HOMEWARD.

[illegible] and [illegible] Homeward,
One by one [illegible] their [illegible]
Passed [illegible] from [illegible] of darkness,
To the peace for which we pray.
Some we know and [illegible] what suffering,
[illegible] it were not from your [illegible],
Oh, [illegible] that open [illegible]
During together, dear [illegible].

So, O Father, in thy keeping,
Give us what we call our own,
Upon a little time before us
Through the perilous [illegible] home.
Safe from all the snares of [illegible]
Independent now [illegible] all of [illegible],
Given with [illegible] hope's [illegible] hand
To the heart of another [illegible].

Yet with love's [illegible] [illegible],
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
Those we have [illegible] could [illegible] for
Or our [illegible] [illegible] home.
Also to [illegible] from [illegible] [illegible],
We [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible].
Will [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
In the [illegible] of our [illegible].

—Exchange.

A Farmer Who Didn't Want Any Soap.

"You can either hear a farmer or click an [illegible] or you can't. Just [illegible] at all," said the patent [illegible] man as we were [illegible] about his adventures in the rural [illegible]. "That is, he is either gullible or [illegible]. Some will believe a good thing and some will snap at a swindle. I think I can illustrate my meaning by an eight hour, or at least one of them. The man in the next case there is a farmer."

"I should say so."

"And he's one of the men who suspects every stranger. Watch me try him."

He took a cake of toilet soap from his satchel and going over to the farmer salmed him in a pleasant manner and added:

"I have a new make of soap here which I am introducing to the public. It is worth fifteen cents a cake, but I make the price only five."

"Don't want it," was the gruff reply.

"With every cake goes a $5 greenback, gold bracelet, the deed of a farm for 10 in Kansas, a pocket knife, a pair of eyeglasses and a solid gold ring."

"Don't want 'em, sir!"

"As I want your opinion of the soap I will give it to you."

"I won't take it!"

"But, sir, in order to introduce it into your neighborhood I will give you 100 boxes free, and as the same time have five watches and five deeds to town lots."

"Look-a-here!" shouted the farmer as he jumped up and spat on his hands. "You go away from me or I'll mash you! I'm on to your game, old man, and if you think you have picked up a lunatic you are barking up the wrong tree."

And the surprised man had to move lively to escape the blow levelled at his nose.—New York Sun.

A Glorious River.

The St. Lawrence is a phenomenon among rivers. No other river is fed by such majestic lakes. No other river is so independent of the elements. It despises mere rain, snow and sunshine. Ice and wind may be said to be the only things that affect its mighty flow. Something as rare as phenomenal as the St. Lawrence itself is the fact that there is so little generally known about it. It might be safely affirmed that not 1 out ten, of the American public are aware of the fact that among all the great rivers of the world the St. Lawrence is the only absolutely fresh-water one. Such, however, is the case.

The St. Lawrence displays rain and sunshine. Its ground variation caused by drought or rain hardly ever exceeds a foot or fourteen inches. The cause of this almost everlasting sameness of volume is easily ascertained. The St. Lawrence is fed by the mighty lakes of fresh water on earth. Increase as is the volume of water is poured into the ocean, any one who has traversed all the immense lakes that feed it, and for the unique excess of which it is the only channel to the sea, wonders that it is not ever more gigantic than it is. Not one drop of the waters of the five great lakes finds its way to the ocean save through this majestic, extraordinary and wonderfully beautiful river. No wonder, then, that it should despise the rain and defy the sunshine.—Nature's Basins.

Russia Is Producing Oil.

A perusal of the reports from which our supplies are obtained shows that the increase obtained from the Russian oil wells in the neighborhood of the Caspian is enormous. In 1880 the Muscovites supplied us with 40 barrels. In 1889 the imports from the same quarter amounted to 771,000 barrels. During the same six years the supply from the United States had but increased from 1,338,000 to 1,555,000 barrels. That in the short space of six years Russian shipments should increase from practically nothing to more than half of those from America is most remarkable. Such phenomenal developments as these naturally call into existence the question of means for adequate transit and storing of such enormous quantities.—Chemists' Journal.

Episcopal Monks.

The mission of Father Ignatius, the Church of England monk, to this country to raise funds for various purposes, has called attention anew to the establishment of brotherhoods and sisterhoods in that church. There are Episcopal brotherhoods, and one of these has been recently organized in the diocese of the bishop of London. One difference between the Roman Catholic monk or nun and the Episcopal one is that the Catholic takes the vows for life, the Episcopalian for a specified time.

The Church of England society in London is called the "Lay Brotherhood of St. Paul." Its members take vows for one year. At the end of that time they can renew them if they like, or go back to the wicked world again. A warden is at the head of the establishment. With him are other officers—a sub-warden and chaplain. Then come brothers, probationers, associates and serving brothers.

The work expected of the brotherhood is such as street and mission preaching, visiting through parishes, the visitation of hospitals and public institutions, teaching and preparing candidates for confirmation. The brothers must bear their own expenses during the time they are in the organization. The warden will preside at meals and community meetings, and discipline refractory brethren. If a man were suddenly overtaken with a large degree of life, and had seen his fondest hopes wrecked to the extent that he wanted to hide himself from the world, entering this brotherhood would be a good means of seclusion. By the end of a year he could tell whether he wanted to go back to the world again.

Insects in the Far North.

Sir George Nares brought home to Britain not less than forty-five specimens of true insects which had been collected north of the seventy-eighth parallel of latitude in Grinnell Land, and more than 300 from Iceland. S. H. Scudder says that not less than 3,000 species of insects have been found localized in the various nooks of the world, proving that the geological age present with insect life.—St. Louis Republic.

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