

Mr. McArthur leaves behind the wife of his youth : truly a mother in Israel, beloved by all who know her : also seven children, four sons and three daughters. These all, with many friends, mourn the loss of an honest man, trusty and true.

J. C. W.

MR. ROBERT C. BICHAN.

Died, near Belwood, Garafraxa, on 29th Nov., Mr. Robert C. Bichan, a Deacon of the Congregational church, Belwood, in the 70th year of his age. An obituary sketch by his pastor will appear in our next.

Selections.

FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY.

Faith is the starting-point to higher ground,
Each step, sure-footed, on THE ROCK is found :
No backward gazing at our former fears,
But stronger growing as recede the years !
HOPE is the telescope that scans afar, —
Each heavenly thought seems like a new-found star !
Though for a season bound by earth's employ,
Hope sings on earth sweet heavenly songs of joy !
SWEET CHARITY ! true bond of love and peace,
Thy kindly counsel maketh strife to cease :
Thou rulest with a loving gentle hand,
And, smiling, points us to the better land !
FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY ! oh, truth sublime,
"These three" shall bridge us o'er the sea of Time !

JOHN IMBIE, of Toronto.

THE RELATION OF SENIORS TO MISSION BANDS.

MRS. S. S. ROGERS.

The most important feature of a Mission Band is by no means the money, which is received from its members. Dear friends, the Mission Band is just as much a part of your society as the Sunday-school is of the church. Find out, first of all if one exists. Do not be obliged to say when asked if there is such an organization in your church. "A Mission Band! Well, really I don't know whether there is one or not." Make the children feel that they are a part of the Senior society. I imagine it might be a good plan to invite the children to join the ladies, possibly once a year, especially, as they now study the same countries for a part of the year at least. It might help the children to realize the *unity* of the work, the praying, the giving. It might also enliven the ladies somewhat. There may be some members of the older society who have large, pleasant homes. Your children are grown and gone. Perhaps the Lord saw it was not mete for the fullest

and deepest development of your life, that you should ever know the sweetness of little clinging arms, and the name of mother. But you have means and leisure.

Invite the Mission Band to your home for a simple afternoon tea, with tennis and croquet, and "Miss Toosey's Mission" to give the whole a delightful flavor. Possibly your husband is the owner of numberless broad acres, and you have great hay racks and strong horses at your disposal. Send an invitation to the Mission Band children to join you in a nutting expedition, and thence how much more sympathy they will have for sad little Hindoo widows, who never knew one of the least of these childish pleasures.

Have you no home of your own? Are you out in the world doing your best to improve the talents God has given you. Then your vocation is such that you cannot help in ways like these. Never mind! you are not exempt from an interest in the Mission Band. The money which you earn is at your own disposal. Suppose you buy half a dozen hyacinth bulbs for thirty cents, and as many pots to plant them in for as much more. Then you say to Johnnie Brown, a boy of fourteen, who lives in the same house, who attends the same church with you, and who also is a member of the Mission Band, "in good and regular standing." Johnnie, come to my room after tea, and I'll tell you something. Of course he comes. Ask him how he is earning his money for the Mission Band this year. After a little confidential talk about matters relating to the Society, you show him the bulbs, tell him just how to plant them, and what to do with them after they are planted. Then you say to him. Now Johnnie, if you will bring these bulbs to me when they are just ready to bloom, for your care of them I will give you fifteen cents apiece, *missionary money*. Then too Nellie his sister a bright seven year old, who sits next to you at the table, is pleased to care for the plants in your room for the modest sum of five cents a week.

You are a teacher perhaps, and have such piles of examination papers to look over and mark. Two of the boys in the highest grade are members of the Mission Band in your church. Talk with them about it once in a while, and tell them that you will give them each a quarter, if they will come over and help you correct papers of a Saturday morning. Hold yourselves ready to help the Leader of your Mission Band. Play for or lead the singing, teach a class, take the office of Recording or Correspondent Sec., or better still, train one of the older children to fill the office faithfully and well. Is there no Mission Band connected with your Ladies' Society? Then are not you the one! I will spare you. Your own conscience in striving with you and its workings, if not too per-