

that be,' and seeking to bring light to those who sit in darkness, may thus trim and fill and kindle her lamp of service, that by its clear and steadfast shining the way of righteousness may be revealed to many hearts."

The current number of "The Helpmeet," representing the Woman's Missionary Association of the Free Church of Scotland, quotes at length a letter bearing on the same subject from an "experienced and devoted missionary." She writes:

"What has the past year taught me? It has added emphasis to the lesson that many years have been teaching me, viz., that he who would win souls should have special training for his work. We women need a thorough course of Bible study just as truly as the men; we need training in actual soul-winning. Who thinks, in these progressive days, of calling in, to treat a diseased body, a man who never saw the inside of a dissecting-room, nor ever listened to a clinical lecture? But apart from matters pertaining to life and death, who thinks of setting a man to build a house who never handled a trowel, saw, or hammer, and whose highest qualification for the work is a desire to build a house, coupled with fair general intelligence? And yet how many scores and hundreds of men and women have been sent out to win souls—immortal souls—with as meagre a preparation; a desire—it may be a burning desire—to do the work, but with a very meagre knowledge of the instruments to be used! As well send out a man to do medical work equipped with a medical library and a surgical case, but with no training in the use of either. Don't think for a moment that I suppose men and women who have not been Bible readers are sent out to heathen lands as missionaries. But ordinary Bible reading is a very different thing from careful Bible study, especially if taken under the guidance of a 'clinical professor.'

"When I think of my own lack of preparation, and consequent lack of success, nothing short of the memory of the 'Woe is me if I go not,' which haunted me for long years before I came, could convince me that my coming was not a mistake. The Lord graciously consents to use unskilled workmen; but shall we, for that reason, offer Him anything less than the best we can produce? I am thankful—so thankful—that the next one likely to come from our Ladies' Society has had a special training for a definite work, and that one of the most important. We older ones, who have had fewer advantages, will soon pass away. God grant that every new one, coming out to fill the vacant places, may come well equipped to win souls."

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As time goes on we shall need more missionaries. Earnest appeals for medical workers for India and China have had to be laid aside during the past year for lack of suitable applicants. Others will be needed as vacancies occur and the work extends, and the Board is