

2. Inez Thompson, also aged 10 years, is a member of Meaford Band. Miss Cora V. Sinclair is the Band leader.

3. Murray Simmons, a member of Scotland Band. The leader of this Band is Miss Clara A. Mackenzie.

SARAH STUART BARBER.

#### CHHELLALU.

One of my new books this winter is by the author of "Things as they are," a lady missionary in South India. This book is called "Lotus Buds," and is written for all who love children. I wish you could look over my shoulder this morning, and see the fifty photographs in it of the wee baby girls in India; then we would read together some of the stories about them. Chellalu was only three years old, but so full of mischief. Like some of her Canadian sisters, she was very apt to copy older people. The nurse in the hospital was a favorite example. One day Chellalu told another wee tot to lie down and open her eyes. Then taking the head of her small patient between her chubby knees, she held the eyelid up and dropped water carefully in. Of course the patient howled and had to be rescued. Then this self-made nurse tried to bandage toes and fingers of her playmates. She yearned to perform an operation, and see the red blood flow, for she had watched the nurse take out thorns from little bare feet, and lance sore fingers. One day Chellalu secured a bit of an old tin can, very jagged, sharp and inviting! Secreted in her curls was a long, bright darning needle. She walked up and down the nursery with her "tools," but nobody was willing to be the patient. Some kind friend had furnished a kindergarten for these little "lotus-buds," but Chellalu did not care to have her play guided by others, so when asked if she liked the new school, replied, "Gesh-no!" meaning only part of it. "Good morning very much" is a favorite expression of hers. She is very fond of morning-glories, and calls them "kissing each other" when two grow together. At such times in the garden, she will say softly, "All loving little Indian children want to be like you." Her nurse once said, "You would need ten pairs of eyes and ten pairs of hands to watch Chellalu, and even then you could never be sure you had her;" so you see these little girls of India are not very different from our own baby girls in Can-

ada. This new book has some very sad stories in it, about bright, beautiful little girls being taken to the temple and married to the idols. Then the mothers go home without them and a long life of shame and sorrow begins. This is part of their religion, but our missionaries are trying to teach them to give their little girls to Jesus Christ.

A little poem about one of our boys in the Mission Band, is so sweet, I will copy it for you.

#### A BIRTHDAY GIFT.

He held in his dimpled, chubby hand  
A gift he had brought for the Mission  
Band.

"A birthday offering," so he said,  
As he archly turned his curly head,  
"I wubbed and wubbed it to shine like  
dold,

For my little sister, one year old."  
Then with the air of a fortune spent,  
He laid it down—one bright, new cent!  
He seemed so intent I readily sought  
To make him express his earnest  
thought,

And asked, "Does it not seem some-  
what bold

To pass off a cent for a piece of gold?"  
Like sudden shadow on silver tide  
The bright look changed, but he quick  
replied,

"I did not pretend that it was so;  
It was honest and fair, and Dod will  
know

Why I wanted to make it shining bright,  
Fit to do something dood in His sight.  
He knows all about my empty tin bank,  
And He will not laugh at my penny-  
thank"—

Then silent a moment, he whispered  
low,

"Dod does whatever He pleases, I  
know,

Perhaps my cent in His hand He will  
hold,  
And His fingers may turn the copper  
to gold."

If we are only careful to give our very best to God, with such loving thoughts as this wee man had about his one precious cent, many of the little girls in India will be able to go to the Mission schools and learn how their lives may be spent for Jesus.

I hope all my boys and girls are members of the Mission Band, putting away some of their pennies every month to do mission work in India, or in Canada, for there is great need for all the money we can give.

SISTER BELLE.

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