

* PALM BRANCH *

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S. E. SMITH, EDITOR.
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MAY, 1896.



MISSIONARY writes: "The Chinese have been known to raise an objection to going to 'Mansions in the skies' after death. When asked the reason, they answer that we try to get everybody to go there, and they know the place will be crowded."

This is an unconscious testimony to the faithfulness and zeal of the missionaries in China. Oh, that it could be said of us all, at home as well as abroad, "that we try to get everybody to go there." Then the knowledge of the Lord would indeed soon cover the earth.

There comes to us, through the "Review," the account of a great revival in a girl's school in China, an outpouring of God's spirit on the whole school, the development of a spirit of intense prayer, so that they prayed night after night, sometimes till midnight, for themselves and each other, till most of them, if not all, over forty professed conversion, which there is no reason to doubt. The change is remarked on by the villagers around them. What holy influence may not radiate from such a school!

Archdeacon Wolfe says: 'A Mission without a large staff of devoted lady missionaries, I have no hesitation in saying, after thirty-four years experience, is destitute of one of the most potent agencies for the conversion of China to Christianity. The vast masses of Chinese women can be reached only by lady missionaries. I can bear testimony, with deep thankfulness to God, to the improvement seen everywhere in our Christian congregations which have had the privilege of their presence and teaching.'

A Chinese naval officer, captured by the Japanese during the late war, paid high tribute to the labors of an American missionary, Miss Talcott, among the Chinese prisoners in Japan. They could not understand the happiness in her face, it was a mystery to them, as she went round soothing and blessing them in their pain and distress. The most stubborn of them yielded to her simple-hearted love, their preju-

dice to foreigners was disarmed, and wrong impressions dispelled. Such was the result of "shining for Jesus"!

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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE—It is only to clubs of ten or more, to one address, that the paper is ten cents each a year. This is the very best we can do for you.

Please renew *at once*, we do not wish to lose your name from our list of subscribers.

Our thanks are due to Rev. Mr. Kirby for his kindness in contributing to our paper. We will all be glad to hear from him again.

We are glad to be able to give part of the paper on "Mission Band Work," which has been on hand some time, waiting for a favorable opportunity—are sure it will be helpful to our readers.

N. B. AND P. E. ISLAND BAND NOTES.

Nearly all the Bands have returned the Second Quarterly Report Cards, and many Bands report progress. A few Bands mention discouragements, and those who have not returned the cards we are anxiously waiting to hear from.

Union Band, Union, P. E. I., held their annual tea and Christmas tree. Amount raised \$34.00. "Happy Workers," Summerside, gave an "At Home" a short time ago; collection \$5.00. At an entertainment given by "Cartwell" Band, Point de Bute, on March 14th, the sum of \$28.00 was realized. "Loyal Workers," Montague, have made \$15.69 since September, twelve copies of PALM BRANCH are taken and ten copies of "The Little Missionary."

Miss Mira Lowther, Searetown, writes: "Anchor of Hope" Band is making some progress. Our regular meetings are interesting. Each member takes her turn in leading. Preparations are now being made for a social to which we have invited all the young people around. We were not able to have a public Christmas service, but our president invited the members to her home, where tea was provided for all, after which we gave in our offering, amounting to \$2.00. We find the field studies in PALM BRANCH interesting and instructive. We like the whole paper, and would not like to do without it.

A new Band has been organized, by Mrs. (Rev.) Wm. Howard, at Winsloe North called "Pansy," with a membership of 16. Much interest is manifested by the members, who seem anxious to work for the Master.

In February Mrs. Lucas organized a Band at Sussex with a membership of 20. Miss Bertie Maggs was elected President, and Master Harry Hamilton, Cor. Sec. Their first meeting after organization was held March 4th. After the opening exercises Mrs. Lucas gave an interesting and instructive talk on Japan. Then the name "Never Give Up" was chosen for their Band.

J. T.