

GOD BLESS THE FARM.

God bless the farm—the dear old farm—
 God bless it every rood!
 Where willing hearts and sturdy arms
 Can earn an honest livelihood—
 Can from the coarse and fertile soil
 Win back a recompense for toil!

God bless each meadow, field and nook,
 By-lined with fairest flowers;
 And every leaf that's gently shook
 By evening breeze or morning showers—
 God bless them all—each's leaf's a gem
 In Nature's gorgeous diadem.

The orchards, that in early spring,
 Blush rich in fragrant flowers,
 And with each autumn surely bring
 Their wealth of fruit in golden showers,
 Like pomegranates on Aaron's rod—
 A miracle from Nature's God.

And may he bless the farmer's home,
 When peace and plenty reign;
 No happier spot 'neath heaven's high dome
 Does this broad, bounteous earth contain,
 Then where, secure from care or strife,
 The farmer spends his peaceful life.

Unwearyed by toil and tricks for gain,
 He turns the fertile mould;
 Then scatters on the golden grain,
 And reaps reward a hundred fold—
 He dwells where grace and beauty charm,
 For God hath blessed his home and farm.
 —Exchange.

OUR PERIODICALS.

PER YEAR—POSTAGE FREE.

The best, the cheapest, the most interesting, the most popular.

Christian Guardian, weekly	\$2.00
Methodist Magazine, Sept. monthly, 12 issues, 12 parts, 12 issues, 12 parts, 12 issues, 12 parts	2.00
Methodist Magazine and Guardian, 12 issues, 12 parts, 12 issues, 12 parts, 12 issues, 12 parts	3.50
The Wesleyan, Halifax, weekly	2.00
Sunday School Banner, 32 issues, 12 parts, 12 issues, 12 parts, 12 issues, 12 parts	0.60
Canadian Leaf, quarterly, 4 issues, 12 parts, 12 issues, 12 parts, 12 issues, 12 parts	0.60
Canadian Leaf, 12 issues, 12 parts, 12 issues, 12 parts, 12 issues, 12 parts	0.60
Home and School, 46 issues, fortnightly, single copies	0.50
Less than 20 copies	0.25
Over 20 copies	0.22
Pleasant Hours, 46 issues, fortnightly, single copies	0.50
Less than 20 copies	0.25
Over 20 copies	0.22
Sunday School, fortnightly, less than 20 copies	0.15
20 copies and upwards	0.12
Happy Days, fortnightly, less than 20 copies	0.15
20 copies and upwards	0.12
Beverly Leaf, monthly, 100 copies per month	5.50

Address: WILLIAM BRIGGS,
 Methodist Book & Publishing House,
 74 & 80 King St. East, Toronto.

C. W. COATES, 3 Hurry Street, Montreal.
 S. F. HICKS, Wesleyan Book Room, Halifax, N. S.

Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK.
 Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 30, 1886.

"COME UNTO ME."

MANY persons think that Jesus lives a great way off in a place called heaven, and believe that if we pray to him often and labour to do good he will bestow his Holy Spirit to comfort us and to awaken in us the hope that when our earthly labours cease we may dwell with him in heaven. Most persons, even if they do not say so, certainly think so. But Jesus plainly says, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." By this he means that he will give joy to our souls and peace from all our evil thoughts and desires. Then all uneasiness that troubles and all discord that disturbs comes alone through sin. Jesus will take this all away from us, and in its place give us peace and life, but only on the condition that we come unto him.

What shall keep us from going to the blessed Saviour at once after we have heard his sweet words of invita-

tion! Our unbelief is always in the way. Unbelief comes to us under many smooth-sounding names. One of them is called *ignorance*; and it says, "I do not know in what way I must come to Jesus." Another time it comes under the name of *timidity*; and it says, "I fear I shall not be accepted;" or *caution* says, "If I do come to Jesus I may in the end again fall away."

Do not through any such temptations of Satan as these be led away from the dear Saviour, who gave his life that we might be brought from death unto life.

A little blind girl was once taken to an asylum for the blind for one year. Her mother went to visit her once during the time. Without speaking a word she entered the room where the girl was, and seated herself near her. She moved gently nearer and nearer; and at length she put her hand on the girl's head. The child took hold of it and cried out, "Oh, I know you! I know you, mother!"

Thus the Saviour stands unseen near every one of you, children, and leaves the blessings of his hand rest upon every one of your heads. Take hold of it and hold it fast. You will then, with certainty, soon be enabled to say to him, "I know you."

THE NEW JERUSALEM.

REVELATION 21: 16 reads, "And he measured the city with a reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal." Twelve thousand furlongs equal 7,920,000 feet, which being cubed are 496,793,028,000,000,000 cubic feet. Half of this we will reserve for the throne of God and the court of heaven, and half the balance for streets, leaving a remainder of 124,198,272,000,000,000,000 cubic feet. Divide this by 4,096, the number of cubic feet in a room sixteen feet each way, and there will be 30,321,843,750,000,000 rooms.

We will now suppose the world always did and always will contain 990,000,000 inhabitants, and that a generation lasts thirty-three and a third years, making in all 2,970,000,000 every century, and that the world will stand 100,000 years, or 1,000 centuries, making in all 2,970,000,000,000 inhabitants. Then suppose there were 100 worlds equal to this in number of inhabitants and duration of years, making a total of 297,000,000,000,000, and there would be more than a hundred rooms sixteen feet square for each person.

Christ said, "In my father's house there are many mansions." There is a mansion for every one who will go to Jesus and procure a title. We hope each of our many young readers will be able to read his title clear to mansions in the skies.

VALUE OF SUNLIGHT.

DR. RICHARDSON, a London physician of authority in sanitary matters, says that no house is so likely to be unhealthy as a dark and gloomy house. In a dark and gloomy house you can never see the dirt that pollutes it. Dirt accumulates on dirt; and the mind soon learns to apologise for this condition because gloom conceals it. Flowers will not healthily bloom in a dark house; and flowers are, as a rule, good indices. We put the flowers in



THE AGASSIZ SOCIETY.

our windows that they may see the light. Are not our children worth many flowers? They are the choicest of flowers. Then, again, light is necessary in order that the animal spirits may be kept refreshed and invigorated.

THE AGASSIZ SOCIETY.

BY ALICE HOPEFUL.

"WILL MOORE says every boy should belong to 'The Agassiz;' but I don't think it does a boy any good, do you, Murray? I don't know why they call it 'The Agassiz.'"

"Well, Ned, that is one reason you should belong, and I think every town should have an Agassiz class. I, for one, think a great deal of that wonderful man, who did so much for science," said Murray Boyer, a bright boy about fifteen years of age.

"Was it a man they named 'The Agassiz' after?" asked Ned.

"Yes; a man who spent much time in the study of natural objects. We call all these societies after him. The object of these classes is to study and obtain knowledge about the every-day object we see around us."

"Do you really learn anything, Murray?"

"Yes, indeed! The other evening we learned something about the burrowing owl, prairie dog, and rattlesnake. Now, Ned, tell me the truth. Do you know anything about these queer specimens of animal life?"

"No, I do not. But why take these three together?"

"That is what we learned, and I will tell you what I found out that night. Though not one is related to any of the others—beast, bird, and reptile—yet all live in the same underground home, something like a woodchuck's hole. Trappers and Indians who have watched their customs say that the owls keep house for the dogs, while the rattlesnake is a sort of a gentleman boarder, occasionally making a meal of one of the children if he gets hungry before dinner is ready.

"The prairie dog, as we frequently hear it called, is not a dog, but belongs to the marmot. The marmots come under the division of animals called mammals, which is one of the four divisions of the vertebrate family. The term vertebrate is applied to all animals which have a back-bone, or a succession of small bones called vertebrae.

The marmots are found in large numbers along the Missouri River and its tributaries. They will gather together where the soil is such that they can easily burrow; for the marmot is a burrowing animal. They so tunnel the ground where they live that it

looks like a honeycomb. An odd thing about these dog towns is the streets, which the little marmot leaves by not burrowing all the ground in his little village. One dog generally acts as a leader, and when the other dogs come out he gives the signal of danger, and back go the little marmots to their homes under the ground.

"Though the burrows made by the marmots are inhabited by the burrowing owl and rattlesnake, it is not to be supposed that this queer family enjoys each other's society. Almost all students of natural history say that the marmot has no choice in the matter, and that their dominions are invaded by these strange visitors because they do not like the trouble of burrowing. The owl and the marmot could live quite harmoniously together, but neither care for Mr. Rattlesnake.

"If the burrowing owl alights in a country where the marmots have not been, he burrows with his claws and bill. Mr. Owl belongs to the bird family, which is another division of the vertebrates. The burrowing owl is not a nocturnal bird, but goes out in the bright sunshine. Its cry is a short bark, very much like the marmot's.

"In this strange family we have still another division of the vertebrates, called the reptiles. To this family belongs the poisonous rattlesnake. He belongs to the viperine snakes, which is called the *crotalidae*. The rattlesnake is native of North America, and takes its name from the peculiar way in which the tail terminates. It is furnished at the end with a number of loose joints, which rattle when the snake is annoyed or angry. It is supposed that these joints show the age of the snake."

"Well, Murray, I do think you learn something at The Agassiz, and I think I will join your society."—*S. S. Herald.*

THE EYES.

NEVER read in bed or in a reclining attitude; it provokes a tension of the optic nerve very fatiguing to the eyesight. An exchange says, "Bathe your eyes daily in salt-water—not salt enough, though, to cause a smarting sensation. Nothing is more strengthening; and we have known several persons who after using this simple remedy several weeks had put aside the spectacles they had used for years, and did not resume them—continuing, of course, the oft-repeated daily use of salt-water. Never force your eyesight to read or work in insufficient or too broad light. Reading with the sun upon one's book is mortally injurious to the eyes."