

rows of our neighbours also, and thus bring blessings out of affliction; may He take even our sins, and help us to be rid of them, and by the conquering of them give us a new strength for new temptations, may He lead us through this year and through all the years which may come after it, in His own way, by His guidance and under His protection, guarding us from evil, bringing us into all good, blessing us and all for whom we ought to pray, until we come after the night into the brightness of the perfect day.—Rev. Dr. Geo. Hodges.

KEEPING FRIENDS.

Friendship is worth taking trouble about. It is one of the things about which we should remember the apostle's command: "Hold fast that which is good." Thoreau said: "The only danger in friendship is that it will end." Correspondence and conversation and social courtesies are the ways in which we throw guards around our friendships, lest they end. A man who loses a friend for want of a letter now and then is like a man who loses his money for lack of a pocket-book. He is losing a very precious thing for lack of a little expense and trouble. How carefully Jesus selected the close circle of his friends, and how watchfully he guarded their mutual friendship after he had selected them! The friend who "sticketh closer than a brother" is always one who has taken some trouble in the matter of his friendships. Let us be careful that we do not go through life with holes in our pockets through which our friendships slip.—*Sunday School Times.*

DUTY.

"Ordered of the Lord." Just as the plowman makes furrow by furrow, one ended before another is begun, so our duties come to us not in battalions, but singly. Our life's plan, if we lead it aright, is beneficently designed. We are not abandoned to blind chance. Confusion and entanglement can come only by our choosing to refuse guidance and to shape our lot for ourselves. So it will seem to us when we have come to the end of it and can look back—a divinely ordered whole, which even our failures cannot mar; for God asks of us only our best; and if we give Him these, we need not grieve overmuch; some of the furrows refuse to run straight. The failure may be success, after all, so far as our discipline is concerned. In the midst of our addest blunders we have visions of higher things, unfulfilled aspirations, cravings for growth; and these will be satisfied, every one of them. Somewhere else the task dropped here may be taken up and made good.

"FELIX BARTHOLDI MENDELSSOHN."

Many of the most brilliant geniuses that have illumined the world have been members of the Jewish race. Not to mention the name supreme—dear to every Christian, we have only to examine history's pages to find illustrious names in the world of letters, of art and of music, that have come from this "peculiar people" to find how much we are indebted to them. One hundred years ago they gave to the world a master musician—Felix Mendelssohn. Felix—"the happy one"—name prophetic of his life. He was the grandson of Moses Mendelssohn; a talented philosopher and metaphysician, called the "Socrates of the Jews." Genius was hereditary in the Mendelssohn family, and of varied types. His father being a wealthy banker, he knew not an hour of privation from the cradle to the grave. His mother, "a sylph-like figure," of gentle, refined demeanor, was a rarely gifted creature. He played and sang with wonderful grace.

YOUR BOY AND GOOD MANNERS.

Mothers make a mistake if they do not insist on good manners in the family. There is no reason why a boy should be boorish when his sister is polite, that a boy should be grumpy and awkward, ill at ease before strangers and unacquainted with table etiquette when his sister possesses these savoir-faire of good breeding. We are talking about the growing boy. While he is still under your daily care, teach him to take off his hat when he meets you on the street,

to rise when you enter the room, to place a footstool for his grandmother, and to carry any bundle or parcel not too heavy for small hands. A little fellow who is permitted to wear his hat in the house when only his mother and sisters are present cannot be expected to take it off because visitors have arrived. "Freddie, why do you stand there with your hat on?" asks the mother severely, when Freddie thus transgresses propriety, and the minister's wife or the lady from Baltimore or the aunt from Philadelphia is in the room. If Freddie had been taught always to stand bareheaded in the house, if it were his custom to pull off his hat whenever he met a lady or an older person of his own sex, out of doors, the act would be automatic. Let your boy wait on you. Do not rush wildly to wait on him. Let him button your shoes, put on and take off your rubbers, perform little services at home. If you are wise you will send him on errands to your friends, and otherwise make him at ease when obliged to address some one he knows slightly.—Margaret E. Sangster, in *Woman's Home Companion* for March.

DREADNAUGHT FOR CANADA.

Dread not for Canada, may she remain,
A warless nation, evermore the same,
A peaceful land from far Pacific's shore,
To where is heard the fierce Atlantic's roar.

Dread not for Canada, when deep in snow,
Cold winter's clothing for her land, we know,
Her forest industries do flourish then,
And farms protected for the good of men.

Dread not for Canada when summer shines,
On all her beautiful land of richest mines,
And agriculture's untold store of wealth,
Her people live in happiness and health.

Dread not for Canada, but rather pray,
That she may long enjoy the peaceful day,
As promised by the Prince of Peace above,
And ever dwell in sunshine of His love.

—Rev. L. Sinclair.

BE WHAT YOU SEEM.

There is a class of men who acquire a good deal of prominence in the community—they are much talked about, and their names are often seen in print—yet, when you get at the real opinion entertained of them by those who know them best, you find they are but little respected. The reason is because they are not really true men. They affect to take a deep interest in reform movements, and to be largely occupied in philanthropic enterprises; but in truth they are hollow-hearted popularity-seekers, caring little for anybody but themselves. Such men cannot be truly happy, for they cannot experience any feeling of satisfaction with themselves. And indeed it is with himself that every man should keep account. He should make it his own study to be true, and real, and sincere. Even if he could obtain the respect of others without deserving it, he could not obtain his own. Be what you seem is a manly rule of life, worthy of every young man's adoption.

BOOK REVIEWS.

We have received a copy of "The Churchman's Year Book and Encyclopedia" for 1910, which is published, price 1s. net, by Messrs. A. R. Mowbray & Company, of London, England. This book, of 376 pages, is a most useful compendium of all matters ecclesiastical, and it is a practically indispensable book of reference which will be found of the greatest use to every Churchman who takes a live interest in the well-being of the Church and in matters relating thereto. Alphabetically arranged will be found therein a vast amount of information with regard to the various dioceses and the different societies and communities connected with the Church, in addition to biographical notes and other information of a miscellaneous character. Not only is there information therein in regard to the dioceses and the Church societies in the British Isles but also of the Bishops and the dioceses throughout the world. The whole is prefaced by a Kalendar and a list is also given of all the important Church appointments which have been made during the past year, up to the time of going to press. This book should find a place in the library of every Churchman.

Foreign Exchange. An elementary treatise, designed for the use of the banker, the business man and the student. Reprinted from a series of articles published in the *New York Financier*. New York: The Financier Company, 1902.

The title page gives such a full and honest account of this volume that there is nothing to add to its history save the reflection that a work which has stood the test of a seven years trial must have a good backbone. This volume is eminently adapted to the large class of country bankers in the States who, until recently left foreign exchange and its mysteries to a select few in the great centres. Our young bankers who may be moved to centres in the States or England as well as Canada should get and read this volume, which gives information upon a branch of business which is becoming every day a more general necessity.

Labrador, the Country and the People. By Wilfrid T. Grenfell, C.M.G. and others. The MacMillan Company of Canada, Ltd., Toronto, Price, \$2.25 net.

The interest of a Christmas gift-book may be estimated by the test, whether it is or is not pounced upon and devoured by the reviewers' family. By this method of choice this is an ideal one. While of entrancing interest to the young it is far more than a boy's or girl's book as will be understood when we find that for seventeen years Dr. Grenfell has been collecting material for it, and that whenever he has found a friend peculiarly qualified to take up any department he has impressed him as one of the "others." There are twelve of them, sixteen chapters, six appendices and map and pictures of everything. Dr. Grenfell believes in the future of Labrador. Of the future inhabitants he says the French and Indian are by temperament rather notably acceptable to each other, the Highland Scotch learn the native dialects well and readily, marry and fall into the life, but the young Englishmen brought over by the Hudson Bay Company were a notable failure, remaining alien and seeking a final escape from such surroundings. There are few of the 500 pages where one does not find something to extract. Had it not been for Dr. Grenfell this land would have remained for the mass of people a name on the map, now he predicts a fashionable summer resort for over-worked literary and business people.

In welcoming Principal Lloyd, of Saskatchewan, the Bishop of London said he was sorry to say that the Church had not been in time in the country districts of Ontario, in which he had stayed when in Canada. The Church was well planted in cities, but she had been forestalled in the country districts. His own brothers had attended service in a little Wesleyan chapel because there was no church within sight for nine miles. They must not make the same mistake in the great North-West. What he longed and prayed for from that great plain with its thousands of square miles, with room enough for 100,000,000, was that it should be British. Principal Lloyd announced that he required thirty catechists by the spring. The Church, he said, was not going to make the mistake feared by the Bishop of London.

MINNIE AND HER DOG.

I'll never hurt my noble dog,
But stroke and pat his head;
I like to come and shake his paw,
I like to see him fed.

Our faithful dog! he's very good,
And very useful too;
For do you know that he will mind
What he is bid to do?

Do not forget that if you accomplish a little every day it will amount to a good deal in a year. If you pursue some study, or read one hour every day in the year, you will have acquired an amount of knowledge in three hundred and sixty-five days that will surprise you. Bear this in mind now, early in the year, and let nothing prevent you from taking advantage of it.

Action is, after all, the main business of our lives—we are to work "while it is called day;" and thought is worth nothing unless it lead to and embody itself in practice.