

as ever. On the day preceding the reception of the first converts into the Kuruman Church, a box arrived from England, which had been twelve months on the road, and in it were found the communion vessels that Mary Moffat had asked for more than two years before.

Perhaps Mr. Moffat's greatest work was the translation of the Bible into the language of the people among whom he labored. This was a work of great difficulty which occupied nearly thirty years before it was completed. Through the kindness of friends at home he procured a printing press and published certain portions of the Scriptures. Great was the astonishment of the natives when they saw the printing press at work. Lessons, spelling-books, and catechisms were prepared for the schools. To see a white sheet of paper disappear for a moment and then emerge covered with letters was beyond their comprehension. After a few noisy exclamations, one obtained a sheet, with which he bounded through the village, showing it to all he met, and saying it had been made in a moment with a round black hammer (a printer's ball) and a shake of the arm.

An incident related in his speech at the Bible Society's Annual Meeting upon the occasion of his first visit to England in 1839, shows the importance to the natives of having the Bible in their own tongue. Speaking of his translation of the Gospel of Luke, he alluded to the state of the unconverted heathen, and the contrast manifested by the Christian converts. When the heathen saw the converts reading the Book which had produced this change, they inquired if they (the converts) talked to it. "No," answered they, "it talks to us; for it is the Word of God." "What then," replied the strangers, "does it speak?" "Yes," said the Christians, "it speaks to the heart!" This explanation was true, and was often illustrated in fact; for among those to whom the same Book was read by others, it became proverbial to say that the readers were "turning their hearts inside out!"

Dr. H. Clay Trumbull, in *The Sunday School Times*, thus describes Robert Moffat:

"It was in London in the spring of 1881 that I saw and heard Robert Moffat, at a missionary reception at the Lord Mayor's, at the Mansion House. There were representatives there from many lands, Christian men and women who were known in all the world. Yet no one in all that company was more a centre of loving interest and of hearty reverence than the missionary veteran hero of South Africa. He was more than fourscore and five years old, yet his eye was bright, his face shone with the light that never dims, and his voice was clear and penetrating. When he spoke, and all listened, his testimony seemed to be that there were no hardships in Christ's service, or 'none to speak of,' but that every step in the missionary's path was one of blessing. And as he said it, and looked it, we couldn't believe anything else."

During his last visit to England the veteran missionary was introduced to the Queen, and received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the University of

Edinburgh. He died on the 10th of August, 1883, in his 88th year. No truer hero ever lived.

Helps.

From recent letters received by Dr. Stephenson a number of quotations are made. They show that there are not only difficulties in missionary work, but many encouraging features as well. The following are mentioned as helps:

"The Campaigners' visits have been an inspiration to us to do better work."

"The appointment of a missionary as a representative of our district."

"Our missionary library."

"The list of questions we are in the habit of sending in to our missionary vice-president, which she answers on missionary night."

"The missionaries' letters are always eagerly listened to and arouse much interest."

"Mr. Kaburagi's visit was an added inspiration."

"Prayer, and the Epworth Era."

"Reports of delegates to conventions."

"The holding of regular missionary meetings in which a number take part."

"Our prayer circle has been an inspiration."

"One thing that is very helpful, is a large attendance. Almost every one takes a deep interest in every meeting. Another thing is the attendance of young men and the interest they take."

"Each member is willing, if possible, to do whatever is assigned, and does it with a good motive."

"The Endeavor department work."

"The study of God's Word."

News Items.

PARIS EPWORTH LEAGUE has just purchased a missionary library.

BOWMANVILLE District is emphasizing the study part of our motto. The text books used for study classes are being read and studied in the district.

FLORENCE EPWORTH LEAGUE is purchasing a missionary library. They hope by spreading missionary information to help their members to pray, study, and give intelligently.

CARLTON STREET LEAGUE, Toronto, last year gave \$82.00 to missions. They are looking forward this year to an increased interest in the work, and have organized a missionary study class.

THE Leagues at Berwick, Nova Scotia, have adopted the Forward Movement. They use the pledge and collectors' books, and are trying to give their members as much missionary information as possible.

THE young people of Nova Scotia Conference, who have undertaken the support of Rev. A. C. Borden, M.A., are very much in earnest. Many are pledging themselves to pray, study, and give to missions.

THE Epworth League of Copenhagen has organized a band to study, pray, and give for missions. The members intend having monthly missionary meetings and introducing, for the benefit of League members, missionary books and papers.

THE missionary study class has been organized in Sherbourne Street League. They are taking up the study of China, in which country they are much interested, as Dr. Kilborn, who is supported by the Leagues of East Toronto, is their representative in that needy land.

MANY Leagues are taking advantage of the offer to send letters from our missionaries to any who make application for them to F. C. Stephenson, M.D., 268 Parliament Street, Toronto. These letters are very helpful and keep the young people in touch with our workers in the mission field.

THE missionary study class of Parliament Street Church, Toronto, have studied together during the past few months, "Dawn on the Hills of Tang," from which they gained a great deal of knowledge of China, which they are putting into practical use in the missionary meetings of their League.

THE energetic missionary vice-president of Summerside District, P.E.I., hopes to have all the Leagues under her care organized for missionary work on the Forward Movement plan. The work which is being done in the East is full of encouragement. Many letters come from workers asking for missionary information, and for full particulars re the Pray, Study, Give, plan, and for information concerning our missionaries and their work.

Suggested Programme.

SUBJECT—"Our Indian Work."

HYMN 13 (Canadian Hymnal used). Scripture Reading, John xv. 1-14.

PRAYER for Missionaries, especially for those working among the Indians. Hymn 219.

PAPERS on "Our missionaries among the Indians: who they are; where they work."

References: Missionary Report, 1898-'99, pages xl-lx. Free tract, "General Survey" (to be had on application to Dr. Sutherland); *Outlook* November, page 243; CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA, December.

PRAYER for Christian Indians.

PAPER on "What the Indians are doing for Christ."

References: *Missionary Outlook* for August, October, November and January; *Christian Guardian*, pages 4, 5; this number of the *Outlook* and ERA, Missionary Society reports, W. M. S. reports.

HYMN 319.

PRAYER for the heathen Indians.

PAPER on "The need of the Indians."

References: Letters from missionaries in the Indian work. See *Outlook*: books on Indians in Sunday School or League libraries.

N.B.—Do not fail to announce the subjects for the missionary meetings for the next three months, so that those who are to take part may make preparation:

March—"The evangelization of our French citizens."

April—"Summer missionary campaign work."

May—"Domestic missionary work."