

## HOUSEHOLD.

## The Way to Independence.

'Come, Charlie, I want you to drive a few nails in the shed for me,' said Nettie to her brother the other day.

Charlie was splitting wood at the time, and her father, overhearing the request of his daughter, said:

'Why not drive them yourself?'

'Because I can't,' she replied.

'Because you can't!' he responded.

'Why, McCarty says there's no such word in the book. Come here, and I'll show you how to drive nails.'

With hammer in one hand and nails in the other, he went into the shed and drove a few into the door, and then gave the remainder to Nettie. She found it an easy thing to drive the nails, and felt quite proud of her achievement in the mechanical art. She having completed the work, her father said:

'Now, my girl, that lesson makes you independent. Some of these days I'll teach you how to drive a horse, sharpen a knife, and whittle, too, without cutting your fingers. Don't let the doors creak on their hinges for want of an oiled feather; or the little children's shoes, or your own shoes, get hard in winter time for the want of a little grease.

'And as for you, my boys,' said his father, turning to Charlie and his little seven-year-old brother, 'you ought to learn how to make a bed, sweep a room, or sew on a button. A little cooking will not hurt you. Many a beefsteak and fish have I cooked in my day, and my mother told me when I was a boy that I could beat any boy at making a pot of coffee. There is no telling what your lot may be, or where you will be cast some time during life. The most helpless people I have met with were those who could do only one kind of work. All you boys and girls should learn some one thing very well and make that your dependence for a living, add to it as much skill as you can, for it costs nothing to carry knowledge, and it enables you to pave your way to independence.'—Maine Farmer.

## Courtesy to Women and Girls

Many a boy fails to rise from his chair when his mother enters the room, while he would get up at once if a stranger entered; and one would suppose that his mother, who is more to him than all the rest of womankind put together, should, to say the least, have from him the same marks of courtesy as strangers. In fact, you can tell a boy's character pretty plainly by the way he treats his mother; for, as a mother has probably done and will do more for her son than any other woman—with perhaps one exception—will ever do, so he ought, in return, to treat her as his most valuable possession. His courtesy, his chivalrous and knightly bearing toward her, are never thrown away. Perhaps, occasionally, such conduct may, to a certain extent, go unnoticed by some other women, but by his mother, never.

In the same way one's conduct to one's sister is a test of good breeding. Sisters are not mothers, by any means; but still they demand courtesy from their brothers. Perhaps a sister can be pretty hard to get on with at times, but, nevertheless, she is a woman, and she can do certain things without any fear of retaliation, because the nobility of the man in the boy is bound to respect the woman in his sister.

Let her tease or tantalize, but remember the best way to cure her is to treat her so like a lady who could never descend to such methods that she will soon be forced to stop, in order to live up to the character you have given her. Mothers come first, therefore, over all the world, and sisters next. Treat them as carefully as you do anything else in your life, and with even more care, and then we can discuss the rest of womankind. —Harper's Round Table.

## News And Views.

The 'Witness' depends for circulation on the accuracy, completeness, and promptness of its news, and the sincerity and strength of its editorial opinion. Many other attractive features it has, but the two mentioned are its bone and sinew.

## Your Money's Worth.

People do not part with their money without what they consider good reason, if they can help it. But provide a good reason, show them that what you have to sell is something they want at a reasonable price, and if they have the money, an exchange takes place.

Now, this rule applies to newspapers as well as to any other merchantable article. If, therefore, we hope to get reasonable people to subscribe to the 'Witness,' all that is necessary is to provide good reasons for their doing so. Here they are:—

I. News—at the earliest possible moment, as accurate as possible, not the product of imagination, but fact, and both comprehensive and complete. Those who really are anxious for the news will find it in the 'Witness.' Those who read the 'Witness' regularly, will certainly be well informed. Reason one is good.

II. Editorial—well informed, unbiassed, sincere, straightforward, outspoken. Such opinion will always prove interesting, even to those who may hold different views. It is such opinion, and the knowledge that neither news nor editorial space can be purchased at any price, that has been the backbone of the 'Witness,' that has given it the place it now holds in the hearts and homes of the Canadian people, and that gives it so much weight in the minds of politicians of whatever party. Reason two is good.

III. Among the thousand and one features that go to make a paper interesting and valuable to the public, the 'Witness' includes a general question and answer department, besides the following special question and answer departments:—Medical, Legal, Veterinary, Gardening, Chess, Numismatic, etc., etc. 'Witness' subscribers may ask any question in reason, and have it answered by those who, from their position and training, are best able to reply. One question answered is often worth many times the price of the subscription. Reason number three is good.

IV. Then there is religious news, Sunday-school lesson, Christian Endeavor Topic, and Temperance Departments. Besides much reading matter devoted to information and the discussion of the live problems of the day, the 'Witness' contributes much reading of a lighter nature, stories for young and stories for old—a department for the boys, and enjoyed by the girls as well—the Home Department, devoted chiefly to the immediate interests of womankind, and the 'Children's Corner,' which has been the start to newspaper reading during the last half-century of so many of Canada's most enlightened and aggressive citizens. These departments are both interesting and valuable. Reason number four is good.

So much for reasons positive, all good, and surely sufficient in themselves to make the price seem trivial in comparison to the value received in return. But there are other reasons which apply more particularly to homes where young people are growing up.

V. Advertising that is indecently worded or fraudulent, offering things harmful to body, mind or soul, or are in any way calculated to injure the reader are carefully excluded from the columns of the 'Witness.' To do this means to sacrifice between thirty thousand and fifty thousand dollars every year.

If the 'Witness' regards the interests of its readers so carefully, while other newspapers care so little for their welfare that they practically put in everything the law allows, surely the 'Witness' will be valued above such other papers, especially by those upon whom rests the responsibility of the upbringing of young people. Reason number five is good.

VI. Sensationalism—one of the most fruitful causes of outward crime and inward sin, is the sensational press, though this is little realized. The most disgusting details of murders and other fearful crimes are set forth in a highly colored and exaggerated way by a certain stamp of modern journalism, and the result, as the poet has it:

'Vice is a monster of so dreadful mien,  
As to be hated needs but to be seen,  
But seen too oft, familiar with her face,  
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.'

Yes, the absence of sensationalism, of what is now known as 'yellow journalism,' should be one of the attractive features of the 'Wit-

ness.' A clean paper is the best for a clean home. Reason number six is good.

VII. One reason more—some papers are partizan, and most people like a paper that has only good things to say for the party it serves, the party of their choice. And some papers are as negative, as dumb as possible concerning anything on which there is a difference of opinion, fearful lest they should lose subscribers, and we regret to say it, only speak out when they deem it in the interests of their business to do so. The party paper is far and away preferable to the other class of journal referred to, but neither of them can compare with a journal which strives only to give people the truth regardless of party or pocketbook, and is absolutely independent of either. A sincerely independent paper is the best for those who want to know the real truth. Reason number seven is good.

A great many 'Messenger' subscribers take either the Daily or the 'Weekly Witness,' and know the foregoing to be true. If such would cut it out and send it with the 'Offers, New and Old,' below, to some friend who does not take the 'Witness,' they would do the publishers a great favor, and their friend a true kindness. To introduce the 'Witness' into a home, especially one where young people are growing up, is a good thing to do.

## Offers New and Old.

Last week we offered the 'Daily Witness' for one month and a copy of 'In His Steps,' for 26c, or the 'Daily Witness' to the end of the year and a copy of 'In His Steps,' for 57c, or the 'Daily Witness' to Jan. 1, 1900, and a copy of 'In His Steps,' for \$3.00. These offers are, of course, still open.

We want to add another. We will send the 'Weekly Witness' to the end of the year and a copy of 'In His Steps,' for 26c, or the 'Weekly Witness' to Jan. 1, 1900, and a copy of 'In His Steps,' for \$1.00.

We cannot imagine better value in the way of Daily and Weekly Newspapers than the foregoing. The best is the cheapest. The 'Witness' is the best.

Those who send in subscriptions before the twentieth of September, mentioning the offer, will also receive one of the 'Witness' red, white and blue temperance calendars for the month of September.

Address, JOHN DOUGALL & SON,

Publishers, Montreal.

## NORTHERN MESSENGER.

One yearly subscription, 30c.

Three or more to different addresses, 25c each.

Ten or more to one address, 20c each.

When addressed to Montreal City, Great Britain and Postal Union countries, 50c postage must be added for each copy; United States and Canada free of postage. Special arrangements will be made for delivering packages of 10 or more in Montreal. Subscribers residing in the United States can remit by Post Office Money Order on Rouses Point, N.Y. or Express Money Order payable in Montreal.

Sample package supplied free on application:

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,  
Publishers, Montreal.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.



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All business communications should be addressed 'John Dougall & Son,' and all letters to the editor should be addressed Editor of the 'Northern Messenger.'