

"GOOD MORNING ROUND THE WORLD."

- 5 With the Syrian greeter now how is it done?"
 Why, his finger-tips meet as he greets anyone,
 Then, with fauciful art
 Touches brow, lips and heart,
 And "may you be happy!" he says as they part.
- 6 While with hands held together and lifted on high
 With a wish for the health of the one who goes by,
 The brown Siamese
 Will fall on his knees,
 Or bow down benignly with gracefulest ease.
St. Nicholas.

FIELD STUDY FOR JULY.**COVETOUS HINDRANCES TO CHRISTIANITY.**

IN the great evils of the liquor and opium traffic we can see clearly enough how greed of gain closes the eyes and blunts the conscience. Still, it is probable that this does not directly concern many of us. What of ourselves? Has our Lord's warning, "Take heed and beware of covetousness," any lessons for us?

Many of our Mission Band members take pains to earn money so as to have something of their own to give. There are others again who handle a good deal of money but never seem to think that they have any responsibility for the way it is spent. You doubtless agree that the principles for giving, laid down in the Old Testament, were not on too liberal a scale. (Gen. 28, 22; Lev. 27, 30; Prov. 3, 9-10.) The trouble is, we do not realize that these directions apply to us. Of course when we are men and women and take our place among the world of earners, we expect to do our part in this work of supporting the Gospel, as in all the other activities of life. For these other things we are preparing our arm by work, our brain by thought, our patience and perseverance by constant effort; in this grace of giving may we also abound.

Little things are not despised by Christ. "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much; and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much." Principles that are worked on in the day of small things will be a foundation to build on later. It is motive, purpose, effort, that make character; not amount of display. The gift Christ pronounced greater than those of all the rich was a very small one.

"Build to-day then strong and sure,
 With a firm and ample base;
 Then ascending and secure
 Shall to-morrow find its place."

There is one point in the Jewish law that I would like you to especially consider. It is that the first fruits belonged to God. (Lev. 23, 9, 11, 14; Deut. 15, 19.) They were not to take the harvest until the first sheaf was waved before the altar in acknowledgment

of His goodness. Should we, in the full light of the Gospel, do less than the Jew? With His claims over the first there would be no question as to whether "we could spare anything now." And that extra purse would rarely be empty.

Last summer two friends of mine, a mother and her daughter, listened to a sermon from the text, "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings." They had always contributed towards the support of their own church, and other objects, when brought to their notice, but had never considered what proportion of their income was expended in this way. The thought came to them as to whether they were included in those who had robbed God. They determined henceforth they would keep two purses, in one would be placed the tenth of all the money they received. They lived on a farm and the first money the mother had was the proceeds of some poultry she had sent to market. There was no local call for help just then. The following week the daughter was going into the city, where some years before her brother spent a winter, and had been made to feel very much at home in a certain church. To the pastor of this church the money was taken to be used for Missions. To explain her coming the young lady told what led to the amount being given and the reason for bringing it to him. He listened so quietly that she concluded he was absorbed in a sermon, or something of that sort, and not much interested; accordingly made her stay as short as possible. In the evening she attended the prayer-meeting held in his church, and what was her surprise to find her story the theme of the pastor's address. So the sermon from that country pulpit echoed and re-echoed through its faithful hearers.

"Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." *B. S. D.*

QUESTIONS FOR JULY.

What is our subject this month? Please explain.
 In what great traffic do we see the evils of the "greed of gain"? What are the evil effects on eyes and conscience?

What two questions are next asked?

What do some of our Mission Band members take pains to do?

What do other members do?

Where do you find principles for giving in the Old Testament?

Do these apply to us?

What do we expect to do when we are men and women?

What preparations are we making for life?

What did Christ say about little things?

What are the best foundation stones for character?

What go to make character?

What gift to the Treasury did Jesus say was greatest of all?

What point in the Jewish law are you asked to consider?

Will you find and read the references given?

When were the Jews allowed to taste the harvest?

What solemn question is next asked?

What lessons do you gain from the interesting story that is told?