

Children's Work.

Mrs. J. S. Shouse, 574, FERRY HILL.
To whom communications should be addressed.

It was with much pleasure that I received communications from three more churches, stating that they have organized a Children's Mission Band. Waterloo, Waterloo and Guelph. Each has a membership of twenty, and Guelph numbers twenty-three. It is very cheering and encouraging, and the Children's Work will be a stimulus to general work wherever they are organized, and then watched over carefully and helped. I should like to emphasize the importance of choosing young managers from the Church, beside the Presidents. It is a great incentive to the children to have some one older with them, beside the added interest it would give to the meetings if the said Managers would be prepared to add something to the programme if called for. Another important factor in working with children is music. In this musical age, it can scarcely be, but among a group of four or five young ladies one or more are sure to be able to lead the children's voices, teach them new pieces, and when convenient and agreeable accompany them on an instrument. It may be that the President is not qualified to take up this branch of the work, and it would be better that some one else should do it, as the President cannot very well do everything. Another thing in favor of Managers, is that it will do each of them good to be associated with the children. There is an earnestness and enthusiasm about them which is inspiring, especially when they are under the direction and control of some one who has, with the experience which years and education bring, retained a hearty sympathy with the little folks. I want to suggest just here, that such a band of Officers and Managers would do well sometimes to meet alone, and consult together as to plans of work, the correction of defects, if any arise, and by prayer and study to try their best to make it a success. It would be helpful, if the President felt at perfect liberty to call on any young sister present at the Children's Meeting to engage in prayer, and have her comply. Such prayers should be simple enough that the smallest child can comprehend, short, and express some definite need. The old saying, "If a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing well," is appropriate in connection with this special work. Let each one who is engaged in it remember that she or he is a co-worker with Christ. Can anything be more dignified, more blessed. Dear sisters, I congratulate all who are at work, and beseech those who are not, to begin.

Next month I shall have the pleasure of giving to the readers of this Column, a letter from Dr. Macklin, China, written especially to the children. It is very interesting. J. E. L.

This is the first quarterly report of the Lobo Mission Band of "Cheerful Givers." It is somewhat late, but we wanted to include the result of our Concert which was held on Monday night, Oct. 21st. The evening was pleasantly spent with music, readings, recitations, reports and speeches. The ever-yes from "Open Doors," by the Band, were well received. A liberal collection, amounting to \$9.27, was taken up, which with our regular fees (1.65) and \$1.00 presented by a friend, makes \$11.92 since we organized, June 22. We are all happy in our work, and hope that many more Mission Bands may have equal encouragement.
Ivan, Nov. 2, 1899. GRACIE McCLURG, Sec.

Selections.

THE LOUISVILLE CONVENTION.

THE FOREIGN SOCIETY.

At nine o'clock on Wednesday morning, the fourteenth annual convention of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society was called to order by President C. L. Loos, in the audience room of the First Christian Church. This Society was organized fourteen years ago in the city of Louisville, and from the handful of corn then sown on the mountain, it has grown to a flourishing organization with missions in Japan, China, India, Turkey, Scandinavia and England. About seventy missionaries are working successfully in these fields with growing prospects of increased success. After devotional exercises, led by Bro. J. S. Shouse, of Kentucky, the able and exhaustive report published in our supplement last week, was read by A. McLean, the efficient Secretary of the Society. After referring this to appropriate committees for consideration, Treas-

ure, W. S. Dickinson read his financial report which, on the whole, was encouraging and satisfactory. A summary of this report shows the receipts from all sources, during the past year, to be \$91,356.28, and the disbursements \$60,408 \$7. This does not reach the \$100,000 called for, but from all the indications, it may be safely predicted that the next financial year will realize this amount, or very near to it.

This statement was followed by a resolution that the convention appoint a committee to confer with a similar committee from the G. C. M. C. with a view to recommend a better system of collection for the work of these societies. After conference of the joint committees, it was recommended that there be fewer and better collections, that there be one offering during the year for each of the national societies, accompanied by the suggestion that the officers of the churches agree beforehand on the minimum amount to be raised, and that special preparations be made, by instruction from the pulpit and the diffusion of information in other ways, and by prayer, to make the contribution a success. If this resolution is carried into effect by the churches, and we hope it will be by every one of them, it will do away with the old loose, systemless, impromptu box-collections that realize nothing but a handful of copper cents and nickels—sad testimonials to stinginess and a lack of interest in the cause of Christ—and substitute for them a real, hearty, generous and liberal offering to the Lord for the evangelization of the world.

At 7.30 o'clock on Wednesday evening H. O. Breedon, of Des Moines, Iowa, delivered the annual address of the Foreign Society. It was an able and admirable handling of the subject of Christian missions. After the address, C. P. Williamson, the general editor of the *Apostolic Guide*, called for subscriptions to carry on the work, and according to the *Courier Journal*, the result was one of the most generous responses ever made at a religious gathering in Louisville. The Secretary's books showed receipts to the extent of \$14,270. The list was headed by the students of Drake University, with the splendid offering of \$3,300. The missionary zeal, and liberality, among the students, betokened by this subscription, should act as a stimulus to other institutions of learning to "go thou and do likewise." They are to support a lady missionary to Japan from Drake University, but this is to be done in the regular way, through the Foreign Society. Bro. T. J. Phillips, of New Castle, Pa., gave his check for \$7,500. This brother, in his bountiful liberality to all of the societies of the Convention, distinguished himself as the Timothy Coop of America. The rest of the subscription was made up of Life Directorships at \$500, and Life Memberships at \$100, and a number of smaller donations.

The three noteworthy events of Thursday, all of which was occupied by the Foreign Society, were the addresses of President Loos, W. T. Moore and J. S. Lamar. These three together made up "a feast of reason and flow of soul," rarely enjoyed. In emphasizing certain points on "Teaching," the President used his trip-hammer with tremendous effect. When the Professor gets on to error, nonsense and meanness, the result is terrific and pulverizing. He was in his happiest mood on this occasion, and said many good things that the whole brotherhood ought to hear. W. T. Moore captured the Convention by a pathetic and powerful speech on the work in England. His report of the work in the old country was exceedingly encouraging. He stated, to the surprise of many, that there were as many Disciples in London as in Louisville. He has a training class, in the West London Tabernacle, containing 125 young people, from which sixteen missionaries have been sent out to foreign lands. This is an unparalleled record among our churches. He asked for \$2,500 to evangelize in England, and got it of course. At 4 o'clock a memorial service was held, in honor of Isaac Errett, late president of the Society. From a literary point of view, the tribute of J. S. Lamar was the master-piece of the Convention. In rhetorical finish, elegance of diction, forcefulness of expression, and as a fine discriminator of character, it was fully the equal of Parker's eulogy on Henry Ward Beecher. It stamped its author as the intelligent peer of Isaac Errett himself.

The closing service was a touching expression of sympathy with Russell Errett in the fearful calamity that has befallen him, conveyed by telegram.—*Christian Evangelist.*

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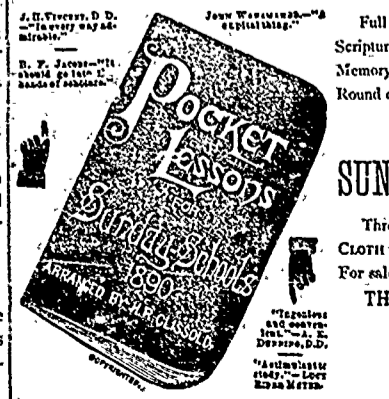
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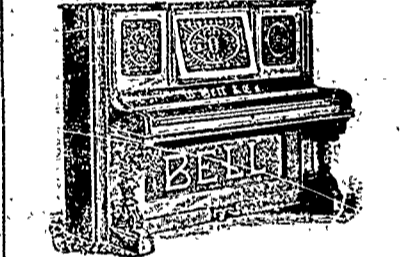
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