

11th-13th, 16th-20th, 22nd, 23rd, 27th, 28th. Rain 4th, 23rd, 31st. River Moira very low.

GODERICH.—Wind storm, 20th; and with lightning, thunder, and rain, 23rd. Snow 1st-3rd, 5th-8th, 11th-22nd, 26th. Rain, 23rd, 30th.

STRATFORD.—On 23rd, lightning and thunder, with rain. Wind storms 4th-7th, 19th, 20th, 22nd, 23rd, 27th. Fog, 31st. Snow, 1st, 4th-9th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 22nd, 26th, 27th. Rain, 23rd, 30th, 31st. The difference of mean temperature for December, from the average of 10 years, is $-7^{\circ}03$.

HAMILTON.—On 23rd, lightning and thunder, with hail and rain. Wind storms 2nd, 4th-9th, 20th, 23rd, 27th, 28th. Fog 31st, most dense. Snow 4th-7th, 12th, 15th, 18th, 22nd. Rain 4th, 7th, 23rd, 30th, 31st. The month, like its predecessors, has been very dry, storms of wind have been prevalent, and on the evening of the 23rd the storm approached the nature of a hurricane,—the wind rose to 6, uprooting trees, uncovering houses, throwing down the walls of others in course of erection, and injuring several persons. In the forenoon of the same day a rare combination of elements in storm,—lightning, thunder, hail and rain. Thunder first heard at 11.25 a.m., lightning and thunder seen and heard at 11.40, followed in a minute or so by hail for a couple of minutes, and then rain began to fall at 11.50, and continued in the afternoon. On the 21st the degree of cold went as low as $-18^{\circ}0$, on the 23rd the temperature rose to $54^{\circ}8$, a range of 73° in some sixty hours. This was accompanied by a great fall of barometer, '808 in 24 hours, the greatest during the year except on 17th February, when it amounted to '960, and on both occasions violent storms ensued. [Mr. Macallum, who has been Observer at this station since May, 1858, now transfers the work to Mr. Buch. Mr. Macallum has been a very careful Observer, and his Reports are full and satisfactory.]

SIMCOE.—On 23rd, lightning and thunder, with rain, at 11 a.m. 25th, at 9 p.m., an arc completely spanned the northern part of the heavens from W. to E., it was about 3° in breadth, and about 23° above N. horizon. Wind storms, 4th to 9th, 23rd. Fog, 31st. Snow, 4th to 20th, 22nd, 26th, 27th. Rain, 4th, 7th, 23rd, 30th, 31st. Weather generally threatening, dark, gloomy and stormy. Storms on 4th, 7th, and 23rd—especially the latter, very disastrous to shipping as well as on land, and the extreme cold of 20th and 21st resulted in casualties which in a large number of cases terminated fatally. Disease of the throat and lungs very prevalent, and frequently fatal. Wood high; vegetables scarce and dear.

WINDSOR.—On 4th, hail. 23rd, thunder, with rain; rainbow; lunar halo. 27th, lunar halo. Wind storms, 4th, 6th, 8th, 23rd, 27th. Fog, 30th. Snow, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 11th, 13th, 18th, 19th, 21st, 22nd, 25th, 26th. Rain, 22nd, 23rd, 31st. Navigation of the Detroit river closed on the 4th.

IX. Miscellaneous.

1. OPEN THE DOOR FOR THE CHILDREN.

Open the door for the children,
Tenderly gather them in;
In from the highways and hedges,
In from the places of sin.
Some are so young and so helpless,
Some are so hungry and cold;
Open the door for the children,
Gather them into the fold!

Open the door for the children;
See they are coming in throngs;
Bid them sit down to the banquet;
Teach them your beautiful songs!
Pray you the Father to bless them,
Pray you that grace may be given;
Open the door to the children,
"Of such is the kingdom of heaven!"

Open the door for the children;
Take the dear lambs by the hand;
Point them to truth and to goodness,
Send them to Canaan's land.
Some are so young and so helpless,
Some are so hungry and cold;
Open the door for the children,
Gather them into the fold.

2. MISS MACPHERSON'S CARE FOR "LITTLE WANDERERS."

After waiting on the Lord for guidance, and seeking from Him the heavenly wisdom that teacheth all things, Miss Macpherson resolved, with His help, to try and solve a problem which has interested and puzzled so many of our philanthropists—viz., How can we change our untaught and uncared for little wanderers into useful and independent members of society? by herself taking a hundred boys, then crowding the mission at home, bringing them across the Atlantic, and placing them in homes on the Canadian shore.

Since May, 1870, how much has been accomplished? Six detachments have followed the first hundred, and now above 800 claim our prayers and interest in this new land of their adoption. A threefold good is thus accomplished. Benefit to the old country in relieving it from those who, having no power to help themselves, must inevitably have become a burden, and ere long, inmates of our

workhouses or our prisons. A great advantage to the Canadians, in a country where want of labour to cultivate their broad acres is severely felt, and who eagerly seek for one of our little ones to train up as their own and in time to become a valuable assistant.

But the greatest benefit of all is to the children themselves, taken sometimes from homes of pinching want and misery, become such from a father's failure or death, or found alone on London streets—a loneliness more forlorn and intense than even among Canadian backwoods; or, more sad and hopeless still, children of a drunkard's home sent out to beg or steal, not only for daily bread, but the wherewithal to supply an unnatural parent's thirst for drink.

It does, indeed, require us to see both sides of the Atlantic ere we can fully realize the benefit accruing to these children by being placed in a family, with individual care and love bestowed upon them, carefully trained in Canadian farm labour, and with the prospect of honourable independence before them.—From an article in the *New Dominion Monthly* for January.

NOTE.—We greatly regret to observe that "Marchmont," Miss Macpherson's Home for these "little wanderers" at Belleville was accidentally destroyed by fire, and one little fellow perished in the flames. Large sums have been collected through the instrumentality of the Hon. Billa Flint, to rebuild the Home.

X. Short Critical Notices of Books.

—THE CANADIAN MONTHLY AND NATIONAL REVIEW FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 1872.—Toronto: Adam, Stevenson & Co.—The history of Canadian Magazine enterprise is both painful and interesting. It is interesting as illustrating a yearning after nationality, a desire to find some more dignified and permanent means, than that of newspapers, of giving expression to the "sober second thoughts," from a Canadian stand point, of literary men and writers among us, on the questions of the day. The painful feature of the case is the utter failure of nine out of every ten of the numerous magazine enterprises which have been set on foot. The cause of failure has doubtless been asked and answered satisfactorily by every new magazine aspirant for literary and financial success, and yet the same failure has followed each successive attempt. The cause of failure in each individual case has no doubt been various. Apart from the purely financial cause of failure, and nearly all may be summed up in that one, we think the literary cause has been patent to most observers. In nearly every case there has been a sad falling off in the literary tone and spirit of the magazine, until it became the mere reprinter of tales or stories of little interest and value. The topics of the day, if discussed at all, have lacked that suitable elevation of thought, style or sentiment which gives permanence and value to utterances of the kind. The projectors of this magazine seem to have been fully alive to these difficulties and causes of failure. In their prospectus they therefore declare that "Politics will be treated with the aim of infusing as much as possible of the historical and philosophical spirit into the popular discussion of political questions." They further say that "religious questions, if they form the subject of any papers, will be treated with a similar aim." With a view to still further guard the writers of the new magazine from degenerating into party agents, the conductors, in their introductory announcement, state that "the utmost latitude will be allowed to contributors in the expression of opinion, as well as in the choice of subjects; but the Magazine is not open to party politics or to party theology; nor will anything be admitted which can give just offence to any portion of the community. Having a national object in view, the managers of the Magazine will sincerely endeavour to preserve, in all its departments, a tone beneficial to the national character and worthy of the nation." We will now examine the two numbers of the Magazine which have reached us to see how far these pledges have been realized. We shall first take the "Treaty of Washington" paper by Mr. Lindsay, in the January number. This paper deals with a many-sided question, not merely one between the present Dominion Government and Her Majesty's opposition in Parliament, but one between Canada and England, Canada and the United States, and the maritime and inland Provinces of the Dominion. The article on the whole fairly states the question as between each of these parties, and is decidedly