

WHO SHOULD GIVE? WHY? AND
WHEN?

Who should give? Why everybody;
Everyone has gifts received.
Everyone should spread good tidings,
Till the whole world has believed.

Why? you ask me. Surely, surely,
There are reasons, and to spare;
Christ commands it, love demands it.
Hands *must* give, if true hearts *care*.

When to give? Oh, what a question.
Hear the answer: Now, *now*, NOW!
Give with love, and faith: give freely,
Jesus Christ will show you how.

—C. M. F.

FIELD STUDY FOR MAY.

CHINA AND THE CHINESE.

CHINA—"The Flowery Kingdom" sometimes called "The Celestial Empire" whose records date back to the time of Abraham, is arousing ever-increasing interest in the civilized world of today.

It is difficult for us to realize its marvellous size. It is one-third larger than all of Europe, and eighteen times as large as the British Isles. Its population is variously estimated at from three hundred and fifty to four hundred millions. If all the people in the world should march in single file every fourth person would be a Chinese. When we realize how few of all this multitude have ever heard of a Saviour's love, our hearts go out in earnest desire to hasten the glad time spoken of by Isaiah: "Behold, these shall come from far: and lo, these from the north and from the west: and these from the land of Sinim."

Such alarming rumors of riot and rebellion have recently reached us, that our thoughts and prayers have been very constantly with our dear lady missionaries in China, Miss Brackbill, Miss Brooks, Dr. Maud Killam, and Miss Foster. Still their letters come to us as full of hopefulness and courage as ever. At one time, they had their valuables packed, ready for hasty removal, for several weeks, not knowing the hour when all their property might be destroyed and possibly their lives taken. Wicked men posted up placards against foreigners and circulated a rumor that the missionaries ate children and could see thirty Chinese feet into the ground, besides many other unpleasant reports. However, the Chinese officials have done their utmost to quiet all rioting, posting favorable placards on the walls of our Mission property, and stationing soldiers outside to protect them from harm. But, best of all, the all watchful Eye of Him who never slumbers nor sleeps is caring for them, and will keep them in perfect peace.

The "Jennie Ford" Home, providing for fifteen in-

mates, has been finished and opened. Five little waifs have been sheltered therein, the last one rescued from the street, being a half starved baby, three or four months old, left in the gutter by its cruel parents, to die of cold and hunger. One little baby has left this "Home" for its Heavenly one, and is the first to greet her in whose memory the Home was established.

Medical work is also being carried on. Four pleasant rooms in the hospital have been fitted up for use, and during the first three months five hundred and seventy-four treatments were given, besides visits made to the houses, and two patients received into the hospital.

Miss Foster is kept very busy nursing, never being without a patient, and also with evangelistic work. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest that He may send forth laborers unto His Harvest."

Ont.

A. C. W.

QUESTIONS FOR MAY.

What is China called and how far back does it date? Has the world any interest in it today?

What is its size compared with Europe? With the British Isles?

What is its population? What illustration is given?

How do we feel when we think of their darkness?

What has made us think much of our lady missionaries in China just now, and why do we pray more than ever for them?

What are the names of our missionaries there, and what is said of their letters at this time?

What dangers threatened them and what preparation did they make?

What reports were circulated against foreigners?

How did the Chinese officials act in this crisis?

To whom are their thanks chiefly due?

What is said of the Jennie Ford Home?

Will you describe the little ones sheltered there?

What work is also being carried on there?

How much work of this kind has been done?

What good work does Miss Foster do?

What Bible verse applies to China?

In an interesting interview, reported in The Methodist Recorder, Mr. Baring-Gould was asked, "What was the origin of your great hymn, 'Onward, Christian Soldiers'?" "I'll tell you that," he replied. "When I was a curate I had charge of a mission at Horbury, one mile from Wakefield, and one Whitsuntide my vicar wanted me to bring all the Sunday-school children up to the mother church for a great festival. 'Well,' I thought, 'there's that mile to tramp, what shall I do with them on the way? All of a sudden it struck me, 'I'll write them a hymn.' And I did. It was all done in about ten minutes. I set it to one of Haydn's tunes, and the children sang it on the way to church. I thought no more about it and expected the hymn would be no more heard of."