

devoted to some special object in connection with our mission work—especially the hospital in China. The response was not general, perhaps because the idea was somewhat new; but sufficient responses came to show what a power for good such a movement might be if it were made general throughout the churches. It would delight us to see a self-denial week inaugurated the present season in every League, every Society of Christian Endeavor, every Mission Circle and Band in the entire Connexion, not only in view of the money results, but chiefly because of the spiritual benefits which would come to the Church from the prayer that is sure to accompany the self-denial. There are many special objects, to any one of which the money might be devoted. The China Hospital, the McDougall Orphanage, the Chilliwack Institute, not to speak of other objects, all need special help. As to the time, perhaps the best that could be selected is the holiday season, the time when, of all others, gifts to the Saviour seem to be most appropriate. Let us hear about this from our young friends, and the sooner the better.

DONATION FOR HOSPITAL IN CHENTU.

WE take pleasure in giving the following extracts from two letters received during the past month:—

“On the 4th November, one year will have passed since my dear son, Harry Bertram, aged 12 years, was taken to a better home than this earth could afford, and with his aunt, my sister, I feel desirous of using a fund we have put aside for some months past as a gift to special mission work, and think we would prefer Dr. Hart’s work in China. The amount will not be large but may grow in the future. The dear child was an ardent lover of missions, hence our desire to keep his memory fragrant in this blessed work.”

“Thank you for your kind reply to my enquiry regarding donation to work in China. As I stated the amount is small, as it is only a short time that we have been putting aside in this way, but at another anniversary we will have more; so if the sum enclosed, ten dollars, is not too small, you will please put it to the Hospital in the city of Chentu, otherwise place it to evangelistic work. Harry read in the *OUTLOOK* of a minister who sent \$10 for mission work in memory of his spiritual birthday. We felt we should like to send something to commemorate our darling’s heavenly birthday as it comes around year by year. We trust, as we were led to think of this by that minister’s act, others may be influenced by us to do likewise. Our loss is still and ever will be sorely felt, but we know it is his gain, and his was so truly a missionary spirit that we know if anything could add to his present joy it would be to know that he is still helping on the cause of missions by this, as well as several other contributions, which we rejoice to continue, just as when he was here, and towards which he did all he could to swell by his precious and never-to-be-forgotten acts of self-denial.

“It has been by abstaining on two days of the week that we have put this money aside for this purpose, and wish it had been began earlier in the year, so that more could be sent on this sad anniversary of the loved one’s departure.”

SOME ASPECTS OF THE GROWTH AND PROGRESS OF MISSIONARY WORK.

An address delivered at the Public Missionary Meeting held in Blyth in connection with the meeting of the Guelph Conference Missionary Committee, by W. B. Towler, M.D., of Wingham:

ABOUT one hundred years ago modern evangelical missionary work began; but the real commencement of this work dates 1800 centuries farther back still. The Master’s words, “Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature,” and “Go ye therefore and teach all nations,” rang out as the marching orders to His first disciples, and at once the consecrated few “went out” and strove to proclaim, under the most trying forms of persecution and oppression, the grand truths of the new dispensation. In the dissemination of the Gospel in the early Church all the work was necessarily of a missionary nature, and I may say many of the most successful missionaries were men who, not only preached Christ, but touched the hearts and sympathies of thousands of their hearers by healing their sick and alleviating suffering ones. Jesus Christ Himself went about the towns and villages preaching and teaching and healing wherever He went, thus setting a noble example of the most efficient missionary method of attracting the attention of hundreds who would never have listened to the simple but plain preaching of the truth. The stoning of Stephen, and the persistent and cruel persecutions of Saul, only had the effect of spreading this new teaching over a great part of the then known world. An example of this is found in Philip, who, forced out of Jerusalem, goes down to the city of Samaria and there preaches Christ to throngs of eager people who hear and believe, and among them the Ethiopian who, after his conversion, himself becomes a missionary, and carries the glorious truth for the first time 1,600 miles down into Africa. We have not time to notice now any other of the bold members of that noble band of workers in the infant Church; but one thing we shall do well not to forget, that they were grand examples of some of the most successful missionaries of the cross that ever lived. The Lord’s word to the unconverted is “come,” and to those who come, “go.” Andrew telleth Simon, his brother, and Philip telleth Nathanael, “that they have found the Messiah.” The Gospel of Christ had to be spread by the co-operation of every one of His apostles and disciples who were able to do anything for His cause, and if all the converts to Christianity had been as faithful as were the members of the early Church, the whole world would have been won for Christ long ago, and to-day it would not have been necessary to hold such meetings as these either in this town or anywhere else. But such has not been the case. Opposition, persecution, and a lack of zeal, and I may say piety, had the effect of sadly retarding the progress of the truth for hundreds of years, and as most of you very well know little or no headway had been made up to the commencement of the last 100 years. Even the nations who had received the light drifted into a state of formalism and pseudo-Christianity; persecution during the middle centuries had well-nigh blotted out this pure Gospel, and put to destruction the majority of its followers. But these were the testing times; these were the trying times. The world must be won for Christ. The Gospel must be offered at least to every man. This state of things continued more or less until the end of the 18th century, when a new morning dawned upon the Christian world. In 1792, William Carey offered himself as a missionary to India; his zeal, however, met with a check when a member of the Board to whom he offered himself, Dr. Ryland, is reported to have said:—“Young man, sit down; when God pleases to convert the heathen He will do it without your aid or mine.” What a