

WHAT A COMMITTEE OF TWO DID.

MRS. A. C. WROE.

"Well ladies," said the president of the Ladies' Missionary Society at Linnville, "I have stated the matter as concisely as I could, and trust that you will realize its seriousness. I hope you will each do your part towards reaching the desired end."

At this moment Mrs. Pierce entered. "I have been explaining, Mrs. Pierce," resumed the president, "the emergency we are called upon to meet in regard to the Centennial Fund. You know the women of the South were asked to aid in raising \$250,000, and, up to January, the Boards had not received what was required, while so little of the Centennial year remains. The Committee tells us that if each member of every church will give 30 cents, the desired sum can easily be obtained. Only 30 cents: Surely we can each give that."

"But, Mrs. Hartley," said one of the ladies, "many of us have already given more than 30 cents."

"Very likely," replied Mrs. Hartly, "and if those who have given feel that they can give no more, then the matter must rest between them and their consciences. But let us all go to work at once, and talk plainly to ourselves as well as to others on the subject."

Most of the ladies went away that afternoon feeling a sense of responsibility unknown before, as the President had put the matter very earnestly and seriously. Mrs. Pierce and Miss Lyle walked down the street together, considering the best way to rouse the interest of all their members in the Centennial Offering. They were soon joined by a lady who had not been present at the meeting, and who rallied them on their serious aspect.

"It is a serious affair we have in hand, Miss Martha," said Mrs. Pierce, "and now do help us out;" proceeding to explain.

"My! I thought the Board had that money long ago; we took up our Centennial offering in the fall, and I haven't thought much about it since. But it won't do to let that plan fail, and although I can't give but 30 cents more myself, I can talk, and I'll try and talk to the purpose. Now suppose we appoint ourselves a committee of three, to get to every member of our church. Let's see. I heard brother Roberts say we had 215 members in ours, and that little church he preaches to at Shiloh has 28; that makes 243. Thirty cents each from them would be—well I'll count it up later; and then say 40 or 50 children at 10 cents each would make something considerable, and we had better start right now."

"O, you must excuse me, Miss Martha," said Miss Lyle; "I am willing to give you thirty cents, although I have already filled a Chapel card. But it is so unpleasant to ask people for money, in fact, papa forbids my doing it."

"Unpleasant! Why, I enjoy asking for anything like this. Folks are generally willing to give if you ask 'em in the right way. Sister Pierce, I know you will go with me, we'll be a Committee of two, and I guarantee we'll get the money and have a real good time too. As for your father, sister Lyle, I hope he will be prepared to give in proportion to his unwillingness to have you ask."

"After lunch at Mrs. Pierce's they counted up the sum they must aim to secure, and started off at once. Mrs. Pierce said they would drive out to Shiloh and call on the members of the little church, though most of them were quite poor, and might not be able to give

30 cents each, it was a pleasant drive there and some good was accomplished. "And Miss Martha," said she, "whatever is lacking to make up the sum I will give, but don't say anything about it."

The result of the first call, which was to Mr. Lyle, was not encouraging, he flatly refused to give another cent, as he "had contributed liberally already." But nearly every one asked, gladly gave the 30 cents, and some even more. Every evening the sum grew, the number of quarters and nickels keeping pace with the members called upon. It took nearly three weeks to make the round of the church members, and yet this indefatigable Committee continued their labor of love, often making two or three calls at one house. Late one evening as they were about passing a small unpainted frame house, they looked at one another questioningly:

"Shall we call on Mrs. Tabb, Miss Martha?" said Mrs. Pierce. "She has such a hard struggle to get along, with an invalid husband, too."

"Well, we might call anyway; she'd probably feel slighted if we left her out," replied Miss Martha.

They were shown into the neat little kitchen by Mrs. Tabb, who remarked that she had been baking all day for Mrs. Donaldson who was to give a party that night.

"I would not have done it, for my time is so occupied," said she, "but I felt so dreadful at the meeting the other day to think I could not even give 30 cents. I asked the Lord to show me some way, and that very evening Mrs. Donaldson sent for me. Jennie has taken home the last of the baking, and will soon return with the money, which is \$3, and that is my Centennial Offering."

"And Mrs. Donaldson gave me 10 cents," said Jennie entering, "so there is mine."

The other ladies were speechless: \$3.10 where they had expected nothing! At the next meeting they handed in \$78.40, and any one interested may do a little sum in arithmetic and see if the end was accomplished by that church of 243 members and 55 children.—*Foreign Mission Journal*.

Work Abroad.

GIRLS' BOARDING SCHOOLS IN INDIA.

Tuni, India, March 11th, 1893.

"Girls' Boarding Schools" is the heading of a short article in the February number of the LINK, and under "Boarding Schools," the Encyclopedia of Missions says, "Of all educational instruments, missionaries have long looked with special favor upon the boarding school for girls. The intimate oversight it permits; the absolute separation of the pupils for a period from the unwholesome if not vile idolatrous surroundings of their homes; the contact which it affords with society at many and its most sensitive points—all these offer rare opportunities for permanent impress upon character and some of the best and most lasting work in missions has been wrought through this channel. Day schools disarm prejudice and opposition to Christianity, but it is in the boarding schools that girls become Christians."

Perhaps it is eight years ago since Dr. Barnardo visited Toronto and told of his work for the destitute children of England. The account of his girls' homes has remained, and a personal acquaintance later with the work through two of his trained girls that at dif-