

to feel that He is "with us always." *We* may be cast down, but *He* is never discouraged; *we* may lose hope, but *He* never gives way to despair; *we*, in our shortsightedness, may be tempted to think that money and time and strength are almost wasted in this fight against the powers of evil, but *He* sees the end from the beginning, the work and the ordering of it are *His*. *He* will never suffer loss. Let this encourage us then, let us open our hearts to receive His gracious word, let us take time to realize the greatness of the thought that the almighty One is with *us* in the walk to which *He* has called us.

### THE MEMORABLE SAIL

OF DR. AND MRS. JUDSON, DOWN THE IRRAWADDY RIVER.

Down the Irrawaddy River,  
While the moonlight's silvery beam  
Sheds a lustre, grandly solemn,  
On the deeply-flowing stream.

Talk of journeying for pleasure!  
This were pleasure greater far  
Than was felt by tourist ever,  
Since was forged a prison bar.

For behind were prison fetters,  
Prison air, and couch impure,  
And the restless, prison loneliness,  
Hard for spirit to endure.

Harder still for weaken'd body  
Was the fever, raging high,  
Harder yet for wisely feelings,  
Thus to see a husband lie.

Think of all her footsore journeys  
Him to give so little aid!  
Of her racking disappointments  
When those efforts great she made.

In the palace, at the prison,  
Met abuse and loftiest scorn;  
Verily a greater heroine  
Never saw the light of morn!

But adown the Irrawaddy  
In the moonlight now they glide;  
What a contrast is afforded  
As they sit there side by side,

By the peace in heart, on river,  
To the battles lately fought,  
Struggles that the Heavenly Master  
Be by heathen known and sought.

A. J. CHIPMAN.

### SOME PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR A WOMAN WRITING HER FIRST MISSIONARY PAPER.

The manner in which the invitation to write a missionary paper is received has a great deal to do with its success or failure. If it is accepted in a half-hearted, ungracious way, as if it were a great bore and you only accepted because you were ashamed to decline, you may rest assured that you will receive no enjoyment in writing your paper, and your hearers but little pleasure and

profit in listening to it. So, begin by accepting the invitation to take a country or topic for a certain month, with a gracious manner, and say you will do the best you can. It will be of as much help to the president of the society as to yourself.

Do not wait till a few days before the meeting to begin your paper, as so many do, but as soon as you reach home write down your topic, and begin to cast about in your mind what you would like to say and what books you can consult.

Enthusiasm is a requisite for success in any undertaking, and in writing a missionary paper it holds a first place. By using the following methods enthusiasm can be kindled. I know this from experience:

*First.*—Have a commonplace-book in which to write any helpful thought you may get while talking with friends; or to copy a sentence or paragraph from a borrowed book or paper; or an illustration that flashes through your mind at a most unexpected time or place, and which, if not put down, is apt to be forgotten. I have lost such a good topic for a Bible study just for the lack of making a note of it, and I cannot recall it though I have tried many times.

At \_\_\_\_\_'s you will find blank books which are just what you want. They cost only three cents, have thirty leaves, which give sixty blank pages. These are better than writing tabs for notes, for being bound they are always in place and do not get torn or lost.

*Second.*—Have a large business envelope or an empty envelope box in which to put clippings from the newspapers relating to your country or topic. Take them from the daily and religious papers and select items of all kinds.

*Third.*—Have a mucilage bottle, for you will want to paste several short clippings upon a half sheet of paper, so that you may give a part of your information, in a convenient form, to some member of your society to read at the meeting. Perhaps some of you ladies have a bottle like mine. It is several inches high and has a glass cover which goes over the entire brush, so that the handle is never sticky and the brush is always ready for use. It is "a joy forever," not for its beauty, but for its great utility.

*Fourth.*—Subscribe for as many missionary magazines as you can possibly afford. Of course you will take *Woman's Work for Woman*, and, if you have children, *Over Sea and Land*. Read both thoroughly, and if you have not *The Church at Home and Abroad*, borrow from a friend. At your Board Rooms you will always find missionary biographies, *The Missionary Review* and books of reference.

Every housekeeper knows how easy it is to get into a rut and have the same dishes for the table over and over again, week in and week out. Have you never been so tired with your work for the public and your home cares that all you could think of for dinner was beef-steak and mashed potatoes? I have, and then I take down Mrs. Henderson, Marion Harland and Miss Parloa, and read their tempting recipes till my mouth waters, and I have no trouble in ordering what I shall have for dinner. So, in order to spread a tempting feast for your missionary meeting, you must study the magazines till your heart burns within you at what you learn of the missionaries, and how God is blessing His Word to the conversion of the heathen.

By this time you will find your enthusiasm glowing, and now you are ready to make the skeleton of your