

Foreign Missions.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. MANNING, 178 Wentworth Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR OCTOBER.

For a revival of missionary zeal among our pastors and churches in the home land, and a great outpouring of God's Spirit upon our missionaries and native helpers, that this year may witness many won to Christ

Pandita Ramabai.

(Abstract of her letter to "Bombay Guardian.")

The purpose of the Lord in sending me to America was to teach me some very precious lessons. While taking notes on the teaching of the Swami (Hindu) visitors to America, and its effect on certain minds the Lord showed me very clearly that the world will love and honor what is its own—that as long as I have any part or compromise with the world I shall not be used of God as a witness of His truth; the Lord also revealed to me—that even with the open Bible in one's hand, if one does not prove the religion of Jesus Christ to be the religion of heavenly life by experimenting on it, the scripture may become a dead letter. The great need in every land is that followers and preachers should live a supernatural life, looking ever unto Jesus and implicitly following his commands.

SCHOOL-TEACHER—MISSIONARY.

Although I have been much interested in mission work, I never felt called to be a missionary. While in America I realized as never before that the last command "Go ye," was not meant only for the apostles but for all the disciples. No amount of education or anything else can save poor India. In the Gospel of Christ which is "the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth," is her only hope. So I asked the Lord to send me back to my country a very different woman from what I was when I left home. I went away as a school teacher, but now I am glad to tell you that the Lord has filled me with an intense love for my people and sent me home a preacher of the Gospel to win some lives for Christ.

GLAD TO GET BACK.

I had a great deal of time to pray, and thought much about my people, and the prospect of returning home made me feel very glad, and when at last I saw the dim outline of India's shores, I thanked God. A young Hindu who was returning home after a year's residence in England said, "Why, you look as if you were glad to get back," I said, "yes, I am very glad"—and asked him if he were not glad also. He said, "not particularly." These two words express the feeling of the great majority of my countrymen. They like their country in a way, but one never knows what true love is till one's heart is filled with love to God. The false philosophies which teach them to be indifferent towards everything and the devotion to unfeeling, unempathetic gods have taken away all beautiful feelings from the heart of my people. The words of that young Hindu made me feel very sad and as the sky grew dark and the rain pelted, I prayed God to pour down heavy showers of his Holy Spirit, so that our land may be flooded, washed and cleansed of all its sins and idols.

PRAY FOR 200,000 NATIVE EVANGELISTS.

About six weeks ago the Lord put a new thought in my heart—that I may pray God to raise 100,000 women from among the native Christian people, to so fill them with the Holy Spirit and with the Word of God, that it may become as a burning fire shut up in their bones so that they may be consumed with the holy zeal of telling the way of salvation to their neighbors. When I presented this petition at the Keswick convention, the Spirit of God said to me, "Why don't you ask for 100,000 men evangelists." Two hundred thousand native evangelists in one year! This may seem impossible to us; if so let us believe that God is as able to perform a miracle to-day, as He was two thousand years ago. The Foreign Missionaries have done a hundred years faithful work and the Lord has blessed their labor of love with nearly a million converts and their children. But the Holy Spirit has convinced me long since, that a great duty rests upon the Christian natives of this country—that of carrying the blessed Gospel to their heathen brethren and sisters sitting in the region and shadow of death.

"THE TIME IS NOT YET COME."

A few months ago the President of U. S. made a call for volunteers—in a few weeks an army of 120,000 was raised, and more than six hundred million dollars was readily given. This fact made a great impression on my mind. The call of one great Captain has gone forth for volunteers to preach the Gospel and to lay down their lives for their brethren and if some of us answer the call, we think we have done something very great. It requires a great deal of time and thought for us to decide to obey the call of our Heavenly Ruler. "The time has not yet come," or "I do not know that I am called at all to be a missionary," are some of the excuses which the devil presents, when conscience begins to prick us on the question of preaching the Gospel to every creature. "This people say the time has not yet come." "Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste. Therefore thus saith the Lord of Hosts 'Consider your ways.'"

Have only touched upon the main points of Ramabai's long and inspiring letter. Sisters, hear you not the

battle cry! "Forward!" the call! Send along your best equipped to lead this campaign! Can it be true that America sends to the foreign field only twenty-one out of each one hundred thousand of her church members? Can it be true that her average contribution to the expenses of the battle is less than eighty cents per member? Can it be true that while you have a minister to each seven hundred people, India, with its almost three hundred millions of perishing, perishing souls, has hardly one preacher, native or otherwise, to each one hundred thousand of her population.

In the Ashanter rebellion, when the commander of a certain English troop was unwilling to personally select the given number of men to undertake an extra hazardous task, he said he would turn his back and ask every man who would volunteer to step out behind him one pace from the line. When he again faced them the line was unbroken. "What!" exclaimed he, "is there not a man among you ready to volunteer in the hour of your country's need?"

"If it please you, sir, the whole company has volunteered and every man is a pace forward from the line on which he stood before!" This is the obedience which Christ expects and which he will assuredly bless. Now! now! let us fall into line! Who would wish to stay the blessing?

Chicacole, Aug. 30.

MABEL ARCHIBALD.

The Baptist Hants Co. Convention held its quarterly meeting at Lockartville on Sept. 13, 14. Tuesday evening was given to the W. M. A. Societies. The half hour devotional meeting led by Mrs. Burpy Shaw of Falmouth was opened by singing, "Blessed Assurance." The 50th Psalm was read and nicely commented on by the leader. The time was very profitably spent in praising and asking God for His blessing on our meeting. Mrs. Nalder then took the chair and the meeting was opened by singing "Rescue the Perishing." Rom. 10 was read and prayer offered by Pastor White. Minutes of convention at Rawden was read by the Secretary. It was voted that letters of sympathy be sent to Sister Young's friends at Falmouth and Mr. C. H. Burgess of Chiverie. These two dear sisters since our last convention have been called to a higher service. "They rest from their labors but their works do follow them." Prayer by Mrs. Robbins. Echoes of Amherst convention by Miss Laws, also a financial report of the W. B. M. U. for last year. A letter was read from Pandita Ramabai by Pastor Huntly. Mrs. Nalder gave a financial review of seven years for Hants Co. In 1898, the sum raised was \$380.66. She then gave a very interesting address telling many thrilling incidents. Music by the choir "Launch out into the deep." Pastor White of Hantsport gave an excellent address on our work in the North West; highly extolled the work of our pastors there. While "Speed away" was being sung, a collection of \$3.50 was taken for the North West.

B. A. REES, Sec'y.

Nictaux Falls.

The "Sunbeam" Mission Band gave us a rich treat on Sept. 25, which was enjoyed by all present. It was a season that lifted us above the common levels on which our every day life is spent, and gave us mountain visions, of the heights our boys may attain, in service for their Master. These enlarge the boundary of our horizon. They kindle the glow of enthusiasm, yet they will mean little to us, after all, if the vision does not bring a new sense of duty we owe to our dear boys and girls and those around us. This society is, I believe, doing good effective work, under the energetic leadership of its President, Miss Abbie Cohoon. The programme was one of unusual interest, and can be secured from the President. We shall hope to hear again from the "Sunbeam" Mission Band.

MRS. J. W. BROWN.

Foreign Mission Board.

Our Foreign Mission Work.

DEAR FELLOW WORKERS.—Two months of our convention year have come and gone. It is natural, though not at all fitting, that there should be some let up of effort at the close of the year. Pastors are taking their vacations, and the churches are given time to breathe, before again taking hold of the Lord's work in downright earnest. It must be borne in minds however, that this work goes right on, summer and winter, the needs are the same, and recur with constant regularity. There is no let up in this work for the Master, and there can be none until the kingdoms of this world, become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ. Now that churches and pastors, are settling down to the work for another year, and are we keeping in mind the needs of the millions beyond our sight, who have never heard of a Saviour, and His love for lost men? These have the greatest claim upon the best energy of brain, and heart, and hand. Mighty reasons exist why this should be so, the greatest and most potent of them all is, that the Lord who bought us with His blood, demands that we should give to others, as soon as possible, what we have received ourselves.

This is a time for earnest prayer, and continuous effort. Every three months with persistent regularity, the Foreign Mission Board must send to the workers on our mission field, at least \$3000. There should be at least one prayer meeting every month for this work. Our Young People should observe their Conquest meeting, and make

it, as they can, the best meeting of the month, and every member in all our churches, should be given the opportunity to do something, to give the gospel to those who are living without a single ray, to gladden heart and life.

We are living in a time that calls for the best there is in us all. The forces of evil are on the alert as never before—God's people ought to be as wise and active in their day and generation. Brethren, in this warfare, we must be united, and stand shoulder to shoulder.

Never was our Lord's command more strikingly important than now, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest." The Lord has greatly blessed His people in their Foreign Mission work, during the past year, but not any more so than in previous years. The seed has been sown, it takes time to germinate. Before there can be the full corn in the ear, there must be first the blade. Brethren, the march of divine providence, opening wider and wider the doors of all the earth, that "the righteous nation, which keepeth the truth, may enter in," is a challenge of our God to His people, whether they will be true to Him, whether they will have fellowship with His thought and purpose, whether they will follow where He leads.

From our mission fields, as well as from all others, come tidings of blessings upon our work, and appeals for greater help to meet the appalling needs. Our missionary periodicals, which bring the freshest and most inspiring facts, should be read by all our people. Pastors, Sunday School officers, and B. Y. P. U. leaders, should be constantly instructing those under their charge. The work demands this, because the people so soon forget.

Constant reminder, is a necessity, if we would have the largest and best results. Brethren of the churches, the Foreign Mission Board invites your co-operation, your sympathy, and your prayers. The work is not ours alone, it belongs to the Baptists of these Provinces, to every member of our churches. We are simply your agents, in carrying on the work. We depend upon you, and look to you under God for the needed help. We invite the closest examination, of what we try to do for the Master. To Him we look for grace and strength, and His smile is our reward. Your Secretary invites correspondence upon any phase of the work, he desires to be helpful in every possible way, in the cultivation of the missionary spirit—which is the Christ spirit; and to the best missionary results in all your churches. Brethren if you want his help, be kind enough to let him know.

Your fellow worker,

J. W. MANNING, Sec'y-Treas. F. M. Board.

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