

Canadian Missionary Link.

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A LETTER.

My Dear Friend:

Enclosed in this I am sending you an open or "circular" letter received last month from a friend in India, one of our missionaries there. I am sorry it did not reach me in time to send it on to you by Sept. 9th, but I fancy it is not too late now, if you are in earnest about our work. It is a good thing to have a special day for prayer, but it is still better to make every day a special day for prayer. But read the letter, here it is:—

"With the other members of our Missionary Conference who are writing to their friends, I also desire to let each one of my friends and also others know of the very painful crisis in regard to our Mission treasury.

As you may all know, the developments within the last few years have been marvellous, several new stations having been opened, two new great High Schools having come under our care, besides other enlargements. Added to these things, the cost of living in India as well as in Canada has greatly increased.

Then again the last few years has been a period of transition for our Foreign Missions, all the different Boards having been united either federally or constitutionally under one head. This has meant a new adjustment in many directions, and the various constituencies thus organized and united have not all as yet perhaps realized the greater opportunity and the greater amount of responsibility resting upon each.

These may be some of the reasons why our Foreign Mission Board, representing the whole of our beloved Canada from sea to sea, finds itself face to face with such an alarming deficit. The deficit is such that missionaries are asked to postpone their needed furlough, those now on furlough may not have means to return, new ones under appointment, two of whom are doctors urgently needed, may not be sent, and what is more serious than all, if estimates are not met, the work so mani-

festly successful in India will be very dangerously crippled.

Can you realize then, my friend, how very serious the situation is?

The hosts of the unsaved are pressing us on one side, the mountains of opportunity are forbidding retreat on the other, and the deficit stares us in the face. What shall we do? How shall we be able to say as Moses did, "Fear ye not, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord which he will show you to-day"? Surely by waiting upon God till He shall say to us, "Why criest thou unto me, speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward."

We think the Board will be issuing a far-sounding battle cry, a call for prayer. He has said, "Call upon me in the day of trouble, I will answer thee and thou shalt glorify me."

We wish to supplement the call of the Board which may be sent to the different Boards, Sunday Schools, societies and circles and make a personal appeal to each of our friends, an appeal for prayer.

The Lord has been moving amongst us. He prompted those who had the subjects to propose that "The Cross" should be the central theme of our devotions at this conference. Day by day we have been meditating on Christ's own view of "the Cross," then "The Cross itself," then "The early disciples' view of the Cross" and then "The Cross, its contents to our own individual experience." Sitting as we did, day by day in the white light of that supreme sacrifice, all that we could do sinks into insignificance. In this spirit when this great deficit confronted us, we felt that He who had not withheld His only Son, but delivered Him up for us all, would surely with Him truly give us all things. Our faith was encouraged and our zeal renewed.

So this call for prayer. The water of the Red Sea stood up as an heap and they went over on dry land. We want to do this by the time of our conventions. We want the deficit to be completely swept away. We want to see