

I trust we are mutually deeply interested. Anything connected with Christ's kingdom is what brings us close together and draws out our hearts in sympathy to one another. It is in Christ's presence that we meet with the common prayer, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;" and it is when by faith our souls stand before His throne and see some reflection of His glory and beauty, that we long that others may share with us in the knowledge of so gracious, tender and loving a God and Saviour.

God has graciously opened for us a way by which we may do something for the attainment of this desire. A few years ago God offered to our Canadian Baptist Churches the Northern Telugu country as a field for mission work, and invited us to share in the joy and responsibility of gathering from the heathen a people to His name. The trust was accepted, our Foreign Missionary Society was formed, and something has been done to send the Gospel, the news of our great Saviour and glorious inheritance, to the Telugus. A great blessing has rested upon the labors of our missionaries, and in so short a time we have three mission stations and every prospect of the work stretching out in different directions. Could we but see in this far away country a sacred charge committed to our care, and hear our Lord saying to us, "Occupy till I come," surely we would respond heartily and readily to the call for money and laborers.

It is well known that women form a large majority of our churches. How have we responded to this call for help? to the pitiful cry of the dying Hindu woman, "Can you not send us the Gospel a little quicker?" What are we doing to help the Missionary Society evangelize the Telugus? How thankful we are that in answer to this inquiry we have not to hang our heads and answer, "Nothing." We are doing a little—not anything like what we could do, or what we hope to do in the future, but still something. Oh, let us thank God for that! We have not to stand by and see others helping to gather in the harvest of souls, helping to rescue the heathen from misery, sin and death, but we have been permitted to share, to be fellow-laborers in this work with the rest of the Christian world. Is there any one here who is still an outsider, who has not helped us at all to gather in the dimes and the dollars to send away on their mission of love and mercy? Won't you come and join our band? Come and share in the privilege of thinking, praying for and helping others. Won't you rejoice with us over every Telugu convert as another trophy of the power and love of God and over every place occupied by a missionary as another light set up in the midst of heathen darkness, by which those around may learn that God is light and love? If you have not thought of it before, do think of it now, and be one to join the number of those women who are having their interest awakened and their hearts touched, and are coming forward saying, "I cannot give much, but I will give a little," and as Mr. McLaurin said to me lately, "God seems to bless our twenty cents as much as some other societies' dollar."

The work which we members of Mission Circles have to do is two-fold. It is home and foreign work. We have to interest those about us in the necessity of effort to reach the Telugus with the Gospel; in the strong claim they have upon us, from the fact that we know about God and have been brought by His grace into His family; and their "gods are idols, the work of men's hands." "Freely ye have received, freely give," God says. We need often to pray for that sacred fire of enthusiasm and love, that it may so burn in our hearts that we may influence all about us. This is our home

work; and our foreign work consists in collecting the money needed to carry on and extend the mission; keeping up the meetings amidst all kinds of discouragements and praying for the missionary, the native Christians and the heathen who come within the sound of the preaching.

How precious the thought is, that in engaging in this work, we are really doing Christ-like work. We are in sympathy with Him carrying out His purposes, fulfilling His will. Could we ask for anything more? Unless it be that this feeble attempt we are making might be greatly strengthened, that not only many more join us, but that we ourselves be permitted to put forth far greater efforts and show much more self-denial. We could do so much if we would!

My prayer for you and myself is, that God may keep our hearts tender and sympathetic, fill them with a missionary spirit, and make us so intensely grateful for the fact that we live in a Christian land and know and love Him, that we will be constrained to share the knowledge with others. Yours in Christian fellowship.

AMELIA MUIR.

Montreal, June 11th.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY, now seventy-two years old, issued last year over two millions and three-quarters of Bibles, Testaments, and portions of Scripture. Its income was over 200,000/.

The Onward March of China.

BY THE REV. GRIFFITH JOHN, OF HANCHOW.

Only forty years ago it was a crime for a foreigner to learn the Chinese language, a crime to teach it to a foreigner, a crime to print anything in it for a foreigner. No public preaching was tolerated in those days.

To address one or two individuals, with fear and trembling, in an inner apartment, with the doors securely locked, was all that Dr. Morrison, our first Protestant Missionary in China, could do.

He did a great work in translating the Scriptures; but he found it quite impossible to go forth, and proclaim the message of salvation.

To him China was a sealed country.

At the end of a laborious career of twenty-six years, this faithful servant of Christ could not boast of ten converts.

It was the treaty of 1842 that began to open China to the merchant and Missionary.

When I arrived in China, more than twenty-five years ago, there were just five spots in the whole of that vast empire where a foreigner might pitch his tent. The interior was hermetically closed against him, the length of his tether being only twenty-four hours from the treaty port.

How different the present state of things! The whole empire is open to us, and the Missionary has the right to go and deliver his message in every province, city, town, and hamlet in the land.

All the provinces have been visited by Missionaries, and most of them repeatedly.

I have myself travelled over large portions of nine of the provinces. Thirteen out of the eighteen have actually been occupied by Missionaries and their families.

The Gospel has been proclaimed in nearly all the principal cities and towns.

The Bible has been distributed everywhere, and Christian literature scattered over the face of the land.