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Across the Ocean.

MISS E. E. GREEN'S LETTER.

It is January 1st, 1901, and I would
like to greet my friends with best
wishes for a new century.

Last week I had the pleasure of the
company of the only Canadian woman
I have seen since I came to this coun-
try, and for one brief period we made
Toronto-London our central topic, and
the questions and answers, almost
overwhelmed me, and although Miss
Dickie owned it would nearly break
her heart to have to live in this city,
we made up our minds to entertain
each other, and going forth we did
the principal places according to the
very limited hours we had.

Madame Toussand's Wax Works
shall come first, so we hurry to get
that charming conveyance, the under-
ground railway carriage, which land-
ed us at Baker Street, the dirtiest
depot on the line. Right outside we
locate the building, which is very
large, and beautifully arranged inside
for the comfort of visitors. The fee of
one shilling admits each person, while
sixpence is necessary for the catalogue
explaining the figures and scenes. It
is impossible to imagine the fun get-
ting into a place like this without a
guide, as the different groups, though
numbered, seem difficult to search out,
for instead of being near the person it
is intended to represent, it is in many
cases six feet away and unless you
knew the party by sight it appears
awkward and confusing.

Here one can find all the latest
heroes, statesmen, authors, actors,
ministers, singers, and murderers, to
say nothing of historical pictures,
soldiers, children, ropes used for ex-
ecutions, the old fashioned tread-mill
from York prison, the scene showing
the six steps from innocence when
handling the first card, to the spot
where the convict in his cell awaits
his execution. All sorts of instru-
ments of punishment used in olden
days, the assassin's weapon, and last
but not least we spy the "Sleeping
Beauty," while the policeman keeping
guard is certainly a fit subject for any
wax work.

It being a French institution, Napo-
leon and his courtiers call for much
admiration, and poor Josephine stands
by and the lonely exile of St. Helena
looks frowningly on to the disgust of
those around him. Tableaux and
battlefields in the Soudan and Trans-
vaal complete the show, and glad to
escape from the Chamber of Horrors
and its ghastly surroundings, we will
pass on to Regent's Park, where the
Zoological Gardens are situated. In
summer time it must be a pretty spot,
but the day we saw it it rained quite
heavily, but as I have already re-
marked, if one waited for fine weather
here he would never see anything, so
nothing daunted we went to the
kangaroos, antelopes, elephants, lions,
tigers, leopards, monkeys, eagles,
vultures, and birds of every nation,
and when we reached the parrot
house the sound was deafening,
whether it came from the fact that it
was feeding time or not, I cannot say,
but Bedlam let loose couldn't equal it.

What are those wicked looking
things huddled in one corner of the
cage? For a moment I stood aghast,
when an immense serpent uncoiled its
long body and its fangs shot forth like
spears. I shouldn't care to guess its
weight any more than I should like to
have one of those mighty turtles fall
across my boot, for if a set of them
came "rushing" down Yonge Street,
like they crept along their path where
they were having a constitutional, it
would paralyze the ordinary Londoner
who took four hours to cart a trunk
from Euston Station to our house,
when it should only have taken half
an hour—but there, don't expect to
get an express to truck your belong-
ings around; its take a cab, or walk
along with the porter who shoves the
wheelbarrow.

But dear me, I'm forgetting to men-
tion the rhinoceros, wading around
the yard and tossing mud like a steam
navvy at the mouth of a tunnel. This
is the latest invention to outdo the
mudlark in his struggle for bread as
an unskilled laborer.

To really see a great many of these
places would need days or weeks to
look them through thoroughly, but
we must rest satisfied with a few
hours, as having made application to
the Master of the Mint, we wish to
know how money is made, and taking
"the tube" to the Bank of England
we walk over to the spot, that great
centre around and in which gold and
silver plays the chief part. Having
signed our names in the visitors' book,
and divested ourselves of bags, satch-
els, umbrellas, etc., we follow the
keeper, who with keys in hand leads
the way and explains matters, and
allows us to handle the coin in its
rough and finished state. The process
of course is too complicated for me to
understand. I'll tell you what I saw
at a glance, but don't go trying to
make cash after this plan of mine, or
I may be called upon to tell the author-
ities why I divulged their secrets, and

I have no desire to spend the rest of
my days in an English jail; it would
be infinitely worse than being shut in
the British Museum. However, it
was very interesting to watch the
rolling, heating, milling and weigh-
ing, the latter showing how the true
coin is detected from the bad, by al-
lowing the heavy ones to fall into one
drawer and the light ones into an-
other, while the perfect ones drop in-
to a middle drawer, and the false coin
is remelted. The coin after being
shaped is fed into a machine where a
die falls on it and it comes out bright
and new. I noticed one man making
bars for medals to be given to the
heroes of Ladysmith. The floors of
the different rooms are constantly
swept and the dust, etc., is sifted and
the contents of the baskets refined in
the hottest of furnaces. A boy sounds
the money and if it hasn't the proper
ring it is put aside for remelting. The
building is guarded by soldiers and
policemen, and looks quite imposing
with its grey stone walls, while the
inside is very unsightly. If you can
fancy yourself holding sacks of silver
and gold, just step in the place where
the Government labels its bags, "The
Royal Mint," and where it goes out
into the world to give joy or sorrow
according to the people who own it
and the way it is spent.

Shall we visit the Albert Memorial
in Hyde Park this morning? and quick
as thought we set out to get the bus
which draws up at Queen's Gate, the
entrance where our beloved sovereign
passes through, and must have used
quite frequently as a child, for Ken-
sington Palace is but a few steps away,
that hallowed spot where Her Ma-
jesty's younger years were spent.

The memorial to Prince Albert was
erected by subscriptions from the
Queen and her people. The statue
itself is highly burnished gilt. The
Prince is represented sitting in a chair
and having on his royal flowing robe.
The features bespeak a man of sterling
worth. At the base of the monument
all the great authors and musicians
of the last decade are standing to guard,
as it were, the regal party who crown
the column, while at the foot of what
forms a square, Europe, Asia, America
and Africa are depicted as symbols of
Manufacture, Agriculture, Industry
and commerce. The whole affair is
splendidly arranged, and when the
sun shone upon the glittering gold
surrounding the canopy which covers
the Prince, its rays cast a shadow on
the cross, the highest point of all. No
doubt the Queen suggested it as an
emblem of that other cross typical of
the Rock of Ages.

The Royal Albert Hall is opposite to
the Park at this juncture, and as it
was open for inspection on payment
of sixpence, we go in. What is all
this hubbub I wonder? Men with
dusters and brooms, setting the place
straight after the Dolls' Show of the
previous week. Barricades presume
to keep us back, but no fear, we paid
to view the Hall, so gently removing
the offending article, we work our way
around to what opens up a box, over
which hangs the British Coat of Arms.
When we have tried the crimson silk
covered easy chairs and lounges, and
seen the V upon the tapestries and
wood-work, and actually uttered aloud
"God Save the Queen," we come away
satisfied that Her Majesty has heard
great musicians and singers from this
self same cosy corner, and we proceed
to the opposite side of the rotunda
where H. R. H., the Prince of Wales,
looks out upon a sea of faces to the
ten thousand mark, which figure
covers this building when the place is
full. We took time to read the names
of the nobility and gentry who own
boxes here, and not desiring more
than a fond glance at the honored
apartment of Her Majesty, we re-
mount the stairs for the uppermost
part of this wonderful shrine. We
find it is used for a promenade when
the band plays or the tremendous or-
gan rolls out its music composed by
some great author. The hall is circu-
lar and as well appointed as any sim-
ilar in grandeur in the churches, operas,
halls and other buildings as we do,
even the pews in St. Paul's and West-
minster Abbey are only benches and
without cushions. The Messiah was
rendered here New Year's Day, which
to my great surprise is not a holiday
in England.

Montrose,
Shepherd's Bush,
London, W.
Maple

The children of the Methodist S. S.
are undergoing training for their an-
nual entertainment, but the date of
the sleigh ride has not yet been fixed
upon.

The young people of the village
flooded Rumble's flats last Saturday,
and now they enjoy fairly good skat-
ing.

La grippe is quite prevalent here,
and has taken hold of quite a number,
old and young.

Memorial sermons were preached in
the different churches here on Sunday

last for our late beloved sovereign,
Queen Victoria.

Mr. W. Bull and Miss Bull of Downs-
view, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs.
Thorburn on Sunday.

Miss Etta Richardson is supplying
the place of the teacher at Carrville,
who is ill.

A Missionary Meeting was held in
the Presbyterian Church on Monday
evening. The speakers were Rev. J. A.
Grant and Rev. W. G. Back.

Maurice, the only son of the late
Mr. N. Kirby, died at his home in To-
ronto on Monday morning. The fu-
neral took place on Wednesday morn-
ing to Hope burying-ground, upon the
arrival of the train from Toronto.
Mrs. Kirby and family have the sym-
pathy of all in their bereavement.

On Monday night some one entered
Maple station and secured the sum of
seven cents. The safe which contain-
ed a larger amount was unlocked, but
in trying to open it the burglars lock-
ed it instead. They also carried off a
jack knife.

Vaughan Lodge, A.F. & A.M., had
an official visit from the D. D. G. M.
Tuesday evening. Many brethren
were present from Richmond Hill,
King City, Edgely and other places.
After raising a candidate to the Third
Degree, all repaired to the lower hall
where an excellent supper was served
under the management of Bro. Robt.
Rumble. J. A. McDonald, W.M., was
in the chair. He first proposed the
toast, "The King and the Craft,"
which was responded to by T. F. Mc-
Mahon. "The Grand Lodge" was
ably responded to by R. W. Bro. Mc-
Fayden, D. D. G. M. "Our Visiting
Brethren," brought forth good speak-
ers from A. McCallum, A. D. Carley,
H. A. Nicholls, R. A. Farquharson, A.
Davis, H. F. Hopper, T. H. Trench,
G. B. Newbery, and Bro. Egan.

"Vaughan Lodge" was cheerfully re-
sponded to by J. A. McDonald, J. T.
Saigeon, Dr. Sisley, and F. Rumble.
Songs were sung by Bros. Stone and
Wier. No happier time could have
been spent together.

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tifully written, to fit each picture.
This beautiful book, matchless in its
purity and beauty, appeals to every
mother's heart, and in every Christian
home where there are children the
book sells itself. Christian men and
women are making money rapidly
taking orders. A Christian man or
woman can in this community soon
make \$1,000 taking orders for Christ-
mas presents. Mrs. Waite, our agent
in Massachusetts, has sold over
\$3,000 worth of the books in a very
short time. Mrs. Sackett, our agent
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commission, and when you prove your
success we will promote you to the
position of Manager and Correspond-
ent, at a permanent salary, to devote
your time to attending to agents and
the correspondence. Wanted also a
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