

# Sunday Reading.

SIR ARTHUR BLACKWOOD.

A Diplomat Whose Life Bore Witness to the Cause of Truth.

The announcement of the death of Sir Arthur Stevenson Blackwood, last month occasioned regret on both sides of the Atlantic. His lucid and scholarly articles on prophecy, have made his name familiar to American readers. Many of whom have enjoyed personal intercourse with him when during trans-Atlantic visits, they have had the privilege of attending the famous conference at Midway Park. Since the death of Mr. Pennfather, who organized these conferences, Sir Arthur Blackwood has been president of the Midway Association, and his enthusiasm and organizing abilities have maintained the conferences at the high level they attained under their founder.

His death will be severely felt at Midway and in other religious circles where his influence was a power for good. It appears that Sir Arthur has been in poor health for some months past, and recently went to several watering-places in France and Germany in the hope of recovering his normal vigor. He was returning home when on board the steamer on which he was crossing the channel from France to England, he was prostrated by a sudden seizure and became unconscious. On the arrival of the steamer, he was carried ashore and his family physician was summoned to his side. His condition was pronounced hopeless and in a few hours he passed away, without recovering consciousness.

Sir Arthur Blackwood was about sixty-three years old when he died. He commenced his career in the service of his government in 1851 as a clerk in the Treasury. He soon became noted for the conscientious care with which he performed all the duties entrusted to him and he was marked out for promotion. During the Crimean war he was sent out to the field to personally superintend the commissariat department of one of the divisions of the British army. The disgraceful break-down of the department in the first year of the war caused widespread dissatisfaction, the relatives of the soldiers being indignant that the brave men who had gone out to fight their country's battles should be left without food and the common necessities of life. The indignation became louder when it was found that the sufferings of the army in the inclement Russian winter were due to the bungling and blundering of government clerks. In the emergency the government clerk who had proved his capacity and painstaking devotion to duty was selected to remedy the defects and reorganize the commissariat service. His success was phenomenal and he returned with an assured position in the confidence of his superior officers. He was decorated with the Crimean medal with the clasps of Alma, Inkerman and Sebastopol and he also received the Medjidie medal from the Sultan of Turkey. He resumed his place in the treasury department, but in 1874 when the English government was adding the telegraph system to the post office department it again had recourse to Mr. Blackwood's services. He was appointed financial secretary of the post office, and two years later, when the post office extended its field of operations by carrying small parcels of merchandise, Mr. Blackwood was promoted to be permanent chief of the department and was knighted. In his new position he controlled 100,000 employees, and was responsible for the efficient working of the department. This position he retained under the conservative and liberal governments, and the post-masters-general of both parties found in him a most reliable executive.

During all his official career, Sir Arthur Blackwood maintained a deep interest in religious matters. While he was still a young man, he commenced a series of evangelistic services in the most aristocratic district of London, which finally developed into the great meetings at Willis's Rooms, where the converts included men and women belonging to the highest social circles. At his own house at Streatham in Surrey, where his wife, formerly Duchess of Manchester, presided with grace and dignity, some of the most eminent clergymen and evangelists were always among the guests, and regular weekly meetings were held for Bible study. He subsequently removed to Crayford and there built a large mission hall and established one of those combinations of club and restaurant, which have proved in England the most successful rivals of the saloon. He was one of the most frequent speakers in his mission hall, and it was noticed that his addresses were listened to with as much delight by the uneducated masses who gathered there as by any cultured audiences in the London drawing-rooms. Those addresses, many of which have been published indicated a close and intimate knowledge of the bible and a great deal of original thought. For over twenty years, his addresses were among the most stimulating and helpful of those delivered at the Midway conferences and often gave the key-note to the whole of the sessions. It was mainly due to the wise choice which selected Sir Arthur as the successor of Mr. Pennfather that the Midway conferences maintained and increased their influence. Through his marriage, and his near relation to the Marquis of Dufferin he had access to the highest social circles, but he was one of the most humble and unostentatious of men and throughout his life was a conspicuous illustration of the fact that high birth and position need be no bar to Christian activity and usefulness.

Henry Irving's Generosity.

A London lady interested in a newly-built Catholic church, which has at present some difficulty in paying its way, and has no money to spare for the purchase of gorgeous vestments, wrote to Henry Irving, with tear and trembling asked him whether he would, when the run of "Becket" was concluded, give her the vestments, chas-

bles, etc., worn in the play. She received a most kindly letter in reply. Mr. Irving said that nothing would give him greater pleasure than that the "Becket" dresses should have such a future, and that though he could not be sure when he should have finished with them, he thought that probably he should be able to forward them to her on his return to England next April. So the magnificent vestments of the hostile bishops, to say nothing of the splendour of Becket's raiment, will in not a very distant future delight the eyes of Catholic worshippers in one of the poorer neighborhoods of London.

TAUGHT BY THE WILLOW.

Even the Weakest Things of the World Have Their Useful Ends.

The apparently useless willow that grows in abundance along the banks of the Mississippi, has, says a scientific journal, been put to good service. The United States government, it is said to say, would not be half as far along with the improvement of the Mississippi as it is if it had not had the aid of the humble and seemingly-useless willow. It is of no account for building; it cannot be constructed as firewood by any but the most active imagination, and it is of no use in the arts, beyond the making of whistles, but when it comes to building a dam the engineers find nothing that fills the bill half as well as the willow.

It is woven into a long continuous mat. One end of this is anchored to the shore on one side of the chute that is to be dammed, and weighted with rocks and sunk to the bottom, then another mat, made in the same way, is woven and laid down in top of the first, and similarly weighted down, and this work is continued till the dam has risen as high as it is intended to stand; the finishing being always a heavy coating of rock that covers the willow and all. The willow, always covered with water and the mud that inevitably lodges among the rocks of the dam, is kept sealed air-tight, and of course does not decay. It binds the rocks together and prevents the dam being pushed out of place by ice or disturbed by the pressure of the current at high water.

It is so with human nature. The weakest and apparently most useless men and women often effect a purpose that stronger natures fail in achieving. Especially in the Lord's work the weak things of the world, the base things and those that are despised God uses to bring to naught things that are.

Churches With Guns.

In the Isle of Wight, in the time of Edward VI., every parish church possessed its gun. They were all of brass, and cast by two brothers named Owen, or, as the inscription on the guns ran: "Richard and John Owine, Brethren." Most of these guns were sold early in the present century. The guns of Calbourne and Shallock churches were sold about 1808; that of the Calbourne gun being noted in the parish register for that year. Carisbrooke gun was sold as recently as 1850 for £30, to raise funds to pay for the building of a wall round the additional burying-ground. This gun was, a year or two ago, seen at the Tower, with the name "Carebrooke" on it, lying on the ground amongst other ancient pieces of ordnance. Brading gun, the only one now on the island, lies at Nunwell, on the lawn in front of the house. It has the names of the Owines on it, and the date 1549. At a general muster held in 1683, twenty parish church guns were brought to Carisbrooke Castle. Church towers in England were not infrequently used as parochial fortresses. This was especially the case on the English border, as in Cumberland, where the towers of Newton Arncliffe Church, of the Church of Burgh-on-the-Sands, and of Great Salkeld appear to have been constructed with a view to shelter the inhabitants of those villages upon any sudden invasion from the borders of Scotland, and for that purpose were strongly fortified. The church towers at Manorbier, St. Florence, Penally, Warren, St. Twinnell, and St. Petrox have all been built so as to be of great service from a military point of view.

From a Pirate to a Prelate.

Launcelot Blackburne, who was appointed Archbishop of York in 1724, is said to have been a pirate in early life. When a youth at Cambridge he was so wild that nothing could be done with him, and he finished by taking a fiddle out of his tutor's room, and played his way up to London. There, driven by want, he shipped as cabin boy on board a collier, which was captured in Yarmouth Roads by the celebrated pirate ship, Black Broom, then commanded by the dreaded Redmond of the Red Hand. Blackburne contrived to find favor with the captain and crew of the pirate, and served in her for several years till, on the death of Redmond he was elected captain. After making a large fortune by piracy, he returned to England; Sir Robert Walpole, the great Whig statesman, being then in power. Blackburne returned to Cambridge, restored the fiddle (which he had never parted with in all his wanderings) in a silver case to his tutor, took his degree, and was eventually ordained. As Blackburne was a Whig, Sir Robert Walpole found him and his money very useful, and after a variety of church preferment, by the influence of Walpole, he in due season mounted the archiepiscopal throne of York.

Timing the Sermons.

Canon Browne thinks the right length for ordinary sermons is about twenty minutes. "I myself make a note on every sermon of how long it takes," he says. "At St. Paul's Cathedral we have got a clock inserted in the pulpit cushion, with a pointer on the outside, which we invented. The preachers are asked to turn the pointer to the minute hand when they begin. The first thing I always do after delivering a sermon is to look at the pointer, and then I note the time in pencil."

## NEWS AND NOTABILITIES.

There are said to be quite 200,000,000 copies of the Bible scattered throughout the world.

Rev. A. C. Mackenzie, of Dundee, Scotland, says that most of the young men of the day worship the god of sport, serving him with marvellous fidelity.

The Bible Society for Russia during the past year has disposed of 56,556 copies of the Scriptures. The colporteurs have traversed the wilds of Siberia in their work.

At the recent annual Juggernaut festival at Puri 70,000 worshippers were content to march before the idol's car, instead of throwing themselves under the wheels as of old.

There are some 120,000 Jews in the Russian army, all of whom, by reason of their religion, are disqualified from promotion beyond the rank of non-commissioned officers.

About 7,000 Jews, chiefly emigrants from Asia and Galicia, held a twelve hours' fast and lamentation in a hall in the east end of London on the Great Day of the Atonement.

Dr. Maxwell, formerly Medical Missionary in China, informed the Royal Commission on opium that some 20,000 victims passed through the hands of the missionaries annually, seeking to escape from the opium bondage.

When once filled in, a Moslem grave is never re-opened on any account. To remove the faintest chance of it thus being defiled, a cypress tree is planted after every interment, so that the cemeteries resemble forests more than anything else.

A steamer is being built on the Clyde for the directors of the London missionary society, for service in Polynesia and New Guinea, at a cost of \$85,000. The vessel is to arrive in Sydney early next year to take up the work of the John Williams.

The minister, whose sermon is stated to have been the chief cause of the conversion at Colchester of the late C. H. Spurgeon, has just died at Manchester. Rev. Robert Eaglen was born in Norfolk in 1815, and was highly esteemed by primitive methodists.

Many ministers and church officers and members have united in a political organization in Jersey City, N. J., for the moral reform of the city. The political parties are so nearly balanced that it is believed a compact union of the friends of decency and good government acting disinterestedly could hold the balance of power and compel reformation.

The statistics presented at the Sunday School convention at St. Lewis show that the United States leads the world with 123,173 Sunday Schools, 1,105,949 teachers and 9,718,422 scholars, next comes England and Wales with 37,201 Sunday Schools, 585,457 teachers and 5,976,537 scholars; Canada has 8,336 schools, 69,521 teachers and 576,064 scholars.

Two sons of Japan who were sent to Chicago to represent the Japanese government at the World's Columbian Exposition have been converted to Christianity. They are I. Yoshikawa, of Tokyo, and S. Minano of Osaka. Mr. Yoshikawa is one of the interpreters for his government at the World's Fair; Mr. Minano is a commissioner. Both are very intelligent men.

It having come to the knowledge of Pope Pius IX. that a certain landed proprietor had, to the exclusion of his family, bequeathed his fortune to the priest who should happen to say mass at a certain church on a certain day, the Pope went to the church on the day stated in the will, and performed the sacred rite himself, and then assigned the fortune bequeathed to him to the natural heirs.

The Cathedral of St. Pierre, in Beauvais, France, has a choir which is the loftiest in the world. This choir is 153ft. in height from the pavement to the roof. The lofty choir of St. Peter's at Rome is 150ft. from the floor. Another cathedral remarkable for the height of its choir is that of Amiens, which is 140ft. high. The loftiest choir in this country is that of York Minster, which is 120ft. high, while that of St. Paul's, London, is 100ft.

Signatures of the ancient Babylonian kings, in tablets and bricks and unglazed pottery, formed part of a unique exhibit by the University of Pennsylvania in the Chicago Exposition. These old Babylonian cuneiform texts are a part of the harvest gathered by Rev. John Peters in 1888. The fragments shown have been carefully selected from the many thousands of objects in possession of the university, and are considered the best and most representative articles unearthed by the expedition.

It is supposed that silver was used as a money metal earlier than gold, but the date at which either was first employed for this purpose is unknown. Genesis tells us that Abraham returned from Egypt "very rich in cattle, in silver and in gold," and in one of his purchases he paid to the children of Heth "400 shekels of silver, current money with the merchant." This is the earliest authentic record that we have in which money was employed, and this deal took place somewhere about twenty centuries before Christ, as chronology is ordinarily reckoned.

The high-st church in Europe is the pilgrimage chapel of St. Maria de Ziteit, above Saluz, in the Swiss canton of Graubünden. It lies 2,434 metres above the sea-level—nearly 8,000ft. high above the forest, near the limits of perpetual snow. It is only open during the summer time of that region—or, as the folks thereabouts reckon, from St. John the Baptist's Day to St. Michael's Day—and is used only by the Alp herds, who remain there through the summer with their cows and goats, and occasionally by hunters in search of the chamois and marmot. All the inhabitants of Saluz climb up higher on Midsummer Day to assist at the first mass and hear the first sermon of the year, and there is also a crowded congregation on Michaelmas Day, at the last service of the year.

## Messages of Help for the Week.

1.—What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits towards me? I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people. In the courts of the Lord's house.—Psalm 116: 12, 13; 18, 19.

2.—Come now and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.—Isaiah 1: 18.

3.—Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.—Matt. 7: 7.

4.—If ye, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your father which is in heaven give good things unto them that ask him.—Matt. 7: 11.

5.—No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.—Psalm 84: 11.

6.—If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.—Matt. 18: 19, 20.

7.—All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.—Matt. 21: 22.

## Unfinished for Centuries.

Bristol Cathedral was commenced by Abbot Knowle in 1306, and was only completed in 1888, with the erection of the western towers, and thus 582 years elapsed between its commencement and its completion. Gloucester Cathedral was in course of erection from 1089 to 1514, or a period of 425 years. The erection of Peterborough Cathedral extended over 410 years; that of Durham, 407; that of Exeter, 366; St. David's, 342; Lichfield, 272; Norwich, 192. Canterbury Cathedral is erected on the site of the first Christian church ever built in England. The erection of York Cathedral occupied 301 years, from 1171 to 1472. The first stone of its choir was laid on July 19th, 1361, by Archbishop Thoresby, a statue of whom is to be seen over the magnificent and incomparable east window of this, the finest Gothic church in England. This window is said to be unrivalled in the world for its magnitude and beauty; it is 78ft. in height and 33ft. in width, and contains 200 compartments. The large window in Gloucester Cathedral is rather larger, being 72ft. by 38ft., but the under part is unglazed.

Mr. George Muller, the well-known founder of the famous orphan's home at Bristol, England, has just completed his eighty-eighth year. Mr. Muller began his ministry at Teignmouth, sixty-three years ago by becoming the minister of a chapel in Bilton street, at a salary of £275 a year. Soon Mr. Muller had scruples about receiving a salary, chiefly derived from pew rent, and gave it up, trusting to the free-will offerings of the people, and only making known to God his wants; and this may be said to have been the beginning of that marvellous career of faith which has done such wonders.



## Saved Her Life.

Mrs. C. J. Woodbridge, of Waltham, Texas, saved the life of her child by the use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. "One of my children had Croup. The case was attended by our physician, and was supposed to be well under control. One night I was startled by the child's hard breathing, and on going to it found it struggling. It had nearly ceased to breathe. Realizing that the child's alarming condition had become possible in spite of the medicines given, I reasoned that such remedies would be of no avail. Having part of a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral in the house, I gave the child three doses, at short intervals, and anxiously waited results. From the moment the Pectoral was given, the child's breathing grew easier, and, in a short time, she was sleeping quietly and breathing naturally. The child is alive and well to-day, and I do not hesitate to say that Ayer's Cherry Pectoral saved her life."

**AYER'S Cherry Pectoral**  
Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.  
Prompt to act, sure to cure

## Sachet Powders.

FRAGRANT AND LASTING.

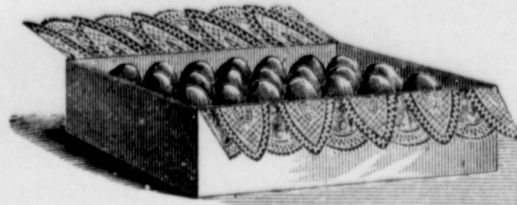
YLANG YLANG, HELIOTROPE, ROSE SHIRAZ, VIOLET, ESSENCE OF STANGE, CASHMERE EOUQUET, JOCKEY CLUB, PHIL NANA.  
A lady said, "I bought a packet of your Heliotrope Sachet Powder last Xmas and it is as strong as ever. I never had sachet powder last as long!" We mail them to any address on receipt of price in stamps. We sell them by the ounce, and in 10c. packets, 3 for 25c. We specially recommend the 10c. packets, because they are put up in such a way as to last longer than those put up by any other dealer.

**G. A. MOORE, DRUGGIST.**  
Cor. Brussels and Richmond Sts.

## HORSE BLANKETS.

All kinds in stock or made to order.  
**HARNESS**  
Repaired or taken in exchange for new at

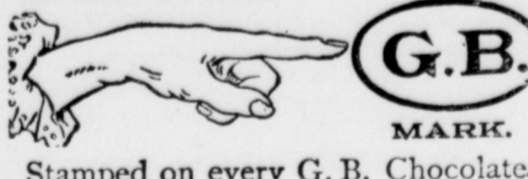
**Wm. ROBB'S,** 204 Union St.



G.B. CHOCOLATES AND FINE CREAMS.



See that



Stamped on every G. B. Chocolate.

If you haven't eaten any kind of **G. B. CHOCOLATES** you've missed a pleasure—but there is an enjoyment before you—any first class confectioner can supply you with G. B. Chocolates—the price is moderate—the quality "the finest in the land."

**GANONG BROS., L'td.,**  
St. Stephen, N. B.

## HERE'S A PRETTY GOOD LETTER.

Hartland, N. B.,  
Oct. 31, 1893.

Gentlemen:

Groder's Syrup still leads. I sold two half dozen lots on Friday last and one half dozen lot yesterday—yesterday I sold ten bottles, six at one sale, and two at one, and two sales of one each. I have heard good reports from former sales, and I have faith in it myself as a cure for Dyspepsia, if taken as directed.

Yours Respectfully,

To the Groder Dyspepsia Cure Co., L'td. **WM. E. THISTLE,**  
Druggist.

## SOME PEOPLE KNOW A GOOD THING

when they see it, and the way that our \$15.00 (Blue Melton, heavy weight) Overcoats have been selling since

**We Reduced Them to \$10.00,**

prove conclusively that they are a "good thing," and can't be bought anywhere else at the same price.

ONLY ABOUT 50 LEFT.

**200 PAIRS \$1.25 PANTS, GREAT VALUE.**

REEFERS AND IRISH FRIEZE ULSTERS.  
MEN'S BRACES, 15c. UP.

**CITY MARKET CLOTHING HALL,**  
51 CHARLOTTE STREET.  
**T. YOUNGCLAUS.**



## LET US WHISPER,

not because we are ashamed of it, but to avoid hurting anybody's feelings. There is really only one soap for the nursery and that is **BABY'S OWN**. There is nothing like it. It is delicately perfumed and is good for the skin, keeping it fresh and soft and smooth.

**THE ALBERT TOILET SOAP CO., MONTREAL.**

ESTABLISHED 1855

**Taylor's Safes**  
145 & 147 FRONTS EAST TORONTO

**B. B. BLIZARD,** St. John, N. B., Sole Agent for the Maritime Provinces.

**PLAYED AND ENDORSED BY**  
The World's Most Eminent Musicians and Pronounced  
by Them  
**'THE MOST PERFECT PIANO MADE.'**  
**G. MOOD & SONS,** St. John, N. B.  
Agents for the Maritime Provinces.

# The Primiseth Piano