

## AFTER TEN YEARS.

A TRUE TALE.

"Be not weary in well-doing, for in due season you shall reap if you faint not."

Mary Blanchard and her husband were good people, as the world goes, but perfectly indifferent to religion, to the Bible, or any gospel influence. In this way they lived for several years after their marriage.

One summer her brother, an earnest Christian worker, made them a visit, finding them, to his surprise, without a Bible and with no interest in it. On his return he sent them a nice Bible. This, however, lay around the house unused nearly three years.

One day a neighbor who had run in for a morning call noticed it and remarked that she wished she had one like it, whereupon Mrs. Blanchard gave it to her, saying, "Take it, if you want it; you are welcome to it, for we have no earthly use for it."

The next summer the brother made them another visit, and on his inquiring for the Bible Mrs. Blanchard told him what she had done with it. On his return to Boston he sent them another, but not so expensive a one as the first. This too lay around the house unnoticed seven years.

During the winter of 1887 the wife of a near neighbor died, and in consequence of the cold and snow the funeral had to be postponed several days, and Mrs. Blanchard was sent for to sit up one night.

Lizzie Gray, her companion, a devoted Christian girl, had a Bible with her, and after reading a while in it at length she persuaded Mrs. Blanchard to kneel with her in prayer, and finally succeeded in getting her to try to pray for herself. On her return home the next morning the first object her eyes rested upon was her neglected Bible, whose silent reproach followed her all day long.

Unable longer to endure it she took the book and sat down to read. The first words her eyes fell upon were, "There is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." At once her mind ran back over the long years since first her brother gave her a Bible; and falling upon her knees she cried out, "O God, if thou art indeed that Friend who sticketh closer than a brother, instruct me from this Bible, that I may join that brother and thee in heaven."

Rising from her knees she sat down to the sacred volume. Day after day she read, the light gradually breaking in upon her troubled soul, until one day, while reading, she came to that verse, "I am come a light into the world that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness," when, falling upon her knees she cried out, "O Lord, I take thy Son as my light. Lead me forth from this darkness." Then the Sun of Righteousness shone in upon her soul, and she beheld the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Now with eyes opened to the value of the book she had so long spurned, she sought to interest her husband in its pages, and soon had the pleasure of knowing that he too had joined her in her journey to the New Jerusalem. And together they daily read its pages and join in prayer for spiritual understanding—*Morning Star*.

## ONE OF OUR MANY WORKERS.

A lady at Dacino, Wis. writes: Some years ago I took the *Northern Messenger* and I liked it very much indeed. My daughters were little girls then, now they are young ladies and they talk of the dear little *Messenger* quite often and wonder what it is like. I have often found the little Testament which you sent her some years ago under Bertha's pillow with many marks in it where she had been reading. Will you kindly send me a sample copy of the *Northern Messenger* I think I may be able to get up a club.

The sample copies have been forwarded and we will be very pleased to receive the club. Any of the friends of the *Messenger* will be supplied with sample copies free on application. Our friends can largely increase the circulation by recommending it, and they will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are circulating good wholesome reading matter.

## THE MESSENGER'S MERITS.

## A Girl Wins the Pen and Ink Tournament.

## The Ten Dollar Poem in Full, with Selections from other good ones.

We print herewith the poem winning the ten dollar prize offered some time ago by the publishers of this paper. A good number of poems were received from boys and girls under sixteen years of age, describing, as stipulated, the merits of the *Messenger* in thirty lines. Miss Thorburn's was found to be the best and we have sent her word to that effect. As stated in the announcement, the winner can choose for her prize either a ten dollar bill or 50 copies of the *Messenger* for a year. From the other poems several selections have been made, which we print below the prize poem.

THE WINNING POEM, BY MISS EDINA THORBURN, BROADVIEW, N. W. T.

A year ago last Christmas,  
My sister sent to me  
A subscription to the *Messenger*,  
Till Eighteen Ninety-three.

I never had a present  
That pleased me quite as well,  
For there is scarcely anything,  
Of which it does not tell.

Of mission field; of brave good men  
And women of our day;  
Of housekeeping, of fancy work,  
And even children's play.

My father likes to read it,  
My mother and the boys,  
And to hear its pleasant stories  
The wee ones leave their toys.

So when last Christmas Day drew near,  
My sister said to me  
"What shall I give you, Rosie dear?"  
I answered instantly,

"If you would get the *Messenger*  
Again, I'd be so glad,  
It was the most delightful gift  
That I have ever had."

My paper I call thee,  
Thou *Northern Light*,  
So full of instruction,  
So wondrously bright,

I love to peruse thee,  
Thy merits I'll sing;  
That other subscriptions,  
To thee I may bring.

BESSIE G. MILLER,

Mt. Handley, N. S.

One day when tired of study,  
I walked along the street;  
And calling at the office,  
I found my fortnight's treat.

Upon its pages reading,  
I saw its truths, among  
Instructions for the wise ones,  
And counsel for the young.

Just send and take the *Messenger*,  
'Tis only thirty cents,  
And what you spend in money,  
I'm sure you'll gain in sense.

MYRTLE FULLERTON.

Point de Bute, N. B.

It tells you how to boil and bake,  
To make a pudding or wedding cake  
It tells you how to be good and true,  
To live each day as you ought to do.

CORA HANINGTON.

Rose Creek, Calgary, N. W. T.

It is a Temp'rance paper too,—  
"Now friend, your lips may curl;  
But Temp'rance papers are my choice,  
For I'm a Temp'rance girl."

So if you want to find out more,  
Do this, my reader dear,  
Send thirty cents to Montreal,  
And get it for a year.

MAUD M. GOODWIN.

Clinton, Ont.

The *Messenger* is a paper,  
Published by John Dougall & Son  
To make the children happy,  
And fill them full of fun.

J. B. PARHAM.

Eastmans Springs, Ont.

And now for this competition  
Other poetry will shine,  
But I do here petition  
That they'll not all beat mine.

J. EDWIN W. THOMPSON.

Greenwood, Pembroke, Ont.

The merits of the *Northern Messenger*  
And but twenty-four lines allowed!  
In order to get them all into that space,  
I will surely have to crowd.

MIA F. FARQUHARSON.

Fletcher, Ont.

"Where do you get your paper, pet?  
Now tell me all about it, May."  
"My lovely *Messenger*," she said,  
"In school, I get each Sabbath day."

LIZZIE I. NICOL.

Campbellford, Ont.

The *Messenger* is, as all of you know,  
A paper for young and old people too.  
Its merits are good, on which all may rely,  
And to get more subscribers let every one try.

'Tis worth twice the money that for it is paid,  
And nothing against it has ever been said,  
I'd pay twice the money that paper to buy,  
And to get more subscribers let every one try.

DAVID GEDRON PHILLIPS.

North East Branch, Margaree, Cape Breton.

Helps for Sunday-School and teacher,  
Helps for young and old;  
Of the worth of this good paper  
The half has not been told.

AGGIE WATT.

Anamosa, Iowa.

Boys will never hurt a cur  
Who read the *Northern Messenger*.

NELLIE OREM.

Braeside, Ont.

## THE NAMES OF THE COMPETITORS.

Poems were received from the following:—  
Frank Conlin, C. Page, Edina Thorburn, Mabel A. Banning, Mary Brown, Bessie G. Miller, David A. Brown, Meta McConnell, Ethel M. Pottor, David G. Phillips, Myrtle Fullerton, Edith Barkley, Cora Hanington, Belle Thexton, Maude M. Goodwin, Blanche Shepherd, Mary A. O'Neill, John B. Parkham, Katie MacLennan, Minnie E. Givins, J. Edwin W. Thompson, Mia F. Farquharson, Pansy E. Young, Lizzie I. Nicol, Aggie Watt, Mary E. Shaw, Alma Yonge, Robert M. Millman, Nellie Orem, Sarah J. Clark, Maggie Cassidy, Alice R. Wood, Susie F. Vanderpyle, Violet Giles, Katie Anderson, Mary MacIsaac, Lloyd P. Bauslaugh, Mary E. Manloy, Charles E. Storns, Harry A. Parkin, Bonj. Stanley Ross, Susan Maudo Tisdall, Edwin W. Lewis, Jessie Allan, John McPhee, and Belle S. Sutherland.

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## NEW CLUB RATES.

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Publishers, Montreal.

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## ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Will knit a stocking heel and toe in ten minutes. Will knit everything required in the household from homspan or factors. Coarse or fine yarns. The most practical knitter on the market. A child can operate it. Strong, Durable, Simple, Rapid. Satisfaction guaranteed or no pay. Agents wanted. For particulars and sample work, address,  
Cardon & Gearhart, Dundas, Ont., Canada.

Mention this paper.

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THIS Rolled Gold Pated Ring worth \$1, your name on 23 new and pretty Cards, silk fringed, gold edge, hidden name, etc.; Agent's Sample Case and a 25c present, all for 10c. Samples, etc., 3c. Address STAB CARD CO., Knowlton, P. Q.  
IF YOU WANT to get cheap Jewellery, Novelties, or a Watch, at about one-half regular price, write for Catalogue and private terms. Address,  
HALL BROS. & CO., Knowlton, P. Q.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

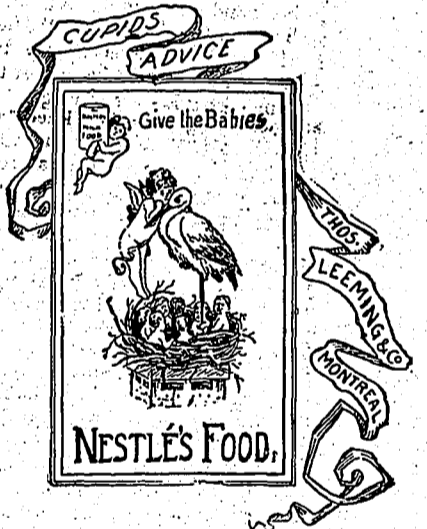
## How Clara Helped her Mother and Saved Baby.

Clara —, a bright, happy and winsome girl of twelve years, lives in the city of Toronto. Clara attends school regularly, and has made considerable progress in her studies owing to her diligence and perseverance. In the home, she is mother's helper; and, in a quiet way, she assists in making life pleasant for her father, mother, three little brothers and a baby sister of eight months.

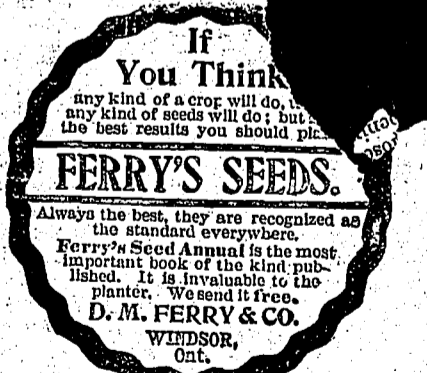
A few weeks ago, this baby sister was very ill; the doctor attended it from day to day, but the little one remained weak and puny. Clara, whose perceptive faculties were very keen, said to her mother one day: "Mamma, I feel sure that baby can be made well by using that Lactated Food, about which so many people speak. You remember what doctor said, about sister having indigestion, do you not? well, that reminds me of what I was told in school some months ago by Susie —; she said, that her aunt's baby was made well and strong after it was fed on Lactated Food. Do, dear mamma, try this food; I think it will do baby so much good!"

The kind and anxious mother did consent to try the Lactated Food; its use for a few days proved it a success. Father, mother and gentle Clara were delighted with the wonderful results; and, in a month's time, baby was bright and healthy looking, and the dear mother was enabled to cast off all anxiety and fear.

In this way Clara truly helped her mother, and saved her baby sister. There are to-day in Canada, thousands of girls who know what Lactated Food can do, having seen its good effects in the home. These girls can in a quiet way, recommend Lactated Food to mothers who have not tried it.



We will send half a pound of Nestlé's Food and our dainty new book "The Baby" to any mother sending us her address.



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