

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 APRIL.

For the manifestations of the Spirit's power upon Tekkall and its missionaries. That a large number of the Savaras may be won to Christ and special blessings given to the newly-appointed missionaries. That God would bless our mission bands and greatly increase their numbers.

Life is interesting here among the Telugus, and things move on with considerable regularity, but not monotony, as that condition, we seldom experience. We do not have your changeable weather, first freezing, then thawing, to keep us moving either, but we slip from our cool season into a gradually increasing heat, until everything shimmers, and then we steam for some months and then we cool off and gird ourselves for another roast. Why do not more of you young people tire of change and come to the land of perennial summer? For instance, the work here is in great need of a doctor, and I would recommend either men or women, who are anticipating Foreign Missions, to take some medical preparation if they have any taste for service in that line. They would not put it first, even if they had all medical science at the finger ends, but armed with this, they would draw aside the purdahs, and open the zenana doors, and bring light into many homes and hearts.

It is a matter of much regret that our hospital has had to be closed, and many are asking when we will open it again, and they point to some remarkable cases of restoration and say that many are sick. We have now engaged a lady to begin July first, but one should come from home this autumn, and prepare herself with the language, before she will be able to do herself or the work justice. We have now three church members as the direct result of work in the hospital, and they are all at work among the cool class of people, refuting the idea, that so many in this land have, that Christians should not work with their hands. Will you not all continue in prayer till some woman is willing to come from home and take up this department of great usefulness.

Sometime ago a woman seemed to be converted but was held back by her husband and other friends, and finally they got her out of the town, and away from us. Three weeks ago that husband died, and where the woman is we are not sure. A young man, who was much concerned, was sent off to friends some three hundred miles distant, and another man was nearly frightened out of his life by the police. That reminds me of something that is being done for that class of people in India. Lord Radstock is working out an interesting scheme to a successful issue. He is working among Christian policemen at home, and in memory of Queen Victoria they are contributing to a fund to supply policemen in this country with some portion of the Word of God. To inspectors, a whole Bible is given and so on down to the ordinary constable. Through an agent for this work in Coonoor last year, Mr. Archibald secured an allotment for all of our fields, and lately the plans for distribution on this particular field have reached completion. A short time ago, all the town and taluk, that is parish, policemen, who could be tolled off, assembled here some thirty-five or forty, with head constables and inspector, and Mr. Archibald had a good meeting with them, telling them how the books were secured and their value, and the effect that they should have on their lives and hearts. Our children sang and Miss Archibald gave a talk, and all dispersed much pleased with their visit. Gradually those who were not able to be present, are coming in for their books, and now Mr. Archibald has taken a lot of boxes, which he has had made away with him, to put up in various police stations to hold Bibles, gifts from the same fund. The police force in this town is not what it was a year ago, and it is much more to be commended. Similar funds are being raised for women and children, but all the books are to be used with discretion, yet many will get the whole, or some part of the Bible free of charge. I have a New Testament to take to a young widow of nineteen whom I visit, and will you not pray that the light of God may shine into her shadowed life? I have known her from childhood, and have frequently visited her since her husband fell dead nearly a year ago on the street. She is the daughter of one of our most intelligent citizens and was fairly educated, but now the laws of her caste forbid her the pleasure of reading, yet the last time I was at her house she read a few words and I hope she will read this book, even if she does it, as she gave me her good-bye, the other day, she shrank back in the corner, where no one could see her, and offered me her hand.

For years we have had a servant who does our

sweeping, etc., and for a long time she had said that she was believing in Jesus, but did not dare to come out. Some ten days ago she stood on the back verandah and watched while two were baptized in the river below. As soon as we returned she said to one and another that she was going to come out, but we did not pay much attention to it, till she finally told us that she was ready to come, and two days ago she followed her Lord in his appointed way, and has been very bright and happy since. She went back to her home as usual that evening and after a day or so the storm blew over. I thought of Paul's question to the Ephesians, Have ye received the Holy Ghost? and wondered at this woman's oft repeated testimony to her belief, which seemed to be without vitality. But in a moment when we least expected it her heart is melted, and the light is shining out from her face, and she is ready to acknowledge her Saviour. There are some at home who will be glad to hear of this, for many have prayed for her.

In the interest of W. C. T. U. work I have lately had a visit to the old city of Hyderabad and Poona. In the latter place, people were dying of plague at the rate of about a hundred a day, and after my return I was under medical observation for ten days according to law. How often we think of the words, A thousand shall fall at thy side, but it shall not come nigh thee. Thousands are passing into eternity every week from this cause alone, and perhaps the plague never had a stronger hold on the country than now. The W. C. T. U. has only had an active life here for some seven years, so we are not a strong body, but a large work is being done among the young in both native and Eurasian circles, and I was greatly pleased and encouraged as I realized the education that many were now receiving that was quite impossible only a few years ago. We had a medal contest in Hyderabad, where the children sang and recited beautifully. A poor drunkard strayed into one of these contests last year, and while there the spirit of God visited him, and he was not only turned from the habit of drinking, but he came straight to his heavenly Father, and now he is telling to others what has been done for him. It is here a little and there a little, and who knoweth which shall prosper, this or that.

Secunderabad, one of the largest English military stations in India, is only three miles from Hyderabad, and some four miles from Secunuerabad is a large English Fort, from which at a certain hour every day a gun is fired and from the large native town of Hyderabad, the stronghold of the Nizam's dominions, an immediate response is expected. A lady told us, that not so very long ago, the Nizam said that he did not know why he should have his cannon answer that from the Fort, just at a given time, and that he would not do it. This was the understood signal that all was well. But one night the cannon from the Fort sent out its loud call and no reply came back. A second roar of thunder rolled out into the night, and still no response, and the bugle call to arms sounded through the Fort seven miles away. A third time a cannon from the Fort sent out its question, is all well, and when no answer was returned, there was an order to march on the gates of Hyderabad, and now every night the gun from the city responds to that from the Fort within so many minutes, I forget the number. Hyderabad is a walled city, and looks inside, as if English influence had never touched its strong Mohammedan life.

Here also, in this vicinity, is the old Fort of Galconda, built some three hundred years ago, and from its situation, on the side and top of a hill, it seems as if it might have been impregnable. And one of the Professors in the Nizam's College told me that it was not taken but was betrayed into the hands of the enemy, when there was war between the Hindus and Mohammedans. This gentleman also told me, that a prophecy had lately come to light, but whether it was uttered by the Commander of this Fort or not, I do not now remember, but it was like this. An imprisoned enemy was charged by the King Aurang Zeeb with lifting his eyes towards the walls of the Imperial Zenana, and was brought out to answer thereto. He denied, and said he was not guilty, but, said he, I see fair-haired hosts coming over the sea, who will destroy your walls and tear down your purdahs. He was beheaded the next day, and his grave is now at Delhi, and at the recent Durbar Hindus visited it, and did homage to his memory. The fair haired hosts are here, and the walls are crumbling, and the blessed Gospel light is penetrating the zannas, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them, yet should we not all the more earnestly pray, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is done in Heaven?

Just here comes some people from a distance of eight miles to the Hospital, but happily we can manage this, we think, so give some medicine and send them off, with instruction to come next week again. They have been to the other 'hospital' several times, and got no good, and my heart cries out for some one who is skilled in the healing art, who can give her time to this very gratifying work.

You have been asked many times to pray for the

convicting power of the Spirit of God to be manifested on this field, and we all believe that he is working in the hearts of many. Will you still hold to this request, for as I see him work I stand aside and say so often to myself, without me ye can do nothing. And again I wonder if I will ever learn how little is accomplished if the worker has not a living connection with the Son of God.

C. H. ARCHIBALD.

Chicacole, India, March, 1903.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

It has been said that offerings for our mission work may be classified as follows: "The careless offering, the perfunctory offering, the painstaking and thorough offering, the prayerful and great offering." Certainly that only can be dignified as a good offering where the church does its best.

The brethren who have the oversight of our Foreign Mission enterprise will be delighted to have the pastors and churches do their very best in the offerings which they make for this great department of our work. There is only a little more than three months before the work of the year will close. Brother pastor what have you and your church been doing for those who know not Jesus and this perhaps because they have never heard of Him. What you do, do quickly.

It was the late Dr. John A. Broadus who said that the only specific prayer Jesus laid upon his disciples was "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest." He said also that this was very frequently neglected. We have sent forth some laborers. We ought to send forth more of them. But when they are sent forth, it must be borne in mind that they need to be supported while they are at work. They require food and raiment, and they are in a strange land, where no donations are received, for in many instances they are unwelcome visitors. Brethren, send along your offerings our treasury sounds very empty at the present time, and while this is so strange as it may seem, the missionaries report more than the usual interest in their respective field.

The Banner Church for Giving.

According to Dr. Ashmore, of China, the most liberal church in the world is found in Hawaii. He says:—"We found that the church had a heavy infusion of the descendants of the old missionaries who had evangelized Hawaii—the Judds, the Bingham, the Gulicks, and others. Well, here is a missionary church. They are carrying on a mission of their own in the Gilbert Islands, sending money to the American Board also. Last year they gave \$40,000 to carry on their mission. This year they have already sent \$1,000 of Uncle Sam's yellow gold on to Boston, and the second and third thousands are to follow soon, and that does not include private gifts of individuals whom the Lord has prospered. The expenses of the church are all paid by private subscriptions and the Sunday collections—every red penny of them. These collections have been sometimes astonishing in size. On one Sunday they raised \$14,000; on another, by special appeal, they amounted to \$34,000. Such giving as that would take the breath of the Baptists of a whole state with us. Not long ago, when the old Mother Board was in a pinch, they sent on \$9,000 at a clip."

This is good testimony. It confirms the far-sightedness of Christian men in the days gone by. They believe Jesus meant what he said when he instructed his disciples to "go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," and they acted upon their convictions. They had no doubt as to their duty as Christians in this matter, men were living in the dark. They knew not the light, nor where to find it, so these men of light and knowledge said, to one another we must take it to these peoples. This they did, and with such magnificent results, sometimes we hear a poor half-starved soul say, "I don't believe in Foreign Missions." Of course he doesn't. What does he believe in? He is too lean and hungry looking to believe in anything. What that man needs more than anything else is a genuine conversion.

Eruptions

Pimples, boils, tetter, eczema or salt rheum,
Are signs of diseased blood.

Their radical and permanent cure, therefore
consists in curing the blood.

Angus Fisher, Sarnia, Ont., and Paul Keeton, Woodstock, Ala., were greatly troubled with boils; Mrs. Della Lord, Leominster, Mass., had pimples all over her body; so did R. W. Garretson, New Brunswick, N. J. The brother of Sadie E. Stockmar, 87 Miller St., Fall River, Mass., was afflicted with eczema so severely that his hands became a "mass of sores."

These sufferers, like others, have voluntarily testified to their complete cure by

Hood's Sarsaparilla

This great medicine acts directly and peculiarly on the blood, rids it of all humors, and makes it pure and healthy.