

1881



1893

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" THIS IS THE VICTORY, EVEN OUR FAITH."

N.B.—Communications for this Department post-marked after the 15th of the month will appear in following month.

N.B.—All subscriptions for the OUTLOOK must be sent to the Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto.

N.B.—Certificates of Life Membership may be obtained by addressing Miss Ogden, Room 20, Wesley Buildings.

Our Monthly Reunion.

PRAYER TOPIC.

The Methodist Orphanage, Newfoundland, Africa, India; the work of the Pundita Ramabai, and the benighted and suffering women of that land.

A Father of the fatherless is God in His holy habitation.—Ps. lxxviii. 5.

God setteth the solitary in families; He bringeth out those that are bound with chains.—Ps. lxxviii. 6.

The Lord giveth the word; the women that publish the tidings are a great host.—Ps. lxxviii. 11.

Thy God hath commanded thy strength; strengthen, O God, that which Thou hast wrought for us.—Ps. lxxviii. 28.

IN grouping the prayer subjects of this month in one thought the texts above quoted seem peculiarly appropriate. God is so often declared the Father of the fatherless, and in this manifestation of His character how beautifully and how truly does He

make His children co-workers with Himself. In obedience to movements of His Holy Spirit, holy men and women house the orphaned, thus setting the solitary in families, and shedding upon their lonely lives the rich and priceless blessings of a Christian home and training.

Heathen lands give no demonstration of this care for childhood; but in our holy Christianity how truly is realized the prophetic vision: "A little child shall lead them." Boys' and girls' homes and hospitals, infants' homes and crèches, and the whole catalogue of benevolences for the wise and kind care of orphaned childhood are all evidences of God's tender oversight of the fatherless, and of the fidelity of His followers, who practically imitate the blessed Savior, taking the children in their loving arms and blessing them for time and eternity.

Our W. M. S. makes a grant this year of five hundred dollars to the Newfoundland Methodist Orphanage. Let us follow the gift with fervent prayer. How great are the possibilities of this institution, God only knows. What He may design to accomplish through its instrumentality we cannot tell; but it is ours to be in harmony with His blessed purposes. Ours to co-operate as we have opportunity, His to develop results. Upon the founders and promoters may He plentifully bestow all needed grace and wisdom, and may the Methodist Orphanage of Newfoundland abundantly prove that our God is indeed a Father of the fatherless.

One of the most interesting signs of the times is the work of the Pundita Ramabai in opening a school for child-widows in India. This event marks an epoch in the history of woman's emancipation in India. Many of our workers were privileged to hear this lady plead the cause so dear to her heart when in this country, when she succeeded in organizing several circles to aid her in establishing and sustaining her work. Recent reports confirm the opinion that the institution is in every way worthy of sympathy, and has a future of great usefulness to the cause of India's womanhood before it. If evidence were needed of the Divine power in woman's activities to-day, it would be found in the simultaneous and widespread efforts for the uplifting and advancement of their sex in almost every country of the world. Nor are all the successes of their work won in our Christian countries. India, with her zenanas full of suffering women, deprived of the physician's skill, manifested the need of medical women. If medical women in the oriental mission field, why not medical women at home? And thus developed a vast field of usefulness, demanding higher education and thorough training, at once demonstrating woman's intellectual power, and her physical ability to discharge the duties of one of the most onerous of the professions.

India, with a population of 288,000,000, is sometimes defined a hot-bed of religions, of which Hinduism easily takes the lead, being deeply rooted in the history and social life of the people. To believers in the fanciful and ridiculous teaching of Hinduism, Brahminism, Jainism and Buddhism, the Gospel of Christianity