

old Fort Garry. He was their trusted and loved friend through all the dark days, and dark days they were, for Riel threatened many with death, and at last had Thomas Scott put to death. It was not long before the Canadian and British Governments sent the Northwest Expedition, under command of Lord Wolsley, to put down the rebellion. The soldiers arrived in Winnipeg on August 24th, 1870. Mr. Young had a big sign, "Welcome," put up over the bell frame, and he personally welcomed Lord Wolsley, and the bell—the only one in the town—rang loud and long to welcome the soldiers of the Queen, who had arrived for the protection of the people of the Northwest.

George Young was a great pioneer, for a pioneer is someone who goes ahead, removes obstacles and prepares the way for others. He was a pioneer farmer, preacher, builder, explorer and the pioneer of our Methodist education in the West.

When, in 1876, he left Winnipeg for Ontario, he received two addresses—one from the citizens of Winnipeg, and the other from those who had been prisoners in old Fort Garry. Both addresses were an appreciation of his ship, his loyalty, his unselfishness, his bravery, and his kindness during the rebellion days.

In 1879 people were flocking to the Northwest, and again came a call for men. Mr. Young answered the call, left a city church, and for the second time became a pioneer preacher. This time he began work at Emerson. While there he was surprised by a present from the trustees of Grace Church, Winnipeg; it was the old bell, the first in Emerson.

After three years at Emerson, Dr. Young returned to older Canada and visited the Maritime Provinces. In 1882 he returned again to the West as Superintendent of Missions. For ten more years he worked as a pioneer among the pioneers, then in 1892, after he had been in active service for fifty years under his great Captain he returned to Ontario, where he spent the last years of his long life. "Sunny Jim" was the nickname of one of his very intimate old friends called him, he was so sunshiny and happy.

The first hymn he learned when a very little boy on his grandfather's farm was, "A charge to keep I have." It became his life hymn, and he faithfully kept the charge God gave him.

I was going to tell you he died in Toronto on August 1st, 1910, but he did not die—he went home to God.

I have not told you in this letter all I told John about Dr. Young. John is now one of the soldiers fighting for our King and country, and I know he is a better soldier for having known about Dr. Young, the pioneer missionary to our Canadian Northwest.

ANNIE D. STEPHENSON.

"Manitoba Memories," by Dr. George Young, will be loaned for 25c. at price \$1.

A picture of Dr. Young, suitable for framing, will be sent free to all Junior Leagues on application to F. C. Stephenson, Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto.

#### JULY 4.—THE BAPTISM.—Mark 1: 1-9.

A short time before the birth of Christ there was born to Zacharias and Elizabeth, who was a cousin of the mother of Jesus, a son. Before his birth, an angel of the Lord appeared to Zacharias and told him that his son was to be called "John," and that he would have a special work to do. His work was to make the way ready for the coming of Jesus.

While Jesus was living His quiet life at Nazareth, John was being taught and prepared by the Holy Spirit for the great mission awaiting him. He spent most of his time in the wilderness, where he could pray, and think, and learn of God, without distraction. He was dressed in a

coarse garment woven of camel's hair, and lived on the locusts and wild honey he found in his desert home.

When John was about thirty years old, God called him to his work. He began to preach, and when the people heard of him thousands came to hear his message. He told the people if they wanted to belong to the kingdom of God they must repent of their sins and turn to God. His one great theme was repentance. All those who were converted by the truths which John preached were baptized by him in the river Jordan. It was on the banks of the Jordan that he did his preaching. Because he well knew that of John's work he was called "John the Baptist."

The people from all the country round flocked to hear John preach. A great many confessed their sins and were baptized. John told them their repentance must be sincere; they must not only confess their sins, but must also prove their repentance by their actions. When there came to him the Pharisees and Sadducees—men who made great pretence of religion, but were not sincere and humble—he reproved them very severely. When the tax-gatherers, who were called publicans, came to him, he told them to be honest and take no more than was just. His preaching was very earnest and powerful. It stirred up people's hearts. "Repent ye," he said, "for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

The people wondered whether this man, whom the religious consciences so strangely was the promised Christ; but John warned them that he was not. "I indeed," said he, "baptize you with water; but One mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose! He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire."

The same Jesus from His home in Nazareth. He, too, was now about thirty years of age. He appeared one day on the banks of the river Jordan, and asked John to baptize Him. John, who felt unworthy to baptize one so holy, answered, "I have need to be baptized of Thee, and comest thou to me?" John knew that Jesus was very good and did not need to be washed from sin, but Jesus answered that so it must be, so John baptized Him in the river.

As Christ went up again out of Jordan a wondrous thing happened. The Holy Spirit in the form of a dove, came down from heaven and rested upon Him, while out of heaven spoke the voice of God the Father, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Then John the Baptist knew that Jesus was the Son of God, and the great King whose way he had been sent to prepare.

This was the beginning of Christian baptism. After that people were baptized by the disciples of Jesus to show to the world that they belonged to Jesus Christ and believed in Him as their Saviour. The ministers of our Christian churches now administer baptism as a solemn ordinance instituted by our Saviour in His great command to His apostles when He sent them forth to evangelize the world.—H. M. B.

#### JULY 11.—HOLY, HOLY, HOLY.—Psalm 150.

The well-known hymn, "Holy, holy, holy," sung so often in our church services, was written by Rev. Reginald Heber, who afterwards became Bishop Heber. The story of his life is very interesting and should be told simply and briefly and in an attractive way to the juniors. The following facts will help the leader:—

Reginald Heber was born in Malpas, Cheshire, England, in 1783. He, like John Wesley, was brought up in a rectory, for his father was a minister. The first fourteen years of his life were spent at home

and at school in a neighboring town. In both places he was under the hourly influence of those whose wisdom and culture were directed by the love of God. His surroundings were those which should make a good boy and their uplifting influences were not lost on Heber, for from his early boyhood he was good and a credit to his parents and teachers.

At fifteen years of age he left home for a town in the neighborhood of London, where the clergyman trained him along with a few others. Here he was a tower of strength to weaker boys, who were encouraged by him to shun vice and idleness. He was well liked and popular among the boys, and had a good influence over them. He was very fond of reading, and when quite young showed literary talent.

At Oxford, where John Wesley many years before went to college, Heber received his education. After he graduated from here he was ordained, and became rector of the parish of Hodnet, where he spent fifteen very happy years.

He was deeply interested in missionary work, and wrote our best known missionary hymn, "From Greenland's icy mountains," which comes to our ears for a later date. Because of his interest in missions he was appointed, upon the death of the former Bishop, Bishop of Calcutta. This necessitated his going to India, where he labored till his death. A great deal has been told of his grand and noble life here, of the many hardships he had to overcome, of his patience, unselfishness and kindness toward the native people, who came to love him very much and missed him greatly after his death. He died suddenly at the early age of forty-three.

The hymn, "Holy, holy, holy," is one of the grandest and most majestic in Protestant hymnology. It cannot be sung without giving both the singer and the listener (if one can listen to it without singing it) the feeling of the majesty and greatness of the Almighty. I would impress this fact on the minds of the juniors and try and help them to understand it, so that they will appreciate it when singing it. God is so great and wonderful, and does such marvelous things we feel we must worship Him and reverently bow down before Him. Very often we forget God and are apt to take all the wonderful things He has given us to make our world beautiful as matters of course. We have always had them, and we forget that it is God who has made them all and given them to us. Let us try and remember that the sun, the trees, the birds, the grass, the flowers and all the other beautiful things we see in our world were made by the delightful and happy plan in which to live, are the works of God, and let us thank Him often for them.—H. M. B.

#### Bible Contest

Writing from Alvinston, Miss Louise Park says:—"We held a Bible contest not only that we might increase our membership, but that our Leaguers and their friends might become more familiar with gems from the Scriptures.

"The League was divided into two divisions, a lady leading one side and a gentleman the other. Fifteen points were given for each member present at each religious service, twenty-five for each new member, and thirty-five for recitations of the Commandments, 23rd Psalm, Books of the Bible, Beatitudes.

The race was keenly contested and interest maintained throughout. At the close a social evening was held, at which the losing side provided the programme.

"We have had a very successful year, our active membership being increased fifty per cent., and deep enthusiasm for League work aroused."