

MOST MERCIFUL GOD, LET THY GRACE SOFTEN MY SPIRIT INTO

this great wonder and give glory to God.

To this end will you join us in prayer day by day and will you if possible observe as a day of prayer, the 9th of September."

In the Lord's service,

Yours very sincerely, —

Of course you are aware that for some time our foreign mission treasury has been deeply in debt. We Baptists of Canada have not been sending in enough money month by month to keep our work going, i.e., pay our missionaries, preachers out in the heathen villages, teachers in our various mission schools, hospital staffs, touring expenses of itinerating missionaries, and the food-expenses of the children in our boarding schools. We have not been sending in enough money month by month, I say, to keep it all going—to say nothing of entering upon new work inviting us on every side. The treasury became empty. What would you have done if you had been "the Board?" You always say you "don't approve of a debt." There was no money. Would you have let the work stop short? The work so many have given their lives to build up! The work so many now on the field are giving their lives to carry on—by their daily sacrifice and devotion more than by sermons and classes, teaching Christian and heathen alike the meaning of the Cross of Christ and the power of His salvation.

Would you really consent to letting it drop? The schools where thousands of girls and boys meet every day in the chapels and school-houses you have built, to learn of the Truth that will one day set India free—aren't they worth a great deal to you? And the little, isolated heathen villages, where the Christians are too few and too poor to support a pastor—would you withdraw your help and let the lamp go out? "Oh," you say, "the Christians should keep it trimmed and burning, if they are real Christians!"

Oh, surely!

How far does your lamp shine down your street?

You would dismiss the evangelists, too, I suppose, and tell them to look for another job, now that the C. B. Mission has "closed down." But "how can they bear without a

preacher, and how can they preach except they are sent?" And the hospitals—could you close them to the thousands who come to our doctors for physical relief, and hear there the Gospel of Jesus?

We all seem to expect sacrifice from our missionaries; that is where the "romance" of foreign missions comes in. Let us make it more "romantic" over at this end, I say!

But I wander—

I am sure by this time you are saying, No, you could not stop it. Well, but what would you do, if you were that Board, and there was no money? You say you would look to God. Do you think "the Board" does not? And whom, do you suppose, GOD is looking to? Ah, my friend, this is our mission, our treasury, our debt.

No—you would not have it stopped. Your Board knew you wouldn't; so they exercised their faith in God and in us, and borrowed money to keep the work going. Now, by reason of frequent borrowing, due to inadequate giving on our part, the debt has grown to somewhat large proportions (you will have to look at your last "Baptist" to see just how much it is), and something must be done, for we have approached a crisis. Not only is the growth of our work abroad threatened, but the ten missionaries who should be returned to their work this fall, cannot go if the money doesn't come. Of course, the war threatens somewhat the safety of the travelling public, but if there were money to go, I believe they would risk the German cruisers. It does seem cruel to keep back the reinforcements. I should think it would take the heart out of our missionaries on the field to hear that we are not caring enough about the work (for that is the way it looks) to return their comrades to them. There are unoccupied fields awaiting their missionaries; there are overtaxed workers awaiting the return of comrades who are waiting to go to their relief. They came home for rest. They are rested now, and strong again. Why are rested now, and strong again. Why keep them back? And we had two new doctors, too, to send them. And how we have prayed and appealed for doctors! And now the Lord has given us two—Dr. Marjorie Cameron and Dr. Harold Wolverton. HE gave them to us, answered our prayer for them; but WE haven't given the money to send