

much of this world's goods, but have a *mind to work*, and such always succeed. Mr. Churchill preached to them on Sabbath morning, and spoke on missions on Sabbath and Monday evenings. There are only about 30 resident members in the church, but a W. M. A. S. of eight members was formed, and six new subscribers for the LINK obtained, and good collections given at each meeting.

One little girl felt so anxious to do something for the poor heathen children that she came bringing her "Christmas present," a gold dollar, and gave to us to help carry the Gospel to them. We would like to trace the influences set at work by this gift, both on the little girl herself, and on those to whom it was sent. Perhaps in Heaven we may be permitted to do so.

### Important Questions.

"How shall we interest all the sisters of the churches?" "How shall we interest all the churches?" are the ever-recurring questions in our work. Surely, we may bring to our aid every agency that is right and good, and among others is a social influence that may formulate itself into sisterly visiting. Let each circle appoint from quarter to quarter or half-yearly some of its number as a visiting committee, from whom every sister in the church shall receive, not an official, professional visit, but a genuine, social, church call that shall bring the giver and receiver into nearer Christian relations to each other. The work of the church, its mission work, and the news from our missions will naturally enough form a part of the conversation; and you may be sure that the ladies who visit will have some message to bring to the next missionary prayer-meeting, some new faces will be among you, and a new cord of sympathy will be felt drawing together those who before this have felt themselves personally strangers, perhaps. Many of us may never have known the feeling of the "stranger,"—these have been spared the reading of one of life's dreary pages,—there are many who do know it; many may have long been with us and yet not have felt themselves "of us." Reach out to every such possible one cordial hands and hearts in greeting. Thorough, loving church visitation will help our work for the perishing beyond the sea.

An associational committee can greatly aid the secretary in visiting among the churches. Not *always* is it best to ask for a meeting at which we may "talk to the sisters of missions," but go to some sewing meeting, Sabbath-school gathering, or other assembly of the sisters where you may secure a little time for telling them about the work that God is doing by women for women in heathen lands; and can you find on our home field a church in which there is not some heart responsive? If the church be weak, enter into its burdens and discouragements, and encouragement will come back to you and the cause you plead. Thorough church visitation and thorough associational visitation will do much to bring our work into the heart sympathy of all our sisters and all our churches. May the day of this precious result be hastened!—*Helping Hand*.

### A Good Idea.

In the *Helping Hand* a friend writes: "We have had three basket meetings of our own mission circle. We carry our supper, with a napkin, cup and spoon (boarding-school fashion); and only tea or coffee, sugar and milk are provided by the hostess. . . . This plan does away with any burden of dish and napkin washing. Last week, after we had our meeting, I read to the ladies from "Pagoda Shadows," while they sewed. It works well."

### For the Children—Uledi and his Substitutes.

The poor Africans are much abused, and often treated as if they had no noble elements of character, and were more like animals than men. Mr. Stanley tells a story which shows quite the contrary. In his heroic journey across Africa with his faithful band of followers, he arrived at Mowa, on the Congoriver, sad, weary and anxious; for they had little left, and their supply of beads and cloth for buying things of the natives was nearly used up. He was therefore much distressed, one day, to discover that a large bag had been opened, and nearly all the beads stolen! and still more grieved to find, on enquiry, that the culprit was Uledi, the coxswain of the boat—a brave, generous man, much beloved by the others, several of whom he had rescued from drowning.

A council was called to determine what should be done to the man who had committed such a crime, and at such a time, when the lives of all depended on these stores. "It is a hard case," said Manwa Sera, when urged to give his views on the matter; "for this is Uledi, whom we all love; had it been another, I would have said we should hang a great stone to his neck, and pitch him into the river. But it is Uledi; let him receive a thorough flogging, to deter others from repeating the crime." Many agreed to this, and cried out for "flogging." Then Stanley turned to the boat's crew, and said, "Now, you boys, who know Uledi so well, and have followed him through a hundred rough scenes, speak, what shall be done with him?" Mpwawpa, one of the most reliable and steady men, replied: "Well, Master it is a hard question, Uledi is like our elder brother; but I think he should be beaten—only, master, for our sakes, beat him *just a little!*" Another, who had special reason to be grateful to the culprit, assented to this, but added touchingly, "Remember, it is Uledi." Shumari, Uledi's younger brother, a kind-hearted boy, was next appealed to, and, after pleading earnestly, concluded by saying, "But please, master, as the chiefs say he must be flogged, *give me half of it*; and knowing it is for Uledi's sake, I shall not feel it." Last of all, the question was put to Saywa, his cousin, who threw himself at Stanley's feet, and said, "The master is wise: all things that happen he writes in a book. The master forgets nothing. Perhaps if he looks in his book he may see something about Uledi: how he saved many men: how he worked harder than any; how he has been the first to listen to your voice always; how he has been the father of the boat-boys. Uledi is my cousin. If, as the chiefs think, he must be punished, Shumari says he will take half the punishment, *then give Saywa the other half, and set Uledi free!*" Stanley could not but consent to these touching requests, and said, "Uledi, by the voice of the people is condemned; *but as Shumari and Saywa have promised to take the punishment on themselves, Uledi is free!*" and feeling unable to punish the two substitutes, added, "Shumari and Saywa are pardoned." Uledi, on being released, came forward penitent and humbled by the conduct of the two generous-hearted boys. "It was the devil which entered into Uledi's heart. Uledi will be good in future; and if he pleased his master before, he will please his master much more in time to come."

"Thus Jesus took the sinner's place,

To set the sinner free:

And God provided, by His grace,

A substitute for me.

Then, Lord, released from Satan's power,

In humble, joyful love,

Help me to serve Thee every hour,

My gratitude to prove."