

Foreign Mission Board

W. B. M. U.

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. Manning, 240 Duke Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JANUARY

For Palenkeh and outstations. That the Spirit's power may accompany the preaching of the word. For the Home Mission fields of our Provinces that many may be won for Christ.

A post card from Miss Clark says: "Dec. 2nd. Have just reached the last stage of my journey and telephoned Chicaque for a carriage to meet me. So glad to be near the end of my journey. Living greetings to all the friends. Praise the Lord for His loving, tender care."

A very interesting union meeting of the W. M. A. S. of St. John was held in Germain St. church on the 31st of Dec. The afternoon meeting was addressed by Mrs. W. B. Boggs, Mrs. W. S. Cox and others. A social and tea was held in the parlors of the parsonage—near one hundred ladies were present—and every one felt that these gatherings do much to increase the interest in missions and unite the Christian sisters of the different churches more closely together. In the evening Dr. Boggs gave an illustrated lecture with limelight views of India and its people. The pictures were good, the speaker most pleasing and interesting and the large audience were much delighted and profited.

Notes from Cape Breton.

Crusade Day has been very well observed and with good results. Bethany Society had one on Nov. 4th, altho' not as successful as last year, the thank offering amounted to \$21.40.

Pitt St. observed Nov. 6th. It was splendidly attended and the interest good.

Wednesday, Dec. 9th, Miss Harrington by invitation visited Glace Bay Aid Society and was very much delighted with their Crusade preparation. A large number was present and the President gave such an earnest address. Simple refreshments were served at the close and every one seemed so pleased and sociable. There are many strangers in the place and one object was to help them get acquainted with each other. The offering was about \$20.00. In the evening, which was the regular night for prayer, the pastor held a public missionary meeting which must result in much good. The duty of every Christian to help in mission work was made very clear and clinched at each step of the argument by Scripture texts previously distributed to some of those present. A good work is being done in Cape Breton by our devoted sisters Miss Harrington and Miss Lewis. The W. B. M. U. has much to be thankful for that two such faithful, willing workers are standing by this corner of the vineyard.

Elephantiasis.

When first landing in India I was shocked by nothing more than by the many cases of deformity, often of the most appalling and repulsive character. It seemed almost impossible to turn to the right or to the left without being confronted by some horrible monstrosity. Wherever we went, whether to the native bazaar or to a fine public building, we were followed by some unfortunate who use their deformity as a means of gaining a livelihood. In fact, begging is such a profession in this land that persons of rather a speculative turn of mind are known to have these poor creatures in their employ. Day after day they frequent the more public places and cry their particular calamity to the passers-by, giving all alms obtained to their employer for which they receive at least sufficient to keep them from starving.

And what is the cause of all this disease and deformity? To a large extent it is due to the carelessness of the people and the unsanitary conditions which exist. In this land, where, because of its tropical location, and dense population, diseases naturally rapidly develop making the utmost caution necessary, the people, as a rule, utterly disregard the laws of health and sanitation.

Not long since I went to an evangelistic school in the male quarter of a village. As I passed through the hamlet, I found the air most sickening and my handkerchief was brought into use to prevent my inhaling more of the offensive odor than was positively unavoidable. The cause was revealed when I came upon a group of men and women busy dividing the carcass of an animal amongst themselves. I learned it had not been slaughtered, but had died; and my organ of smell led me to conclude that death had done its work some time before. These people were getting that meat to cook and eat!

To meet the people going to market is frequently my lot

as I go to and from Polipilly. I have often met from fifty to a hundred women each with a large basket of fish on her head. It does not require very acute olfactory nerves to scent these fish afar off. The first time I went to market I went with Mr. and Mrs. Morse. Immediately we appeared, to our surprise, there was a great commotion in the fish bazaar, baskets were hastily seized and their contents left behind, in many instances, in the haste the fish-mongers made to leave that place. On enquiry we found that the Government frequently sends inspectors to these markets to prohibit the sale of improperly cured fish and we were mistaken for such officers. Is it any wonder that diseases of all kinds, even the most loathsome, abound in this land?

In the picture we see a victim of a malady called elephantiasis, very prevalent in this country. It is said to be caused principally by drinking impure water, which thing certainly many of the people do. The water which we drink is brought from one of the very best wells the town affords; it is then filtered through a filter which is renewed once a month; it is next boiled in a tin vessel used solely for that purpose and finally poured into earthen jars fitted with covers. Not so particular are the natives; and many are almost incredibly careless. It may tax your powers of belief somewhat, but here is a case which came under my own notice. One day when travelling toward Vizianagram, I saw a man scrubbing his buffaloes in a small tank by the roadside. The water, always muddy in appearance, was not improved by the bathing of the dusty animals, however the man who was so kind to his beasts, having finished scrubbing them, remained in the same spot and drank of that foul water! Frequently have I seen my-rickshia coolies leave the bandy when passing one of these wayside tanks, run knee-deep into the water, wash the dust from their bodies first and then without moving a single step drink of the same water! Is not the wonder that as a result of such absolute disregard of cleanliness, there is so little disease rather than so much?

Elephantiasis begins with the swelling of the leg and foot which gradually increases until sometimes the limb gets to be the size shown in the picture. It must be very painful, especially in its later stages when it ulcerates and finally causes death. A glance at the left leg will show that the disease has begun its work in that also, as indicated by the swollen appearance of the top of the foot.

During my first year in the country, among the beggars who came weekly to be fed outside the gate, was a young man afflicted with both leprosy and elephantiasis and the combination of these two loathsome diseases made him most repulsive; and yet, how he excited our pity.

Yes, India teems with disease and deformity and your missionaries have to see much, very much of it. We sometimes think it is well that we are capable of becoming accustomed to so much, for otherwise it would seem that our hearts must break with the misery by which we are surrounded, and upon which we almost constantly look. Often and often as I go through these towns and villages and see at nearly every step something that naturally repels me and then contrast it with the home-land (I am not forgetting that sin abounds even there) I say, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." But who hath made us to differ? Why is it that you and I, to-day, are not in the hovel of one of these poor creatures in priest-ridden, plague-ravaged, famine-devasted, India? How much owest thou thy Lord for the privileges of birth in a land flooded with gospel light? Will you not carefully consider this question in the presence of Him who has given you much and who will require much from you?

Amounts Received by W. B. M. U. Treasurer.

FROM DEC. 14TH TO DEC. 30TH.

Havelock, Tidings, 25c; Alexandra, F. M., \$4. H. M., \$3. Tidings, 25c; Truro, 1st church, F. M., \$20.14, H. M., \$13.97; Yarmouth, Tidings, 25c; Windsor, Reports, 50c; Wolfville, F. M., \$14, H. M., \$7, mite boxes, Chicacole Hospital, \$29; Yarmouth, Temple Church, Tidings, 25c; Reports 75c; Albert, F. M., \$9, H. M., \$10; Berwick, Mrs. J. L. M. Young to constitute herself a life member, F. M., \$25, Osborne, F. M., \$4.05, Tidings 25c; Reports, 10c; Lakeville and Parrsboro, Tidings, 25c; Torbrook, F. M., \$6, H. M., \$5; North River, F. M., \$3.50, H. M., \$3, Reports 50c; Aylesford, F. M., \$11, Chelsea, Mass, Mrs. Wm. Bentley, F. M., \$10, H. M., \$5, G. L. M., \$5; Summerville, F. M., \$8.36, H. M., \$5.25, Tidings, 25c, Reports, 15c; New Tusket, F. M., \$12.76, Chelsea, F. M., \$5; Doaktown, F. M., \$10; Halifax, 1st Church, F. M., \$20, H. M., \$10; Argyle Head, F. M., \$1, H. M., \$1; Harper's Brook, towards Miss Clarke's salary, \$10, H. M., \$6; Middle Sackville, F. M., \$8, H. M., \$8; Nictaux, F. M., \$15.78, H. M., \$2.52; Windsor, F. M., \$27; Riverglade, F. M., \$8.

Mrs. MARY SMITH, Treas. W. B. M. U.

Amherst, P. O. Box 513.

Subscribers will please examine labels on paper showing date to which subscription is paid and if in arrears, please remember that we are in need of the money. If any error, do not fail to advise office at once.

Eczema

It is also called Salt Rheum. Sometimes Scrofula.

It comes in patches that burn, ite, ooze, dry and scale, over and over again.

It sometimes becomes chronic, covers the whole body, causing intense suffering, loss of sleep, and general debility.

It broke out with its peculiar itching on the arms of Mrs. Ida E. Ward, Cove Point, Md., and all over the body of Mrs. Geo. W. Thompson, Sayville, N. Y.; troubled Mrs. F. J. Christian, Mahopae Falls, N. Y., six years, and J. R. Richardson, Jr., Cuthbert, Ga., fifteen years.

These sufferers testify, like many others, that they were speedily and permanently cured by

Hood's Sarsaparilla

which always removes the cause of eczema, by thoroughly cleansing the blood, and builds up the whole system.

20th Century Fund.

Havelock, Owens Keith, \$1; Harvey (Mr and Mrs Calkins, \$1.75; Walter Downey, \$2.50)—\$4.25; Prince William, John Crudson, \$1; Kingsclear, (G. S. Barker, \$1, Mrs. R. B. Hartt, \$1, G. B. Kilburn, \$2.50, G. A. Hammond, \$3, Harriet Kelly, \$3, Mrs. Ed Elliott, \$2)—\$12.50; Macnaquac (Mrs. A. E. Kilburn, \$3, John Kilburn, \$4)—\$7; Salisbury, H. W. Crandall, \$2; Sackville, (Silas W. Copp, \$1, Mrs. Louisa Ford, \$1, Mr and Mrs H. Palmer, \$2, Henry Harper, \$4)—\$8; St. Andrews 2nd, E. Jennie Bleakney, \$5; Hillsboro (Mrs. Beatty, \$1, Jas. A. Steeves, \$3)—\$4; Point de Bute, (Alfred Tingly, \$2, Mrs. Victor Dixon, \$1)—\$3; New Maryland, (Mrs. D. D. Nason, \$1, Helen B. Nason, 50c; Mrs. John E. Morgan, \$1, Gertie Nason 25c)—\$2.75; Cambridge (Mrs. W. H. White, \$4, Jennie Straight, \$1)—\$5; St. Martins Mrs. M. L. Cochran, \$2.50; Dorchester, Mrs. C. B. Record, \$5; Springfield, (Jos. Scribner, 1, D. W. Spragg, \$1, Lizzie Summerville, \$2, Lee Spragg, \$1, Sarah Neal, \$1, Mrs. A. Spragg, \$1, Mr J. Cowan, \$1, Mrs. Ab. Hatfield, \$1, Isa. Kierstead, \$1, Wm. Field, \$2, W. T. Perkins, \$2)—\$14; St. George, Mrs. Walter Messonett, \$1; Jacksonville S. S. \$3.34; Johnston 1st, Isaac T. Hetherington, \$2; Main St., Mrs. Geo. R. Johnston, \$1; Florenceville, D. W. Estey, \$2; Newcastle Chas. M. Larkin, \$1; Jemseg, Chas. J. Colwell, \$1; Hopewell, (Mrs. L. P. Williams, \$4, Mr and Mrs S. S. Calhoun, \$2)—\$6; Germain St., Will C. Brown, \$2; Lower Cambridge, (Chas. MacAlpine, \$1, Harly P. Chase, \$1)—\$2; Andover, Mr and Mrs E. W. Sisson, \$3; Surry (Alfred Warnock, \$1, John Cartwright, \$1, Harry Steves, \$1)—\$3. Total \$104.34.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Bedeque, Herbert Leard, \$2. Total, \$106.34.

Dec. 16, 1903. J. W. MANNING, Treas.

At one of the sessions of the Western New Brunswick Association held in Marsville in June last a resolution was adopted pledging five hundred new subscribers to the MESSANGER & VISITOR, during the approaching association year. Brethren Cahill, Jacksonville; Freeman, Centreville; Smith, Florenceville and Demmings, Andover have made efforts toward securing the hoped for additions and we expect to hear from them again as well as from other pastors within the bounds of the Association.

A number of our subscribers are manifesting their interest in the paper by sending the name of a new subscriber with their own renewal subscription, securing the two papers for \$2.50.

Man.

Man is a most wonderfully constructed being (truly "most fearfully and wonderfully made"); the grandest and best of God's creation on earth, and evidently intended by the Creator, to reflect His Glory on earth, yet as a writer puts it—"Man has no inherent life": Though made of the highest type of life, but derives his life and light from the one source of life and light—the great fountain head. Schaff says "Divine life and light flows from Jesus," etc. The polished diamond, as it sends forth its brilliancy depends on God's light for its sparkling rays, so with man, he can reflect God's light but cannot produce it. The light—God's gift—is eternal life. When this light and life come into the soul, all is light, indeed, then the human reflects the Divine, and here is seen man's highest attained excellence and beauty, as in the sparkling gem.

May each reader strive to possess and reflect this Divine light until the darkest parts of this sin cursed world see and enjoy it as we in Christian lands now do or may do. "For the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." G.

We must amalgamate with our boldness the loveliness of Jesus' disposition. Let courage be the brass, let love be the gold. Let us mix the two together; so shall we produce a rich Corinthian metal, fit to be manufactured in the beautiful gates of the temple.—Sel.