

praying for!" Do you think that dear little child appeals in vain for help for India?

No! Already much has been done for India, and more is being constantly done. Christ loves the little ones of India as well as you, and He is putting it into the hearts of many good men and women to care for them. He is also raising up native workers such as the Pundita Ramabia, whose labors in behalf of the widows has been so grandly blessed. He is putting it into the heart of our good Queen and her counsellors to make more righteous laws for its government.

The Methodist Church of the United States is doing grand educational and evangelistic work there, as well as other churches. We Canadian Methodists, have no mission there as yet, but that need not hinder our prayers. Surely we cannot look into the sad, earnest face of the little child before us and not pray more fervently than ever for the little ones of India.

OUR INFLUENCE AND WHAT IT WILL DO—AN OBJECT LESSON.

BY MRS. ANNIE E. SMILLY.

Twelve small colored candles represent twelve children, and are stood upright in a row on the table or desk. (If each candle is warmed and placed in an individual butter plate, candlesticks will not be needed.) The leader of the meeting holds up one little candle, which he lights, and then says: "This represents a selfish little boy, who wants to shine just for himself." He then places the lighted candle apart from the others and covers it with a two quart glass fruit jar. "We will leave him shining for himself, and will see what this little girl will do," the leader says, lighting a pretty pink candle.

"This little girl wants to live for others," the leader continues, "so she begins by lighting all the other candles from her own light," and, suiting the action to the word, all the candles are lighted by the pink candle.

All in the row are now brightly burning, and the leader turns his attention to the selfish little boy: "Why, what is the matter with him?" the leader asks. The children look and answer at once, "His light is gone out." This exercise teaches its own lesson, a lesson that children will not soon forget. Mrs. Powell's illustration teaches another important lesson in connection with our topic. A sickly-looking geranium plant in a pot is brought into the meeting. Its leaves are few and small; it makes no pretensions to blossoms or even beauty.

"What is the matter with the plant?" the leader asks. "It needs water," one child may say. "It has been out in the cold," another guesses; but the leader says: "It is dying for want of sunshine. It has been put away under a bench in the greenhouse and the influence it needed for its life and growth has been lacking. It would soon die unless brought out into the sunlight."

So we see by these two object lessons that our mission in the world is to shine, and that we cannot shine until we have first been shined upon.—The Epworth Herald.

SUGGESTIONS FOR MISSION CIRCLES.

A Missionary Item Match.

Here is the way some young people of a wide-awake mission band amused themselves, and yet made some money, too, for missions:

They had what they called a Missionary Item Match. It was conducted somewhat like the old-fashioned spelling match. One month beforehand a selection was made of a mission country as a subject. At the meeting, sides were chosen, and then the exercises were conducted as follows: "After the sides are arranged opposite each other, the choosers, first upon one side and then upon the other, give an item—no matter how short—about the country or mission which is the topic of the day, and so proceed all the way down the lines. The first one that fails to recall an item moves out of the ranks. The side that longer keeps one or more in place has the privilege of choosing the subject for the next time. We have this year in this way studied the Indians, also some other fields. One of our little boys came one day primed and loaded with three hundred items, which he had gathered from missionary magazines, geography, encyclopedias, etc. Of course no item can be given twice."

The leader, who gave this account, adds: "I felt particularly glad to have found something over which the boys, as well as the girls, were enthusiastic."

A small admission fee can be charged, and thus a sum be raised for the mission cause.—Exchange.

MITE BOXES.

It is only a *Mite Box*, yet handle with care;

Weave round it a setting of faith and of prayer,
Then cast in thy offering, though small it may be;
If pure is thy motive, thy Saviour will see.

'Tis only a *Mite Box*, not much will it hold—
Some pennies and nickels, but not often gold;
Yet Jesus will add His own blessing, I know,
As forth on its mission of love it shall go.

Tho' only a *Mite Box*, a power it shall be
In scattering the leaves of the world-healing tree;
And oh! what a song at the harvest we'll sing
With those who are singing to-day with our King.

Then guard well the *Mite Box*, and gather, with prayer
The crumbs that lie scattered about, here and there;
Like stars they will shine in thy crown by and by;
When thou shalt have entered thy home in the sky.

—H. M. Echo.

Suggested Programme for Mission Bands—August.

Announce Subject, African and Jewish Missions.

1. Opening Hymn—"Onward Christian Soldiers"
2. Scripture Reading, 1 Cor., 13 Chapter.
3. Lord's Prayer in concert.
4. Roll Call—Answered by verse of Scripture.
5. Unfinished Business, Reports, Etc.
6. Singing—"In the Harvest Field." (Dominion Hymnal).
7. Questions on Field Study in this No.
8. Singing—"Move Forward."
9. Map exercise on Africa, "Four and twenty Blackbirds," Room 20.
10. Singing—"Throw Out the Life Line," (Dominion Hymnal).
11. Mizpath Benediction.

Room 20 and the Depots at Sackville, N. B., and Winnipeg, Man., will be closed during the month of August, as usual. Please send all orders before the 26th of July.