

LOOKING FOR HOME

By FRANK H. WILLIAMS. "Let's go in and look around," she suggested. "But not as an engaged couple." Homer took the key to the front door from the mat in front of the door and opened the door. They stepped in. The house was already furnished and so charmingly furnished that at the first glance Amy felt in love with the home. It was ideal she felt. It was the most entrancing spot in the world in which to begin married life. "See here," said Homer to her softly. "If you stand just here in the hallway you can see a long distance down the road, so you can watch for me here at night. And I'll know you're watching and if I'm tired it will give me new strength and hasten my steps." Amy sighed. She was on the point of accepting but she was not yet quite sure that Homer was really the right man—that he was really a home loving man. All through the house Homer pointed out the things that were designed particularly to give a woman pleasure. When they had completed their inspection, Amy sighed. "It's simply adorable," she cried. "We'll come again tomorrow." The next day when they again approached the house Amy saw a young couple walk up the path toward the door. Fear struck her to the heart. What if this couple should find that peculiar message from that eccentric bachelor and take the house from them? In that instant her mind was made up. She turned quickly to Homer. "Hurry, hurry," she cried. "There's another couple going up there and they may take the house from us." Homer stopped the machine. He turned to her with the light of hope shining in his eyes. "Then you'll go into Little Lonesome House with me as—as my fiancée?" he asked. "Oh, yes, yes, yes," answered Amy. "I know you're the right man now. Yesterday when you showed yourself so familiar with the house I became suspicious. Last night when we got home I called up the agent and I found that you not only own Little Lonesome House but that you designed it all yourself and fitted it all up so lovely and cozy and comfortable. No man who is not really a home lover could have done that, so I know you're the right man." Homer's face became suffused with the light of a great joy. Amy turned her face away, awed at the light in his eyes. "I'm mighty, mighty glad of that," said Homer. Suddenly Amy found voice again. "But hurry, hurry," she cried. "That other couple may find that letter and then you'll have to give the house to them." Homer simply smiled. "That note was for your eyes, dear," he replied. "I wrote it to arouse your interest in the house—to hitch up your home loving instinct with the thought of marrying me. So naturally I wasn't going to take any chances with anyone else finding it so I took it out of the box last night before we left. Here it is." And he pulled the note out of his pocket. (Copyright, 1913, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department, The Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.) LESSON FOR DECEMBER 28 A DAY OF DECISION. (Review.) READING LESSON—Joshua 24; Heb. 11:23-31. GOLDEN TEXT—"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life."—John 3:16. The lessons for this past quarter, omitting the temperance lesson, cover one of the most interesting periods in the history of Israel. In them there is presented five of Israel's greatest characters, Moses, Aaron, Miriam, Joshua and Caleb; one of the strangest characters in all history—Baalim; and the typical troubler of the nation, Achan. We have presented the strength and weakness, victory and defeat, of four, Moses, Aaron, Miriam, and Joshua. Israel's History. The first of the scripture passages presented for the day's reading lesson contains the farewell discourse of Joshua. In it he surveys Israel's history from the days of Terah to the moment they possessed Canaan, emphasizing that in it all God was directing and operating. He then appeals to them to serve Jehovah and to put away all other Gods. The alternative is, that with such evidence before their eyes, if it seemed evil to serve Jehovah, they had choice between the gods their fathers abandoned beyond the river and those they had found in the land. As for himself his choice was made, "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." After repeated declarations of fealty on their part Joshua, entered into a covenant with them that they were to serve Jehovah. The passage taken from Hebrews ought to begin at verse thirty. Moses leads out of Egypt (a type of sin), through the wilderness experiences, but could not lead them into the land; Joshua took up the work where Moses left off and led them into the promised possession; but he was not able to lead them into that perfect rest which only comes from a perfect conformity to the will of God. The message of the Book of Hebrews is that of the son who fulfills all that these great leaders of the past failed to do. He leads from bondage into possession and on to the final rest which remains for the people of God. Recapitulation. Omitting the temperance lesson (Nov. 9) six of these lessons deal with Moses as the leader, and in five we have Joshua as the leader of Israel. I. Under Moses' Leadership. Lesson I. Moses' Cry for Help, Num. 11:10-18, 24, 25. (1) Complaint and controversy, vv. 10-15; (2) Comfort and Counsel, vv. 16-18, 24, 25. Lesson II. Jealousy and Envy Punished, Num. ch. 12. (1) The Accusation, vv. 1, 2; (2) The Arrest, vv. 4, 5; (3) The Arraignment, vv. 6-8; (4) The Judgment, vv. 9-10; (5) The Intercession, vv. 11-12. Lesson III. The Report of the Spies, Num. 13:1-3, 25-33. (1) The Spies, vv. 1-3; (2) The Majority Report, vv. 25-29; (3) The Minority Report, vv. 30-33; (4) The Sequel, ch. 14. Lesson IV. The Sin of Moses and Aaron, Num. 20:1-13. (1) The People's Petition, vv. 1-5; (2) God's Plan, vv. 6-8; (3) Moses' Mistake, vv. 9-13. (4) Deception, (b) Pride, (c) Self-glory, (d) Disobedience. Lesson V. Balaak and Balaam, Num. 22:1-6, 24:10-19. (1) The Call to Curse, 22:1-6; (2) The Wayside Challenge, 22:22-35; (3) The Changeless Message, ch. 24. Lesson VI. Temperance Lesson. Lesson VII. The Death of Moses, Deut. 34:1-12. (1) The Old Leader, vv. 1-8; (2) The New Leader, vv. 9; (3) A Great Character, vv. 10-12. II. Under Joshua's Leadership. Lesson VIII. Joshua the New Leader, Josh. 1:1-9. (1) The Call; (2) The Charge; (3) The Counsel; (4) The Companionship. Lesson IX. Crossing the Jordan, Josh. 3:7-17. (1) The Leader, vv. 7, 8; (2) Those Led, vv. 9-13; (3) The Dry Ground, vv. 14-17. Lesson X. The Fall of Jericho, Josh. 6:8-11, 14-20. (1) God's Orders, vv. 1-5; (2) Joshua's Instructions, vv. 6-8; (3) The Obedient People, vv. 9-16. Lesson XI. The Sin of Achan, Josh. 7:6-15. (1) Joshua's Error, vv. 6-9; (2) The Cause of Defeat, vv. 10-12; (3) The Victory of Defeat, vv. 13-16. Lesson XII. The Division of the Land, Josh. 14:1-14. (1) Those Left Behind, vv. 1-5; (2) Caleb's Claim, vv. 6-12; (3) The Promise Fulfilled, vv. 13-15. The golden text is peculiarly significant in its fitness as we close the studies for this year. The final word, the fruit and flower of this new nation, is epitomized in this the simplest, yet the most sublime language of the New Testament. What Moses and Joshua did in type and what they each left not being able to accomplish, God in the person of his greatest gift to men can and does fulfill in abundant measure. The widest stretch of human imagination cannot measure the breadth of his love. The deepest depths cannot fathom the awful woe of unbelief.

NO MARRIAGE BANS IN BURMA

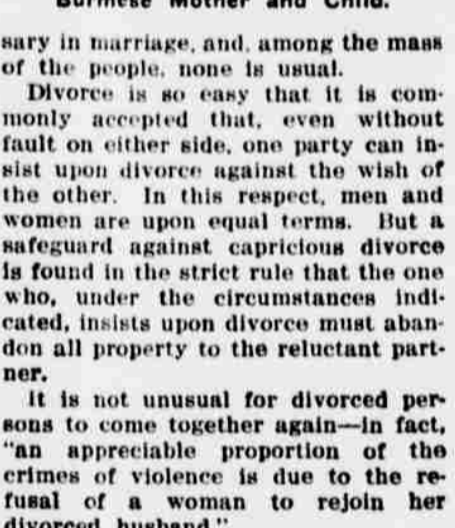
Wedding and Divorce Regulations Among Burmese Trifle Loose According to Our Ideas. New York.—Marriage and divorce regulations among the Burmese strike even a Westerner as loose, according to a recently published book by Sir Herbert T. White, called "A Civil Servant in Burma." The sole essential of a marriage is mutual consent, and no court need intervene in divorce. But the test of a thing is the way it works, and "many, probably most, men live happily with one wife all their lives." No ceremony is necessary in marriage, and, among the mass of the people, none is usual. Divorce is so easy that it is commonly accepted that, even without fault on either side, one party can insist upon divorce against the wish of the other. In this respect, men and women are upon equal terms. But a safeguard against capricious divorce is found in the strict rule that the one who, under the circumstances indicated, insists upon divorce must abandon all property to the reluctant partner. It is not unusual for divorced persons to come together again—in fact, "an appreciable proportion of the crimes of violence is due to the refusal of a woman to rejoin her divorced husband." DUB BLOND ESQUIMAUX IRISH Descendants of Band of Monks Who Came to America in Sixth Century, Priest Declares. St. Louis.—Rev. C. F. O'Leary, pastor of the Catholic church of Notre Dame, who recently returned from a visit to Ireland, is convinced that the blond Esquimaux discovered by Vilhjalmur Stefansson are in reality descendants of early Irish settlers. "It is my belief," said Father O'Leary, "that St. Brendan and his monks settled in America in the sixth century. Many historians believe this. Brendan was a great mariner, as well as a great student, and with him missionaries were going out by the scores from Ireland to Germany, Italy, France, and other countries. "The Norwegians formerly called America 'the Lesser Ireland,' and we have the evidence of Brendan's discoveries in the sea which long was named for him Mare Brendanicum." Father O'Leary when abroad visited the famous St. Brendan's Mount, on which the monastery stood, and studied the old records. The expenses of his trip to Europe were paid in part with a fund which his parish presented to him on the occasion of his fortieth jubilee last spring.

CAMP FIRE STORIES

CAPTURE OF DE LONG POINT Testimony of Soldier of Company E Thirty-First Ohio, Who Was Strictly In Noted Assault. When it comes to distorting facts which should be the embodiment of history I feel it my duty to offer a word as one who not only participated in the battles around Chattanooga, but assisted in establishing and preserving the movements of our troops during those soul-testing times. On or about December 17, 1862, I was assigned to the duty of topographer on the staff of the First brigade, Third division, Fourteenth corps, in which capacity I served, performing the same duty a part of the time at both Second and Third division headquarters until just previous to Generals Hazen's and Turchin's brigades taking the spur of Raccoon Ridge, which opened our cracker line, and in which I participated with my company (E, Thirty-first Ohio), forming a part of Turchin's brigade, and in the charge on Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863, my regiment was in the front line of battle, lapping De Long Point, and was so noted on our maps showing those movements, writes Julius F. Whiting of Springfield, O., in the National Tribune. Being an artist as well as a topographer, I gave as careful attention as was possible to the action of our troops, and I remember the circumstances as well as the topography of the ground over which we fought during that battle, which I described to our comrades correctly before we arrived at Chattanooga on a visit in October, 1909, my first visit to those locations since the Civil war. Let that be as it may, the Second Minnesota cannot claim the credit of capturing De Long Point at the battle of Missionary Ridge. My company, with the regiment, just before ascending the ridge, passed through a strip of small timber, then after going over the lower line of Confederate works in advance of any other troops, we passed between several rebel shanties and went up the ridge, losing our formation, as did all regiments in that charge, as far as the eye could observe right and left; and that scene, with Old Glory lending our boys in blue up the ascent, was too indelibly impressed upon my memory to forget, though we ascended under a crossing of artillery and musketry. Several of my regiment with whom I ascended in advance of the mass went up with our regimental colors about two-thirds of the way to the top, where, after resting a moment in an indentation just under De Long Point, five of us smaller men (boys), William Clark and Andrew McDermott of Company K, and Marshall Wilcox, William Weir and myself of Company E, Thirty-first Ohio, went on up to the right, and leaped over the Confederate works at the gun to our left of a rebel battery of six or eight brass pieces, with handles over their trunnions and apparently new. The Confederates were still firing their guns on our right of this battery, which was on the higher ground a little to the southeast and above De Long Point, but the piece where we went over the works being abandoned, Clark jumped upon it, waved his cap with a shout or two, and as the rebels were leaving their guns, we five before any other comrades appeared went over the ridge and down the enemy's side, some distance, where three of us sat down to rest, Clark and McDermott going on and never returning. It growing dark and discovering our comrades above lighting fires, we three arose to return to our regiment, when a Johnny appeared from the opposite side of the log on which we were resting, begging not to be shot, of which we assured him there was no danger, and took him to our regiment, where, upon arriving, I was informed that my services were wanted at Turchin's headquarters, and reported there the following day, assisting in the survey of that part of Missionary Ridge we had fought over and which included De Long Point. I not only took part in the survey, but compiled my notes with those of other topographers, and executed a map with my own hand of the Point in question, with all the movements of the several regiments in our division during said battle plainly marked thereon, and was then, as well as now, a good letterer and embellisher, the map being forwarded through Fourteenth corps headquarters to the war department, Washington, D. C., where it should be today; but I am prepared to corroborate these facts with testimony and proof that no comrade can refute. At the Breakfast Table. "I have a vague yearning for something," murmured the poet. "A constant yearning for something; I know not what." "Maybe it's tripe," suggested the sympathetic landlady. "We haven't had any in a long time." His Efforts. "That fellow is the laziest man I know. He has never made an effort to support himself." "Oh, yes, he has. He proposes to every woman with money he meets."

"WHY I..."

THE NOTES OF A JOURNALIST WHO MADE A TRIP THROUGH WESTERN CANADA. A prominent journalist from Chicago, some time ago, made a journey through Canada obtaining a thorough knowledge of the land and people and of the "boundless possibilities" that Canada, the virgin land, affords. In an American Sunday newspaper he published after his return the interesting account which we print as follows. He writes: "Why did you emigrate from the United States?" I asked a farmer in Western Canada. "I believe that for a poor man Western Canada is the most favorable land," was the reply, "and I have now found that it is the Paradise of the Poor." The farmer, a pioneer of the west, had five years earlier left Iowa for Canada to secure a new home there. After traversing the country for some time, he started his home on the open prairie and with steady industry devoted himself to the working of the virgin soil. Now he is the well-to-do owner of that endless sea of waving wheat ears that goes on for miles before my eyes. His strong, sunburned figure finds the best background in his farm itself, which is the outcome of his ceaseless activity—a pretty two-story dwelling house, a large clean stable, in the midst of a hamlet of barns, sheds and outbuildings, a useful garden overflowing with products; horses, cattle, sheep and swine on the rich pastures, and around to the horizon wheat, golden wheat. "In Iowa" the farmer continued, "I farmed on rented land, for at the price of \$100 per acre I did not possess money enough to buy. I might farm, I might farm as I could, more than the living for myself and family, I could not attain. Sometimes the harvest turned out good, sometimes bad, but the grand total was a bitter combat to keep want from the door. It was impossible to lay by for bad times and in spite of all trouble and work an old age free of care was not to be thought of. My death would have brought bitter poverty to my wife and children. "I decided to break-up and go to Canada, where at least I could fight out the struggle for existence on my own land. I started out with a mule team, all my earthly possessions were in the prairie-schooner with my wife and children. Then I took up a homestead of 160 acres to which I added by purchase gradually; now as a whole I count about 3,000 acres as my own. The whole property is free of debt. I do not owe a cent to anyone. I bought my land for \$2-10 per acre, now I would not give it up for \$50. "Do you mean to say that you paid for the whole land in the five years?" I interrupted. "In a much shorter time," replied the farmer. "The land paid for itself, some already by the first harvest, and at longest in 3 years each field had brought in its purchase price. If you doubt that land in Western Canada pays for itself within 3 years you can easily convince yourself of the truth of my assertion. Let us assume that a farmer buys a farm of 160 A. at \$15 per A. for \$2,400. Farm machines, seed, ploughs, mowing and threshing might bring up the outlay to about \$10 per acre. If the farmer sows the 160 A. for 3 years in succession with wheat and harvests 20 bus. per acre, then the product of an A. at the average price of 75c per bu. is exactly \$15 per acre. If you deduct the \$10 outlay, you will retain a clear return of \$5.00. For 160 A. the annual excess amounts to \$800, consequently the farm has after the third harvest brought in the purchase price of \$2,400. "Sometimes—and not rarely—the land pays for itself by the first harvest of 25 bus. of wheat bring in more than the purchase price of \$15 per acre. As in some years I harvested more than 35 bus., you can reckon for yourself how quickly I paid for my farm. "Would you not prefer your own farm in Iowa?" I asked. "No," replied the farmer, "never will I go back, in general very few American settlers return to the old home. In Iowa a 160 A. farm costs \$100 per A., \$16,000; in Western Canada \$15, only \$2,400. For the same money that you require to buy a 160 A. farm in Iowa, you can buy here in Western Canada a farm of 1,000 acres. I have money enough to buy a farm in Iowa, if I wished. But there my yearly income would be a small one, whereas here I work for a great gain. There I would only be a small farmer, here I am a large landed proprietor." In a corner of the farmyard I had during our conversation noticed a mound of earth overgrown with grasses and wild flowers. To my inquiry as to what it was, I received the reply: "That is the ruin of the wooden shack covered with sods, which I called my home when I settled here five years ago." I gathered a wild aster from the ruin and flung it into the air. In a purplish-glistening line the wind drove the flower towards the fine, modern-equipped farmhouse. What a contrast between the lowly earthy hut of yesterday and charming palace of today! This contrast says enough to the unbounded possibilities, which this new land offers to the willing worker. How the poor emigrant on the open prairie, through energy and activity, within 5 years worked his way up to being a well-to-do farmer and esteemed citizen! More, the farmer did not require to say. Why did he emigrate? WHY? Why I saw the answer with my own eyes.—Advertisement.



Burmese Mother and Child.

Giraffe Hit by Switch Engine. Dupo, Ill.—A giraffe being shipped to a circus winter quarters struck his head out of the car and was struck by a switch engine. The animal is being cared for in an improvised hospital in the Y. M. C. A. building. Veterinary surgeons said it will live. Woman Mayor of Oregon Town. Troutdale, Ore.—Mrs. Clara Latourelle Larsson, daughter of an Oregon pioneer resident, was elected mayor of this place by five votes.