

# Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

Vol. II.

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No. 52.

## The Temperance Worker

### PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

Again we beg to remind our friends of the great desirability of renewing their subscriptions promptly, so as to avoid two unnecessary changes in the books and disagreeable breaks in the receipt of their papers.

There is yet ample time to win or to lose the prizes in our "December Competition," and we would urge all the workers on to their best exertions for the remaining eight or ten days. At least, try to win your own paper for 1884 by four subscriptions at the full price, 50c.

Where else can a paper be obtained for the price with so much fresh general news, interesting reading matter, pictures and markets?

We hope you have all had a Merry Christmas, and wish you all a Happy New Year.

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### DOMINION ALLIANCE.

At its last meeting the Nova Scotia Branch of the Dominion Alliance resolved to organize an efficient county alliance in every county of the Province, and to have the whole province brought under the provisions of the Canada Temperance Act during the current year. With a view to accomplishing these grand objects, the Branch resolved to prepare and print a constitution for county alliances, a digest of judgments hitherto delivered upon the Canada Temperance Act and a set of legal blank forms required in enforcing that Act; also to engage a good lawyer to take care of all cases under the Act carried up to the Supreme Court of the Province, and, when necessary, an agent to organize county and auxiliary alliances.

A convention of temperance workers in St. John, N. B., recently started the "St. John City and County Prohibitory Alliance," and appointed a committee to nominate officers and report on the first Friday in January. The "Albert County Prohibitory Alliance," in the same Province, was organized at a convention held at Hillsboro. It is proposed in New Brunswick, which is now almost entirely organized under the Alliance, that the Provincial Branch shall be supplied with funds by annual contributions of not less than \$50 each from the county branches.

### BLUE RIBBON.

The Tabernacle Church, Halifax, has twenty-three pages of its blue ribbon pledge book full.

"A great success" is the report from the movement at Trenton, Ontario.

In Paris, Ontario, the society numbered over a hundred a fortnight ago.

18,510 persons took the ribbon, and 10,240 the pledge, during a four weeks' gospel mission in Sheffield, England.

### WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

The Union in St. John, N. B., lately celebrated its sixth anniversary with a public meeting. There are now 180 members enrolled, only a few of whom actively engage in the work. One of its newest works is a coffee house, that promises to be successful although it returned a deficit last year. The Union had also established a Wide Awake Club, composed of 50 girls and 80 boys, pledged against drinking, smoking and profanity. In their annual report the ladies complain of the manner in which they were treated respecting a public drinking fountain that the city owes to their efforts. They raised \$844.27 by public subscription for a fountain in King square, and with the money they handed over to the city authorities a design. It was a representation of Moses striking the rock to give water to the wandering Children of Israel. This design the city fathers saw fit to reject, some of them giving very silly reasons for their course, and the one substituted makes a fountain that is described as a monstrosity.

The tenth anniversary of the Montreal Union was celebrated on Sunday last by a public meeting in the American Presbyterian Church in the afternoon. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Wells, Upham and McCaul, and Mr. John Dougall. The origin of the society and an outline of its history were given, and the gentleman last named gave a succinct account of the temperance movement for sixty years, which he divided into periods of ten years, each characterized by some especial development of the cause.

### FRUITS OF THE TRAFFIC.

A man named Calvin Jotham died at his boarding house in Sherbrooke, Quebec, on Sunday before last, from excessive drinking. At the coroner's inquest it was proved that after drinking repeatedly at hotels throughout the previous Saturday afternoon, the deceased went with several companions to a drinking place where they remained drinking till early morning, when Jotham was left lying insensible on the floor. Late in the morning one of his comrades returned to him and rousing him up gave him more liquor, and then had him put in a cold bedroom. There he lay until nine o'clock in the evening, when two of his drinking companions took him in an unconscious state to his boarding house and he never stirred again. It was proved that deceased had received eleven dollars on Saturday, two of which he gave to his son and three were found in his purse after death, leaving six dollars unaccounted for. That is the amount he paid the liquor-sellers for murdering him, no doubt.

In a speech recently delivered in Halifax N. S., the Rev. W. G. Lanesaid a physician of that city told him he had two cases of lead poisoning from gin drinking and four from beer drinking, through the adulteration of liquor. He also told his audience the following story, illustrative of the evils of drinking habits in workmen:—"He was

called in by a doctor on Water street a few days ago, and there in that room had been a sick woman; the doctor had gone in to see her and found the place in flames; she was removed, the flames extinguished, and what had caused it? The workmen in building the chimney had filled in a portion of it with two or three empty liquor flasks, and what should have been solid was not, the damage to the property was not all—that woman's life was lost by the fright of that night."

A man named Robbins, aged about sixty, at Markham, Ontario, lately came home intoxicated and, after a quarrel with his wife, shot himself through the head.

Malcolm Duffy, a farmer, while on his way home from Collingwood with a load of lumber, is supposed to have taken too much liquor at Nottawa, and, his horses running away, he was thrown into a ditch where he was found dead the next day.

### SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

A short time ago the Rev. E. Crumney organized a Division at Compton, Quebec, with a membership of about eight. There was very little enthusiasm shown at the start, but the Division grew rapidly and now numbers over seventy and is still increasing. Lately a large and successful public meeting was held under its auspices and the temperance sentiment is reported to be growing stronger in the place.

"Atlantic Division," recently instituted at Archville, a suburb of Ottawa, invited P. M. W. P. Hon. Sir Leonard Tilley to attend its weekly meeting, and also requested the city and neighboring Divisions to honor the occasion with their presence. Sir Leonard, with his well known interest in the Order and his readiness to assist the good work in which it is engaged, at once accepted the invitation and visited this flourishing Division on the 17th inst. He was received with all the honors due so highly distinguished a brother and occupied the F. W. P.'s chair. The comfortable, neatly furnished, well lit Division Room was crammed to the door with Sons and Daughters of Temperance, to show how much the brother's kindness in attending was appreciated. The Divisions represented, besides the entertaining Division, were "Bytown," "Chaudiere," "Mount Sherwood" and "Quarry," amongst the more prominent members noticed being W. P.'s. Bros. Bartram, Rea, Kelly, and McGee, as also Bros. Hannum, W. Stewart, Slack, Thompson, Halkett and Alexander. Bro. Campbell, the efficient W. P. of "Atlantic" Division, in an able address, welcomed Sir Leonard and the Divisions present, extending to one and all a very cordial greeting. Sir Leonard's reply occupied an hour, was eloquent and full of words of encouragement, evidencing that length of years but increases his love for total abstinence principles and the Order for which he has so great a love and for which he has done so much. It inspired all with renewed zeal, and good results in advancing the Order here and elsewhere are sure to follow his kindly and brotherly, or rather fatherly, remarks. During the evening

"Atlantic" Division, not at all afraid of the numbers within its walls, hospitably entertained its guests with coffee and cake, bringing a very pleasant and agreeable evening to a close about 10.30. It is a grand invigorator, such a gathering, and now that the baby almost of the Order has shown so good an example, let it repeat the lesson and, while it is preparing to do so, let this Division and that follow its lead, vying with each other in bringing the family together to take sweet counsel together. Well done, "Atlantic;" may your shadow never grow less. BROOKE.

Ottawa, 18th Dec., 1883.

The Order continues to march on in Nova Scotia. New Divisions have been organized at Bayview, Pictou county; Head Pubnico, Yarmouth county; Amherst Point, Cumberland county; South Farmington, Annapolis county; Isaac's Harbor, Tor Bay and New Harbor, Guysboro' county, and a Division reorganized at Cape Island, Shelburne county. A Band of Hope has been organized in connection with the lately resuscitated Division at Guysboro' town. Messrs. Hutchings and Lewis, Grand Division agents, are the authors of most of this remarkable progress.

"Valley" Division, at Portland, a suburb of St. John, N. B., started thirteen months ago with 29 members, has now a membership of about 200 in good standing and lately dedicated a suitable hall for its meetings.

### GOOD TEMPI'RS.

Mr. P. J. Chisholm, G. W. C. T. of the Loyal Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, has organized a Lodge at Lorneville, Londonderry, in that Province, with 44 charter members. It is named "Colchester King" and starts out with excellent prospects of success. Mr. James M. Spence is W.C.T., and Mr. J. W. Williams Lodge Deputy.

Mr. J. C. Underhay, G. W. C. T. of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, has organized a Lodge called "Fidelity" at New Perth in that Province. Mr. Wm. C. West is W. C. T., and Mr. E. L. Lane, Lodge Deputy.

A TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION has been formed in the Episcopal Church at Sherbrooke, Q., with a large membership, including most of the best families in town. Besides those who have pledged themselves to total abstinence about an equal number have agreed to discountenance the custom of treating. This is very encouraging news at this festive season, and we should be glad to record similar movements in all our cities and towns.

TEMPERANCE WORKERS in Norfolk county, Ontario, are organizing to procure the Canada Temperance Act, and are encouraged by the hope that the measure will be adopted by the adjoining county of Oxford.

OVER TWO HUNDRED have signed the pledge through the instrumentality of the Temperance Association of Mitchell, Ontario.

## A NEW YEAR.

BY MARGARET E. SANGSTER.

Why do we greet thee, O blithe New Year?  
What are thy pledges of mirth and cheer?  
Comest knight-errant, the wrong to right,  
Comest to scatter our gloom with light?  
Wherefore the thrill, the sparkle and shine,  
In heart and eyes at a word of thine?

The old was buoyant, the old was true,  
The old was brave when the old was new.  
He crowned us often with grace and gift;  
His sternest skies had a deep blue rift,  
Straight and swift, when his hand unclasped,  
With welcome and joyance thine we grasped.  
O tell us, Year—we are fain to know—  
What is thy charm that we hail thee so?

Dost promise much that is fair and sweet—  
The wind's low stir in the rippling wheat,  
The wave's soft splash on the sandy floor,  
The bloom of roses from shore to shore,  
Glance of wings from the hower's nest,  
Music and perfume from east to west,  
Frost to glitter in jewelled rime,  
Blush of sunrise at morning's prime,  
Stars above us their watch to keep,  
And rain or dew though we wake or sleep?

These, O Year, we shall have from thee,  
For the thing that hath been aye shall be.  
Sowing and reaping, from seed to sheaf,  
The waiting long and the fruitage brief.  
What beyond is thy guerdon bright  
To us who stand in thy dawning light?

Canst drop a balm into sorrow's heart  
Till the aching wound forgets to smart?  
Canst comfort the mother when tempests  
beat

On a mound with stones at head and feet?  
Canst fill with courage the weary soul,  
And give the penitent bliss for dole?  
Thus other years have been rich in grace,  
Have dried the tears on the furrowed face,  
O, day by day, and from sun to sun,  
Wilt thou, good Year, do what they have  
done?

A whisper, such as an angel drops  
When over a cradled babe bestops—  
It says: "Oh, never to grieve or pain,  
To anguish or yearning, loss or bane,  
Hath any such ease to bring as Time.  
Listen, how softly my joy-bells chime.  
So, out of the winter and through the snow,  
The New Year's promises flash and glow.

Once more a voice, and I hear it call  
Like a bugle note from a mountain wall;  
The lines uplift it with mighty sound,  
The billows bear it the green earth round;  
A voice that rolls in a jubilant song,  
A conqueror's ring in its echo strong;  
Through the ether clear, from the solemn  
sky

The New Year beckons, and makes reply:

I bring you, friends, what the years have  
brought  
Since ever men toiled, aspired, or thought—  
Days for labor, and nights for rest;  
And I bring you love, a heaven-born guest;  
Space to work in and work to do,  
And faith in that which is pure and true.  
Hold me in honor and greet me dear,  
And sooth you'll find me a happy Year.  
—Harper's Bazar.

## HOW IT ALL CAME ROUND.

(L. T. Meade, in "Sunday Magazine.")

CHAPTER LIII.—THE PRINCE OF PEACE.

It was very nearly midnight when Mr. Home, entering the sitting room where his wife waited up for him, asked her to come with him at once.

"There is a hansom at the door," he said, "put on your bonnet and come. I will tell you all as we drive along; come at once, we have not a moment to lose."

Charlotte Home, accustomed as Home's wife to imperative demands, only thought of a night's nursing of some specially poor patient. She rose without a word, and in two minutes they were driving, as fast as a fleet horse could take them, to Prince's Gate.

"Charlotte," said her husband, taking her hand, "God has heard my prayer, God has given me the man's soul."

"Whose soul, my dearest?"

"The soul of John Harman. Charlotte, I have prayed as I never prayed before in all my life for that guilty and troubled sinner's

soul. I have been in an agony for it; it has seemed to me at times that for this lost and suffering brother I could lay down my very life. On Monday last I went to conduct service in the small iron church. I tried the night before to prepare a sermon; no thought would come to me. I tried at last to look up an old one; no old sermon would commend itself. Finally I dropped all thought of the morrow's sermon and spent the greater part of the night in prayer. My prayer was for this sinner, and it seemed to me that, as I struggled and pleaded, God the Father and God the Son drew nigh. I went to bed with a wonderfully close sense of their presence. At morning prayers the next day, Miss Harman and her father entered the church. You may well look at me in surprise, Charlotte, but when I saw them I felt quiet enough; I only knew that God had sent them. For the first time in my life I preached without note or written help. I felt, however, at no loss for words; my theme was the Prodigal son. I thought only of Mr. Harman; I went home and continued to pray for him. On Tuesday morning—that is, this morning—he was again at the church. After the prayers were over he waited to speak to me; he asked me to visit him at his own house this evening. I went there; I have been with him all the evening; he told me his life story, the bitter story of his fall. I am now come for you, for he must confess to you—you are the wronged one."

"I am going to see John Harman, my half-brother who has wronged me!" said Mrs. Home; "I am going to him now without preparation! Oh! Angus, I cannot, not to-night, not to-night."

"Yes, dear, it must be to-night; if there is any hardness left in your heart it will melt when you see this sinner, whom God has forgiven."

"Angus, you are all tenderness and love to him; I cannot aspire to your nature. I cannot. To this man, who has caused such misery and sin, I feel hard. Charlotte I pity, Charlotte I love; but this man, this man who deliberately could rob my dead mother! It is against human nature to feel very sorry for him."

"You mean to tell me, Charlotte, that you refuse to forgive him?"

"No; eventually you will conquer me; but just now, I confess, my heart is not full of pity."

Mr. Home thought for a moment. He was pained by his wife's want of sympathy. Then he reflected that she had not seen Mr. Harman. It was plain, however, that they must not meet until her spirit towards him had changed.

"Do not stop at Prince's Gate," he called out to the cabby, "drive on until I ask you to stop."

During the drive that followed, he told his wife Mr. Harman's story. He told it well, for when he had finished, Charlotte turned to him eyes which had shed some tears.

"Does Charlotte know of this?" she said. "I do not think so. Will you come to Mr. Harman now?"

"Yes, I will come on one condition!"

"What is that?"

"That I may see Charlotte afterwards."

"I am sure that can be managed."

Then Mr. Home desired the cabby to stop at Prince's Gate. A sleepy-looking servant waited up for them. He manifested no surprise at sight of the lady and gentleman at such an hour. Mr. Home took his wife's hand, and the servant led them straight to his master's study.

"I have told her the story," said Mr. Home; "she is your father's child, she comes to me." Here the clergyman paused and looked at his wife, he wanted the word "forgive" to come from her own lips. Mrs. Home had grown white to her very lips. Now, instead of replying, she fell on her knees and covered her face.

"Charlotte," said Mr. Harman, "can you do what this clergyman wants? Can you forgive the sin?" There was no answer; Mrs. Home was sobbing aloud. "I have robbed you, I have robbed you most cruelly. My dying father asked me to be good to you; I have been worse than cruel. You see before you an old, old man, as great a sinner as can be found on God's earth. Can you forgive me? Dare I ask it? At last, at last I make full reparation; I repent, in dust and ashes; I repent, and I restore all fourfold." But here Charlotte Home had risen suddenly to her feet. She came up

close to Mr. Harman, and taking his hand raised it to her lips.

"My husband has told me all. I, I quite forgive you," she said.

"Mr. Harman glanced at the clergyman.

"Your husband?" he said.

"Yes; sir, my wife," answered Mr. Home. "Sir, you heard my wife say that she quite forgives. You may go to rest to-night, with a very peaceful heart; the peace of God which passes all understanding may encompass your pillow to-night. It is late and you have gone through much, may I go with you to your room? There will be many explanations yet to make; but though a clergyman, I am also in some measure a physician, I see that you can go through no more emotion to-night, rest satisfied that all explanations can wait till to-morrow."

"I will go with you," answered Mr. Harman, "but may I first thank your wife?" Charlotte Home's bonnet had fallen off as she knelt on the floor, now suddenly a withered and trembling hand was placed on her head. "God bless you! Even from a sinner like me, such words from a full heart must be heard."

"Ay," said Mr. Home, in a loud, exultant voice "the Prince of peace and forgiveness has come into this house to-night."

CHAPTER LIV.—CHARLOTTE'S ROOM.

Mr. Home and Mr. Harman went away together, and Charlotte was left alone in the study. By the profound stillness which now reigned in the house she guessed that every one had gone to bed. The servant who had admitted them at so late an hour had looked sleepy as he had done so. Doubtless Mr. Harman had desired him not to wait longer. Charlotte felt there was no use in ringing a bell. She scarcely knew her way about in this great house. Nevertheless she must find Charlotte; she could not wait until the morning to throw her arms round her neck. She took one of the candles from the mantelpiece and began her tour through the silent house. She felt strangely timid as she commenced this midnight pilgrimage. The softly-carpeted stairs echoed back no footfall; she passed door after door. At last she recognized Charlotte's own private sitting-room, she had been there two or three times, but had never seen the room where her friend slept. A corridor, however, ran directly from this sitting-room, and Charlotte saw a closed door at the farther end. "That must be the room," she said to herself, and she went straight towards it. The door was closed, but Charlotte heard a faint sound within. Instantly on hearing it she knocked lightly, but distinctly. There was a quick sound of hurried and surprised feet, and Charlotte Harman opened the door. Her eyes were heavy and red, as though she had been weeping. Her face was pale. She had not begun to undress.

"Charlotte! Charlotte Home!" she exclaimed. "Oh, what is wrong? My father!"

"Nothing is wrong, dear Charlotte, I hear dear Charlotte; but may I come in? I have a great deal to tell you."

"Oh, I shall be glad! but how astonished I am to see you. I could not sleep. Yes, come in, you shall keep me company. Charlotte, you have been crying. Charlotte, there is something wrong."

"You may well be surprised to see me here," said Mrs. Home; "but strange as it may seem, things are more right than wrong. My husband came first, then he brought me."

"Yes, I saw Mr. Home early in the evening. I saw him go into my father's study. When he went away I went there myself; but the door was locked, and my father called out from within, 'Not to-night, my child; don't sit up for me, come to me in the morning, I would rather be alone to-night.' He never before refused to see me to say good-night. I went to my room. I could not rest. Everything seems very dark. I have been crying, and now you have come. Oh, Charlotte! what is the meaning of it all?"

"The meaning is good, Charlotte; but good or bad, you have to thank yourself for it. Why did you take your father to my husband's church on Sunday?"

"He came to me on Sunday morning," answered Miss Harman. "He said he would like to go to church with me. He never did go to church with me—never, for many months. I asked him where he would go. He said he would leave it to me. Then it flashed across me that he did not know Mr. Home, also that I had never heard Mr. Home preach. I resolved to go to his church,

We drove to Kentish Town. I made a few inquiries. I found out the little church where your husband told the people of his congregation how best to live, how best to die. Ah, Charlotte! he did preach to us. What a man he is!"

"He realizes the absolute daily presence of God more perfectly than any man I ever met," answered his wife. "My dear, it was God himself led you to my husband's church on Sunday. Your father went there again to-day. After the service he stopped to speak to Angus. He asked him to come to see him this evening. This evening he told my husband all; all the story of his sin, his repentance. Angus heard all, and when it was over he sent for me. I saw your father, Charlotte, your father may have been a sinner, but with such sinners, as he was once, the New Jerusalem will be filled by-and-by. Ah! thank God for the peace I saw in his face before I left him. Do you know that he put his hand on my head and blessed me. Angus is with him now, and I have come to you."

"My father has told all!" said Charlotte Harman. Her face could scarcely grow any whiter. She made no further exclamation, but sat quiet. Charlotte Home, having told her story watched her face. Suddenly, with tears springing to her eyes, she turned to the wife and mother who stood by her side.

"Charlotte, how hard my heart has been! I have passed through some dreadful weeks. Oh! how heavy was my burden, how heavy was my heart! My heart was growing very hard; but the hardness is gone now. Now, Charlotte, I believe, I believe fully what your little Harold said to me some weeks ago."

"What did I say to you dearest?"

"He said that Jesus Christ loved me very much. Yes, I believe Jesus does love me very much. Oh, Charlotte! do you know that I am tired and rested, and I want to sleep altogether. Will you lie down beside me? You will not leave me to fight?"

"No darling; I will not leave you to-night."

CHAPTER LV.—HOW SANDY WILSON SPEAKS OUT HIS MIND.

Early in the morning, the father and daughter met. Not very many words passed between them. Mr. Harman knew that Mrs. Home had told Charlotte all. Now, coming to his side, she put her arms about him, and knelt, looking into his face.

"Charlotte, you know what I have been," he said.

"Father, I know what you are now," she answered.

After these few words, she would scarcely allow him to speak again, for he was very weak, too weak to leave his bed; but later on, in the course of the day, they had a long talk together, and Charlotte told her father of her own suffering during the past weeks. There was no longer need of concealment between them, and Charlotte made none. It was a very few days later that two trustees of the late Mr. Harman's will saw each other for the first time.

Sandy Wilson had often looked forward to the moment when he could speak out his mind as to the enormity of the crime committed by Mr. Harman. Hitherto, this worthy man had felt that in this respect circumstances had been hard on him. His Daisy, his pretty little gentle sister, had been treated as hardly, as cruelly, as woman could be treated, and yet the robber—for was he not just a common robber!—had got off scot-free; he was to get off scot-free to the very end; he was to be let die in peace; and afterwards, his innocent child, his only daughter, must bear the brunt of his misdeeds. She must be put to grief and shame, while he, the one on whose head the real sin lay, escaped. Sandy felt that it would have been some slight relief to his wounded feelings if he could find some one to whom he could thoroughly and heartily abuse Mr. Harman. But even this satisfaction was denied him. Mr. Home was a man who would listen to abuse of none; and even Charlotte, though her eyes did flash when his name was mentioned, even she was simply silent, and to all the rest of the world Sandy must keep the thing a secret.

There was no doubt whatever that when, the day after Mr. Harman's confession, the Homes came to Uncle Sandy and told him, not only all, but also that at any moment he might receive a summons to visit Mr. Harman, he felt a sense of exultation; also that his exultation was caused not by the fact that his niece would now get back her own, for he had supplied her immediate need for

I made a few little church people of his, how best to preach to us.

daily presence my man I ever My dear, it was isband's church ent there again he stopped to him to come to evening he told y of his sin, his ll, and when it aw your father. have been a sin- he was once, led by-and-by. ce I saw on his on know that and blessed me. I have come to

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WILSON SPEAKS

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ever that when, y confession, the y and told him, any moment he o visit Mr. Har- ation; also that et by the fact t back her own, mediate need for

money, but by the joyful sense that at last, at last he, Sandy could speak out his full mind. He could show this bad man, about whom every one was so strangely, so absurdly silent, what he thought of his conduct to his dear little sister. He went away to Prince's Gate, when at last the summons came, bristling over with a quite delightful sense of power. How well he would speak! how cleverly he would insert the arrow of remorse into that cruel heart! As he entered the house he was met by Miss Harman. She held out her hand to him without a word, and led him to the door of her father's study. Her eyes, however, as she looked at him for a moment, were eloquent. Those eyes of hers had exercised a power over him in Somerset House; they were full of pleading now. He went into Mr. Harman's presence softened, a little confused, and with his many excellent, to the point, and scathing remarks running riot in his brain.

Thus it came to pass that Sandy said no word of reproach to the broken-down man who greeted him. Nay, far from reproaching, he felt himself sharing in the universal pity. Where God's hand was sunning hard, how could man dare to raise his puny arm!

The two trustees, meeting for the first time after all these years, talked long over that neglected, that unfulfilled trust, and steps were put in train to restore to Charlotte Home what had for so many years been "old back from her. This large sum, with all back interest, would make the once poor Charlotte very rich indeed. There would still be, after all was settled, something left for Charlotte Harman, but the positions of the two were now virtually reversed.

"There is one thing which still puzzles me," said Mr. Harman before they parted. "Leaving my terrible share in this matter alone, my brother and I could never have carried out our scheme if you had not been supposed to be dead. How is it you gave no sign of your existence for three-and-twenty years? My brother even wrote me word from Australia that he had himself stood on your grave."

"He stood on the grave of a Sandy Wilson, but never on mine," answered the other trustee. "There was a fellow bearing my name, who was with me in the Bush. He was the same age. How was like me too in general outline; big, with red hair and all that kind of thing. His name was put into the papers, and I remember wondering if the news would reach home, and if my little Daisy—bless her!—would think it was me. I was frightfully poor at the time, I had scarcely expense to bless myself with, and somehow, your father, sir, though he did eventually trust me, as circumstances proved, yet he gave me to understand that in marrying the sister he by no means intended to take the brother to his bosom. I said to myself, "A poor lost dog like Sandy may as well appear to be dead to those at home. I love no one in England but my little Daisy, and she does not need me, she has abundance without me." So I ceased to write. I had gone to a part of the country where even an English paper reached us but once or twice a year. I heard nothing of the old home; and by degrees I got out of the habit of writing. I was satisfied to be considered dead. I did wrong, I confess."

"By coming back, by proclaiming your existence, you could have exposed me years ago," said Mr. Harman; "how I dreaded exposure; how little I knew, when it did come, that it would fall lightly in comparison with—"

"What?" asked Wilson.

"The awful frown of God's displeasure. Man, to be shut away from God through your own sin is to be in hell. I have dwelt there for three-and-twenty years. Until two nights ago, I have known no peace; now, I know God can forgive even such a sin as mine."

"I believe you have suffered, Mr. Harman," answered Wilson. "For the matter of that, we are all poor sinners. God have mercy upon us all!"

"Amen," said Mr. Harman.

And that was all the reproof Sandy ever found in his heart to give to his fellow-trustee.

(To be Continued.)

The Herald and Presbyter says: "There can be no consistent compromise with the liquor traffic. It is an evil, and nothing short of extermination can satisfy the true Christian temperance worker."

PRIMARY S. S. WORK.

BY JOY VETREFONT.

In Boston recently Mrs. Crafts, the great Primary Sunday-school worker, spoke of the best method of work for the little ones.

She began by saying that some compare a child to a stone which you can carve into any form you choose. But a child is not like a stone, because a child has life and a soul which a stone has not. Children are very susceptible of all outward influences and have delicate ways and perceptions. Therefore it were wise of us in dealing with them to soften our voices, words, and deeds. Children are also like some minerals—they have a wonderful power of adhesion. Children are also like clay—so plastic that we can mould them as we choose. One who does not believe in child-Christians should not be a primary teacher. To make a child- Christian, you must have a teacher who believes in child-Christians. As children are so volatile they should have teachers full of resources for holding their attention. Gentleness is an indispensable requirement.

In riding one day with Dr. John Hall he uttered a sentence which had rung in her ears ever since. "Graces more than gifts will make you successful in your work."

The characteristic of changeableness in little children makes it necessary that the primary department should be quite separate from the main school—not divided merely by a door or thin partition, but so that the singing or other exercises shall not be heard in the adjoining room. Many primary teachers are hampered and hindered in their work by this close proximity to the main school. They feel that they can not give the children the variety of exercises necessary because by so doing they would disturb the other part of the school.

As little children are so volatile, full of life, and impossible, great skill and tact are needed. The primary department is the most important of all because there you make your first impressions. No one being taken out of a Bible class and put in the Primary department need think it degradation. It is the highest and most responsible work in the school.

The best method of teaching in the Primary department is, Mrs. Crafts thought, to have one head-teacher for the whole department, and under her a number of sub-teachers. Let this head-teacher introduce the lesson, rousing an interest in what the lesson is to be about. Then let the sub-teachers teach the lesson—and at the close let the head-teacher draw out by a little talk what the children have learned. Have the children graded according to age. One teacher can not hold the interest of a great number of children. But by the subdivided plan each teacher can learn the characteristics of each child and its temptations, and so help it. Then, too, each child can be called by name.

When transfers have to be made to the main school the teacher of the class can go with them; while if there is only one teacher, the transfers might be out in the main room some time without a proper teacher and thus much influence be lost and harm done.

A PARENTS' PARADISE.

We were much impressed lately by the orderly behavior of a large family of children, particularly at the table. We spoke of it to our host and he pointed to a paper pinned on the wall on which were written some excellent rules. He said he gave each child who obeyed the rules a reward at the end of every month. We begged a copy for the benefit of our readers. They were called "Rules and Regulations for Parents' Paradise."

1. Shut every door after you without slamming it.
2. Never stamp, jump, or run in the house.
3. Never call to persons upstairs, or in the next room. If you wish to speak to them, go quietly where they are.
4. Always speak kindly and politely to the servants if you would have them do the same to you.
5. When told to do, or not to do, a thing by either parent never ask why you should or should not do it.
6. Tell your own faults, not those of your brothers and sisters.
7. Carefully clean the mud or snow off

your boots and shoes before entering the house.

8. Be prompt at every meal hour.
9. Never sit down at the table or in the parlor with dirty hands or tumbled hair.
10. Never interrupt any conversation, but wait patiently your turn to speak.
11. Never reserve your good manners for company but be equally polite at home or abroad.
12. Let your first, last, and best confidence be your mother.—*New Orleans Christian Advocate.*

HINTS TO TEACHERS ON THE CURRENT LESSONS.

(From Peloubet's Select Notes)

January 6.—Acts 15: 1-11.

TEMPORARY EVENTS.

Caractacus, a king in Britain, who had maintained himself nine years against the Romans, is this year subdued by P. Ostorius, the Roman general, and sent with his family to Rome. (See Tacitus, Ann. xii. 36.)

This was an age of remarkable intellectual activity, but there was a general decay of morals, and a disintegration of the old religions. The Jews were scattered everywhere, taking with them the faith in one God, a pure ritual of worship, and the Old Testament Scriptures, with their prophecies of the Messiah,—thus preparing the way for the spread of the Gospel.

The Roman empire, with its 120,000,000 of population, held sway over nearly all the known world, and by its conquests had prepared the way of the Lord, by a strong government, by building roads, by unity of language, by introducing many foreign customs and a higher culture among the distant nations, so that the Gospel could be preached in all lands. Rome had, by the census of A. D. 48, a population of 5,984,000 people, an army of 400,000 and 50,000 men in the navy. Palestine had a population probably of 6,000,000.

PRACTICAL.

1. Honest differences of opinion will arise among the best people and in the best churches.
2. We should take special pains, by searching for facts and true principles, by a wide toleration, by prayer, by wise advice, by pre-discussion, to arrive at harmonious conclusions.
3. Free discussion, and examination of the facts of God's dealings with men, will lead in the end to peace and truth.
4. We may, from charity, do many things that the weak brethren be not offended; but, when any thing indifferent is proclaimed as essential to salvation, we must oppose it.—*Prof. Riddle.*
5. But we must use ourselves, and allow to others, the glorious liberty of the sons of God.
6. Two good mottoes for the Church: "Many as the waves, but one as the sea" "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."
7. Harmony in the Church will require wisdom, self-denial, and true goodness on all sides.
8. Heresies and false doctrines occasion the true doctrine to be more carefully discussed, to cast off imperfections, and to stand out clearer and brighter than ever. This has been the result of the great doctrinal conflicts in the Church.
9. However great may be the theological differences and religious animosities of our own time, they are far surpassed in magnitude by the distractions of an age which, closing our eyes to facts, we are apt to "invest with an ideal excellence.—*Lightfo t.*
10. We can never insist too distinct y and earnestly that Jesus Christ is the only and the sole way of salvation.
11. Reliance on rites and ceremonies always tends to lead the soul away from Christ.
12. Legalism, whatever form it has assumed, has always been opposed to Gospel freedom, has always led to lower spiritual- ity, and deteriorated morality.—*Prof. Riddle.*
13. The proof that a people are God's people is in the gift of the Holy Ghost, and in hearts and lives purified by faith.

SOFT GINGERBREAD.—One cup of molasses, one-half cup of butter, one tablespoonful of ginger, one teaspoonful of soda, one cup of scalding water, stir in flour to make a stiff enough to bake in pans.

PUZZLES.

A RIDDLE.

I've seen you where you ne'er were,  
And where you never will be.  
And yet within that very place  
You shall be seen by me.

WORD-SQUARE.

1. Importance. 2. A place of public con- test. 3. An iron clamp. 4. To loosen. 5. Used by artists.

INITIAL CHANGES.

I am anxiety. Change my head and I become successively to defy, toil, naked, an animal, doctrine, the incubus, to peel, scarce, vetch, merchandise.

TWO ENIGMAS.

1. My first is in lap, not in drink.  
My second is in beaver, not in mink.  
My third is in Charles, not in George.  
My fourth is in canyon, not in gorge.  
My fifth is in lake, not in ocean.  
My sixth is in wheeler, not in Goshen.  
My seventh is in movement not in motion.  
My whole is the name of a celebrated priest.
2. My first is in bottle, not in jug.  
My second is in tumbler, not in mug.  
My third is in year, not in week.  
My fourth is in search, not in seek.  
My fifth is in tent, not in cave.  
My sixth is in transom, not in nave.  
My whole is the name of a poet.

SOME QUEER QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.

1. What English town makes good bread?
2. What islands describe foolish girls?
3. What town do farmers use?
4. What Scotch town is often burned?
5. What Scotch lake is often boiled in soup?
6. Which lake may be beaded?
7. What river in England is a troublesome boy.
8. What English town makes us learned?
9. Which one furnishes the best cream?
10. What island was found in Eden?
11. Which town would help the navy?
12. Which river is a Spanish title.
13. What Irish cape tells fortunes?
14. Where do Johnny's clothes go on Mondays?
15. Where does baby go every day?
16. What English river should be fresh?
17. What Irish town is always light?
18. What cape is ever stormy?
19. What one is always pleasant?
20. What island is full of stars?
21. In which river of England may we land a boat?
22. Which English town is considered a great possession in Eastern countries?
23. Which is the river of Paradise?
24. Which river runs over the desert?

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

CHARADE.—Brew, brewer, brewery.

COUNTESS DUFFERIN'S CONUNDRUM.—Welcome.

DOUBLE CROSS-WORD ENIGMA.—St. Nicholas; Santa Claus.

AN ANCIENT RIDDLE.—That is a thorne; for a man went to the wood, and caught a thorne in his foot; and then he sat him down, and sought to have pulled it out, and because he could not find it out, he must needs bring it home.

PROGRESSIVE NUMERICAL.—Old Orchard Beach.

CORRECT ANSWERS RECEIVED.

Correct answers have been received from Hannah Glogrick, and Andrew Kirk.

"It's coming, boys,  
It's almo't here;  
It's coming, girls,  
The grand New Year!  
A year to be glad in,  
Not to be bad in;  
A year to live in,  
To gain and give in;  
A year for trying,  
And not for sighing;  
A year for striving,  
And hearty thriving;  
A bright New Year,  
Oh! hold it dear;  
For God, who sendeth,  
He only lendeth."

HASH MADE FROM BOILED (OR CORNED) BEEF.—Two quarts of lean cold boiled beef, chopped fine; one part of boiled potatoes, also chopped; put both into a clean stew-pan with a very little milk—only enough to prevent it drying—stir occasionally till very hot, but not all brown, add a large piece of butter, and season; when the butter is mixed the "hash" is ready to serve, either upon toast or in a mound, garnished with sippets of toast. This may be varied by adding a little chopped parsley, or onion.

## The Weekly Messenger.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29.

## THE WEEK

A VOTE OF CENSURE having been moved against Signor Baccelli, Minister of Public Instruction, in the Italian Legislature, the Premier supported him, declaring that a vote against that Minister would be a vote against the entire Cabinet. After much discussion the vote was postponed a week. When the matter came up again the Chamber gave the Minister the demanded vote of confidence by 154 to 6.

OIL HAS OFTEN BEEN USED with success to still the stormy waves, but a supply is not generally carried on board ship for that purpose. Lately the entire fishing fleet of Broughty Ferry, Scotland, has been furnished with cans of oil for use in rough water, and already several fishermen have testified to its great service. At Dundee a large steamer is being fitted with a tank to contain 120 gallons of oil to be used when passing through heavy seas, lowering a life boat or in other emergencies.

THE STRIKE OF ENGINEERS on the Canadian Pacific Railway was defeated by the Company securing sufficient men to occupy the strikers' places.

A FIRE AT RAT PORTAGE, in the territory in dispute between Ontario and Manitoba, on the 16th destroyed nearly all of the business portion left by a shortly previous fire. Over seventy people are homeless in a town of seven hundred inhabitants.

MR. HOPKINS, of Pennsylvania, will present a bill in the House of Representatives, Washington, placing restrictions upon the ownership by aliens of lands in the United States. He has made investigations revealing that the Earl of Dunraven owns 60,000 acres in Colorado, the Earl of Dunmore, 10,000 acres; a Dundee Company, 50,000 acres; the Danish Vice-Consul, 50,000 acres in Minnesota; Phil. Marshall & Co., of London, 130,000 acres in Mississippi; another English Company, 700,000 acres in the Hazoo Delta and 3,000,000 acres in Texas, and Benjamin Newgas, of Liverpool, 100,000 acres in Arkansas. These are only a few cases on a list prepared by Mr. Hopkins.

DEPRESSION WITH REDUCED WAGES continues to be the report from the iron-milling centres of the Middle States. Cotton operatives in Fall River are determined to resist reduction of wages, and it is said would prefer a suspension of operations to cure the overproduction of goods.

MARY KOFFORD, a Danish woman, called upon a prominent dentist at Denver, Colorado, and asked him for poison that could not be detected in an autopsy. She offered three hundred dollars for the article, and reluctantly admitted that she wanted it to poison her husband, Hans Kofford, so that his younger brother, who was in love with her, could enjoy with her the insurance of \$5,500 on her husband's life. The dentist made an appointment for the woman and her brother-in-law to meet him in his office in the evening. He had police and insurance men concealed within hearing of the interview, and thus the villainous plan was exposed and the conspirators were arrested.

MR. A. J. JONES, of Providence, Rhode Island, for thirty years a resident of Rome, has offered the United States Government the gift of an estate worth forty thousand dollars, in the suburbs of the "Eternal City," in the hope that his countrymen will establish thereupon an American academy of fine arts, where American art and the honor of the American name should be promoted perpetually.

AT A RECEPTION given in New York to French workmen's delegates, a resolution was passed pledging the support of those present to effect a union of the working classes in America with those in France in the struggle for social and industrial liberty. During the evening the cry of the French Communists, "Vive la Commune," was greeted with mingled applause and hisses. The real American workman, whether native or adopted, has nothing in common with the French Communist any more than with the German Socialist, and will not be led by either of them.

IRISH REFUGEES in Paris have passed resolutions threatening revenge for the execution of O'Donnell, Carey's murderer. New York Fenians indulged in much murderous talk over the same subject. One of them proposed to raise a fund out of which to pay \$10,000 to any man who kills a Carey, and said he would give five dollars for the killing of an informer and ten dollars for the man "who fixes Justice Denman."

FIVE COMETS are reported visible at Buenos Ayres, South America.

MOST DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT has been brought home to two magistrates in Charlotte county, N. B., in connection with the administration of the Canada Temperance Act in force there. It appears that nineteen cases of alleged offences against the Act were tried before two Justices of the Peace in the town of St. Stephen in two days, and every one of them resulted in an acquittal. Later on one of the acquitted was tried for the same offence before the Police Magistrate, when the defence produced a certificate of dismissal from James Brown and John Cummins, two Justices of the Peace. On the other hand it was proved that at the trial held by these worthies there was only one witness and he was invited to attend by the defendant. It was also shown that Squire Brown came to the judgment seat on that occasion upon the invitation of one of the nineteen accused persons mentioned above. The Police Magistrate refused to recognize the farce and fined the defendant fifty dollars. Surely the Government of New Brunswick will not any longer allow such men to disgrace the sacred trust of the public peace.

A VOTE FOR A SMALL FUND, asked by the Minister of the Interior, for the remuneration of certain functionaries was rejected by the Lower House of the Prussian Diet, because it was reported that payments would be withheld from officials who voted for Liberals at the elections.

ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE by the British Government that, in accordance with the prayers of a large majority of the natives, it will resume control in Basutoland.

THE REV. JOSHUA MARSHALL, rector of Grace Episcopal Church, City Island, Washington, fell dead in the pulpit as he was about to open the service on Sunday evening, 16th.

UPON CONFESSION P. P. Gillis was fined \$50 in Charlottetown, P. E. I., for violation of the Canada Temperance Act.

YELLOW FEVER is causing deaths in Havana, Cuba.

THE CROWN PRINCE of Germany received an enthusiastic reception in Rome. He paid a visit during his stay to the Chamber of Deputies. When about parting from the Pope the latter asked him if he had any mission to perform, and he replied, "I have one only, namely, to express the warm desire of the Emperor William and Prince Bismarck for the restoration of religious peace in Germany, compatible with our laws and institutions." The Crown Prince left Rome at midnight amid great ceremony. His interview with the Pope lasted an hour, and he was much affected by the warm welcome given him by His Holiness. A Rome paper says the visit was the outcome of Prince Bismarck's project of uniting conservative forces against the audacious democracy, and that the place of honor in the alliance has been assigned to the Papacy as the first influence in the world.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR has appointed a board of officers of the army and navy to consider the whole question of sending relief to Lieut. Greely in the Arctic regions.

ON A RAILWAY CROSSING near Cotaraqui, Ontario, on December 15th, an engine struck a buggy in which was Mr. Isaac Powley, who was instantly killed. On the 17th the Napanee stage was run into at the same place, and Mrs. Armitage, Mrs. H. Wartman and Mrs. Gorrie were killed and the driver was slightly hurt.

IN OPENING THE CROWN'S Case in the trial of seven Invincibles for conspiracy to murder, in Cork, the Attorney-General said he would prove that the Land League had subscribed to a fund for the murder of several persons. Andrew Coleman, the principal witness for the prosecution, testified to the existence of a Fenian society in the county Mayo, and said he had been giving information to the police while assisting the accused. Once he accompanied some of the prisoners to murder certain gentlemen, but the gentlemen escaped because he had given them timely warning. A sensation was created when Coleman testified that the prisoners were plotting murders while attending mass. Evidence was given detailing the assassination plot and telling of the finding of arms and explosive machines in an old castle. After forty minutes' consultation the jury reported their disagreement, and having failed to agree in the next five hours they were discharged.

A CONVICT named William Wilson, in the Central Prison, Toronto, made a statement before dying that his real name was Thomas Niven, and that he had relatives at St. Leonard-on-the-Sea, Sussex, England, to whom he wished word to be sent that he died in the faith of Jesus Christ.

ALFRED DIGBY HOWARD absconded from Winnipeg, Manitoba, with \$50,000 that had been entrusted to a firm of solicitors of which he was the junior partner. He was arrested at the Windsor Hotel, Chicago, where he was registered under a false name, and most of the money was found hidden in his wife's muff. He cannot be extradited for the crime, but can be kept in gaol under the absconding debtor law.

NEGOTIATIONS COMMENCED by the German Government, looking to a modification of the restrictions upon American pork, are said to have caused President Arthur to strike out of his message a clause advising retaliatory measures against Germany.

A BILL FOR THE TAXATION of incomes derived from personal property was coldly received in the Lower House of the Prussian Diet, and it is doubtful if it passes.

TWO NOTORIOUS OUTLAWS, Old Sample and Willis, the chiefs in a recent murder and robbery, have been captured in Arizona. Their gang had been robbing trains, raiding towns and ranches and committing other depredations.

THE BOUNDARY DISPUTE between Ontario and Manitoba is to be referred to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, the highest court in the British Empire, by agreement of the Dominion, Ontario and Manitoba Governments.

THE AGENT AND PROMOTER of a lottery at Guelph, Ontario, have each been fined twenty dollars and costs.

ROBBERS CHLOROFORMED Mr. S. P. Cressinger, Maple Rapids, Michigan, stole \$2,500 and a quantity of valuables and then fired the house. He recovered in time to escape from the house, that was burned with a loss of \$23,000.

MR. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, President of the British Board of Trade, in a speech in Birmingham, spoke of the opponents of an extension of the franchise as claiming to be sheltered behind the throne. He scouted the idea that any one party would be considered as having a monopoly of loyalty. The Queen had never been unwilling to extend the bounds of freedom. He rejoiced to believe that the monarchy was above the prejudices of political controversy.

SEVEN DESPERADOES in Huntington, Oregon, robbed J. Tyler, merchant, of \$15,000, a railway paymaster of \$12,000 and several others of amounts ranging from \$200 to \$500. As there is no constabulary in the county, it is believed the highwaymen will escape.

D. W. BLACKBURN, Treasurer of the Board of Supervisors, Keokuk, Iowa, is short in his accounts \$12,500, and says he does not know where the money has gone.

THE OWNER OF THE "CORSAIRIO" newspaper, Rio Janeiro, Brazil, was murdered on the 25th of October by officers and soldiers. He had been exposing corruption among the upper classes, and this was their answer. No attempt has been made to bring the murderers to justice. It is said the Emperor was threatened with a military revolt against himself and his family if any movement was made toward having justice vindicated. An attempt to bring out another paper of the same character was frustrated by the police seizing all the copies in the hands of the newsboys and destroying them.

A FLOATING THEATRE to cost \$25,000 is proposed to be built in New York, for giving performances in river and coast towns. It is to be built on the catamaran principle, that is, on two or more hulls.

MR. PAUL BELANGER, inspector of cars on the Intercolonial Railway at Point Levis, Quebec, is the father of thirty-three children. He had been thrice married and his first wife was the mother of nineteen children, his second of six, and his third, so far, of eight, the two latest additions being twins a few weeks old. Mr. Belanger is 69 years of age.

LIONEL V. PERCIVAL, of Toronto, Secretary of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club, has been fined \$10 or thirty days for brutal treatment of a boy who struck his dog with a stick.

LETTER STEALING has been traced to a clerk in the post-office in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

IN THE FRENCH CHAMBER COURT D'Ornano moved the adjournment of a debate on the question of a cable between Saigon and Tonquin, saying the Ferry brothers had carried the members away. M. Jules Ferry, the Premier, said the Count's language was indecent, to which the Count retorted that the Premier was impertinent. Thereupon the Premier threatened that if the Government was to be exposed to insults, the Ministers would refuse to attend the sittings in the Chamber. After the proceedings M. Charles Ferry, brother of the Premier, sent seconds to Count D'Ornano with a challenge to fight a duel, but finally the matter was, to the credit of those concerned, and of France, amicably arranged.

NATIVE ACCOUNTS of the great battle in the Soudan say 3,000 of Hicks Pasha's army were taken prisoners. A native who was with the army made his escape from El Obeid because of his black color and because he wore no uniform. He says Hicks Pasha fought like a lion and was the last officer to fall. The members of his staff fell in one group. After the battle one hundred and fifty soldiers were found wounded. El Mahdi, the "False Prophet," gave orders that none of the wounded should be ill-treated. The heads of European and Egyptian officers were taken off and fixed over the gate of El Obeid. The Arabs resolved to erect a tomb for Hicks Pasha's body, because of his great bravery. El Mahdi forbade Vizetelly, the artist of the London Graphic, to be ill-used.

TEN MEN, charged with attempting to blow up the bridge and public works in Glasgow, were brought to Edinburgh and put on trial there last week. Evidence was given connecting them with Gallagher and his associates lately sentenced for various terms up to life in penal servitude for dynamite conspiracy. Other important evidence was of the findings of newspapers and documents in the prisoners' houses showing their connection with the Irish agitation, and details of the Fenian organization including its oath. Testimony for the defence was mainly by relatives of the prisoners and aimed at proving they were elsewhere at the time than where the mischief charged against them was done. The judge's charge was very severe against the prisoners and they were convicted, and five of them sentenced to penal servitude for life and five for seven years. Those receiving the lighter sentence were recommended to leniency by the jury because they had not known the extent of the designs of the Fenian society.

THE GOVERNMENT of the Argentine Republic, South America, is trying to stop the introduction of dynamite by putting a tax of fifty per cent upon it. If dynamite be added to the elements of revolution in South America, governments will whirl in and out of existence too rapidly for the outside world to keep count of. It is had enough down there with only gunpowder.

SIR JOHN GLOVER has been appointed Governor of Newfoundland, a position he filled for a term once before.

RADICALS IN SERBIA are being doomed to death by the score for complicity in the recent rising, and those not arrested are fleeing the country. Prince Milan is wielding the sceptre too sternly for his young monarchy, and may be taught too late that his people did not come out of Turkish bondage to be ground under the heel of their own kindred.

IN HIS WILL the late M. Henri Martin, the French historian, asked that his funeral should be simple and that the money that would otherwise be spent upon obsequies should be given to the poor. Having rejected ultramontanist, he requested that a liberal Protestant clergyman should conduct his burial services.

HANTS COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA, temperance workers held a convention at Windsor a few days ago, to consider means of putting the Canada Temperance Act into more successful operation. Measures were adopted for carrying out the provisions of the Act of 1884 for the enforcement of the Act first-mentioned.

OWING TO THE AUTHORITIES refusing, even upon the prayer of numerous-signed petitions, to collect fines under the Canada Temperance Act the measure is largely inoperative in the town of Moncton, N. B. Petitions are being circulated in the county (Westmorland) asking for a vote to repeal the Act. Better for the people to keep the Act and throw overboard some of their unfaithful officials. To go back to license from prohibition is a step that no intelligent temperance man can assent to.

THE LATEST FROM THE DESERT is that El Mahdi, the "False Prophet," is advancing and will reach Khartoum in a few days. At that point he will have to face the task of completing his conquest against the will and power of Great Britain.

SOME LEADING LIBERALS of Brockville, Ontario, revolted against the nomination by their party of a brewer as Mayor.

D. J. ROBB, a carter employed by the Shelden Company in Kingston, Ontario, tried to shoot the official who discharged him for drunkenness, but his revolver missed fire, and the worst he effected was to fall into the hands of the police and be sentenced to pay a fine of \$20.

THE FRENCH have taken Sontay in Tonquin, and Bacinh remains to be taken to give China all the cause for war which she has challenged. It is believed the French losses in taking Sontay were heavier by far than the fifteen killed and sixty wounded at first reported. A Paris correspondent says the Marquis Tseng, Chinese Ambassador in Europe, concluded a secret treaty with England whereby the latter was to offer her mediation to France after the capture of Sontay. China declares that the furthest concession she will make is the division of Tonquin and the relinquishment of suzerainty over Annam. She insists that Bacinh must remain Chinese. If England's mediation results in accordance with China's desires, China undertakes to cede the island of Hainan to England. Of course all this, or a great part of it, may be only invented, but some French papers are lashing themselves to fury over the thought of English intervention.

A CONVENTION OF FARMERS in Winnipeg resolved that Manitoba should insist on the absolute control of her public lands by her own legislature, compensation for lands used for Federal purposes, the repeal of customs duties on agricultural implements and building materials, the reduction of duties on articles of common use, representation in the Federal Cabinet and the immediate construction of the Hudson Bay Railway.

PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS in Wrangel, Alaska, are reported as being in a deplorable state, and the violent conduct of Mr. McFarland, a mission teacher, is believed to be explainable only on the grounds of his insanity.

THE FACTORY CHIMNEY; OR, THE LITTLE BADGE OF BLUE.

The busy builders' heavy task was very nearly done,  
The new-built factory's window-panes were glist'ning in the sun;  
The only part unfinished was the chimney great and tall,  
Which towered high above the rest, and overlooked them all.  
The scaffolding had, like a net, enclosed the chimney high;  
But, piece by piece, 'twas taken down, till—clear against the sky—  
The workmen looked as small as flies the chimney top around,  
With just a pulley-block and rope to bring them to the ground;  
And when their task was ended, and the men were lowered down,  
A busy hive where toil could thrive was added to the town.

Lord cheered the lookers on to see the noble work complete;  
Shook hands as men and foreman too came down upon their feet;  
Then down they hauled the running-rope, and, as it dropped to ground,  
Their "Hip! Hip! Hip! Hurrah!" was heard by all the country round.  
But, as the echoes died away, a solitary cry  
Came faintly through the evening air, and people wondered why;  
A cry as from a lonely man lost in a wilderness—  
And whence it came no one could tell—that cry of dire distress:  
Till one looked up—then looked again; then cried "Oh! neighbors—stop!  
Lord save us! See—Look! can it be—a man left on the top!"

"Where be my men," the foreman cries, "Step here, and let me see  
Who is the missing man of us—if missing man there be:  
Just nine beside myself went up to finish on that job;  
Here's Jake and Sandy, Mike and Ben; long Dick, and Jim and Bob—  
Where's Timmy Brown! Oh, here they be—thou'rt always backward, Tim,  
And where is George the mason, lads!—It surely can't be him?  
He worked on t'other side from us"—"He did, he did," said Mike—  
"Hold on a minute while I shout—he's started home helike—  
George! George, my lad! where be thee now?" he shouted loud and clear.  
Down from the height, midst waning light, a faint voice answered—"Here!"

"God help the man!" "God pity him," the awe-struck people groan,  
"A hundred yards above our reach—all helpless and alone;  
If we could but send up to him a line of thinnest string:  
Then add a cord, and then the rope; ay, that would be the thing,  
But there is not enough of wind to raise the smallest kite."  
"And is there then no other way by which to reach the height?"  
"Aye; we could build right up to him but that would take so long;  
And ev'ry hour must weaken him, although he was so strong.  
The chilly night is closing in, and, mayhap, in his gloom,  
His heart and brain won't bear the strain and he may meet his doom."

"Hist! Here's the wife—poor George's wife!"—and 'midst the parting crowd,  
A woman swiftly made her way, while many sobbed aloud;  
Her eyes were bright and tearless, but her heart was beating wild  
For him—the husband of that heart—the father of her child.  
They told her how a slender cord might save—if it could reach;  
"But now," said they, "there is no wind." "Thank God," was all her speech.  
She waved her hand for silence; and they breathlessly stood still,  
While she essays to speak to him she'd loved through good and ill—  
"George! George, my husband! Canst thou hear thy own—thy faithful Bess."  
Down through the shroud of gathering cloud he cried, "God bless thee!—Yes!"

Cried she, "take off thy stocking, George, that I have knit for thee."  
The people asked—"what can she mean? It's crazy she must be!"  
But when she cried, "Unravel it, and let the thread come down!"  
A mighty cheer broke from them all, and rang throughout the town.  
"Will someone fetch some string and cord?" "Aye!" "And with night and main  
To house and shop men swiftly ran—then panting back again:  
And in their wake came hundreds more from road, and street, and lane,  
One feeling thrilled the multitude—one sympathetic pain:  
Ah! let the cynic sneer about man's selfishness and sin;  
But here's that touch of nature such as makes the whole world kin.

As up through gath'ring darkness there, the waiting crowd had gazed,  
They saw a white speck waving, and they murmured "God be praised!"  
It was the thread descending, with something at its end—  
A bit of mortar tied to it to help it to descend.  
"Lord," prayed the wife, "The winds and waves obey Thy Sovereign will—  
Do thou rebuke this gentle breeze: Say to it,—'Peace, be still!'  
My husband's life hangs on that thread. In mercy save it then."  
And all around who heard the prayer cried fervently, "Amen."  
And safely came the little weight, with thread of worsted blue,  
To link again the loving-twin, whose hearts were tried and true.

They tie to it the slender string. "Pull gently up," they cry.  
He pulls the thread; "'Twill surely break," the doubters whisper nigh;  
Up goes the thread; up goes the string—and with it many a prayer—  
Until the patient man above shouts that he has it there.  
"Now tie this cord to it." They do, and soon he holds the end.  
And now he lifts and loops the rope. He's ready to descend.  
All tremblingly they lowered him, and when he reached the sod,  
Cried, "Hallelujah!" "Praise the Lord!" and "Glory be to God!"  
While she, the faithful heroine, who'd braved their weak alarms,  
Herself grew weak; she tried to speak—but fainted in his arms.

And so, whilst keen and stalwart men thought how they might begin  
To reach their comrade—thus cut off from all his kith and kin—  
A woman's love devised a way readier than their skill,  
And made her husband save himself responsive to her will.  
How weak that thread! how strong the faith that made her heart so brave!  
The feeblest means, when blessed by God, how powerful to save!  
What wonder many bore a bit of worsted thread away  
To treasure as memento of that most eventful day;  
And George from then wore on his breast a bow of worsted blue;  
Which, through his wife, had saved his life to serve his God anew.

Full many a year has passed since then, but while time rolls away  
Still history repeats itself; it re-appears to-day:  
The Scripture saith, The drunkard is as one alone at last,  
In perils-ways on the top of some high vessel's mast:  
But even such Love's skill can reach and rescue from the grave:  
The Ribbon Blue—divinely blest—will bring the means to save:  
'Twill bring to hand the Temp'rance cord of Faith, Hope, Charity;  
And then the Gospel rope attached ensures true liberty.  
And to the Gospel Temperance cause our hands and hearts we give;  
And stand we true and wear the Blue as long as we shall live.

—The Crusade. JOSEPH MALINS, R. W. G. T.

THE CHAMELEON.

This singular reptile has long been famous for its power of changing color, a property, however, which has been greatly exaggerated, as will be presently seen. Nearly all the lizards are constitutionally torpid, though some of them are gifted with great rapidity of movement during certain seasons of the year. The chameleon, however, carries this sluggishness to an extreme, its only change being from total immobility to the slightest imaginable degree of activity. No one ever saw a chameleon even walk, as we understand that word, while running is a feat that no chameleon ever dreamed of.

When it moves along the branch upon which it is clinging the reptile raises one foot very slowly indeed, and will sometimes remain foot in air for a considerable time as if it had gone to sleep in the interim. It then puts the foot as slowly forward, and takes a good grasp of the branch. Having satisfied itself that it is firmly secured, it leisurely unwinds its tail, which has been tightly twisted round the branch, shifts it a little forward, coils it round again, and then rests for a while. With the same elaborate precaution, each foot is successively lifted and advanced, so that the forward movements seem but little faster than the hour hand of a watch.

The food of the chameleon consists of insects, mostly flies, but, like many other reptiles, the chameleon is able to live for some months without taking food at all. This capacity for fasting, together with the singular manner in which the reptile takes its prey, gave rise to the absurd fable that the chameleon lived only upon air. To judge by external appearance, there never was an animal less fitted than the chameleon for capturing the winged and active flies. But when we come to examine its structure, we find that it is even better fitted for this purpose than many of the more active insect eating lizards.

The tongue is the instrument by which the fly is captured, being darted out with such singular velocity that it is hardly perceptible, and a fly seems to leap into the mouth of the reptile as if attracted by magnetism. This member is very muscular, and is furnished at the tip with a kind of viscid secretion which causes the fly to adhere to it. A lady who kept a chameleon for some time told me that her pet died, and when they came to examine it they found that its tongue in some strange way got down its throat, an accident which they took to be the cause of its death. Its mouth is well furnished with teeth, which are set firmly into its jaw, and enable it to bruise the insects after getting them into its mouth by means of the tongue.

The eyes have a most singular appearance and are worked quite independently of each other, one rolling backward while the other is directed forward or upward. There is not the least spark of expression in the eye of the chameleon, which looks about as intellectual as a green pea with a dot of ink upon it.

Owing to the exceeding slowness of its movements, it has no way of escaping when once discovered. Great numbers of these creatures fall victims to enemies of every kind, and were it not that their color assimilates so well with the foliage on which they dwell, and their movements are so slow as to give no aid to the searching eye of their foes, the race would soon be extinct. The chameleon has an odd habit of puffing out its body for some unexplained reason, and inflating itself until it swells to nearly twice its usual size. In this curious state it will remain for several hours, sometimes allowing itself to collapse a little, and then reinflating its skin until it becomes as tense as a drum and looks as hollow as a balloon.

The chameleon is readily tamed, if such a word can be applied to the imperturbable

nonchalance with which it behaves under every change of circumstance. It can be handled without danger, and although its teeth are strong, will not attempt to bite the hand that holds it. It is, however, rather quarrelsome with its own kind, and the only excitement under which it has been seen to labor is when it takes to fighting with a neighbor. Not that even then it hurries itself particularly or does much harm to its opponent, the combatants contenting themselves with knocking their tails together in a grave and systematic manner.

A few words on the change of color will not be out of place. The usual color of the

day, all presenting some peculiarity of form or structure.—Scientific American.

WHAT A MODEST REBUKE DID.

We are told that the Christian training of a Scotch boy, who never afterwards attained any high position, and whose very name is now forgotten, was the real beginning of the mighty spiritual movement that, early in the present century, in the hands of five great and godly men, saved to the world the fruits of the Reformation.

This Highland boy grew up strong in reverent faith and earnest practice of his early

resistless power. The thoughts they awoke within him melted his rough nature into penitence, and led him at length to give his heart and his whole life to the service of Christ. Through his influence, his infidel brother, Robert Haldane, became as decided a Christian as himself. James and Robert began to labor for the good of men, and the two were among the most powerful and influential preachers of their time.

Robert removed to Switzerland and while working in Geneva, where the Protestant faith and doctrines were in a decline, he was the means of awakening to a new religious life three young students, Felix Neff, Henry Pyt, and Merle D'Aubigne. The grand zeal and self denying labors of these men brought back to Geneva, and to Europe, the glory of the Church of Christ, which the successors of Luther and Melancthon had suffered to grow dim.

The name of D'Aubigne, the historian of the Reformation, is almost as familiar as a household word. As the author of those immortal volumes, and as president of the most important Protestant theological school of Europe, he stands second to few in the roll of sacred fame.

One is almost amazed at the thought, but that for the poor boy, trained in the Highlands at his mother's knee to the reverence for God and love of his Saviour which prompted him to reprove a profane sea captain, the world would have had no Merle D'Aubigne.

And what parents can know of how much good they deprive mankind when they neglect such pious education of their children!—Sentinel.

DR. MOFFAT'S TACT.

We have elsewhere alluded to the wonderful tact possessed by Dr Moffat. An illustration of this though it may be familiar to some of our readers, will bear repeating at the present moment. On one occasion, shortly after his arrival in Africa, the young missionary was about to conduct a religious service in the family of a Dutch farmer, when he noticed the absence of the black servants, and remarked to the master of the house, "May none of your servants come in!" "What! Hottentots! Are you come to preach to Hottentots? Go to the mountains and preach to the baboons; or, if you like, I'll fetch my dogs, and you may preach to them!" The quick-witted missionary at once read as his text, "Truth, Lord; yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master's table!" Quietly he repeated the words a second and a third time till the Boer was compelled to say, "No more of that! I'll bring all the Hottentots in the place!" After the service the Boer, still surprised by the way in which he had been answered, remarked to the missionary, "Who hardened your hammer to deal my head such a blow? I will never object to the preaching of the Gospel to the Hottentots again!"—The Outlook.

INDIAN MEAL CAKES, OR FLAP-JACKS.—One quart of sour or butter-milk, two eggs beaten light, salt, one tea-spoonful of carbonate of soda dissolved in hot water, one table-spoonful of butter or lard melted, and half a cup of flour; meal enough to make a thin batter. If sweet milk is used, as it may be, add two tea-spoonfuls of cream of tartar, or one of tartaric acid, the last thing. Bake thin.

FRUIT CAKE.—One pound of flour, one pound of sugar, one-half pound of butter, one pound of raisins, one-fourth pound of citron, four-eggs, one table-spoonful of cloves, one table-spoonful of cinnamon, one nutmeg, one cup of cream, one tea-spoonful of soda.



THE CHAMELEON.

chameleon when in its wild state is green, from which it passes through the shades of violet, blue and yellow, of which the green consists. In this country, however, it rarely retains the bright green hue, the color fading into yellowish gray.

The young of the chameleon are produced from eggs, which are very spherical, white in color, and covered with a chalky and very porous shell. They are placed on the ground under leaves, and there left to hatch by the heat of the sun and the warmth produced by the decomposition of the leaves.

There are nearly twenty species of chameleons known to zoologists at the present

gospel lessons, and served many years as a marine in the British navy.

Once during a fearful battle at sea, his commander Captain James Haldane, became enraged at the momentary quailing of the gunners, and with an awful curse wished them all in everlasting perdition. Our Highland sailor, shocked beyond measure at such profanity, touched his cap, and said solemnly:

"Captain Haldane, God hears prayer; if He should answer that, where would we be?"

However the words may have affected the excited commander at the time, when the battle was over they fastened on him with

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MURILLO'S MULATTO.

Nearly three hundred years ago, in the city of Seville, lived one of the greatest of Spanish painters — Bartolomé Estéban Murillo.

Many beautiful pictures painted by this master adorn the palaces of the Old World, while a few may be found in the possession of wealthy art-lovers upon this side of the water.

In the church of Seville one may see four beautiful paintings — one, a picture of Christ bound to a column, St. Peter in a kneeling posture at His feet, as if imploring pardon; another, a superb painting of St. Joseph; one of St. Ann; and a fourth, an exquisite picture of the Virgin Mother holding the infant Jesus in her arms. These paintings are largely sought for and long gazed upon by all art-lovers who visit Spain, and are particularly admired by artists for their truthful beauty, delicate tints, and natural coloring.

But they are not Murillo's.

These noble paintings, the pride and glory of Seville today, were conceived and executed by a mulatto, Sebastian Gómez, who was once the slave, then the pupil, and in time the peer of his illustrious and high-minded master.

The childhood of Sebastian Gómez was one of servitude. His duties were many and constant. He was required to grind and mix the colors used by the young seniors, who came at the early hour of six in the morning to take their lessons in drawing and painting in the studio of the great Murillo; to prepare and stretch canvas, run errands, and be ready at all times to answer the capricious demands of these high-born and imperious youths.

The poor mulatto boy had, however, in addition to a generous heart and amiable temper, a quick wit, bright intellect, and willing hands. His memory also was excellent; he was not without judgment, and, what was better than all, he was gifted with the power of application.

Intellect, wit, memory, judgment are all good endowments, but none of these will lead to excellence if one has not a habit of industry and steady application.

Sebastian Gómez, at the age of fifteen, found himself capable, not only of admiring, but also of appreciating, the work of the pupils who wrought in his master's studio.

At times he even fancied that he could detect errors and blemishes

which they failed to note in their studies.

It chanced, sometimes, that he would drop a hint of his thoughts, when handing a mahl-stick, or moving an easel for some artist student.

"How droll it is that the sly young rogue should be so nearly correct in his criticisms!" one of the pupils would perhaps remark, after over-hearing some quiet suggestion of the mulatto lad.

"Aye. One might think the slave a connoisseur," would laugh another.

"Truly, it was owing to a cunning hint of his that my St. An-

other than light comment.

One day a student who had been for a long time at work upon a "Descent from the Cross," and who, but the previous day, had effaced from the canvas an unsatisfactory head of the Mater Dolorosa, was struck dumb with surprise at finding in its place a lovely sketch of the head and face he had so labored to perfect. The miracle—for miracle it seemed—was inquired into, and examination proved that this exquisite head, which Murillo himself owned that he would have been proud to have painted, was the secret work of the little slave

"Other masters leave to posterity only pictures," exclaimed the glad master. "I shall bequeath to the world a painter! Your name, Sebastian, shall go down to posterity only in company with mine; your fame shall compete mine; coming ages, when they name you, shall call you 'Murillo's mulatto!'"

He spake truly. Throughout Spain to-day that artist who, of all the great master's pupils, most nearly equals him in all his varied excellences, is best known, not as Sebastian Gómez alone, but as "Sebastian Gómez; The Mulatto of Murillo."

Murillo had Gómez made a free citizen of Spain, treated him as a son, and, when dying, he left him a part of his estate. But Gómez survived his illustrious master and friend only a few years, dying, it is said, about the year 1500.—St. Nicholas.

LOCUST EATERS.

The Riff Arabs, when they see a swarm of locusts hovering in the air and clouding the sky, watch them with anxiety, and when they descend near their habitations they receive them with shouts of gratitude to God and Mohammed, throw themselves on the ground, and collect them as fast as possible. The locusts, deprived of their heads, legs, and wings, are well boiled in butter, and served up with a substance called *alcuzuz*. The Riff Arabs consider them delicious food. Their camels also eat them greedily. The Moors use them to this day, by first boiling and then frying them. The Moorish Jews, more provident than their Mussulman neighbors, salt them and keep them for making a dish called *dafina*, which forms the Saturday's dinner of the Jewish inhabitants. This dish is made by putting meat, fish, eggs, tomatoes, locusts, "in fact, almost anything edible, into a jar, placing the latter in an oven on Friday night, and then taking it out hot on the Sabbath." In this manner the Hebrew gets a hot dinner without committing the sin of lighting a fire upon that day.—*Popular Science Monthly*.

God never accepts a good inclination instead of a good action, where that action may be done; nay, so much the contrary, that if a good inclination be not seconded by a good action, the want of that action is made so much the more criminal and inexcusable.—*South*.

HE THAT respects not is not respected.—*Herbert*.



DRAWING LESSON.

drew's arm was improved in the foreshortening."

"It was Gómez who detected first the harshness in my coloring of this St. Catherine's hands, and noted the false curve of the lower lip. The mulatto has the true eye for color, and, in truth, he seems to guess at form as readily as some of his betters."

Such were the remarks that often followed the lad's exit, as the young seniors lightly commented upon his criticisms. There came a time, however, when the poor mulatto received from their lordly lips far

Sebastian. So closely had he listened to his great master's instructions to the pupils, so retentively stored them in his mind, and so industriously worked upon them while others slept,—his custom being to rise at three in the morning and paint until five,—that he, the servant of the young artists, had become, unconsciously to himself as to them, an artist, also. Murillo, upon discovering the genius of Gómez, was enraptured, and declared that the young mulatto should be in his sight no longer a slave, but a man, his pupil, and an artist.

COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Dec. 26, 1883. The market this week do not amount to anything as everybody has been too busy with Christmas to think about business.

FLOUR.—The market is as dull as can be and 'change is a species of play house just now. Stocks are increasing steadily and of course there is no demand, so prices are settling.

MEALS.—Continued, \$3.20 to \$3.40. Oatmeal, ordinary, \$5.00 to \$5.25; granulated, \$5.20 to \$5.50.

POULTRY AND GAME.—We quote—Turkeys 10 to 13c; geese, 6 to 7c; ducks, 8c to 10c; partridges, 35c to 45c per brace, as to quality.

LIVE STOCK MARKET. As is usual during the holidays there is very little doing in the live stock market, as the butchers have enough of meat on hand to last until after the New Year begins.

FARMERS' MARKET. The want of sufficient snow to make good sleighing prevented farmers living at a distance from coming to the city before Christmas and this caused a scarcity in some kinds of produce with advanced prices.

FARMERS' MARKET. The want of sufficient snow to make good sleighing prevented farmers living at a distance from coming to the city before Christmas and this caused a scarcity in some kinds of produce with advanced prices.

bundles of 15 lbs; straw, \$4 to \$6.00 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

DECEMBER PRIZE COMPETITION.

Final Chance this Year MAKE MONEY

Help a Good Paper Along!

Our autumn competition resulted about doubly more favorable than our August one, and we are encouraged to hope that a similar opportunity given our friends in December, when people generally make provision for a supply of reading matter for the New Year, will yield manifold more satisfactory results than the last one. In this competition we earnestly invite

EVERY SUBSCRIBER

to take part, believing that it is possible for every one to obtain at least one new subscriber, and hundreds can obtain five each and thus save the price of their own copies. No canvassers can be more efficient, if they only try, than those who know from a full trial how valuable a return for the price the paper is. It should be easy for our young friends, even in the last half of this competition, which will be the Christmas holidays, to earn a goodly sum of money in the liberal commissions we offer, apart from the chances of winning any of the prizes. The premium pictures are within the reach of everyone who exerts himself or herself to earn them. By the following list of prize-winners in the last competition it will be seen that there is no room for despair, on the part of anyone at all favorably situated, of winning the leading prizes:—

- 1st, \$10, Wm. Gates, St. George, N.B., sent \$19.75
2nd, \$5, Bertha Forbes, Wentworth Grant, N.S., sent \$7.50.
3rd, \$3, Mary McGee, St. George, N.B., sent \$4.05.
4th, \$2, Willie Brotsman, Jasper, Steuben Co., N.Y., sent \$4.
5th, \$1, Jennie McMillan, Spencerville, Ohio, sent \$3.35.

DECEMBER OFFER.

The price of the Messenger is fifty cents a year, and it will be given free for the remainder of this year to new subscribers from the date of receiving their subscriptions. Anyone sending us FIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS for a year may send TWO DOLLARS and keep FIFTY CENTS. Anyone sending us FIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS for six months on trial, at twenty-five cents each, may send eighty-five and keep forty cents. Anyone sending us five subscriptions for three months on trial, at thirteen cents each, may send thirty-five cents and keep thirty cents.

SEND AS MANY AS YOU CAN, keeping fifty cents for every five yearly, forty cents for every five half-yearly and thirty cents for every five quarterly subscriptions.

In addition to these commissions we offer the following

PRIZES!

To the person sending us the largest amount of money, not counting commission, TEN DOLLARS; to the second, FIVE DOLLARS; to the third, THREE DOLLARS; to the fourth, TWO DOLLARS, and to the fifth, ONE DOLLAR.

Still further, to every one who sends us TWO DOLLARS we shall send a present of the pair of those much-admired pictures, which have always given so much satisfaction to their recipients, "The Roll Call" and "Quatre Bras," or, if preferred, the celebrated picture by Duré, "Christ Leaving the Praetorium," the original of which was declared by the Rev. Theodore Cayler to be the greatest painting of modern times.

NOTICE THAT

Those sending the largest amounts secure the prizes even if what is sent in each case be less than the amount of the prize.

Everyone who secures five subscriptions earns a commission. Everyone who sends two dollars is entitled to the pair of fine pictures mentioned above.

The competition will end on the 7th of January, 1884.

The present respectable circulation of seven or eight thousand, at the end of the second year's existence of the Weekly Messenger, is almost entirely due to its being taken by people on sight for its merits. In the same way there is no doubt it would in the course of a few years attain an enormous circulation. But in these days of steam and electricity people cannot afford to wait for such fruit as that of the Columbian aloe, that is said to take fifty years to blossom. The publishers of this paper, therefore, believing that a welcome awaits it in thousands of homes all over this continent, desire to place it within those homes as speedily as possible, and have for that purpose provided the present series of prize competitions. That the first two of these have been more profitable to the workers than to the publishers is undoubtedly due to the interest of our friends having not yet had time to be fully developed. Practical friendly interest in the Weekly Messenger will, however, we have little doubt, abound more and more according as our readers realize that it is no merely pecuniary enterprise, but one of the most direct and potent agents extant for enlightening, informing and elevating the people.

DIRECTIONS.

Date your letters carefully, plainly writing names of post-office, county and State, or Province.

Head each letter you write, "For Autumn Competition." Do not detain subscriptions, but send in all you have obtained, with the money, less your commission, at the end of each week's canvassing, and in every letter after the first one mention how many names and how much money you sent before.

The last letters sent in the competition must be mailed not later than the 7th of January, 1884.

Send money only by post-office order or registered letter, the former preferred, and address—

JOHN DOUGALL & SON

"WITNESS" OFFICE, MONTREAL, P. Q.

Montreal, Nov. 17th, 1883.

SCHOLARS' NOTES

(From Westminster Question Book.)

LESSON I.

Jan. 6, 1884. [Acts 15: 1-11]

THE CONFERENCE AT JERUSALEM.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 8, 11.

1. And certain men which came down from Judea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

2. Wherefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

3. And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

4. And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

5. But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.

6. And the apostles and elders came together for to consider this matter.

7. And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

8. And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the holy Ghost, even as he did unto us;

9. And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

10. Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

11. But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

GOLDEN TEXT.

"We believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, we shall be saved, even as they.—Acts 15: 11.

HOME READINGS.

- M. Acts 15: 1-11. The Conference.
T. Acts 15: 12-35. The Decision.
W. Gal. 2: 1-10. Paul in the Conference.
Th. Eph. 2: 8-22. The Partition-wall Broken Down.
F. Eph. 3: 1-12. The Gentiles Follow-Heirs.
S. Col. 2: 8-23. Legal Ceremonies Ended.
R. Rom. 10: 1-12. No Differences.

LESSON PLAN.

- 1. The Jewish view. 2. The Christian view. Time.—A. D. 50. Places.—Antioch, Jerusalem.

INTRODUCTORY.

Serious dissensions arose in the church at Antioch from the teachings of certain men from Judea who held that unless the Gentile converts were circumcised and observed the Jewish law they could not be saved. The question was referred to the apostles and elders at Jerusalem, by whom the teachings of the Judaizing teachers were condemned, and it was directed that the Gentile converts should be required to abstain (1) from meat offered to idols, (2) from the flesh of animals which had been strangled, (3) from the eating of blood, and (4) from fornication. Acts 15: 2-29.

LESSON NOTES.

1.—V. 1. CERTAIN MEN—Observe what Paul says of them, Gal. 2: 4. THE BROTHERS—Gentile converts. EXACTLY AS WE WERE—circumcision is here put for the whole ceremonial law. These Judaizing teachers held that a man must first become a Jew in order to become a Christian. V. 2. PAUL AND BARNABAS—who had organized their converts into churches without regard to what these men held to be essential. THEY—the Antioch church CERTAIN OTHER—one of whom was Titus, Gal. 2: 1. PAUL INFORMS US (Gal. 2: 2) that he went "by revelation;" that is, he was divinely directed to undertake the mission. THE APOSTLES some of whom were always in Jerusalem. ELDERS—local officers of that church. V. 3. BROUGHT ON THEIR WAY—publicly attended, as a mark of respect. PHENICE—Phoenicia, a territory north-west of Palestine, between Mount Lebanon and the sea, having Tyre and Sidon as its principal cities. SAMARIA—the central portion of Palestine, between Galilee and Judea. ALL THE BROTHERS—the Christian converts in Phoenicia and Samaria. V. 4. ALL THINGS THAT GOD HAD DONE WITH THEM—in their work among the Gentiles. V. 5. PHARISES—still retaining their strict regard for the Mosaic law.

11.—V. 6. THE APOSTLES—James, Peter and John are specially mentioned as present. Gal. 2: 9. V. 7. A GOOD WHILE AGO—referring to his vision at Joppa, and his reception of Cornelius and his household into the church by baptism, without requiring their submission to the Jewish law. BELIEVE—receive Jesus as the Messiah, and trust in him as the only Saviour. V. 8. BARE THEM WITNESS—God himself had decided the whole question by treating these Gentiles just as he did the converted Jews. V. 9. PURIFYING THEIR HEARTS BY FAITH—so that they were no more "common or unclean" (Acts 10: 15), since God had cleansed them. V. 10. WHY TEMPT YE GOD—try his forbearance in a matter which he has made so plain. BY "YOKE" is meant the law, as distinguished from the gospel. (See Gal. 5: 1; Matt. 11: 29, 30.) V. 11. WE—converted Jews. THEY—unconverted Gentiles. Our hope of salvation is the same as theirs. The works of the law will not save the Jews. God's grace in Christ does what the law could not do. Rom. 8: 1-4; Gal. 2: 16. The believing Jews will be saved, like the Gentiles, by faith in Christ. Acts 10: 45.

WHAT HAVE I LEARNED?

- 1. That we are saved, not by observing religious forms and ceremonies, but by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. That we unite with the church and attend its ordinances because we are Christians, not in order to become Christians.
3. That it may be our duty, from regard to others, to abstain from that which is in itself lawful.
4. That we must be careful to put no stumbling-block in the way of others.
5. That in disagreements it is well to refer the matter in dispute to the wise and good.

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