## HOME AND SCHOOL.

#### The New Year.

• The frosty night wind hurries on The strengers' lagging feet, And, for a moment, in the hush The Old and New Year meet; And one goes back to God again, And one stays on for joy or pain.

And he who stays looks for thy face And finds thee in the night, And with swift arms encircles thee, And claims thee his by right; And no one else can come so near To thee as he, the Stranger Year.

He will abide his time with thee— His own till death do part; Therefore receive him tenderly And take him to thy heart, Not grudgingly, as one who must, But generously with love and trust.

Be not afraid to give thyself Into his guiding hands; For he will lead through day or dark, To rough or pleasant lands, And he will give thes fight or rest, The shine or shade, as shall be best.

Respond to every word of his With faith that does not fear; Another speaks to thee through him, For God is in the Year; Oh, love him, for he comes to bless Thy life with good and happiness. —Marianne Farningham.

#### Alfred the Great.

<u>.</u>

A THOUSAND years ago, a royal lady, in one of the rush-atrewn halls of her rude English palace, one day read aloud to her children from a written book of Saxon poetry.

One of that group was a boy named Alfred, who eagerly listened to the stories his mother read. Holding out the book in her hand, she promised to give it to whichever of her sons should first learn to read.

Though twelve years of age, and the son of a king, Alfred had not yet been taught to read. Such, however, was his desire to gain the prize, that he at once set to work to master his letters.

Steadily persevering in his task, while his brothers were at play, he was ere long able to read the book, and with great joy he received it as his reward. That boy afterwards became King of England. He is known as Alfred the Great.

At the age of twenty-three he became king. During the greater part of his reign, he was engaged in fierce struggles with the Danes and other Northmen, who invaded the eastern counties of England.

In 878 these invaders arrived in such large numbers, that the people fied before them. Deserted by his subjects, Alfred was obliged to hide himself from his enemies. Disguised as a common soldier, he took refuge in the humble cottage of a cow-herd.

One day, while sitting polishing his bow and pointing his arrows, the peasant's wife set him to watch some cakes the had put before the fire to bake. Returning shortly afterwards, she found him lost in thought, and the cakes burning on the hearth. Soolding him for his supposed carelesaness, she

told him that he was good at eating cakes, but bad at turning them.

The good woman was very much alarmed when she afterwards learned that she had scolded her king; but Alfred rewarded both her and her husband for their kindness to him in his time of need.

Having again collected his followers, Alfred determined to attack the Danes. Disguised as a harper, he visited their camp. The soldiers orowded around him, and were delighted with his playing and singing. He saw all the defences of the camp; and, from the leader's talk with his friends, he found out all his plans.

Two days afterwards, Alfred and his little army attacked the Danes with such force that they swept all before them, and Alfred was once more the master of his kingdom.

Alfred was always very kind to the poor, and he set aside an eighth of his income to supply their wants. On one occasion, when he had been defeated by his enemies, he retired to a castle in an out-of-the-way place.

Here a beggar called, and asked for alms. On inquiry, the king was told that his followers were away endeavouring to obtain a supply of food, and that there was but one loaf in the castle.

Taking the loaf in his hand, the king broke it in two, and gave the beggar one of the halves, saying that not one of his people should starve while he had a crust to divide with them.

A THING to be thankful for is that God so sifts our prayers that only the right ones are answered. If all the foolish ones were granted we should have unspeakable suffering.

# The Methodist Magazine FOR 1890.

Volumes XXXI. and XXXII.; 1,200 pages, with 300 Fine Engravings.

### \$2.00 A YEAR; \$1.00 FOR SIX MONTHS.

GUARDIAN or WESLEYAN and MAGAZINE together for \$3 50.

"The Canadian Church is to be heartily congratulated on its Magazine."--London Quarterly Review.

Illustrated Articles.

1. LADY BRASSEY'S "LAST YOYAGE." One of the most sumptuously illustrated books ever published (price \$7.85), with 116 of its exquisite engravings. It describes, in a very graphic manner, Life and Adventure in India and Ceylon, in Burmah, Singapore, Borneo, Celebes, Australia and New Guinea.

H. CANADIAN TOURIST PARTY IN EUROPE. It will describe, with over 100 Engravings: "The City and Lake of Geneva."

"Constance, and Martyr Memories of Jerome and Huss."

"The Rigi and the Lake of the Four Forest Cantons."

"The St. Gotthard Pass."

"From the Adriatic to the Danube."

"Tyrol and the Tyrolese." "From Innepruck to Constance." " Inthe Black Forest." " In Rhine Land." " Heidelberg and Frankfort, " etc.

-----

III. LANDS OF THE BIBLE,

#### By Rev. Geo. Bond, M.A.

With nearly 100 fine engravings. It will include:

"On Horseback through Palestine." "The Eye of the East-Damascus and Thereabouts."

"Over the Lebanons."

"In the Track of St. Panl -Smyrna and Ephesus, Athens and Corinth," etc. "The Mount of the Law-Sinai and the Desert."

"Two Famous Philistine Cities-Ashdod and Gaza."

"Petra, the Rock City."

"Calvary, the Traditional and the True." With graphic pictures of the Jordan Valley, Cana, Shechem, Nazareth, Samaria, Nain, Tabor, Tiberias, the Sea of Galilee, the Lebanon Range, Damascus, Petra, the Sinaitic Peninsula, etc., etc. Also: "Napoleon at St. Helena."

"California and the Yosemite." By Rev.

Hugh Johnston, D.D. "Norway and its People." By Prof. Cole-

man, Ph.D. "Choice Bits of Thuringia." By E. C.

Walton. "Round about England." Second Series.

"In Alaska." By Hon. Senator Macdonald. Etc., etc.

#### SOCIAL PROGRESS.

On this subject several important articles will be given, including:

"Woman's Missionary Societies;" "Modern Deaconesses;" "The Sisters of the People," by "One of Them"; "The W. C. T. U. and its Work;" "Woman's Work for Women in Pagan Lands," by Joseph Cook; "Applied Christianity," by Washington Gladden, D.D.; "Octavia Hill and her Work," by Helen Campbell; "Prison Reform," by M. Lavell, M.D., Warden of Kingston Penitentiary; "Mission Work among Degraded Populations," by Hon. Senator Macdonald; "Honest Doubt," by the Rev. John Bond; "A Narrative Sketch," by E. A. Stafford, D.D., LL.D.; "Estrangement from the Church, its Cause and Cure." by Bishop Hurst.

Also articles by Dr. Carman, Dr. Johnston, Prof. Shaw, Dr. Stafford, Dr. Douglas, Hugh Price Hughes, the late Dr. Nelles, Dr. Dallinger, W. S. Blackstock, and other of the leading writers of Methodism.

#### "CHARACTER SKETCHES."

"Kant End Stories;" "Leaves from my Log;" "Jack," a temperance story; "Nor'ard of the Dogger;" "Sam Hobart;" "Billy Bray;" "Fred Douglass and the Underground Railway;" "A Captain of Industry —Thomas Brassey," by Prof. Goldwin Smith; and Short Stories by A. E. Barr, M. Guy Pearse, Rose Terry Cooke, and others. "The Martyr of the Desert,"—Pro. Palmer; "A Model Missionary's Wife;" "A Forgotten Queen;" "A Nova Scotia Missionary among the Cannibals;" "The First Methodist Society;" "The Nun of Jouarre;" "A Royal Log," etc.

#### SERIAL STORIES.

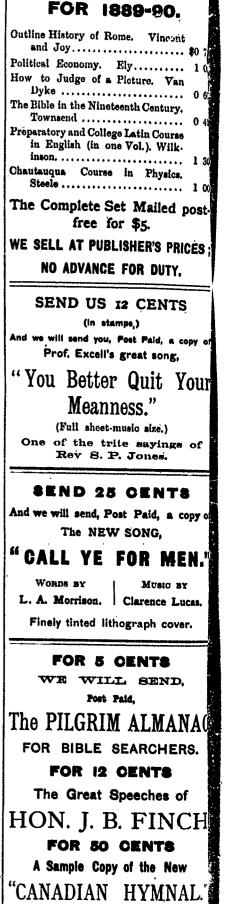
A feature of very special interest will be a couple of serial stories of great literary merit and pronounced character.

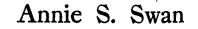
"Kathleen Clare," an Irish story of blended humour and pathos.

"Master of his Fate," a story of Yorkshire Methodiam, by that popular writer, Mrs. Amelia E. Barr.

WILLIAM BRIGGS, METHODIET PUBLISHING HOUSE.

C. W. COATES, MONTERAL, QUE. S. F. HUESTIS, HALIFAX, N.S.





Have you all the Works of this Popular Authoress? If not, send to us, the Canadian Publishers, for the Price-list.

WILLIAM BRIGGS, 29 to 38 Richmond St. West, 30 to 36 Temperanor St., Toronto. C. W. CUATES, Montreal, Que. S. F. HUESTIS, Halifax, N.S.

# C.L.S.C. BOOKS