



DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND AGRICULTURE.

VOLUME XIV., No. 6.

MONTREAL & NEW YORK, MARCH 15, 1879.

SEMI-MONTHLY, 30 CTS. per An., Post-Paid.

NOTICE.

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THE NEWSBOYS AT HOME.

It was a piercing cold night. The icy north wind searched out every weak spot in the clothing of the few who, called by pleasure or business, ventured on the streets. It was the kind of night on which those inside their warm rooms instinctively shiver as they think of the terrors of the streets. The windows were covered with beautiful patterns, frosted by the icy hand of the terrible north wind. The street lamps shone dim through the sparkling fog of frost which enshrouded them.

It was on this night that a gentleman walking, or rather slipping, the usual mode of progression in winter, down Beaver Hall Hill, in the city of Montreal, was buttoning his coat tighter as he reached the corner of Lagache-tiere street, where the wind seemed to have greater force than anywhere else, when he heard a feeble, timid voice:

"Won't you buy a paper, sir? It's very cold, won't you buy them all sir? I can't go home unless I sell them."

The gentleman stopped at once, and found that the voice came from a shivering little girl, clothed so as to afford but little protection from the weather. He stooped down to her, and noticing her blue, pinched face and chattering teeth, made enquiries, from which he learned that she was compelled to sell papers for those who cruelly used her, with whom she lived. He took her into a shop near by, where she was thoroughly warmed and plenty given her to eat, her papers purchased, and she was sent to the place called her home, happy for once.

But this was not a newsboy, some of the MESSENGER's readers may say. That may be very true in one sense, but the newsboys are not all boys; there are old and middle-aged men amongst those who are called newsboys. The daily papers often occupy a prominent place on apple and candy stands, during the summer months, and these are usually kept by women, and, alas! only too often little girls, clad so as to be afforded very little protection from the biting winds of this wintry city, stand speaking timidly to the passers-by, "Please, sir, do buy a paper." But these are the exceptions. Generally it is boys who sell the newspapers on the streets.

These boys are generally sharp-witted and ready for any amount of mischief. They need to be the former for their lot is by no means an easy one. If they were as a rule frugal, they would, on the whole, be comparatively well off, for they make from twenty cents to a dollar and a half a day. But frugality is the exception amongst them. Money with them, as with other young people, seems to burn a hole in their pockets, and it is spent almost as

fast as it is earned—not on useful things either, but on candies, apples and other eatables. The result is that most of them are always hard up in the midst of plenty.

Others are differently situated. Their money goes to their relatives, who sometimes are not of the best character. These spend it for them, and they are little or no better than slaves, like the little girl first referred to. In winter they live in filthy hovels; in summer find their resting-places in barrels or in nooks and corners of all kinds. This mode of living is not advantageous to moral improvement; and it is little wonder that they frequently find themselves in the policemen's clutches, and usually spend some years of their lives in the reformatories for the young. There is another

vice, but found that his disease got no better, but his profits were greatly decreased. He subsequently engaged an associate to hold his papers for him, while he did the selling and collected the money. He has many friends who assist him in his business, and at the present time has some two thousand dollars in the bank.

The publishers of the WITNESS every year collect their newsboys together and give them a supper and entertainment of some kind. This all parties concerned enjoy greatly, and the boys are not slow in expressing their thanks.

They are not, as a rule, as good-looking as the interesting boy of whom a picture is given, being generally ill clothed and sometimes of a

work, generally, is to thrash about one-half dozen of the scholars, and my method is variegated.

Give the name of the author of the Declaration of Independence and the name of the body that issued it. Ans.—John Hancock.

What are the four prominent methods of teaching beginners to read? Ans.—To endeavor to make your own feelings and sentiments the same as the author.

Give the course of the Mississippi river. Ans.—It flows from its source to its mouth.

Decline ox. Ans.—Pos., ox; com., better ox; super., best ox.

What is cancellation? Ans.—A short operation of performing examples.

Give your plan of a daily recitation in reading. Ans.—Form class in row, standing with book in left hand.

What is climate, and on what does it depend? Ans.—Is pure or impure air, and depends upon the condition of water, upon the ground, upon vegetation and upon the culture of the ground.

Another answer to the same is follows: The climate is cold in the north and east, generally temperate and healthful in the middle and west, and warm in the south; it depends on social, political and commercial importance.

What is a sentence? Ans.—A line of words from one period to another.

What words should be emphasized in a sentence? Ans.—The most emphatic words.

Describe the heart. Ans.—The heart is a conical shape and situated between the right and left ventricle.

Name ten of the largest countries in Europe. Ans.—Italy, England, Russia, Prussia, Germany, Portugal, etc.

What form of government has Russia? Ans.—A desperate form of government.

HOW THE LITTLE BOYS MADE CHALK.

First I must tell you that these little boys who made the chalk all go to the same school. They are between eight and ten years of age, and there are only nine of them.

One day their teacher read to them something about chalk—how that it is formed from lime and a gas; then she told them that every time we breathe the same kind of gas that helps to form chalk comes out of our lungs and is carried away into the air with our breath. Now, if we breathe into lime-water, what happens? The lime is changed. The gas in our breath turns the lime into chalk. And now we come to the way by which the children made themselves sure of this.

Miss May got some lumps of lime, such as you have seen men use to make mortar, and put them into a large bottle of water. The lumps crumbled and fell into powder, and mixed with the water. This formed the lime-water. After it had stood a while most of the lime went to the bottom of the bottle, leaving the water looking very clear; but some little bits of the lime stayed with the water, though they were so small they could not be seen.



"OUR" CIVIL SERVICE.

class. These are honest children of honest parents who, of necessity, are compelled to earn a little money by selling papers. Their lot is a hard one, but they are generally not long in making a change in the mode of living. There is yet one class more: those who are enterprising and frugal and enter into the business to make money.

An interesting instance of the latter class lately came to notice. It was of a boy named Fitzpatrick. He was well-known in Montreal because of his being subject to epileptic fits. He was a good Roman Catholic, and having occasion to go to his priest was told that he could never get over his disease unless he gave up selling the WITNESS. He followed this ad-

forbidding appearance. But underneath their ragged vests often beat sturdy, honest, faithful hearts, and sometimes from their ranks there rise men whose careers are of honor and usefulness.

WHO CAN BEAT THIS?

NATIVE GENIUS is not monopolized by Canadian candidates for certificates. The following answers were given at a late examination in one of the counties of Iowa:

With what country did we carry on the war of the Revolution? Ans.—Africa.

What is the first work to be performed on taking charge of a school, and what is your method of performing it? Ans.—My first