

Sister Belle's Corner.

(For the Little Folks who read this Paper.)

DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS,—Our talk will have to be made a short one this month. Shall I tell you why?

Our folks moved into a new house yesterday, and Sister Belle is house-keeper, so she can only spare a few moments for her little friends this month.

My three-year-old boy is very fond of hearing stories. He knows where the pennies go that he puts into the collection-plate at Sunday-school, and often asks me about the little heathen children who have never heard about God.

In one of his story-books there are two or three pictures of idols, and little Andrew says, "Are they not foolish people, mamma, to think that pieces of wood and stone can give them the things they are praying for?" We often have long talks over these pictures. "I hope my dear little boy will grow up with the same interest in the missionaries who have gone so far away from their homes to teach people about Jesus.

One papa, and mamma left their two children here in Canada, a little boy ten years old and a dear baby only a few months old, so that they could give all their time to mission-work in India. Our own Mr. and Mrs. Timpany left two of their dear children here and went thousands of miles away for Christ's sake, and for the sake of the poor heathen who were dying without Christ. Sister Belle remembers very well about two years ago meeting Stuart and Ettie Timpany with their dear papa and mamma, and now the wide ocean rolls between them.

Let us all pray more for these good men and women who have given up so much for this work.

Here is a nice little story from my missionary scrap-book for you

"Was that your penny on the table, Susie?" asked grandma, as the children came in from Sunday-school. "I saw it after you went, and I was afraid you had forgotten it."

"O no, grandma; mine went into the box all safely."

"Did you drop any thing in with it?" asked grandma.

"Why, no, ma'am," said Susie, looking surprised. "I hadn't any thing to put in. You know I earn my penny every week by getting up early and going for the milk."

"Yes, I remember, dear. Do you know just what becomes of your penny?"

"No, ma'am."

"Do you care?"

"O, indeed I do, a great deal. I want it to do good somewhere."

"Well, then, every Sunday when you drop your penny in, why don't you drop a prayer in too, that your penny may be blest in its work and do good service for God? Don't you think, if every penny carried a prayer with it, the money the school sends away would do wonderful work? Just think of the prayers that would go out, some across the ocean, some away off among the Indians!"

"I never thought of that, grandma. The prayer would do as much good as the penny if it was a real true prayer, wouldn't it? I'm going to remember, and not let my penny go alone again."

SISTER BELLE.

48o Lewis-st, Ottawa, Ont.

Missions Among the Lepers.

FAITH in the God of love and power has often led Christians to imitate the example of their Lord, in the sympathy they have shown to those who are suffering from that loathsome disease, the Leprosy.

When the Lord Jesus was journeying from Galilee to Jerusalem, "a harrowing sight met His eye on the outskirts of a certain village; ten men who were lepers stood before Him; exhibiting all the varieties of a disease, which expelled them from

the joys of home and privileges of worship, and baffled human skill to cure. Not daring to come near, they lifted up their voice first doubtless in the mournful cry, 'Unclean, unclean!' by which they were bound to warn the healthy of their polluted condition; and then, emboldened by the Saviour's winning countenance, in the hopeful plea, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.'

"That painful sight, recalling Jewish scenes of outcast solitude, crushed affections, loathsome sufferings, and religious degradation of thousands of years, appealed to the Saviour's compassionate heart; that piteous cry was not in vain: 'Go,' said the merciful High Priest, 'go, show yourselves to the priest,' and as they went they were cleansed. Only one came back to 'glorify God,' and he was blest with a second boon. All were cleansed in body, but only this Samaritan in soul, for the Saviour said to him, 'Arise, go, thy faith has made thee whole.'"

Thus the blessed Jesus showed His tender pity for the sorrow of sinners whom He came to save; thus He exercised His wondrous power to heal all manner of diseases and to forgive sins also; and thus He claimed a principal feature of His Divine Mission, "The lepers are cleansed."

In the days of her first love, the Church endeavoured to follow the footsteps of her Lord, both in its letter and spirit, and the numerous lepers, such as are still found in the Holy Land, were objects of the pity and help of the early Christians.

The Hospital of Bishop Basil at Cæsarea was a wonderful institution, of which Gregory Nazianzen said—"Here the disease is borne with pleasure, here even misery appears happy, here Christian love has been tried, and found faithful. We have not the painful spectacle frightening us, rather it moves us to pity."

In Norway, in our own day, there are excellent Leper Asylums where the diseased are separated from the rest of the population, and treated with kindness and care.

In India, where there are at least 93,000 lepers, a truly Christian work is going on, under the care of Rev. Wellesley C. Bailey, for the amelioration of the sufferers. Small asylums are built in various parts, and placed under the care of eminent medical men, and though as yet no cures have been effected, the spiritual results have been very encouraging. These benevolent efforts are supported mainly by friends in Ireland.

In South Africa about sixty years ago, the Church of the United Brethren or Moravians commenced their labours amongst the Lepers, in the romantic valley of Hemel en Aarde, or as the words mean "Heaven and Earth," so called, because it was far removed from human habitations, and hemmed in by rocks, with only a strip of sky above. The Colonial Government, fearing the spread of leprosy, had erected a temporary Asylum there. Some Christian Hottentots from the Moravian settlements soon after removed to Hemel en Aarde, with the hope of doing good to the Lepers, and their faithful pastors paid them occasional visits, and embraced the opportunity of preaching the Gospel to all the afflicted inmates.

In course of time a larger hospital was built, and in 1822, Rev. Mr. Leitner and his English wife, throwing themselves upon the grace and power of the faithful Promiser, relinquished the loved society of their fellow-Missionaries, and the valued privileges of a well organized Church, entered on their self-denying, repulsive, and then supposed perilous duties at Hemel en Aarde.

After a while a church was built for the lepers by the Government, whilst a house of living stones was advancing in this solitary place.

Year by year the work progressed, the Gospel of a crucified Saviour approved itself the power of God to the salvation of many whom the world counted base, and wretched, but after six years the Missionary died suddenly whilst baptizing one of the leper converts.

Mrs. Leitner says:—"The first sight of so many of our fellow-creatures deformed and crippled by a loathsome disease, could not but make an impres-

sion on us, but I can truly say, that every feeling of aversion and disgust gave way before the conviction of our duty to labour, even in this place, to win souls to Christ. Never was my husband more in his element than while working here. By day and by night he was ready to minister both to the temporal and spiritual wants of his patients, and truly his work was accepted of his God. One after another of the poor lepers came to ask 'What must I do to be saved?' Many a wild and depraved outcast from society has received power to become a son of God by faith in Christ, and has been brought to submit with patient resignation and even inward joy to the rod that chastened him for his profit. Ninety-five of these believing lepers were baptized by him, most of whom preceded him into eternity in humble reliance on the merits of that Saviour whom he had preached, and on whom they had believed." In twenty-three years 400 lepers were interred at Hemel in Aarde, many of whom will be raised glorious and incorruptible at the coming of the Lord. In the same spirit, other Missionaries laboured for the next ten years among the lepers at Hemel in Aarde.—*Illus. Miss. News.*

Ongole.

MRS. CLOUGH, who is now in Michigan, has recently received a letter from her husband, Rev. J. E. Clough, American Baptist Missionary to the Telugus, who has been making a long tour among the country villages. He reports that "he found everywhere, with very few exceptions, the Christians standing fast in the faith and trying to improve their opportunities to grow in grace." Up to Feb. 22, over six hundred had been baptized on the field, and the work of grace seems to be widening and deepening on every hand. Mr. C. expresses great satisfaction with the manifest faithfulness and efficiency of the native helpers.

The Duke of Buckingham, Governor of Madras, has recently visited Ongole, inspected the Mission and its school, and on leaving presented his cheque for 400 rupees to aid in rebuilding two of the dormitories destroyed some months since by the cyclone.

NEARLY fifty years ago, Jeremiah Everts, Secretary of the American Board, said, "There is no way in which we can so powerfully aid the cause of God in our own land as by doubling and quadrupling our sacrifices for the salvation of distant pagans."

WOMEN'S BAPT. FOR. MISS. SOCIETY OF WEST. ONT.

Receipts from March 25th, to April 26th, 1880.

Port Hope Circle, \$16; Strathroy, \$13; Port Burwell, \$4; Denfield, \$12.89; Aylmer, \$6; Alexander Street, Toronto, \$6.10; London, York Street, \$26.62; London, Adelaide Street, \$14; Dundas, \$5; College Street, Toronto, \$1.96; Simcoe, \$5.30; Whitby, 6th concession, \$8; Guelph, \$10; Thedford, \$4.50; Jarvis Street, Toronto, \$13.30. Total, \$169.57.

Special for Mission Boat.

London, York Street, \$3.38; Port Hope, \$25; Jarvis Street, \$1; Mrs. Simson, Niagara, \$1; A Friend of Missions, London, \$1; Total, \$31.38. Total receipts, \$200.95.

EMILY LAIRD, Treasurer.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Treasurers of Circles will please take notice that in future all moneys must be sent to Miss JESSIE LLOYD, 222 Wellesley Street, Toronto, as Mrs. R. W. Laird has been compelled by other duties to relinquish the position of Treasurer to the Central Board of the W. B. F. M. Society.

CANADIAN MISSIONARIES IN INDIA.

MARITIME PROVINCES.

Rev. Rufus Sanford, A. M., Bimlipatam.
" George Churchill, Bobbili.
" W. F. Armstrong, Chicacoe.
Miss Carrie A. Hammond, Bimlipatam.

ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

Rev. John McLaurin, at home.
" John Craig, Akidu.
" G. F. Currie, Tuni.
" A. V. Timpany, Cocanada.