"Jack," she said, "I can't help thinking of another boy, who, like all boys in a Christian land, has had a message to deliver, but who is quite sure that he can't bother about it until he has done everything that he wishes for himself. He ventures to suppose, too, that the people for whom it is meant won't care to have it, if he should try to give it to them. Did you hear of such a boy, Jack?

Jack looked puzzled. Then a flash of remembrance, mingled with surprise and a little shame, swept over his

face.

"Oh! you mean about the heathen and missionaries and things like that," he said. "That Phil Donovan went and told on me," he finished, shaking his head.

But Jack was an honest lad, and a just one, in spite of his thoughtless disposition and love of play.

"I guess I did say something like that, Miss Molly," he confessed, with another laugh: "but you see it seems different when you're the other fellow. But truly, I never thought of that sort of thing as being like a message or anything like that."

Miss Molly drew from her jacket pocket her little New Testament, and opening it at I Thessalonians ii, 4, she held it under the lamp, where Jack could make out these words," "But as we were allowed of God to be put in

trust with the Gospel, even so we speak."

"That is the invitation to the Father's house, meant for all of His children, and entrusted to us to pass on. What shall we do with it, Jack?"

Jack stole a glance at her from under his lashes, colored again, and laughed his frank young laugh.

"Got me there, haven't you, Miss Molly?" he said.
"We have heard a good deal about George Washington to-night," continued Miss Molly. "He was a man who delivered the message given to him quite regardless of all loss to himself. That is not a bad lesson for Washington's birthday, Jack."

Jack's head drooped, and he was quite still for awhile,

thinking the matter over.

"No," he said at last, "I never knew that it was like an invitation that I had to do anything about especially, but if those heathen people feel the way I felt about Hugh at first, I'm sorry for them. And, say, Miss Molly, I think I'll join your band. When's the next meeting?"-MARTHA BURR BANKS, in Over Land and Sea.

ONE DAY TOO LATE.

Num. xiv. 40-45.

One day God said to Israel, "Go in and possess the land." But Israel refused. The next day Israel said, "We will go in to-day." But God refused to go with

them, and they are driven back with slaughter.

To-day is God's day. He lays the burden of some soul on my heart to-day. He says, "Go up at once and possess it, for you are well able to overcome it." possess it, for you are well able to overcome it." But I shrink back and say "giants," or "high walls,"—"not to-day, Lord." Afterwards I repent. The next day I say to myself, "I'll go and win that soul to-day." But the ark of God's presence and power goes not with me, and it is failure—possibly the loss of a human soul because I did not instantly obey the heavenly vision. Oh, my God, deliver me from blood-guiltiness. word spoken in season."-Selected.

A saint is often under a cross but never under a curse.

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Canadian Missionary Olie

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT TORONTO.

Communications, Orders and Remittances, to be sent to Mrs. Mary A. Newman, 116 Yorkville Avenue, Toronto. Subscribers will find the dates when their subscriptions expire on the printed address labels of their papers.

Subscription 25c. Per Annum, Strictly in Advance.

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