

Sister Belle's Corner.

(For the Little Folks who read this Paper.)

DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS.—Who can tell me what trees grow in India? I do not think our beautiful maples are found in that hot land, and our woods are now filled with their glory. Nature "changes her dress" with the first arrival of Jack Frost in our cold Canada. But the palm tree is fully as useful to the people of India as our national emblem is to us. The leaves of the palm often make the roof, the umbrella, the bed, the plate, and the writing-paper of the Hindu. Our good Mr. Shenson, of Brantford, who knows far more about India than any of us do, once gave me a leaf out of a printed book from the Telugu land. It is a narrow strip of palm-leaf about thirteen inches long. On each side are five lines of printing, not with ink, but as if written with a fine steel point. A good many of these leaves are pierced through, and strung together to make a book. As the printed letters are all Telugu, I cannot tell you what the book is, but it is quite a curiosity to me. The palm leaf has various other uses, but I cannot speak of all. Perhaps the most curious tree in India is the banyan, because one tree often grows into a hundred. The branches hang down, touch the ground, strike root there, and spring up into new trees—joined to the mother-tree. I am told that seventy thousand men can sit under one of these old banyan trees. A sort of grass grows in India to the height of one hundred feet. It becomes hard as wood. This is called the bamboo. Its stem is hollow like a pipe, and is often used for water-pipes, also for posts of houses, and for carriage poles.

But, boys and girls, there is no nation that has so many gods as the Hindus. They are numbered at three hundred and thirty millions. I will try and describe some of them to you next month.

Here is a little poem for some one to recite at a Mission Band meeting (copied from "The Changed Cross"):

In some wild Eastern legend the story has been told,
Of a fair and wondrous fountain that flowed in times of old,
Cold and crystalline its waters, bright y' glancing in the ray
Of the summer moon at midnight, or the sun at height of day.

And a good angel, resting there, once in a favored hour
Infused into the limpid depths a strange, mysterious power:
A hidden principle of life, to rise and gush again,
Where but some drops were scattered on the dry and barren plain.

So the traveller might journey, not now in fear and haste,
Far through the mountain-desert, far o'er the sandy waste,
If he but sought this fountain first, and from its wondrous store,
The secret of unfailing springs along with him he bore.

Wild and fanciful the legend—yet may not meaningless lie,
Visions of better things to come within its shadow lie?
Type of a better fountain to mortals now unsealed,
The full and free salvation in Christ, our Lord, revealed.

Beneath the Cross these waters rise, and he who finds them there,
All through the wilderness of life the living stream may bear;
And blessings follow in his steps, until, wherever he goes,
The moral wastes begin to bud and blossom like the rose.

Ho, every one that thirsteth! Come to this fountain side
Drink freely of its waters, drink and be satisfied!
Yet linger not, but hasten on, and bear to all around,
Glad tidings of the love, and peace, and mercy thou hast found!

To Africa's pathless deserts, to Greenland's frozen shore
Where din of mighty cities sounds, or savage mountains roar
Wherever man may wander with his heritage of woe,
To tell of brighter things above, go, brother, gladly go!

Then, as of old, in vision seen before the prophet's eye,
Broader and deeper on its course the stream of life shall rise;
And everywhere, as on it flows, shall carry light and love,
Peace and good-will to man on earth, glory to God above!

SISTER BELLE.

480 Lewis street, Ottawa.

A BOOK ABOUT THE TELUGU.—The first of December Mr. Corthell of the Mission rooms, Tremont Temple, Boston, proposes to issue a new book entitled "From Darkness to Light," written by Rev. J. E. Clough, Missionary of the American Baptist Missionary Union, to the Telugu at Ongole. This story gives a faithful picture of the home-life of the natives, and describes the conversion of one of the representative class and his advance from the darkness of heathenism to the light of Christianity. The book contains valuable information about Ongole and the surrounding villages, where the principal characters are still living, and many incidents of the great famine of 1876-77 and the revival which followed; and is designed to meet the many demands for a more extended knowledge of this remarkable people.

THE Lord's battles will never be fought if every one claims the right of remaining in the reserve.

WOMEN'S BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

Received from Oct. 20th, to Nov. 23rd, 1881.

Jarvis St., \$13 65; Woodstock (Collection at Annual Meeting), \$28; Strathroy, \$17; London (York St.), collection at Mrs. Armstrong's meeting, to make Mr. McLaurin a life member, \$25; Mrs. Dunn, Langley, B.C., \$1; Total, \$84.65.

JESSIE M. LLOYD, Treas.

222 Wellesley St., Toronto.

BOARDS OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Maritime Provinces.

President, Hon. McL. Seelye.
Secretary, Rev. W. P. Everett, M.A., St. John, N.B.

Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba.

President, T. S. Shenson, Esq., Brantford, Ont.
Secretary, Rev. Jas. Coult, Georgetown, Ont.
Treasurer, T. D. Craig, Esq., 51 Front Street, Toronto.

WOMEN'S BOARDS.

Nova Scotia.

President, Mrs. J. F. Parsons, Halifax, N.S.
Sec. and Treas., Mrs. M. R. Selden, Halifax, N.S.

New Brunswick.

Sec., Mrs. John March, St. John, N.B.
Treas., Mrs. Wm. Allwood, St. John, N.B.

Prince Edward Island.

Pres., Mrs. E. N. Archibald.
Sec., Miss Ada Hooper, Bedeque, P.E.I.
Treas., J. Desbrisay, Esq., Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Eastern Convention.

Pres., Mrs. Ayer, Montreal, P. Q.
Sec., Miss Muir, 1395 St. Catherine Street, Montreal.
Treas., Mrs. Frank Smith, 2 Thistle Terrace, Montreal.

Western Convention.

Pres., Mrs. M. Freeland, 492 Church St. Toronto.
Sec., Mrs. H. H. Hupphrey, 10 Pembroke St. Toronto.
Rec. Sec., Miss Dexter, 10 Carlton St. Toronto.
Treas., Miss J. M. Lloyd, 222 Wellesley St., Toronto.

The Canadian Missionary Link.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT TORONTO.

Subscription 25c. per annum, strictly in advance.

Communications to be sent to Mrs. M. Freeland, Box 8, Yorkville, Ont.
Orders and remittances to be sent to Miss J. Duchen, Box 4, Yorkville, Ont.
Subscribers will find the dates when their subscriptions expire on the printed address labels of their papers.

Dudley & Burns, Printers, 11 Colborne St., Toronto.