

# Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

Vol. II.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1883.

No. 50.

## The Temperance Worker

### PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

The year is closing, and it will save us a large amount of trouble and expense if subscriptions are renewed before or during the first week in the new year.

Everyone that gets up a club of five new subscribers saves the cost of his own paper. We hope most of those who cannot do that may at least be able to send the subscription of one each besides themselves.

Those who would like to make some money for the holidays will find the means of doing so in the advertisement of our "December Competition" elsewhere.

Come, now, one and all, and roll up a heavy list for 1884, and we promise none will ever regret it if we can help.

Address JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal, in sending subscriptions or asking for sample copies to use in canvassing.

### THE DOMINION LICENSE ACT.

The following extract from a letter on "Centralization" in a Nova Scotia paper would indicate that the Dominion License Act, of last session of Parliament, will have to be defended from two distinct points. First, the liquor men of Ontario will "ignore" it, which probably means that they will fight it through all the courts up to the foot of the throne if it pinches them; otherwise they will only acknowledge it to the extent of pleading immunity, by virtue of its existence, from "persecution" through other laws. Secondly, "some" of the Provincial Governments, jealous of the right claimed under the Canadian charter to make laws for the protection of their subjects from such common nuisances as the liquor traffic, are going to contest the Dominion Government's authority to deprive them of the right of "regulating" the traffic down to the point even of invisibility:—

For some reason, last session, our Dominion Parliament passed a license law to regulate the liquor traffic. The merits of that Act I shall not discuss. It is a license law and, like all license laws, seeks to cast a garb of respectability around that which is immoral. Various reasons were given why it was passed, more politic than wise. It is said that the decision of the Privy Council upon the Scott Act necessitated it; made it imperative to enact such a law by the Dominion Parliament. That is a very doubtful reason. High authority declares that that decision called for nothing of the kind. That it was a pure assumption that the question of the right of the Provincial Parliaments to regulate the traffic was involved in the issue. Be that as it may, the licensed victuallers of Ontario have decided to ignore the Act to come in force next January, and some of the Local Governments have decided to contest the right of the Dominion Parliament to pass such an Act, or rather have decided to defend a right given to the Provinces in the B. N. A. Act, the Act of confederation—in other words, to oppose centralization.

A NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES of the Intercolonial Railway have recently been discharged for violating the regulation against the use of intoxicating liquors.

### CAMPAIGN NOTES.

A movement is on foot in Norfolk county, Ontario, to have the Canada Temperance Act submitted to the electors.

The Toronto Branch of the Dominion Alliance has appointed an election committee to promote the election of temperance men to the City Council.

An important decision has been given upon the Canada Temperance Act by Judge Thompson, of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia. A violator of that statute was imprisoned for three months in default of payment of fine and costs for a first offence. His counsel applied for his release upon the grounds that the Justices had no power in any case to send to prison for a first offence under that Act, and that where there were no goods to levy upon for the fine, as in this case, the offender could not legally be imprisoned unless imprisonment is authorized by the statute imposing the penalty. The Judge refused to discharge the prisoner on these grounds.

The *Signal*, a lively temperance monthly published at St. Stephen, N. B., says.—"Isn't it strange that there is more liquor sold under the Scott Act than there will be under the License Law if in force, and yet the liquor sellers have subscribed one thousand dollars for the repeal of the Scott Act? The men who are doing the dirty work for them claim that it is in the interest of temperance, but it is not often that you find rum sellers originating a temperance movement and subscribing liberally for its success." The *Signal* reports a good answer given by a merchant in Charlotte county, N. B., to the hawk of a petition for the repeal of the Scott Act:—"No; if rum is a good thing let it be sold as freely as anything else. If it is not a good thing we have no right to license it." Another number of the same paper points to Milltown in Charlotte county as a proof of the virtue of the Canada Temperance Act:—"Since the late decision of the Supreme Court, the town has collected \$400 in fines. The enforcement of the law has had the better effects of driving out of the town some of the worst characters engaged in the business, and effectually closing four places where liquor was sold. Those who want liquor now find it hard to obtain it in Milltown, and, as a natural result, good order prevails. The law can be as well enforced in other localities as in Milltown. All that is lacking is some one to take the lead in it; and when officers are appointed and paid for that purpose, as will be the case after the first of January next, we hope to be able to record for the whole county as good results as follow the enforcement of the Scott Act in Milltown."

A HAPPY PLACE.—The Barrington, N. S. correspondent of the *Yarmouth Herald* writes:—"Barrington is one of the few seaport towns in the Province where no intoxicating liquors are allowed to be retailed. To this fact, as much as to the intelligence, morality and industry of her people is Barrington indebted for the thrift and comfort everywhere apparent among them."

### SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

Mr. Thomas Hutchings, the veteran lecturer and organizer of the Nova Scotia Grand Division, has instituted "Ever Onward" Division at Crow Harbor, Guysboro county, with 33 charter applicants. W. P., Elias Hensley; W. A. and D. G. W. P., William S. Horton; R. S., Zachariah Hensley; A. R. S., Maria L. Taylor; F. S., Cornelius Hensley; Trea, Tyrus Hensley; Chap., Thomas Carter; Con., Thomas Carter, Jr.; A. C., John Carter; I. S., Elijah Carter; O. S., Daniel Hensley; P. W., Silas Hensley. Mr. Hutchings has reorganized "Chedabucto" Division, with nine old and 24 new members, at Guysboro town. W. P., A. J. O. McGuire; W. A., Louisa Peart; R. S., Howard Tory; A. R. S., Maria A. Hart; F. S., William Cameron; Trea, and D. G. W. P., Herbert R. Cunningham; Chap., James H. Buckley; Con., William H. Cunningham; A. C., Lillie Hartley; I. S., William Carritt; O. S., John H. Stropole; P. W. P., Lewis E. Hart.

Mr. S. M. Lewis, one of the Grand Division's vigorous agents, has organized "Sea Breeze" Division at East Pubnico, Shelburne county, N. S., with 26 charter members. W. P., Theodore Larkin; W. A., Mary M. Larkin; R. S., Maurice Lowell; A. R. S., Benjamin Worthen; F. S., Edwin Goodwin; Treas., Ada Larkin; Chap., Moses Larkin; Cond., Rupert Larkin; A. C., Mary Whyman; I. S., Solace Larkin; O. S., Whitefield Goodwin.

Mr. Alex. McKay, of Tatamagouche Falls, has organized "Morning Ray" Division at Earlton village, N. S., W. P., Robert Sutherland; W. A., Jessie D. McKay; R. S., Arthur Ross; F. S., Mary S. McKay; Treas., John McBeth; Chap., Hugh Ferguson; Cond., John D. McKay; A. C., Annie B. McKay; I. S., John Matheson; O. S., James Sutherland; P. W. P., William Baillie; D. G. W. P., Robert Sutherland.

### WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

Forty members attended the regular monthly meeting of the Montreal Woman's Christian Temperance Union last week. An auxiliary association was reported at the suburb of Point St. Charles, with thirty-two members. A resolution of regret at the departure from the city of Mrs. J. D. Dougall, the late President, was unanimously recorded, and she was requested to act a Brooklyn correspondent of the Union. Mrs. Williams, corresponding secretary, reported, making practical recommendations. The prizes for the best temperance essays by boys and girls in the Province of Quebec had been awarded—first, fifteen dollars, to Miss Blanche Evans, Lachute, and the second, ten dollars, to H. George Cairns, Sawyerville. Miss Bryson, treasurer, reported a gradual increase in the paying membership from the different churches in the city. There was now a membership of between five and six hundred. Encouraging reports were given from various divisions of the work among old and young throughout the city, and a letter was read

from Mrs. Foster, of Knowlton, giving a highly interesting account of the National Convention of the Union held in Detroit in October, which she attended as a delegate from the Quebec Provincial Union. The Convention, in her view, revealed extraordinary intelligence and power being expended by the Christian women of America in the temperance cause.

### GOOD TEMPLARS.

Members of the Order in the city of St. John, N. B., have formed a Good Templars' Social Club.

Colchester County Lodge (Loyal) met in quarterly session at Acadia Iron Mines, N. S., on Dec. 4th. A large number of delegates were present. The reports given in from the various lodges were most cheering. The secretary's report showed upwards of 800 members in connection with the county lodge, an increase of over 200 during the past quarter. The treasurer's report showed the funds to be in a healthy condition, with a respectable balance on hand. A telegram was received from Cumberland Co. Lodge, in session at Amherst, conveying the fraternal greetings of over 1,200 Good Templars in that county, showing an increase of several hundred during the past quarter. A very successful public meeting was held in the evening.

### FRUITS OF THE TRAFFIC.

An unknown man was found on a recent morning in the railway yard at Niagara Falls, cut into several pieces. It was supposed he was run over by the New York express at four o'clock, and that he was one of a number of quartermen who were about town the previous night under the influence of Scotch whiskey.

George Wilson, the murderer of Bullard, the Detroit policeman, was discovered hiding at Petite Cote, Ontario, six miles below Detroit, across the river. He surrendered to an officer, owning up to the crime, and saying whiskey was the cause of it.

A notorious woman named Mrs. Balch was lately arrested in Ottawa for breaking glass in a hotel door while intoxicated. In the police cell she tried to hang herself to a bar in the door, but was cut down in time to save her life. Her husband, a Boston commercial traveller, appeared in court the next morning and was allowed by the magistrate to take her away.

Patrick Grimes, fireman on a steamer, fell off a wharf in Charlottetown, P. E. I., the other day, while drunk, and was drowned.

IN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH at Creignish, Cape Breton, on a recent Sunday, the Antigonish, N. S., *Aurora* says the gratifying sight was witnessed of the whole congregation rising as one man, in response to an earnest appeal from the Rev. Father McKenzie, and taking the total abstinence pledge for one year. The same paper says similar edification was given in the Antigonish Cathedral, when the Rev. Father Gillis appealed strongly to his congregation to practise the virtue of temperance.

## HOW IT ALL CAME ROUND.

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

## CHAPTER XLIX.—HE WEPT.

Mr. Harman was beginning to take the cutward circumstances of his life with great quietness. What, three months before, would have caused both trouble and distress, now was received with equanimity. The fact was, he felt himself day by day getting so near eternity, that the things of time, always so disproportionately large to our worldly minds, were assuming to him their true proportions.

John Harman was being led by a dark road of terrible mental suffering to his God; already he was drawing near, and the shadow of that forgiveness which would yet encircle him in its perfect rest and peace was at hand.

Days, and even weeks, went by, and there was no news of Jasper. John Harman would once have been sorely perplexed, but now he received the fact of his brother's absence with a strange quietness, even apathy. Charlotte's postponed marriage, a little time back, would have also fretted him, but believing surely that she would be happy after his death, he did not now trouble; and he could not help owing to himself that the presence of this dearly loved daughter was a comfort too great to be lightly dispensed with. He was too much absorbed with himself to notice the strangeness of Hinton's absence, and he did not perceive, as he otherwise would have done, that Charlotte's face was growing thin and pale, and that there was a subdued, almost crushed manner about that hitherto spirited creature, which not even his present state of health could altogether account for.

Yes, John Harman lived his self-absorbed life, going day by day a little farther into the valley of the shadow of death. The valley he was entering looked very dark indeed to the old man, for the sin of his youth was still unforgiven, and he could not see even a glimpse of the Good Shepherd's rod and staff. Still he was searching day and night for some road of peace and forgiveness; he wanted the Redeemer of all the world to lay His hand upon his bowed old head. The mistake he was still making was this, he would not take God's way of peace, he must find his own.

One evening, after Charlotte had left him, he sat for a long time in his study, lost in thought. After a time he rose and took down once more from the shelf the Bible which he had opened some time before; then it had given him the reverse of comfort, and he scarcely, as he removed it from the place where he had pushed it far back out of sight, knew why he again touched it. He did, however, take it in his hand, and return with it to his chair. He drew the chair up to the table and laid the old Bible upon it. He opened it hap-hazard; he was not a man who had ever studied or loved the Bible; he was not acquainted with all its contents, and the story on which his eyes rested came almost with the freshness of novelty.

"Two men went up into the Temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

"The publican would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me, a sinner.

"I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other."

John Harman read the story twice.

"This man went down to his house justified rather than the other."

The other he fasted, and gave alms, and thanked God that he was not as this publican—this publican, who was a sinner.

But the Bible words were clear enough and plain enough. He, the sinner, was justified.

John Harman covered his face with his hands. Suddenly he fell on his knees.

"God be merciful to me a sinner," he said.

He said the few words twice aloud, in great anguish of spirit, and as he prayed he wept.

Afterwards he turned over the Bible pages again. This time he read the story of Zacchæus.

"If I have taken anything from any man, I restore him fourfold."

It was very late when Mr. Harman at last went to bed, but he slept better that night than he had done for years. He was beginning to see the possible end.

## CHAPTER L.—HOME'S SERMON.

It was impossible for the Homes to refuse Uncle Sandy's kindness. Their natural pride and independence of character could not stand in the way of so graciously and gracefully-offered a gift. When the old man came to see them the next day, he was received with all the love and gratitude he deserved. If he could give well, Charlotte and her husband knew how to receive well. He now told his niece plainly that he had come to pass the remainder of his days with her and hers; and father, mother and children welcomed him with delight.

Charlotte was now a very happy woman. The new and pretty house was delightful to her. She began to understand what it was not to have to look twice at a pound, for Uncle Sandy's purse was ever at her command. Whenever she went with her old uncle to choose the furniture for the new drawing-room, she laughed so merrily and seemed so gay that Uncle Sandy informed her that she had already lost five years of her age. Harold and Daisy used to look into her face at this time, and say to one another, "Isn't our mother pretty?" For, indeed, the peace in her heart, and the little unexpected glow of worldly prosperity which had come into her life, had wonderfully softened and beautified her face. Her eyes, when she looked at her children's blooming faces, were often bright as stars. At all times now they were serene and happy. She had one little cross, however, one small shadow in her happy time. She wanted to be much—daily, if possible—with Charlotte Harman. Her heart yearned over Charlotte, and she would have almost neglected her children to give her one ray of comfort just now. But Charlotte herself had forbidden this daily intercourse.

"I love you, Charlotte," she had said, "and I know that you love me. But at present we must not meet. I cannot leave my father to go to see you, and you must not come here, for I cannot risk the chance of his seeing you. He may question me, and I shall not be able to answer his questions. No, Charlotte, we must not meet."

Charlotte Home felt much regret at this. Failing Charlotte Harman, she turned her attention to Hinton. She was fully resolved that no stone should remain unturned by her to enable those two yet to marry, and she thought she might best effect her object by seeing the young man. She wrote to him, asking him to call, telling him that she had much of importance to tell him; but both from his private address and also from his chambers the letters were, in due course of time, returned. Hinton was not in town, and had left no clue as to his whereabouts. Thus she was cut off from helping, in any way those who were in great darkness, and this fact was an undoubted sorrow to her. Yes, Mrs. Home was full of pity for Charlotte, full of pity for Charlotte's lover. But it is to be feared that both she and Uncle Sandy retained a strong sense of indignation toward the one who had caused the anguish toward the one, therefore, on whom the heaviest share of the punishment fell. Very terrible was it for Charlotte, very terrible for Hinton. But were they asked to tell their true feeling toward old John Harman, they might have whispered, "Serve him right." There was one, however, besides his daughter, whose warmest sympathies, whose most earnest and passionate prayers were beginning day by day and night by night, to centre more and more round the suffering and guilty man, and that one was the curate, Home. Angus Home had never seen John Harman, but his sin and his condition were ever before him. He was a dying man, and—he was a sinner. With strong tears and lamentation did this man cry to God for his fellow-man. His tears and his prayers brought love for the sinner. Angus Home would have gladly died to bring John Harman back to God.

One Saturday night he sat up late over his sermon. He was not an eloquent preacher, but so earnest was his nature, so intense his realisation of God's love and of the things unseen, that it was impossible for his words not to be winged with the rare power of earnestness. He was neither gifted with language nor with imagination; but he could tell plain truths in such a way that his hearers often trembled as they listened. At such times he looked like an avenging angel. For the man, when he felt called on to rebuke sin, was very jealous for his God. Then, again, he could whisper comfort; he could bring down Heaven, and looked, when he spoke of the land which is very far off, as

though even now, and even here, his eyes were seeing the King in His beauty. Nevertheless, so little was that real power of his understood, so much better were empty words gracefully strung together preferred, that Home was seldom asked to preach in the large parish church. His congregation were generally the very poorest of his flock. These very poor folks learned to love their pastor, and for then he would very gladly spend and be spent. He was to preach tomorrow in a small iron building to these poor people. He now sat up late to prepare his sermon. He found himself, however, sadly out of tune for this work. He took his Bible in hand and turned page after page; he could find no suitable text; he could fix his attention on no particular line of argument. He unlocked a drawer, and took from thence a pile of old sermons; should he use one of these? He looked through and through his store. None pleased, none satisfied him. Finally, overcome by a sudden feeling, he forgot his sermon of tomorrow. He pushed his manuscripts aside, and fell on his knees. He was in terror about the soul of John Harman, and he prayed for him in groans that seemed almost as though the must needs the heavens in their pleading for a reply. "Lord, spare the man, Lord, hear me; hear me when I plead with Thee. It was for sinners such as He Thou didst die. Oh! spare, oh! save—save this great sinner. Give me his soul, Lord, Lord, give me his soul to bring to Thee in Heaven." He went up to bed in the early hours of the May morning quite exhausted. He had absolutely forgotten his sermon.

He had not prepared a word for his congregation for the next day. Before he went to church he remembered this. There was no help for it now. He could but put two of his already prepared sermons in his pocket and set out. He was to read the service as well as to preach the sermon. There were about sixty poor people present. Charlotte and the children went to the parish church. There was not a really well-dressed person in all his congregation. He had just finished reading the Absolution when a slight stir near the door attracted his attention. He raised his eyes to see the verges leading up the centre aisle an old man with bowed head and silver hair, accompanied by a young woman. The young woman Home recognized at a glance. She was Charlotte Harman; the old man then was her father. He did not ask himself why they had come here or how, but instantly he said to his own heart, with a great throbbing of ecstatic joy, "God has heard my prayer; that soul is to be mine." When he mounted the pulpit stairs he had absolutely forgotten his written sermons. For the first time he stood before his congregation without any outward aid of written words, or even notes. He certainly did not need them, for his heart was full. Out of that heart, burning with love so intense as to be almost divine, he spoke. I don't think he used any text, but he told from beginning to end the old, old tale of the Prodigal Son. He told it as it seemed to his congregation, that wonderful story had never been told since the Redeemer Himself had first uttered the words. He described the far country, the country where God was not; and the people were afraid and could scarcely draw their breath. Then he told of the Father's forgiveness and the Father's welcome home; and the congregation, men and women alike, hid their faces and wept. Added to his earnestness God had given to him the great gift of eloquence to-day. The people said afterwards they scarcely knew their pastor. There was not a dry eye in his church that morning.

## CHAPTER LI.—A SINNER.

Home went back to his new and pretty house and sat down with his wife and children, and waited. He would not even tell to Charlotte of these unlooked-for additions to his small congregation. When she asked him if he had got on well, if his sermon had been a difficulty, he had answered, with a light in his eyes, that God had been with him. After this the wife only took his hand and pressed it. She need question no further; but even she wondered at the happy look on his face.

He had two more services for that day, and also schools to attend, and through all his duties, which seemed to come without effort or annoyance, he still waited. He knew as well as if an angel had told him that he should see more of Mr. Harman. Had he been less assured of this, he would have taken some steps himself to secure a meet-

ing; he would have gone to the daughter he would have done he knew not what. But having this firm assurance, he did not take any steps; he believed what God wished him to do was quietly to wait.

When he went out on Monday morning he left word with his wife where he might be found without trouble or delay, if wanted.

"Is any one ill in the congregation?" she inquired.

"Some one is ill, but not in the congregation," he answered.

He came home, however, late on Monday night, to find that no one had sent, no one in particular had inquired for him. Still his faith was not at all shaken; he still knew that Harman's soul was to be given to him, and believing that he would like to see him, he felt that he should yet be summoned to his side.

On Tuesday morning prayers were to be read in the little iron church. Never full even on Sundays, this one week-day service was very miserably attended. Home did not often take it, the duty generally devolving on the youngest curate in the place. He was hurrying past to day, having many sick and poor to attend to, when he met young Davenport—a curate only just ordained.

"I am glad I met you," said the young man, coming up at once and addressing the older clergyman with a troubled face.

"There would not have been time to have gone round to your place. See, I have had a telegram; my father is ill. I want to catch a train at twelve o'clock to go and see him; I cannot if I take this service. Will it be possible for you to do the duty this morning?"

"Perfectly possible," answered Home heartily. "Go off at once, my dear fellow; I will see to things for you until you return."

"The young man was duly grateful, and hurried away at once, and Home entered the little building. The moment he did so he saw the reason of it all. Mr. Harman was in the church; he was in the church and alone. His daughter was not with him. There was no sermon that day, and the short morning prayers were quickly over. The half-dozen poor who had come in went out again; but Mr. Harman did not stir. Home took off his surplus, and hurried down the church. He meant now to speak to Mr. Harman, if Mr. Harman did not speak to him; but he saw that he would speak. As he approached the pew the white-headed old man rose slowly and came to meet him.

"Sir, I should like to say a few words to you."

"As many as you please, my dear sir; I am quite at your service."

Home now entered the new and sat down. "Shall we talk here or in the vestry?" he inquired, after a moment's silence.

"I thought perhaps you would come to my house later on," said Mr. Harman. "I have a long story to tell you; I can tell it best at home. I am very ill, or I would come to you. May I expect you this evening?"

"I will certainly come," answered Home.

"What is your address?"

Mr. Harman gave it. Then, after a pause, he added—

"I seek you as a minister."

"And I come to you as a servant of God," replied the curate, now fixing his eyes on his companion.

Mr. Harman's gaze did not quail before that steady look. With an unutterable sadness he returned it fully. Then he said—

"I came here on Sunday."

"I saw you," answered Home.

"Ah! can it be possible that you preached to me?"

"To you, if you think so. I spoke to every sinner in the congregation."

"You spoke of a land where God is not; you described the terrible country well."

"An arid land?" answered Home.

"Ay, a thirsty land."

"Those that find it so generally find also that they are being led back to a land where God is."

"You believe, then, in the forgiveness of sin?"

"If I did not I should go mad."

"Should you, indeed? You see now before you a despairing man and a dying man."

"And a sinner?" questioned Home.

"Ay, ay, God knows, a sinner."

"Then I see also before me a man whose despair can be changed to peace, and his sin

forgiven. this evening Mr. Harman felt reborn. He entered—

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forgiven. What hour shall I call upon you this evening?"

Mr. Harman named the hour. Then he rose feebly; Home gave him his arm and conducted him to his carriage; afterwards he re-entered the church to pray.

#### CHAPTER LII.—A HIDDEN SIN.

Nine o'clock in the evening was the hour named by Mr. Harman, and punctually at that hour Home arrived at Prince's Gate. He was a man who had never been known to be late for an appointment; for in little things even, this singular man was faithful to the very letter of the trust. This nice observance of his passed word in a great measure counteracted his otherwise impractical nature. Home was known by all his acquaintances to be a most dependable man.

Mr. Harman had told Charlotte that he was expecting a friend to visit him. He said he should like to see that friend alone, but, contrary to his wont, he did not mention his name. This cannot be wondered at, for Mr. Harman knew of no connection between the Homes and Charlotte. He had chosen this man of God, above his fellow-men, because he had been haunted and impressed by his sermon, but he scarcely himself even knew his name. It so happened, however, that Charlotte saw Mr. Home entering her father's study. It is not too much to say that the sight nearly took her breath away, and that she felt very considerable disquietude.

"Sit here," said Mr. Harman to his guest. The room had been comfortably prepared, and when Home entered Mr. Harman got up and locked the door; then, sitting down opposite to Home, and leaning a little forward, he began at once without preface or preamble.

"I want to tell you without reservation the story of my life."

"I have come to listen," answered Home.

"It is the story of a sin."

Home bent his head.

"It is the story of a successfully hidden sin—a sin hidden from all the world for three-and-twenty years."

"A crushing weight such a sin must have been," answered the clergyman. "But will you just tell me all from the beginning?"

"I will tell you all from the beginning. A hidden sin is, as you say, heavy enough to crush a man into hell. But I will make no more preface. Sir, I had the misfortune to lose a very noble mother when I was young. When I was ten years old, and my brother I have one brother, was eight, our mother died! We were both children, you will say; but I don't, even now that I am a dying, sinful old man, forget my mother. She taught us to pray and to shun sin. She also surrounded us with such high and holy thoughts—she so gave us the perfection of all pure mother love, that we must have been less than human not to be good boys during her lifetime. I remember even now the look in her eyes when I refused on any childish occasion to follow the good, and then chose the evil. I have a daughter—one beloved daughter, something like my mother. I have seen the same high and honorable light in her eyes, but never since in any others. Well, my mother died, and Jasper and I had only her memory to keep us right. We used to talk about her often and often, and fretted for her as, I suppose, few little boys before or since have fretted for a mother. After her death we were sent to school. Our father even then was a rich man; he was a self-made man; he started a business in a small way in the City, but small beginnings often make great endings, and the little business grew and grew, and success and wealth came almost without effort. Jasper and I never knew what poverty meant. I loved learning better than my brother did, and at the age of eighteen, when Jasper went into our father's business, I was sent to Oxford. At twenty-two I had taken my degree, and done so, not perhaps brilliantly, but with some honor. Any profession was now open to me, and my father gave me full permission to choose any walk in life I pleased; at the same time he made a proposal. He was no longer so young as he had been, he had made his fortune; he believed that Jasper's aptitude for business excelled his own. If we would become partners in the firm which he had made, and which was already rising into considerable eminence, he would retire altogether. We young men should work the business in our own way. He was confident we should rise to immense wealth. While making this proposal our father said

that he would not give up his business to Jasper alone. If both his sons accepted it, then he would be willing to retire, taking with him a considerable sum of money, but still leaving affairs both unencumbered and flourishing. "You are my heirs eventually," he said to us both; "and now I give you a week to decide." At the end of the allotted time we accepted the offer. This was principally Jasper's doing, for at that time I knew nothing of business, and had thought of a profession. Afterwards I liked the counting-house, and became as absorbed as others in the all-engrossing accumulation of wealth. Our father had taken a very large sum of money out of the business, and it was impossible for us not to feel for a time a considerable strain; but Jasper's skill and talent were simply wonderful, and success attended all our efforts.

(To be Continued.)

#### HINTS ON CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.

BY BLANCHE L. MACDONELL.

The custom of decorating our churches for Christmas, though now so widely prevalent among all denominations of Christians, had originally a heathen origin. The mistletoe, a special symbol of Christmas, was accounted sacred to Odin and possessed wonderful charms for the ancient Druids. It was reaped by a consecrated priest with a golden sickle, and carried in solemn procession upon a white ox. The holly was also held sacred by the Druids. Though "Merrie Christmas" was celebrated with great pomp and hilarity in England in old times, in modern days its observance had rather fallen into oblivion, and by many credit is given to the late Charles Dickens for having in a great measure revived among English speaking nations the spirit of charity, kindness, and friendly rejoicing, which constitutes the real spirit of Christmas. Before the revival of ecclesiastical art, which so soon followed upon the Tractarian movement, our church decorations were of the roughest kind; but we have now rushed into an opposite extreme, and each year our church and home decoration become more profuse and, unfortunately, more costly. I have endeavored in this brief article to give a few hints upon the more simple and inexpensive modes of Christmas decoration, which are often also the most beautiful.

In decorations of all kinds it is necessary to keep in view a few simple rules:

First, form a plan of what you wish to accomplish and adhere to it closely. If you set to work in a hazy, haphazard fashion, the general effect will most likely be unequal. Procure all the materials you will require, and have them at hand before you commence; thus avoiding confusion and loss of time. Paper, cardboard, moss, string, wire, and strong glue, should all be provided ready.

Study appropriateness without which there can be no beauty. However admirable ornamentation may be in itself, it can only be really beautiful when in harmony with its surroundings. The massive greenery which would be adapted to the lofty proportions of a large church would appear heavy in the more limited space of a small chapel; a large hall demands a different style of decoration from a small parlor.

For home decorations it is advisable to aim at grace, lightness and elegance. Beauty does not consist in quantity, and an over-profuse use of decoration is most unfortunate in effect. Avoid overcrowding, which is the bane of most amateur artistic effort. Many persons believe that, because a thing is intrinsically beautiful, the number of articles of the same description grouped together the better. It is a mistaken idea. Space and neutral background are absolutely essential in order to show the beauties of any object to perfection.

Greenery can always be purchased ready for use. For the festoons of arches, the wreathing of pillars in a church, this is not too cumbersome, though for ordinary home decoration it is rather heavy. It is, however, easy to take it apart and reconstruct it into lighter wreaths. Garlands and wreaths should never be made too thick, or the effect will be heavy and gloomy. Lovely garlands can be made by stitching leaves on a length of dark green tape, half an inch or one or two inches broad, according to the size of the leaves. Lay one leaf on the braid and fasten it with a stitch, then place another leaf under the braid, then the point

reaching under the leaf already attached, and fasten securely. Another leaf placed above, its point as far from the base of the first as the breadth of the braid, and again another under, neatly fastened; thus you have a solid wreath slightly on both surfaces. Autumn leaves arranged in this fashion make a charming decoration. Colored grasses and flowers mixed with the greenery are very effective. For a pier glass, or any article of furniture likely to be injured by nails, use thin laths of wood of the requisite size to support your greenery in order to prevent contact with the gilt frame. For a mirror, a long trailing vine, short in the middle, longer at the sides, or a drooping garland of delicate, graceful greenery, is admirable, and the reflection in the glass multiplies its beauties. When the wreaths are light they may be attached by strong pins instead of nails, and the marks are less objectionable. For a chandelier, use only very light materials. Fern leaves sewed upon a length of green tape, or a delicate wreath of ivy, with some of the leaves frosted, mingled with bright everlasting and dyed grasses, is very graceful. For picture frames, long wreaths of single leaves give a more elegant effect than heavy masses of greenery.

To crystallize a wreath, first make up the wreath and then dip it into a solution of alum and water. Allow one pound of alum to two quarts of boiling water. Allow the wreath to remain in for a few moments, and then suspend it above the basin that it may drip. Large and beautiful crystals are thus formed, which catch and reflect the light in a hundred rainbow hues. Bare branches and twigs dipped in alum are very lovely, and may be suspended from chandeliers or mixed with greenery with the happiest results. The effect of frost and snow can be easily obtained. White wadding answers very well for the flat background, but for any object standing out, the soft wool, usually termed "jeweller's cotton" is much the best. Let the wool first be tied on with thread, all over the top edges or wherever snow would be likely to lodge. In order to look as natural as possible, it should be pulled out and allowed to hang down in projecting points and masses. On branches and leaves the effect of snow may be obtained by coating them with strong, colorless gum, and then sprinkling them thickly with flour. For frost, drop gum upon the wool wherever frost would naturally form, and sprinkle coarse Epsom salts upon it. Frosted glass, ready crushed, can be purchased from the chemist for the same purpose. A more inexpensive mode is to break glass bottles, and then crush them with a heavy roller; the effect is lovely, as they glitter and sparkle beautifully.

Mottos are greatly used in decoration, and if tastefully arranged produce the happiest effects. Nothing can be more artistic than the illuminated mottos which can be painted at home or purchased in beautiful designs. For scrolls, thin deals, strong paste-board or, best of all for illuminating purposes, zinc plates form the best foundation. For the background, Turkey red twill, Canton flannel, or glazed linen can be used and where the motto is placed high up paper does equally well. A deep red is a good tint for the background, but your selection of color, both for background and letters, must necessarily depend upon the surroundings amidst which your motto is to be placed. Against old oak panelling a light shade goes best; not white, which would present too violent a contrast, but a pale gray with a crimson edge. The letters might then be boldly relieved with black. For stonework, red is the most to be used. With very dark green, pale blue is charming. When the walls and draperies are very dark, as is so much the fashion at present, the most brilliant effects in mottos are permissible. In hanging mottos and scrolls be careful not to hang them too high; if they are not suspended within the range of vision, and require an effort to decipher their meaning, much of the beauty of design is lost.

The letters and bordering are first cut out in strong cardboard and then ornamented in various ways. The smaller the letters the more simple should they be in design; antique or fancy characters are only desirable in a very large size, and when the motto is to be hung very low. It is important that all the letters should be exactly of the size. Cut a number of pieces of cardboard a same size; if one is used for each letter,

the proportions of all will be precisely alike. The border of a motto should never be so obtrusive as to divert attention from the sentiment which it frames. A double or treble row of leaves makes a pretty border; each leaf must overlap and conceal the stalk of the preceding one. Broken walnut shells, sprinkled upon a coating of strong, colorless gum, also make a good bordering; looking, if skillfully arranged, like an edging of carved wood. Ivy or delicate fern leaves can also be utilized as a border; indeed it may be said of both letters and bordering that they are as numerous as individual taste can plan or individual skill can execute. It may be added that the more simple the design the more effective it usually is.

Moss sewed on in tufts, and arranged with the fingers until the surface looks uniformly covered, forms a pretty foundation for flowers, everlasting, or letters of straw or scarlet berries. Pretty letters in imitation of coral are made by coating the shapes with colorless gum and sprinkling them with rice or tapioca and painting them red. They will require at least two coatings, and the first should be allowed to dry perfectly before the second is added. Letters with very small leaves sewed over them look well, but it is a tedious task, as they must first be covered with paper or cloth. Very lovely silvery letters can be made of tinfoil. Cut out the shape of the letter in tinfoil, but considerably larger than the foundation letter, crumple it in the hand until it is well crumpled, then place it lightly over the card letter and fasten it at the back. Letters of white wool, cotton flannel, or cotton batting are very effective upon a crimson background. Paste the card letters upon sheets of the best white wadding. The flat side of the wadding adheres to the pasted side of the letters so that you can cut the wadding out the clear shape of the paper. The effect is as if the letters were formed of snow. A narrow edge of delicate green to the white letters is sometimes considered an improvement. Letters of all kinds can be frosted in the same manner as wreaths and garlands, with flour, glass, or Epsom salts sprinkled upon gum. A motto in the shape of a scroll, in white wadding, edged with frosted leaves, with letters of pressed fern bent into shape, is exceedingly attractive, as is also one with a background of pale green cambric, edged with dark green leaves, the letters composed of bright crimson everlastings. Silver letters are charming upon pale blue, dull green, or deep red; letters covered with crimson velvet are effective upon old gold satin. Small banners can also be utilized in Christmas decoration. In those modern days so many persons paint tastefully that no directions are required for their construction except that they should be appropriate in character and sentiment, and there are so many designs from which to choose that individual taste can alone direct a selection.—*Christian Union.*

CHILDREN'S CLOTHES.—By all means keep the little folks warmly dressed. They should wear flannel next the skin nine months in the year and if kept on during the other three it would do much to prevent convulsions, bowel complaints and other diseases incident to childhood. With flannel from chin to toe, thick stockings and thick, broad soled, low heeled shoes it will not make so much difference about the outer clothing, and if they happen to wander into the fresh air without their socks and hats don't be worried. The weight of all garments should be suspended in some way from the shoulders and the elastic must never be fastened around the leg below the knee. Many large veins centre there and the constant pressure of the elastic induces a sluggish flow of the blood and causes diminution of the calf and is always productive of cold feet and headaches. When the little girls go out in winter give them something to wear besides a muff and boa. They want overshoes, leggings, a thick cloak, mittens, and a hood that will cover the head. The neck should not be unduly exposed but it is liable to produce inflammation if it is wrapped more warmly than the extremities.—*The Household.*

HARD SAUCE.—Stir to a cream one cup of butter with two cups of powdered sugar, when light beat in the juice of one lemon and two teaspoonfuls of grated nutmeg.

## The Weekly Messenger.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15.

## THE WEEK

THE IMPROBABLE STORY forced upon the world by reiteration, that the Madagascar envoys were strangled upon their return home from Europe and America, is now contradicted on the strength of later advices received at Durban, South Africa.

LANCASHIRE COTTON OPERATIVES have been given notice of a reduction of five per cent in their wages. Ninety thousand weavers affected are preparing for a strike.

THE GRAND JURY in Danville, Virginia, have made a presentment on the late riots there, unanimously casting the blame upon the Negroes and praising the whites for their courage and pluck in standing up against odds, thus saving the lives of hundreds of persons. It is strange, if the whites were acting purely upon the defensive, that a dozen or two Negroes were slaughtered and not any whites.

A BOLIVIAN named Dr. A. Niceto has issued a card, in which, while professing peaceful desires, he declares no terms Chili may propose should be accepted, but that, if she forces too rigorous terms upon Peru and Bolivia, all the Bolivians should continue the struggle. In case of such an emergency, he offers his personal services in the ranks and the sum of half a million dollars for the treasury.

ROMAN CATHOLIC FANATICISM broke out in Wexford, Ireland, over evangelistic services being conducted in a theatre by Major Whittle, of Chicago. The mob made a bonfire of all the Bibles and hymn books that they could get into their hands. A Protestant gentleman was hurried down to the harbor and would have been drowned had some decent Catholics not interfered. Another Protestant was chased through the streets, and when he took refuge in the police barracks was told the police were unable to protect him. In a second outbreak the Methodist Church, the Christian Association rooms, the County Court House and some houses of the Protestant population were attacked.

AN ORGANIZATION OF GROCERS' CLERKS called the A B C Union, for the robbery of their employers, has been discovered in New York. Each member of the society was bound to obtain \$125 a month by fair means or foul and deposit it with the treasurer. Members were to be given \$2,500 from the funds thus acquired, at the end of the year, if they wished to start in business, and if sick they were to get two dollars a day. The Retail Grocers' Union has caused the arrest of the treasurer, Christian Krosz, of Brooklyn, who, it is said, received \$7,000 a year from the society.

A DECISION in the Supreme Court, Boston, is to the effect that when standard time was generally adopted by the community it became legal time, so that the debtor who was nonsuited for being late, when he had a quarter of an hour to the good by standard time, is put all right again.

ACCOUNTS COME of fearful atrocities by Indians near Huarayo, Peru, such as flourishing villages reduced to ashes, cattle stolen, children taken captive, men butchered and their heads stuck on poles to mark the scenes of slaughter, and women terribly maltreated.

A CLERK in Marseilles, France, was waylaid and robbed of fifty thousand francs (about \$8,500), that he had just drawn for his employers.

THE TREASURY SOLICITOR, Washington, has reported against granting Mrs. Miller, New Orleans, a license as master of a steamboat.

THREE BOXES arrived in Paris a few days ago, one addressed to M. De Lesseps and the others to M. Couvreur, one of his contractors on the Panama Canal. The latter opened one of his, when a cartridge inside exploded, but without doing any damage. He immediately warned M. De Lesseps, who said, smiling, "They treat me like a sovereign."

THE INHABITANTS of Alsace-Lorraine, the two provinces wrested from France by Germany, have shown steady disinclination to amalgamate with the German people. Lately the District Diet of Upper Alsace passed a resolution allowing the use of the French language in its debates. The Governor of Alsace-Lorraine has annulled that resolution, holding that the Diet exceeded its legal powers.

LADY ROSE, wife of Sir John Rose, the well known Canadian financier, and daughter of Mr. Robert Emmett Temple, of Rutland, Vermont, died recently at Queen's Gate, Kensington, England.

A DECISION JUST GIVEN in the Supreme Court of Ontario makes a man liable for the cost of goods bought on credit by his wife without authority from him, when he saw the goods in his house and allowed them to be used.

A VERY UNDESIRABLE CLASS of immigrants have been assisted into Canada from Ireland by the Imperial Government. Some of them have been quartered in Toronto for a while back, and a few nights ago they managed to get as much whiskey as was required to put them in fighting trim. A free fight of three hours was the result, and two of the ringleaders named Ward, father and son, had their clothes torn in shreds, and, having been arrested, were on the next morning sent to gaol for thirty and ten days, respectively.

BY A TREASURY DECISION peace are on the free list in the United States tariff and not subject to the twenty percent duty sought to be collected on them at Rochester, New York, as garden seeds.

MR. KING, Representative for Louisiana, will introduce a bill in Congress to provide that women in Government employ will be paid the same as men when their work is the same.

THE SKATING SEASON no sooner begins than we hear of deaths from breaking through thin ice on all hands. Be careful, young folks, remember you have each only one life to lose.

AT THE LAST fortnightly meeting of the Irish League in Dublin, the secretary announced the receipt of a thousand pounds from America since the previous meeting. Mr. Biggar, M. P., spoke of Mr. J. O'Connor Power, M. P., as the James Carey of Irish politics, and said no Irishman had the choice of a Government situation who had not first become a traitor to the interests of Ireland. Mr. T. D. Sullivan, M. P., referring to Newry, where both Nationalist and Orange meetings had been proclaimed by the Government, said henceforth the Nationalists would probably announce counter meetings wherever the Orangemen intended to hold meetings, so that the Government would be compelled to proclaim both.

LAST YEAR THE UNITED STATES metallic mineral production was worth \$219,756,000, and the non-metallic—such as coal, petroleum, building stone, etc.—\$226,156,000.

105,649 IMMIGRANTS arrived in Canada to stay during the eleven months past of this year, against 88,743 during the same period of 1882.

THE SUPREME CHURCH COUNCIL of Germany has summoned Dr. Stoeker, the court chaplain, to abandon his agitation against the Jews or resign.

WHILE THE HULL of the new steamer "Princess Louise," built at Macan, Nova Scotia, was being towed to Halifax to be rigged by the Government steamer "Newfield," the towing hawser broke, and the new vessel went ashore at Point Prim, Digby, striking a bluff rock. Captain D. Browne, formerly a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, and at the time of this disaster Inspector of Lighthouses, was in charge of the new vessel with nine assistants, and himself and seven of these were washed off by a heavy sea and drowned. Two men were in the cabin when the sea struck, and working their way up through the skylight managed to escape and reach firm land. The vessel, which cost forty thousand dollars, was battered to pieces on the rocks.

TWO AMERICANS, B. C. Scott and T. Bennett, from Tombstone, Arizona, were attacked by a band of Apaches near the Mexican frontier, but they made such a gallant fight that the Indians fled. There is much excitement over the occurrence, as it is held to be an instance of the mischief likely to result from General Crook's policy of harboring the Indian women and children and leaving the men free to raid.

THE COMPAGNIE GENERALE TRANSATLANTIQUE, of France, has contracted to carry the mails for eighteen years between France and the West Indies and Mexico, for a subsidy of about \$1,700,000.

SIGNOR NICOTERO, a former Minister of the Interior, Italy, insulted Signor Lovito, Secretary to the present Minister of the Interior. The result was a duel fought with swords near the iron bridge across the Tiber. Signor Nicotero was wounded in the wrist, and the seconds were about to stop further fighting when Signor Lovito rushed forward, seized his antagonist's sabre, cutting his own left hand, and dealt Nicotero a terrible wound on the head. First accounts say Nicotero died almost instantly, but later ones say Lovito received the more serious hurt and that both will be prosecuted.

SOME PROMINENT SOUTHERNERS are going to waste their substance in suing the Government of the United States for the value of slaves emancipated during the war.

NEW GUINEA is to be explored by an expedition of the English Geographical Society.

THE AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION asks Congress for laws to prevent the slaughter of buffalo, deer and antelope on the plains, also to give cattle trains the right of way next to passenger trains on all railways.

A FIRE IN CONSTANTINOPLE has destroyed 600 houses, including a Greek church and four Jewish synagogues, and a fire in Brussels, Belgium, has destroyed the legislative and departmental buildings. All the documents connected with the foundation of Belgian independence, including the original constitutional charter, were destroyed, and the total loss is about two million dollars.

CONGRESS IS ASKED by the National Temperance Society in New York to amend the Federal constitution to prohibit the liquor traffic.

JUDGE OSBORNE, of Elkhart, Indiana, has instructed the grand jury to indict all dealers found selling papers of immoral character.

SIR HENRY JAMES, the British Attorney General, has written a letter to Lord Chief Justice Coleridge, protesting against the conduct of the counsel for O'Donnell, in making statements in his address to the jury which were in the form of evidence. In reply, the Lord Chief Justice says that in 1881 the judges decided by a vote of nineteen against two that such statements should not be allowed, and this decision had probably escaped the memory of Mr. Justice Denman, who tried the case.

ONE OF THE BIGGEST sea serpent narratives is told by the keeper of the life-saving station at Long Branch, New Jersey. He says five of his crew, engaged in deep sea fishing, saw a hideous serpent near their boats, fully ninety or a hundred feet long and thirty feet wide, with two blow holes nine feet long and two feet wide about twenty feet from the end of his nose. The monster was also visible from the station, from which it was seen appearing on the surface at intervals of ten minutes. It will require a good deal of study and practice to beat this account of a sea serpent. Probably, however, many of these strange salt-water stories arise from the wonderful optical illusions that are produced by the waves dashing over any object almost covered by the water and seen at some distance.

MOST OF THE STUDENTS who left the National College of Pharmacy in Washington because a Negro was admitted have returned.

IT IS OFFICIALLY DENIED that the Czar of Russia had selected certain of his advisers to draw up a constitution for the Empire.

DURING A TRIAL in a court in Arizona Territory one of the suitors became excited during a quarrel between the lawyers, and, drawing a knife, he rushed upon a man named Moore, aged 70, and stabbed him fatally; then stabbed an editor named C. W. Beach in the neck, and was about to attempt the butchery of the court reporter when Beach brought him down with a bullet in his spine.

THE STRIKE OF FREIGHT HANDLERS in New Orleans ended in a victory for the strikers.

THE SUM of \$82,400 was paid into the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, the other day by a colonization company, in part payment for 32,960 acres of land in the Saskatchewan district.

LONDON PAPERS are ventilating the extensive gambling operations conducted upon Atlantic steamships by professional sharpers. Steamship owners are called upon to exclude notorious gamblers from their vessels.

THE FORCES OF THE FALSE PROPHET in the Soudan are reported to be breaking up, having been disgusted at the lack of plunder afforded by the expedition. It is reported that England is going to send six regiments of East Indian native troops to Egypt. Another report is that England is making preparations to fortify Assouan and to hold it permanently. Assouan is situated near the first cataract of the Nile, and it is believed that should El Mahdi attempt to advance upon Cairo he would be opposed at this point by English troops.



THE ENGLISH DELEGATES to the Trades' Union conference in Paris upon their return reported that the French unions lack stability and discipline and are not at all ready to bear the necessary cost of Unionism. For instance, out of about a thousand professed union masons, only sixty are regular contributors to the reserve fund. French workmen, the English delegates said, seem to rely upon the state for things that they might do for themselves. There is little intercourse between the working and the middle classes and a lamentable want of intimacy among the various groups of workmen themselves.

MR. WILLIAM REDMOND, Irish member of Parliament, has won a wife in Australia with a dowry of a hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

THE VOTE ON CONTRACT PRISON LABOR in New York State resulted in nearly four hundred and six thousand to abolish, and nearly two hundred and sixty-seven thousand to retain the institution.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Vigilance Association of Quebec city was held a few days ago, under the presidency of His Grace the Archbishop of Quebec. There was a large attendance, and the report of the committee showed that very much had been done in the way of reducing intemperance among the people. The Association is going to begin a war against the sale of liquor in private clubs. Since November 1st, 1882, 93 persons in Quebec city have been prosecuted for selling liquor without license. Four of these were acquitted, sixteen were prosecuted twice, six three times and one four times. Twenty-one of the offenders complied with the law by taking out a license and nine shut up. Seventy-nine suits, forty-six of which resulted in conviction, were brought against tavern-keepers for Sunday traffic. The amount collected in fines was \$2,543. It shows a rather low standard of civic government to have convicted law-breakers granted licenses for liquor-selling for the asking.

A MUSSULMAN FANATIC named Khaf Seyd entered Persia lately with some thousands of Turcomans. He preached a holy war, and the Persian troops retreated before his forces.

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT railway projects of the age is taking shape. At the next session of the Canadian Parliament application will be made for an Act to incorporate "The San Francisco, Winnipeg and Hudson's Bay Railway Company." This company proposes to build a railway from Winnipeg, Manitoba, to Port Nelson, or some adjacent point, on Hudson's Bay. When completed, freight and passengers can be shipped from San Francisco to Liverpool at a saving of about eleven hundred miles over the Chicago route, and the required line of railway to complete the new route will only be 480 miles long. It is said to have been demonstrated that navigation is open in Hudson's Bay five months in the year, and it is believed that by building long piers commerce can, with the powerful iron steamships of to-day, be conducted at all seasons. After describing the glowing prospect for Manitoba in this enterprise, a commercial paper of Liverpool says, "One can scarcely conceive of the recently secluded and almost unknown hunting fields of the Hudson's Bay Company being so suddenly transformed into one of the busiest and richest scenes of trade and commerce in the world."

THE NEW COMMERCIAL TREATY between England and Spain goes into effect immediately.

A DEFICIT of six million florins appears in the Austrian budget.

THE BASUTO CHIEFS of South Africa have decided to transfer Basutoland to the British Government. The Zulu Chief Cetewayo will, it is expected, be restored as ruler of his tribe under British military protection.

AN EAST INDIAN EXHIBITION is being held in Calcutta. It was opened with brilliant ceremonies by Lord Ripon, the Viceroy, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and assisted by many native princes.

FIVE POLICE AGENTS of Constantinople have been sentenced to terms of ten and twelve years of imprisonment for blackmailing, and several of their victims have been released.

THE SYDNEY CONFERENCE of Australian delegates unanimously decided in favor of the annexation of the New Hebrides, New Guinea and other South Sea Islands. In urging England to treat with France for the cession of the latter's interest in the New Hebrides, the Conference promises that the colonies will bear a fair share of the cost of proceedings. The Conference discussed the constitution of a federal council to deal with matters of common concern to all Australia. A London despatch says the policy the British Government will likely adopt will be to establish a protectorate over New Guinea, insist that France shall cease sending her convicts to the South Pacific and ask for the gradual abolition of the French penal settlements there.

MR. WAKEMAN LOSEE, a retired farmer, aged sixty-five and highly respected, came to his death at Picton, Ontario, by accidentally running a shoe knife through an artery in his thigh.

LORD LORNE, since his return home, has been praising Canada highly and speaking in glowing terms of its prospects, in the course of speeches delivered in some of the principal cities.

THE PROPRIETOR of the *Western News*, Ballinasloe, Ireland, was lately sentenced to two weeks' imprisonment for publishing seditious articles in his paper.

THERE IS NOW in the Quebec gaol hospital, for nothing worse than age and poverty, a man who assisted in building the "Royal William," the first steamer to cross the Atlantic. He remembers the names of nearly all who worked on the vessel.

SENATOR LAPHAM has introduced a joint resolution into Congress proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States, giving women the suffrage. He also introduced a constitutional amendment, giving the President the right to veto separate items of the appropriation bill while approving the remainder. This is aimed at an abuse that has caused a good deal of harm—that of tacking obnoxious measures on to the appropriation bill which could not be passed upon their own merits.

A HYGIENIC EXHIBITION is to be held in London next year, and the Prince of Wales desires Canada to take part in it. The enterprise will likely do much good by spreading knowledge of the best appliances for protecting and preserving health.

CHARLES HALEY, chief of the North-Western Railway detective service, Chicago, has been arrested for compounding a felony. He is very rich, and it is charged that he has been acting in collusion with travelling sharpers.

THE MEXICAN NATIONAL RAILWAY has been opened for traffic so far as built. The line to San Miguel has reached a point 254 miles from the city of Mexico.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR in his message to Congress proposed as a solution of the Mormon question the abolition of territorial government and the substitution of federal commissions. Governor Murray, of Utah, is satisfied with these recommendations, believing their adoption would break up the political power of the Mormon Church and wipe out illegal government. He said a number of Democratic Senators, with whom he conferred upon the question, did not see in the President's scheme the constitutional objections they saw in the Edmunds bill. Mr. Edmunds has introduced a new bill this session, which differs little from his former one that has failed of its object. The *Salt Lake News*, the Mormon organ, says it is not shown by the President in what way the destruction of their local government would affect the question of polygamy. It says:—"Plural marriages are not recognized by the territorial laws, and could not be dissolved by the commissioners' edict, by armies or other earthly power. The President's remarks on Utah and polygamy are not a credit to his statesmanship, but a sop to bigots and bravado to the flame of popular passion."

FELIX VON KUH, son of a prominent railway contractor in Vienna, Austria, and his elder brother loved Fraulein Thorsch, daughter of a well-known banker who lately died, leaving 15,000,000 florins. Felix, who was a lad of sixteen, in a fit of despair shot himself, and Vienna society is greatly shocked at the painful tragedy.

IN DISCUSSING A PROPOSAL to institute secret voting for members of the Prussian Diet, the Minister of the Interior opposed it, saying the system had been disappointing in elections to the Reichstag, the Imperial Legislature, and the Government would consider the advisability of abolishing it. Perhaps the system is more disappointing to the Government than to the people, in diminishing its power over them.

A SECRET AGREEMENT is said to have been concluded between Germany and Spain, against "revolutionary eventualities." The Crown Prince of Germany, by request of the King of Spain, will prolong his stay and visit Andalusia. A Ministerial crisis is expected and feared in Spain after the visitor leaves.

A LARGE QUANTITY of explosives has been found in the house of an anarchist in Paris.

SARAH BERNHARDT, a well-known French actress, and her husband have been condemned to pay about \$22,000 as damages for breaking her contract to appear in the Gaiety Theatre, London.

THE TOWN COUNCIL of Limerick, Ireland, had a noisy time over the resolution that finally passed, granting to Mr. Dawson, retiring Lord Mayor of Dublin, the freedom of the city.

OWING TO A STRIKE of boys in the Yorkshire mines, England, nearly five thousand men have been compelled to cease work.

GENERAL BENJAMIN F. BUTLER, retiring Governor of Massachusetts, has declared, in a speech in Boston, his intention of being a candidate for the Presidency.

A GOVERNMENT CONTRACTOR named F. K. Ballou is reported to have absconded from New London, Connecticut, and left \$50,000 of unpaid bills, causing serious distress to hundreds of workmen.

WAR HAS NOT YET BROKEN OUT between France and China. The latest news is that given by a Paris paper which says Admiral Courbet has been instructed to propose the renewal of negotiations to the Chinese. If the proposal is refused, Courbet is to seize Bacinh, Sontay and Hung-Hoa. When these are captured, fresh proposals will be made. If they are also rejected, Courbet is to take one of the five large Chinese ports. Neither Canton nor Shanghai are to be taken, because M. Ferry is averse to offending friendly powers. Admiral Courbet will confine himself to the operations deemed necessary to obtain satisfaction from China.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, President of the British Board of Trade, and the leading Radical in the Cabinet, has declared in a speech that it is the duty of the Liberal party to do its utmost to remove just causes of discontent and disaffection. He characterized the present parliamentary representation system of Ireland as a sham, fraud and transparent imposture, the perpetuation of which would justify disaffection and give the Irish party the strongest arguments for separation.

MR. TREVELYAN, Irish Secretary in the British Cabinet, in a recent speech strongly denounced the Irish agitators for the mischief they are working to their country by their excesses. He said the Irish people were rapidly becoming more self-reliant, and if left to themselves would be law-abiding and self-sustaining. But if constant agitation should ever succeed in securing to Ireland a free government by Irish officials, internecine strife and bloodshed is certain to be the result and Ireland would recede to the barbarism of the middle ages.

THE ORANGEMEN OF IRELAND are denouncing, in season and out of season, the suspension of Lord Rosemore's commission as Justice of the Peace for the prominent part he took in demonstrations of the Orangemen on occasions of Nationalist gatherings.

A RUSSIAN NIHILIST, imprisoned in the fortress of St. Peter, has a letter in the Nihilist paper, *Will of the People*, which he wrote with his blood and in which he describes abominable cruelties as being practised upon both male and female Nihilists there immured. Some prisoners have been rendered insane by frequent ill-usage of various kinds, the sick are given no skillful attention and the women have to defend their children against the rats that infest the place.

Mrs. Robert Ager was found within a few hours of her death lying unconscious near her house, Hamilton, Ontario. There was a deep cut in her neck and bruises about her head and face. As her husband and herself were addicted to liquor and in the habit of quarrelling, he was arrested after she died.

CUPIDITY DESTROYS ITS THOUSANDS these days, apart from those it strikes down through such directly wicked agencies as the liquor traffic, etc. It is doubtless this vice that causes iron ships to be furnished with inferior and unsubstantial bulkheads between the different water-tight compartments into which those vessels are divided for safety. At the trial in Hamburg, Germany, recently, of the officers of the steamship "Cimbria," sunk in January last by the steamship "Sultan," experts testified that it would be impossible to conceive of more useless bulkheads than those of the unfortunate steamer.

CARDINAL McCABE has received a letter from the Pope, commending his pastoral denouncing secret societies in Ireland.

### CHRISTMAS AND ANNIVERSARY GIVING IN THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

BY THE REV. SYLVANUS STALL.

Lest in our Sunday-schools the thought of the scholars should be pauperized into the expectancy of simply receiving, many have found it beneficial to connect giving by the entire school with the work of the Christmas celebration. The ordinary joy of receiving is thus heightened into the greater and "more blessed" joy of giving.

Let some worthy object be selected—an orphan's home, a hospital, a prison, a mission ward of the city—and let the purpose and plan be fully stated to the school. According to the object selected, suggestion should be made as to the kind of articles which would be most suitable. To the attainment of the most beneficial results upon the recipients, the incited benevolence of the little givers should be judiciously directed. In the circular of one of the schools contributing last year for the children at an Orphan's Home, the superintendent says: "Put in the sack, candy, nuts, money, oatmeal, muslin, calico, stockings, mittens, crackers, soap, rice, beans, toys, etc., but nothing that will spoil!"

For a hospital or a prison, a pretty Christmas card, a small book in clear type, a handkerchief with a single word in needlework in the corner which will suggest some thought of earlier years, of mother, of home and Jesus; a motto or picture for the wall—something which touches the tender and more holy emotions, quickening to a life in Jesus.

The gathering can be easily made in sacks of muslin, printed before being sewed; or, cheaper, secured with less trouble, and perhaps equally good, manilla bags, of strong paper and judicious size. These should be printed with the name of the school, object of the offering, things most suitable to be contributed, date of the gathering, with blank line for the name and residence of the giver.

If it is money that is wanted for the furtherance of some needed charity, envelopes may be used instead of sacks. These should be carefully distributed to every member of the school, and if desired, the members and friends of the church may also be supplied, with a request to bring their offering—as much as is prompted by a willing heart—and be present at a general gathering and Christmas exercises for the school.

While the exercises vary according to the taste and talents of different schools, yet in every school this act of worshipping God by alms and offerings should be signaled and impressed by earnest prayer. When David and the princes of Israel assembled to make an offering for the building of the temple, their prayers and offerings ascended to heaven together; and when Solomon dedicated that temple, his great prayer and great offering, of twenty and two thousand oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand sheep, came up in gratitude together before God.

To aid further in restoring giving to its usurped place in worship, the following collocation of Scripture may be read:

**1. FOR BENEVOLENT PURPOSES.**  
Psa. 37: 3; Luke 8: 38 and 12: 15; Prov. 11: 21 and 3: 9; Isa. 32: 8; 1 Tim. 6: 17; Matt. 6: 19, 20; 2 Cor. 9: 6.

**2. ALMSGIVING.**  
Psa. 41: 1; Mark 10: 21; Deut. 15: 7, 8; Prov. 19: 17 and 28: 27; Matt. 23: 40; Gal. 6: 9.

For the cultivation of a generous and unselfish spirit, and to lead to a more thoughtful recognition of God's goodness, some schools ascertain the date of the birthday of each scholar, and then, as these various days come round, upon the Sabbath preceding the date, each in his or her turn is expected to bring to the school a thank-offering, the pieces of money composing it to represent the age of the donor. According to the wealth and willingness of the contributors they may bring dollars, halves, quarters, dimes, half-dimes, and in the case of very poor persons even pennies. Older members of the school who have a delicacy in disclosing their age, may contribute any amount not less than fifty cents.

As may be deemed judicious, the school or officers may select at the beginning of the year some worthy object upon which

to bestow the receipts of the thank-offering fund.

After ascertaining the various birthdays, each scholar, teacher and officer is supplied with an envelope, of which the following may serve as a sample:

Return this envelope with an enclosed offering on the Sunday preceding the birthday. Let the pieces of money equal the age of the giver. Let the pieces be equal in value.

"How old art thou?" (Gen. 47: 8)

"So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (Psa. 90: 12)

"With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation." (Psa. 91: 16)

#### BIRTHDAY THANK-OFFERING. FOR AGED PEOPLE'S FUND.

From.....

"Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20: 35).

"According as he purposed in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9: 7).

As a constant reminder a box may be placed at the door or some other convenient and slightly place to receive the offerings. It should be plainly lettered:

#### BIRTHDAY THANK-OFFERINGS.

Reports of receipts should be made to the school either monthly, or quarterly, and due notice given the fund at the stated anniversary of the school.

This system will not interfere with the regular contributions of the school, will cultivate benevolence, increase an interest in the school, aid a worthy cause, and counteract the tendency so prevalent which seeks to degrade all our national and family anniversaries into occasions of dissipation and sin.—S. S. Times.

#### PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS.

BY JENNIE HARRISON.

"There are two G's," said Grandpa Evans.

And immediately a flock of boys and girls were seen moving in the direction of his arm chair.

"I know!" cried Allan, always the first to speak; "grandpa and grandma! that's what they stand for!"

"Hurrah for the two G's!" shouted little Jim, climbing on the arm of the chair.

"Gentle grandma, I say!" was Gracie's guess, as she wheeled the old lady's chair closer to the fire, and saw her comfortably seated in it.

"You're pretty quick at guessing, children; but you haven't come near it, yet!" said grandpa, laughing at the group of eager faces. "My two G's belong to Christmas time!"

"Oh, ho!" exclaimed Robert; "now I know! goodies, and—and—"

"Come, Rob! keep quiet, and let grandpa tell."

"Is it a story?" asked little Jim, looking rather puzzled.

"No; you are to make the story out of my two G's, between now and Christmas night. Then you are to come and tell me which of the two G's you think is best."

"All of us!"

"Yes."

"Oh, what fun! Two G's for Christmas! Now, grandpa, what are they please?" cried impatient Allan.

"Are you all ready to hear?" asked the old gentleman adjusting his glasses carefully and counting the various rose faces clustered near him; not neglecting to cast a final glance at the sweet, placid countenance of grandma, to find the sympathy and encouragement there, which had never failed him in all the long years they had spent together.

It was a pretty picture, as the firelight played across the group; the bright-eyed,

eager children, fresh with youth and health; the white-haired grand-parents, full of years and experience, yet very much like the young ones, in their simplicity and enjoyment of little things.

"About Holiday time," said grandpa, "and especially at Christmas, one of my G's is in constant use. It is repeated here and there and everywhere, by boys and girls in particular. Sometimes, as I have listened, it seemed as if the word which that G began to spell must be to them the most important word in the language! And yet I know, if it were, their lives would always be unhappy, and they would lose half the pleasure God meant them to have in this world. My two G's are giving and getting. Now, I know very well that some of you young students of fine English may find fault with one of my words and tell me it would be more correct to say 'giving and receiving.' You are right, no doubt, but I am using the word now as I have heard boys and girls use it—and grown people too; because I think I can teach you my lesson better in this way. These are the questions which I hear every Christmas-eve, on, over and over: 'What did you get for your Christmas?' 'What did you get in your stocking?' 'What did you get off the tree?' 'What did you get?' so many times that I begin to believe that getting is the biggest G in the dictionary! Isn't it so, my children?"

Not one could deny it! They knew that the question would be sounded, on every side, that very coming Christmas—only two weeks of now—in the nursery, on the street, even in Sunday-school!

"Of course, grandpa! it's very natural to ask each other what presents we have had. We all get something!"

"Yes, it is 'very natural.' But sometimes I wish that boys and girls would learn to use the other G more and find out what a pleasant sound it has. Suppose that from now until Christmas we should hear boys and girls whispering every-where such sentences as these; 'What shall we give those poor children around in—street for Christmas?' 'Let's try to give lame Sallie Gray something nice for Christmas! I don't believe she ever has much.' 'I am going to give something to every poor child I know; because it's so pleasant to give, and we ought to!'"

Grandpa imitated the various tones of the children so exactly, that mother, who was just coming in the door, wondered who was there; and the young folks were delighted.

"Half the people in the world—boys and girls in particular—do not enjoy life as they might, just because they use one G so much, and forget about the other. I want my young people to learn to use the beautiful G now, so that their whole lives may be made happy."

"Mustn't we say the other G at all?" asked little Jim, with a sorrowful sound in his voice which made them all laugh.

"Oh, yes, little one. You will have chances enough for that. Only don't think about that G all the time. See, all of you how much you can do with the other one during these two weeks. And on Christmas night, if our lives are spared, let us meet together here, by grandpa's chair, and talk it over."

"We'll have a big G, and a little g!" said Allan, quite ready to begin his plans.

"And all the young people were agreed. 'Only don't make a mistake,' said grandpa, "and spell the wrong word with the big G!"

"Give with a big G; and get with a little one!" announced Rob, as the tea-bell rang, and mother was standing at the door!

Then there was a great scattering, and a tumult of young voices, as they wanted to find out if mother had heard!

"Big G is generally a quiet worker, isn't he?" said father, after a while.

"He ought to be," answered grandpa, shaking his head at the children.

Then mother told them that she would be ready to help any one who was in earnest with the new plan, but couldn't quite manage alone. After that the young folks were more quiet, and grandpa and father had an opportunity to talk "polly-ticks," as little Jim said.

Never, in that family, was known such a busy time as the two weeks before Christmas!

The children were "out of the way" so much, that cook declared the kitchen was

"lonesome-like." There were visits to the attic in which the boys and girls were almost as quiet as the mice there. Gracie's fingers and Nell's did never before such nimble work with their needles, under mother's direction. And the wondrous array of games and toys, which had been discarded for years, grew daily smaller and smaller, as the plans grew larger; and when something "most as good as new" was found, what rejoicing there was! Best of all, were the happy, interested faces, which gathered about the table, when each day was over! And if some young fingers were unusually busy under the gaslight, nobody asked troublesome questions.

Swiftly the days passed; and "merry Christmas" came—for the first time in these boys and girls—quickly enough for these boys and girls. Ah! what a difference it makes when we have something to do for other people! There is no tedious waiting-time then! Many secrets escaped before the day was over; because, every now and then, Katy would put her face in from the kitchen to say, "Some one's here to thank the dear young ladies and gentlemen for the beautiful things!" or, "The poor widow's after thanking the young people for the presents!" and each time she was chased away so quickly by the boys and girls that, had it not been Christmas-day—when no one could be vexed—her dignity would certainly have been offended!

But when the merry day was over, and the candles were burning out, grandpa said, "Now, my children, which of the G's do you like best?"

There was not a hesitating voice. "Why the big G is the best, to be sure, grandpa!" "Big G for giving!—why it's ever so much better than g for getting! I never knew how nice it is to give!"

Little by little grandpa heard it all, as mother helped the bashful young folks tell what they had done, with the "big G" as their letter-guide. A great many of their own warm clothes were mended and fixed over, and some new ones made for poor little ones whom mother knew to be in great need. Gracie had coax'd Katie to add some doughnuts and other good things to these. And at least half a dozen dolls, which she and Nell had laid aside, had been newly-dressed and made to look very pretty for poor little girls, whose eyes had sparkled at the sight. Allan's genius for mending at the sight, and making a worked wonders among the toys, so that many a poor child, who expected nothing, was made glad on that Christmas morning.

Neither grandpa nor grandma, nor any of the home dear ones, had been forgotten; yet all these had been added by earnest effort and good will.

How pleasant it was to hear mother tell of it all! It was the kind of enjoyment which lasted! That was just what grandpa had told them. And he said, "You have done well, my children! Now, I will tell you what makes the big G such a beautiful and wonderful letter. It stands for the Gift—the best of all gifts—which was given to us on the first Christmas day long ago. God gave his only begotten Son to us, to be our Saviour; that Gift made this day such a glad day to us, and that is why giving should be our great Christmas pleasure. Giving, with true love in our hearts, makes us like God. Now, my dears, keep the big 'G' in its right place all through your lives, and God himself will see to it that the little g is not crowded out!"

Then the children kissed grandpa and thanked him for his lesson, and they went to bed feeling sure that it was the happiest Christmas they had ever spent.—N. Y. Observer.

**A BARREL CHAIR.**—Take a good substantial barrel, saw it about half way, and about a foot up from the bottom, leaving staves enough to form a good back to the chair. Nail or tack on a seat. Cover all over with coarse matting. I use coffee sacks. Fill a cushion for the back and seat with horse hair. Thin shavings are just as good, so is paper cut in strips. Fasten on your cushion with tacks. Cover the chair all over from the seat down with a wide ruffle. I used an old green worsted dress. It was a bright moss green, and I used tacks to fasten the cloth on the chair, with thick pieces of red cloth to keep the tacks from going through the covering. Now fasten on the back a pretty tidy and you will have a very pretty easy chair for a bed-room, and a comfortable one to rest in while you read.



CHRISTMAS CANDIES.

The Christmas season is fast approaching, when among the many nice things, considered by the children, and by some of the grown people also, almost indispensable, candies take a prominent place. The child is yet to be discovered who does not love sweets, and in this respect many people never outgrow their childhood. For dressing the Christmas tree, nothing can be prettier or more attractive in the children's eyes than dainty bags and baskets filled with the glistening sweets.

Many know how acceptable at any time is a box, plain or fancy, full of delicious French confections. Those of us, however, who at Christmas time have many to remember and a somewhat limited purse, cannot always indulge in such expensive luxuries. On the other hand, many with the money are too far from the city to gratify their tastes in this respect. Now I would like to place it in the power of all the ladies to command at any time an array of toothsome dainties, pure, delicious and inexpensive.

Almost every mamma or older sister has at some time made molasses candy or sugar taffy, and found it more trouble than pleasure as scorched cheeks and blistered hands will testify, to say nothing of the disappointment which follows upon a discovery of the taffy next day in a moist uninviting state, unfit to offer to any one. I speak feelingly as I have been through all the horrors of home candy making, and at one time gave up the undertaking in despair, but experience is a great teacher, and I am now able after much patience and perseverance, to make French candies, which are "things of beauty," and "a joy" as long as they last. Any one who is willing to devote a little time and patience to the matter, can do the same with little trouble and comparatively small expense.

It is by careful attention to little things that success is secured, and I will first mention minor details, the close observance of which, I feel, has insured my own success. First, always use a porcelain-lined saucepan, new if possible, and kept solely for boiling sugar. Second, never put in the flavoring, while the sugar is hot. As it is more delicate if not cooked. Third, stir constantly with a silver spoon, but never with wooden, iron or pewter spoons. Fourth, never put butter or flour on the hands when making up cream candy, and never put butter in the candy itself. These small matters disposed of we come to the receipt for the cream.

Take two cups of granulated sugar, one cup of cold water, one and one-half tablespoonsful of powdered arrowroot. Dissolve the arrowroot in the cold water and pour it upon the sugar. Boil from ten to twenty minutes, stirring all the time. Just here is the most difficult and trying part of the undertaking. It is impossible to give an infallible rule for boiling the sugar as the time varies with every experiment. Anywhere from ten to twenty minutes is the usual rule, and only patience and experience will tell you when it is cooked just enough, neither half a minute too little nor half a minute too much, but just right. At first, I depended on the clock, boiling the sugar from five to eight minutes as directed. The consequence was a failure nearly every time. Now I allow the sugar to boil until the syrup thickens, and drops heavily from the spoon. This result should arrive at from eight to twelve minutes. When the syrup reaches this stage, take the saucepan from the fire and set it in cold water. Beat the contents with a spoon to a smooth white cream. Before the cream becomes too cold, add a teaspoonful of vanilla extract. Take the cream, a little at a time in the palm of the hand, and mould it into any desired shape. It should be about the consistency of putty and work easily. If it becomes dry and crumbles, it is cooked too much. In this case, add a little water and boil again. If the syrup will not cream, cook it a little more. When you succeed in making this cream nicely you will possess the great secret of candy making, for this is the famous French cream which, differently colored and flavored, forms the foundation of all French candies.

Now, we will suppose you have the cream ready. For chocolate creams, roll into little cones the size of a thimble, and set them away to harden. Take a cake of Baker's chocolate, scrape fine, and put into a china bowl. Set this in the top of a kettle of

boiling water, and leave until the steam melts the chocolate into a thick black syrup. Add one and one-half tablespoonsful of pulverized sugar, and beat smooth. Grease a piece of thick brown paper sparingly with butter. It is better to wash the salt from the butter first. Take the bowl of chocolate from the fire, drop the balls into it, one at a time, take out with a fork and place upon the greased paper till cold and stiff.

Another recipe is for raspberry cream. The pure fruit juice which you can buy at twenty cents an ounce will both color and flavor this.

Recipe.—Take two cups of granulated sugar, pour the ounce of raspberry juice into a cup and fill up with cold water. Dissolve the arrowroot in this, and proceed as in making the white cream, leaving out the vanilla. When ready to mould this cream is a delicate pink color. Roll into any shape you fancy, and drop into granulated sugar.

Cream walnuts are made as follows: Take fresh English walnuts, and secure the kernels whole. Make the white cream, mould into flat cakes, press half a kernel into one side, half into the other side, and drop into granulated sugar.

These candies are better when two or three days old, and are very nice with almonds, dates, raisins, filberts, etc. Any one with a little taste and ingenuity can go on from these hints and vary his productions according to fancy.—Household.

GENUINE ENGLISH CHRISTMAS PUDDING.

1½ lbs. suet, 1½ lbs. raisins (after they are stoned), 1½ lbs. currants, 2 apples, ½ lb. mixed candied peel, the grated rind and juice of two lemons, the grated rind of an orange, ¼ lb. flour ¾ lb. bread crumbs 12 oz. sugar, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon grated nutmeg, 12 eggs, and ¼ pint milk.

Chop the suet until it is as fine as flour, also chop the apples fine. Grate off the yellow rind of the lemons and orange and strain the juice of the lemons. Mix all the dry ingredients well together. Break the twelve eggs into a large bowl and beat them for twenty minutes. Then add the milk. Stir this, with the lemon juice, into the other ingredients and beat all thoroughly. Put, in either a mould or cloth and boil from twelve to fourteen hours. This pudding if not frozen will keep good for months. If more convenient for the housekeeper the pudding may be made several weeks before Christmas, boiled for half of the required time, then hung without removing it from the cloth in a cool, dry place and kept until six or seven hours before the Christmas dinner is served when it may be put on again in boiling water, and boiled until done. Before serving stick it all over with strips of blanchéd almonds. Half this quantity will do for a small family.

IMAGINATION AND PAIN.

It is a fact that strong mental emotion may cause physical pain to disappear. A gentleman had five of his ribs broken by a railway accident. Yet he disentangled himself from the crushed car and lifted out his wife, a heavy woman. Not until he had laid her on the side of the road did he feel the pain which caused him to realize that he had been injured.

A little boy, whose leg was badly broken by the same accident, crept through a broken window. Not until he tried to walk, did he find that he could not stand, for his leg was "limp like a doll's."

It is also true that mental emotion may cause physical pain. The following incident illustrates this fact:

One morning a butcher was brought into a druggist's, pale from pain. While trying to hook up a heavy piece of meat above his head, he slipped, and the sharp hook penetrated his arm, so that he himself was suspended. The druggist examined him. He was almost pulseless, and his arm could not be moved without causing acute agony. While the sleeve of his jacket was being cut off, he frequently cried out. When the arm was exposed, it was found unmarked by even a scratch. The hook had only entered the sleeve of the jacket. Yet the man's sensation of pain was as real as if the hook had ripped up the flesh of his arm. The brain had received a false but a real impression, and the nerves resounded to it by producing pain.—Youth's Companion.

HINTS TO TEACHERS ON THE CURRENT LESSONS.

(From Peloubet's Select Notes.)

December 23.—1 Samuel 31: 1-13.

ILLUSTRATIVE.

Some time ago two ministers were walking along the banks of a river, when they came to a tree which had been blown down in a recent gale. It was a mighty, noble tree, tall and substantial, with large out-spreading roots and ample foliage. It must have been the growth of the greater part of a century; and any one who had seen it, would have said there was no cause why it should not have stood a century longer. Approaching to examine it, they found it had been snapped off just above the roots; and on looking still closer, found that there was only an outer shell of sound wood, and that the heart was rotten! Unnoticed, the decay had been going on for years. "Do you know," said Mr.—, to his companion, "that a tree never breaks off in this way unless there has been previous decay?" "A very suggestive lesson," was the answer, "for you and me and for your people and mine. Is it not so with the falls of many? Men seldom fall all at once into notorious, flagrant sin."—Illustrative Gatherings.

LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF SAUL.

1. God gives us all an opportunity, with many helps, encouragements, and promises to live a happy, useful and successful life.
2. Life is a probation, testing us whether we will obey God or not, and whether we will be thus fitted for a wider and happier life hereafter.
3. These tests are repeatedly given.
4. Life is also an education, fitting us for the good or evil life we have chosen.
5. He who disobeys God, rejects God and all his care and love, and the good he has prepared for those that love him.
6. The great moral lesson which Saul's history leaves for the instruction of mankind is, therefore, precisely this: That without true piety the finest qualities of character and the highest position in society will fail utterly to make a true and noble man. If Saul's heart had been true to God, he would have been one of the grandest specimens of humanity; but, lacking this true obedience to God, he made his life an utter failure and his character a moral wreck.—Taylor.
7. Those who reject God grow worse and worse, with premonitions in this life of their final fate.
8. Note the sad and hopeless end of the wicked.
9. Note that their loss is wholly their own fault.

SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.

A deep impression can be made upon the young by the lessons from the life of Saul. (1) Note his early advantages, and what he might have been, what God wanted him to be. Show how these surround your scholars. Let them count up the divine helps. (2) Note the test of his character, meant to make him better, but in which he rejected God. Show how people are now tested, and the object of these tests. (3) Refusing to obey God is rejecting God. (4) Warn them by the sad end of Saul, and the threatenings against sinners. Persuade them to seek the new heart now.

"THE WORST SIN."

Says Father Burke, of the Roman Catholic Church: "When God made us He gave us soul and body together, in all the activity of their powers. The man that annihilates his own soul for a single instant by drunkenness commits an outrage against the God that has made him, against the Author of his nature."

FROSTING FOR CAKE THAT WILL NOT CRACK.—The white of one egg, six heaping tablespoonsful of powdered sugar, one teaspoonful of flavoring. Put a tablespoonful of the sugar upon the white of the egg, and begin to whip it either with a fork or an egg beater. In three minutes add another spoonful; and presently another, until the sugar is used up. Then add the flavoring, and whip until the frosting stands up stiff, and can be cut with a knife.

THERE IS A STORY told of a lively old lady whose intemperate husband had numberless times promised reform. He fell, as she had predicted, into an open well, one dark night, and screaming lustily for help, at last delightedly saw rescue in the glimmer of his lady's cap fall over the windlass. She demanded, and he hastened to give, a new promise of reform, whereupon she let down a bucket and drew him his length out of the water, who, unfortunately, the handle slipped from her grasp, and he was replunged into the water. At a second attempt she lifted him higher, but the handle again slipped. A third time, when he was still higher, it slipped. The abject victim cried out desperately, "Now, old lady, you're doin' that on purpose." To which she frankly and ingeniously replied, "Well, now, old man, I am. 'Twouldn't do for ye to 'come out sudden, but by degrees, ye know.'" 'Tis said that, recognizing his own phrases, and deploring the same, out of the depths the water-soaked man voluntarily made a promise which he kept after being drawn out.

FOAMING SAUCE.—Beat one cup of sugar with one-half pound of butter until light and creamy, add the well beaten yolk of an egg, then the stiff beaten white, and beat vigorously, stir into a wine glass of water and flavor very gently, and set the bowl over the teakettle until it thickens a little, but do not let it over-heat or boil.

CRANBERRY JELLY.—Wash and pick over the fruit, boil till soft in water enough to cover it, strain through a sieve, weigh equal quantities of the fruit and sugar, boil gently fifteen or twenty minutes, taking care it does not burn. If you follow directions you will have nice jelly.

Question Corner.—No. 24.

BIBLE QUESTIONS.

1. A besieged people willing to surrender desired the terms. What were the base and barbarous conditions offered and by whom?
2. Under what circumstances were men, faint with hunger, afraid to taste honey which was abundant in the woods where they were?
3. Who disguised himself and accompanied by two servants went to have his fortune told?
4. What man was slain while taking his noonday nap?
5. Who saved the life of her nephew by hiding him and his nurse in the temple from the murderous malice of his grandmother? Name the three.

OUR WONDERFUL HOUSE.

A wonderful house have I,  
That God has made for me,  
With windows to see the sky,  
And keepsers strong and free.

The door has a tuneful harp,  
A mill to grind my bread,  
And there is a golden bowl,  
A beautiful silver threath.

A fountain is in the house;  
A pitcher lies at hand,  
And strong n'er God has given.  
To bear me o'er the land.

The keepers must work for God;  
The harp must sing his praise:  
The windows look to heaven;  
The strong men walk his ways.

And when this house shall fall,  
And death at last shall come,  
The good have a better house,  
Above in Jesus' home.

ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUESTIONS IN NO. 22.

1. Benjamin. Gen. xxxv. 18.
2. Eliphaz. Job ix. 1.
3. Oth. Ex. xxx. 23, 33.
4. Follow me. Matt. iv. 19.
5. Goliath. 1 Sam. xvii. 4.
6. Offering. Hebrews x. 14.
7. Orion. Num. xl. 5.
8. Dove. Gen. viii. 8, 9.
9. Calfe. Luke xii. 24.
10. Hosannah. Matt. xxi. 9.
11. Eil. 1 Sam. ii. 27, 33.
12. Eden. Gen. ii.
13. Rain. Matt. v. 45.
14. Be of good cheer. John xvi. 33.

CORRECT ANSWERS RECEIVED.  
Correct answers have been received from Cora M. McIntire, and Clara F. Folsom.

## COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL, Dec. 12, 1883.

Chicago was this week higher by a couple of cents a bushel at 97c. Liverpool is unchanged with a dull market.—Canada Red Winter, \$1.22 to \$1.23; Canada White, \$1.10 to \$1.15; Canada Spring, \$1.18 to \$1.20; Corn, 63c; in bond; Peas, 90c; Oats, 35c; Barley, 55c to 65c; Rye 62c.

FLOUR.—The market is quiet and as dull as it can be. Prices are unchanged. We quote:—Superior Extra, \$5.55; to \$5.60; Extra Superfine, \$5.40 to \$5.50; Fancy, none; Spring Extra, \$5.25 to \$5.30; Superfine, \$4.75 to \$4.80. Strong Bakers', Canadian, \$5.50 to \$5.75; do., American, \$5.75 to \$6.25; Fine, \$3.85 to \$3.95; Middlings, \$3.75 to \$3.85; Pollards, \$3.50 to \$3.60; Ontario bags, (medium), bags included, \$2.55 to \$2.65; do., Spring Extra, \$2.50 to \$2.55; do., Superfine, \$3.25 to \$3.35; City Bags, delivered, \$3 to \$3.05.

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

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter—Is quiet and unchanged. We quote:—Butter—Creamery, 25c to 27c; Eastern Townships, 19c to 21c; Morrisburg and Brockville, 18c to 21c; Western, summer makes, 13c to 15c; do. autumn makes, 17c to 18c. Add to the above prices a couple of cents per lb. for selections for the jobbing trade. Cheese is as quiet as butter. We quote:—Early makes, 10c to 11c; September and October 11c to 12c.

HOG PRODUCE.—We quote:—Western Mess Pork, \$16.50 to \$17.25; Hams, city cured, 14c to 15c; Bacon, 13c to 14c; Lard, Canadian, in pails, 10c to 11c; do. Western, in pails, 12c to 12c; Tallow, refined, 8c to 8c; Dressed Hogs, per 100 lbs., \$6.25 to \$6.50. In carlots and \$6.70, \$6.80 in small bunches.

POULTRY AND GAME. We quote:—Turkeys 10c to 11c; geese and chickens, 6c to 7c; ducks, 9c to 12c per lb.; partridges, 50c to 55c per brace; venison, 5c to 7c per lb. by the carcase and 9c to 11c by the saddle.

ASHES are dull at \$4.70 to \$4.80 for pots. Pearls are nominal.

## FARMERS' MARKET.

The bad roads and changeable weather of late have hindered farmers from coming any distance to market, and with reduced supplies prices are generally firm, although purchasers in general seem disposed to wait for better supplies which are sure to come when the sleighing again becomes good. An increased supply of Swedish turnips from Quebec has caused a considerable decline in prices. About 3500 cases of Valencia oranges are to arrive in the city this week, and this has led to a great reduction in prices, which are now \$6 per case. Fresh killed poultry are pretty dear, but a good deal of this, which is more or less discolored by the soft weather, is now being offered at moderate rates. Oats are 35c to \$1.05 per bag; potatoes 60c to 80c do.; tub butter 16c to 24c per lb.; print butter, 30c to 45c do.; old eggs, 24c to 30c per dozen; turkeys, 9c to 14c do.; geese, 7c to 9c do.; ducks, 12c to 14c do.; fowls, 8c to 12c do.; dressed hogs, 7c to 7c; apples, \$3.00 to \$4.00 per barrel; hay, \$5.00 to \$5.00 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw, \$4 to \$5.50 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

## LIVE STOCK MARKET.

The supply of beef cattle is not large and prices continue about the same as on last week, except that the leaner animals bring rather better prices. No really choice cattle are being offered at present, but a large supply of this sort of cattle is expected to arrive next week for the Christmas market. The best cattle sell at from 4c to 5c per lb., and pretty good fat cows and fair conditioned steers at 4c to 4c do. Ordinary dry cows in fair condition bring from \$26 to \$34 each, or 3c to 3c 3/4 per lb., and leaner animals from \$16 to \$25 each, or 2c to 3c per lb. Not many sheep and lambs are being brought to market and these are generally of indifferent quality, but the butchers have lately been receiving large flocks of sheep to slaughter for winter store. Prices of good mutton critters are pretty high, good lambs selling at from \$4 to \$5 each and good sheep at from \$5 to \$8. The leaner animals are rather difficult to sell at about half these figures. Fat hogs are in fair supply at from 5c to 5c per lb., and dressed hogs at from 6c to 7c do.

## 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 Doré, "Christ Leaving the Praetorium," the original of which was declared by the Rev. Theodore Cuyler 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 not a 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 &amp; SON

"WITNESS" OFFICE,

MONTREAL, P. Q.

Montreal, Nov. 17th, 1883.

## TO OUR WORKERS.

The premiums of pictures which we gave last year to the workers for the *Northern Messenger* having afforded universal satisfaction to their recipients, we shall repeat such premiums this season.

## SCHOLARS' NOTES.

(From Westminster Question Book.)

## LESSON XII.

Dec. 23, 1883. [1 Sam. 31:1-13.]

## DEATH OF SAUL AND JONATHAN.

COMMIT TO MEMORY VS. 11-13.

1. Now the Philistines fought against Israel; and the men of Israel fled before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa.

2. And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Melchishua, Saul's sons.

3. And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers.

4. Then said Saul unto his armorbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; for these uncircumcised come and thrust me through and abuse me. But his armorbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword and fell upon it.

5. And when his armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him.

6. So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armorbearer, and all his men, that same day together.

7. And when the men of Israel that were on the other side of the valley, and they that were on the other side Jordan saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

8. And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa.

9. And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armor, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish it in the house of their idols, and among the people.

10. And they put his armor in the house of Asherah; and they fastened his body to the wall of Bethshan.

11. And when the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead heard of that which the Philistines had done to Saul:

12. All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Bethshan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there.

13. And they took their bones, and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**—The wicked is driven away in his wickedness; but the righteous hath hope in his death.—PROV. 11:32.

## TOPIC.—The Death of the Disobedient.

LESSON PLAN.—1. THE DISASTER TO ISRAEL, VS. 1-8. 2. THE REJOICING OF THE PHILISTINES, VS. 7-10. 3. THE KINDNESS OF JABESH-GILEAD, VS. 11-15.

Time.—RC. 1056 Place.—Mountains of Gilboa.

## LESSON NOTES.

V. 1. GILBOA—a mountain ridge extending from the east into the plain of Esdrahel. V. 2. FOLLOWED HARD—pursued him closely.

SLAY JONATHAN—this fell one of the noblest and best of heroes. His death was a great grief to David. V. 3. THE BATTLE WENT SORE AGAINST SAUL—the time of retribution had come. He had forsaken God, and now he felt his enemies. ARCHERS—soldiers armed with the bow and arrow. SORE WOUNDED—father, "sore afraid." V. 4. HIS ARMOR—Jewish traditions say it was Doeg. ABUSUS ME—Saul feared either slow torture before death or the mutilation of his body after it. TOOK A SWORD—killed himself. He might more manfully and courageously have died fighting! V. 6. ALL HIS MEN—his body-guard and servants. The end of the king was like his life. He died by his own act without repentance. For David's lament, see 2 Sam. 1, 17-27. V. 7. THE VALLEY—cut Jordan. OTHER SIDE JORDAN—east side.

THE CITIES—places most likely to be first attacked. DWELT IN THEM—making good their conquest. V. 8. FOUND SAUL—a great prize, as it assured them that Israel had lost their king.

V. 9. CUT OFF HIS HEAD—the very thing he had dreaded. TO PUBLISH IT—with public rejoicings. V. 10. HOUSE OF ASHERAH—temple of their idol-gods. BETHSHAN—at the eastern end of the plain of Esdrahel. V. 11. INHABITANTS OF JABESH-GILEAD—they remembered Saul's kindness to them at the beginning of his reign, and under cover of night crossed the river, took down his body and those of his sons, and reverently buried them. V. 12. BURIED THEM—probably, to prevent their falling again into the hands of the Philistines. V. 13. TOOK THEIR BONES—after the burning. David afterwards interred them in Saul's family burial-place at Jabesh. 2 Sam. 31: 11-14.

TEACHINGS:

1. God's threatened judgments are as sure as his promises of mercy.

2. The strong become weak when God forsakes them.

3. God often uses the wicked to accomplish his will.

4. Bad men do not escape from God by self-murder.

5. Wicked men often care more for the shame of the world than for the danger of their souls.

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER is printed and published at Nos. 38, 39 and 37 St. James street West, Montreal, by JOHN DOUGALL & SON, a company of John Dougall, of New York, and John Reipath Dougall and J. D. Dougall, of Montreal.