

For The Quiet Hour

HELEN KELLER AND HER BIBLE

"The Bible is the Book of all books I love," said Helen Keller the world's most famous deaf and blind woman, in a recent interview on behalf of the American Bible Society.

"I should like to have my picture taken with my Bible," she continued. But her Bible is not like yours, for she reads not with her eyes, but with her sensitive finger tips by a system of raised dots representing letters.

"What is your favorite chapter, Miss Keller?" I asked. Miss Keller promptly opened the Gospel of St. John to the ninth chapter and swiftly and with caressing touch her trained fingers traced the raised dots until she reached the fourth verse: "I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work." Her face grew serious and tense as she slowly repeated these words, but it lighted as she read on, "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Miss Keller then turned to the first chapter, and with radiant illumination of expression she read aloud: "In him was life; and the life was the light of men. That was the true Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world."

And when I gave her one of the Army and Navy Testaments with a word concerning Bible distribution during the war, Miss Keller clasped the little Testament and eagerly exclaimed: "I am so glad that the Bible is being distributed everywhere. When Christianity has spread throughout the world, then brotherhood will come to the nations. I rejoice in the American Bible Society."

It was an hour never to be forgotten. As I left Miss Keller standing in the sunlight before the open window, and saw in her face "the light that never was on sea or land," I thought how true it is that "His life is the light of men."

Forty-eight papers were sent in to the "Presbyterian Messenger," monthly organ of the Presbyterian Church of England, in a prize contest on the subject, "What is the Greatest Need of Our Church?" The four prizes went to laymen not known to the editor. The first prize paper stated the case under these heads:

- Her first need is to have a fresh revelation of her message and a new baptism of power to declare it;
- A keener appreciation of the new age;
- A deeper faith in her message for all classes, with a fresh setting to the gospel story;
- More congregational prayer;
- A closer union between pulpit and pew;
- A better ventilated social atmosphere to retain and save her young life;
- More liberty. "If a fresh breeze was allowed to blow through all her well-organized machinery the whole church would be empowered anew for Christ and the world."

SOME CHURCHES in the Kukuru country have recently suffered severe persecution. The Christians of one village were scattered far and wide for several months, not daring, at the peril of their lives, to return home till peace was restored. Their visiting teacher was seized, and after being fined ten shillings was put in irons for several days, during which he was fastened to a post, being brought indoors at night. He bore the suffering and indignity like a Christian, and he now has the joy of seeing the congregation in their own homes again, and worshipping the one true God. Several of those who suffered had been Christians for a short time only, and were almost uneducated; but it speaks well for their faith that they preferred to suffer rather than to perform a single act of worship that would have gained them recognition as good heathen.

THE METHODISTS OF LONDON have announced plans for developing at City Road a Wesley Foundation which shall render service to the worldwide parish of the founder. The objects would be:

- (1) To raise an endowment fund for keeping the premises in proper repair, and to enable them to be always accessible to visitors;
 - (2) To arrange for Wesley's pulpit to be occasionally occupied by representative preachers from worldwide Methodism;
 - (3) To provide a Methodist rendezvous where visitors could meet and find worldwide Methodist literature;
 - (4) To provide if possible a Methodist hostel or guest-house for young Methodists coming to London.
- For these purposes as well as for the immediate repair and renovation of the historic premises, which include Chapel, Wesley's dwelling and burial plot, the committee appeals to worldwide Methodism for £25,000.

THE REV. SPAFFORD KELSEY of Nakawm found it difficult to get school boys to come to the church service, for very few of the boys had Christian parents.

"Mr. Eckels, the regular pastor, was away, and I preached in his place," he writes. "I racked my brain to think of some way to get a few more of the school boys to church. Finally I wrote a list of seven subjects on a blackboard and told them I would preach about whichever one of these seven subjects the greatest number of boys raised their hands for. Seventeen boys voted for 'Bravery,' 22 for 'Honesty,' and the others were rather scattering. So on Sunday I preached about 'Honesty,' and sure enough there were four times as many school boys in church as the Sunday before."

THE EASTERN COUNTRIES have been subdivided, under the Comity of Missions, among the different Foreign Mission Boards of the world, so as to prevent overlapping and make possible a more intensive type of work. The accepted responsibility of the Canadian Presbyterian Church is 16,000,000, and yet even this large number is only about one per cent. of the 1,600 million people who constitute the grand total population of the world. Over 300 Canadian Presbyterians are at work, under this plan, in India, China, Formosa, Korea, etc., in addition to several hundred native helpers. Even this number is totally inadequate to meet the entire situation, and each of the mission fields of this denomination is in need of additional ministers and doctors, educationists and volunteers.

WHEN Sir Bartle Frere, an English general and governor of Bombay in India and Cape Colony in Africa, came home one time his wife took a servant and went to the train to meet him. When they reached the station she said to the servant:

"Now you must go and look for Sir Bartle."
"But how shall I know him?" asked the servant.
"Oh," answered the lady, "look for a tall smiling gentleman helping somebody."

When the servant did so he found a tall pleasant-looking man helping a poor old woman from the car, and sure enough this was Sir Bartle.

It doesn't take long to guess the cause of his happiness!

A HEATHEN MAN brought his motherless babe to a mission school and asked the missionaries to keep her. His reason was, he had noticed the children in the mission school had brighter faces and seemed happier than those in the government schools.

Some people seem so sorry for themselves that they won't try to look happy. Take this advice from Elbert Hubbard: Don't feel sorry for yourself; feel sorry for the folks that have to live with you.

WHEN Ting Li-mei, China's greatest evangelist, was asked what in his mind was the greatest need of the church in China, he replied without a moment's hesitation: "Proper home training and home education." Through Bible-women it is possible to get directly into the homes.

DR. BROUGHTON tells of a friend who said to him: "Oh, Dr. Broughton, I sometimes wish I did not have a cent! My money is the curse of my unrest,—what to do with it, how to spend it, how to keep from spending it. I am not happy as the average working girl at thirty dollars a month." What advice would you have given that man to quell his unrest and make him the happiest man living?

THE ARABS have a saying about the palm-tree, that it stands with its feet in salt water and its head in the sun. They often cannot drink of the brackish water found in the oasis where the palm grows, but they tap the tree and drink the sweet palm wine. The inner life of the palm transforms the brackish water into a refreshing drink.

AT THE DEDICATION of a country chapel in Siam one of the native pastors remarked: "You have your chapel finished, but there will be no true completion until you have love inside it."

TWENTY YEARS AGO

From The Chronicle File of February 19, 1903.

We regret to learn of the illness of Mrs. Thomas Scarf, for whom there is no hope for recovery.

Owing to an immense rush of job work and the sickness of Mr. Archie McDougall, our chief shop-man, we haven't had time for careful proof-reading for the past couple of months.

On Friday of last week Glenelg lost an old resident in the person of Christina McLellan, relict of the late Duncan McLintyre. She was 86 years of age and was born in North Uist, Scotland, in 1817. The surviving members of the family are: Norman, in town; Archie, at Bad Axe, Mich.; Mrs. Paterson at Flint, Michigan, Angus in California, and Mrs. Hartwell and Mrs. Cole on the old homestead. Interment was made in Durham cemetery on Sunday afternoon.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Thomas Brown on Monday last. He was in his 50th year, a good business man, and the essence of honor in all his dealings.

The town was visited last week by Mr. W. Broomall of Philadelphia, a gentleman who is engaged there in the manufacture of cream separators. His mission here was to spy out the land with a view of starting an industry in Canada.

Mr. George Thompson of the furniture factory was married last week in Flesherton to Miss Tena McLean of this town.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jenkins, from Corman, Manitoba, are visiting their mother and sister, Mrs. Stonehouse and Mrs. James Hepburn.

An interesting letter was received this week from Mr. R. S. McGowan, who left recently for Rockmart, Georgia. Like all good boys who go away from Durham, he wants The Chronicle for the home news.

At the adjourned annual meeting of the Presbyterian Church held on Thursday last it was gratifying to learn that the entire church debt incurred three years ago for enlarging, renovating and re-seating, was now reduced to \$50. During the meeting the ladies in behalf of the congregation presented Rev. Mr. Farquharson with a cheque for \$100 accompanied by an address.

TOO MANY WHITE COLLARS

(Flesherton Advance.)

When Premier John Oliver was East recently he spoke at Hamilton before the Canadian Club, and during the course of his remarks said:

"For one thing, there are far too many white-collared men who are afraid to lose a little honest sweat, but who yet exact a fat living from the grime of the toiler. Men and women were crying for bread while countless acres that would produce food for all were lying idle. The rewards of industry were not equally distributed. Too many parasites were living on the men who are really producing the wealth of this country."

There is a lot of truth in this theory. Young men want to get away from the country and don the white collar, and there are none to take their places. Can it be that we are paying too much attention to education and not enough to the manual side of life? In order to gain physical perfection and guard against degeneration we build gymnasiums and swimming baths, stadiums for sports, make new jobs for the graduates of our colleges and universities, and taxes in a multitude of ways have to be raised to support these while the farming community is supposed to raise sufficient produce to keep the white collar brigade fit and strong so that it may excel in athletics and the professions. The toil on the soil does not produce an attractive return, and with educational facilities so convenient and returns more assured, it is no wonder so many try to get away from the plow handles to the pen and pencil. But the time will come, if conditions do not alter soon, when things must change or the result will be disastrous to our community life.

For quality printing try our job department.

AGED MEAFORD WOMAN LIVED IN REIGN OF FIVE SOVEREIGNS

To have lived in the reign of five British sovereigns and to be the representative of a family of five generations is the proud privilege of Mrs. Frances Eaton, Meaford's "grand old lady," and its oldest and most notable resident. Mrs. Eaton was 95 years of age last June.

Mrs. Eaton, whose maiden name was Frances N. Ball, was born in the town of Adair, County Limerick, Ireland, and came to Canada with her parents when a girl of 15 years of age, being five weeks and three days in making the voyage. The family settled near Bradford, County of Simcoe, where Mr. Ball, who was a carriage maker by occupation, worked at his trade for a time. They lived there about four years, when they moved to Euphrasia, taking up land near Epping, where they cleared and where they experienced all the privations and vicissitudes of pioneer life. About five years after this Mr. Ball died, but the family continued to work the land until they had it in a fair state of cultivation. Euphrasia was then pretty much bush. The Ball family came with a team of horses to Nottawasaga, and from there to Euphrasia with a yoke of oxen along what is still known as the old mail road. Prior to this Mr. Ball had erected a shanty on the 200 acres of land which he had taken up. There was no such place as Meaford at that time, the early settlers simply referring to what is now the town as "the road to the lake."

When Mrs. Eaton came to Euphrasia there were not more than twelve or fifteen buildings in Meaford, probably six or seven of these being places of business. Chantler's grist mill was a small concern which supplied grist for the few settlers within reasonable reach of it. The late D. L. Layton kept a small store on the bay shore road for a man named Jackson, who was a member of Parliament. Stephen conducted a public inn on the main street, while D. L. Purdy had a general store on the fourth line, near where the late William Gibson's house now stands. The land now covered by the town hall was then a cedar swamp near which a never-failing spring of water gushed from the ground. Farther south on the 4th line was a small cooperage and also a shoe repair shop. Mrs. Eaton said there was no travelled road from their place to Meaford and it was the custom of those making the trip with horses or oxen to carry an axe for the purpose of cutting small saplings and removing other obstacles along the way. They thought nothing then of walking ten or twelve miles with a bushel of grain or a basket of butter or eggs. The young ladies of to-day, Mrs. Eaton humorously remarked, would not think of covering that distance without a horse and buggy or an automobile.

In this connection Mrs. Eaton told how at the age of 21 years she walked from her home to a little log house on the gravel road, a distance of seventeen miles, in order to be married to her deceased husband, Mr. Francis Eaton, whose death she was called upon to mourn twelve years ago. The preacher who performed the marriage ceremony walked all the way from Owen Sound. There was no ordained minister in Meaford at that time. Butter then sold at 12 cents a pound, eggs at 8 cents a dozen, wheat went at 50 cents a bushel and dressed pork sold in Collingwood at \$3 per hundred. Tea, however, was away up in price, selling at \$1.25 a pound and difficult to get at that. But the early pioneers had to accommodate themselves to circumstances, Mrs. Eaton observed. Their first table, she said, was hewn out of a log, while their first chairs were made from small trees by Mr. Ball, who was naturally handy with tools. Money was scarce at that time. Business was transacted almost entirely by means of trade, and money was hard to get. As an instance of this Mrs. Eaton told how her husband worked for the late Squire Carr for a whole month splitting rails and logging for the sum of seven dollars, six dollars of which he had to pay for a bag of flour, leaving him only

one dollar to spend on the 12th of July.

In order to attend worship, Mrs. Eaton said, they had to walk from Epping to Griersville every other Sunday. The distance was five miles but she said she gladly walked it in order to hear the Gospel proclaimed. In fact any one seeing Mrs. Eaton to-day and conversing with her would readily conclude that she could still outdo lots of younger persons in walking as she appears to be as bright and active as any woman of 50 or 60 years of age.

Since going to Meaford with her husband and family 36 years ago Mrs. Eaton has mingled freely with her friends and neighbors, all of whom hold her in the highest esteem. Their family consisted of 12 children, ten sons and two daughters.

Mrs. Eaton has 35 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. She and her husband celebrated their golden wedding 23 years ago and their diamond wedding 14 years ago.

RELIGION AND COFFEE

The editor of the Smith's Falls News finds himself entirely out of accord with the plan, contemplated by some Toronto churches, of serving coffee and cake during a social hour after the close of the regular church service, and he warms up and delivers thus:

"When churches and ministers of the gospel have to resort to such means to attract young men, the preacher had better lock its doors and the preacher take to farming. Religion, we mean church religion, is becoming such a farce that it is hard for good and true men and women to continue to identify themselves with it. True religion on the teachings of Jesus Christ cannot be found fault with because of the cowardly hypocrites who pretend to be its exponents and representatives, but the modern church is to be found fault with because it allows such hypocrites to control it. Prominence in church work to-day means a ready talker, plenty of gall and a fair showing of wealth. If one has these requisites he has no trouble in securing the leading positions in the church. They may be the worst kind of "graters," political tricksters and robbers of the widow and their unsuspecting friends; they may have contributed large sums to the church out of the funds of those who have trusted them with their savings; it makes no difference so long as they put up a respectable front, talk well, and continue to contribute liberally. The observing young men of to-day see all this, they understand it all. True, earnest, simple, Gospel preaching and true, as well as trusted men as church officials will do more to attract young men to the church than all the cake and coffee ever manufactured.

Like other citizens, Sheriff Jermyn attended the Fall Fair last fall. He was there with his car and was crossing over the race-track when a speeding or racing event was on. He stopped, then a sulky driven by Arnott came along and there was a collision. The Sheriff is being sued for \$120 because of alleged damages to the sulky, etc. The defense, we understand, will take the ground that it was not speeding in the ring at all, but horse racing, which is not allowed on a Fair ground at all. The case will be decidedly interesting.

AN INTERESTING CASE WILL BE TRIED AT WIARTON (Warton Canadian-Echo.)

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WOODBRIDGE MEMORIAL TO BE SIXTY-FOOT PILLAR OF STONE

The people of Woodbridge are to be commended for adopting something out of the ordinary in the way of a memorial to the sons of that town who fell in the Great War.

A distinct departure has been made from the practice generally followed the country over of erecting a public statue, monument of gravestone. Nor has the other plan been adopted of erecting as a memorial to the fallen a public building, quite perceptibly contrived to be more convenient to the living than commemorative of the dead. With what has been done anywhere in honor of the fallen nobody desires to be critical, for everywhere the wish has been to express the respect and pride of the community in the men who fought and fell for their country.

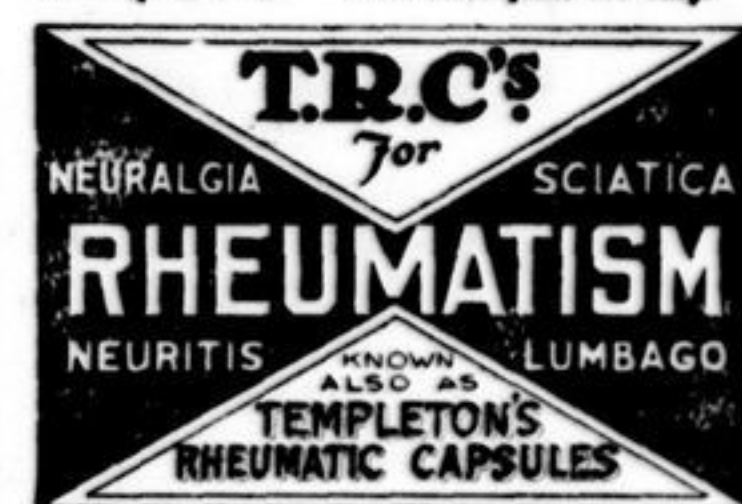
The Woodbridge people, however, have hit upon something distinctive in the way of a memorial. It is to be a Scotch watch-tower, 60 feet high and 11 feet wide at the base. The base will be 28 feet square and 12 feet high, resembling a sarcophagus, and the top of the tower will be surmounted by a beacon which can be lighted on suitable occasions. This tower will stand on a hill above the town and will be seen from afar. It will be built entirely of field stone hauled to the spot for the purpose by residents of the country round about. The whole thing has been finely conceived.

FAILED TO APPEAR IN COURT; \$300 AND COSTS IMPOSED

(Walkerton Herald and Times.)

Mr. Charles McKinnon, who came here from Priceville a number of years ago and has since been employed as a farm laborer in this section, was summoned to appear before County Magistrate McNab in the Town Hall here at one o'clock on Tuesday afternoon to answer to a charge laid by License Inspector White of Walkerton of having liquor in other than a private dwelling, but for some reason best known to himself failed to put in an appearance. His absence being taken as a proof of guilt, the Magistrate imposed a fine of \$300 or in default of payment the accused to spend four months in the county bastille. It appears that McKinnon's actions have been under surveillance for some time and it is alleged that a sealer of hootch was left by him at a farmer's house in Saugeen Township which led up to the above charge being laid, and it was expected charges against others alleged to be implicated in illicit liquor traffic in this section would arise out of the evidence given in this case.

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