

6. Carefully train the people to the habit of considering their giving to the cause an act of worship.

7. Give much thought to the best method of bringing the matter once or twice a year, or oftener if circumstances be favorable, before each family and each member of the congregation. To this end inquire what has been done in the past, or what is done in neighboring churches, and have the matter carefully canvassed by the consistory.

8. Do not be discouraged by failures or small results. No good work wholly fails. Scripture principles clearly set forth are sometimes like seed which takes a long while to germinate.

9. Never scold. Honey attracts a good deal more than vinegar. People can be drawn, they never can be driven, into the consecration of means and efforts to Christ's cause.

10. While setting forth the duty of caring for missions, prefer rather to lay the emphasis upon the privilege of being "God's fellow-workers."

11. Be an example yourself in gifts, in prayer, in interest in the cause, and in sympathy with all who take part in it.—*Morning Star*.

SOME MAORI TRAITS.

A MAORI had claimed a piece of land, and had been asked to tell the court on what proof he relied for his title. Pointing to his rival claimant he said, simply, "I ate his father."

On one occasion the late Sir Donald McLean was commissioned by the colonial government to purchase a large tract of land from a Maori chief. For three days Sir Donald remained the chief's guest. They rode, talked, ate and smoked together. Each night the bags of gold containing part of the purchase money were solemnly handed over to the chief for safe keeping, and restored again to the commissioner's attendant in the morning. But not a word was said about the purchase of the land. On the third morning Sir Donald prepared to return. The horses were led round and farewells were exchanged.

"Go on your way in peace," said the chief.

"Dwell in safety in your village," replied the commissioner.

Then at last the Maori, beaten at his own game, gave in.

"Does not my friend know that I wish to sell the land? Why does he not speak about it?"

After that, of course, the business was soon settled.

A story like this prepares us for the information that the Maoris have taken very kindly to the game of chess, and that they make very excellent players.

Like all primitive people, the Maoris are very inquisitive, and, in the manner of children, are inclined to bring everything to their mouths to test its qualities. In the early days a party of Maoris came across some bars of soap which had been washed ashore from a wreck. Finding that the stuff was too sticky to be eaten raw, they resolved to cook it. Accordingly they cut it up into small pieces and sprinkled these over the sweet potatoes and fish which formed their evening meal. Finally, they covered the whole mass over with fern leaves and mats, and, putting earth on top, left everything to bake quietly in the ovens till the evening. The scene at that evening meal must have been very funny. Not only did the tribe have to go supperless to bed, but the whole set of ovens were spoiled, and new ones had to be constructed before any further cooking could be done.—*All the Year Round*.

A COUNTRY where forty millions of women, except for members of their own family, have never seen the face of a man. Who shall spread before them the revelation of the Gospel of Christ? If God ever gave the word to women He gives it now, to carry to India.

Our Young Folk.

A YOUNG AFRICAN HERO.

SOME of you have hard words to bear at times because you love the Lord Jesus. But in some parts of the world people who say they believe in Him are beaten cruelly, and even put to death.

In Central Africa, a few years ago, some boys were burned to death by order of the king because they were Christians. Yet, in spite of this, a boy of about sixteen years was brave enough to wish to become a Christian. He came to the missionary, and said in his own language:

"My friend, I wish to be baptized."

"Do you know what you are asking?" said the missionary in surprise.

"I know, my friend."

"But if you say that you are a Christian they will kill you."

"I know, my friend."

"But if they ask you if you are a Christian, you will tell a lie, and say 'No?'"

Bravely and firmly came the boy's answer: "I shall confess, my friend."

A little talk followed in which he showed clearly that he understood what it was to be a Christian, so the missionary baptized him by the name of Samweli, which is the same as our Samuel.

The king found him so useful that he employed him to collect the taxes which are paid in cowries, little shells which in Africa are used instead of money.

One day when he was away on this business, the king again got angry with the Christians, and ordered that all the leading ones should be killed. Samweli's name was found upon the list. As he came back he heard of the death that was awaiting him. That night when it was quite dark the missionary was awakened by a low knocking at the door. It was Samweli and his friends come to know what he should do. Should he run away, or must he go and hand over the money he had collected? After a silence the missionary said: "Tell me what you think."

Looking up, Samweli replied: "My friend, I cannot leave the things of the king."

His friends earnestly begged him to fly, but the missionary said: "No, he is right. He has spoken well; he must deliver up the money."

They all knelt down in prayer together, the missionary wondering sadly if he should ever see the young hero again.

"My friend, I will try to start early, and leave the cowries with the chief," said the lad, as he set off; "but I fear my carriers will not be ready till after daylight, and if I am seen I shall be caught. Good-bye."

But God kept him. He went boldly to the chief's hut, put down the cowries, and walked away. He went again a few nights after to tell the missionary, who said: "You ran when you got outside?"

"No, my friend, for I should have been noticed at once. I walked quite slowly until I got out of sight, and then I ran as fast as I could, and so I escaped."

This is a true story taken from Mr. Ashe's book, "Two Kings of Uganda." It shows the love of Christ can make a boy brave to do his duty even in the face of danger and death. "In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence."—*The Children's Record*.

THE *War Cry* reports that the Salvation Army has 264 corps in India.