

"MISSIONARY LINK"

In the interest of the Baptist Foreign Mission Societies of Canada.

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"The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."—Is. lx. 3.

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The Canadian Missionary Link.

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All Foreign Mission Societies, as far as we are aware, eventually find it necessary to a due maintenance and spread of interest in their work, and to aid in carrying on their business, to have papers devoted to their interests exclusively. We need not stop to ask why this is the case. It is sufficient to note this fact as the outcome of the experience of the Christian world in modern times in the work of Foreign Missions. We Canadian Baptists are not likely to find out any thing new in this respect, but rather to come to a consensus with those who were in this great work before us.

We have found a wide-spread desire for something of the kind which we hope this little monthly may become. Our experience in agency work has been somewhat extensive, and we can heartily concur with Bro. Boggs when he exclaims, "Oh when are we to have the paper. The crying need we have seen for something of this kind among the churches." Nearly two years ago, Rev. J. L. Campbell, now of Montreal, spoke in one of his letters about the necessity of a paper of the kind now presented. The Women's Board at Toronto last summer appointed Mrs. Freeland as an editor for their Board, and requested us to lay the matter before the Board in Montreal, and also before the Boards of the Maritime Provinces. The plan was to have each Board take a share in the paper, and furnish a proportion of the funds to carry on the paper, and get as much of the expense back as they could by subscriptions. This plan fell through, as the Boards did not think they were justified in using their funds in this way. They all wanted the paper, but felt that it would have to be independent of any pecuniary help from the several Ladies' Boards—that is, that it must be a *private effort*. Dr. Cramp, Mr. and Mrs. Seldon, Dr. Tupper, Mrs. March, Mrs. Alloway, Mrs. Humphrey, and many others whom we could mention, have warmly seconded the effort to start a paper. The Baptists of the Maritime Provinces and of the Western Provinces are joined in mission-work in India. It is highly desirable that we should know more of and be more interested in each other's work than we are likely to be by any present arrangement. Very few copies of the denominational papers of the Maritime Provinces reach the upper provinces, and the same is true of the papers of the west reaching the east. We trust this little sheet may be only a first

LINK of stronger ties that hereafter may bind us all from the Atlantic to the Pacific, in closer Christian effort and work.

The paper would have been started before, but for the difficulty we have met in obtaining editorial oversight. This difficulty is now happily met.

The plan for the paper is this. We send out this sample copy and solicit subscribers. If the subscription list reaches 1000, the paper will be permanently started. Otherwise we will consider that the denomination as a whole do not desire it, and will let the matter drop. *The price will be 25c. per year, payable in advance.* Circles sending will oblige us much if they will send in clubs, as it will save much trouble to those who take up this work as a labor of love. Dear friends, attend to this matter at once on receipt of this specimen copy, so that we may get out a number for August, &c., &c. We ask the sympathy and aid of our denominational organs East and West, feeling sure that they will not see in this little inexpensive monthly a rival, but their humble helper, who will induce in many of its readers a desire for what they do not now have—a good denominational paper.

Of course the paper will be much more interesting when we get contributions, notices, appeals, &c., coming in from Sidney to Winnipeg, and from all our stations in India.

A. V. TIMPANY.

OUR AIMS.

At home our efforts should be directed to having a "Ladies Circle" in every church. A monthly missionary prayer meeting on the first regular prayer meeting of the month. Every Sabbath School doing something for this object. And last but not least, a *canvass* of every church great or small once a year for funds for the General F. Mission Work. When this is done will we have exceeded the last command of Christ?

WOMEN AND MISSIONS

The Women's Board of Missions, Congregationalist U. S. A. has just closed another year, the tenth, of its life and labour, and presents a record of growth as gratifying to its friends as it will be alarming to its critics. The important statistics for the year are these: At home, 16 branches, 8 conference associations and more than 4,000 mission circles; abroad, 67 missionaries, 58 Bible readers and 49 village and day schools; subscriptions and donations, \$66,813.06; other receipts, \$17,817.71. The individual reports from the several schools are all highly encouraging.

ARE MISSIONS A FAILURE?

Mr. Clough, of Ongole, writing in December last, stated that at one time there were fifteen-hundred asking for baptism. Can we take in the picture of fifteen-hundred men and women who had cast away their idols, gathered in the mission compound seeking "this way." One preacher stated that he turned back *four-hundred* who had started for Ongole for baptism. Mr. Clough had sent out a circular, stating that owing to the hard times, prevalence of disease, and pressure of work, the people were not to be requested to come in then, yet fifteen-hundred came. The church at Ongole, we presume, at this time is the largest Baptist Church in the world. Eleven years ago there was one christian in the place.

Mr. Drake who went to the new field of Kurnool less than two years since has been baptizing large numbers.

THE LARGE HEARTS OF OUR FATHERS

There are some at the present day who cry out "Foreign Missions are expensive." In the memoir of that great missionary, John Chamberlain, we read that the outfit and passage of Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain from England to Calcutta was £435 19s. 1½d. They came by way of America, and at that time, early in this century, no vessel from England dare take out missionaries to India. Money was worth more then than now, and the society was financially weak; yet the noble fathers of modern missions persevered and laid well the foundation of the present rapid christianization of India. We, their sons, can now send by way of England missionaries for a good deal less than half of the sum mentioned above. Shall we then, when God is gathering tens of thousands to the cross of Christ, complain? "God forbid."

OUR PRESSING NEEDS.

Do we ask too much for new work among the spiritually blind *millions* of north Telingana when we appeal to sixty-five thousand Baptists for \$20,000? That brethren and sisters is what we need. Ten thousand for the Maritime Provinces, and the same for the West. For the East by August, and for the West by the middle of October, we must have the sums named sent to the several treasurers.

Fiji was once the symbol of cannibalism. At the present time there is one island with 10,000 people, in every house of which, family prayer is observed.