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Our Poetry.

A Little Gentleman.

She stood at the crowded crossing, A woman crippled and old, Whose thin and faded garments A pitiful story told.

She paused by the curbstone, fearing To trust herself in the tide Of life that was coming and going.

"See that apple-woman, Tommy; She's afraid to cross the street," Cried a boy who was going schoolward.

"Hush," said the other, sternly, And went to the woman's side, "If you want to cross, I'll help you,

With some one to guide her footsteps, The crossing was quickly made, "I knew I could trust you," she told him,

"I fancy that this lad's mother Must know of his kindly deeds, And is glad that the boy she loves so

The Bird's Breakfast.

Two little birdies One wintry day Began to wonder,

Two little maidens One wintry day Into the garden Went their way,

One with a broom Swept the snow away; One scattered crumbs,

Our Pulpit.

Abraham the Friend of God.

THE LAND OF PROMISE.

SERMON PREACHED BY REV. A. J. MOWATT.

In St. Paul's Church, Fredericton, Sabbath Evening Feb. 26th.

"And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Shechem, unto the oak of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land.—GEN. XII:6.

We left Abraham last Sabbath evening on his way from Haran to Canaan. Tonight we shall speak of his arrival in the land, and give some description of the country and its peoples as the great emigrant found them in his day.

Abraham knew almost nothing of the country he was on his way to. He lived long before the days of immigration-agents, and land speculators, and town-lot boomers.

How rich with lessons for us who are on another sort of journey, who are journeying to the Heavenly Canaan! This journey we walk by faith, not by sight.

I do not know that Abraham had ever any thought of turning back after he had once set out, but I am very sure he would have his temptations by the way.

And we are so often tempted to turn back in the good way, or turn aside and linger by the way, and so come short at last.

First, Abraham's arrival in the Land of Promise. I suppose Abraham would form some idea of the country he was called of God to go to before he left Haran and all the way along as he was journeying towards it he would try to picture out to himself what sort of land the land of promise would be.

And then to say, "How about breakfast That wintry day?"

that the emigrant of today when he first sets foot on this new land is so disappointed that he is ready to turn right about and go back home again.

What did Abraham think, and how did he feel, when from the mountains of Gilead on the east of the Jordan his eyes first rested on Canaan? There lay at his feet the Jordan valley with its thread of silver winding in many a curve through it, and beyond in the grandest confusion the terraced mountains with valleys between of his future home.

But he held on his way. He forded the Jordan and it must have looked insignificant as a river, to one who had been brought up on the banks of the Euphrates.

Abraham was, and still is an undant fruit-growing country, such fruits as grapes, figs, oranges, apples, pomegranates, being common.

Such is a brief description of the country to which Abraham emigrated by the call of God, and in some respects it was not much of a country.

Another thing about the land of promise too, it was the poor man's country. It demanded industry and thrift from all who would succeed in it.

And then the land could be easily defended from a foreign invasion. Among their mountains, and in their valleys, the people were all but unconquerable.

When therefore we examine into the characteristic features of Palestine, we see that the choice of the country to be the land of promise was no after-thought but an arrangement of Divine wisdom when He laid its rock-foundations for its mountains to stand securely on, and scooped out its fertile straths.

Thirdly, Its First Settlers. Abraham found the country inhabited. "The Canaanite was then in the land," A

and about 1500 feet high, its western end jutting out into the Mediterranean sea. In other days it was noted for its vineyards, and so was called Carmel.

The Land of Promise has about the same latitude as Southern California. It has two seasons, the wet and dry. January is the coldest month, and July and August the hottest.

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fuller account says: "The Hittites and the Jebusites and the Amorites dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and by the coast of Jordan."

The Canaanites were themselves immigrants a century or two before Abraham. They found aborigines in the country, the gigantic Rephaim, and the Horites who were troglodytes or cave-dwellers.

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USEFUL HINTS.

To brighten faded carpet, sponge with a mixture of one part ox-gall to two parts water.

Apple sauce is much improved by the addition of a tablespoonful of butter and requires less sugar.

To seed raisins easily, pour hot water over them, let it remain a moment, then drain off. The hot water loosens the seeds and they come out clean.

Charcoal is recommended as an absorber of gases in the milk room where foul gases are present. It should be freshly powdered and kept there continually.

The best thing for a burn is to wet the burn with cold water, then cover the burn with white flour so thick it will keep out the air; keep it on, it will prevent blistering.

A decided improvement in the eating bib for children is made of a towel. It is better to have the towel white. Hollow out the neck before binding, and bind with white tape.

Fog is an excellent cosmetic. To it is due much of the beauty of English complexions, and those who live in hot and dry climates must be doubly careful to guard against their desiccating effect if they would escape the appearance of mummies.

In putting away wash dresses, every vestige of starch should be removed, and they should be left unironed. White dresses of any fabric are improved by placing sheets of blue tissue paper between the folds, and then wrapping the whole dress in the same paper.

Never put kid gloves upon little children. It is simply barbarous. In winter woolen mitts are good and sensible, with Lisle thread for moderate weather; but in summer it is positively sinful to hide the dimples and fetter the motion of cunning baby fingers.

BREAKING THE NEWS.

They are telling a story on a well known and now wealthy Irishman of this city, which it is said happened before he was either so wealthy or so well known, says Kansas City Times.

"Does the widow McCarty live here?" he asked, significantly. "She does not," said Mrs. McCarty.

"But indeed she does, The Widow McCarty does live here, he insisted, with more significance and greater emphasis on widow."

"But she does not, replied Mrs. McCarty. Disgusted at her lack of perspicuity the bearer of the bad news asked in despair:

"An' faith, does Judge McCarty live here?" "He does." "Well I'll bet yes tin dollars he does not."

"He does." "But he does not," insisted Pat, "I'll bet yes tin dollars he does not," and then in utter despair, he added, "for I have got his corpse in me wagin, an' a finer wone was never seen at a wake."

Of an iron egg in the Berlin Museum the following story is told: Many years ago a prince became affianced to a lovely princess, to whom he promised to send a magnificent gift as a testimonial of his affection. In due time the messenger arrived, bringing the promised gift, which proved to be an iron egg.

Irate Student—Don't you sweep under the bed, I'd like to know! Calm Goody—I always do; I prefer it to a dustpan.