

ST. MARTIN AND THE BEGGAR.

MOLY ST. MARTIN, once at Amiens' gate,
Passing that way where went both low and great,
Saw there ashiver with the winter and cold
A poor, half-naked wretch. Silver or gold
The saint had none; his kindly beaming eyes,
Mild as the light of stars between the skies,
Filled with the rising pity in his breast,
Where dwelt all charities which make men blest,
At sight of one, a soul so desolate,
Houseless and friendless by the city's gate;
And, taking from his back the coat he wore,
Laid two parts the garment then he tore,
And, with a blessing which all lips may say,
Gave to him there one half and went his way.

Next night, upon some deed of mercy bent,
By that same gate the good St. Martin went,
And saw within its shadow standing there
A man of thoughtful men and presence fair.
Around him shone a mildly radiant light—
None like it had ever blessed his sight—
And in its sheen the city's frowning gate
Seemed heaven's own portal where good angels wait,
And to the saint's meek eyes, with wonder wide,
The palms of Paradise uprose each side;
And lo! the man was Christ. Speechless,
amazed,
Spell-bound with wonderment, St. Martin gazed,
And saw the ragged garment he had given
Worn on the shoulders of the Lord from heaven!

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Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLKS

Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, JANUARY 24, 1885.

GRANTS TO POOR SCHOOLS

THE following letter—one out of many such—shows what good work the Sunday-School Aid and Extension Fund is doing.—Ed. "You did us great service here this year by making us a grant of papers, etc. We had about fifty conversions in the school. The school more than doubled during the year. Now as the people are poor, you will confer a great boon if you can continue the same number of papers, etc., next year. Please consider our case and help us."

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THE BOY PREACHER.

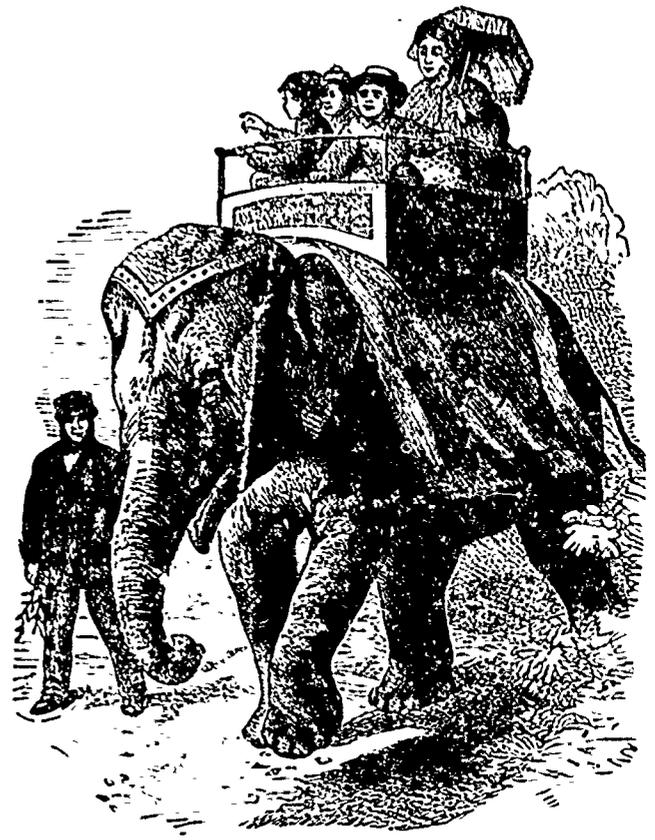
JUBILEE OF THE CONVERSION OF 1,000 PERSONS AT THE ELM STREET CHURCH.

THERE were special services at the Elm Street Methodist Church, Dec. 22nd, when Rev. Thos. Harrison, "the Boy Preacher," celebrated his jubilee over the conversion of one thousand persons during his ten weeks' stay in Toronto. The floor of the church was crowded to the doors, every available seat being utilized. At eight o'clock Mr. Harrison, accompanied by the pastor of the church, Rev. W. H. Laird, took his place on the platform. The first hymn was, "It is good for us, Lord, to be here," which was sung by the congregation. The revivalist led each verse, as he walked up and down the platform. Mr. Harrison is a man of a very nervous temperament. He is always moving, whether it be during prayer or singing. As the last verse of the hymn was reached, Mr. Harrison, after placing the hymn-book under his arm, clapped his hands and shouted, "Everybody sing." This call was responded to by an outburst of song in which the whole congregation joined. Rev. W. H. Laird was then asked to lead in prayer, which he did, thanking the Almighty for the good work which had been accomplished during the past few weeks. The congregation then sang, "Bringing in the sheaves," when the Boy Preacher followed in prayer. He said he would not ask those present to sing a depressing hymn on such an occasion. Each hymn would be joyous one. Rev. Mr. Laird then made an appeal to the congregation for donations in support of the revival. During the past ten weeks, he said, the collection had amounted to about eleven hundred dollars. Double that amount was required to defray the expenses. A number of gentlemen were sent through the audience to collect the donations, which amounted to quite a sum. The Boy Preacher delivered a short exhortation in which he gave the young converts some instruction, when a hymn was sung and the jubilee closed with the benediction. An unfortunate woman, apparently of unsound mind, created quite a sensation in the church during the progress of the service. Rev. Mr. Harrison was delivering his exhortation when the woman began to call out "Amen," and utter other ejaculations in quick succession. The Boy Preacher noticed the actions of the unfortunate woman and gave out a hymn, during the singing of which the woman was quieted and the service proceeded.

The Boy Preacher held his farewell service at Elm Street Methodist Church on the evening of Dec. 23rd. There was a large gathering. In his parting address Rev. Mr. Harrison referred with some sadness to his approaching departure, and expressed himself as well pleased with the results of his work here. When the service was over many pressed forward to bid the preacher farewell.

RECEIVED with thanks packages of Sunday-school books for poor schools from J. S. Coleman, Acton, and other kind donors.

We will be glad to receive communications on Sunday-school work or other matters of Sunday-school interest.



A METHODIST ELEPHANT.

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DR. MANSELL tells of a rich East Indian, who came to camp-meeting last year with his elephant, and as he was a Methodist, of course, his elephant was a Methodist elephant. The preachers and the children took rides upon it, and felt much pleased to have it at the camp-meeting. Its master also owned several villages, but his possessions did not keep him from seeking the true riches, as was the case with the young man who came to the Saviour. Although a nominal Christian, he did not enjoy the peace which comes from a knowledge of pardoned sin, as he stood up before the great multitude, and asked them to pray for him. In a short time he received the assurance that he was accepted as a child of God, and that gave him a happiness which all his riches had failed to do. In a few months he died a martyr's death, and Hamanan went to heaven from a land of heathenism. Will we be less wise than this Hindoo? Will we let our little wealth and cares keep our hearts from being chiefly interested in our soul's salvation?—S. S. Visitor.

METROPOLITAN CHURCH—NEW LECTURE-ROOM.

THE newly-built lecture-room of the Metropolitan Church was opened Dec. 21st by a platform meeting. The members of the Sunday-school were present in large numbers, and there were also present many adults, members and friends of the Church. Addresses suitable to the occasion were delivered by Rev. Hugh Johnston, Messrs. George Bishop, of Montreal; James Paterson, the former Superintendent of the School; and Edward Gurney. The lecture-room will be a valuable addition to the means of carrying out the work of the church. The auditorium is capable of seating 800 people. It is carpeted throughout, and all the appointments and decorations are in keeping with

the nature and size of the room. Seven class rooms open from the main auditorium. There is also a large and well-built gallery, and on the upper floor two handsome and well-furnished parlours. The kitchen, rooms for heating apparatus, etc., are well arranged and appointed. In fact the whole place is probably the most perfectly contrived of its kind in Canada, and is eminently fitted for the work of the Sabbath-school, class meetings, lectures, and the many other branches of Church activity outside of the meetings in the sanctuary themselves.

HUMANIZE THE BOYS.

A LITTLE set of dishes is a necessity for the children; it is a sort of humanizer for boys, as well as girls. Don't laugh at your boy for liking to play with them; there is nothing about the hearty, happy play which will make the boy an unmanly man. It is often and wisely advocated that the girl shall be allowed more of the boy's freedom from restraint, that she shall have an active interest in the outdoor sports and games of her brother, or of other girls' brothers if she has none of her own; and while this is as it should be, let us advocate also giving the boy a share in the gentler pastimes of the girls. It often appears that if sons were encouraged to take the same interest in the home that daughters are, the best results would follow. If the boys were taught to contribute something to its decoration and adornment, in the same way that girls are, the sweet ties that bind them to their homes would be strengthened. Children are a great care. The woman who has children, and yet who hopes and expects to lead the same kind of life that one may who is childless, will find to her lasting sorrow some time that she has left undone many things which she ought to have done. If mothers could look upon their duties with what I will call a professional interest, what an advance there would be in all that comes under the head of home education!