

wide influence, our high position. And what we enjoy in such large measure we long to share with our less favored sisters who are just beginning to awake to the happy fact that not only the good things of this life, but of the life beyond, are for women as well as men. The lives of the women of the Orient are beyond expression, limited and restricted compared with our resourceful, responsible lives as American women. It is the women of these faraway countries whom the American women of this Club have been helping for nearly thirty years.

Our sisters on the other side of the globe have been kept in seclusion and in utter ignorance. This Club, beginning in the humblest way by teaching in the homes, has now established, over a broad field embracing Africa, Turkey, China, Japan and India; Micronesia, Ceylon, Spain, Mexico and Austria, kindergartens, village and day schools, boarding schools and for the higher education of the brightest girls a College in Constantinople, Turkey, another in San Sebastian, Spain, and a third in Kobe, Japan.

The women of this wide-reaching Club who support these schools, believe that in this preparatory state of existence it is quite as important to cultivate the spiritual nature as the intellectual and therefore the study of the Bible is a marked feature of the curriculum, while secular branches are by no means neglected.

Medicine, as a science, is not understood in many parts of the Far East and these screened women could not see even such male physicians as do exist. Therefore this Club has sent from America, thoroughly trained, qualified women physicians to minister to sufferers of their own sex. They have also established hospitals and dispensaries and have founded training schools for native nurses, and in these ways have largely alleviated the physical distresses of our unfortunate sisters.

But there is a sickness of the soul as well as of the body. The sacred books of the Orient can not be understood by the mass of the people. Women are regarded as unfit even to hear them. Hindu women are forbidden to read their scriptures or to offer up sacrifice in their own name and right. This is Brahmanism as set forth in the code of Manu. Hinduism is extolled in these days both by the secular press and by those of our cultured pagans here in the Occident who have the largest mental hospitality towards all regions but orthodox Christianity, but we should judge of a religion by the men it makes and its power to uplift humanity. It is a significant fact that 250 millions in India are utterly illiterate. Such religion as they have furnishes no motive for the present or aspiration for the future. Christian missions have shed some light into this dense darkness and the women are beginning to be taught. The work is comparatively recent and necessarily slow, so that only a little over half a million of our dark-skinned sisters in India can read.

Under Buddhism, woman's most earnest prayer is that she may be made a man in the next state of existence. She will make such personal sacrifices for her gods as would put us to the blush, and yet she is hardly deemed worthy to worship these gods. Mohammedans believe that women have souls, but the Koran teaches that their future salvation depends largely upon their relations to their husbands. To these poor creatures our Bible women go in their homes and tell them of the personal love of a personal Christ. Often they meet the indifferent and superficial for unregenerate human nature is the same there as here. But when sickness comes, or bereavement, or whatever may wound the spirit, then the heart cries out for the living God and the story of our suffering, sympathizing Savior meets the deep human need.

Although this Woman's Club of World-Wide Interests can number in its constituency only one-sixth of the women of our churches, what movement, with the one exception of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, compares with it in numbers and moral power. Bishop Doane says, "The two principles of this whole work are loving organization and organized love, and they have in them the 'power of an endless life.'" The work of this Club in foreign lands has never received much notice from the secular press, and we have not blazoned abroad our achievements. Nevertheless the Eastern Board, whose constituency is within the churches east of the Ohio, has a membership of about 50,000, and its annual receipts for the last five years have been nearly \$139,000.

You who know something of the blessedness of this work, and the marvelous enrichment which has come through it to your own lives, think what it would be to you to be suddenly bereft of it—to go back thirty years before the door opened into this great field of women's work for women. If your imaginations fail to conjure up the picture of how impoverished your lives would be, you can perhaps see it illustrated in those who are trying to satisfy themselves with society or mere culture, either intellectual or esthetic, or embroideries, or the thousand and one ways in which women fill their lives—ways innocent in themselves very often, but leading to selfishness and spiritual sterility.

Not every Christian woman is called upon to make a specialty of foreign missions. Some can be most useful in church work, or among the poor in our midst, or in Home missions. But it does seem to me that each Christian woman should be interested in the progress of Christ's kingdom all over the world, and should do her part to hasten its speedy coming by prayer and gift of money, if not of time and personal effort. The only logical way in which we can interpret our Lord's last command is to go ourselves or send a substitute.