

knowledge of God's love, His forgiveness of all your sins through the sacrifice and death of His dear Son, the guidance of His Holy Spirit, the help of His heavenly grace, the teaching of His holy Word, the promise of everlasting glory in the life to come, and it is your privilege, if you will so regard it (but if not, then, without doubt, it is your duty), to give this knowledge to those who have it not, until "all shall know the Lord, from the least unto the greatest," and "the kingdoms of this world shall become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign for ever and ever." Let each one ask himself, "What am I doing to this end?" and let all pray earnestly, importunately, and in faith, for the spirit of sympathy and generosity for those to whom the means have been entrusted, for faithfulness and diligence for those who are the heralds of salvation, for "repentance unto life" for the heathen, for consistency of conduct and guidance into all truth for the converts, for wisdom and grace for the members of all missionary societies, that so God's "way may be known upon earth, His saving health unto all nations."

Once a year the Church of England in this older part of Canada appeals to her members on behalf of foreign missions. The season selected for that purpose is Epiphanytide. The blessed strains of Christmas still linger in the ear. Christ is still a babe in His mother's arms. Wondering shepherds are standing by with the words of holy angels sounding in their ears, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men." The wise men from the East are kneeling before Him as they "offer their gifts, gold, frankincense, and myrrh." The season for offering gifts is still upon us. Our Christmas and New Year's presents are not forgotten. They have made many happy. The Church asks her loyal sons and daughters for offerings now to be laid at the feet of Christ; not now the babe at Bethlehem, but the glorified Redeemer in Heaven. As a babe He was made known to the Gentiles by the leading of a star. They were representative men, who received this first manifestation of the Christ, and they represented power. Wisdom is power, and they had it; they were wise men from the East. Wealth is power, and they had it; the gifts that they offered were costly. Power is needed now for the further conversion of the Gentiles. The wisdom of the Church, the wealth of the Church, her learning and her offerings are all needed. She asks for these to-day, and she trusts to a loyal people not to allow that appeal to be made in vain. Christ must be made manifest to all people who are yet in heathen darkness. The Gospel, like a bright star beaming in the heavens, must be made the means of bringing them to Him who came "to be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of His people Israel."

Books and Periodicals Department.

The Cook and the Captive. By Charlotte M. Yonge. Author of "The Constable's Tower," "The Slaves of Sabinus," etc. New York: Thomas Whittaker.

This is not only a highly entertaining story book, but it is a narrative from which a great deal of information can be obtained. Those who make a collection of historical tales should not fail to get it. The name of the author alone is a sufficient guarantee of its merit. The scene is laid in France in and about the year 532 of the Christian era, and the characters presented are those who, in a typical way, represent the customs and manners of that early and rude period. Here are the pilgrim and the hermit, the bishop and his monks, the king and his warriors, the little child and the Frankish lady. The imaginary characters are grouped around the story of the captivity and escape of Attilus, who had a devoted friend in Leo—a story related by St. Gregory, Bishop of Tours, the historian of the Franks. A well told historical tale such as this presents to the young mind facts of history in a way which, in all probability, will be remembered. The historian relates facts, the writer of historical tales surrounds facts with pictures of the people connected with them, in their modes of living, style of conversation, appearance and dress—so that they speak to us from their own age as living men and women, guided by the only light that as yet had reached them. Such a book is this, and it is well worth reading, both by old and young.

(1) *The Sunday at Home*; (2) *The Leisure Hour*; (3) *Friendly Greetings*; (4) *The Boys' Own Paper*, (5) *The Girls' Own Paper*, and other publications. The Religious Tract Society, 56 Paternoster Row, London.

The Sunday at Home for January has a suggestive article from Rev. A. F. W. Ingram, champion worker among the slums of London, on "What Christianity has done for Working men." "Dr. Adrian" is continued, showing gathering clouds for the proscribed religionists in old Holland. Two short stories, entitled respectively "The Little Professor," and "No. 25," are very beautiful. The articles throughout are copiously illustrated. "The Philosophic Mole Catcher" is the title of the "Penny Tales for the People." *The Leisure Hour* keeps up its time-honored standard for good family reading. The article on "Mountaineers and Mountaineering" gives a full description of that exhilarating pastime, even to a picture of the boots to be worn on the occasion. "London Traffic" tells of the public conveyances, omnibuses, etc., that thread their way through the crowded streets of the great city. "Old New England" continues an exhibition of pioneer life in the ancient colony. "The Dreams of Dania" increases in interest, and is well told. *Friendly Greetings* has a handsome picture called "After the Day's Work" as a frontispiece.

The Anglican Pulpit Library, being Sermons, Outlines, and Illustrations for the Sundays and Holy Days of the year. Vol. 1.

Mr. F. N. W. Brown, Church publisher, 31 Czar street, Toronto, has undertaken the sale of this excellent work, and is prepared to make very liberal terms with clergymen who may wish to secure it. It is a fine large volume of sermons, outlines, and illustrations suitable for the four Sundays in Advent, courses of Advent sermons, holy days in Advent (St. Andrew and St. Thomas), Christmas Day, and two Sundays after Christmas. It is the first volume of a series of six in all (to embrace the whole Christian year), and presents some of the ablest thoughts that can be presented on those important topics upon which the minds of Church people should be specially engaged. The following names, selected from among the writers found in it, will show the high class