

They shook hands upon it, the two men who had been spared.—The British Weekly.

The Cheetah.

BY MRS. EVA WILLIAMS MALONE.

I don't know why but it seems to me there is a sort of shivering fascination about all catlike animals. There is something so still, so stealthy, and yet so unswerving, in their ways that I am charmed and repelled at the same time. They never make me quite trust them, and yet I don't wholly distrust. Even when pussy rubs against my knee in that caressing way she has, I half wonder if she is really thinking of me or if she has her mind and one eye on the canary in the cage, and is planning how she will make a dive at him when my back is turned. In their furtiveness and their natural cruelty all of the feline, or catlike animals, from the smallest kitten to the ugly tiger seem alike.

The cat of which I want to tell you now is not always called a cat at all, but by many writers is known as the hunting leopard. Others again call it the hunting cat. It is by no means a small animal, as you might suppose, but is often larger than an ordinary leopard. It seems larger than it really is on account of its great length of limb. With its small head, lithe slender body spotted coat, the cheetah is really a beautiful animal. It is found in many parts of Asia as well as in Africa near the Cape of Good Hope.

Like most of its cat relatives, the cheetah wins its living by its agility and its cunning. It is as good a runner as a dog, and is as crafty as a cat. Like all carnivorous animals it preys on other creatures less powerful or less cunning. Of course in a hand-to-hand, or foot-to-foot, race the deer or antelope is more than a match for the nimble cheetah; but a fair race is not what the cheetah wants or will allow. Where his speed might be lacking his cunning comes in and wins the victory. When the cheetah wants to dine on deer or antelope, does he plant himself boldly in the path of the herd and proclaim: Here I am ladies and gentlemen, and I am bound to have my dinner. So you may as well stand and deliver? Not much he doesn't. He hides himself in some nice cozy place until the animals he fancies for a meal approach. He never shows himself at all until he is within a single bound of the animal he has made up his mind to have. Then quick as a flash he springs out, leaps upon the doomed prey, and dashes it to the ground. He grips its throat, and in the joy of lapping the hot blood thinks of nothing else.

Cruel, you say? Yes, so it seems; yet are not all animals in the deat of victims that means life to them? When kindly treated, this beautiful animal is by no means cruel or bloodthirsty. On the contrary, it is kind and gentle, and seems to give love for love freely. It is often tamed and domesticated, and makes an interesting pet. When stroked it purrs like a cat, or as I should say many cats united in one.

The natives of the country where the cheetah lives have found out what a skillful hunter it is, and often train the cheetah to hunt just as people train dogs and as they used to train hawks and falcons. When a cheetah is needed for the hunt he is hooded, and goes in company with his keeper, in a light vehicle. When a herd of deer or other game is perceived, the keeper turns the cheetah's head in the right direction and takes off the hood. As soon as the keen eyed cheetah sees the game, he is loosened and allowed to use his own methods of hunting. He slips upon the prey seizes its throat and while he is sucking its life blood the keepers hurry up, give the cheetah some other food of which he is fond, and take slaughtered game. Then the cheetah is hooded, put back into the car and the hunt proceeds.—Children's Visitor.

A Japanese Baby.

I happened to be on the train that carried the infant son of the Crown Prince of Tokyo from his country home. At every station officials, citizens, and school children were lined up to offer homage to the wee scion of royalty. It was touching to see the profound obeisance of grave officers and aged men as the train moved in—though who is more worthy of reverence than a little child? The baby prince was old enough to smile and wave his hand from time to time at the bidding of his nurse. But he made only one speech, a speech so full of eloquence that there was no room for misunderstanding its meaning; it took the form of a lusty fit of crying toward the end of the journey, which said plainly enough, "Baby is tired of being prince, and he is going to be just plain baby"—though they say that Japanese babies never cry!—C. R. Brent in Outlook.

We must increase our talents, enlarge our graces, shoot up in tallness, grow up to his stature. God's family admits no dwarfs; stunted profession was never sound.

Adams.

Christianity wants nothing so much in the world as sunny people; and the old are hungrier for love than for bread; and the oil of joy is very cheap; and if you can help the poor on with a garment of praise it will be better for them than blankets.—Henry Drummond.

The Young People

EDITOR

A. T. DYKEMAN.

All articles for this department should be sent to Rev. A. T. Dykeman, Fairville, N. B., and must be in his hands one week at least before the date of publication.

Officers.

President, Rev. H. H. Roach, St. John, N. B.
Sec.-Treas., Rev. G. A. Lawson, Bass River, N. S.

Our Motto.

Loyalty to Christ in all things, and at all times.

Reports From Societies.

Mira Bay, N. S. The B. Y. P. U. of the Mira Bay Baptist church have pledged fifteen dollars towards Mr. Glenning's salary. Our Union is not large, and the amount may be small; yet we are glad to be able to do even a little for the Master's sake.

Yours in the work,
SOPHIE M. SPENCER, Cor. Sec'y.

Daily Bible Readings.

Monday.—Paul's Desire for his People. Rom. 9: 1-5; 10: 1-3.
Tuesday.—Nehemiah's Prayer for Israel. Neh. 1: 1-11.
Wednesday.—The Place to Begin. Acts 1: 4-8.
Thursday.—Carrying out the Command. Acts 3: 12-26.
Friday.—Difficulties in Home Work. Matt. 13: 53-57.
Saturday.—Whitened Harvests. John 4: 31-38.
Sunday.—A Favored Land. Psalm 85: 1-13.

Prayer Meeting Topic. March 27th.

Jesus' Work for his own Country!
What can I do for Mine? Matt. 4: 23-25; 23: 37.

Jesus is primarily concerned with the individual man. He knows what he might be, realizes what he is, and would help him to be what he ought to be. He would save him. After a careful endeavor to understand the mind of the Man of Galilee one cannot but feel that he regards things not human as quite secondary. Everything receives interest because of its relation to man. If it is good for him it is important, but it is important only as it serves him. So that we find him unwilling to spend his energy on many of the things that mightily engage others, yet he seems incapable of spending his energy in the pursuit of anything which will not help men. At the same time we cannot conceive of him as indifferent to any of the forces which have the power of good or ill over men. Such a force is

THE NATION.

A very superficial study will reveal the fact that the nation exercises a potent influence over the individual. Differences of national characteristics attest this fact. The Englishman differs from the Frenchman and the German from the Russian, and this difference in national characteristics reveals a resemblance in each nation. It is safe to say that the individuals of a nation conform in no usual degree to the national type. It is this character-making power of the nation that primarily concerns the Christian. He may give quite secondary place to the industrial supremacy, the military and naval strength or the natural resources but he cannot follow his Master and be indifferent to the influence of "his country" over his children. He must pause often to consider how he may work to make the nation of more efficient service in helping men to manhood.

WHAT IS THE NATION?

But one may here well ask "What is the nation that it should possess such power?" We can but feel that the bond that holds the nation together is not that of territory, is not even that of a common ancestry, but is rather that more fundamental kinship of common love and hates—of common ideals. The enthusiasm which patriots display at sight of the national emblem is not a weak, silly following of custom, but is due in no small degree to an honest zeal for the principles which the symbols stand for. The nation undoubtedly possesses power to arouse the devotion and love of the citizen. The patriotism which is thus engendered is a love for that which the nation really esteems valuable. It is here that the manhood-making power of the nation lies. If this be true, then that nation that possesses true ideals, that really values that which is worthful will exercise a beneficial influence over her citizens.

THE CITIZEN'S RESPONSIBILITY.

It is just here that the responsibility of the individual citizen lies. He has a part in determining what the national ideal shall be. For the ideal of a nation is but the resultant of the ideal of the individuals that compose it. If the citizens in their private life count worldly wealth to be the supremely worthful thing, if they are willing to sacrifice principle for the attainment of that, then we may expect the nation as a whole so be powerfully influenced by that motive and therefore in turn powerfully to impress that motive upon her citizens. If on the other hand the citizens count more enduring qualities worthful, we may expect that to be reflected in the national character. The first duty of a man to his country is to have a sincere love

for the best thing. Here as elsewhere a man will do well to heed the advice of the Great Master "seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." Let each man himself be a true follower of Jesus. Let him learn then his duty to his fellowmen. Let him trust that the spirit that prevades the citizens will prevail in the nation.

GREAT QUESTIONS.

There are at the present time many questions that concern the nation. Among these may be named—The Liquor Traffic, Sabbath Day Observances, The Respective rewards of Labor and Capital, Political Corruption. The disposal of these matters is not in the hands of a few hundred public men. It is a task that awaits the expression of the people. That these questions are unsettled indicate that public opinion has not emphatically expressed itself. Each of the problems involve questions that are of great import to men who love the best. We await the settlement with concern. In the meanwhile what are you doing to make that verdict right.

A. B. CONOR.

Our Missionary.

By this time, most of you are aware that we decided at our Young People's Convention last Fall, to engage definitely in missionary work; and if possible to raise the salary of a missionary. The Executive have gone a step further, and have asked the Foreign Mission Board to name some person on the foreign field, who might for a time at least, be considered the missionary of the B. Y. P. U. of these Maritime Provinces, toward whose salary all mission money of our Young People's Societies shall go. The name of Rev. S. C. Freeman has been selected, and for the fiscal year at least, will be considered the missionary of the B. Y. P. U.

It is hoped that the time might come, when some one offering themselves to the work of Foreign Missions, might be selected as our Young People's Missionary, and who might be sent out supported entirely by the young people. We can do this if we think so, and by so doing will, strengthen the hands of our Foreign Mission Board, and greatly aid in the work abroad. We hope soon to see all the Young People's organizations of our Baptist churches in line, and will ask that each shall make some contribution toward Mr. Freeman's salary.

AN ORGANIZER IN THE FIELD.

The Executive of the Maritime B. Y. P. U. took the liberty to ask Rev. A. T. Robinson of Middle Sackville, to meet with the Maritime B. Y. P. U. Executive in St. John two weeks ago, to explain to them more fully, the method adopted by the young people of the Middle Sackville Baptist church, which he is pleased to call the "Industrial Guild of the Great Commission." Mr. Robinson's plan has already been outlined in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR of Jan. 27. It appealed to the members of the Executive as well adapted to the times, and to the missionary movement undertaken by the Young People's Society in these provinces. The Executive have asked Mr. Robinson to take the field, for the purpose of extending this movement, and his church has been asked to release him. He will go out under the auspices of the Maritime B. Y. P. U., and can begin his work shortly. This move has been made possible by several pledges of loans made toward his support while in the work of organization, we have confidence that the returns will largely augment the amount of money to be raised toward the salary of our missionary. Mr. Robinson is enthusiastic in this, and will create enthusiasm wherever he goes. As an undertaking of our Maritime Young People, we believe it will receive the endorsement of all our Pastors, and Churches, and Young People's Societies. We would suggest that they give it a fair trial. We do not ask for any favors, we only ask for a fair hearing, and an opportunity to demonstrate its worth. Will any Pastors or Young People's Societies, desiring to have Mr. Robinson visit them, for the purpose of explaining the work, please write to the President of the Maritime B. Y. P. U. at St. John, Rev. H. H. Roach, or to Rev. A. T. Robinson, Middle Sackville, and if at all possible we shall endeavor to have him visit you early some time in April or May. Read Mr. Robinson's article in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR of Jan. 27, and also read what McClean of Truro has to say two weeks since in the same journal, and be on the look-out for further items. YOUR PRESIDENT.

Illustrative Gatherings.

(Selected by the Editor.)

THEME: TRUE PATRIOTISM.

The noblest motive is the public good.

Virgil.

The true lover of his country will not be indifferent to that which he knows from personal experience, if he be a Christian, to be its chief good.

J. C. Galloway.