

## Home Circle.

### The Flower Mission.

The season's work has closed. The buds and blossoms and fading flowers teach us many a useful lesson. Lessons which if rightly heeded will draw out our aspirations for that land where everlasting spring abides and never withering flowers. Already the cold mists of a coming winter, have smitten the gardens and our supply of flowers is cut off, but we rejoice to know through the work of the past season, the flowers have been made useful in teaching that, *Love* is the sweetest bud that blooms, and from the flower of the field instruction has been gathered, unto the eternal salvation of souls. We aim to comfort and cheer the body, and thus preach Jesus. Over 1800 bunches have been circulated. As intimated last issue a monthly visit is planned for the hospital and poor house to distribute papers, magazines, etc. If you have any that have done you service, please forward them to us and we can make them the medium of whiling away many an hour otherwise tedious in the extreme. The poor house of Halifax is the old diseased penitentiary, and they are surrounded with all the brightness and inspiration likely to be found in such an institution. We are persuaded if men and women are lifted to a higher level of life, they need to be surrounded by the inspiration which comes from true gospel charity.

Doubtless there are God's poor and the devil's poor, it is hard to distinguish at all times. We do well, not to judge harshly those who have sinned and fallen; sin in rags may be more disgraceful and repulsive in our sight, than when covered and hidden by the flash of gold, the rustle of silk and shine of broad cloth. But in the sight of God, *sin is sin*. Our hint about apples has been taken, and we have received two barrels for which we thank Mrs. Mu-grave of Aylesford and Miss Barss. We should be glad to hear some one say, more to follow; if they are not the best they will not be severely criticised where we take them. Mrs. Morrow, North-West Arm, piece of cotton for an old lady. Papers from Miss Wyman.

Since the first proof came from the printers we have received a letter from Miss M. C. Barss, of Wolfville, from which we make a few extracts. "My sister has greatly enjoyed sending text and flowers for the mission," in your cash acknowledgment you said, when the flowers are done, could you not glean a little fruit for us. My sister asked three young ladies in my Sunday School Class if they would not like to try and collect a barrel of apples. They gladly undertook it, and send you for distribution among sick and poor as you may see fit three barrels of apples. I trust they will give comfort to some who are deprived of many blessings we enjoy. My Sunday School Class pays freight to Richmond. We thank you for the hint; we all enjoyed the gleaning for this good work.

This winter we plan to have CARD PARTIES for the young ladies of our Sunday School Class, *i. e.* to prepare text cards for next summer's *Flower Mission*. We thank the young ladies Misses Edith and Minnie Chipman, and Miss Ida Jones for gathering the apples. Last week we took a barrel and a half to the poor house. Never shall we forget the pleasure that

sparkled in many eyes, and the glad expressions of thankfulness. Remarking, I suppose you do not often get apples out here? one said, with a look of surprise, 'Lor' sir, we never do? which do you like best, apples or the flowers? We like them both, *but the apples is such a treat*. One said, 'they smell just like the apples did when I was a girl!'

Could my dear young friends who sent see the eager recipients, they would never forget it. Some are blind and toothless, but it was a surprise to see how soon they tried to taste. Others hid them as if too precious to consume at once. Even the poor lunatics seemed to understand their worth. In each ward the distributors prayed that God's blessing might be added, and that all might meet in God's Eden and partake of the all manner of fruits, and whilst here be comforted with the spiritual apples of a Saviour's love.

### Tabernacle Notes.

Baptised October 5th, one; received by letter, two; October 26, one. There are evidence of the Spirit's moving power in our midst. It is shown, not only by increased congregations, but by souls enquiring more fully of the way. Looking toward the needed and ultimate erection of the upper story, the brethren, unsuggested by the pastor, are moving and planning to clear off the debt or the lot, by dividing it up into small pieces and selling and thus paying for the land by giving many a share. Strange, since writing, a letter comes from Miss S., U. States enquiring, has any effort been made since I left towards paying off the debt on the building lot? I am anxious to hear of something being done and will if possible try and send a few dollars, before very long.

Few pastors after nearly ten year's service in one pulpit are permitted to hear such a spontaneous expression of love, esteem respect and honor as fell from the lips of the brethren present at our last quarterly church meeting. The pastor made reference to an invitation recently received from New York, to show that he stayed in Halifax not for gain, but because the Lord evidently wills to continue the work, long since so providentially commenced. It was encouraging to hear the brethren scout the idea of a removal, and express by unanimous vote their desire. That if God wills you may not only be our pastor for another ten or twenty years, but until death, for we love you better to-day than ten years ago. We can only say, by God's grace, tongue and pen shall be even more diligent, if possible, in the future to prove our appreciation of such confidence and love.

*Personal Kindness.* Thanks to Mr. Reed of Avonport for barrel of apples and roll of butter. Mrs. Estano, pair chickens.

*Our Sabbath School* plans to have a share in clearing the lot. The Young Men's Bible Class, conducted by Mr. W. Davies, presented him on the anniversary of his wedding-day with a very handsome silver ice-water pitcher with a suitable inscription. We rejoice to note the growth of this class, and that the young men are so united in their esteem for their teacher.

"Buds and Blossoms," is the name of a charming magazine, issued monthly by Rev. J. F. Avery, Halifax, N. S., at 75 cents a year. It is pure in tone, elevating in character, and refining in every way. We must heartily recommend it to our readers who desire to have the best religious literature in their home, feeling sure they will thank us for calling their attention to it.—*Cottage Hearth*, Boston, U. S.

### Olive Branches.

Birth, Oct. 21st, the wife of Mr. Bartlow, a daughter. Oct. 6th, the wife of Rev. W. Swaffield of a son.

### Orange Blossoms.

Married, Oct. 22nd, William Myers to Jessie Hubley, both of Halifax, at Mizpah Cottage. Oct. 22nd, Ebenezer Hashman to Annie Johnson, both of St. Margaret's Bay, N. S.