

THE Canadian Missionary Link

Published in the interests of the Baptist Foreign Missionary Societies of Canada.

VOL. XXV.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1903.

No. 8

THE STILL HOUR,

O, Father as we come to Thee,
We think of those beyond the sea,
We plead that they may feel the power
Of Thine own grace in this "still hour."
The human love that helps to live,
O grant that we may freely give
Till heart meets heart before the throne,
And work and workers seem our own.

In this "still hour" we kneel to pray,
(We in the home—they far away),
That God would bless the seed we sow
And let abundant harvests grow.
Our spirits meet and sweetly blend,
As messages of love we send;
We cable swiftly by the throne
And work and workers seem our own.

O sisters, do we heed the call
That comes to one and comes to all,
To leave awhile our daily care
And spend an hour in praise and prayer.
One sisterhood, a little band,
And yet they compass sea and land;
Coming in touch before the throne,
How work and workers seem our own!

MRS. MARY B. WINGATE,
in *Mission Helper*.

ABOUT PRAYER.

A few gems collected about prayer I want to give you. "Want of prayer disturbs the plans of God." "Everything we have in this work hinges on prayer." "Doors will not swing open by discussion, but God swings them wide open in answer to prayer." "Louder than the cry of the missionary to come over and help, is the appeal, "Pray for us." "Ceasing to pray for them, we reduce their working force." "The greatest sin we can commit is to omit to pray." "What right have we to leave unappropriated or misapplied this greatest force?" *Woman's Evangel.*

POWER OF PRAYER.

In the fall of 1882 and spring of 1883, a spirit of speculation and doubt of the vital doctrines of the gospel had come into school and was also among some of the pastors as well. The preaching was too much of the speculative, philosophical character. Doubts of the divinity of Christ, and especially of the reality of the Holy Spirit were rife in our school,

even among some of the teachers. I felt a great agony of prayer for this, as did some of my colleagues. When the Week of Prayer came, the first of January, it passed without any special results, and we held it over a second week, having a general meeting every evening to pray especially for the outpouring of God's spirit upon the school, but no result came. Then a little band of perhaps ten held on, daily praying for this object. The first part of February I felt prompted to write a letter stating the spiritual condition of the school and our need, and asking for special prayer for the outpouring of God's spirit upon the school. I made forty copies of it and sent them to most of our colleges and theological seminaries in the United States. The weeks wore on and there was no sign here. The little band of praying ones had decreased to half a dozen. On Sabbath, the 16th of March, 1883, in the afternoon and evening an invisible influence struck the school. None of the teachers knew it until the next morning. But of the about 150 young men then in the school, very few closed their eyes in sleep that night. Almost every room was filled with men crying to God for mercy. The professing Christians were at first under the deepest conviction of sin. This experience lasted a week, during which time there was no preaching. The whole movement was, to human eyes, spontaneous, and the only efforts almost which the teachers put forth were to restrain from excesses and guide the inquiring minds into the light. All but four or five who were in the school passed through this experience, and the work spread from our school to the churches in this part of Japan, and this revival changed the whole spirit of our school. There have been no doubts since that time of the existence and work of the Holy Spirit. About the middle of April answers to my letters came, and they told us that on March 12th, 13th, 24th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and on, companies were praying for the outpouring of the Spirit in the Doshisha, some of them saying that they were praying with strong crying and tears."—Dr. Davis, of Japan, in *Missionary Monthly*.