

Foreign Missions.

The March Offering for Foreign Missions.

The first Lord's day in March is the time suggested. This day is now not far distant. There is an advantage in all giving at the same time. If it is not attended to on the day named it may be forgotten.

Ample preparation is needed. The facts should be stated over and over again. Other claims may crowd out the thought of this duty. The people need to be urged to lay by in store week by week that they may have a goodly sum in hand when the day comes. A knowledge of the facts is a necessary condition of generous giving.

The present obligations of the Foreign Society amount to \$6,000 a month. There are 123 names on the pay roll. The Chicago Convention urged an enlargement of effort and of expenditures. Houses, chapels, schools and workers are needed.

To get a generous offering a church must go about it as it would to raise funds for a new building or for any other large enterprise. A plate collection will not suffice. Subscriptions must be called for. The congregation must be thoroughly canvassed. This is a great work, and it needs offerings on a grand scale. Pennies and dimes alone will not do. Some ought to give their thousands, others hundreds, and others smaller sums.

It may provoke some to know what others are doing. Last year the Congregationalists gave \$679,000; the Presbyterians, \$1,014,000; the Baptists and Methodists, each over \$1,000,000; the English Wesleyans, \$682,000; the English Baptists, \$628,000; the Independents, \$699,000; the Free Church of Scotland, \$540,000; the Church of England, over \$2,000,000. Last year the American Board received from the mission churches, \$115,000; the Baptists, \$75,000; the Methodists, \$91,000.

The preachers or elders must see that this offering is made. There is no one else to see to it. The Episcopalians have sixty bishops, and every bishop is a mission agent. The Methodists have a college of bishops, and have besides 450 presiding elders. Every bishop and every presiding elder is a missionary agent. Every church is reached in the year. We have no such machinery, and must depend upon the ministers and elders.

Alexander Campbell said: "The church, therefore, of right is, and ought to be, a great missionary society. Her parish is the whole earth—from sea to sea, and from the Euphrates to the last domicile of man. A Christian community without missions and missionaries would, indeed, be a solecism in creation, and a gross deviation from the order, the economy, and the government of the universe." It is the duty of every church and of every Christian to assist this work.

A. McLEAN, Cor. Sec.
F. M. RAINS, Fin. Sec.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

Ontario.

P. Baker, Everton... \$10 00
J. H. Hanns, Craighurst 15 00

A Dozen Facts About China.

- 1. Its population is 400,000,000, or about one-third of the human race
2. Every man in China has at least three religions, and each two of these is worse than the first.
3. There are 913 cities in China without a single missionary.
4. At least 200,000 babies are

brutally killed every year to get them out of the way.

5. It gives a sum equal to \$300,000,000 annually for idolatry.

6. During the past thirty-three years the number of Christians in China has increased eighty fold.

7. Last year Chinese Christians gave \$44,000 for the spread of the gospel in their own land.

8. Fifty years ago it was a capital offense for a Chinese to be a Christian; now the gospel can be preached with more liberty than in many parts of Europe.

9. Twenty-five years ago there were not, perhaps, more than 100 missionaries in China, and not more than 3,000 converts; now there are about 1,400 missionaries, and 100,000 Christians.

10. The religions are Confucianism, Buddhism, and Taoism. But the real and universal religion is Ancestral worship.

11. The history of China extends back 2,500 years before Christ. It was a great nation before Abraham went out from Ur to the Chaldees. A thousand years before Romulus dreamed of building Rome, her people were prosperous.

12. While an exile at St. Helena, Napoleon said, "When China is moved it will change the face of the globe." Only the gospel will move it.

F. K. RAINS, Fin. Sec.

Some Things to Encourage.

There are some things respecting the March offering for foreign missions to encourage the friends of this great enterprise.

1. Nearly two hundred churches have promised to make an offering this year for the first time in their history. If this number could be multiplied by five or seven, victory would be assured. There is no reason why every church and every disciple should not contribute generously to this work.

2. A goodly number of churches are making strenuous efforts to raise five hundred dollars each. This is more than they ever raised before. The fact speaks well for these churches. Some churches wish to raise one thousand dollars each. If all contributing churches will make earnest and heroic efforts to increase their offerings in the same proportion, the result will be most gratifying.

3. The interest in the "Foreign Missionary Rally" is widespread. Churches in all parts of the land have adopted this method of disseminating information and awakening enthusiasm. The secretaries expected much good from the Rally—their expectations are likely to be far more than realized.

4. The indications are that the churches that helped last year will help again this year. The ranks must not be broken. None must turn back in the day and storm of battle. All must come up to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty. The curse of Merod must not rest upon any.

5. The interests in the work of the foreign society is wide and deep; the people are reading and thinking. They are watching the course of the workers in the field. They see everywhere evidences of Divine guidance and approval. As the churches know more of this work their faith and hope and love are increased.

6. The secretaries have asked two thousand leading preachers each to undertake to get one non-contributing

church to make a contribution this year. It is confidentially believed that they will do this. One united and earnest effort like this is bound to result in great good.

May we not hope that the Spirit of the Lord will rest upon His people, and create within them an unquenchable desire for the salvation of every kindred, and tongue, and tribe, and people. We are living in the dawn of a glorious day. The world is gray with morning light. Let our plans and offerings be on a scale worthy of those who expect to conquer the whole world for Christ.

A. McLEAN, Cor. Sec.
F. M. RAINS, Fin. Sec.

Missionary Convention in Hamilton.

The arrangements are being completed by the Ministerial Association for the anticipated convention on the great theme of foreign missions to be held in Hamilton on Feb. 19, 20 and 21. Revs. Dr. A. T. Pierson, of Philadelphia, and Dr. A. J. Gordon, of Boston, are expected to take part in the proceedings. They will deliver several addresses on the distinctive phases of the missionary question. The coming of these honored and gifted ministers will be hailed with delight and will be in itself a bright prophecy of success.

Invitations have been extended to returned missionaries from foreign fields. An important place will be given to ministers of the city, many of whom will count it an honor and pleasure to take part in the proceedings. A grand gathering is anticipated.

Let the churches give all possible publicity to this convention and seek to further its interests to the utmost.

J. PHILP, Sec. of Com.

Gleams of Hope for Negro Education and Evangelization.

Amount of total contributions since October 1st, \$2,105; amount of contributions to the Southern Christian Institute, \$304, making a total of \$2,410. The total voluntary contribution is now larger than it was at this time last year, and many churches have not as yet been heard from that gave last year. 150 churches have already sent offerings to the B. N. E. E. Of the amount given, a larger per cent. than usual has been voluntary, as it has been with the greatest difficulty that the secretary could obtain appointments, as owing to the hard times the church has asked for "a more convenient season." The collection, so far, represents a broader scope of country than last year. The interest in the work is spreading to all parts of the country. More letters of sympathy have been received, and more are seeking information about the work than at any period in its history. More churches have contributed clothing to the Southern Christian Institute than last year, \$256 having been realized from the sale of clothing up to January 11th, which, considering the great demand for clothing for the poor in the north, is very encouraging.

We have now one hundred students at the S. C. I., twenty-seven at Louisville, and six at Hiram College. All are doing good work. Four young men will be well equipped for going into the field this spring. Young men of pure lives, taught in God's word,—such are of priceless value to the cause we represent. We are doing more in proportion to the money placed in our hands, than any society of like nature in the land. Yet, with all these things to encourage, unless the churches who contributed last year, unless other churches and individuals come to our aid, and send gifts to this cause, we

cannot carry on the work committed to our care. This is the last appeal before the collection for the foreign work will claim our attention. We are doing well do not fail us. Send at once to,

C. C. SMITH, Massilon, Ohio.

An Auctioneer's Story

MUCH EXPOSURE BROUGHT ON A SEVERE ATTACK OF RHEUMATISM.

Ped-Fast For Weeks at a Time His Trouble Aggravated by an Outbreak of Salt Rheum—An Experience of Interest to Others.

From the Stayer Sun

There are few people in Simcoe County who do not know Mr. Thos. Furlong. For twenty-eight years Mr. Furlong has been a resident of the county, and for twenty-two years has been a traveling agent and an auctioneer, and it is safe to say that he is just as popular as he is well known. In a business of his kind Mr. Furlong is naturally exposed to all kinds of weather, and the result has been that for some years past he has been badly crippled with rheumatism and has suffered great pain and inconvenience. Happily, however, Mr. Furlong has found a release from this suffering, and his recovery has excited so much interest in and about Stayer that The Sun determined to secure the particulars of his cure and give them for the benefit of others. When seen with regard to the matter, Mr. Furlong expressed the greatest willingness to make public the particulars of his cure in the belief that it might be of benefit to some other sufferer.

"You are of course aware," said Mr. Furlong, "that my calling subjects me to more or less inclement weather, and this was the main cause of my suffering. Some nine years ago I first felt the symptoms of rheumatism. I did not pay much attention to it at first, but gradually it became so severe that it was with difficulty that I could hobble around, and my business really became a burden to me. I consulted several physicians, who did all they could for me, but without giving me any relief. During a part of the year I was bed-fast for weeks at a time, and as the remedies I tried did me no good I began to believe that there was no cure for me, and you will readily understand how despondent I was. To add to my distress I became afflicted with salt-rheum of the hands and had to keep my hands covered with cloths from one year's end to the other. I had read of some remarkable cures of rheumatism by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and at last I made up my mind to try them, though I must admit that it was with a doubting heart, for I had spent a great deal of money for other medicines without obtaining any benefit. However, they say that a drowning man will clutch at a straw, and it was with much of this feeling that I purchased the first box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Before that box was all gone I experienced some relief which warranted me in continuing the treatment, and from that out I steadily progressed toward complete recovery.

"I have used in all eight boxes, with the result that I am to-day free from pain and ache, and not only did Pink Pills relieve me of the rheumatism, but they also drove out the salt-rheum, and as you see to day, the hands which had been covered with cracks, fissures and scabs are now completely well. This splendid result is due entirely to the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and you may be sure that it gives me the greatest pleasure to warmly recommend them to others."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have a remarkable efficacy in curing diseases arising from an impoverished condition of the blood, or from an impairment of the nervous system such as loss of appetite, depression of spirits, anemia, chlorosis or green sickness, general muscular weakness, dizziness, loss of memory, locomotor ataxia, paralysis, sciatica, rheumatism, St. Vitus' dance, the after effects of la grippe, scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. They are also a specific for the troubles peculiar to the female system, correcting irregularities, suppressions and all forms of female weakness, building anew the blood and restoring the glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. In the case of men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork or excesses of any nature.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold only in boxes bearing the firm's trade mark and wrapper (printed in red ink.) Bear in mind that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are never sold in bulk, or by the dozen or hundred, and any dealer who offers substitutes in this form is trying to defraud you and should be avoided. Ask your dealers for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and refuse all imitations and substitutes.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., or Schenectady, N. Y., at fifty cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50. The price at which these pills are sold makes a course of treatment comparatively inexpensive as compared with other remedies or medical treatment.

The establishment of soup houses and charitable bakeries for the gratuitous distribution of food is the first impulse of many kind hearted people; but experience proves that the injury outweighs the benefit. It may, however, be safe and wise to establish soup kitchens and cheap restaurants, where nutritious food can be sold at cost. The relief committees might establish such kitchens, in connection with their industries, and pay for their work in orders for food.—Review of Reviews.

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