



Address—COUSIN JOY, 282 Princess Street, St. John, N. B.

Cousin Joy has made a little poem expressly for the 'Cosy Corner. It will serve for a short recitation, perhaps, if you should need one.

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS.

The Spirit of Christmas is everywhere,
I know it, I feel it in all the air;
Away on the mountain peaks of snow,
And deep in the pleasant vales below,
Around us, about us—everywhere
The Spirit of Christmas is in the air!

It has glanced on Japan with its radiant light,
It is parting the shadows of China's night,
It is guiding the pilgrim in weary land,
It is resting on Africa's burning sand,
And spanning the darkened isles of the sea
With a rainbow promise of victory.

The glow from the manger where Jesus lay
Is touching the whole wide world today.

COUSIN JOY.

A merry, very merry Christmas to all the dear cousins, and, what is better, a very happy one. Merriment and laughter are all right, and it is pleasant to see the Christmas joy shining in bright young faces and bubbling over from the lips. No one likes to see and hear it more than Cousin Joy. But merriment and laughter do not dwell in the heart, as happiness does, so while Cousin Joy is making a wish she will make the very best.

True happiness comes through forgetting self and caring for others, as all the mission circle and band girls and boys must know by this time. We hope they will not forget to give the first Christmas present to Jesus. Nothing will ensure a happy Christmas like that. Does He need it? Yes, for the enlargement of His Kingdom, and He wants all the girls and boys to be sharers in His great joy and victory by and bye.

The answer to the last puzzle in the October number is "A Nurse for China."

Why did the "wise men" bring presents to Jesus?

Dear Cousin Joy—I think it a great pleasure to be numbered among your cousins. I have been a member of the "Wayside Helpers" Mission Band since I was a baby. Am now eight years old. Our president is Mrs. Chamberlain. We have 20 members, most of them taking the Palm Branch. We have five honorary members and eight under eight years old. They did me the honor of making me press reporter today, so you will hear from me quite often.

Your loving cousin,

Delta, Ont.

JORNE PIERCE.

(We shall be glad to hear from you, little Cousin).

Dear Cousin Joy—This is the first time I have written to you. I belong to the Star of Hope Mission Band. I take the Palm Branch and like it very much. We meet the last Saturday in every month. I think I have got the answer to the first puzzle for October. It is "Palm Branch."

I remain your loving cousin,

West Cape, P. E. I.

ELVA M. CROSMAN.

Dear Cousin Joy, I have been reading the Palm Branch and noticing the puzzles there; I think I have got the answer to the first one for November. It is "The Complete Angler." And I have made up a puzzle for the December issue. If you wish to publish it you may

I remain, yours truly,

484 Main St., St. John, N. B.

CLARA LEACH.

PUZZLES FOR DECEMBER.

I am composed of twenty-five letters.

My 25, 8, 6, 16, 20, 13, 23, 5, 25, is past and can never return.

My 15, 12, 3, 1, 10, means brought to view.

My 2, 22, 17, 7, 21, is to raise up.

My 11, 4, 14, 18, 24, is a kind of earthenware.

My 19, 9, is a personal pronoun.

My whole is a question which we should ask ourselves daily.

Hamilton.

G.

I am composed of 13 letters.

My 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, is a girl's name.

My 8, 2, 11, 10 is a plant.

My 3, 10, 2, 7, 9, 6, 4, means of a kind.

My 7, 12, 13, is a verb.

My whole is the name of a Mission Band.

St. John.

CLARA LEACH.

LETTER FROM REV. MR. KIRBY.

Dear Palm Branch:

I wonder if you can give me room for a letter in your December number? I want your readers to know two things about me; first, I am still living; and secondly, I have not forgotten your readers.

I have been to England this summer, and seen so much, and heard so much, I cannot get time to digest it all.

Dear me! if I was to try and tell you what I saw, there would be no room for any thing else in Palm Branch for the next three months. One day I went to the Crystal Palace and heard a concert, given by four thousand children from the London Sunday-schools. And what singing that was! I thought ever so many times about the happiness it will be to get to Heaven