

# PALM ✻ BRANCH.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH.

ST. JOHN, N. B.

S. E. SMITH, . . . . . EDITOR.  
 SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, . . . . . 20 CENTS A YEAR.  
 FOR CLUBS OF TEN OR MORE TO ONE ADDRESS, 10c. EACH A YEAR.

All Band reports and notes must be sent through the Branch Band Corresponding Secretaries.

All other articles intended for publication, all subscription orders with the money, must now be sent to

MISS S. E. SMITH,  
 282 Princess Street,  
 St. John, N. B.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JANUARY, 1899

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our readers.

Will not one Band Corresponding Secretaries, and indeed all the members of our Society, take an interest in our Mission Band Paper this year and canvass for it as they have opportunity?

Will they not also bear in mind that nothing would so cheer the heart of an Editor as a pile of contributions laid up for use in the near future?

We congratulate our sister society in the United States upon entering on its 30th anniversary. The little seed planted that rainy March afternoon in Tremont St. Church, Boston, nearly thirty years ago, has borne precious fruit. The Society now numbers 151,865 members, supporting 175 missionaries. The receipts amount this year to \$328,488, an increase of \$14,000 over last year. The total receipts for 29 years have been \$4,668,859 87, and results not to be tabulated.

A kind friend in Hamilton has sent us the January Field Study and for want of space we have been obliged to put it on Editorial page. She will forgive us when we tell her that we are delighted to have so good an Editorial.

In our October number, in a short sketch of Miss Cartmell's pioneer work in Japan. this statement occurs: "After earnest entreaty she consented to teach a class of young men English, twice a week, on condition that they attend her Bible Class on Sunday. The result was that they were all converted before the end of the year." Miss Cartmell says: "I wish that were true. It is true that God sent his Spirit upon that English class and I do not believe one young man failed to hear His voice. But some made promises and ran well for a time, while others counted the cost and turned back. Will you tell your readers that I still mourn over a goodly number who love this present world too well to cast in their lot with the people of God! Plead for special prayer that these dear young men may be brought

to Christ. Some time ago I was mentioning some of them by name to a Japanese minister who I hope will look after them when he returns. May he not forget. May he find favour and be used of God in leading them to Himself. Will they not pray that the power of the Holy Spirit may rest upon the young Japanese pastor and leading Christians who look back to that early English Class, as the time and place when they were drawn to Christ"

## FIELD STUDY FOR JANUARY.

"That increased spiritual power may come to the Church at home and abroad, and that secret believers may be taught of the Spirit."

Closing behind us the door of the old year and standing upon the threshold of a new one, this subject comes to us with reverent thoughts and longing hearts and we earnestly ask the question: How are we to obtain this increased power? The answer comes to us—1st, By giving ourselves to God and letting Him take us, not only our possessions but our whole selves, by doing what He would like us to do and not what we want to do. 2nd, By finding out from God's Word just what He requires of us and what He will do for us, by believing His every word, and by a continual asking for this blessing. 3rd, By using the power which we already have, by improving our opportunities for doing good, no matter how small, remembering that there is a place which only we can fill, kind words which only we can say, and kind deeds which only we can do.

Again the question comes, How shall this power influence us at home and thus help the work abroad? 1st, By giving us new thoughts of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by presenting to us more clearly the beauty of His character and example. 2nd, By giving us a more constant victory over self and sin, making us more patient, gentle and unselfish. 3rd, By providing new power for daily service, a larger influence, a greater love for God and our neighbor, and an abiding in Christ. 4th, By removing our doubts and fears and giving us a more childlike trust.

This power spoke through Peter, in his wonderful sermon, on the day when three thousand souls were saved.

A Syrian lady once said: "You cannot understand what it is to be a Christian in my country. You have every help, to us it means persecution and often banishment from home and friends."

Let us not forget to ask for a blessing upon all workers abroad, so rich and full, that the heathen may be more speedily brought to Christ, and that light and help may come to those who must hide the Word in their hearts.

## QUESTIONS FOR JANUARY.

- 1 } How are we to obtain this Spiritual power?
- 2 }
- 3 }
- 4 }
- 5 } How shall the increased power benefit us?
- 6 }
- 7 }
8. Give an instance of its working.
9. What was said by a Syrian lady?
10. What should our prayer be?

Hamilton.

B. G.