

Woman's Work.

THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—President, Mrs. S. M. Brown, Warton; Corresponding Secretary, Miss L. V. Rioch, 225 Maria street, Hamilton; Treas., Mrs. John Campbell, Erie Mills, St. Thomas.

This department is conducted by a committee, composed of Mrs. A. E. Trout, Owen Sound; Miss M. Oliphant, 565 King street, London; and Mrs. George Munro, North Barton Hall, Hamilton.

Open Doors.

Entering into Christ (The Door) is like entering into a grand central hall within a castle, where doors on every hand lead in many directions. Some of these stand open, inviting us to enter. Over them are written the words of the Saviour, words of invitation: "Come, work in My vineyard;" of command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature;" of warning, "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation;" and of promise, "I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Through these doors, if our hearts are not filled with selfishness, and our ears dull with indifference, we may hear voices calling, "Come over and help us."

Within these open doors is work suited to each; golden opportunities of service for all. There are precious gems to rescue from the polluted rivers of sin; quarries of untold worth to be developed; pure gold to be separated from the dross of earth.

Let us consider some of these open doors. We will begin with one far distant, the Foreign Door. Two-thirds of the human race know nothing of Christ. Here, surely, is a great door, and if we had time to explore the regions which lie beyond it, we would find many rooms, many needs, much work, and few workmen.

It calls for strong men, true men, wise men, brave men, Christ-like men. It calls also for women, strong in the strength which God inspires, true to Christ, their Master, wise in "that wisdom that cometh from above, which is first pure, then peaceable." India, China, Japan, indeed all Oriental lands where woman is the toy and slave of man, are calling with a sad and bitter wail for woman's purity, pity, gentleness and love incarnate in ten thousand living forms, to tell of Christ and show His power over human hearts, that trust and follow Him. Surely we may say with Paul: "A great door and effectual is opened unto us, and there are many adversaries." The adversaries are the opposing forces of idolatry, ignorance, superstition and vice in all its repulsiveness. The weapons they bring are carnal, but the sword of the Spirit, wielded by the very weakest of earthly vessels, is mighty through God to the pulling down of the strongholds

of Satan. God, who is able, has promised His word shall not return unto Him void, but shall accomplish that whereunto it is sent. All may not be called to enter *this door personally*, but, as in time of war, those who tarry at home minister to and support those who are fighting their battles for them, so may we all watch over, sustain, encourage, and pray for our brave missionary volunteers, who are in the front of the grandest army the world ever saw, fighting under the earth's great conqueror, the Prince of Peace.

Oh, if some one could tell each one just where to begin. Solomon said, "Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life;" and one wiser than Solomon said, "Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts," etc. If the fountain is poisoned the streams become corrupted, and destruction and death are carried afar. If the fountain is made pure and sweet, the streams that flow forth carry health and blessing, and joy and gladness follow in all the channels through which they make their way. Paul said, "For God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness hath shined in our hearts, to give the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." If the heart, then, is the fountain of evil and good, and God illuminates our hearts by giving us a knowledge of His glory in Christ, every opportunity God gives us to gain or perfect this knowledge may be to us an Open Door, where God will come in His glory and Christ will enter with His love and blessing. God begins with the heart; let us begin there also.

To the women of this age God has opened many doors for spiritual growth and Christian culture. The services of the Lord's-day, the Sunday-school, the prayer-meetings, Societies of Christian Endeavor, the numerous societies where women are banded together for good works, and our Missionary Societies, are giving rare and precious opportunities.

Our Auxiliary meetings should be schools where the Word and the world, and our duty to both, should be faithfully taught, and carefully, prayerfully studied. They should be the nursery, training the young, the weak, the timid ones, for service. Out of them should come workers in the Church and Sunday-school, Leaders of Mission Bands, Organizers, District and State Managers, writers, missionaries. How shall we reach all this? Only by coming nearer to Christ and being so filled with the knowledge of His glory that the glory of this world will shrivel and sink into nothingness when compared with Him. Some one has said, "The

faith of the women of the Gospels far outstrips that of the men of the Gospels. It is they who first perceive, then accept, and finally be carried away with those great and vital enthusiasms, which transform and elevate the world. It is the sisters, and mothers, and wives, who carry out in their lives the pattern of love, purity and self-denial, which is still on earth the continuation of Christ's life, an incarnation of divine grace and loveliness which never fails, which now can suffer no passion, and no death, but speaks aloud to men and sanctifies the child, refines the brother, and acts upon the heart of the husband with a ceaseless plea for what is good and divine."

Christ said of one, "Oh, woman, great is thy faith," of another, "She loved much." Love and Faith are the measure of our power. One true, pure, brave, loving woman, with Christ dwelling within her heart, is an untold blessing to the world.

MRS. J. ENCELL
—in *Missionary Tidings*.

[Dear Sisters,—Will not these earnest, heart-searching words of Sister Encell's lead us who profess to have laid our affections and capabilities under full tribute to the Prince of Peace to humbly renew our claim to the promise of Jesus, "Lo! I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world," and in His strength go forth bravely and fearlessly to the occupancy of the "Open Doors"?—M. A. O.]

Auxiliary Programme for September.

- Topic: "Come over and help us!"
1. Hymn—"The morning light is breaking."
 2. Scripture reading—Mark xvi.
 3. Prayer.
 4. Reading of minutes and reports, and other business.
 5. Hymn—"Sow in the morn thy seed."
 6. Scripture reading—Acts xv. 8-34.
 7. Roll call and collection, the members responding with appropriate verses of Scripture.
 8. Closing prayer.

"THE MACEDONIAN CRY."

"Come over and help us," echoes from every point of the compass. Myriads are yearly perishing in ignorance and unbelief; living and dying without God, without Christ, and without hope! If we cannot evangelize the whole world—perishing in pagan and papal darkness, superstition and error—let us select our fields of labor, domestic and foreign, and send out our missionary evangelists to such fields as

promise the most fruit, whether at home or abroad. Unless we do this, I ask, what evidence have we of the sincerity of our faith in that commission which was given to the apostles, and through them to the Christian church and ministry, till the curtain falls upon the stage of earth and time? Is not the whole unconverted world within the area of the missionary field, and within the commission given to the apostles, and through them to the people—"Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature"? Upon the church, the united church, founded upon the apostles' doctrine and faith, rests this solemn and authoritative oracle.

"Charity," it is said, "begins at home." True, very true, if there be objects at home. But it is no proverb in our Israel that charity tarries at home. Like nature's brightest type of God, our sun shines not upon our country and our homes alone; but also spreads its vivifying beams upon all the nations and tribes of our humanity. So shines the sun of righteousness and of mercy. If the east witnesses his earliest dawn, the west rejoices in his lingering rays. Indeed, he is rising and setting every moment of the four-and-twenty hours upon myriads of our race.

Shall we not then, as far as in us lies, as far as God has vouchsafed to us any instrumentality—shall we not send the light of life everlasting to all the world, if God vouchsafe to us the honorable opportunity and instrumentality? At all events, shall we not avail ourselves of every opportunity, and create, as far as we can, opportunities to send the word—the Gospel of life everlasting—to a perishing world?

Who would not, that has ever, in truth, tasted that the Lord is gracious, that believes He will give grace to do His will, and reward those that have done it, as though without His aid or grace they had done it? We ask who, with such a faith, would not on such well-established promises, firm as the throne of God, enduring as the ages of eternity, give, devote, and consecrate his whole personality—body, soul and spirit—to His service, honor and glory? Who would not bring his offerings into Christ's treasury? Who would not labor and toil for means to invest in such a cause, under such a leader, and for ends and consummations of glory, honor and immortality beyond all conception, and consequently beyond all expression?

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL,

(in address on Missions,)

—*Millennial Harbinger*, Sept., 1857.