

afternoon with bright and happy faces, to help in the arrangement. And when it was all over and the money counted up, how much do you think they had? \$22.00!

It is over a year since then, but our Band has still been growing. We now have over forty members, boys and girls, our pastor's wife for leader, and have raised over \$57.00.

I think little girls can do something. Don't you?

ONE OF THE BAND.

—, Ont., Dec. 24th, 1884.

### "My Dollar is all that is Required."

These words are often used as an excuse for not attending our Circles. It is true, the dollar is very needful; but as Mrs. McLauren remarked, when here, "The dollar is only half." We want your presence, your counsel, and your prayers. God has said, "Go work in My vineyard." And as He has entrusted a part of this noble work to us, let us prove worthy of the trust. Let us look at the silver lining (instead of at the dark cloud), that is ever ready to unfold its beauty, calling, not for folded hands, but for present, active labor. Who of us would not like to enjoy at the close of a useful life, that sweet repose that Madam Feller enjoyed; with her it was the dawning of a glorious morn. How sad the thought that so few are willing to leave their "water-pots" to go and tell what Jesus has done for them; or, that even one dear sister in Christ, should feel that she has no influence for good. Come, then, bring in your offering to our Circle—to cheer those who meet in order to carry on the great work of saving the perishing ones. And I know, from happy experience, that God, even our God, will bless your offering.

E. E. MCC.

Calton, Ont.

### Our Contributions.

In the *Heathen Woman's Friend*, we find the following excellent direction from Mrs. Rhea, who has had large experience in both foreign and home work: "Give your money by an act of the most spiritual worship, directly to the Lord, and drop it quietly and unquestioningly, laden with prayer, into the treasury, having confidence (you must have that) in those who disburse it for you, and let them send it wherever needed most. And, if the Master wants twine, string, wrapping paper, and pine boxes, so practical and so unromantic, let your funds go for these to carry the Bibles in, albeit wrapped outside."

To which Mrs. Gracey adds: "There are many needs essential to the work that are not popular. They are of the most utilitarian kind, and lack sentiment; yet somebody's money must be applied to cover these expenses."

If you must raise money for a special object, make an effort to raise just a little more, and let it go into the general treasury.

We may learn a lesson from the German woman who called at one of the savings banks in an adjacent city, and said she wanted to draw \$200, and told the cashier "she was going to give it to the Lord for the spread of the gospel, if he could send it for her." He advised her to send it through a missionary society, and arranged it for her, and then said, "Wouldn't you like to be a life member of the missionary society and have a certificate so you could frame it and hang it up?"

"Oh, no, she replied: "I do not care to have any one know it. God knows it, and that is enough?"—*Ex.*

### Native Helpers.

There is a matter that presses upon my mind as I thank God for the openings in China; and that is, the need that will be increasingly felt for native helpers. I wonder whether the native helpers have the place in our prayers that they ought to have? I am not afraid of being forgotten in prayer, because I have got a father who always remembers me, and brothers and sisters, and my own immediate circle, even if the friends of the China Inland Mission should forget that there was such a person as McCarthy in existence. And most missionaries have a little circle of praying ones who remember them continually. But I do often fear lest our dear native brethren who are labouring harder than some of us are, and who are giving up more than most of us are giving up; and who suffer day by day persecution and trial and continual opposition from their own friends and relatives, are not really remembered by us in prayer. Oh, dear friends, believe me, if there is a great and extended work of evangelization to be done in China, it must be done by Chinamen and Chinawomen, and the best that we can do for the work is to direct and help them. I believe in saying to them, "Come," "Come after me," rather than telling them to "go" into the difficult places. But one missionary can help and lead a great number of Christians who are qualified by the Spirit of God, and who have been imbued with the truth of God; and if an extended work of evangelization is really to be effected throughout all these mighty cities, and these large towns, and these populous country districts, it must be by the native Christians; and therefore as you are here gathered together especially to remember the work, I do want to place this before you as a real need; and I request that you would continually plead with God that He would raise up thoroughly qualified native helpers—men endowed with power from on high.

I could tell you of some of them with whom I have had the privilege to labour, and whom I consider it an honor to know—men who have helped me, and stimulated me, and often put me to shame by their simple faith and by their consistent Christ-like walk. One dear brother with whom I laboured in Hang-chau for six years was a Christian before I was, I believe; and, oh, the simplicity of the faith of this dear man of God! The way in which he has received rebuke from others—the meekness and quietness of his spirit—has been a continual rebuke to me, an impetuous Irishman who often felt ready to boil over. The calmness and quietness and consistent Christian testimony of his daily life have been a continual help to me, and it has been a privilege to labour with him; and he is only one of hundreds in China. Well, we find in prayer-meetings at home, that the names of missionaries are mentioned continually, but not very often do I hear the names of the native pastors and teachers and preachers.

These things ought not to be. We ought to pray for those who are labouring there, and we ought to ask the Lord to raise up a great many more. These two points especially I would place before you as worthy of your serious attention: The need there is for the labour of Christian women among the women of China, and the need there is for prayer on behalf of the native helpers. I trust that we may be led to pray very earnestly concerning these matters, and that we may continue to expect that God, who has done so much for us in the past, will do yet more for us in the future, and that if we are permitted to meet here again, it will be still to tell of His continued mercies and of His great goodness.—*Rev. E. J. Duker.*