

Missionary.

Enterprising Leaguers in the North-West.

Rev. Thomas Lawson, Methodist missionary on the Battleford district, sends the following interesting letter, which should have been published some months ago, but has been crowded out:

ago, but has been in this about fifteen miles from the north of Battledore, on the great plains of the North-west. At the last Manitoba and North-west Conference, I offered to come West and across the work of our country in the Battledore district. I am now in the midst of the most interesting experiences of missionary life. On most of my trips we are compelled to tent all across the country, and the houses. In fact, many of the settlers are not in their tents. We also carry, like the man of Scriptures, 'our beds', so we can camp every night overtake us. The sketch of my work in the North-west is not to write about myself, or my little boy Charles, who accompanies me on my trips, but to give you and The Era a brief sketch of the work of our Epworth League, of which I am in the West. Their names are William and Norman Mair, both of whom have been presidents of Leagues, and half from near London, O. and most of the members are young men in the with a number of them are doing well, as we would expect them to do.

William, the eldest brother of the family, left Rat Portage on the 29th of last March to locate land for himself, his father and three brothers. After considerable travelling he located five sections of land consisting of 300 acres, and in addition he purchased 960 acres. After making these selections, he returned to Rat Portage to wind up his business and after an absence of about a month, on the 16th of May, Norman left his home, Killworth, Ont., with a car of settlers' effects. He was joined by William at Rat Portage, and arrived at their homesteads on the 25th of May. During the trip from Rat Portage to Saskatoon, the nearest railway station. After a few days' rest for the horses, the boys turned around and drove back to Saskatoon for the rest of the outfit. A few days later the boys returned and broke and put in nine acres of oats and one acre of potatoes. Since that time with the assistance of some little outside help they have struck camp, and are now located by themselves in neat, frame house built by themselves.

In addition to seventy-five acres broken, they went north thirty miles to Meeting Lake, and got out sufficient logs for their own buildings, and when the missionary drove up to the encampment last night, the boys were down twenty-two feet in the bowels of the earth digging for water.

William is the cook and general manager. A better prepared and more tasty meal it would be hard to find. From their one cow, they make their own butter, and splendid butter it is. I don't think any of our League girls could make better. It was certainly appreciated by the missionary, and also the bread, which, too, was home-manufactured.

The only thing the boys are not a success at is sewing on buttons and mending clothes. Surely the mere mention of this will awaken sympathy in the bosoms of not a few of our fair Leaguers, and it is to be hoped ere long their troubles along this line will come to an end.

In all the chequered experiences of pioneer life, the boys have not forgotten their League obligations. Although, until recently, away from home and church privileges, they have strictly observed the Sabbath, and, moreover, have

exercised an influence that is telling for God and the building up of the community in everything that is noble and true. After the day's work is over, in company with another young man, Edward Hoover, in God's service, Edward Hoover, they gather in their little home, and spend the time in reading and music, and, by the way, the boys are good singers. There are no mean singers and players. I write these few lines to show that it is true nonsense for people to say "it is impossible to live a higher life than the life of the average American surrounded. Here are young fellows hundreds of miles from home, and until your missionary started services in the settlement a few weeks ago, away from the life of the city, the life of the content Christian lives. Others can do the same. I must close, and go on to another settlement where, as yet, they have had no religious services what-so-ever. I will be there the first of next Sunday. Let us pray that this, another new appointment, may e'er long become a centre, sending out light and truth to the regions beyond.

Battleford, N.W.T.

Notes.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States has had the banner year in its history for contributions to its missionary enterprises at home and abroad. They amount to the splendid sum of \$1,654,223. Still when we remember that this denomination has about 4,400,000 members, the average giving is less than forty cents each, quite a bit less than Canadian Methodists give.

The Church Missionary Society has recently received an offer of remarkable magnanimity. A few years ago, Rev. W. J. Humphrey, one of their missionaries, was murdered with horrible barbarity. The widow of the murdered man has offered her services as a missionary, with the request that she be sent to the same region that she may labor for the conversion of his murderers.

The Lutheran World attributes the following anecdote to Dr. Lorimer, of a minister and a man who professed to be converted: " 'Have you joined the Church?' 'No; the dying thief did not join the Church, and he went to heaven.' 'Have you given anything to missions?' 'No; the dying thief never gave anything, and he went to heaven.' 'Well, my friend, it seems to me the difference is that he was a dying thief, and you are a living one.' "

During the period of eighty-one years from the printing of Dr. Morrison's Chinese New Testament in 1813 to 1894, the total circulation in China, including the Scriptures given away before the principle of selling was established, was about 5,500,000 volumes. In the last eight years, from 1894 to 1902, the circulation has been over 4,660,000 volumes, of which 51,000 were whole Bibles and 184,000 New Testaments. Of this number all but about 100,000 were sold.

An orthodox Hindu, in a recent lecture delivered to his fellow Hindus, said : "How can we be blind to the greatness, the unrivalled splendor of Jesus Christ ? Behind the British Empire and all European Powers lies the single great personality—the greatest of all known to us—of Jesus Christ. He lives in Europe and America, in Asia and Africa, as King and Guide and Teacher. He lives in our midst. He seeks to revivify religion in India. We owe everything, even this deep yearning toward our own ancient Hinduism, to Christianity."

The...
Epworth League
Reading Course

Is selling better this year than ever before. The quality of the books is so good, and the price so low that there has been a great demand.

Three Choice Volumes for \$1.25

By mail, \$1.45

Order now, as our stock on hand
will not last long.

WILLIAM BRIGGS
29-33 Richmond St. West, Toronto
C. W. COATES, Montreal, Que.
S. F. HURSTIN, Halifax, N.S.



means Perfect Printing Plates.

The Royle Engraving Co.
Limited
TORONTO, CANADA

The....
Independent
Order of
Foresters

Greatest and best of Fraternal Insurance Societies

Membership 1881	-	-	369
Membership 1903, over	214,000		
Accumulated funds 1881,	\$3.59		
Accumulated funds 1903,			
over	-	-	\$7,000,000

Now paying widows and orphans \$6,500
per day.

Premiums cease at age of 70 or at any age if you become totally or permanently disabled.

Sick and Funeral Benefits provided but optional.

ORONHYATEKHA, M.D., J.P.,
Supreme Chief Ranger.
JOHN A. MCGILLIVRAY, K.C.,
Supreme Secretary.

Head Office

Temple Building
Toronto, Canada

For

In cha
Missiona
Wesley

West C
cycle t
Chentu
ber of
ride, g
great c

"I know
homestic
when I
Japan.
but a s
which
glad to
spoken

The
the mis
mated.
Shizuoka
power f
the girl
yard an
great o
and doc

The
splendid
especially
The con
able tha
will gla
Scriptur
he fore

In the
the You
or Miss
he sup
on, a t
line of
ess than
has been
credited
rooms, l
made.
uted la
ort of
rease o
ng at \$
hem suc

Mr. T. Education Society of has made a library of large books. This book deals and leads special courses, examples and the count. This book make a the book cents.

"The H
y text-b
enthus
e a few
eciation

Text-b
th valu
scinatin
me of
orthy to
ssionar
ls of th

"This is a people need accurate information. I am engaged in a comprehensive study of the situation in the country and I am confident that I will be able to provide a comprehensive report to the people of the country."