

*Describe Edith's record book.*

She keeps a little book to enter the name of each scholar she teaches. On being asked why she had a small cross before some of these names, she replied, "I pray for each one every day, and these are the ones who have become Christians." As a result of ten years' work 2 of these crosses appear.

*Are the native converts in Ceylon rich?*

Very few of them. The wages a working man receives would equal about eight cents a day. Many of these people only get one meal in 24 hours.

*What about their giving to send the Gospel to others?*

They read in their Bibles that the tenth of all they earn is the Lord's, and they give it to Him. They find nine-tenths with God's blessing does them more good than ten-tenths without it.

*Describe their thank-offering meetings.*

Every year after the rice-harvest a thank-offering service is held in each church. The people bring a free-will offering (about their tenth) of sheep, goats, fruit, grain or vegetables. This meeting is held on a week-day, and after a joyful praise-service in the church, a sale is held outside, and the money secured from these free-will offerings is sent to help carry on work in some other place.

*What do the women give?*

Each Christian mother has a little box called "The Lord's box." As she measures the rice for the family meal, she puts one handful in this box. Once a month the church treasurer collects and sells this rice, then uses the money to send native missionaries to neighboring islands.

*Do they give anything but money?*

Their sons and daughters are freely given to the Lord's work. God calls these educated young men who could earn six times as much as government officers, and they gladly obey His call to preach the Gospel in the poor homes of Ceylon.

*Are there medical missions on this island?*

Yes, and very much needed, for the native doctors destroy many lives by their experiments. In the mission hospital the patients receive loving, skillful care, and are also taught of Jesus, the Great Physician, who can heal their souls.

*What lessons may we learn from the Ceylon Christians?*

To follow the good example they set us in giving. Though poor in money, they are rich in faith, and freely give even as they have freely received.

Ottawa, July, 1899.

SISTER BELLE.

### A BEAUTIFUL DEATH.

Four months ago, Gertrude Jones, Secretary of the McPhail Memorial Mission Band, was taken very ill with consumption. Bright and loving in her disposition she was a great favorite with all. It seemed hard that she must die so soon when life was full of gladness and joy. But all through these weeks of weariness and pain she never murmured, or even wished that she might live. Her one aim was to lead all her friends to be the friends of Jesus Christ. Such glad testimonies of the peace He gave her; of the perfect rest in Him while there could be little bodily rest. Truly she was

"Safe in the arms of Jesus"

before she saw the King in His beauty! As the long, hot days passed her strength failed, but her faith grew brighter. "Only waiting until Jesus comes to take me," she would say as we bade her good bye. She wrote a last, tender message to her young friends, telling how precious Jesus was in the valley of the shadow of death, urging them all to love Him. On August 2nd she was taken "home." The dear mother, who had been with her day and night, doing everything that mother love could suggest, said to me just after Gertie died, "I can meet you with a smile this morning, Mrs. Halkett; my darling is at rest. I know where she is." Beautiful faith! Yes it was a beautiful life, a beautiful death; but how much more beautiful the redeemed, glorified spirit must be! May God grant to each member of our Mission Bands such a useful life as Gertie's, and they "need fear no evil" in the hour of death!

SISTER BELLE.

PORT HOPE.—"The Gleaners" Band looking back over the past year, we feel that God has been very near to us in our Band meetings, and under His guidance and direction, we have been permitted to once more do our little part for the benighted heathen of India.

To God's heartfelt presence in our Band meetings we attribute any of our success as a Band, and each year as our offering swells a little larger, we feel that it is God's spirit working in our hearts which brings the increase. For we remember that it is the little mites that count and as

"Little drops of water,  
Little grains of sand,  
Make the mighty ocean  
And the pleasant land."

So our little mites, joined with those of other Bands, help to swell the mission fund, and go to far distant India to preach Christ and Him crucified.

In May 1898 we held our annual entertainment, which was a success in every way, \$19.10 being raised by free-will offering. Nearly every member of the Band, large and small, took part, and all acquitted themselves creditably.

The mite-boxes which were opened in November and March yield \$15.67. Our thank-offering in February was not as large this year, only \$10.05 being raised. But our Christmas sale of fancy articles, made by members of the Band, brought us \$26.25. Every member contributed in some way to this sale, even the little tota making something for Jesus and we all felt more than repaid for our labour by the joy it gave us in working thus for the cause of Christ.

Our membership has decreased somewhat this year, only 59 members being on the roll. The average attendance was 41. But although the membership has de-