The Farmer's Thanksgiving.

BY MINNIE IRVING.

The earth is frozen, and the trees are gray
And the winds sound [illegible]
And the first white flakes of the coming snow
Are about in the frosty air
But the sparks fly up from the hearth below
On the homestead hearth, and the rafters ring
And the window-panes are red with the glow
To the feet and the [illegible]

The farmer's face is furrowed and worn
And his locks are thinned and white
But his heart is steady, his nerve is firm
And his eye is [illegible] and bright
As he turns to look at the sweet old wife
Who sits in her corner of ease
With her cheeks [illegible] and her [illegible] smile
Sweet on her nothing [illegible]

He leans his head [illegible] the [illegible]
And the [illegible] are silent all
"Thanksgiving! Lord, for the [illegible] I have
And the roof on the cricket I call
For the silver [illegible] and the golden corn
And the crown of a peaceful life
The greatest [illegible] that Thou hast given—
A true and a loving wife!"

This white-haired lover [illegible] to kiss
Her [illegible] full of love
And the faded rose on her wrinkled cheek
With a proud [illegible] a courtly grace
And the snowflakes click on the window pane
And the rafters ring above
And the angels sing at the gate of God
The words of the farmer's love
—Minnie Irving, in Onward

Thankful at Last.

BY MARGARET HOLMES HATES.

MADGE Avery went to her room believing herself to be the most unfortunate girl in the world. Her room opened from her mother's. Since she was seven years old her nights had been so full of pain and wakefulness that her mother would not allow her to be away from her, down the hall where her sister and her brother had their pretty, cozy rooms. There was another room that had been planned for Madge, but when the terrible spinal trouble came upon her, she was moved into the curtained alcove so as to be near her mother.

Now she came to be alone while the rest of the family remained for an hour or two longer in the parlor down-stairs. Faithful old Nora, who had cared for all the Avery children, undressed Madge and petted her as if she was still a little child instead of a girl of seventeen years.

From below came the sounds of merry talk and laughter. Harry was home from College for Thanksgiving, and to see Helen married. This was the last evening that the whole family could expect to be together without Helen's husband. Madge had been as gay as any of them; so she always was. When she left them, as was her usual custom, they supposed she was tired. They were always watchful to see that she should not over-exert herself, always ready to excuse her from their midst. She was so surrounded by love and care that she felt it would be the most inexcusable ingratitude to complain. And yet, how unhappy she was!

While the disease was developing she had hoped that she might be cured; that some of the medicines given her, some of the treatments to which she was subjected, would work the wonder of stilling her pain and straightening her poor back.

Sometimes she had even laughed at herself when she was compelled to leave her play with other children and go to tell her mother that, like Dickens' little dolls' dressmaker, Jenny Wren, her "back was bad and her legs were queer."

But now she had ceased to hope, and ceased to laugh at her affliction. She was trying to accept it with at least outward cheerfulness. But try as she would, it was hard. Two years before, when Helen had graduated and looked so lovely, Madge had to face the fact that this was something she could never do. True, she was bright and learned her lessons easily but she could not attend school with sufficient regularity to keep up with her classes. Even if she could, how would she look in a class of girls, all tall and straight as lily stems, and she? —Oh! it was too dreadful to think of! All this she kept within her own heart.

Next, Harry graduated from the high school and was sent away to college. He and Madge had always been comrades in their books. As he was going away, and she watched him with such wistful, patient eyes, he supposed it was all because he was going. He said:

"Never mind, little girl. You keep right on in the books. I'll write you the longest kind of letters, telling you about my recitations, and you tell me of yours to father and mother; and you see, we'll both graduate twice."

Ah, yes! How kind Harry was to her, and how kind everybody was! And how wretched it made Madge to feel the full necessity of their kindness!

And now this other great change was coming to Helen. For months the preparations had been going forward. Her girl friends had stitched and painted dozens of pretty and useful things to adorn the new home. Madge had been busy too, and while the light talk had gone on when several of Helen's girl friends had happened to call together, and when there was wonder as to which would be the next one to make pretty things for, no one ever hinted that it might be Madge. Oh, no! no one but her mother would ever love her. She dropped her head on her pillow with a sigh that had in it more of heart-ache than weariness. Nora patted and soothed her, as if she had been a baby.

"And now, deary," the nurse asked, "can't I do something for you?"

"No, nursie, all I want is to be let alone." Then, fearing she might have been unkind, she half raised herself and with a wan smile added, "My back's bad and my legs are queer."

"Poor little lamb! Nursie wishes she could take the bad back on her own self, so she does."

How long Madge had slept she could not tell, nor what had wakened her, but she was wide awake. The curtains were drawn as usual across the opening into her mother's room, but there was a light, and her father and mother were talking. It must have been the light coming in a streak above the curtain pole that wakened her.

What in the world could be the matter? Mrs. Avery was crying and sobbing. Madge was about to slip out of bed when she heard her mother say:

"I know it's only natural and what I might have expected, but it's very hard to let her go. You are away at business all day. You'll not miss her as I will."

"I know, dear," Mr. Avery said, "but you still have Harry and Madge."

"Yes, but Harry will be away now for several years at college, and as soon as he comes home he must go into business or a profession. Then he too may want to marry and have a home of his own. Our house will be so lonely I do not see how I can live in it."

"My dear, do you forget our loving, unselfish little Madge? She will always be with us; and while it breaks my heart to see her so afflicted, still it is a comfort to know that she'll always be here in the home nest with us. The other two will go out into the world, and we cannot tell what misfortunes awaits them. I hope Helen will be a good woman and a happy one. I hope Harry will be a good boy and develop into a strong, reliable man. But we can't tell what may happen. He will meet many temptations. Little Madge we are sure of. She will be here, if misfortune comes to the others, to comfort us. If all goes well with them, still she will be our own sunshine. If her life is spared, as I hope it may be, she will be with us when we are old. The other two, with cares of their own, as is only natural and right, will grow away from us. Gentle little Madge will always love us best."

"Forgive me, dear. I didn't forget Madge. She is a great comfort, even now while I grieve continually for her. I think she inherits your cheerful, hopeful disposition."

The curtains were swept aside, and Madge felt her mother's tear-wet face pressed to her own in the usual good-night caress; but her heart was too full to speak. She was comforted! She lay very quiet, pretending to be asleep.

Next day not one face was brighter, not one voice was gayer than Madge's. How pleasant her future looked! How sweet to know that she was so precious to her father! She was almost ready to say she was glad she was not like strong, healthy girls, if by being like them she must sacrifice a part of the affection that was given her. So she had her use, small, weak, misshapen as she was, and, after the wedding was over, the bride gone and the house quiet, if not lonely, she sat in her little chair by her father, leaning her head against his knee. As he smoothed her hair he said: "Well, little daughter, have you anything to be thankful for?"

And Madge answered:

"Thousands of things; but most of all that I shall always live at home with you and mamma. My future looks so bright."

Thanksgiving-Day.

"Thanks, on this Day is enough!"
The dial from its height,
Heavens! how full of goodies
Is the spring-time's [illegible]

Do pantry shelves are loaded
With dainty cakes and pies,
And Father's eyes [illegible] them
With wide and longing eyes

"Order me!" says mamma,
"What feel I better far?
Someone's been in the pantry
And in the kitchen too.

"And nibbled round the edges
Of everything that's nice
I'll set a trap to-morrow;
Of course it must be mice.

"I certainly must teach them
To let my things alone,
And never, never meddle
With what is not their own."

Upon our two little figures
Each with a drooping head,
"I guess you needn't set the trap;
We are the mice," they said.

—*Selected*

Share your Joy with Others.

The pilgrim colonists shared the first Thanksgiving feast with Massasoit and his 90 Indians. We should invite to our not only those near and dear to us, but some of those others who would eat it in solitude if we did not remember them. To many minds this will seem an almost unjustifiable sacrifice of the coziness of the family party. The blessedness of giving and giving something more than of our material substance will compensate for it. Those who have never known what it is to be alone in the world or even temporarily divided from their own kindred cannot conceive what it is to the solitary one to be welcomed into a home. A far more substantial benefit would not give a title of the pleasure that is felt when its doors unclose to them.—*Exchange.*

Important to Our Festival.

The importance of the Thanksgiving festival lies in the fact that on this day the people of Canada are called upon to attribute their happiness, peace and prosperity, not to the genius of Washington or Brock, nor to the victories of Wolfe or the astute statesmanship of this or that great president or politician, but to the love and mercy and power of Almighty God. We regard the yearly appointment of a day of national thanksgiving as the happiest, the most dignified, the best method that a country could resort to in vindicating itself from the charge of irreligion and placing itself on the same plane with other Christian nationalities.—*Churchman.*

Evil is wrought by want of thought as well as by want of heart.—Hood.

Grand Trunk Railway.

TRAINS LEAVE BELLEVILLE STATION:

WEST—[illegible] a.m.; 1.30 a.m., 6.00 a.m.; 11.15 a.m., 1.45 p.m.; 5.10 p.m.

EAST—1.45 a.m., 10.10 a.m., 12.07 p.m.; 5.30 p.m.; 8.10 p.m.; 5.15 p.m.; 6.40 p.m.

MADOC AND PETERBORO' BRANCH—5.40 a.m.; 12.10 a.m.; 5.15 p.m.; 6.40 p.m.

Uneducated Deaf Children.

I WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE EVERY person who receives this paper send me the names and post-office addresses of the parents of deaf children not attending school, who are known to them, so that I may forward them particulars concerning this Institution and inform them where and by what means their children can be instructed and furnished with an education.

H. MATHISON,
Superintendent.

MONEY To PATENT Good Ideas may be secured by our aid. Address, THE PATENT RECORD, Baltimore, Md.

TORONTO DEAF-MUTE ASSOCIATION.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES are held as follows every Sunday:—

West End Y. M. C. A., Corner Queen Street and Dovercourt Road, at 11 a.m.

And Y. M. C. A. Hall, cor. Yonge and Gerrard Streets, at 3 p.m.

General Central, up stairs at Broadway Hall, Spadina Ave. to or 12 doors south of College Street, at 7 p.m. Leaders—Prof. Nasmith, Hogden and others.

Bible Class—Every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, corner Spadina Ave. and College street, and cor. Queen Street and Dovercourt Road.

Lectures, etc., may be arranged if desirable. Jas. A. Fraser, Secretary to the Deaf in Toronto, 38 Division Street.

Institution for the Blind.

THE PROVINCIAL INSTITUTION FOR THE Education and Instruction of blind children is located at Brantford, Ontario. For particulars address

J. H. DYMOND, *Principal.*

GENERAL INFORMATION

—to—

Classes :—

SCHOOL HOURS.—From 9 a.m. to 12 noon, from 1.30 to 3 p.m. DRAWING 2 p.m. on Tuesday and Friday of each week.

GIRLS' FANCY WORK CLASS on Wednesday of each week from [illegible]

EVENING STUDY from 7 to 8 for pupils and from 7 to 8 for [illegible]

Articulation Classes.

From 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and [illegible]

Religious Exercises.

EVERY SUNDAY.—Primary pupils at 9 a.m. [illegible] senior pupils at 11 a.m. [illegible] 2.30 p.m., immediately after [illegible] Class will assemble.

EACH SCHOOL DAY the pupils are in the Chapel at 8.45 a.m., and [illegible] in charge for the week, will [illegible] and afterwards dismiss them [illegible] may reach their respective [illegible] later than 9 o'clock. In [illegible] 3 o'clock the pupils will assemble after prayer will be dismissed [illegible] orderly manner.

REGULAR VISITING CLERGYMEN: [illegible] Burke, Right Rev. Monsignor [illegible] Rev. T. J. Thompson, M.A., [illegible] Rev. J. W. Crothers, M.A., D.D. [illegible] Rev. V. H. Cossart, (Baptist) [illegible] Maclean, Presbyterians, Rev. [illegible] ley; Rev. C. W. Watch, Rev. [illegible] Jas. R. Locke.

BIBLE CLASS, Sunday afternoon [illegible] national Series of Sunday [illegible] Miss ANNIE MATHISON, *Teacher.*

☞ *Clergymen of all Denominations are cordially invited to visit us at any time.*

Industrial Departments

PRINTING OFFICE, SHOE AND [illegible] Shops from 7.30 to 8.30 a.m. and [illegible] 5.30 p.m. for pupils who attend [illegible] those who do not from 7.30 a.m. [illegible] and from 1.30 to 5.30 p.m. each [illegible] except Saturday, when the office [illegible] will be closed at noon.

THE SEWING CLASS HOURS are from [illegible] 12 o'clock, noon, and from 1 [illegible] those who do not attend school [illegible] 3.30 to 5 p.m. for those who do [illegible] on Saturday afternoons.

☞ The Printing Office, Shops [illegible] Room to be left each day when [illegible] in a clean and tidy condition.

☞ Pupils are not to be excused [illegible] various Classes of Industrial Department except on account of sickness, with [illegible] mission of the superintendent.

☞ Teachers, Officers and others [illegible] allow matters foreign to the work [illegible] interfere with the performance [illegible] several duties.

Visitors :

Persons who are interested, desirous [illegible] ing the Institution, will be made [illegible] any school day. No visitors are [illegible] Saturdays, Sundays or Holidays [illegible] the regular chapel exercises at [illegible] day afternoons. The best time [illegible] on ordinary school days is as soon [illegible] in the afternoon as possible, as the [illegible] are dismissed at 3.00 o'clock.

Admission of Children.

When pupils are admitted and parents [illegible] with them to the Institution, they are [illegible] advised not to linger and [illegible] taking with their children. It [illegible] discomfort for all concerned, particularly [illegible] the parent. The child will be [illegible] for, and if left in our charge will [illegible] will be quite happy with the other [illegible] days, in some cases in a few hours.

Visitation :

It is not beneficial to the pupils for [illegible] visit them frequently. If parents come, however, they will be made [illegible] to the class-rooms and allowed every [illegible] tunity of seeing the general work [illegible] school. We cannot furnish lodgings [illegible] or entertain guests at the Institution [illegible] accommodation may be had in the [illegible] Quinte Hotel, Huffman House, Queen [illegible] American and Dominion Hotels at [illegible] rates.

Clothing and Management :

Parents will be good enough to give [illegible] tions concerning clothing and management of their children to the Superintendent [illegible] correspondence will be allowed [illegible] parents and employees under any circumstances without special permission [illegible] each occasion.

Sickness and Correspondence :

In case of the serious illness of pupils [illegible] or telegrams will be sent daily to [illegible] guardians. IN THE ABSENCE OF [illegible] FRIENDS OF PUPILS MAY BE QUITE SURE THEY ARE WELL.

All pupils who are capable of doing so are required to write home every [illegible] letters will be written by the teachers [illegible] little ones who cannot write, statements as possible, their wishes.

☞ No medical preparations that have been used at home, or prescribed by [illegible] claim will be allowed to be taken except with the consent and direction of the Physician of the Institution.

Parents and friends of Deaf children are warned against Quack Doctors who advertise cures and appliances for the cure of deafness. In 999 cases out of 1000 they are humbugs and only want money for which they give no return. Consult well known reputable practitioners in cases of adventitious deafness and be guided by their sound advice.

H. MATHISON,
Superintendent.