

There were a great many things besides these, such as shoes, caps, sweaters, dresses, handkerchiefs etc, of which I cannot remember half then bags of candies and nuts. Aunt Meda sent all of the children something in the wearing line but Robert, whom I suppose she forgot. Bonnie received the usual gift of the Ladies Home Journal from her father, a beautiful vari-coloured corset cover from Mrs. Muriel, a handsome sweater coat from Meda, a half-dozen silver pins from her husband and various other things which I do not at the moment recall. The same day your letter came to Bonnie I received a five dollar cheque from Clarence. This I decided would go for cigars and accordingly laid in a box. With my share from Father DeLong I bought a handsome pipe and half pound of tobacco. Last night Pastor Backelmann sent me up a box of cigars. So I am better off for smokes at present than I ever was in my life before. Bonnie gave me a book recently published by Dr. Neve on "Lutherans and Church Union" - a very scholarly treatment which she by prying found out that I was desirous to have. Arthur, who is a very religious lad, had been after me for a Testament for a long time. So I got him a nice one with coloured illustrations, and he was prouder of that than over any of his games or toys. He is a rapid reader and read 12 chapters of St. Matthew in it to day. He promises to be a great student of the Scriptures and has ambitions to succeed me when, to use the terminology of Christian Science I "pass on". He knows more passages now, I venture to say, than some theological students, though I am trying hard to remedy this deficiency among our neologues by requiring a great deal of memorizing of Scripture. Arthur can repeat the whole Christiana Gospel, the story of the visit of the Magi, the Easter Gospel, a number of the Psalms and many smaller passages. Cornelius and Herman have been memorizing passages every Sunday now for a couple years and are doing nicely at it. I myself have just finished reading the N.T. through for the 12th time this year. For a number of years I have been trying to get it down to once a month, but never quite succeeded before this year. I have read it through 55 times since 1915 when I first began keeping record. The boys in the Seminary some times ask me what method I pursue to