

Asked if they would join the circle but received in reply a most incoherent "I do not know" from Helen. From Marjorie, "If Helen does I will."

They were walking toward the door when Helen turned abruptly to the corner of the room where Janet Robson was standing with an open note book in her hand, and an expectant half disappointed look after the retreating girls.

Janet's lips moved and the prayer uttered was answered while she yet spake to her heavenly Friend.

Helen drew near, followed by Marjorie.

"Will you place your name on my note book as one of the Volunteer Committee?" The voice was very winning.

"I wish I could, but I dare not. I came here with no more interest in missions than if I had never heard of the heathen. Then, I felt angry and indignant with those who caused the suffering of the Chinese girls. After that I wanted to do something that would really help them. Now I should like it to be 'personal work for the Lord.'"

"What strides this soul has made toward the kingdom," thought Janet. She opened her lips to answer the dark eyes that were observing her so earnestly, when a sob startled both girls. It was Marjorie. "I'll—take—a—music pupil." Helen turned wistfully to her friend. "Wouldn't you like to take that pupil 'for the Lord,' Marge?"

"Yes, I would, if I knew how," and two big tears rolled down the soft rosy cheeks.

"Call unto Me and I will answer thee," Janet repeated slowly, then knelt, followed by Helen and Marjorie.

All the others had gone and they three were alone with God.

It did not take long to teach those hearts, ready for the Master's service, that "The gift of God is eternal life." Helen and Marjorie accepted this gift. Thus the bright, heedless couple, for whom the minister had prayed were now enlisted as soldiers in the King's army, and Janet Robson's prayer was answered—"Call unto Me and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not."

BERTHA DICKSON.

LONDON.

Our Young Folk.

TASTE AND SEE.

A LITTLE Jewish girl received a present of honey. Of the qualities of honey she knew nothing, for of honey she had never tasted. Her father coming home said, "Well, my little girl, what have you here?" She tried to tell her father something of its flavor. "It is so sweet—it is as sweet as—Well, papa, if you want to know how sweet it is, you must taste it yourself." From the inspired Word comes the exhortation: "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!" Tasting, not arguing, enables one to see the goodness of God. It is not taste and also see; but it is taste, and as a consequence you will see. One may see, even without logical proof, that God is good, and may see it so clearly that one shall have stronger conviction of God's goodness than would be possible by mere reasoning. It is neither religion, nor science, nor common sense, to believe nothing which one cannot demonstrate. Without going through a process of reasoning, one may know that God is good.

"Oh, taste and see!" Have experience of the goodness of God and you shall know it. You shall know it in consequence of the experience. The experience is to come from God himself. As a tree can have no life in separation from the soil, so man can have no life if separated from God.

God must be in us, or we are dead. "And this is life eternal that they should know thee, the only true God, and him whom thou didst send, even Jesus Christ." When one becomes thoroughly dissatisfied with drawing life merely from the earth, and even from the lower region of truth, and is willing to receive that great gift, *eternal life*, then one knows God, knows him as goodness with no admixture of badness—pure, perfect goodness. God becomes known as good through the spiritual communication of himself in Christ, not through reasoning. Oh, taste, and you will know that God is good!—*Journal and Messenger*.

IF I WERE A BOY.

IT is Bishop Vincent who said, "If I were a boy I should play and romp, sing and shout, climb trees, explore caves, swim rivers, and be able to do all the manly things that belong to the manly sports; love and study nature; travel as widely and observe as wisely as I could; study hard (with a will) when the time came for study; read the best literature—works of the imagination, history, science, and art—according to my taste and needs; get a good knowledge of English; try to speak accurately and pronounce distinctly; go to college, and go through college, even if I expected to be a clerk, a farmer, or a mechanic; spend my Sundays reverently; try to be a practical, every-day Christian; help on every good cause; never make sport of sacred things; be 'about my Father's business;' use 'the world, and not abuse it;' treat old men as fathers, 'the younger men as brethren, the elder women as mothers, the younger as sisters, in all purity;' and thus I should try to be a Christian gentleman, wholesome, sensible, cheerful, independent, courteous."

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
FIELD NOTES. By the Editor	65
EDITORIAL AND CONTRIBUTED :—	
Editorial Notes	66
Unsolicited Testimony	66
Some Open Letters	66
The Chinese Work	68
The Relative Claims of Domestic and Foreign Missions on the Liberality of the Church	69
ALONG THE LINE :—	
The Indian Work—Letter from Rev. W. W. Adamson	70
" " Letter from A. S. Edwards	71
The Chinese Work—Letter from Mr. Ch'an Sing Kai.	71
" " Letter from O. L. Kilborn, M.D.	71
The French Work	72
Newfoundland Conference	72
WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY :—	
Notes by the Editor—Our New Missionary—Question Corner—Seed Thoughts—Our Foreign Department —Western Branch—New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island—Our Home Work Department—The Mission Bands—Newfoundland Orphanage—The French Methodist Institute—General Treasurer's Department—Sketch: Plans for Work	73-79
OUR YOUNG FOLK :—	
Taste and See	80
If I were a Boy	80

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