

11. Questions.—Who were to make the trial first? Why? What special condition is repeated in v. 23... (1) As to the danger of trying to follow the world and God? (2) As to the power of heathen gods? (3) As to the cruelty of their worship?

Illustrations.—Hunting Deer.—Six young boys in a circle on the floor, they begin by chanting, and pronouncing twenty times each of the twenty nine names they have given to the deity, bowing each time, with a shout of "Hoo!" springing to their feet, holding each others' hands and dancing and howling in the most frantic manner, throwing off their outer garments, caps or turbans, beating tambourines, their eyes glowing more than fire, until they drop exhausted, as if dead. See Van Derlip's Bible Lands.



MUSLIM WORSHIPERS CUTTING HIMSELF LIKE THE HAIR PRIESTS

CHOOSE WHOM YE WILL SERVE

SACRED SONG.

It is remarkable that notwithstanding that David was a great warrior, the conqueror of the bear and lion in his youth, of Goliath when older, the Lord's enemies in middle age and old age, he is named now not after these things but the "sweet singer of Israel." In English history there are two kings who are the centre point of boyish curiosity and admiration, Alfred the Great, who sang in the camp of his enemies, and Richard the Lion-Hearted, answering from inside his prison walls the strains of his own mado sang outside by his gallant friend and knight.

Singing has always had a chief place in popular movements, and the *Marseillaise* and other revolutionary ballads prove that its power has not died out as the world has grown older. During the wonderful religious movement in Britain and America the last two years, the singing of Sankey has been hardly second in its effect to Moody's preaching. The sacred songs sung on these occasions were generally called Sankey's songs; but very few of them were written by him, the author of most being the late Mr. P. P. Bliss, who was amongst the killed at the railway accident at Ashtabula. The New York Witness, writing of him a few days before his death, said:

"The power of originating taking melodies is a very rare one, even among accomplished musicians. Musical thought is a curious thing. Pleasing ideas in that realm cannot be evolved mechanically, or by any technical trick of art. They come like a flash of inspiration to the favored few who have the special gift. Mr. Bliss is one of these fortunate individuals. And the fertility of his muse is wonderful, surpassing that of most of his contemporaries. It is evident beyond question that he has been raised by God and endowed with his peculiar genius for just the work he is now so usefully engaged in.

"Although the words of most of his hymns are furnished him by other hands, those of some of the most popular are his own. He excels also as a singer. With a rich, powerful, well-cultivated voice, he interprets his own music often as no other could. In company with Major Whittle, he has visited nearly all the prominent cities of the West and South in the course of evangelistic tours. He is regarded as second only to Mr. Sankey as a popular singer of sacred songs."

The whole world from Greenland's icy mountains to India's coral strand has caught up the refrain of his melodies which, however little their artistic merit, have certainly, in common with the nursery tales and nursery rhymes of former ages, the power to catch the

ear of all mankind, and more than these to set all mankind a singing in the name of the Lord. While his stirring songs "Hold the Fort," "Only an Armor Bearer," and many others are sung in the Sunday-school or the family circle, Mr. Bliss will be remembered as one of those whose life has not been spent in vain, but will continue to exert its influence for good long after his death.

OUR SUPPLEMENT.

THE DOMINION CALENDAR, one of which should be enclosed in each copy of this issue of the MESSENGER, is quite a curiosity in its way, and already has been the subject of much interest and enquiry. To the present, as far as we are aware, no type has been made as small as the print on the first page of the calendar, which represents one page of the WEEKLY WITNESS reduced less than one-twelfth its usual size. This is done by photo-lithography; this page with the others being first photographed, and thus reduced to the size required, then transferred to stone, and the sheet printed therefrom. Amongst the contents to which we would direct attention is the "Post-office Regulations" on the sixth page, and on the same page a list of the International series of Sunday-school lessons for the year, with much information which may prove of value. The portraits of notable men may cause it to fill a space in some photographic albums. We do not press the matter upon the attention of our subscribers, but if they unanimously petition for the MESSENGER to be printed in this style, we will gladly do it, and send them a pair of spectacles all around.

Our young folks when showing this supplement to their friends may speak a good word for the MESSENGER, DOMINION MONTHLY, and WITNESS, and thus perhaps aid in increasing their circulation and usefulness.

EVERY ONE BRING ANOTHER.

This was the motto of the MESSENGER's friends the last two years, but this year it appears to have been dropped. We do not complain; our readers have done nobly in raising the MESSENGER's circulation from 15,000 to 50,000 copies in two years. We did hope that it would have greatly increased this year, but perhaps this is the lull before the storm, or the breathing time for renewed action. We will see, and have not yet given up hope of a considerable increase.

THE PRIZES.

Our prize competition may have closed by the time this paper reaches the hands of its subscribers, but not the competition for the skates, which will be open still for a month or more. The skate competition has been up to our expectation, and we have already had the pleasure of sending by express and mail several hundred pairs to our friends and workers.

But we have to say that so far the MESSENGER has not shown any increase in circulation this year, but a very slight decrease. This is attributable to hard times and to the failure of Sunday-schools to renew their subscriptions in time. We still hope that before the season is over its circulation will be several thousand greater than that for last year. Let all our young friends remember that a first-class pair of Eureka Club skates may be obtained by sending in \$10 in new subscriptions to the WITNESS, NEW DOMINION MONTHLY and NORTHERN MESSENGER.

We are informed that many Sunday-schools are reducing their subscriptions to Sunday-school papers. Perhaps this is wise in some instances where more papers were taken than there is any need of, but the number of such cases is a very, very small one. Generally the stopping of the Sunday-school paper is throwing away one of the very best weapons for useful work. Children who read papers of any kind are more easily taught than others. Moreover when the paper which is the center of the intellectual life of the family comes from the Sunday-school all the interest

surrounding it is associated with that institution. The Sunday-school, by means of a paper not only teaches the children for an hour on Sunday, but teaches the family for many hours in the week, making the children the evangelists to take into the family not only stores of useful knowledge, but that saving truth which may make older persons wise unto salvation.

REGULAR DELIVERY.—Subscribers would do us a great service by promptly bringing to our notice any unnecessary delay in the delivery of their papers or the non-receipt of any numbers, so that the cause of irregularity may be traced out and remedied.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Epps' Cocoa.—Grateful and Comforting.—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Each packet is labelled thus.—James Epps & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, 48 Threadneedle street, and 170, Piccadilly, London, England.

SEE THE EUREKA CLUB SKATE.



It is put on and taken off the foot in a moment by a simple turn of the round nut shown in above drawing. The clamps at both heel and toe are fastened by the one simple movement, and so perfect is the plan, that the fastenings adjust themselves to any size or shaped boot. There is no need of boys and girls having cold fingers, cramped feet, or loose skates, so long as they can get a pair of "Eureka Club Skates," which may be had by sending \$10 in new subscriptions for the Witness publications to

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal. Sample and List sent on application.

A FEW LETTERS.

PORT DE BRUX, Jan. 8th, 1877. Many thanks for the skates which I received. The skates are all right. They are an excellent pair, and fit nicely. Others who have seen them think they are a splendid pair, and are trying for them too. I remain yours, &c., J. S.

BERNARD'S RAPIDS, Jan. 8th, 1877. I received the skates you sent me all right, and am very much pleased with them. They fit me well. They are the first of the kind in this section but I think you will have a chance to send me a pair more soon as there are two other boys working for them. My father thinks the witness is the best family paper in Canada. Accept my thanks for the skates. V. S. W.

CHICAGO, Jan. 8th, 1877. I received the skates on Wednesday, the 3rd instant, and I am very much obliged to you for them, as I think they are a first rate pair, and every one who has seen them will be sure to buy them. Yours truly, W. S. LONDON, Jan. 8th, 1877.

Yours of 2nd came duly to hand as also did the skates I was surprised when I opened the box to find such a nice pair of skates. They are the best ones I ever saw. I think it was well worth my time to get subscriptions for your valuable papers. Several boys asked me where I got my skates and I told them. They then said they would go to work. Yours truly, J. G. W. PORT HOOD, C.B., N.S., Jan. 4th, 1877.

I have your Eureka Skates by last mail, and they are a splendid set. I wish the skates of all the rest of the boys in Port Hood. I wish the skating was good. I would skate up and see your place. Enclosed find 25c for your Ven nor's Almanac for 1877. J. S.

The publications, subscription for which count in the skate competition, are as follows: DAILY WITNESS, price per year, including postage, \$3 00 TRI-WEEKLY WITNESS, do., 2 00 WEEKLY WITNESS, do., 1 10 NEW DOMINION MONTHLY, do., 1 50 NORTHERN MESSENGER, do., 30c L'AURORE, do., \$1 00

L'AURORE, THE ONLY PROTESTANT FRENCH PAPER IN AMERICA.

It is conducted with the usual vigor, and on the same principles as the WITNESS publications. Those desiring to perfect their knowledge of French, might be greatly assisted by reading this paper regularly. Issued WEEKLY. Price, post paid, \$1 a year. JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal.

VENNOR'S ALMANAC.

This Almanac contains Mr. Vennor's Weather Predictions for 1877, as well as much information on how to forecast weather, and on other subjects. A ready 10,000 copies of this Almanac have been sold, and orders are coming in as fast as they can be supplied. Price 20c. JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

DR. S. JACOBS, on Aphonia, or Loss of Voice.

Orange St., St. John N.B., 1868. MR. FELLOWS:—Sir,—I am bound to award the palm of merit to the preparation of Hypophosphites discovered by you. I had occasion to use it myself in a case of Aphonia, which would not yield to regular treatment, and am happy to say it proved to be all that you claimed for it, having acted with expedition and entire satisfaction. I feel called upon to publish the fact that the profession may avail themselves of a remedy in your "Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites." Yours very truly W. S. JACOBS, M. D.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ENLARGED, IMPROVED, ILLUSTRATED.

THE FAVORITE MAGAZINE. THE NEW DOMINION MONTHLY is rapidly becoming one of the most popular magazines. During the Months of March, April and May, the receipts for subscriptions were FIFTY-FIVE PER CENT. more than for the corresponding quarter of last year. This advance is an evidence of the renewed interest which is being taken in this Journal. Its departments are as follows:—

MISCELLANEOUS. Comprising original articles on topics of general interest by competent writers, and includes short and serial tales, which can, without injury, be placed in the hands of every one.

YOUNG FOLKS. Is a department whose interest is not confined to the young. "Robinson Crusoe," the most popular book for juvenile readers finds as many admirers among the old as young, and the "Young Folks" of the NEW DOMINION MONTHLY are many of them gray-haired grandfathers or grandmothers, fathers and mothers. This department is conducted on the principle that truthful lessons, simply stated, are of universal benefit, and that their simplicity makes them more useful.

THE HOME. Is a department that all can take an interest in. Mama finds in it the newest recipes for everything, from a pan-cake to a Christmas pudding. She will also find hints for dressing, health hints, and an innumerable variety of other things. The father can find in it discussions on educational and kindred topics. The daughter, hints how the home may be made beautiful and comfortable, and all the general laws by following which, home is preserved the "happiest spot on earth."

LITERARY NOTICES of the most wholesome new books are given, with copious selections, and besides there are

ILLUSTRATIONS, comprising portraits of eminent men, and pictures which instruct, and pictures which amuse. The CHESS PAGE will contain simple games and problems. It will not be conducted on the principles of the high art of chess, but as an aid to amateurs. The NEW DOMINION MONTHLY contains

NINETY-SIX PAGES Each month, making in all eleven hundred and fifty-two pages a year, and is sent postage free for one year to any address in Canada or the United States for \$1.50. Single copies sent, post free, for fifteen cents.

GOOD COMMISSIONS. Given to competent agents, male or female, who may do well by canvassing for this magazine. JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

SECOND EDITION. DRESS AND HEALTH.

The Second Edition of Three Thousand copies of DRESS AND HEALTH is now ready. There has been added to the matter in the first edition an introductory chapter, by Dr. Faynes, making the book of greater value than ever before. Copies will be forwarded to any address in Canada or the United States on receipt of 30c with name and address of sender. JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal, Publishers.

APPLES OF GOLD.

We have still several thousand copies of APPLES OF GOLD on hand. They are four-page Scripture tracts, each one containing several choice selections from religious papers and other sources. They are mailed (postage prepaid) to any address in Canada and United States for \$1 for 300, or 1,200 pages of reading matter. JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal.

THE MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS. IS A PAPER FOR THE TIMES AND PEOPLE.

It is full of News, General Information, Commercial Information, Articles for the Fireside, The Kitchen, The Children. It contains nearly every week FULL REPORTS OF SERMONS by the most prominent Canadian and Foreign ministers. Price \$1 10 a year. JOHN DOUGALL & SON, MONTREAL.

MESSENGER CLUB.

The Club Rates for the MESSENGER are when sent to one address— 1 copy.....\$ 0 20 10 copies..... 2 50 25 copies..... 6 00 50 copies..... 11 50 100 copies..... 22 00 1,000 copies..... 200 00 J. DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

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