

## Poetry.

## THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE.

In Genesis the world was made by God's creative hand;  
In Exodus the Hebrews marched to gain the promised land;  
Leviticus contains the law, holy, just and good;  
Numbers records the tribes enrolled: all sons of Abraham's blood.

Moses in Deuteronomy records God's mighty deeds;  
Brave Joshua into Canaan's land the host of Israel leads.

In Judges their rebellion off provokes the Lord to smite;  
But Ruth records the faith of one well pleasing to his sight.

In First and Second Samuel, of Jesse's son we read;  
Ten tribes in First and Second Kings revolted from their head.

The First and Second Chronicles see Judah captive made;  
But Ezra leads a remnant back, by princely Cyrus' aid.

The city walls of Zion Nehemiah builds again,  
While Esther saves her people from the plots of wicked men.

In Job we read how faith will live beneath affliction's rod;  
And David's Psalms are precious songs to every child of God.

The Proverbs like a goodly string of choicest pearls appear.  
Ecclesiastes teaches man how vain are all things here.

The Song of Solomon exalts sweet Sharon's rose;  
While Christ, the Saviour and the King, the "rapt Israel" shows.

The warning Jeremiah apostate Israel scorns;  
His plaintive Lamentations then their awful mourn.

Ezekiel tells in wondrous words of dazzling mysteries;  
While kings and empires yet to come, Daniel in vision sees.

Of judgment and of mercy Hosea loves to tell.  
John describes the blessed days when God with man shall dwell.

Among Tekoa's shepherdmen Amos received his call;  
While Obadiah prophesies of Edom's final fall.

Jonah enshrines a wondrous story of Christ, our risen Lord.  
Micah pronounces Judah lost—lost, but again restored.

Nahum declares on Nineveh just judgment shall be poured.  
A view of Chaldea's coming doom, Habakkuk's visions give.

Next, Zephaniah warns the Jews to turn, repent and live.  
And Zachariah prophesies of Christ's triumphant reign.

Malachi was the last who touched the high prophetic cord;  
Its final notes sublimely show the coming of the Lord.

Matthew, Mark and Luke and John the holy gospels wrote,  
Describing how the Saviour died—His life and all He taught.

Acts proves how God the apostles owned with signs in every place.  
St. Paul in Romans teaches us how man is saved by grace.

The apostle, in Corinthians, instructs, exhorts, re-proves.  
Galatians shows that faith in Christ alone the Father loves.

Ephesians and Philippians tell what Christians ought to be.  
Colossians bids us live to God and for eternity.

In Thessalonians we are taught the Lord will come from heaven.  
In Timothy and Titus a bishop's rule is given.

Philemon marks a Christian's love, which only Christian's know.  
Hebrews reveals the gospel prefigured by the law.

James teaches, without holiness, faith is but vain and dead.  
St. Peter points the narrow way in which the saints are led.

John, in his three epistles, on love delights to dwell.  
St. Jude gives awful warning of judgment, wrath and hell.

The Revelation prophesies of that tremendous day  
When Christ—and Christ alone—shall be the trembling sinner's stay.

## The Fireside.

## THE BOTTOMLESS JUG.

I saw it hanging up in the kitchen of a thrifty, healthy, sturdy farmer in Oxford County, Maine—a bottomless jug! The host said that the curious thing caught my eye, and smiled.

"You are wondering what that jug is hanging up there for with its bottom knocked out," he said. "My wife, perhaps, can tell you the story better than I can; but she is bashful and I ain't, so I'll tell it."

"My father, as you are probably aware, owned this farm before me. He lived to a good old age, worked hard all his life, never squandered money, was a cautious trader, and a good calculator; and, as men were accounted in his day and generation, he was a temperate man. I was the youngest boy; and when the old man was ready to go—and he knew it—the others agreed that since I had stayed at home and taken care of the old folks, the farm should be mine, and to me it was willed. I had been married then three years.

"And I went to that jug—it had a bottom in it then—and took a good stiff drink of old Medford rum from it.

"I noticed a curious look on the face of my wife, just then, and I asked her what she thought of it, for I supposed she was thinking of what I'd been talking about. And so she was, for she said:

"Charles, I've thought of this a great deal, and I've thought of a way in which I believe I can clear this mortgage off before five years are ended."

"Says I: 'Mollie, tell me how you'd do it.'"

"She thought for awhile, and then said, with a funny twinkle in her blue eyes—says she:

"Charles, you must promise me this, and promise me solemnly and sacredly. Promise me that you will never bring home for the purpose of drinking for a beverage, at any time, any more spirits than you can bring in that old jug—the jug your father has used since I knew him, and which you have used since he was done with it."

"Well, I knew father used it once in a while, especially in haying-time, and in winter when we were at work in the woods, to get an old gallon jug filled; so I thought that she meant that I should never buy more than two quarts at a time. I thought it over, and after a little while told her that I would agree to it.

"Now mind," said she, "you are never to bring home any more spirits than you can bring in that identical jug." And I gave her the promise.

"And before I went to bed that night I took the last pull of that jug. As I was turning out for a sort of night cap, Mollie looked up, and says she:

"Charles, have you got a drop left?"

"There was just about a drop left. We'd have to get it filled on the morrow. Then she said if I had no objections she would drink that last drop with me. I shall never forget how she said that, 'that last drop.' However, I tipped the old jug bottom up, and got about a great spoonful, and Mollie said that was enough. She took the tumbler and poured a few drops of hot water into it and a bit of sugar, and then she tinkled her glass against mine, just as she had seen us boys do, when we'd been drinking to good luck, and says she: 'Here's to the old brown jug!'

"Sakes alive! I thought to myself that poor Mollie had been drinking more of the rum than was good for her and I tell you that it kind of cut me to the heart. I forgot all about how many times she'd seen me with my tongue as thick as that it ought to be, and my legs not so steady as good legs ought to be; but I said nothing. I drank the sentiment—'The old brown jug'—and let it go.

"Well, I went out after that, and did my chores, and then went to bed; and the last thing I said before leaving the kitchen—this very room where we now sit, was:

"We'll have the old brown jug filled to-morrow."

"And then I went off to bed. And have remembered ever since that I went to bed that night, as I had done hundreds of times before, with a buzzing in my head that a healthy man ought not to have. I didn't think of it then, nor had I ever thought of it before; but I've thought of it a good many times since, and have thought of it with wonder and awe.

"Well, I got up the next morning and did my work at the barn, then came in and ate my breakfast, but not with such an appetite as a farmer ought to have, and I could not think then that my appetite had begun to fail. However, I ate my breakfast, and then went out and hitched up the old mare; for, to tell the plain truth, I was feeling in the need of a glass of spirits, and I hadn't a drop in the house. I was in a hurry to get to the village. I hitched up and came in for the jug. I went for it in the old cupboard and took it out, and—

"Did you ever break through the thin ice on a snapping cold day, and find yourself, in an instant, over your head in freezing water? Because that was the way I felt at that moment. The jug was there, but the bottom was gone. Mollie had taken a sharp chisel and a hammer, and with a skill that I had never credit to a master workman, she had clipped the bottom clean out of the jug without even cracking the edges of the sides. I looked at the jug, and then she burst out. She spoke, oh, I had never heard anything like it! No, nor have I heard anything like it since. She said:

"Charles, that's where the mortgage on this farm came from! It was brought home within that jug—two quarts at a time! And there's where your white clean skin, and your clear, pretty eyes are going. And in that jug, my husband, your appetite is going also. Oh, let it be as it is, dear heart! And remember your promise!"

"And then she threw her arms around my neck and burst into tears. She could speak no more.

"And there was no need. My eyes were opened as though by magic. In a single minute the whole scene passed before me. I saw all the mortgages on all the farms in our neighbourhood; and I thought where the money had gone. The very last mortgage father had ever made was to pay a bill held against him by the man who had filled this jug for years! Yes, I saw it as it passed before me—a glittering picture of rum! rum! rum!—but I bled! I bled! and, in the end, death. I returned my Mollie's kiss, and said I:

"Mollie, my own, I'll keep the promise! I will, so help me heaven."

"And I have kept it. In less than five years, as Mollie had said, the mortgage was cleared off; my appetite came back to me; and now we've got a few thousand dollars at interest. There hangs the old jug—just as we hung it on that day; and from that time there hasn't been a drop of spirits brought into the house for a beverage that bottomless jug wouldn't hold.

"Dear old jug! We mean to keep it and hand it down to our children for the lesson it can give them—a lesson of life-of a life happy, peaceful, prosperous and blessed!"

"As he ceased speaking, his wife, with her arm drawn tenderly around the neck of her youngest boy, murmured fervent amen.—Nashville Advocate.

## MATRIMONIAL ADVANCE.

They who marry for physical characteristics or external considerations will find of happiness. Marry in your own religion.

Never both be angry at once. Never taunt with a past mistake. Let the kiss be the prelude of a rebuke. Never allow a request to be repeated. Let self-allegation be the habit of both. A good wife is the greatest earthly blessing.

"I forgot" is never an acceptable excuse. If you must criticize, let it be done lovingly. Make a Marriage a matter of moral judgment. Marry into a family which you have long known. Never make a remark at the expense of the other.

Never talk at one another, either alone or in company. Give your warmest sympathies for each other's trials.

If one is angry, let the other part the lips only for a kiss. Neglect the whole world beside, rather than one another. Never speak loud to one another unless the house is on fire.

Let each strive to yield obedience to the wishes of the other. Always leave home with loving words, for they may be the last. Never deceive, for the heart, once misled, can never truly wholly again.

It is the mother who models the character and fixes the destiny of the child. Never feel fault unless it is perfectly certain a fault has been committed.

Do not herald the sacrifices you make to each other's tastes, habits, or preferences. Let all your mutual accommodations be spontaneous, whole-souled, and free as air.

The veriest felicity is in the mutual cultivation of usefulness. Consult one another in all that comes within the experience, observation, or sphere of the other.

A hesitating or grum yielding to the wishes of the other always grates upon a loving heart. They who marry for traits of mind and heart will seldom fail of perennial springs of domestic enjoyment.

Never reflect on a past action which was done with a good motive, and with the best judgment at the time.

They are the safest who marry from the standpoint of sentiment rather than of feeling, passion, or mere love.

The beautiful in heart is a million times more available, as securing domestic happiness, than the beautiful in person.

## HOME HINTS.

SWEET PICKLED PLUMS.—Four pounds of plums, two pounds of sugar, one pint of vinegar; dissolve sugar in vinegar; add the fruit, and simmer till tender.

RYE TOMATO PICKLES.—Five pounds of tomatoes, three of sugar, one pint of vinegar. Put the tomatoes in a preserving kettle, and as they heat, pour off the juice; add vinegar, sugar and several sticks of cinnamon, and let all simmer together an hour.

TURNIP SALAD.—Slice very fine three or four turnips; put them to soak over night; change the water next morning. Soak until on edge of black, then cut up very fine, and put on salt, pepper, and strong vinegar, oil-vy salt or celery seed. This is a good substitute for cabbage.

## YOUNG FOLKS' COLUMN.

CONDUCTED BY C. E. BLACK, CASE SETTLEMENT, KINGS COUNTY, N. B.

ORIGINAL PUZZLES WITH SOLUTIONS, ORIGINAL OR SELECTED STORIES, AND SOLUTIONS TO THE MYSTERY RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

## NOTICE:

We are very much in need of puzzles, stories, &c. Will our young folks kindly read the request enclosed in the indices? Of course we could carry on the work of the COLUMNS, but we would like to see our young folks interested in it. Young and old are alike welcomed!

## STORY AND POETRY.

## WHAT TO DO WITH ONE'S BIBLE.

BY REV. J. H. JAMES.

The Bible of your own is not to be kept on a shelf merely to show as one of your treasures, but to be used every day. Many seem to think it is enough to be able to say, "I have read so many chapters in the Bible." The question in regard to all reading is not how much the eye has passed over, but how much has remained in the memory.

If you were far away from home, and your father were to write to you about coming home, telling you what railroads you were to travel on, and what trains to take, cautioning you about wrong trains, and telling you all you needed to know of your journey it would be wise to have that letter with you and read all its directions very carefully over and over again. This is just what our Heavenly Father has done in this book. He has pointed out the way to heaven, giving us many counsels to keep us from getting astray, and particular directions as to our course each day. Yet he knows that in order to get the full benefit of his instructions we must be really interested in the book. So he has taught us many things by pleasing stories which help us to see how he wants his children to live. Now it is not best for one to go picking out here and there a story, and neglecting other things; yet I think most children will find more interest in the Bible Book if they learn first about Jesus and his life on earth from the parts of the New Testament that make these things plain. In reading the stories, however, we must be careful to get not merely the facts but the lesson they are meant to teach us.

The other day a boy, who is far from his parents at school, had a letter from home. He could not read writing very well, so he took the letter to a friend to read him that he might know exactly what his mother said to him. So you should get your friend to help you to understand this wonderful letter from heaven. The object of Sunday-school teaching and of preaching is to help people understand the Bible. It is delightful to talk over its precious lessons with friends well-versed as we get by asking for the Holy Spirit. There are two precious promises about this matter of helping us to understand and do our Father's will that you will do well to find for yourselves, to often think of, and to ask the Lord to fulfill to you, John xiv. 26, and Ezekiel xxxvii. 27.—Pleasant Hours.

## FORGIVE AND FORGET.

Forgive and forget, 'tis a maxim worth heeding; Recall the harsh judgment soon toasty and stern. Not one of us all but is certainly needing Some friendly forbearance and grace in return.

Forgive and forget, let the bitter thought perish, Life does not lack sorrow more weighty more real; And in the sharp sting of resentment, why cherish The thorn that must rankle, where pardon might heal!

Unkindness and malice are weeds that grow thickly, But patience and love may transform them to flowers. Remember our journey is over too quickly To waste on ill-feeling a tithe of the hours.

Forgive and forget, for we know not how often 'Twill spare us the pang of an endless regret; Don't wait for the future your anger to soften, Oh, now is the time to forgive and forget.

—Treasure Trove.

## "THIS IS"

## The Work of God,

## THAT YE

## BELIEVE ON HIM

## whom HE hath sent."

—JOHN vi. 29.

## Contributions from Young Folks.

## THE MYSTERY.

NO. 183.—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

FROM "MARIANNE," KINGS.

My whole, composed of 37 letters, was a saying by our Saviour.

My 8, 5, 32, 16, 26, 18, 23 is a Biblical name; My 10, 30, 14, 13, 36, 29, 17, 22, 6, 1, a son of Enoch;

My 31, 9, 21, 34, an animal in Scripture; My 3, 6, 4, 37, 11, 27, a Roman tax-gatherer; My 20, 33, 32, 26, 5, 1, a prophet;

My 35, 25, 6, 24, a son of Judah; My 7, 2, 12, 36, 29, a bishop; My 19, 28, 21, 22, 15, 27, a tree.

## NO. 184.—QUESTIONS.

FROM "STUDENT," QUEBEC.

1. What is that man often sees, kings seldom see, but God never saw?

2. How long from the time of Joseph's death until his bones were buried?

NO. 185.—DROP LETTER PUZZLE.

FROM "BRUCE," PORTLAND, N. B.

W-S-O-M-I-B-T-E-T-A-N-B-O-S  
-I-A-B-T-N-B-N-E-C-D-S-Y-T-M  
-O-O-D.

NO. 186.—SQUARE WORD.

FROM A. S. BLACK, QUEBEC.

\*\*\*\*\*  
An animal.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Occupation.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Carpet.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Magistrate of ancient Rome.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
To adjust again.

(The Mystery solved in three weeks.)

## THE MYSTERY SOLVED.

(No. 37.)

No. 169.—Palm xxvii. 1.—"The Lord is my light and my salvation."

No. 170.—(1). 29.—Ezra ii. 9. (2). Nebuchadnezzar.—2 Kings xix. 37.

No. 171.—P.—eter.  
A.—aron.  
T.—homas.  
I.—dola.  
E.—ther.  
N.—icodemus.  
C.—rist.  
E.—lijah.

No. 172.—  
I O T  
a n a n i a s

4 X O Z  
K O I V S Q V

4 X O Z  
K O I V S Q V

4 X O Z  
K O I V S Q V

4 X O Z  
K O I V S Q V

4 X O Z  
K O I V S Q V

## Sun Life and Accident

## INSURANCE Co

OF MONTREAL.

Assets \$1,000,000.

THOMAS WORKMAN, M. H. GAULT, M. P. PRESIDENT. VICE-PRESIDENT.

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CHILDREN'S ENDOWMENTS AND ANNUITIES granted on lives.

Examine one of the SUN'S POLICIES before insuring elsewhere.

1. Thirty days of grace are allowed for payment of Renewal Premiums.

2. Should no claim be made in five years, the sixth year of assurance will be allowed free.

3. Policies not void by engaging in a more hazardous occupation than Life Policies.

4. Residence—more liberal conditions than given by any other company in America.

5. Loans made on Policy to extent of Office value.

It now offers to the public incomparably the most straight forward and untechnical ACCIDENT POLICY in Existence.

The following are a few of the Points of Superiority 1. Which gives 15 days of grace.

2. Should no claim be made in five years, the sixth year of assurance will be allowed free.

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FURNITURE, Kept in Stock, and Made to Order at Short Notice.

95 Cases, Cases and Barrels CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE, LAMPS, TABLE CUTLERY, AND FANCY CHINA.

7 Cases and Barrels SILVER-PLATED WARE, Finest assortment and Lowest Prices in the City.

I have been appointed Agent in Fredericton for "Toronto Silver-Plate Company." Shall keep a full line of their Goods in stock. Every article guaranteed as represented. My Stock of Fancy Household Goods is unusually large and well assorted for Holiday Trade. Twenty years experience in the business, frequent visits to the best markets, and buying for Cash, enables me to give Good Value to every customer.

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