

have only an hour a week which you could give? In that hour you could visit a sick neighbour, or put yourself in the way of someone to whom you might say a word in season, or whose burden you could help to lift in some way. Then at the end of the year you would have left fifty-two testimonies for God in that circle where God has placed you, and by the means of which He will judge you. In the light of that judgment ask yourself could you not redeem one hour for such purposes?

And apply the same test to your means. However small they may be, could you not redeem something from the service of self for the service of love for the work of God?

The experience of our Association proves what valuable help in large undertakings those who may be said to have 'no time and no money' can give.

Here are a few letters very much to the point.

1. The first encloses a shilling, with these words: 'Kindly accept this very small offering as a token of goodwill for the orphan children under your care. It is from a young man who has to work long hours for his livelihood. If the poor can give little or no money they can pray that your work may prosper, as I shall do.'

2. 'I am ill, and have had a little money sent me to-day to get a few grapes, or any thing else I should like, as it is my birthday. I have added something to it and made ten shillings of it, and I should like to think that my birthday present had gone to relieve a family where some poor little children would be glad to sit down to a nice tea. Please manage this for me and I shall be so grateful.'

3. 'Arthur, Fritz, and Dorothea, all under five years of age, send 10s. for Sunday breakfasts for poor children. They have saved it in halfpence through a whole year, earning it by dressing in a quarter of an hour in the morning instead of idling about.' We recommend this plan for adoption in families, both for their benefit and ours.

It is rather late to be acknowledging Christmas gifts now that we are almost midway between two Christmases, but the reminiscence of the large plum-pudding from Copt Hewick is so pleasant that we must give the letter which announced it:

'We have in preparation a very large plum-pudding, a gift from the Sunday-school children, and other friends, to be distributed on New Year's Day in portions to poor children who had no Christmas pudding. The children are

all coming here to have a peep at the pudding, which our old nurse and cook are boiling. Most of the money was earned in carol singing at Christmas; but even the infants join in the gift, some bringing bright new halfpence, their greatest treasures.'

No wonder they are touched, and moved to help out of their own small means those whose poverty is deeper and whose misery is greater than any they have seen.

We have had much sympathy and generous assistance in our Orphanage work from the time we began it many years ago in a small temporary Home, until now, when we are extending our 'Orphanage of Mercy' for the second time, and building the Queen Victoria Orphanage. Some of the poor who help us in remote parts of England say the idea of their own children ever being in want of a home makes them determined to do what they can to provide homes for orphans. 'Who knows,' a poor woman wrote one day, 'but that my own children may not be glad of such a shelter;' and 'thankful should I be,' said another, 'if I were taken, to think that my little ones might get in here.'

We wish some of our child-loving friends could have seen the infant orphans—undergoing their last school examination. They talk of the 'Spectro' (*i.e.* inspector) very glibly, and are well aware that his visit is a great event, and that they must do their best to answer his questions. Our 'Babies' quite distinguished themselves when the Diocesan Inspector came. They first sang what they call our own hymn. It begins:

In Thy presence, Holy Father,
We Thy little children kneel,
With a faith that cannot falter
To Thy goodness we appeal.

For we have no earthly father
On the earth so waste and wide,
And we have no tender mother
For our weakness to provide.

The words sound very touching sung by baby lips; it is impossible to hear them without a deep thankfulness for so many little lives saved from suffering and sin, or from a joyless, loveless bringing-up.

The C.E.A. considers it a great privilege to help foreign missions in any way, and that there is much missionary ardour amongst the readers of the BANNER OF FAITH their generous co-operation often testifies.

The appeal for the Church Building Fund at Fort Macleod produced a liberal response,