

CONCERNING THE ORPHAN GIRLS AT DEUGHUR, INDIA.

We have had a gratifying response to the call for individuals and organizations to assume the support of the seventy-six girls given our missionaries by the British government when it closed its orphanages. It is most gratifying that a large number of families have each promised to maintain a child. The majority of these families have small incomes. In some of them the payment of the \$30 per year that is required, will necessitate real self-denial. Our God will abide in such homes and richly bless them.

There are twenty-five or thirty girls for whom support has not yet been provided. They are now being maintained by our missionaries. We desire to assign them at once. Many persons hesitate about undertaking this work, lest in future they may not be able to continue it. Those who prefer to do so can promise to support a child during this year, and at its close make a decision whether the work will be continued. Those willing to assist in this good work should write me at once.

MATTIE POUNDS.

306 North Delaware Street,
Indianapolis, Ind.

CHILDREN'S WORK.

Previously reported, \$2 14
Leonardville, Happy Band, 3 00
\$5 14

SUSIE FORD STEVENS, *Treasurer*,
Willow Park,
Halifax, N. S.

Book Reviews.

LETTERS TO A YOUNG METHODIST PREACHER: by
Ashley S. Johnson. 235 pages. Paper cover.
Price 50 cents.

This is a book containing a series of short epistles on the plan of salvation. The subject is discussed under the following heads: The Bible vs. Creeds; Rightly Dividing the Word; The Keys of the Kingdom; The Holy Spirit's Mission; The Great Commission; What must I do to be Saved? Which is the true Church? Faith and Confession: Repentance; Baptism; A Common-Sense View of the Plan of Salvation; What Name shall we Wear; Prayer and its Limitations; Sanctification; Christian Union; The Lord's Supper.

The object of these letters is to point out many of the errors which arise from placing faith in fallible standards instead of resting it upon the Bible alone. Bro. Johnston acknowledges the Scriptures not only as the last but the *only* authority to which appeal should be made. All denominations have recourse to the Bible as the foundation of their tenets and many of their practices; but they nevertheless take their first stand upon their creeds. Those, however, who take the Word alone have a decided advantage over those who examine it through secondary sources.

The glory and strength of the plea of the Disciples of Christ lies in their clear and loyal advocacy of the great ground principles of Christianity. This is as true of the writings as of the pulpit utterances of our leading thinkers. While our writers may not excel in any other particular, yet none surpass them as expounders of the gospel. Measured by the popular standard, our literature lacks the scholarly research and classical style of the leading works of other bodies. But the world needs the gospel more than

polished speculative books. To clear the plan of salvation from the mysteries which the theologian has surrounded it with is now the first duty of the Christian thinker. Bro. Johnson's books aim at this.

The author treats his subject with the plain yet thorough, logical style which characterizes his writings. While the book is simple enough to be understood by all readers yet there is a strength in it that can be found in but few works on the same subject. Mr. Johnson does not rest his expositions upon a few scattered texts, but considers all the striking passages bearing upon the themes discussed. In this way he is able to give a broad harmonious account of the scheme of redemption instead of a narrow one-sided view which a part consideration of it would necessarily give rise to. He impresses one as a writer who assumes nothing; but is prepared to take, without restriction, whatever God reveals. The key to the Bible is contained in the answer to, "What must I do to be saved? The person who solves this question is in a fair way to understand—hence harmonize—all scripture. But he who fails to obtain a clear insight into this most important problem will not rightly grasp divine revelation. Bro. Johnson seems to have a thorough conception of this truth.

A fair exegesis of verses of scripture taken from many portions of God's word, can only be made by an unbiased consideration of all circumstances surrounding and prompting the writing of each passage, and an entire freedom from our former opinions and the opinions of others. The violation of this principle has given rise to much of the misunderstanding and differences of opinion respecting the Bible. One effect of an undue regard for pre-conceived ideas is to cause us to strain texts to meet those views. Mr. Johnson, however, is not a slave to set interpretations. He does not wrench the scriptures to suit a peculiar persuasion. At times he presents opposite sides of a case and leaves the reader to judge for himself.

The plan of the book is good. While there is a certain amount of continuity of thought running through these short essays; yet each is distinct enough from the others to form a complete treatise in itself. This is very convenient. Should we wish at any time to refresh our memories on any of the themes treated, we can do so by reading a single article. It is a valuable reference book.

Brother Johnson's address is Kimberlin Heights, Knox County, Tennessee. The book may be obtained from him direct, or through the Good Literature Committee.

O. B. STOCKFORD.

We have examined the Standard Eclectic Commentary for 1899. Sunday-school teachers should be provided with the very best helps obtainable. The school that uses these aids will not have to regret their selection. Get the best, that you may in the school be able to do the best work. Besides, the price of the book has gone down this year, while its value has gone up. Write the Standard Publishing Co., 216-220 E. Ninth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

MAIN STREET BUILDING FUND.

Previously acknowledged,	\$133 40
Collected by H. Ferris,	
W. Johnson,	\$1 00
J. Johnson,	1 00
G. G. Johnson,	1 00
D. A. Morrison,	3 00
P. ——— Per D. A. Morrison,	20 00
	25 00
	\$181 40

ROBERT ROBERTS, *Treasurer*.

T. H. Capp is still preaching in Plattsburg, Mo. The church is spending \$500 in beautifying their audience room. A writer in the *Register-Review* says the congregation "love their pastor, T. H. Capp, and his devoted wife, and the love is not misplaced, for they are worthy of it all."

Died.

HARKER — Died of paralysis, on the 7th of October last, at Cavendish, P. E. I., in her fifty-fourth year, Sister Emily Harker, leaving a family of seven children and other relatives to mourn her loss. She was married first to Mr. Fraser of Nova Scotia, who died four years after. Was again married to Mr. George Harker, of Cavendish, about fourteen years ago, who died eighteen months before her. She had by the first marriage two daughters, and by the second two sons and three daughters. She was baptized by Bro. John B. Wallace twenty-six years ago, and faithfully adhered to the Christian religion till suddenly called away by death. We trust that her example and the instruction she gave to her children so suddenly left orphans will, by God's grace, be cherished by them till they meet in the better land.—D. C.

MINARD.—Bro. Howard Minard, son of Bro. Parker Minard, of Milton, departed this life November 10th. He went to Haverhill, Mass., a few years ago, and in the course of time married Miss Stella Thompson, of Haverhill. Soon after his marriage they removed to Everett, Mass., and while there he was prostrated with pneumonia, from which he never fully recovered. He came back to Haverhill, with the intention of returning home to Milton, but he was too feeble to continue his journey. He was very anxious to see his parents and his brothers and sisters. His father hastened to Haverhill, and kind Providence permitted him to reach there before Howard died. It was unbought joy to the son to have his father with him, and a great degree of satisfaction to the father to be with his son, and to minister to his wants in his last hours. With his body resting on his earthly father, and his soul resting in his Saviour, he peacefully and hopefully closed his earthly life. His body was brought home to the afflicted family and buried in the village churchyard where rests the earthly remains of many of our dear ones. The writer baptized Howard at Milton, and after his wedding he was an active member of the church both in Haverhill and Everett, Mass. His hope in Christ has incarnated itself into a blessed assurance that our earthly loss is his eternal gain. "We sorrow not as those who have no hope," but rejoice in the hope that the departed is enjoying that heavenly life that is untouched and undimmed by the sorrows and cares of life. The family and the devoted wife may feel assured they have the deep and heartfelt sympathy of all their friends. And may they find in Christ a hiding place in time of trouble, who will compass them about with songs of deliverance.—H. M.

The church of Christ at Everett, Mass., requests that the following resolutions be appended to the obituary notice.

Whereas, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to take from our midst Bro. Howard Minard; and,
Whereas, Our departed brother was a member with us in full fellowship, and was leading a faithful and exemplary Christian life; and therefore,

Resolved, That we deeply regret the loss we have sustained in being deprived of the fellowship of our brother, and we heartily sympathize with his friends and relations, especially with his bereaved wife; and also we rejoice for the assurance that he felt fully prepared and willing to depart this life, "to be with Christ which is far better." And ere long we hope, we shall meet with him in that home on high, where pain and parting will be unknown; fur hor,

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his wife, be published in the *New England Messenger*, and be recorded in the minutes of the church.

H. A. LING,
R. HOWARD BOLTON. } *Committee.*

NEW LIMERICK, Mo., Nov. 14, 1898.

GENTLEMEN,—You have probably forgotten me, but I have not forgotten the excellent training I received at your institution. * * * I look upon the education you imparted to me as the principal means of my success in life. * * * I now hold the highest position in the largest business in Northern Missouri. I intend to send my son to your college as soon as he is old enough. * * *

(Signed) HORACE V. PRINCE.

S. KERR & SON.
Oddfellows' Hall.