

THE QUESTION BOX.—The Committee of Arrangements for the annual meeting have decided to give an hour of the time for questions and answers upon plans and means of promoting the interest of the Circles. If any one would like to ask a question, as to how to accomplish a particular object, or in reference to any difficulty she may meet in the work, let her send the question to the LINK. Also, if any one has succeeded in advancing the interest of the work in any particular way, let this be reported to the LINK. In this way we may have something ready for the question hour at the meeting. The questions will be published in the September LINK, so that any who can answer them may be prepared to do so. We propose continuing this question box afterwards in the LINK, as far as may seem profitable to Circles.

We are glad to hear that at a number of the Associations this year, special attention has been given to our work. The pastors were urged to encourage the formation of Circles for the Home and Foreign Missions.

We have received this week two excellent photographs of Mr. Timpany. Circles or individuals can have them by writing to Mr. Poole, photographer, St. Catharines. Prices: cabinets 25 cts., cards 15 cts.; or \$2 and \$1 per dozen respectively.

We give the following by way of indicating what may be done by an earnest Christian woman in extending the circulation of the LINK. Miss Rowles, of Sarnia, succeeded in disposing of 100 copies of the June LINK at the Middlesex and Lambton Association, and secured 30 new subscribers. Others, under less favorable circumstances, have done well. To all who have given their services in this direction we tender our sincere thanks.

We wish to direct the attention of Circles and individuals, to the lists of Missionary books advertised by the U. C. Tract Society, and by the Standard Publishing Co. We would advise Circles to take up a collection and send for one or more of these books; it would be a great help in keeping up the interest of Circle meetings.

In a card from Miss Frith, dated Cocanada, May 5th, she says: "Dear Miss Gibson is lying at the point of death with fever, we fear what the crisis may bring, but the Lord may be merciful. She is a noble, earnest Christian, and will, if spared, do a good work." Will not all of our readers pray that God may spare her life. It will be remembered that Miss Gibson is Miss Frith's assistant in the Zenana work, and is employed by our Society. Miss Frith, at present, has charge of the girls' boarding school in Cocanada, the matron who was appointed having failed to take charge, and Mrs. Timpany's leaving making it necessary.

In a letter from Mrs. Manning, of Halifax, written a short time after Mr. Currie's departure, she says: "We have had your missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Currie, with us for a few days. I invited her down to Halifax to see him off. We held a farewell service on Friday evening, and on Saturday at two o'clock the steamer left. Poor Mrs. Currie, it was with a sad, heavy heart she turned away and took the train for Wolfville. Three little children are a great care and responsibility for one so frail as she. Her strength returns slowly. I hope the warm weather will bring new life; but she will miss her husband so very much. These separations are very trying, and involve great sacrifice for the cause. I felt in looking at her that I had really made no sacrifice to give the gospel to the heathen."

All communications for the LINK, should be sent in by the 22nd of the month, as we aim to go to press two days earlier than heretofore.

Farewell!

Inasmuch as there is no LINK in August, I must say good-bye a month before my intended departure. It seems but a few days since I wrote a short paragraph as a greeting to the readers of the LINK on my return to Canada a little more than a year ago. And yet how many changes have taken place since then! Our pioneer missionary has been called away to his reward, and the one, who shared his toils and sorrows; has come home to Canada with her daughter. It will seem strange to have no Timpany among our workers in India. Perhaps by and bye instead of the father may be the children.

Other important changes have taken place. Mr. Currie has enjoyed a visit to Canada, and returned to India. It is hoped that he will be at Cocanada before this meets the reader's eye. Furthermore a new man has been appointed by the Board, and is now preparing to start for India. This new man is Mr. J. R. Stillwell, who has been preaching at Pembroke for a year. Another change that may be mentioned is one that concerns the LINK itself. After eight years of faithful service Mrs. Freeland and Miss Jane Buchan resigned their trust to other hands a short time ago. It seemed quite a coincidence that Mrs. Freeland's connection with the paper should cease so soon after the last letter from Mr. Timpany appeared, because it was only the earnest solicitation of Mr. Timpany that induced Mrs. Freeland to take charge of the paper when it was started. The LINK is now under the control of the women's Board, at whose request Mrs. Newman has undertaken both the editorial and business work connected with its publication.

These changes make the past year seem longer than it might otherwise. Perhaps also the work that I have been permitted to do in visiting churches, associations and conventions, may help me to realize that I have been at home a full year. I have enjoyed my visits among the churches and have been refreshed in my soul by the warm greetings of brethren and sisters in the Lord. And now that the time has come when I must leave Canada with its spiritual light and warmth, and go back to the darkness and chilliness of heathen India, I ask for myself personally, and for those who go to that land for the first time, a special interest in your prayers. Dr. Carey did well when he compared missionaries to miners. I have been down a mine, and know the darkness and gloom that reigns there. I have been in India, and know some thing of the gross spiritual darkness found there.

Mr. Stillwell and I expect to sail from Quebec on the 1st August, and to be at Cocanada about the 1st October. I am happy to say that we each hope to have the companionship of a wife. I state these facts so that our friends may pray for every member of our little party while we are on the way and after our arrival in India. Before my visit to Canada I wrote many a letter to the LINK. If the Lord will, I shall write many more after my return to India. To all who read these lines I now say—Farewell!

JOHN CRAIG.

THE progress of Christianity in Japan is revealed in the following: A place in Tokio which was built for a Buddhist preaching service has just been rented to the Presbyterian Mission, to be used as a church. A hall built to propagate infidelity is also rented by one of the churches. The priests of one of the largest temples in Tokio have tried to raise money by offering a mortgage on the temple but no one will accept their offer.