

Foreign Mission.

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 MARCH.

For Bimilipatan, its missionaries and native helpers and for those who amid persecution are striving to follow Christ. Pray that the effort now being made for raising the Century Fund may be a great success.

Chicacole.

DEAR SISTERS:—We had an eclipse yesterday and you cannot imagine what a time the Hindus make over such an event unless you should see them with your own eyes. At about seven a. m., Balaram came over from the school saying not one of the Hindu boys had put in an appearance. The head teacher was there but he wished to join his fellow-men in a bath in the sea. Every good Hindu ate nothing but repaired to the sea—carts, carriages and men and women on foot hurried along so that they might receive great blessings as the sea is quite a distance; the old the weak and the halt had to content themselves by flocking to the river. They began to gather about ten, and sat there looking through dark glass for the first sign of the eclipse. When it came with a howl they sprang into the river and repeated over and over their mantras keeping up a deafening noise until their strength failed, then they slowly one after the other crept out and sat on the sand to rest, the eclipse did not disappear until after three so they had to wait all that time, then take a final bath. When it was all over then only was it safe to go home and cook their food. You ask, What castes did it? All even the out-castes have that privilege? Why? is the next question. Each tell a different story. I will tell you what one of my boys in Sunday School the day before said in a most awe-struck voice: "A snake tries to swallow the sun, and all the people by their prayers and noise must scare him away." This is written in some of their old writings. Some know better? O, yes, B. A.'s are among the bathers but you must remember their ancestors did it so must they.

Another version I heard yesterday was that two out-castes with a dirty cloth were trying to cover the sun, the shadow polluted everything it fell on so they must stay in the water to escape pollution. With my Bible, hymn-book and hand I gave the boys an object lesson. They said our teachers have never told us this so how were we to know that it was only a shadow on the sun. This month is what they call the month of lights. For two nights we have been treated to fireworks in the town and every house front is lit up with countless little lights. This morning the Brahmin widows and all who wish to gain special merit were down at the river long before daylight, making little boats of plantain leaves and in them putting a little oil with a lighted wick. I got up to see them as they floated down the river. These lights are supposed to help their dead friends find their way to heaven.

The darkness is indeed appalling and they know not that one great light came into the world to light all men to the home above. Sunday evening, because of the noise of fire-crackers, etc., (a real Chicago fourth of July), the Christians suggested we have service here as no outsiders would come. Our subject was "Why should we love Christ and how show love." We as our Master's representatives here must shine with no uncertain light. Pray for us that our lamps may be always trimmed.

A note to-day from Miss Archibald who is in town was full of praise because many were hearing the word with joy. The Lord has given us a great victory over self and helped her to say "Thy will be done" even when he called her dear mother home. We know you are remembering us at a throne of grace so thank our Father and take courage. Yours very sincerely,

MARTHA CLARE.

Mission Band Concert at Clyde River, P. E. I.

The Mission Band of the Clyde River Baptist church gave a concert in the church building on Wednesday evening, Feb. 12. A drifting snow storm did not prevent the presence of an audience that completely filled the edifice. The singing by the choir, the young people and the children, proved to be of excellent quality, while the numerous recitations were of a very high order. If there is another lot of children that can excel the boys and girls of Clyde River in this phase of entertainment, they are in some place that the writer has never visited or heard of. Some fifteen dollars was realized for missionary purposes. At Clyde River the Aid Society and the Mission Band, under the able direction of Mrs. Hugh McMillan and Miss Jennie Scott, respectively, are doing excellent work and constituting a very important element of the church. A. F. BROWN.

A Mission Band was organized at Hartland, Carleton county, Jan. 26, with 38 members. Pres. Mrs. G. C. Watson; Vice President, Mrs. P. Boyer; Secretary, Miss Edith Kennedy; Treasurer, Miss M. Curtis; Auditor, Mrs. M. Corey.

Apple River.

Our W. M. A. S. was reorganized in 1893 with a membership of five. Since then our members have been increasing and decreasing alternately. Three sisters have moved to other places, and two have gone to "That Better Land." We now number thirteen. Since reorganizing we have raised one hundred and thirty-five dollars for mission work, and fifteen dollars toward a church building fund. We have had much to discourage us but are not cast down, and are looking for better things in the coming days. "O, for a faith that will not shrink." Our meetings are held on the first Thursday in every month, from house to house. At our last meeting (which was held at the home of Mrs. Callahan) one of our sisters read a very touching letter from Miss Archibald, and we would echo her closing words:

"O, ye saints! arouse, be earnest!
Up and work while yet 'tis day,
Ere the night of death o'ertake you!
Strive for souls while yet you may."

M. A. M., Sec'y.

Received from W. M. A. Societies.

FROM FEB. 5TH TO 24TH.

Halifax North Church, F. M. \$10, H. M. \$14 Reports, 60c.; Advocate, leaflets, 31c.; Springhill, F. M. \$4, H. M. \$1, 35c.; Tidings, 25c.; Fairfield Tidings, 25c.; Paradise, F. M. \$8.50, H. M. \$2.50; Bonshaw, F. M. \$5, Tidings, 25c.; New Canada, F. M. \$3.60; Greenville, F. M. \$4.75, H. M. \$2.65; Annandale, F. M. \$2, H. M. \$2; Glace Bay, Tidings, 25c.; Port Maitland, F. M. \$10; Lower New Castle, toward support of Martha Appalamme, \$9; Tan-cook, F. M. \$1; Yarmouth, Zion church, F. M. \$8, H. M. \$4.50; Upper Stewiack, F. M. \$1; West Jeddore, F. M. \$6; Yarmouth, Temple church, F. M. \$2.70; Glace Bay, leaflets, 15c.; Clementsvalle, F. M. \$7.85, Reports, 15c.; St. John, Tidings, 50c.; Truro, Immanuel church, F. M. \$5.17, H. M. \$3 Reports, 50c.; Clarence, F. M. \$18, H. M. \$5; St. Stephen, to constitute Mrs. W. W. Grimmer a life member, F. M. \$15, H. M. \$10; Havelock, F. M. \$10.50, N. B. H. M. 39c.; Lawrencetown, F. M. \$11, H. M. \$3.50, Reports, 20c.; St. John, Main St. F. M. \$2.3, Reports, 80c.; Springfield, F. M. \$5; "A friend," toward Miss Harrison's salary, \$25, G. L. Building Fund, \$25, North West Missions, \$50; Mt. Denison, F. M. \$3.75, H. M. \$3, Tidings, 25c. Reports, 10c.; Farmington, F. M. \$2.50, H. M. \$1.50; North Kingston, Chicacole Hospital, F. M. \$16, H. M. \$6; Brookville, F. M. \$3.50, proceeds of meeting, \$3; Kentville, F. M. \$9.55; Aylesford, F. M. \$16; North Temple, F. M. \$6.55, H. M. 92c.; Ohio, F. M. \$7.70, H. M. 83c.

MARY SMITH, Treas. W. B. M. U.

Amherst, P. O. B. 513

Notes By the Way.

After strict investigation I am compelled to believe that some few people read these notes. Some fewer again have seen and remembered the name appended, while a very few have made a shrewd guess as to what the writer's business is. Shall I tell them again? Not this week. Perhaps some will have solved the problem for themselves before next week's Notes appear. It will be unnecessary also to correct the printer's errors which always manage to creep in, and no doubt the poor printer is not alone to be blamed. These corrections can all be made by the exercise of the reader's intelligence and imagination.

After spending the Sabbath in preaching at Round Hill, Granville Ferry, and Annapolis, the writer reluctantly left that interesting place and kindly people, and started once more eastward.

BRIDGETOWN

was soon reached, and a warm welcome was received from Pastor Daley, with a pressing invitation to use the parsonage as headquarters during my stay in town. While in Baptist circles there is nothing special to report quiet progress is being made in all departments. During the past year the church debt has been largely reduced and a few years more will see it wiped out. In Pastor Daley the Baptist church has a man who, if he does not suit everybody, comes about as near to it as is consistent with moral health and spiritual vitality. Yet we must not praise him too much lest he become unduly puffed up. The statement of one enthusiastic member that they have in Bridgetown the best preacher in the Dominion may need to be qualified somewhat.

Two days were spent in Bridgetown. As our denominational paper is already widely circulated among the Baptist families there was not much opportunity of largely increasing the subscription list. Yet some new names were added, and arrearages were easily collected. But there are still, even in this place, some Baptist homes which are filled with other and inferior papers to the exclusion of our Baptist organ.

PARADISE AND CLARENCE.

The next station above Bridgetown on the D. A. R. is Paradise. A former conductor used carefully to distinguish its location by always adding as he called out the station the letters "N. S." Whether the place deserves its celestial appellation I may be scarcely competent to judge after an experience of only two days. But even a limited observation will show that in the general diffusion of the comforts and even luxuries of life it is surpassed by no section of even this favored province. In respect to intelligence and appreciation of education, the churches of Paradise and Clarence take no second place. Barring Wolfville, no two churches in the Maritime Provinces have sent more students from among their membership to our denominational schools. Apples and Baptist students are the principal products of the place. It has given us an Attorney-General of Nova Scotia, a Professor of Acadia, a Principal of Horton Academy, while the ministers, teachers, doctors, lawyers, etc., are almost without number. Among the attractions of the place we can scarcely name the roads, at least at the present time of year. In length and breadth they may not differ much from the ordinary, but their depth is certainly worthy of remark. But for this the recent thaw is largely responsible, and at another time of year the visitor would not even find this drawback.

For nearly five years Rev. E. L. Steeves has ministered to these churches wisely, energetically, and acceptably. No large ingathering has been enjoyed of late, for the good reason that but few in the community are not already members of the church. All departments of the church are in a state of health, and pastor and people are working zealously together for the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

Of my own work here there is need for but few words. As in other places there are those who enjoy and appreciate the strong mental and spiritual food which the MESSENGER AND VISITOR affords from week to week, and these make the work pleasant and profitable. And if here as in other places there are those who 'care for none of these things' the proportion of such is not so large as in some places. And the short stay here has been made more pleasant by the abounding hospitality enjoyed at the home of Bro. I. M. Longley, whose son with myself was a member of the class of 1901 of Acadia College. Bro. Longley is the honored principal of the public school at Paradise, and is himself a B. A. and M. A. of Acadia. Our Baptist college has given many good men to the public school system of Nova Scotia, since that system was first organized by an Acadia graduate. I might say that at Bridgetown also the principal is an Acadia man, E. H. Cameron of the class of 1900.

If this letter has grown to undue proportions, the editor is an adept in the art of removing useless embellishments, and I trust he will not hesitate to exercise his skill.

R. J. COLPITTS

Paradise, March 1.

Canon Gore, recently made Bishop of Worcester, is not a man to prophesy smooth things. In summing up the nineteenth century, he said: "It closed with a widespread sense of disappointment and anxiety among many of those who cared most for righteousness and truth in the world. In all departments of life there was a lack of conspicuously leading men. There was a great diffusion of popular education, but it was doubtful whether it had promoted thought, or character, or skillfulness."

A correspondent of the Presbyterian is right in these needed words: "The longed-for revival will never come until the lost come to have a proper realization of the holiness and justice of God, and the exceeding sinfulness of sin, and, that unless God, out of his infinite mercy, saves, there is absolutely no hope for the sinner. When the unsaved begin to realize this, then they will begin to call on God for help."

Rheumatism

No other disease makes one feel so old.

It stiffens the joints, produces lameness, and makes every motion painful.

It is sometimes so bad as wholly to disable, and it should never be neglected.

M. J. McDonald, Trenton, Ont., had it after a severe attack of the grip; Mrs. Hattie Turner, Bolivar, Mo., had it so severely she could not lift anything and could scarcely get up or down stairs; W. H. Shepard, Sandy Hook, Conn., was laid up with it, was cold even in July, and could not dress himself.

According to testimonials voluntarily given, these sufferers were permanently relieved, as others have been, by

Hood's Sarsaparilla

which corrects the acidity of the blood, on which rheumatism depends, and builds up the whole system.