

So, all that we did for ourselves then, you know,
 We impartially held to the Lord to go!
 And as you remember it worked so well then,
 And withal was so cheap it scarce cost us a pen.
 Now, perhaps you would like to try it again.
 So my theory is—and I bet it ain't wrong—
 Let us build up our church and make it real strong;
 Let us get lots of fixings and make it attractive
 (And the Lord help the women to be very active) !
 Here's a debt on our church that ought to be ended;
 The worn-out parsonage ought to be mended;
 With softer seats the church should be seated;
 With better stoves it ought to be heated;
 With a dimmer religious glory lighted
 (By no means let any rich sinner feel slighted);
 And doesn't it strike you the Lord must admire
 The sanctified operas of our "dandy" choir?
 If you'll follow my plan it won't be long
 Before we have a mighty big throng
 Of people here to worship the Lord:
 Then *they'll* give the cash, without a word,
 That will float, like the ark, our sinking old Board;
 And don't you see, we who own the good lands
 Near where our prosperous church now stands,
 Will make our snug fortunes just hand over hand.
 To promote all the further God's cause in the land!
 Of course we will have to wait awhile,
 Exercising, meantime, a hard self-denial;
 To all mere appearances stopping our ear
 To the calls of the cause to our hearts so near,
 Not making our offerings now and here,
 But in faith holding on, with love sincere,
 For the increase of *interest* year by year
 (By souls narrow-minded it may be deplored,
 But by wise ages after we will all be adored
 As men who such self-sacrifice could afford);
 For *the more we seem for ourselves to hoard,*
The better at last for our dear Foreign Board!
 So the motion was made, and put right through,
 "Resolved that in solemn and prayerful review
 Of the needs of the heathen, this we'll do:
 A thousand good dollars to pay off our dues,
 A good thousand more to soft cushion our pews.
 A thousand and odd for odd repairs
 A round thousand more for other affairs,
 Then thousands and millions for possible heirs,
 And for the heathen—our ardent prayers!"

MORAL.

Oh, isn't it fine—tho' it does sound so odd—
 To feather one's nest for the glory of God!

QUERY.

To some perchance the thought will come,
 Didn't they give to the heathen at home?

SAUGERTIES, N. Y.

Independent.

OUR MISSIONARY PAPERS.

AN ADDRESS BY MISS L. MCRAE, AT HAMILTON.

As organizations, the Baptist Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Societies publish two papers, *The Baptist Visitor* in behalf of Home Missions, *THE MISSIONARY LINK* in behalf of Foreign Missions.

These papers are not as widely circulated as the best interests of our societies demand.

About the papers themselves I will make no comment beyond the statement, which I am sure every reader of the *Visitor* and *LINK* will endorse, that is, we are satisfied with them, that none of us think that we could manage either paper any better, and that we have no suggestions to offer in the way of improvements.

I shall, however, try to give you a few reasons why we should bend our energy to the task of, at least, placing our missionary papers in every family belonging to a Baptist church in the Province of Ontario. The first and most important reason is this: We believe the extensive circulation of our papers is positively necessary to the progress and advancement of the great enterprise which we have undertaken.

Think for a moment of the Power of the Press, and if the mind does not readily sum up its tremendous power, go and stand for a while beside one of those large presses used in printing a big daily, watch the wonderful machine turn out its volumes of printed thought, and you will realize that it is the most powerful agency of the nineteenth century development. Then follow the printed sheets as they are freely scattered over a continent—man's thought communicating to man—and in this way we become acquainted with and inspired by the great minds of our age.

If it were not for our newspapers how many of us would know anything about the notable figure, that Peer, in the British Commons to-day, that remarkable man who is writing his name over a very brilliant page of a nation's history, and whose unswerving persistency and noble courage must leave its impress on the hearts and minds of a generation other than his own. It has been said that the press is the great educator of the people, and it is so. It certainly moulds a great deal of public opinion, and it is a very remote home indeed into which the newspaper of our time does not find its way and make its influence felt.

Look at the place the party paper takes in political organizations. See the part it plays in political campaigns. I do not believe a political campaign could be carried out without the party papers, and were it undertaken, I am convinced it would be very tame indeed. In the first place, nothing is so definite in regard the platform of the party, its views on burning questions of the day, and its position regarding them as its paper. A speaker can, at most, address but a few thousand, but through the papers next day millions will have read the speech, nations will have discussed it. Now these organizations are all fully alive to the fact that success depends to a great extent upon the paper that champions its cause, that makes known its object and its aim.

Shall the children of *the world* in their generation be wiser than the children of light? Let us then take the advantage that a wide circulation of our papers will certainly give us.

Then there is the value of our papers to the workers at home.

A wise business man makes a careful study of the paper that is published in the interests of his business.

The merchant looks carefully over his "Commercial News." The doctor his "Medical Journal." The lawyer his "Legal Intelligence." The banker his "Financial Reports, Stock Exchange." The farmer has his "Agricultural" papers.

Now why do they read these papers? To gather information—knowledge. Knowledge is power—success. The well informed man is better equipped for the battle of life. He will take the tide at its flow, or in other words, he will know the opportunity of his day any age, and knowing it he will make the most of it.

Our best informed workers are our best workers. One cannot be enthusiastic over our enterprise if he knows nothing about it, and no effort amounts to much unless there is enthusiasm thrown into it somewhere. Then to be efficient, enthusiastic workers, it