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For further particulars see elsewhere in this issue.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, 'Witness' Block, Montreal.

## THE NEW 'WITNESS' SERIAL

The story of Stepan Iline, who 'through strait doors entered into a wide place,' is one that will stir the hearts of our readers to their very depths. The extraordinary decree on which this story is founded is not an effort of the imagination, but simple historical fact, and we who are free men need to realize our privileges. We need to realize the privations of those who have been and are bondsmen. When such men come to us looking for a new land, a new life, we need some knowledge of what they come from if we are to weld them into added strength for this great nation we are building. 'The Long Road,' by John Oxenham, will start in the 'Witness' in the third week in February. Watch for it. Show this to your neighbors.

## MAIL BAG.

Milwaukee, Wis., U.S.A.

Gentlemen,—Enclosed please find renewal subscriptions to 'World Wide' and 'Weekly Witness.' It would be impossible for me to state which paper gives the more satisfaction. Both are certainly indispensable.—(MISS) SUSAN M. DREW.

Winnipeg, Man.

Gentlemen,—Directly and indirectly I have been a reader of the 'World Wide' for four or five years, and find that reprints published and news contained in it are well selected, furnishing the best from many of the best journals and, therefore, gladly renew my subscription.—Very sincerely yours, (REV.) HUGH DOBSON.

## The Childless Home.

In a recent local paper I noticed the fact that Hannah and Joseph Bennett had celebrated their golden wedding. They are plain, God-fearing people. Their circumstances are quite comfortable, but unfortunately they have no children. They have not endowed orphanages nor colleges. They have done something better.

They have given homes to twenty-two children. They never had more than three under their roof at one time. Those that could receive it were given good, common educations. Some learned trades. When they were married they were given a 'setting out,' as our forefathers called it.

The Bennetts did not parade their philanthropy. Reader, can you not get some incentive from plain Joseph and Hannah? I recall another mother, whose five children lie in a village cemetery. She did not cry out, 'Lord, thou hast forsaken me.' She gave to poor parents each year the means to clothe their children. She gave about as much as her five would have received had they lived. Her benevolence was distributed widely. Some children were supplied with text-books for school, along with shoes and hose. Others would receive clothing or Christmas joys. Very little of her money lay idle.—'Herald and Presbyter.'

Life is God's gymnasium. He takes the measures; we do not know what they are. He puts us in our places, and gives us what discipline we need. The ministers call churches means of grace, and prayer means of grace, and the Bible means of grace, and so they are. But, also, your shop is a means of grace, and your kitchen a means of grace, and your social gathering is a means of grace. Let a man go into life believing this, taking life as his school preparing for the life beyond, and what a glorious thing it is to live! Even failures do not discourage such a man, because he says, I have failed once, and, now I know what my weak point is, I will correct it next time. Christ supplies our need by teaching us the meaning and significance of life.—Lyman Abbott, D.D.

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