

O'er fields of stars, where blazing comets stray;  
To nature's verge trace back time's travelled way,  
Six thousand years, to where creation rose,  
Thence back and onward to creation's close,  
To Heaven's metropolis, where seraphs burn,  
And, but one minute gone, to earth return  
Without the least fatigue, but ready quite  
To stretch her wings and take another flight.—*J. W.*

### Mission Circle Items.

TO THE MISSIONARY GLEANER.

DEAR EDITRESS,

It has been my intention for some time past to write an article for our *Gleaner*, the subject of which came rather unpleasantly to me some time ago, but I have found the month's slide by so quickly that my task has always been laid over for a more convenient season. I hope you can find a space for it in this month's paper.

While selling tickets for the "At Home," held last November, I met a lady who evidently did not know the difference between charity and missionary work, such as the missionary society now is carrying on and helping in no small measure to bring about that most desirable of all objects, "Christianity to all nations."

I asked this lady to buy a ticket. She asked me in return what our object was, and I answered, "Missionary Work," whereupon she delivered such a lecture on missionary societies in general that it was only too evident her religious education was deficient on that point.

The fact she tried to impress upon my memory was, that while we were doing all in our power to raise money for people who could find means to help themselves if they wanted to, we were literally robbing our own people of the money that should be expended on the poor. As well as my limited stock of knowledge would allow, I tried to show her that what she termed missionary work was in reality charity, but she would not see the difference in terms, so I was forced to retreat.

Since then I have met with instances very similar, and most of the persons call themselves Christians. How can it be so, when the most important work of the Christian Church and people is to win all the precious souls for the Master's kingdom that can be gathered in?

Why did Jesus leave us that precious command of, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel," if it was only something to be attended to after all the poor were cared for?

Jesus cared for the poor, it is true; so do we, and hundreds of others, but who can care for the poor heathen souls who are dying in darkness for the want of the gospel, if we, as Christians, do not find means to help them. It is not their bodies nor homes we are trying to help, but something vastly superior; we are trying to reach out a friendly hand and by God's help to do what we can to raise them into the glorious sphere where Christianity leads all its followers.

It has often been remarked that Domestic Missions should be attended to first, but I am no advocate of that, for if it is so hard to convert the people in a Christian land, it must of necessity need a good deal of labor and expense to carry the gospel, where it is impossible to hear it only through the efforts of the missionary societies and churches in general.

Our open meeting last month was and will be a great blessing to our circle, as very few of our own people understood what our work really was, and how much we needed the co-operation and prayers of our congregation.

If my division of "terms" above quoted does not meet with the approval of our President or members, would it be convenient to allow any differences of opinions to be stated?—*A Member.*

### MISSION CIRCLE ENTERTAINMENT.

A most enjoyable time was spent Tuesday evening, January 26th, at the "social evening" given by Miss K. Oaten at the residence of Mrs. W. Oaten, corner of Main and McNab streets. The spacious parlors were comfortably filled with the young people of the First Methodist Church Mission Circle and friends.

The following was the programme: Instrumental, Miss L. Tovel; song, Mr. H. Martin; recitation, Master Wilfrid Oaten; song, Miss Rymal; instrumental duet, Messrs. Gayfer and Perry; vocal duet, Miss C. Small and Mr. F. C. McLroy; song, Mr. F. Gayfer; recitation, Miss Lottie Small; song, Mrs. Oaten; instrumental duet, Miss Tovel and Mrs. Oaten; song, Miss Rymal; violin solo, Mr. A. C. Turnbull; quartette, Mission Circle Quartette Club.

All the numbers of this excellent program were well received and many of them encored, those of Miss Lottie Small and Mr. A. Turnbull being especially appreciated. Mr. F. C. McLroy, as chairman, very efficiently filled that position. At the conclusion refreshments were served to those taking part. The proceeds were in aid of the "talents" of the Mission Circle.—*Spectator.*