

main thing, if you unite yourself to nothing stronger than a company of frail, fallible fellow-creatures, and expect them to tow you along by the power of their prayers and fellowship, then you have but a poor chance of success in this world, or of heaven in the next.

The first question for you to settle is—Have you been born anew by the Holy Spirit? Have you, by sincere faith, united your heart to the omnipotent Saviour? If that be so, then your public acknowledgment of this fact, by connecting yourself with a Christian church, is the completion of the process of *joining the Lord Jesus*. Heart-union first, then open confession. Christ demands both, and when both steps are taken you have become one with Him. Your heart is, by a mysterious, but real process, linked to His infinite heart of love. You join your weakness to Christ's strength, your ignorance to His wisdom, your unworthiness to His merits, your frailty to His watchful oversight, your poverty to His boundless resource of grace. Your spiritual destiny is bound up with your Lord's; because He lives you shall live also; and you will be kept by the power of God through faith unto full salvation. A glorious conception is this; and if, by God's help, you are making this a reality, then go forward. The sooner the better.

### Lepers in India.



LADY member of the Woman's Union Mission writes from India:

While in a distant hill station for a change, I was glad to see something of the work of others for the heathen and Mohammedans. The thing that interested me most was a large leper asylum. The missionary in charge told me there were 160 inmates. Very comfortable, separate houses are provided for men and women. They have a church and school-house, and surrounding their barracks

the hill sides are terraced, and here those who are able to work do something toward raising their own grain and vegetables. About seventy have been baptized.

Of course, no compulsion is used in getting them into the place, nor in keeping them there, so only those remain who fully appreciate the kindness which cares for them in their terrible affliction. Many of the poor creatures are in a state which makes the sight of them revolting, and I rejoiced that there were those willing to go among them. It could only be done for the love of Christ.

It seems a small matter to give money to help this class of unfortunates, when one considers what the sacrifice would be to go among them daily and try to help their sufferings and to arouse their dull minds. Funds are lacking sometimes, and always great effort has to be made to raise sufficient to meet the needs. The healthy children of the lepers are taken from them and brought up separately in a school, where many have grown up bright, healthy boys and girls, showing no signs of their terrible inheritance. This asylum is one of several in India for this class of people, all under the care of missionaries, but receiving aid from many Christian residents outside the missionary circles.

In our own work in the zenanas we sometimes meet with women and girls who have leprosy. In one school I have a dear little Mohammedan girl who is beginning to show signs of it. It makes me sad to look at her, knowing how hopeless her disease is and to what extent it may go before death ends her sufferings. Her mother, in whose house the school is held, has no trace of it, but the father, whom I never see, may be a leper. At all events, they make no difference between this child and the others, who are well as yet.

THE labour of the righteous tendeth to life: the fruit of the wicked to sin.

### NOTICE.

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