

the prayer of every lady missionary when I say, pray that from among those who have heard so long, workers may be converted and called, not by us but by the Lord Himself, to supply the pressing need. We can make so little impression ourselves, but with a large band of faithful helpers to work through, much more could be accomplished.

Very sincerely yours,  
MARTHA CLARK.

It is a fact, that the severe storms, and the extreme weather of the past winter, has made the work difficult in the country, and remittances from that quarter have been fewer and amounts less; it is also noticeable, that where work is not thus difficult many have taken on an inactivity which does not tend towards enlarging the Treasury. However this is all past, and ours is the privilege now of doing good and special work along financial lines. \$2000 and more have to be raised during the next six weeks, so that we may meet our liabilities. A knowledge of this fact should burden each one of us, and and not only cause questionings, as to what more I can do, but where is the other woman among my friends from whom I may solicit, and help to get a blessing by giving of her means. Let us from now to July 31st carefully and prayerfully look after, and save dollars for our loved Master and his work. — *Treasurer, W. B. M. U.*

#### ITEMS.

The expression among our missionaries of their conviction that the time has come for union among the Mission Board of the different provinces, will, we trust, meet with a hearty response in the home land.

The advantages that would accrue to the work both at home and abroad are obvious, while the hindrances are not so great, but that they may be overcome by earnest, persistent effort.

The missionary problem is a personal one. No sacrifice can be too great if we can only get the church to take time and wait unitedly before the throne of God, to review her position, to confess her shortcomings, to claim God's promise of power, and to consecrate her all to His service—*Andrew Murray.*

Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall does not hesitate to say that, from his observation, the most en-

couraging aspect of the missionary enterprise is the boarding schools on our mission fields. "As educational institutions they deserve commendation, but as institutions for the formation of character and the development of a new type of manhood and womanhood they are beyond praise."

#### HELPING TOGETHER WITH PRAYER.

Our noble missionaries who have given up all to follow Christ, are in a real way our substitutes in a "Holy War." One earnest request they make of us—one before all others. They make no murmur that they know much real deprivation; they understand the blessedness of self-denial. But this one thing which they plead is the appeal of every missionary letter that crosses land and sea—"Pray for us." We do not respond to this cry as we should. We work better than we pray. If the efforts to plan attractive and literary missionary meetings were "thrown into the form of a prayer," like the good deacon's remarks, what meetings those would be! The missionaries tell us of the gatherings of converted women, where "nearly every one takes a part." We have in this matter, the urgent desire of the missionaries, the example of heathen women, and if the Lord, Himself, says unto us, "do it," shall we devise excuses? One evasion as old as Moses, we shall surely hear, "I am not eloquent!" This reply came from Moses in all humility, but it did not release him from obedience. So even our replies in that spirit ought not to quiet Christian consciences. From most of us an honest avowal of our positions, would show cowardice. God said to Moses,— "I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say." Here is all reason for our courage, and let us remember that the woman we may consider gifted in this direction found it just as hard to begin as we find it, and though she may seem to us a very Miriam, possibly it is not easy for her yet.

To draw near to God in the assemblies of His saints, is counted a privilege, and brings blessings which we persistently refuse. The whole Word of God invites us to prayer: but it also commands. If we are not willing to stretch out our hands for the mercies hanging just over our heads, we must not be surprised at the dear Lord's displeasure, shown in our hunger unsupplied.