

1881



1893

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" THIS IS THE VICTORY, EVEN OUR FAITH."

N.B.—Communications for this Department post-marked after the 18th of the month will appear in following month.

N.B.—All subscriptions for the OUTLOOK must be sent to the Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto.

N.B.—Certificates of Life Membership may be obtained by addressing Miss Ogden, Room 20, Wesley Buildings.

Our Monthly Reunion.

PRAYER TOPIC.

For Auxiliaries, Mission Circles and Bands, Executive Supply and Literature Committees, Conference Representatives and District Organizers.

"And let the beauty of the Lord our God be before us, and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us. Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants."

MANY thoughts crowd upon us as we consider the subject of this month. This lovely spring-time is the seed-time, when "the sower goes forth to sow," the buds of promise are silently appearing on the trees, the tender grass as silently shooting up on our lawns and boulevards—all nature is reviving and putting on her beautiful garments. Obeying the laws of their great Creator, trees and grass and shrubs

are glorifying God, and it seems to us in this Home work of our W. M. S., the churches, the homes and the social circle are the great field the W. M. S. is seeking to cultivate.

Striving to break up the hard ground of indifference, apathy and ignorance which encrusts so many hearts, to scatter seeds of knowledge and interest in missionary work, hoping and praying that, watered by the precious rain of the Holy Spirit, these truths may bring forth the fruits of consecration, activity and liberality, and thus we, too, may glorify God. For the success of the past, we would like to sound forth the key-note of praise from all our May meetings. The growth of the work has been steady, and the outlook is promising for the future.

A French writer says: "God makes thought, and thought makes history." Every great movement was first a thought from God; and so we believe God, by His Holy Spirit, communicated the blessed thought which gave birth to the W. M. S., and all the kindred societies of women, which are laboring so successfully to-day for the world's uplifting.

Nineteenth century history will record no more valuable progress in its civilization, none more pregnant with good to the race than the advancement of woman. When the Church and the State shall have accorded to her her rightful place and power, Christianity will be practically applied to the roots of evils where at present we can only trim the branches, and, slowly perhaps, but surely, national righteousness shall be evolved, and the kingdom of Christ shall prevail in the earth. This is the hope, the aim, the inspiration of the woman's work of to-day, and women in almost all lands are being moved to effort as never before. The voice of Jesus has bid us "arise," and women, once wrapped in the shroud of conventional seclusion, have found voice and pen and power to do the Master's bidding. "I don't take any interest in missions," or "I don't care to work for that sort of thing," is a remark unworthy of a Christian woman, and that such ever reaches our ears only proves that there is much educative work yet to do. In this connection, we may suggest a regular systematic visitation and literature distribution as a work for Auxiliaries.

The benefits of our work are manifold. Its influences can not be summed up in reports. It is Plato, we believe, who says, "Whatever is good or great in the State must first begin in the home"; and, as whatever interests woman is sure to influence the home, and be woven into the warp and woof of the characters therein moulded, any elevating or ennobling work, therefore, to which women devote themselves, will be reflected upon the history of the future. What more ennobling than the work God has given woman to do to-day—the grand missionary work which comprises all reforms, all progress of human thought toward the divine ideal, all the means and measures consecrated thought can devise for the uplifting of humanity? Think of the lawless rum traffic, and of the great powers it bends to its hellish sway! Think of the great opium traffic which Christian England