

LIVE IT DOWN.

AS a foolish word been spoken
Or an evil deed been done;
Has the heart been almost broken
For the friends that now are gone?
Let not of loss, or the frown
Shake thy manhood - live it down.

In the stern trader sneering,
Thrusting manhood vile;
With the world's opinion veering,
Basking in its fickle smile?
What are gossips with their frown
Buzzing insects - live it down.

Verdict fair will be given
In the sober afterthought,
Charity, sweet child of heaven,
Judgment harsh will set at naught;
Then will griefed mercy's frown
Smite the slanderer - live it down.

But if man refuse to soften
For that weakness he may feel,
There is One forgives us often
As to Him we choose to kneel.
As to Him we choose to kneel.
Drop not then if all should frown;
With such friendship - live it down.
—Rev. Edward O. Flagg.

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Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLKS:

Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, JUNE 2, 1883

METHODIST MISSIONS IN THE NORTH-WEST.

ALTHOUGH the following editorial article from the Toronto Globe has been reprinted in the Christian Guardian, yet as many of the readers of PLEASANT HOURS may not see our chief Church organ, and as we are anxious to give special prominence to every thing connected with the mission work of our Church, we give in a condensed form part of the Globe's article.—Ed.

It was not till after the cession by the Hudson Bay Company of its territorial rights in the North-west that the Wesleyan Church sent a missionary to the white settlers in that region. The Rev. Dr. Young, now Missionary Superintendent of the Methodist Church of Canada in the North-west Territory, had the honour to be the pioneer missionary.* It took nearly as many months as it now takes days for the journey from Toronto to what was known as the "Red River Settlement." The turbulence and social disorganization attending the "Red River Rebellion" were unfavorable to

the new mission. Its growth, therefore, was slow, and in the year 1875 there were only five mission stations, or "circuits," and seven itinerant missions in the entire North-west.

The progress since that time has been very rapid. The Methodist missionaries have maintained their hereditary character, and have closely followed the pioneer settler far and wide over the prairies of the great North-west and up the valleys of the Saskatchewan, the Qu'Appelle, and Peace Rivers. In 1882 there were in Manitoba and the North-west forty-two itinerant ministers of the Methodist Church of Canada, with one hundred and twenty-four preaching places, besides eight Indian missionaries and mission stations.

In 1875 no returns whatever were given of Church property, and there was probably little or none to be reported. In 1882 the value of Church and parsonage property reported is \$452,600; of this, however, \$400,650 is in the city of Winnipeg, the greater part of which has accrued from the enhanced value of real estate.

The Episcopal Methodists, the Primitive Methodists, and the Bible Christians have also missionaries in the North-west, but we have not statistics which will enable us to give the precise figures.

The rapid development of Manitoba and the North-west is an important factor in the settlement of the question of Union among the different Methodist bodies in the Dominion. This is the ground for Union which has been most strongly urged by the advocates of that measure. It is asserted that it will tax to the utmost the efforts of even the United Church to do its part in providing the ministrations of the Gospel to the vast influx of population which may shortly be expected to pour into that country. It is argued that although that influx is certain to be very great, yet so vast is the country that is to receive it that the population for a long time to come will be very sparse; that the average farm will be about a mile-square; that therefore, even when all the farms are taken up, the homes of the settlers will be far apart, and consequently preaching places will be widely scattered. If the disadvantages of having several branches of Methodists in the same village are so marked in the old and well-settled parts of Ontario, how much greater, it is asked, will be the disadvantages of having a divided Methodism amid the scattered settlements of the almost boundless North-west! This, we apprehend, is the consideration which has had chief weight with the various bodies and Church courts which have already, by such large majorities, given their adhesion to the principle of Methodist Union, and this consideration we anticipate will largely prevail with those Conferences and Church courts which have yet to pronounce upon this subject. Certainly, looked at from a business point of view, it is evident that greater economy of men and means can be effected by a Union which will consolidate the resources of the Church, than by perpetuating upon the virgin soil of the North-west the rival agencies and institutions of Methodism which have characterized the older Provinces. This vigorous and aggressive Church has our best wishes for its success in contributing, with the other Christian Churches, to the moral development and higher civilization of this Dominion.

THE QUEEN ON THE DEATH OF A FAITHFUL SERVANT.

THE Queen wrote with her own hand for the Court Circular this remarkable tribute to John Brown: "To her Majesty the loss is irreparable, and the death of this truly faithful and devoted servant has been a grievous shock to the Queen. An honest, faithful, and devoted follower, a trustworthy, discreet, and straight forward man, and possessed of strong sense, he filled a position of great and anxious responsibility, the duties of which he performed with such constant and unceasing care as to secure for himself the real friendship of the Queen." Her Majesty has never before spoken publicly of her "real friendship" for anybody.

Among the many wreaths of flowers placed upon the coffin of the late John Brown were two contributed by the Queen and the Empress Eugenie. To the memorial wreath from the Queen there was affixed a large mourning card bearing the following words in her own handwriting.—"A tribute of loving, grateful, and everlasting friendship and affection from his truest, best, and most faithful friend Victoria, R. I." It is noted that the wreath she sent for Lord Beaconsfield bore the words, "A mark of true affection, friendship, and regret;" that for Dean Stanley, "A mark of sincere affection and high esteem."

THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

A VERY successful meeting of the "Woman's Missionary Society" was held in the Metropolitan Church, Toronto, on the 27th ult. In the absence of the pastor, the editor of PLEASANT HOURS occupied the chair. Mrs. Hunter, the accomplished wife of the Rev. Dr. Hunter, read an admirable paper on Japan, which we hope to reproduce in Home and School. Mrs. Harvie gave an address of the deepest interest on Women's Missionary Societies, their history, their importance, their work, the great need of them etc. That address we hope also to reproduce. These were the principal features of the programme, which was of much excellence. The society is only two years old, yet it raised last year \$3,000 for mission purposes, and has a lady missionary of its own in Japan. We hope that many branches of the Society will be established in connexion with our churches.

THE Toronto Globe gives the following notice of our Connexional monthly, now the only Methodist magazine on the continent, and the only literary magazine in the Dominion. A new volume begins with the July number—a good time to subscribe—only \$1 for the rest of the year. "The May number of that well-conducted monthly, the Canadian Methodist Magazine, fully maintains the reputation of the periodical. It is embellished with a fine portrait of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, of whose life and work Mrs. M. A. Castle, of this city, contributes an appreciative account. The variety and quality of the articles, the character of the illustrations, and the general appearance of the pages of this number are very creditable to all concerned in their production."



ARMENIAN PRIEST.

C. L. S. NOTES.

A LADY member says: "I appreciate the odd five minutes I pick up here and there. The text-book of Greek history is intimately associated with the dough-nut kettle and ironing-board, and also the Preparatory Greek Course in English with my small nephew's cradle."

A member of the class of 1884 writes: "It is so pleasant to be learning something all these years when I once supposed I would be too old to learn. During my married life I have had more leisure for reading than before. The privilege of enjoying a course of study so carefully arranged and nicely adapted to the needs of busy people, is highly appreciated. I think I express the feelings of many housekeepers when I say that I receive a stimulus from the work which more than compensates for the time given, and makes all home work and care seem lighter."

THE handsomest magazine for the little folk that we have ever seen, is "Our Little Ones and the Nursery," issued by the Russell Publishing Co., 36 Bromfield Street, Boston, Mass. Each number contains 32 pages, 8vo. The numerous engravings are in the highest style of the art, not second-hand imported ones or cheap process cuts as is the case with many juveniles. The effect of this ministry of beauty in a household is incalculable. The price is \$1.50 a year; single numbers 15 cents.

HER MAJESTY the QUEEN has again set a worthy example to her subjects. It is known that the mortality among sheep and lambs has sadly reduced the sheep stock of the country and has naturally tended to increase prices. There will soon be a change for the better if all act as those are commanded to act who are in charge of the Royal Household, where no lamb is to be served during the present season.

PLEASANT HOURS for June 16th will have a splendid illustrated article on The Footprints of Bunyan with six fine engravings. Also interesting stories, sketches, and temperance articles. Only \$1 per 100; specimens free.

* Dr. Young went out in 1868.