

lions for dogs! Something besides Foreign Missions might be given up to save money, I should think."

"Where did you two grow so wise? Where did you get all these absurd items?"

"We got them at the Mission Band; Kate is Secretary, and I'm Treasurer, and these figures were all in the dialogue that Dr. Stevens wrote for us to recite. If you choose to call what he says absurd, I suppose you can; but he is a graduate from a college, and a theological seminary besides. I mean to tell him that you think two millions and a half for Foreign Missions will ruin the country; I want to hear him laugh." And then the two girls laughed merrily.

"You needn't tell him anything about it," said Rufus, sharply. After the girls ran away he added thoughtfully:

"How fast girls grow up. I thought these two were children, and here they are with the Mission Bands, and their large words about secretaries and treasurers."

"And their embarrassing facts about money," interrupted Mr. Parker. "Those girls had the best of the argument, Rufus;" and then he, too, laughed.—*The Pansy*.

A QUEER CONTRIBUTION.

WE have heard of many methods among young people to raise money for benevolent purposes, but it remains for some Indian boys in the Northwest to hit upon a new plan. These boys wished some money to put in the Sunday-school collection, but as they were very poor, they had none to give. One who knew these boys tells how they succeeded in raising some money.

"The boys saw a premium for killing gophers. The gopher is a mischievous little animal, devouring a large amount of wheat, corn and other grain every year. The farmers pay two cents for each dead gopher. The proof that the gopher has been killed is his tail. Now these little Indian boys had been so interested in the story told of the work being done by the Sunday-school Society, that they spent their Saturday afternoon holiday snaring gophers. They brought the tails in the envelopes of the Society, as their contribution. I took some of the envelopes, paying two cents apiece for each tail, and brought them east with me." —*Woman's Home Mission Monthly*.

THE CAPTIVE AFRICAN BOY.

FIFTY years ago there was a boy in Africa who was taken prisoner in one of the fierce wars between the tribes, and was carried away from his home to be sold as a slave. Poor fellow! First he was sold for a horse. Then his buyer thought him a bad exchange for a horse, and compelled his master to take him back. Then he was sold for so much rum. This was called another bad bargain by the man who had bought him, and again he was returned, to be sold for tobacco, with the same result.

Nobody wanted the poor, miserable slave boy, who was on the point of committing suicide when he was bought by a Portuguese trader and carried away in a slave ship. Ah, how little that wretched boy, as he lay chained in the hold of that crowded slave ship, thought what the future had in store for him, or what great things God would yet do for him. One day an English warship that was clearing the high seas of the slavers, bore down upon the Portuguese vessel and rescued the captives. The African boy was placed under Christian influence and educated, and became Bishop Crowther, England's black bishop in Africa, where he has founded a successful mission.

It would be a long story to tell all that he has done for his poor people in Africa, how he has fought the slave trade, preached to cannibals, been taken prisoner again and again, and how the Lord has kept him safe in every danger.—*Christian Commonwealth*.

Facts and Illustrations.

THE British Missionary Societies have 139 physicians engaged in mission work, of whom thirteen are ladies.

ACCORDING to the statistical compilation by Rev. H. Loomis, there are 577 Protestant missionaries at work in Japan.

THE work of telegraph building in South Africa is pushed far ahead of railroad enterprise. Savage Africa will thus be joined with civilization by electric wire.

WITHIN the memory of thousands yet living, two Scotchmen (one a gardener, the other a spinner)—Moffat and Livingstone—opened Africa to the Gospel. To-day Africa has about 500 missionary stations, and at least 250,000 converts (some say over 400,000) of the Uganda tribe.

AN article by Rev. D. S. Spencer states that the new mode of Japanese government has resulted in religious persecution and many hindrances to Christian work, much to the surprise of those "who had been led to think that the battle in Japan was about over."

A YOUNG woman has just arrived in England from India, expecting to study medicine, that she may return to labor among her sisters. She was betrothed to a man forty-seven years of age when she was nine years old, he having been married fourteen times previously. The poor child, aided by friends, repudiated her betrothal, and escaped the living death to which she would have been otherwise doomed. The affair caused great excitement in India.

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