

Palm Branch.

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SEPTEMBER, 1894.

Do you ever think, dear young friends, what a very wise prayer that was of King Solomon's? That prayer for wisdom, which he offered in the days of his youth. He was about to assume a very great responsibility; the cares of a kingdom were descending on his inexperienced shoulders and he felt wholly unequal to the burden. How wise to ask for wisdom! And how greatly God was pleased with the request. How nobly He fulfilled His own promise, and because Solomon sought first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, added all other good things. If the king had only answered his own prayer and been as wise through all the years as then, instead of letting ambition and selfishness take control of his life, what a prosperous, instead of foolish and disappointed old age, he would have had, and what a glorious Bible character he would have been.

God is always pleased with His children when they ask for wisdom, for themselves or for others, and He has promised to give it liberally. Now that is what we are asked to do this month—to pray for wisdom for those who are soon to meet in council to make plans for future work. We are especially warranted to do this because these plans will all touch the interests of God's kingdom in the world and in the hearts of men. We realize more and more how much wisdom is needed for the carrying on of God's work in the world.

Then we are asked to pray, too, for Auxiliaries, Circles and Bands, that the new year may see the dawn of a brighter, better day. It certainly will if in this case we answer our own prayers and not only bring new strength and purpose to the work, but also seek with most determined effort to interest others in it, too.

Last, but not least, we are called upon to pray for those who have been accepted as missionaries,

who are offering for service, as well as our agents in the field. Those, in a word, who have given up all for Christ, who have laid their all upon the altar,—our substitutes! How much they need our prayers. Let us ask ourselves if we, in their places, could do without the prayers of the Christian Church!

We realize how much wisdom they need who are already in the field; who have to grapple with the difficulties and dangers and perplexities of life in a foreign land under such peculiar circumstances. God bless them all and give them the compensation of seeing His work greatly prosper in their hands.

Our readers will be pleased to see Miss Wickett's interesting letter from the Chinese Rescue Home. It is kind in these busy workers to pause in the midst of their work to give us an idea of what they are doing and also of their surroundings. Surely we should greatly appreciate this kindness—and we do. We have all followed, with real pleasure, M. A. R.'s graphic account of "Our Girl's School, Shidzuoka," finished last month (in spite of those little words "to be continued," which crept in by mistake) and we hope before long to have another racy article from her pen. This month we have a most interesting description of "Our Orphanage, Kanazawa," from another of our own missionaries on the ground. Our "Field Study" this month is of special interest to us because it deals with evils in our own Dominion, and is written by one who has opportunity to know whereof she speaks. Whose fault will it be if we are not thoroughly informed on all matters relating to our own fields?

We are lonely without more "Leaves from the Branches." We trust it is only a case of suspended animation, and that when holidays are over they will flourish again.

We would call special attention to Mrs. Howard's notice on last page.

^ Good Time Table.

Sixty seconds make a minute,
How much good can I do it?
Sixty minutes make an hour,
All the good that's in my power,
Twenty hours and four a day,
Time for work, and sleep, and play.
Days, three hundred and sixty-five
Make a year in which to strive.
Every moment, hour, and day,
My dear Mestrs to obey. —Selected.