifying number of applications for receipts were immediately sent in.

There are numbers of local products, both animal and vegetable, which have made invaluable changes for our own table, some, I confess, entirely new to myself. The importance of them has so impressed us that we

have decided to issue a new tract, giving plain directions how to deal with these things in order to make them palatable. I have stayed so often in fishermen's houses and have so seldom seen, even their staple article, salt cod, come to table except 'boiled naked,' that I am sure that the insertion of rudimentary information, such as how to make nice fish cakes, will prove as truly messages of affection as do our pills, potients, and possets, when troubles have accrued. The great value of fresh food is only felt where it cannot be obtained. Thus, at the present moment, we have not a single potato in our own house, not a single green vegetable, not a fresh egg, and have only just obtained the first piece of fresh meat in the form of a seal's flipper. And what is more, none of these things will be obtainable for probably another month. We have learnt a little about clams, mussels, fishy sea-birds, and even seals, a little about edible leaves and plants, all of which is valuable, but about which much more should be known. The discovery that the sprouts of our onions in the cellar, or the young shoots from the stored potatoes are both edible and nice, becomes a matter of no mean importance in a household where there are growing children, and where scurvy is a thing to be reckoned with. We shall do considerably more along this line in the near future than has been done in the past, at least, it is to be hoped so. We have as yet failed to introduce the use of our abundant fungi. Among them are many esculent Boleti and Russulae. We have found that the puff-ball (*Lycoperdon*), which is also common here, is excellent eating when young. But neither mushroom nor fungus has ever been eaten on the coast, and it seems almost Utopian to hope that it ever will be so.

Our poorer brethren are naturally at this time of year at lowest ebb of food supplies, as, indeed, we are, ourselves. Where credit has been low in the fall some of us with large families have already so far exhausted our supplies that much damage, at times irreparable, is done to our little children. Some men are so constituted from either shyness or false modesty that they will hide the nakedness of their cupboard, when they cannot possibly do that of their skin. As a last case, our police experts succeeded in unearthing just one of these very cases before disappearing once more into private life. In one way our little Orphanage has assumed the somewhat unconventional role of a child incubator, for our newest arrivals have all got living parents, which is a good thing, but does not fulfil the functions of a living diet. We have, therefore, been assuming for periods of from one to four years the responsibility for the mental and physical development of several children, until circumstances shall alter sufficiently to make it reasonable to send them back to their own or other homes, where they will be adopted into a family. That good can come out of evil has been emphasized with us by the arrival of a half-starved little boy and girl as the result of a felony in an adjoining store.

WILFRED T. GRENFELL.

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Address all subscriptions for Dr. Grenfell's work to 'Witness' Labrador Fund, John Dougall and Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal, stating with the gift whether it is for launch, komatic, or cots.