

Our Young Folks.

TWENTY TIMES A DAY.

Twenty times a day, dear,
Twenty times a day,
Your mother thinks about you,
At school, or else at play.
She's busy in the kitchen,
Or she's busy up the stair,
But like a song her heart within
Her love for you is there.

There's just a little thing, dear,
She wishes you would do.
I'll whisper, 'tis a secret,
Now mind, I'll tell it you.
Twenty times a day, dear,
And more, I've heard you say,
"I'm coming in a minute."
When you should at once obey.

At once, as soldiers, instant,
At the motion of command:
At once, as sailors seeing
The captain's warning hand.
You could make the mother happy
By minding in that way,
Twenty times a day, dear,
Twenty times a day.

--Mrs. M. E. Sangster, in the Congregationalist.

IN TIME OF STORM.

"Stephen, our supply of groceries is running low," said Mrs. Murray one morning in the autumn, as she placed a pile of well browned pancakes upon the breakfast table. "We're in need of flour, and sugar, and tea, and of some other things. Beside that I want to get stuff to make little Bennie some thick clothes. Do you think that you could take me to town to-day?"

Now going to town with the Murray's was quite an affair. They were not only eight miles from the nearest city, but they were at least a mile from the shelving coast. Their home was on a small island which, as they sometimes said, seemed to have been made expressly for them. It had been in possession of the family for more than fifty years. Stephen Murray's father had built upon it a small house, which now had become his own inheritance. A carefully worked garden furnished fruit and vegetables more than enough for himself and wife and the two boys, Alfred and Bennie. Often in the summer time, when the small village on the nearest point of coast was filled with visitors, the father was able to sell them not only the products of his garden, but also many of the fish which he was expert in catching.

Sometimes when he went to the village Alfred accompanied him, taking on his young shoulders a load of baskets manufactured by his mother and himself. These he usually succeeded in selling, and thus, by various means, the Murray family contrived to gain a respectable livelihood.

Now, in the late autumn, all the summer visitors had departed, and the gay little village of the warmer season was only the abode of a few fishermen who lived in the small houses near the shore.

When Mrs. Murray asserted her need of groceries and drygoods, her husband replied that things being in that condition, it would be well to start for town as early as possible.

"There's a storm coming," said he, "or else I'm not weatherwise. All the signs show it, and I think 'twill be here by night."

Accordingly, soon after breakfast the worthy couple set off to do what they were pleased to call their "trading." They went in a row boat to the shore, and there engaged the services of the only horse in the place, a thin, hungry-looking animal which somehow always had strength enough to do the carting for the neighbourhood.

Upon leaving home Mrs. Murray's last words to Alfred had been, "Take good care of Bennie."

"Yes, mother, I will," was the boy's reply.

Little did he foresee what the keeping of the promise might imply. The three-year old brother was to become a weighty charge before the setting of the sun.

For some hours the boys had a quiet, pleasant time. It was mere play for Albert

to do the small amount of necessary house-work with which he was in the habit of assisting his mother, and when that was done he and Bennie ran about the island amusing themselves in sundry ways. But while they were playing the sky became overcast, and soon a heavy rain began to fall. The wind blew a hurricane. Great waves dashed upon the island. Alfred took Bennie into the house and closed the doors. Then for a long while the two boys stood looking out of the kitchen window, watching the falling rain, the swaying of the trees, the rapid rising of the waters. After a time they heard a great crash. Their chimney had blown over. Bennie shuddered and took fast hold of Alfred's hand.

"Look, Alfred," he cried, "the sea is drowning our island."

Sure enough, the angry waves were mounting higher and higher. Each succeeding one seemed to wash further in upon the small bit of land. The water was coming up over the pebbly beach where the brothers had been playing; now it was covering the garden, now it was at the cottage door. Soon, too soon, it entered the room. It crept up to their very feet.

"We'll go in the other room and climb on the bedstead," said Alfred.

This refuge served them for a time, but the flood was still rising about them. They must find a higher spot. There was no room above them, nothing but the peaked roof.

Alfred determined to climb up on that and to take Bennie with him. It was a desperate resolution for a slender boy of ten, but Alfred had nerve and pluck, two qualities which served instead of greater strength.

He felt the seriousness of the position, and like many another in time of danger, he said, gravely, "let us pray." He and Bennie knelt upon the bed, but at first Alfred could think of no words to utter. Then there came to him a few words from a hymn which he had learned in the village Sabbath-school in summer. These words he now turned into a prayer: "Oh, Lord, be to us a shelter in a time of storm." There was no time for more, but it was enough. Cannot the Lord answer a short prayer as easily as a long one? And does He not hear the cry of the youngest and feeblest, who call upon Him in truth?

By the side of the bed was pinned a card, which Alfred had received in the Sabbath-school. Upon it were the words, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is staid on thee." He put the card into his pocket, reached over to the nearest window, opened it, and climbed over to the sill with Bennie on his back.

"Now, Bennie, hold fast, we've got to get up on the roof."

It was a hard climb, but it was accomplished. At length the ridge pole was gained, and Bennie deposited upon it by Alfred's side.

"Shall we drown," asked Bennie.

"I hope not," said Alfred.

He could say no more, but he was trusting that the Lord would help them in some way. He had done all he could. Now he must trust and wait. After what seemed a very long time, help finally arrived. Stephen Murray and another fisherman came in a small boat and rescued the brothers. It was hard to reach them, it was hard to get back to land, but it was done at last.

In a cottage on the shore Mrs. Murray was waiting for her children.

"It was the good Lord who saved you," she exclaimed, as she took them in her arms.

"Yes, mother, we trusted in Him, and He helped us." This was Alfred's reply.—*Mary Joanna Porter, in The Christian Intelligencer.*

TEASING.

How many children enjoy being teased, I wonder! Not one hand up! Well, that is what I expected. Now how many of you like to tease? Be honest! O my, how many hands I see! But I notice they go

up reluctantly as though they were admitting something of which they were not altogether proud. I am not surprised at that, for teasing is mean fun, I think. If you will look in your dictionaries you will see "tease" means to vex, annoy, disturb, irritate and mortify; all of these words imply something which ruffles and excites the feelings or causes pain and disappointment. You hadn't intended to be guilty of any such unkind amusement when you were led into teasing brother or sister, or a little playmate, had you? Yet, my dears, that is just what you were doing, having fun at another's expense, and wounding a heart by thoughtless words and actions. Only the other day I saw a gentleman offer a child a tempting bonbon, and just as the eager little hand was outstretched to take it, it disappeared within his own mouth. The dear little girl burst into tears and hid her face in her mother's lap, and the promise of a whole box of bonbons could not comfort her. I felt a great wave of indignation sweep over me at such thoughtless and wicked treatment on the part of the gentleman, and I am very sure he must have been considerably lowered in his own esteem. I hope you will all remember the golden rule whenever you feel disposed to tease any one again, and the companion text which goes hand in hand with it—"With what measure ye mete it shall be measured unto you again."—C. A. W.

PRESBYTERY MEETINGS.

ORANGEVILLE: This Presbytery met on the 8th inst at Orangeville, Dr. McRobbie, Moderator, in the chair. Present sixteen ministers and six elders. The Moderator's term of office having expired, the Rev. J. Wells, M.A., was appointed Moderator for the ensuing six months. Rev. J. Goforth, of China, and Rev. W. J. Hewitt and Mr. W. Black, elder, of the Presbytery of Barrie, being present, were asked to correspond. Mr. Farquharson reported that he had visited Caledon East and St. Andrew's, Caledon, and recommended that application be made for \$175 supplement. The recommendation was adopted. Dr. McRobbie reported a supplement for Laurel and Black's Corners and recommended that their case be deferred until next regular meeting. On report by Mr. McKenzie a supplement for Corbetton, Riverview and Gaudier, their case also was deferred until next meeting. The clerk reported that he and Mr. McLeod visited the Saugeen Presbytery at its last meeting in Palmerston, and acquiesced in their request that St. Andrew's, Proton, be transferred to them to be brought in connection with Cedarville and Erispili and we recommend accordingly. It was agreed to adopt the recommendation, ask Synod to sanction said transfer, and Messrs. Crozier and McLeod were appointed to support said application before the Synod. A call from Cookstown, Town Line and Ivy, in the Presbytery of Barrie, to Rev. P. Fleming, of Caledon East, was considered. The call was signed by 115 members and 58 adherents and \$900 stipend and free manse promised. The clerk was instructed to cite the Session and congregations of Caledon East and St. Andrew's, Caledon, to appear for their interests at an adjourned meeting of Presbytery to be held at Orangeville on the 29th inst., at 2 p.m. Rev. W. J. Hewitt and Mr. W. Black, elder, delegates from the Presbytery of Barrie, expecting that the call would be issued at this meeting, were present, and, at their own request, were heard in support of the call. The Presbytery appointed committees to consider the Assembly's remits. Mr. McKenzie reported subjects for a conference on the State of Religion, as follows:—(1) Whose children should be baptized? (2) How to conduct pastoral work. (3) A model popular sermon. (4) That said conference be held on the evening of the March meeting. Mrs. Steele, treasurer of the W. F. M. Presbyterial Society, then in Session, reported that the work of said society had progressed favorably during the past year, that \$739.72, a sum larger than any previous year, had been collected. The Presbytery expressed its gratification at the continued success of the society and appointed Messrs. Wells and Neilly to convey the congratulations of the Presbytery.—H. CROZIER, Clerk.

STRATFORD: This Presbytery met in Knox Church, Stratford, on Tuesday, 22nd. Rev. A. Henderson, Moderator, presiding. Rev. E. W. Pantou was appointed moderator for the current six months. A call from Listowel in favor of Rev. Wm. Cooper was presented by Mr. Henderson. The call was sustained and arrangements made for the ordination and induction of Mr. Cooper on the 31st inst., if he shall accept the call. The remit ament students was unanimously approved. The proposed new hymnal was discussed at length, and the following was the finding of the Presbytery:—"In view of the fact that the finding of the last General Assembly was arrived at against the expressed opinion of a majority of the Presbyteries of the Church, this

Presbytery resolves to recommend the General Assembly to take no further action in regard to a new Hymnal in the meantime; and further, that the mind of the Presbytery is that a book of praise must contain the whole psalter. The Presbytery sees no need of a selection of psalms and desire that no such selections be made or printed." A resolution was passed in view of the removal from the bounds of the Presbytery of Rev. A. Stewart, of which a part is as follows. It is now hereby recorded that the Presbytery in accepting this resignation has acted in this matter with deep regret. The long and faithful services of Mr. Stewart both within his charge and otherwise, as a member of Presbytery, have raised him to a high place in the esteem and respect of his brethren. The success which has attended his ministry within the congregations of N. Easthope has been observed with pleasure. The Presbytery sympathizes with Mr. Stewart and his family in the fact that he feels the burden of infirmity, especially that which has resulted from a perilous accident. In parting with Mr. Stewart the Presbytery's desire and prayer for him is that he may enjoy in the fullest measure the same consolation of religion which he has so faithfully ministered to others, and that with improved health and growing grace and comfort in the Lord he may still be enabled, even to old age, to bring forth fruit to the glory of our Lord and Saviour." The Presbytery also expressed their sympathy with Dr. Hamilton as follows: "In view of the death of Mrs. Hamilton, wife of Dr. Hamilton, of Motherwell, who was for some years secretary of our Presbyterial W. F. M. S., the Presbytery desires to put on record its sorrow at her removal, and its deep sympathy with Dr. Hamilton and his family in their great loss, and sincere desire and prayer that the God of all consolation will sustain them in their affliction."—A. F. TULLY, Clerk.

GUELPH: This Presbytery held its stated bi-monthly meeting in Chalmers' Church, Guelph, on the 15th January, under the moderatorship of Mr. Archibald Blair, B.A. A letter was read from Mr. Craig, explanatory of the circumstances connected with his departure, and asking leave of absence for six months on account of his health was, as were resolutions by his Session and congregation, consenting to the same, and asking that Dr. Wardrope occupy his pulpit, and act as Moderator of Session while he was away. The Presbytery unanimously agreed to express their sympathy with Mr. Craig under his affliction, and their earnest trust that the means to which he has had recourse may be blessed to his perfect recovery, and their approval of the provision made to supply his place in the pulpit and Session till his return. Dr. Jackson, convener, presented a very full report from the committee appointed to look into the matters sent down by the General Assembly for the consideration of Presbyteries. It will come up for disposal at a subsequent meeting. Almost all the afternoon was spent upon the Report of the Hymnal Committee, which was presented by Dr. Torrance. The first recommendation of the committee, that there be but one Book of Praise, that the whole Psalter be included in it, and that the General Assembly give its imprimatur only to such, was approved. The second recommendation, dealing with the Selections from the Prose Psalms and other portions of Scripture, was adopted after a few changes. The third recommending, that selections from the metrical version of the Psalms now in use, and from other versions be not printed in the Book of Praise, was adopted. The fourth recommendation that all the new Hymns, about one hundred and forty-five in number, proposed to be inserted be omitted, on the grounds, among others, that they are unnecessary, that they will so increase the size of the volume as to render it unwieldy and add materially to its price, thus entailing upon the families of the Church a serious outlay. This recommendation called forth a long discussion and finally it was resolved to proceed no farther in the subject at present, but take it up at an adjourned meeting to be held in the same place on the 29th ult., at half past ten o'clock on the forenoon. The remainder of the report on the selection of Scripture sentences, of proper tunes, and one or two other points, were then considered, and the report as a whole disposed. A request from the Session of Eden Mills for the continuance of Mr. Strachan's services as pastor for another year was promptly and cordially granted.

HAMILTON: This Presbytery met in Hamilton on January 15th. A conference on Sabbath Observance and State of Religion had been held on the previous day. A committee was appointed to visit Carluke and the congregation was urged to build a new church so that worship alternately in the two churches may cease as soon as possible. Mr. J. B. Hamilton and Mr. Langill were received under the care of the Presbytery. The former was appointed to supply Ancaster for a year and to act as Moderator of Session. Mr. J. W. Mitchell's resignation of Thorold was accepted to take effect after February 2nd. A call from St. John's, Hamilton, to Rev. Dr. Bayne, of Pembroke, was sustained, and Mr. Jas. Murray was appointed to prosecute it. It was agreed and recommended that the Psalter be revised with the aid of the American W.P., and other revisors for the Book of Praise. Mr. N. Penker submitted a carefully prepared report as to the best method of keeping the accounts of congregations. Consideration of it was postponed. The Home Mission Committee were instructed to arrange for visiting supplemented congregations.—JOHN LAING, Clerk.

Ram's Horn: Some people who sit in front seats in church, leave their religion behind them whenever they go away from home.