

Home Circle.

BUDS AND BLOSSOMS.—This is joyous service, and far-reaching in its influence. The cash income up to date is below our reasonable expectation. It is a little vexatious to have no response from those who owe and could pay if they would. Sometimes we think compulsion to such would be a God-honoring process. But **BUDS AND BLOSSOMS** would soon lose their beauty in the heat of battle, and we plant and water trusting in God, sometime, it may be soon, to send a fruitful harvest. Conscious from letters and kind words received that in our magazine we are doing service for Christ, we are more than ever determined to push the circulation, and we ask the aid of our friends. We will send them copies to loan to this end, knowing if this be done and a kind word spoken, our list will grow. We aim not to be dogmatic and denominational, but first, and above all, to work and fight against sin, to write pure and elevating words and thoughts for old and young. Whilst we give **BUDS** and illustrations for childhood, it is also our endeavor to so make them **BLOSSOM** that those of riper years, and it may be of more fruitful experiences, will find something to profit withal in the careful perusal of **BUDS AND BLOSSOMS**. We solicit the prayers and co-operation of those who love Christ in this work. It will be noted we give thousands of copies away. Did not faith sustain and hope encourage us to expect help of the Lord and His people, we had not continued until to-day, and to-day should be afraid for tomorrow. But hitherto the Lord hath helped us, and although now the balances may seem to be against us, and our own means are called upon, in God we trust.

The following, in paying for B. and B., sent one dollar. We credit 25c. to our free list: Maggie F. Taylor, James Lawson, Mrs. W. Murray.

Personal Kindness.—Received from Deacon W. Davies, a box of Soap.

OUR HOME MISSION WORK.—Our sister A. M. C. has printed and distributed 3,000 leaflets. Distributed other 4,100 pages of papers, magazines, tracts, etc., in connection with the Flower Mission work and among the Cotton Factory operatives. Papers have been received from the far-off places; still our demand goes beyond the supply. At the Poor-house we can get rid of some 300 copies weekly; they care not how old, if good and interesting reading. Mr. Templeton sent from Manitoba; Miss N. Stewart, Master Mechan, Miss S. L. Knowles, and one parcel with no name, all from the United States; Cards from Floral Band, Mr. Raymond, Miss Spry, Miss Jackson, Lavinia Arnold, Florence Hubley, Mrs. Capt. Harding, N. S. Besides, there have been sent out 290 free copies of B. and B., equal to 11,600 pages. *Total pages sent out this month, 18,791.*

FLOWER MISSION.—Flowers have been received from Mrs. Tully, Misses Jackson, Miss Barnstead, Minnie Rhume, Mrs. Looner, Mrs. DeYoung, Mr. Henry Holloway, Mrs. C. Hubley, Miss Spry, Mrs. T. A. Covey, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. R. B. Fraser, Mrs. Dickey, Miss Bell, Mrs. Blakney, Miss Auld, Miss Smith, Mrs. Keddy, Mrs. Thomas Bouthier. Total bunches distributed in the Hospitals and Poor-house, 604.

How is Missionary Dolly?—To our enquiring friend we would say, if anything improving, although for quiet honest work she has proved herself almost everything desired, seeming almost to realize the dignity and importance of her mission. Evidently Dolly came to our service at an opportune time. Without her our Flower Mission work this summer could not have been accomplished. The good deacon's horse who did no small amount of work in various ways, and always stood ready to help the Floral Band, hurt her foot and had to be counted out this summer. Another team is missing because the good sister is visiting in England. So Dolly has stood in the gap. Often we wish for others to help. We can only take three, and several who would willingly go cannot, because of the distance, and the toil is longer and testing to those who go the same afternoon, first to the Military, then the City Hospital, and afterward to the Poor-house. To the query, Does it pay you to keep a pony? we would say, it depends how you reckon profit and loss. It does certainly take faith, and often our income to meet the extra expenditures privately incurred in connection with the press and other mission work. If we walked by sight, and strictly claimed what some call their own, we should call a halt. But the question has often come to us:

Men of the world, in hope of worldly gain, for worldly pleasure and self-easement, keep a horse; why cannot you trust in God and do so? It would enable you to get more physical rest and more rapidly to overtake the many demands. The conclusion of the matter was simple, when, after building the barn, the pony came and claimed a home. We feed and expect to be fed, and that in some way or other the Lord will provide—not only hay for the present, but a sleigh for the winter. We do not pretend to the mysterious; but having faith we toil, if in vain, and expect in some way or other there will be no lack. We cannot perhaps tell our friends all they would like to know about how we do it. Nevertheless, honestly we can say it is service as unto the Lord.

CLEARING LOT AND BUILDING FUND.—It is said one could with drops the ocean fill, if they only had enough; true. Sometimes when in and of ourselves as a people we make calculation as to cost, the building enterprise in addition to clearing the lot, looks a long and disquieting task. Then again faith says, keep at it; your work has a claim; God hears prayer and rewards effort. He can and will raise up some one worthy and large-hearted for the work. It was encouraging to hear one of our noble home missionaries say at Convention; it is a good work, Bro. Avery; I have a few bricks for that building. *Monies received:* Paid to Pastor—Mrs. Horton, 15c.; Miss McNeil, \$3; Mr. Benj. & E. Hubley, \$10; Mrs. Corkum, \$2; May Mason, \$1.75; Mrs. Jas. Meadows, \$1.25; John Wilks, "For the Lord," \$1. From S. School Class, Miss Campbell's, \$5 for a lot.

WEEKLY DONATIONS PER ENVELOPES.—Mrs. Avery, \$4; Chambers Blakley, \$2.50; C. S. Blakley, \$2; Benj. Byers, \$5; Mrs. E. Barnstead, \$1.25; Miss Jane Blakley, 60c.; Miss Ruth Blakley, \$1; Miss Norah Brightman, 25c.; Miss M. Campbell, 25c.; George Crockford, \$2; Miss A. Collishaw, \$1; Wm. Davies, \$10; Mrs. C. Dickey, 75c.; Wm. Francis, \$3.75; J. K. Hubley, \$2; C. Hubley, Jr., \$2; Miss A. Hubley, \$1; T. A. Hubley, \$2.50; J. M. Hopkins, \$3.80; W. J. Hubley, \$1; Miss LeBrocq, 30c.; J. Manuel, \$1; Wm. Myers, \$2.50; Mrs. McPhee, \$1.25; Miss Minnie McEachern, 50c.; James McEachern, \$1.25; John McEachern, \$2; Wm. Nodwell, \$2.50; Mrs. Otts, \$1; Wm. Peddle, \$1; T. Spry, Jr., \$1; Miss Teas, 50c.; J. R. Roome, \$1. Total, \$65.45.

P. S.—Treasurer received cash, but Secretary lost two of the slips of names and could not give the printer a correct list. If notified, will correct next issue. T. A. HUBLEY.

Omitted last month: Wm. Myers, \$2.50; Mr. Oxner, \$1. Total, \$3.50.

OUR S. School and Congregational Pic-nic was a time of tiring but hallowed enjoyment. We began and ended the day with a doxology. For after several days of storm and rain the weather cleared and we had a day perfect in every respect, so clear—and everything so bright and sweet, all nature's carpet of green had been washed, and like an emerald shone in the sunshine. All seemed to catch the spirit of gladness and good nature. The only fly in the ointment of the day's perfect pleasure was the fact that our Superintendent who for many years never missed being at the S. S. Pic-nic was detained at home through sickness. We heartily thank our many friends for kindly co-operation. Above all the goodness of God claims recognition. This was the 13th Annual Pic-nic. We have always been specially favoured with a fine day and freedom from accident.

FADED LEAVES.

A mother writes, one year ago my little Maggie, then 5 years old, got me to send for **BUDS AND BLOSSOMS**, and anxiously waited for it every month, God took her home May 25th, 1886. Still send for her brothers; they enjoy it much.

During the month two large-hearted and noble men have fallen in the foreign field; battling for the Lord, they counted not their lives dear. Many of our readers were acquainted with these brethren, Rev. Mr. Currie, and Rev. George We would say, brethren pray that their widows and little ones may receive much grace and consolation from the God and Father of all in Christ.

"There is a reaper whose name is death, and with his sickle keen,
He reaps the bearded grain at breath, and the flowers that grow between."

Say, are you ready for the harvest, the accounting time of life? What will the harvest be?