

Woman's Work.

Conducted by Mrs. S. M. Brown and Miss Jessie R. Agnew, 372 Shaw Street, Toronto. Everything intended for this column should be sent to Mrs. S. M. Brown, Warton, Ont.

O. C. W. B. M.

President, Mrs. W. B. Malcolm, 89 Church St., Toronto; Cor. Sec., Miss L. V. Rloch, 225 Maria St., Hamilton; Treasurer, Miss Jennie Fleming, Kilsyth

I received a letter lately from one of our sisters that was so full of good things that, with her permission, I will share the most of them with all the sisters. I am sure they will be read with interest and profit.

"Having thought a good deal lately about our woman's meetings, I am greatly impressed with the importance of daily thought and prayer. Every day is a little life, and our whole life is but a day repeated."

"These poor frail bodies have to be nourished every day, and how much more do our souls need a constant supply of the bread which never perishes."

"Oh, that all would taste and know the joy of daily intercourse with the Saviour of all mankind! Where our treasure is, there will our heart be. Not that we are to neglect our family duties; but, if Jesus is really all in all to us, our love for Him will shine forth in love to all around us."

"If we could only realize how little our very best is to spend in His loving service! It is my earnest belief that our meetings would grow more in every way, if more time was spent in thinking and praying about them through the whole month, and we would become so alive to the work, that from the abundance of the heart, our mouths would have to speak. Then if we could throw off reserve and timidity during the meetings, remembering that we have the same Father, the same Elder Brother, and so are sisters of one family working for the same everlasting home."

"Nothing seems to inspire us with so much courage and hope, and at the same time make an interesting and profitable meeting, as several short, fervent prayers bearing directly on the needs embraced in the lesson."

"Oh, my sister! I have been so sustained through such terrible trials, that I feel that every hour and every talent should be spent for Him. I can now gratefully thank Him for bringing me through floods of anguish which have made Jesus so precious to me. I can feel His loving sympathy as truly as that of an earthly friend,—but oh, how much stronger and deeper! I have been kept by those precious promises, 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee,' and 'My grace is sufficient for thee.'"

"I cannot describe how this experience has lifted a load of anxiety from me. In losing my will in His, I now feel that whatever He sends is best and for my good, so long as I leave my hand confidently in His, asking Him to lead me. Oh, that all would put their trust in Him and be able to say:

Fade, fade each earthly joy,
Jesus is mine;
Dark is the wilderness,
Earth has no resting place,
Jesus alone can bless,
Jesus is mine."

Some things in the above extract from our sister's letter, brought to mind Norman Macleod's beautiful and comforting thoughts concerning the afflictions that befall God's children. They are so good, that I feel constrained to share them also with those who may not have seen them. "Human life is an education, a training up from right beliefs to right habits, and that by discipline administered in manifold wisdom by a living person,

ever varied and readjusted by Him to meet the changing circumstances of men. And therefore, just in proportion to the conscious subjection of any person to this discipline, and his willingness to be taught, may the lesson given him be more trying, more "mysterious," as the phrase is, than that which is given to another who sets at naught all the counsel, and will have none of the reproof, and who consequently is permitted most righteously to "eat of his own ways, and to be filled with his own devices." The fact, therefore, need not seem strange to us, that noble and beautiful characters, whose personal and family life are so harmonious with the good and true, should often be subjected to trials and sufferings from which the selfish and heartless are exempted.

Teaching is vain where there is no disposition to be taught. Gold, not clay, is purified by fire. On the other hand there are apparent losses which are real gains; a more liberal bestowal of good in a higher form, by the taking away of a good in a lower form. Men crave for happiness from what happens; but God promises peace, happen what may, and bestows it often through unhappiness, so that in the midst of sorrowing there is rejoicing."

Let us now read again the Master's words—we may understand them better: "Every branch that beareth fruit He cleanseth it, that it may bear more fruit." Whom He loveth He chasteneth, that they may be made more meet for His use.

S. M. BROWN.

O. C. W. B. M.

CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE LAST REPORT.

HOME MISSIONS.

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|-------------------------------|---------|
| Church at Erin Centre, O. C. | |
| W. B. M. Day collection... | \$11 00 |
| Church at Stayner..... | 5 75 |
| Church at St. Thomas..... | 12 85 |
| Auxiliary at St. Thomas..... | 9 00 |
| Auxiliary at Erin Centre..... | 13 00 |

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

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|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Auxiliary at Erin Village, O. | |
| C. W. B. M. Day collection \$ | 5 05 |
| Misses M. A. and Etta Stephens, Glencairn..... | 5 00 |
| Women's Foreign Mission Board of the Maritime provinces..... | 160 00 |

JENNIE FLEMING,
Treasurer,

San Diego, California,
Jan. 30th, 1894.

Good News From Japan.

In response to several requests to let the sisters generally know anything of interest in relation to the work in Japan, I copy the following from a recent letter:

"In my last I told you of O Kura San's baptism; a week later her mother was baptized, and yesterday, January 11th, one of our Bible class, a particularly intelligent young man, was also buried with our Lord in baptism, and rose to walk in newness of life. Everybody is rejoicing with us."

"With all our happiness there is a cloud, and yet I should not look upon it as such, but cannot help it. The girls have gone!"

"You remember that when I reached Japan Mr. and Mrs. Garst were in America, and Mr. Smith, leaving shortly after, left Mr. and Mrs. Stevens with all their work. When Miss Harrison left we took up her work. On Mr. Garst's return he said, 'This will never do. You are next to helpless without the language, so we must take your burdens ourselves.'"

"I did my best to keep the girls, as I did not want to give them into another's hands, but I had very little say in the matter. Miss Wirick was placed over the girls, leaving us with our charity schools, etc., as we wished to keep them on, and it was not convenient to exchange, as we live in a different section of the city from the others."

"My four girls are only to be with Miss Wirick till I get the language. Poor girls! they cried so when told they had to go. Although I could only speak a little to them, we loved each other. I miss them sadly. I feel restless, and the house is so quiet and lonely. It will make me work harder, so as to shorten the time when they shall return."

"The Board has decided that they be sent to the best Japanese school for secular branches, Miss Wirick to give them Bible training at home."

"My helper is about to leave me to go to Yokohama to act as Bible-woman for Mrs. Garst. I am sorry to lose her, but she feels it her duty to go, and I believe it is. I hope I may get another who will do her work as well."

I am certain that the entire sisterhood will agree with me in saying that in giving our missionary more time for the study of the language, the Foreign Missionary Board has done a wise thing. With the amount of work on her hands, combined with the entire care of four girls, and a share in the care of those living in the house (ten or twelve, I am not sure which) belonging to the mission, it was impossible that much progress could be made.

L. V. RLOCH.

Young People's Work.

FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

The Committee on Young People's Societies of the Co-operation of Disciples of Christ in Ontario: W. W. Coulter, Chairman; Reuben Batchart, A. Johnston.

Everything intended for insertion in this column should be sent to W. W. Coulter, St. Thomas, Ont.

Hamilton Y. P. S. C. E.

FEBRUARY, 7th.

During the past month we have been much encouraged by the addition to our society of two new active members, two new associate members, and two who were formerly associate members have taken the active member's pledge. May they indeed be active members and earnest workers for our Lord and Master.

All our new committees are doing good work, but the Visiting committee (which is a new departure with us), gives promise of accomplishing a long felt want in the church, in not only visiting the members of the C. E., but also the parents of Sunday school scholars, those who are friendly to the cause, and the sick of the church. We hope the result will be an increase of interest in both church and endeavor work. In Miss Annie Tolton we have a most energetic convener.

On the 19th of this month our society takes its turn with the various C. E. societies in the city, in giving an entertainment at Bethel Mission. At this mission I believe there are usually from fifty to sixty men present. Mr. Munro will give an address, and a programme will be presented by the society, of which I will tell you in the next paper. There is a good work to be done there. A. E. J.

C. E. Notes.

GEO. FOWLER, GUELPH.

Feb. 25.—Giving our best to God. Mark, xii. 28-33; 41-44. Much has been written on the subject of giving. Some of us enjoy talking upon many of the great themes relating to the Scheme of Redemption. We are able almost to deliver a sermon on "Baptism for the Remission of Sins," "Christian Union," "Holy Spirit," and other kindred themes, but we desire to be excused when it comes to the subject of giving.

"Giving our best to God." This is a comprehensive, heart-searching, far-reaching theme. The Saviour and his apostles saw proper to emphasize this subject. If you would know something of what was given for us, read John iii.

16, "God so loved the world that He gave * * * Christ gave His life a ransom for many"—Matt. xx. 28; 1st Tim. ii. 6. The apostles gave their lives, then, all for the preaching of the glorious gospel. What, then, are we to give?

1. The supremest love of our heart. As C. E.'s we repeat together our pledge every month as we consecrate ourselves anew to the service of Christ, as disciples of Jesus we meet around His table on the first day of every week; but after all, do we make sufficient examination of our hearts? We want the earnestness of David when he said, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts, and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."—Ps. cxxxix. 23, 24.

"What care I for fame's opinion?

Love, love is mine;
Scorn and hate have lost dominion,
Love, love is mine.
Anger's bonds no more enslave me,
Jesus died in love to save me,
And his spirit freely gave me,
Love, love is mine."

2. We must give Him the best service of the mind. What a wondrous thing is the mind! It is almost infinite in its power of working. Great monuments everywhere attest its power to accomplish things rivalling in some small degree the works of nature. This inestimable endowment is from God. Our minds should be consecrated to this service. Our thoughts are to be pure and holy.—Phil. iv. 8. We are to use our minds for the glory of God. In this age many opportunities are presenting themselves continually, in S. S. work, C. E., prayer meeting and in other ways. The Gospel is adapted to our minds. The time is an active age. We have hearts to love; let us love God. We have minds to think; let us think for Him. We have tongues to speak; speak for Him. We have voices to sing; sing praises in His name. Store your minds richly with the "Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise unto salvation."—and Tim. iii. 15. Is your mind consecrated to your loving Master?

3. We are to give Him the best of our bodily strength. This house of bone, flesh, blood, sinew and muscle is, if we are Christians, the tabernacle of the Holy Spirit. Our strength is to be expended in the service of Christ. Paul says, "Present your bodies," which is our reasonable service, thus combining the work of the heart, mind and body. In that barbarous, brutal bruising affair, which happened in Florida a few weeks ago, we have an example of the physical strength used in the furtherance of Satan's work on earth.

4. We must give Him the choicest gifts in the treasury. As we look over all to whom we are indebted, to whom do we owe the greater amount? Who has done the most for us? Who should receive the first and best gifts? It is not in the amount we give, but in the motive that prompts on the sacrifice made. Jesus saw the rich casting in of their abundance, but he commended the gift of the poor widow, small and trifling as it was, because she gave all that she had.—Mark xii. 44; and Cor. viii. 12.

March 4th.—Our birthrights and how they are lost.—Romans viii. 12-17; 31-39. We have by our birth into the kingdom of nature, come into possession of many birthrights. We are entitled to many rights and privileges from home and government. But great as are our rights from this source, much greater are those into which we come in possession at our second birth. The one is for time; the other, if not forfeited, is for eternity.

A learned Pharisee and ruler of the

Burdock BLOOD BITTERS

UNLOCKS ALL THE CLOSED SECRETIONS OF THE BOWELS, KIDNEYS AND LIVER, CARRYING OFF GRADUALLY, WITHOUT WEAKENING THE SYSTEM, ALL IMPURITIES AND FOUL HUMORS. AT THE SAME TIME CORRECTING ACIDITY OF THE STOMACH, CURING BILIOUSNESS, DYSPEPSIA, HEAD-ACHES, DIZZINESS, HEARTBURN, CONSTIPATION, RHEUMATISM, DROPSY, SKIN DISEASES, JAUNDICE, BALT RHEUM, ERYSIPELAS, SCORFULA, FLUTTERING OF THE HEART, NERVOUSNESS, AND GENERAL DEBILITY. THESE AND ALL SIMILAR COMPLAINTS QUICKLY YIELD TO THE CURATIVE INFLUENCE OF BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS.

Jews came to Jesus one night to enquire certain things of Him. He acknowledged Jesus to be a great teacher come from God. The Jews, above all other people, prided themselves on their birthrights. To be a son of Abraham was everything. But Nicodemus soon learned that there was another birth, which was of the greatest importance. "Except a man be born of water and the spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God." "Ye must be born from above." John iii. 1-8; Mark xvi. 16. What rights do we gain by the second birth? "To be called the friend of God" was the highest title bestowed on Abraham. To be called the friends of Christ was the peculiar honor of the disciples of Christ, to whom He confided the secrets of His reign. But to be called "The children of God through faith in Jesus Christ" is not only the common honor of all Christians but the highest honor which could be vouchsafed to the inhabitants of this earth. Such honor have you, my fellow citizens, in being related to the only begotten Son of God. "Behold how great love the Father hath bestowed on us, that we should be called the children of God." "Because you are sons God has sent forth the spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying Abba, Father." "And if sons, it follows you are heirs of God through Christ, the heir of all things. What manner of persons, then, ought you to be? How pure, how holy and heavenly in your temper! How just and righteous in all your ways! How humble and devoted to the Lord! How joyful and triumphant in your King!"—A. CAMPBELL.

How can we lose these inestimable birthrights?

1.—By inactivity, indifference or neglect. The author of Hebrews says, "Let us give more earnest heed to the things that were heard, lest haply we drift away from them."

2.—By unbelief—Heb. iii. 19; iv. 1.

3.—By wilful disobedience—Heb. vi. 4-7; x. 26-31.

4.—We may, as did Esau, sell our birthright for a mess of meat. We sell it for amusement, fame, money, or for the gratification of unholy desires.

It rests with us, as God never allows Satan to tempt us above what we are able to resist in His strength.

Married.

McINTYRE McINTYRE.—On the 31st January, by E. Sheppard, at the residence of the bride's father, Duncan McIntyre, of the Township of Erin, to Mary McIntyre, of the Township of Brant.

LAWSON-FERGUSON.—At the bride's residence in Acton, January the 31st, 1894, by S. B. Stephens, pastor of Church of Christ, Acton, Angus Lawson and Sarah Ferguson, all of Acton, Ontario.