

APRIL THOUGHTS.

Spring has come. The opening anemones, the budding aspens, and the springing prairie meadows are its proof; while the voice of birds, the swollen rivers, and the sower going forth to sow his seed declare it.

"Consider the lilies of the field how they grow." "This is the voice of Nature echoing the whole evangel of Jesus: Come unto Me, and I will give you rest."

Is it springtime with us spiritually? Are we clinging to the cold, hard life of the formalist? If we are not growing in grace we must be sinking spiritually. We shudder at the thought of gradually weakening soul-power. "An . . . , says Goethe, is death anticipated."

"Up — God has formed thee with a wiser view,
Not to be led in chains, but to subdue;
Calls thee to cope with enemies, and first
Points out a conflict with thyself, the worst."

NOBLE GENEROSITY.

Through the Superintendent the following noble gifts are promised for our Home Mission work in special fields:—

Mr. Mortimer Clark and wife, Toronto, \$400 a year to North Bend, B.C.; Mrs. Topp, \$400 a year to Northfield; Ten men in Hamilton, \$250 a year to Mount Lehman, B.C.; Young men of Hamilton, \$250 a year to Bow River, Calgary Pres. Young people of McNab St. Church, Hamilton, support a congregation; and Central Church, Hamilton S. S., the same; Central Church, Toronto, gives a like assistance. Mr. John Lees has promised a large but undefined sum, and an anonymous giver in Montreal is to support the Nelson & Kettle river men. It is hoped 30 missions may be sustained in this way. This is most encouraging.

OURSELVES.

In beginning the WESTERN MISSIONARY our object was to acquaint many outside our Synod of our great mission needs. Besides requiring upwards of 2000 copies a month for the Synod, we determined to send out more than 1200 copies free of charge. This included one to each minister of the church, and several hundreds of copies to Britain and elsewhere. We have had scores of letters expressing approval of the MISSIONARY. These have come from every province of the Dominion, and from abroad as well. We did expect a little help from the Assembly's H. M. Committee, which is always lamenting a want of interest in its work. Our Synod's Committee make a request for a small amount, which would have been a good investment as the expenditure on the Ladies' Foreign Mission leaflet is. The Committee did not grant our request. We are unwilling to cut off our outside mailing list. If any friends of missions choose to send us small contributions to meet this disappointment we shall be grateful.