

Foreign Missions.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. MANNING, 178 Wentworth Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JUNE.

For our young ladies on the mission field, that the power of the Holy Spirit may accompany their labors.
For our associations, that the Lord's blessing may attend every session.

Cromwell Hill, Kings Co., N. B.

The Ida Newcombe Mission Band is to be congratulated on being the first Baptist organization of any kind ever in existence in this place. Baptist families are few and scattered.

On Jan. 3rd, 1898, with the aid of Mrs. Cox, Provincial Secretary, we succeeded in organizing a Band with a membership of seven, which has since increased to seventeen. Our meetings are held from house to house, on the second Sunday afternoon in each month, and although the members are scattered, yet the meetings are well attended and it is evident that the interest is gaining. We hope and pray that as we labor for the evangelization of the heathen in Telugu land that our own souls may be greatly blessed and that we may see many workers raised up to work for God here in our home land. We have a lesson from the map of our six mission fields, at every meeting, and are making a special study of the Bimilipatan field. Miss Newcombe has written us a very interesting letter and we hope to keep up a regular correspondence with her and by this means we shall gain a better knowledge of our mission work and as a result will become more and more interested. The officers are: President, Mrs. G. E. McKnight; Secretary, Mrs. J. D. Appleby; Treasurer, Thirza E. Branncombe. Pray for us that this "little one may become a thousand," its influence felt both at home and abroad; God's cause built up, and his name be glorified.

Yours in the work,
Mrs. C. E. MILLER, Cor. Sec'y.

From Miss Harrison to a Mission Band.

This is Monday morning and as I write the excited and anxious talk of the beggars at the gate comes to me. I am going out that I may see and tell you what they look like today. They had all been made to sit in lines on either side of the road. Mrs. Churchill was just about ready to give them each a cupful of rice, but first she pointed out to me some of the worst cases. There was one woman with elephantiasis, her feet and legs so swollen that in one place the skin seemed to have burst and the red flesh was showing. There were several lepers, one great large man, so afflicted, had his feet wrapped up in rags, another's skin looked as if it had been dusted with flour, this was the effect of leprosy. In one place there were about thirty children with their spindling arms and their ribs could easily be traced. Then there were mothers with tiny babes, and blind, and crippled—in all two hundred and twenty-five.

Mrs. Churchill's policy was to keep them all seated until she had given to all. Evidently by the sounds I hear some are not satisfied, and some are saying it is not enough, while others are saying "salaam," which may mean either thank you or please. It is a trying day. If we did not have a day set apart for the beggars we would be bothered every day, and even so they often come although we tell them they must only come on Monday, imagine if you can two hundred and twenty-five beggars, and so little can be given them that we wonder how they live. Many of these beg from house to house in the town; but it takes a long time for them to collect enough for a meal there, because one person rarely gives more than twenty grains of rice—they just pick up a little with their finger tips. It is a wonder how they live. When I came to Bobbili on the thirtieth of last December, the number of beggars was about fifty, but the famine has increased the number sadly.

In a short time now the prices of food will probably go down to the average rate, but so far there has been scarcely any change, and the people have been paying between two and three times the ordinary price. We know of no deaths as the direct result of this trying season, yet the people have suffered sorely. Yesterday as I was coming home from Sunday School I saw two little tots off by themselves eating raggy. This as it is ready for use looks like a pasty greyish brown gruel. They had it in little black clay pots, and I thought of the boys and girls at home, and wondered what they would do if they had nothing else to eat. I cannot tell you how thankful I have been for the privilege of having been born in a Christian land. The wretchedness of the people grows upon one. There was so much that was beautiful, and the country and many of the people were so far in advance apparently of what I had anticipated, that I was pleasantly disappointed when I arrived. But the more I see, the worse it all becomes, and the darkness of heathenism seems to envelope everything. The country now is beautiful, the rice fields are one great stretch of glorious green, and beyond are the blue hills rising abruptly from the fruitful plain. The sky is generally the clearest of blues, and the white bunchy clouds are often seen floating about making the picture one of the rarest beauty. It reminds one of Bishop Heber's lines, "When every prospect pleases," etc. The whole country seems to be in a most unsatisfactory state. The plague is again gaining ground in the West. During August and September a case was rarely found, but now the papers report ten or twelve cases daily in Bombay

and Poona; and no doubt many die of whom no report is made.

Then there is the trouble up in the Northwest concerning the border tribes. This is really not very serious, but is a thorn to the government. Worst of all is the anti British sentiment which is being propagated by the educated classes. They want to have the offices and ruling power in India; but they are not qualified on account of their immorality. As it is the many native sub-officials even now interfere with the dispensation of justice by the English, because there is hardly such a thing as a native who will not accept bribes. They will steal and lie if any money or power can be gained. The English are much worried—not so much because they fear any speedy or imminent disturbance; but they see India is making no progress towards self government, but apparently retrograding. The only solution lies in giving India the Gospel. Let them learn to reverence a pure and holy God, and to love their country and their fellowman and then they will be able to have self-government, as has our Canada. If it were not this hope in our hearts, we would fear to remain in this land; but we know,

"Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Doth his successive journeys run."

And we long so for the time when His Kingdom shall come in India—in Bobbili we strain our eyes to see if the morning breaketh. Yes we look for the ones. We know that we are sent to individuals, and although our work yet seems so small, yet those who have been in the country a long time are hopeful, as they note the changes.

When we look at the work in its immensity we feel like saying with Jeremiah, "I am a child," but when we look to our God we hear him say, "Be not afraid, Jer. 1:4-10. Pray for us that we may speak what he wants us to speak, and do what he wants us to do. A week ago ten were baptized. This makes the number about forty-five for the last three months. This I mean is the work on five fields. We are looking forward to welcoming the reinforcements this year. Let us begin to pray for others for next year.

I fear that this letter will not be very interesting, but as I learn more about you perhaps I shall improve—give me a trial.

The language is coming slowly I have been attempting to teach a Sunday School class for three months. Now we are beginning to understand each other quite well, and I want to ask you to pray that each one of my class may be converted. These are their names and certain ones among you may pray for a certain one here: Mungama, and P. Surama, two bright Brahmin girls of about ten, both are married. They are quite wealthy and proud but the Lord can take this away and put a sense of sin and a longing for salvation in their hearts. Ramala is an orphan, a pretty, thoughtless little thing. S. Suramma is bright, short and fat, quick to learn verses and has a home where they seem to want to hear the Gospel. Narima is a little jewel, full of activity and learns her verses accurately. Besides these, three, Mutiyello, Gavaramma and Sara are from Christian homes. Two, Mutiyello and Gavaramma have been baptized but they need your prayers.

I believe the Lord has put it into my heart to ask you to pray for these. I shall pray too and watch for the fruit and will report. Oh that they were all shining Christians.

I shall close now, and again thank you for having taken me into your midst, and may our being so united be a blessing to us all. May we be better soldiers for our king. Pray for me often that I may know my Master and seek only to do His will.

Let us take as our motto, for a time anyway, "The joy of the Lord is your strength." Neh. 8:10.

Yours and His,
Mission Compound, MAUD M. E. HARRISON.
Bobbili, Oct. 11, 1897.

Amounts Received by the Treasurer of the W. B. M. U. from May 12th to May 25th.

Clyde River, F.M., \$2.50, H.M., \$2.50; Midgie, H.M., \$3; River Hebert, Mission Band, toward Mr. Morse's salary, \$5; Doaktown, F.M., \$3; Homeville, F.M., \$2.75; Paradise, F.M., \$10, H.M., \$5.80; Tekkall Mission House, \$5; Halifax 1st church, F.M., \$6, H.M., \$5, toward Tekkall building, \$10; Canard, F.M., \$3.50, H.M., \$3.50; River Hebert, F.M., \$2.17, H.M., 68c, Tidings, 10c. Report 5c; Tekkall Mission House, \$2; Charlottetown, F.M., \$5.40, H.M., \$7.20, Mission Band, F.M., \$2.20; Hazelbrook, F.M., \$7.54, H.M., \$3.66; Reports, 30c; Tidings, 25c; Centerville, Anna Co., F.M., \$2.74, H.M., \$1.47, toward Miss Newcombes salary \$3.50; Cape Tormentine, F.M., \$3; Windsor, a member of W.M.A.S., Tekkall building, \$5; Three Mile Plains, result of concert, Tekkall building, \$6.72; Hillsboro, Life Member, F.M., \$25; Tuquet, F.M., \$1.50, H.M., \$1.50; St. Martins, N.B., H.M., \$5; Lawrenceton, Mission Band, support of Mabel Beatrice Held, \$15; Chipman, F.M., \$5. Amherst, P. O. B. 513. MARY SMITH, Treas. W. B. M. U.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

At the Convention which was held in Berwick, N. S., and at the N. B. Convention, held at Hatfield's Point, quite a number of brothers and sisters gave pledges of \$5.00 each, toward the support of Rev. R. E. Gullison. These pledges were not for one year, but were to continue as long as Mr. Gullison remained on the field, as a mission worker, and as long as the persons making the pledge were able to meet the obligation. The first year almost all paid what they promised, the second year is fast coming to a close, and there are some of the good brothers and sisters who are still in arrears, of course

there is time enough yet, for the books do not close until August 1st.

These pledges should be sent direct to the Treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board. Only by so doing can he keep the record, and know who has paid and who has not. These pledges form no part of what is popularly known as 'Convention Fund,' and in all fairness should not be regarded as any part of that 'fund' whatsoever. Will the brethren who have made these pledges kindly bear the above in mind, and send the amounts direct to the Treasurer, and thus save confusion and blunders and possible annoyance.

J. W. MANNING, Sec'y-Treas. F. M. B.

I cannot put in words the urgency of Foreign Missions, or the greatness of their claims on every believer. Whether it be the love of Christ for the heathen 'His inheritance' (Ps. 2:8) or His glory through us (John 15:8; 17:10), or His direct command five times repeated (Acts 1:8; John 20:21; Luke 24:47, 48; Mark 16:15; Matt. 28:18, 20), or the worth of a single soul, or the moral ruin of the heathen, or their vast numbers, or the open doors, or our full ability to give them the gospel, or the burdens and need of our heroic missionaries,—all plead for men and means for the rescue of the lost.

'Christ requires that we should give the gospel to the world immediately. His command is: 'Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.' That is the plainest of commands. It means us personally. It means now, for it is in the present tense, and God has now, unquestionably, for the first time in the centuries, removed out of the way every obstacle to the immediate evangelization of the world, and given to the church everything needed for the completion of the work of preaching the gospel to the world. The whole world is open and accessible physically, geographically, politically to the gospel messengers and waiting for them. The church has the means, the messengers, and the promise of the spirit at her command, and seems dangerously near to suffering eclipse of faith and blight of life because of her failure to avail herself of them, in fulfilling her great and pressing mission. Christ is waiting for her to move in obedience to His command. Who among her leaders will risk the responsibility of holding back or of hindering the onward movements He demands?—Selected.

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