

mightier and better Father and Friend than any to be found among men, has taken charge of her, of her interests, of her happiness forever, what shall we do, but bow submissively to God's will? Let us remember that He hath infinite tenderness towards us though He afflicts us. Let us rest in the full persuasion that though "clouds and darkness are round about Him," in this affliction, yet that not only justice and judgment are the habitation of His throne, but mercy and infinite compassion too, and that dreary as may now be the aspect of the case, there will one day be revealed, if not here then hereafter, a bright side of it; yea, a scene of unutterable brightness and glory! The Lord would have us, though now faint, yet still to pursue. His sore-stricken and sorrowful servants may never give up. He is still with them in the fainting as in the conflict, and will never leave them nor forsake them. Oh, let us arise to a trusting, loving faith in His great wisdom, compassion and faithfulness, and then turn afresh and heartily to His service as the highest and best, listening to the injunction and obeying it. "Wherefore, my beloved brethren be ye steadfast, immovable," &c., &c., 1st Cor. xv.

MR. PETER McDOUGALL.

On the 13th inst., this servant of the Lord entered into rest. Though ailing for some months, no apprehensions of a serious nature were felt till a few weeks before his decease. He had been a member of the Congregational Church, in Indian Lands, since its organization, and always took an active part in its work. For many years he served as deacon, and the brethren laid on him a large share of the responsibility for originating every movement. He was very firm and unflinching in what he considered right. The pastor always felt that he had in him a friend, an attentive and appreciative hearer, and one who was invariably present at the services of the church on sabbaths and week days. The last Sabbath he was present with us was Communion day, and as usual he took his post in distributing the elements. He was very peaceful and resigned during his illness. The Saviour was his hope and trust. His death is loss to us, but it was gain to him.

D. M.

Athol, Nov. 24th, 1876.

Home and School.

BUT ONCE A YEAR.

BY MRS. M. F. BUTTS.

Christmas comes but once a year,
Let us all remember;
Hearts should be as warm as June,
Though 'tis bleak December.
Keeping Christmas means good cheer,
Not mere careless giving;
A lift to those who need our help,
And love for all the living.

Christmas comes but once a year,
Fill it full of beauty;
Not alone for selfish joy,
Without thought of duty.
Light the tapers on the tree,
Not only for each other,
But that their joyous glow may cheer
Some weary wayworn brother.

Christmas comes but once a year,
So much greater pity

If hearts are sad that should be glad,
In country or in city.
Then let us hold true festival,
And press so close together,
That none shall feel, in human warmth,
The cold December weather.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS.

FIRST QUARTER, 1877.

1. Jan. 7.—The kingdom divided...1 Kings 12, 12-20.
2. " 14.—The sin of Jeroboam...1 Kings 12, 25-33.
3. " 21.—Omri and Ahab...1 Kings 16, 22-34.
4. " 28.—Elijah the Tishbite...1 Kings 17, 1-16.
5. Feb. 4.—Elijah and Ahab...1 Kings 18, 5-18.
6. " 11.—Elijah and the Prophets of Baal...1 Kings 18, 19-29.
7. " 18.—Elijah and his Sacrifice...1 Kings 18, 36-46.
8. " 25.—Elijah at Horeb...1 Kings 19, 8-18.
9. Mar. 4.—The story of Naboth...1 Kings 21, 4-14.
10. " 11.—Elijah Translated...2 Kings 2, 1-12.
11. " 18.—The Spirit on Elisha...2 Kings 2, 13-25.
12. " 25.—Review.