

sands of souls every year. His hands cannot be clean. He has intimate fellowship with the works of darkness and with the workers of iniquity. He is a stumbling block in the way of God's little children.

I am reminded of the case of a Church member, a brewer, who, with mistaken kindness, persuaded a fellow member, a widow, to take charge of a public-house for a living. At the end of a year she returned the key, saying, 'Well, sir, you may be able to be a Christian and have a brewery, but I cannot be a Christian and keep a public-house.' Is it not time the Church said to all makers and sellers and shareholders, 'You cannot be office bearers of any sort?' The individual conscience has in numerous instances compelled men to give up the trade, to withdraw from breweries and distilleries, and refuse grocers' licenses; and even, as lawyers, decline to invest money in the trade for their clients, and it seems reasonable that these should now be supported by the conscience of the whole Church.

Of course, it would sooner or later be required, for consistency's sake, that the members should also not be users of drink. The Divine logic would not stop short of that. But, in the meantime, it must be remembered that all along the line, in the fight against custom, love of gain, pride, appetite, and indifference, there will be constant need for patience and gentleness and love. We have brothers to convince and win; and we must give 'due care and labor' to do it. But we cannot wait for ever. As the gentle 'caution' of the Friends passed into 'censure' and 'prohibition' and 'denial of membership,' so will it have to be in the near future. Then will come a day of glorious prosperity.

Correspondence

East Pubnico, N.S.

Dear Editor,—I have three sisters and one brother. My sisters' names are Lena, Gertie and Edna, and my little brother's name is Ralph. I have a pet cat. We call him Tom. I go to school every day, and I am in the second reader. My teacher's name is Miss Ellenwood. I go to Sunday-school every Sunday. The church is near our house. I am eight years old. My birthday is on November 23.

HAZEL O. L.

Redvers, Assa.

Dear Editor,—Since I have not seen any letters from young people of our district, I thought I would tell you a little about our place. We have a quarter-section of land, four horses whose names are Bob, Bill, Bess and Jasper, a cow, a heifer, seventeen hens and a dog named Carlo, and three cats named Judy, Topsy and Tig. We have only about twelve acres broken, but we expect to break more next spring. I am ten years old, and go to school in the summer. It is four miles away, and therefore too far to go in the winter season. We have taken the 'Messenger' a long time and think it a fine paper.

EMMA M.

Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Editor,—We get the 'Northern Messenger' in our Sunday-school. I like it very much. I thought I would write and tell about Sea Island, B.C. I suppose there are some little boys and girls who have not heard of such a place. Sea Island is a small island at the mouth of the Frazer river, it is about eight miles from the flourishing city of Vancouver. There are about fifty families. We had about two weeks' snow this winter; we don't often have snow in this part of British Columbia, but we have a great deal of rain. I go to school every day. I am in the second reader. I go to Sabbath-school also and to church. GERTIE R. (aged 9).

Bainville, Ont.

Dear Editor,—This is the first year we have taken the 'Messenger.' It was given to me as a Christmas present from my aunt and I like reading the children's letters very much. I go to school and study in the third reader. I study geography, grammar and arithmetic. I have one little sister called Ethel. She is five years old, and she will be going to school with me this summer. We have not far to go, and we like our teacher very much. I live on a farm close to the beautiful River St. Lawrence, and it is very

pleasant in summer, and we can see the boats passing up and down. I have not many pets, but I am learning to knit and to sew very well.

GRACE H. S. (aged 8).

Brantford, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am so glad the spring is coming when you can hear the birds sing. Father has taken the 'Messenger' for over two years and I like it very well. He said that the paper would be mine. I go to school every day and our teacher has been sick, so we had to have another teacher. We learn geography, history, hygiene, reading, spelling, drawing and writing, and literature. I like drawing and literature the best. We have a fire drill at school, the Principal rings the bell, and we jump up and run down the stairs and form in line in the yard. I like it very much. I like reading the correspondence the best, but the other stories are very nice. Brantford is quite a big city, the population is over 16,000 people. I have three brothers and one sister. My youngest brother and sister are just getting over the whooping cough. I have about three-quarters of a mile to walk to school. There was a little girl wrote and said her birthday was on July 16, my brother's birthday is then. I am twelve years old. My birthday is on October 12. Father said he would get me a watch when I was 13 years old.

HELEN M.

Crosshill, Ont.

Dear Editor,—This is my first letter to the 'Northern Messenger.' I enjoy reading the stories and correspondence. I live on a farm. I go to school nearly every day, am in the senior fourth book. My chum at school is Ella M. Rannie. My teacher's name is Mr. R. J. Barrett. I like him very much. I was at a couple of taffy-pulls already this winter. I like nothing more than to go and eat taffy and have all the fun I want. This is a great country for making maple syrup and farming. I have read quite a number of books this winter, some of which I will mention:—'Market Handkerchief,' 'Tony the Tramp,' 'The Village Shoemaker,' 'Lady Elfrid's Escape,' and 'Follow Jesus,' and a number more which I cannot think of. I go to the Presbyterian Sunday-school every Sunday afternoon.

NORAH S. (aged 12).

London, Ont.

Dear Editor,—As I have seen no letters from London, Ont., I must try and represent this place as best I can. We get the 'Messenger' at Sunday-school and prize it very much. I love to read the letters of the boys and girls on the correspondence page, especially the little ones' letters. In my letter I do not want to tell about my sisters and brothers, pets, etc., but I do want to say that I have a very cute little sister, and a nice, intelligent pet spaniel, whose name is Sport. I am collecting stamps, and take a great interest in others who collect also. I wonder if any who read the 'Messenger' collect. I have about 300 different foreign stamps. I also paint and draw as I have taken lessons for quite a while. I went to our church two or three weeks ago and heard an illustrated lecture on Ireland. I had no notion of the beauty and wealth of Ireland before I saw this illustrated lecture. I am in the high fourth reader, and I study quite a lot. I have read a lot, but as I have read so many books I can't say which author I like the best. All the boys around here are playing marbles and the girls skip. Next summer I am going to take a trip to New Brunswick. About three years ago I was down in Arkansas, near Little Rock. I would like to correspond with 'Snow-shoes' as he belongs to the Maple Leaf Club, and I do also. My address is:—Arnot Orton, 312 Picadilly street, London, Ont.

Glen Levit.

Dear Editor,—I have not seen many letters from Glen Levit. My sister has taken the 'Messenger' for over six years; we all like reading it very well. I have three pets, a dog and two cats. The dog's name is Busko. I live two miles from school. My teacher's name is Miss Robinson. I like her very well. I am in the fourth book. I study grammar, history and geography. I wonder if any other boy or girl's birthday is the same as mine, February 24.

OLIVIA L. G. (aged 13).

Victoria Harbor.

Dear Editor,—As I did not see any letters from Victoria Harbor, I thought I would write one. Three years ago I and my papa were at Cape Breton, and I had a very good time. I had to sleep on the train three nights, and when I was coming home I got sick and that nearly spoiled my trip. This is the first time I wrote, and I will write some time again. I am in the senior third I am 11 years old. My birthday is on the last day of August, and there is a little gin out in the country is the same age as I am I have two brothers and no sisters.

CARRIE MACM.

Sharps.

Dear Editor,—I live on a farm. We are two miles from a store, and seven miles from the station. We have three pigs, two horses, six cows and three head of young cattle. We have three sheep and twenty hens. My pets are one cow and two hens and a cat. I have a mile and a half to walk to school. I am in the second book. Our teacher is Miss Ganong. I have two sisters and no brothers. My sister takes the 'Messenger.' She likes it very much and reads all the correspondence.

NEWTON S.

[We sympathize with Newton for the way he was treated when he sold the goods for the firm mentioned. We cannot, however, print that part of his letter here. It is always well to be careful about answering these kinds of advertisements.—Editor.]

Campobello, N.B.

Dear Editor,—I receive the 'Messenger' at our Sabbath-school, and enjoy the letters from the boys and girls. The scenes and travels described by them from time to time have led me to send an encouraging word. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than to know the little folks are interested in Sabbath-schools and good literature. Many boys and girls tell of beautiful scenery, so I will tell you where I live. I live on an island which tourists seek in summer and think very beautiful. I will not weary you with my letter by writing more. Let us be faithful in our mission to God on earth, and at last receive the promised reward.

N. M.

Santa Cruz, California.

Dear Editor,—My aunt in Canada sends the 'Northern Messenger' to my sister. Santa Cruz is a little country town situated about one hundred miles from San Francisco. About seven miles north of Santa Cruz is a grove of gigantic red-wood trees. These trees are many feet around and very high. Most of them are named from our Presidents or famous generals. This town is on the coast, and in summer we have great fun going in bathing, and wading in the bay. We never have snow or ice here, so I do not know what it would be to go sleigh-riding or skating. We do not have much fun in winter, but in summer we go on picnics into the woods and up the coast. I like to read very much, and my favorite author is Miss Alcott. I have got a great many books from our library. I would like a girl correspondent about my own age, which is thirteen.

WINIFRED BOWEN,

18 Kennan Street,

Santa Cruz,

California.

Eden, Thorah,

Dear Editor,—We still take the 'Messenger' for the Sunday-school, and we all like it very much, and I liked that story in it about 'Twenty Percent.' The Sunday-school took up a collection for the Sick Children's Hospital, and also our teacher took up one for the public school. We were all glad when school opened after Christmas, because we have still our same teacher and we all like him very much. His name is Mr. W. A. Cameron.

CASSIE A. J.

Expiring Subscriptions.

Would each subscriber kindly look at the address tag on this paper? If the date thereon is May, 1902, it is time that the renewals were sent in so as to avoid losing a single copy. As renewals always date from the expiry of the old subscriptions, subscribers lose nothing by remitting a little in advance.