

Our God is Marching On.

The light of truth is breaking, on the mountain-tops it gleams;
Let it flash along our valleys, let it glitter on our streams,
Till all our land awakens in its flush of golden beams.

Our God is marching on.

With purpose strong and steady, in the great Jehovah's name,
We rise to snatch our kindred from the depths of woe and shame.
And the jubilee of freedom to the slave of sin proclaim.

Our God is marching on.

Our strength is in Jehovah, and our cause is in his care;

With Almighty hands to help us, we have faith to do and dare,

While confiding in his promise that the Lord will answer prayer.

Our God is marching on.

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Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK.

Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 26, 1887.

\$250,000
FOR MISSIONS
FOR THE YEAR 1887.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR LIBRARIES.

Some schools are adopting the practice of purchasing, instead of library-books, some interesting and instructive periodical. We beg to commend to the attention of such the *Methodist Magazine*, whose announcement appears on the last page. The articles on Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Asia Minor and other Bible-Lands will be of special interest to all Bible readers. Already a number of schools take this periodical in quantities, varying from two to ten, as being fresher, more interesting, and cheaper than library-books. Special rates will be given to schools, on application to the publisher, Rev. William Briggs, Methodist Book Room, 78 and 80 King Street East, Toronto.

AN EXPLANATION.

THE criticisms of this paper are almost without exception of the kindest character. A very rare exception occurs in a recent anonymous letter to the *Christian Guardian*. We think it has arisen from a misapprehension on the part of the writer. The following letter to the *Guardian* will explain itself:

DEAR SIR,—A sentence in an anonymous letter in the last *Guardian* opens my eyes in amazement to the fact that any one could interpret a picture in a late number of *PLEASANT HOURS* as tending "to strengthen the racing appetite." On the contrary, its very purpose was to expose the cruelty which I deem inseparable from racing. It is one of a series of cuts procured from the American Humane Society. The accompanying description is taken from the published report of that society. The purpose of republishing the series is to cultivate among our young people the spirit of kindness to animals. The brief article describes the "moral reformation" wrought in a famous horse by gentleness, and concludes: "Would that every master of the dumb brute creation could thus realize the almost omnipotent power of human kindness!" One might as justly say that a picture of the effects of drunkenness had a tendency "to strengthen the drinking appetite."

Yours,
W. H. WITHROW.

"THE GLAD TIDINGS."

In this number we give several extracts from *Glad Tidings*, an excellent little paper published by the Rev. W. W. Brewer, of St. John, N. B. It is brim full of the gospel and cannot fail to do much good where read. It costs only two cents a number, or 50 cents a year. Our friends cannot do better than subscribe for it, unless it be to send from \$1 to \$4 or \$5, for a large quantity to distribute gratuitously.

MISSION NOTES.

We devote a good deal of space in this number to missionary sketches and the like. The time is approaching when the special Christmas offerings and collections for missions will be made in our schools. The best way of keeping Christmas is to give something, as well as to receive. It is very gratifying that such progress is being made in the annual givings of our schools. During the last year these juvenile offerings have increased from \$20,762 to \$25,526—an increase of \$4,764. If a similar increase could be secured every year the schools would soon do something like their share of this great missionary effort. At present they raise about one-eighth of the income of the Missionary Society. In England the schools raise about one-third. If our schools would only do as well as the schools in Montreal they would soon do this. We have not last year's figures at hand, but the



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ALBANIAN CHIEF.

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year before the Sunday-schools in the Montreal District alone raised for missions \$4,475, or more than one-fourth of what was raised by all the other schools of the entire Methodist Church. This shows what can be done by systematic giving and collecting. Will not all our other schools try to imitate the missionary zeal of those in Montreal.

ALBANIAN CHIEF.

THE Albanians are a very warlike and turbulent people, who live on the Eastern shores of the Adriatic. Many of them are bandits and live by marauding. The bandit chief in our picture carries a whole arsenal of weapons in his girdle and an extraordinary long gun. His very voluminous skirt and other feminine finery he wears, seem to accord very ill with his otherwise martial appearance. An interesting article in the *Methodist Magazine* will describe these curious people and their curious ways.

THE CHILDREN FOR CHRIST.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me."

ONE of the most important duties in connection with evangelistic work is that of leading the young to decide for Christ,—work easier done and more blessed in its results than even that of leading adults to the Saviour.

The lambs of the flock need and will well repay us for any extra care.

We cannot too early urge them to give God their hearts. The sins from which they will be saved, the longer life to work for God, are advantages of the utmost importance.—*Glad Tidings*.

We thank the Editor of the *Orillia Packet*, one of the most interesting of our exchanges, for the following kind words: In an excellent paper on "Loyalty to our Methodist Sabbath-school Publications," read at the Strathroy District Sunday-school Convention, the Rev. W. J. Little clearly proves that the publications edited by the Rev. Dr. Withrow are superior to those issued by the pretentious Cook's Publishing House, in the United States. One reason which should, we think, have great weight, has been omitted. Canadian Methodists should be loyal to, because of the loyalty in, their own Sunday-school periodicals. Patriotism and loyalty to our Sovereign are Christian virtues which Dr. Withrow never fails to inculcate by precept and example.

Our Little Men and Women comes again with its twenty pages of stories and pictures for youngsters just beginning to read for themselves. Children ought to have as much fun in learning to read as in learning to skate. D. Lothrop Company, Boston, will send a sample copy for five cents in postage stamps; and they pay generously for getting subscribers.