

"Some work of love begun,
Something for Thee,"

The weary days dragged on, and as it became colder, Mary began to get weaker, and her work progressed very slowly, but still she worked a little each day, until just about two weeks before she died, the four little mats were done. She waited anxiously for Mrs. Stewart to come back, and was so glad to see her when she came the very next day. The little mats had been sold, and Mrs. Stewart had come to get them and give her the money. How joyfully she gave the money back to Mrs. Stewart. "Had you not better keep what is over your yearly fee? You may need it for something else," said Mrs. Stewart, but they insisted that it should all go to the Mission Band. It meant much for them, for all their money had gone in getting medicine and necessary things for Mary. A few days later the minister's wife went again to the cottage, but found the grandmother all alone, for little Mary had gone away, that morning, from all sorrow and sickness. She had died so happily, without a doubt or fear; and almost her last words were: "Perhaps my Mission Band money will make some little heathen girl die as happy as I do."

The children of the Mission Band followed her to the grave, and although the poorest of the place, loving tribute was paid to her, for no life had gone out that was sweeter or purer in its influence than that of the fisherman's little daughter, Mary Parks.

Ritcey's Cove.

S. H. GRONLAND.

A PARABLE.

ELAZABETH SHENEY.

RECITATION.

On worn gray stones within the castle hall,
The swarthy merchant from the Orient
Undid his wares and let the rich stuffs fall
In shimmering heaps of rainbow beauty blent.

Strange, splendid broideries of silk and gold,
Muslins like mist with gleaming tracery,
Exhaling scent of rose from every fold,—
Wonders in pearl and carven ivory.

The lady viewed the treasures at her feet,
With eyes that glowed with woman's fond desire,
For so rare setting to her beauty sweet;
Yet shone in each clear orb a holier fire.

"Nay, traveller, nay," she said, I may not buy,
I have no gold to spare for such as these;
My heart's own kindred languish, doomed to die,
In dungeons of our good King's enemies.

"Gold will release the captives. All I have
I send to ransom those across the sea;

If I may break their chains, if I may save,
O, what were all thy glittering gold to me?"

And so in joy I spread my meagre board,
And wear nor costly garb nor jewel bright,
For thus each day adds to the precious hoard
The price of life and liberty and light.

W. M. FRIEND.

From the Missionary Outlook.

A member of a Mission Circle, upon whom pressed heavily the claims of mission work was led to give to the work a handsome ring she was wearing; others followed her example, until jewelry to the amount of \$350 was contributed. The Church was so moved by hearing of the self-sacrifices of her young people that a day was set apart for consecration and self-examination. Would not some of us rather have fewer jewels to sparkle and glisten now, so that later we may shine "as the stars" for ever?

QUESTION DRAWER.

A correspondent asks if we think it wise to try and sustain a Mission Circle in a city church where there is a successful League?

Ans.—From our experience we would answer, by all means sustain your Circle. The League has so many departments of work that it cannot give as much time to the study of missionary literature as its importance demands; then there are schemes for raising money, legitimate in themselves, but out of the line of league work, which, to the Circle, composed largely of young ladies, mean pleasant reunions and enthusiastic effort. One Circle we note of has, for the second time, adopted the talent system, beginning with five cents as a basis. The returns will probably be as large as on previous effort, though the membership is much smaller. So much depends on genuine enthusiasm in the workers. We would also add that much depends on the Auxiliary of the Church. If the ladies show their interest in the Circle by seconding their effort to raise money, and by their presence at meetings of a literary character, results will accrue worthy of the cause.

Is it appropriate for the Circles to attempt to lead the prayer meetings occasionally?

Ans.—If your pastor is willing to allow an evening, say once or twice a year, we should think it a fine opportunity to give missionary information to the older members of the congregation, as they usually form the bulk of the audiences. See that the programme is reverent in tone, remembering that it is a prayer service and not an entertainment, but throw into it the brightness and enthusiasm which will convince your hearers that it is a pleasant task, and not a burdensome duty which you have undertaken.

A. G. McM.