

The Best Gift.

For the Link.

If the boys and girls who will read this could gather around my chair to-night, for a talk with their old friend Sister Belle, many would be telling of precious gifts received or expected. Better still, many would tell of the loving gifts they had prepared for others, and I hope not a few would talk of opening their mission boxes, and sending the gathered pennies to India. Hundreds of boys and girls in that far off land, never had a gift at Christmas or New Years; and oh, so many of them have never heard about Jesus, God's "unspeakable gift" to our world.

At this season of the year, when our own land is so full of joyous hours, happy meetings, and many blessings, let us not forget those heathen children dying without the Bible. A missionary in China has written a touching little story something like this: One night, when he was returning from services in the mission chapel, a very small boy stopped him on his way home. Thinking that the little fellow had been sent for medicine for somebody, the missionary spoke kindly to him and asked what he wanted. Looking up in the kind face bending over him, the ragged, forlorn little boy answered, "Give me Jesus." Again the loving missionary asked him if he had understood him, if he did not want food or clothing, but still the eager answer came, "Give me Jesus! I want Jesus!" and the missionary's heart was made glad once more in telling of Jesus, the children's Saviour.

This little boy had probably attended some meetings either in the chapel or outdoors, for those who leave our land to spend their lives in teaching the heathen about the true God, hold meetings wherever and whenever they can get people to listen. Though not understanding the full meaning of all that he had heard, the frequent mention of Jesus had made the child see in Him the best Gift.

How is it with you dear boys and girls? Many of you have been hearing about Jesus for several years. Have you loved Him better than all else? Are you among His followers, marching under his banner, obeying His commandments? or, is it still your intention to be a Christian sometime, but not just now? If pennies we have given are blessed by God, and made the means of bringing heathen children from serving idols, to worship Jesus Christ, and if these little ones who all their lives have been in darkness, commence this New Year by following Jesus, will you be left behind? unsaved still, and not real Christians, while rejoicing in the blessings of a Christian land!

Dear boys and girls, if you would have a happy New Year and many of them, let the request of this little Chinese boy be yours to-night, and the Jesus that saved him will make and keep you safe forever.

SISTER BELLE.

480 Lewis Street, Ottawa.

WOODSTOCK.—The Woodstock Mission Band of "Willing Workers" is still in existence. We raised during the last year, \$27 for the support of Pannati David and wife, \$25 of the same being used to make our President, Mrs. McAlpine, a life member. On Feb. 27, 1885, we held an open meeting at which we raised \$10. On May 7, our fifth annual meeting was held, when we raised \$37.60. And on Oct. 30, there was an "after tea" social held by the church, at which our band supplied the programme, which was a grand success, our collections amounting to \$13.25.

We have a membership of fifty-four, thirteen of whom

are boys. We hold our meetings on the last Saturday of each month, when we have a programme provided bearing on missionary work and a very enjoyable time is spent. Hoping these lines may encourage some other Band, I remain, yours truly,

IDA CLIFFORD,
Secretary of Mission Band.

So acute an observer as Sir Ri hard Temple, formerly Lieutenant-Governor of India, asserts that by the means of female education and the Zenana Missions, a change, full of promise and hope, is coming over the position and prospects of the female population of that country.

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WOMEN'S BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

Receipts from Nov. 24th, to Dec. 20th inclusive.

Manitow, Man., Mrs. A. A. Watson, 760; 2nd Markham M. C., \$3; Cheltenham M. C., \$2; Aylmer M. C., \$25; Guelph M. B., \$8; Cheltenham M. B., \$1.16; Collection at Union Meeting, Bloor Street, Toronto, \$18.60; Toronto, College St. M. B., \$1; ditto M. C., \$7; Orillia M. C., \$15; Ingersoll (Coll. at annual meeting), \$16; Toronto, Jarvis St. M. C., 47.80; Woodstock M. C., \$22.50; Thedford M. C., \$2; Maple Grove M. B., \$3; London, Talbot St. M. C., \$22.55; Point Edward M. C., \$4.45; Mount Brydges M. C., \$2; Parkhill M. C., \$2; Collection at annual meeting St. Catharines, \$9.60. Total, \$211.71.

JESSIE L. ELLIOTT, Treas.,

267 Sherbourne St., Toronto.

W. B. FOR. MISS. SOCIETY OF EASTERN ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

Receipts from Oct. 8th to Dec. 21st.

Perth, \$5; Osnabrock, \$14; St Andrews, \$11; Barnston, \$15; Olivet (Montreal), \$13. Total, \$58.

Address—

M. A. SMITH, Treas.,

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The Canadian Missionary Link.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT TORONTO.

Subscription 25c. per annum, strictly in advance.

Communications, Orders and Remittances to be sent to Mrs. M. A. New-man, 112 Yorkville Avenue, Toronto.

Subscribers will find the dates when their subscriptions expire on the printed address labels of their papers.

Dudley & Burns, Printers, 11 Colborne St., Toronto.