

## Foreign Missions.

### W. B. M. U.

*"We are laborers together with God."*

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. MANNING, 240 Duke Street, St. John, N. B.

#### PRAYER TOPIC FOR JUNE.

For our associations, that a great blessing may attend their gatherings and new interest and zeal be awakened in every department of our denominational work.

Some time since an invitation was extended by the church at Chipman, N. B., for the W. B. M. U. Convention to meet with them in August. But owing to the inadequate railway accommodation lines, the breaking down of the bridge at the Hewson Crossing, the invitation cannot be accepted. The ladies of Main St. Baptist church, St. John, are planning to entertain the Convention, providing they can obtain the assistance of the other St. John churches. Should it be thus decided due notice will be given through the MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

#### Liverpool.

The "Jewel Gatherers" Mission Band was founded Feb. 3rd, 1901, under the leadership of Mrs. W. J. Thompson. The other officers are:—Treasurer, Percy West; Assistant Treasurer, Ross Millard; Organist, Etta Hatt; and Secretary, Mary Baltzer. We have a membership of twenty-two, and enjoy studying the lessons given in the "Tidings." We are giving our money towards Miss Blackadar's salary.

MAY 27th 1901. MARY BALTZER, Secretary.

#### River Herbert.

We held a thank offering meeting in our society on May 9th. Each member stated her particular cause for thankfulness, and deposited her offering on a jar provided for the purpose. A letter just received from Mrs. Sanford added greatly to the interest. Our offerings amounted to \$6.35. One sister, Mrs. T. J. Seaman, constituted herself a life member of the Union. A number engaged in earnest prayer that great good might be the result of the means sent to India. Owing to frequent storms during the past winter our numbers have been very small, but the few who were present obtained the blessing. May we each in future be more earnest, active, and devoted to the needs of the Telugus. S. E. P.

MAY 16th.

#### How Our Circle Celebrated the Twentieth Century.

Two days before Thanksgiving the members of the little X circle looked anxiously out their windows in the early gray of the morning to see if the day promised to be pleasant. For was not this the day for which they had been planning and working all summer, the day when all the Twentieth Century Thank Offering boxes were to be brought in? Not even the critical member could find anything wrong with the crisp air and bright winter sunshine; and how the women did come to that meeting like swarms of bees around a honey jar! "Cause we've all got something to do," whispered plump little Mrs. Green to her neighbor. Certainly there was an unusual hum of expectation and an atmosphere of good times to come that was infectious. The legs of the little page fairly twinkled, and all her yellow curls bobbed as she trotted among them, disturbing attendance cards, and asking in official tones whether they had all registered.

On the platform, among the blossoming plants and palms, were placed twelve chairs, all empty, when the president rapped for order, and the meeting began. Such rousing songs they sang, such uplifting words they read, such tender prayers they offered as they all prepared in spirit for the beautiful Thanksgiving services to follow. Each "Month," in turn, came to the platform and in a few words brought to all the claim of some needy portion of the great earth and its peoples to receive the gospel. No manuscript was used, but directly out of the heart of the need to the heart of the listener came the appeal. After not more than two minutes expended in presenting some one in the most telling and concise way possible the "Month" turned to the president of the year, saying, "To help supply the world's need, we who represent the month of January present our offering of Thanksgiving as we enter the twentieth century." As she finished she held out a great basket, all white and glistening, and four ladies who represented the weeks of the month came forward, and poured into her basket the white boxes which each had collected from the "days" assigned her. January, after placing her well-filled basket on the front of the platform, took her

seat; and February bearing a basket fluttering with tiny flags made her appeal, received the offering from her "weeks," and took her place. And so the beautiful procession moved along; April with her violets, June with her roses, November with a glowing yellow pumpkin, December bright with holly berries, and each one with some quaint or pretty conceit of her own.

When all the boxes were gathered the months poured them all into the lap of the year—though that had to be done figuratively after all, for no year had a lap ample enough to receive a quarter of the great heap of little white boxes.

After the women had all presented their offerings, there flocked to the platform the dear little kindergarten children bearing their offering and singing their sweet child-songs. They were followed by a delegation from the primary department bearing a tray heaped high with the little steamer-trunk boxes all packed for far-away lands.

After the reception of these gifts the whole society rose and sang, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," and then softly and reverently repeated together this covenant of obedience and service:

#### THE COVENANT.

Grateful that "I know that my Redeemer liveth,"—Mindful that vast millions of women and girls can never hear the "tidings of great joy," unless a Christian woman be sent to them,—

Remembering that Jesus made loving obedience and supreme test of discipleship, and that his last most solemn command was "Go teach all nations,"—

I gladly enter into this covenant of obedience; that I will not cease to make offerings of PRAYER, TIME, and MONEY, to the end that the daughters of sorrow in heathen lands may know the love of Jesus.

"The best meeting we ever had," said one member to another as they broke up into happy groups, chatting and shaking hands and examining the pretty baskets of the months. Why, I wonder? Did these facts help?

It was planned months before. It was well organized. Definite responsibility was given to many members. Short programme assignments were given to a large number. Each woman in the audience had her own representative in the exercises. The children had a part.

#### St. Martin's N. B.

At our May meeting of W. M. A. Society we had reading of "Tidings" as our usual custom is, and much we appreciate this little leaflet, bringing us as it does the latest intelligence from our field. These letters are an interesting connecting link we feel we could ill afford to do without. But an item on first page which read as follows, was what attracted my attention, and calls forth this little comment with the hope it may be somewhat of an incentive to renewed activity on the part of each.

"Note—Our societies will be anxious to know our financial standing at this date (April 21.) \$762.32 have been received for H. M., or \$115.19 less than at this time last year, and \$2986.53 for F. M., or \$432.71 less than last year. Let us carefully and prayerfully ponder these items."

What is the cause of this retrenchment in our financial affairs? Are we so sure that because God is the Prime Factor in the missionary movement therefore it is bound ultimately to succeed, and the nations that now sit in darkness shall hear the light of life even if we do slacken our gifts somewhat? Are we sure that we are giving of our increase in a measure that will satisfy even our dull consciences or that our divine guide can say of us, "She hath done what she could"? Are we sure that we are not robbing more than the mission cause when we hold with too tight a grip our purse strings? Are we not by this same act robbing our souls of one of the delights of Christian life? Have we ever dealt self to any great extent for the cause of missions? Or is it that some of us, passing it may be through peculiar trial this year, feel we are not as abundantly able to give for Christ's sake, forgetting that with the divine blessing resting upon our humble gifts they will be made mighty to the saving of souls now in darkness. Can it be that we have grown careless and in a measure have forgotten the vows renewed at Windsor of last August, viz., to go home and work during the coming year with greater earnestness than ever before, that our sisters of the far East may know of our Saviour and Redeemer? Do any of the above reasons reach your case and mine my sister? Do they solve the problem in the note of Treasurer? Our blessed privilege is to help in the mightiest enterprise that ever enlisted the sympathy of God and humanity even the redemption of a lost world. Greater honor could not be conferred than this. Praying and giving are mighty agencies. How far the former precedes the latter acceptably in God's sight are serious questions. Our convention year will soon close. Let each society stop and see if there is not some way we can do our share to make these receipts close our year more successfully than this third quarter of it close.

MAY 22nd, 1901.

A. A. G. FOWLER.

### Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

"The mission cause is the life-blood of the church. When the mission spirit in any church dies, the church itself is doomed to die. When the mission spirit in any Christian heart dies, the usefulness and happiness of that Christian life has come to an end. Well has it been said that the church without the mission spirit is not a church at all, but a chattering, ghostly, grinning skeleton, without flesh or life or blood."—Ex.

The weeks are gliding past very rapidly. Just a little more than two months and the books of the Treasurer for Denominational Funds must close. There are a large number of churches that have not yet reported. The writer is not prepared to speak for other interests, but he knows that the Foreign Mission Board will need every dollar the friends of missions can put into their treasury. A very large offering ought to be made in the next two months. Somebody has said, "Every Baptist who fails to make a contribution to missions for this conventional year will lose an opportunity for serving God of unspeakable magnitude. No Christian whose heart is right will be content to let a whole year go by without giving of his means for the conversion of the world. Poverty will not keep us from giving. There is only one thing that ever keeps a Christian from giving to missions, and that is his lack of interest in the mission cause."

Little things count when used for God, and blessed by him for his service. A good sister who wanted to give something for missions was greatly troubled because she knew of no way of raising any money about actual needs. She had been taking in a little money by selling butter-milk to the neighbors. So she prayed over the matter and decided to give the proceeds of her sales for one week to missions. To her surprise she sold twice as much that week as ever before. When we attempt anything for God he magnifies it. Be not discouraged if you have but one talent. Use it, trusting to God for increase.

The preacher has a twofold relation to the work of missions. He has first of all his relation to the work as a Christian and as God's steward, entrusted with his Lord's money. In addition to that, he has the large responsibility of properly informing those under his care and influence as to the work itself, and then exhorting them to their duty concerning it. Every one of our pastors ought to be worth to the cause of missions twenty times as much in money as his own contribution. When our pastors and people reflect upon the eternal interests involved, certainly every heart will respond to the claims the lost world has upon us. There are some who will read these words who will never have another opportunity of making a sacrifice for Jesus. There are some preachers whose eyes will scan these lines who will never have another chance to press the mission cause upon the hearts of their people. There are some church members into whose homes this paper goes who are well-to-do and yet they feel that they are too poor to give much of anything to God's suffering cause. They will be dead before another call is made on them for money for this world-wide work, and their children will be wasting what was left of their estate. They think they are economizing, but they are robbing God. Brethren, beloved in Christ, the greatest sin that is now laid at our door is the meagreness of our doing and giving for the salvation of a lost world. The Baptists of these Maritime Provinces ought to give for the great work of world-wide evangelization what is now given for all our denominational interests. We have never yet given of our means to the salvation of the lost as though we believed that the world was lost, and that salvation can only come to them through the proclamation of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Catarrh

is a constitutional disease.

It originates in a serofulous condition of the blood and depends on that condition.

It often causes headache and dizziness, impairs the taste, smell and hearing, affects the vocal organs and disturbs the stomach.

It afflicted Mrs. Hiram Shires, Batchelorville, N. Y., twenty consecutive years, deprived her of the sense of smell, made her breathing difficult, and greatly affected her general health.

She testifies that after she had taken many other medicines for it without lasting effect it was judiciously and permanently cured, her sense of smell restored, and her general health greatly improved, by

## Hood's Sarsaparilla

This great medicine has wrought the most wonderful cures of catarrh, according to testimonials voluntarily given. Try it.