

Foreign Missions.

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 MAY.

For Palconda and its bereaved missionary. For the church just organized that the little one may become a thousand. For the work among the Savaras that the native preacher lately appointed may be greatly blessed and the workers speedily multiplied.

Notice.

The executive meeting of W. B. M. U. will be held on Tuesday, the 14th of May, at the Mission Rooms 85 Germain street.

How Our Circle Celebrated the Twentieth Century.

Two days before Thanksgiving the members of the little X circle looked anxiously out of their windows in the early gray of the morning to see if the day promised to be pleasant. For was not this the day for which they had been planning and working all summer, the day when all the Twentieth Century Thank Offering boxes were to be brought in? Not even the critical member could find anything wrong with the crisp air and bright winter sunshine; and how the women did come to that meeting like swarms of bees around a honey jar! "Cause we've all got something to do," whispered plump little Mrs. Green to her neighbor. Certainly there was an unusual hum of expectation and an atmosphere of good times to come that was infectious. The legs of the little page fairly twinkled, and all her yellow curls bobbed as she trotted among them, distributing attendance cards, and asking in official tones whether they had all registered.

On the platform, among the blossoming plants and palms, were placed twelve chairs, all empty, when the president rapped for order, and the meeting began.

Such rousing songs they sung, such uplifting words they read, such tender prayers they offered as they all prepared in spirit for the beautiful Thanksgiving services to follow. Each "Month," in turn, came to the platform and in a few words brought to all the claim of some needy portion of the great earth and its peoples to receive the gospel. No manuscript was used, but directly out of the heart of the need to the heart of the listener came the appeal. After not more than two minutes expended in presenting some one in the most telling and concrete way possible the "Month" turned to the president of the year, saying, "To help supply the world's need, we who represent the month of January present our offering of Thanksgiving as we enter the twentieth century." As she finished she held out a great basket, all white and glistening, and four ladies who represented the weeks of the month came forward, and poured into her basket the mite boxes which each had collected from the "days" assigned her. January, after placing her well-filled basket on the front of the platform, took her seat; and February bearing a basket flatteringly with tiny flags made her appeal, received the offering from her "weeks," and took her place. And so the beautiful procession moved along, April with her violets, June with her roses, November with a glowing yellow pumpkin, December bright with holly berries, and each one with some quaint or pretty conceit of her own.

When all the boxes were gathered the months poured them all into the lap of the year—though that had to be done figuratively after all, for no year, had a lap ample enough to receive a quarter of the great heap of little white boxes.

After the women had all presented their offerings, there flocked to the platform the dear little kindergarten children bearing their offering and singing their sweet child-songs. They were followed by a delegation from the primary department bearing a tray heaped high with the little steamer-trunk boxes all packed for far away lands.

After the reception of these gifts the whole society rose and sang, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," and then softly and reverently repeated together this covenant of obedience and service:

THE COVENANT.

Grateful that "I know that my Redeemer liveth,"—Mindful that vast millions of women and girls can never hear the "tidings of great joy," unless a Christian woman be sent to them,—

Remembering that Jesus made loving obedience the supreme test of discipleship, and that His last most solemn command was "Go teach all nations,"—

I gladly enter into this covenant of obedience: that I will not cease to make offerings of Prayer, Time, and Money, to the end that the daughters of sorrow in heathen lands may know the love of Jesus.

"The best meeting we ever had," said one member to another as they broke up into happy groups, chatting and shaking hands and examining the pretty baskets of the months. Why, I wonder? Did these facts help?

It was planned months before. It was well organized. Definite responsibility was given to many members. Short program assignments were given to a large number. Each woman in the audience had her own representative in the exercises. The children had a part.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

God is calling loudly for means and men to evangelize the heathen. Shall He call in vain? Open doors are on every hand, which invite the hosts of the Lord to enter. Hands stretched out in the darkness beckon us, millions of voices are pleading, "Come over and help us." Shall we not heed? Motives as high as heaven and as deep as hell constrain us to respond. It is the greatest privilege and an unspeakable honor to have some part in the greatest enterprise the world has ever known or ever will know. The blood of Chinese Christians will be a telling witness for Christ in years to come. The famine in India has afforded the sublimest opportunity for the practical exhibition of Christianity. The explorations of the heart of Africa open up communication with more than 30,000,000 of its inhabitants. What potent reasons, what sublime motives, have we for engaging in this matchless work? Love for God, that finds its highest expression in implicit obedience to the command "Go into all the world"; love for our fellow-men that leads us to do unto them as we would wish them to do unto us. These motives are heaven born, and mean that we are heaven-born. What reasons! God says so, and He is always right. He associates this world's evangelization with the coming of our Lord. When this "gospel of the kingdom" shall be preached in all the world, then shall the end come. In going we are assured of His presence and blessing, and there is no earthly joy comparable to a realization of His blessed presence. Let the Maritime Baptists show the Christian spirit in liberal giving to, and earnest praying for this work, and the result would surely be increasing spirituality and a growing time here at home.

The Baptists of the Southern States seem to be considerably stirred on the subject of Foreign Missions. Many of the churches are giving to the work as never before. Quite a number of them are trying to raise \$500 each toward the support of a missionary in the foreign land. And this not only by some of the larger churches but also quite a few with a membership of two or three hundred are gladly raising this amount also. If this should become general, and why should it not? The churches in the South will be entering upon a new era of mission work, and the blessing will not only fall on the foreign lands but a richer blessing will come to the home churches.

The writer would like to be identified with a church that supports its own pastor and cares for a representative on the foreign field. There are a dozen churches in these Provinces that could do just this thing and would be greatly blessed in the doing. "We owe it to our members to bring them into touch with this foreign missionary movement. No subject is so elevating, so uplifting, so inspiring, so lengthening, so broadening as this subject which occupied the life of Jesus Christ," writes J. R. Mott.

In appealing for funds for the great work among the heathen, the answer sometimes given is like this: "We have had so many calls, or we have just been contributing to some endowment fund, or to repairs on the home church, etc., and therefore you must excuse us from responding to your call."

Now these claims are a reality, but it is submitted with great confidence that all these numerous interests in the home-land would be attended by vastly more of blessing if the plans for giving on the part of the Lord's people were so made as to recognize the primary obligation to evangelize the utterly destitute heathen according to the terms of Christ's last command.

If the servants of Christ plan to provide for all sorts of other things, however excellent in themselves, first, and at the expense of ignoring the foremost thing in the mind of Christ, there will be many a sad disappointment concerning the ultimate worth of the things done. Depend upon it such a course is the surest way to bring on spiritual decline.

Nothing satisfies Satan like the saint who is satisfied with himself.

"A holy life is a preacher of righteousness."

O Pity Them.

The day will never break in glory on
The sleeping earth again, it cannot be,
For he is dead! in gloom the day will come
In gloom depart: the moon will never give
Its light again,—never, for he is dead.
The cry is human, but it is not true:
For nature's care is not for you or me,
Nor anyone alone, it is for man.
So very old this truth, so clear to those
Who see,—alas how many do not see.
How many will not trust because the will
Of God is not their will. O pity them!
For nature, at His word, will punish them.
On rolls the flaming wheel and stops for none.

—ARTHUR D. WILMOT.

Delightful Studies in the Word.

Scriptures: Exodus 17: 1-7; Numbers 20: 1-13; 1 Corinthians 10: 4.

The two Rods and the two Rocks. Each of these four sets forth a different characteristic of Christ Jesus, and a separate phase of his work for and in the believer. There was Moses' rod with which he smote the river of Egypt, and the water was turned to blood, and with which he smote the rock in Rephidim and the water gushed out. This rod shadowed forth the power of the perfect man, Jesus of Nazareth, under the law.

There was Aaron's rod that budded, which Moses was to hold in his hand when he spoke to the rock in Kadesh, which forecast the priestly authority of the risen Christ, but which Moses laid aside, and contrary to the command, took his own rod and smote the rock twice to his own great peril and loss.

Our rock—Tsur, the low-lying rock—set forth the mediatorial work of Jesus. The other—Selah, the up-lifted crag—set forth his work as a tower of strength to his people. The one prefigured the child of God overflowing with spiritual blessings while in affliction, the other showed how his life is hid with Christ in God.

M. B. SHAW.

San Bernardino, Cal., Good Friday, 1901.

Dr. Cumming once reminded his hearers of the Cairngorm mountain in Scotland, whereon the Highlanders gather rock-crystals; when the sun comes out after heavy rains, they search the mountain's brow for shining objects—the storm has washed the earth from the crystals, and now they reflect the sunshine. So the Master's jewels are, oftentimes, discovered shining for Him where the floods of trouble have overflowed; and the Lord thinketh upon them. Not one of the gems for His diadem can be forgotten. Whither art thou passing, O thou afflicted, tried with tempest, as thy feeble steps are crossing the holy ground of grief? Every hour brings thee nearer to that haven where storms are not, that land of flowers that know not the sharpness of thorns, that home where never a sigh of pain is heard, and where in all His beauty thou shalt see the King.—The Quiver.

Dr. Coburn, of Denver, in an article on Mr. Ingersoll's use of the Bible, points out one reason why that popular man failed to shake men's faith in the Bible. It was largely because they were led from his own words to believe that he was overstating his case, and was not scrupulously accurate in his statements. As an example, Dr. Coburn mentions his assertion that the ten commandments were in force in Assyria and Persia thousands of years before Moses was born, yet there was no Persia until centuries after Moses died. The moral on the side of Christians, especially when they are defending their faith, is this: Verify your own statements and question every one made on the other side. Vain philosophy, science so called, and unvarnished history perish beneath the microscope of the man who is determined to know the facts and the truth.—"The Christian."

Run Down

That is the condition of thousands of people who need the stimulus of pure blood—that's all.

They feel tired all the time and are easily exhausted.

Every task, every responsibility, has become hard to them, because they have not the strength to do nor the power to endure.

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