

Foreign Mission Board

W. B. M. U.

"We are laborers together with God."

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PRAYER TOPIC FOR MAY.

For Tekkai that the Spirit's power may come in great measure upon our missionaries and their helpers, and may souls be saved. For the North West, Indian work and British Columbia.

Mission Studies from Via Christi.

What a rare privilege those have enjoyed who have taken the course of study outlined in Via Christi. The very name is an inspiration to a lover of the Lord Jesus. "The way of Christ." We have followed the path trodden by these brave, consecrated followers of the blessed Master. Through tangled forests, over stormy seas, thro' densely populated countries, amid hostile tribes they have faithfully forged their way, often through floods and flame, frequently unto death. Some heroically struggling through a long life, like the famous Columba passing into glory while praying for the people for whom he labored, others cut down after a few short years, like Brainard, probably yielding more fruit by his death, than many years of patient service could have done.

These studies include geography, history, biography, literature and poetry. They demand careful planning and hard work, but the results are a clearer idea of the essential growth of Christianity, the continuity of Christian endeavor, the overruling Providence of God, and the unity of the faith under strange and frequently marvelous conditions. To assist in the study of these lessons, a few practical suggestions are offered, with the hope that they may be of service to many in town and country who may yet embrace the opportunity of taking this year's course of study, as a foundation and preparation for future work.

1. Do not try to use Via Christi alone. This will insure certain failure. Secure one or two books as helps, viz. "Earliest Missions in all Lands," and "Two Thousand Years Before Carey." Have access to an encyclopedia, from which can be gleaned the information needed on the different characters mentioned in the lessons.
2. Always use a map, home manufacture much preferred. Be thoroughly acquainted with the locality of the places studied, and find out all possible concerning them during these centuries.
3. Use all the pictures you can obtain, as these attract the attention and give a clearer idea of the places and persons.
4. Study the lesson with some great person as a central figure. There is no better way to fix a period or movement in the mind, than to connect them with the life and character of some great man or woman. These mission studies are peculiarly adapted to such treatment, for, in each period there was some prophet of the faith who was its heart and soul. The names of Columba, and John Knox in Scotland; Patrick in Ireland; Ulfilas and Boniface in Germany; Cyril and Methodius in Bulgaria; Bernard, Francis Egide, and Zinzendorf, are names that ought to be as familiar as our loved missionaries of this century. Each one of these should be assigned to a member of the class to prepare a paper upon their life and work, and then tell in a few minutes the information thus gained.
5. Music should have a prominent place in the meetings. A committee of musical women who will delight to study the hymns of each century, and gather around them those who can sing. It will be a revelation to know that some of our most familiar hymns were written in the early ages, and others attributed to that period are of great merit and beauty.

Certain it is that any person who will trace the march of Christianity through the pomp and glory of the Roman Empire, watch the irresistible tide of the barbarian invasion as it overwhelmed the Eternal City, trace the marvelous work accomplished in the early ages by the Roman Catholic Church through its devoted monks and God-fearing and Christ-loving men, see the progress sin made and the light going out in darkness, the work of evangelization passing into the hands of Protestants, behold the struggle between civilization and barbarism in the dark ages, follow the heroes of the faith as they thread the tangled forests and encounter fierce peoples with the message of the Cross, exult with the passion of the Moravian missionaries, and voyage with the great companies by which Christianity colonized the world, we will come back to our times and work with a deeper faith and a wider vision, a more profound enthusiasm for the triumphs of the faith once delivered to the saints. Let us fervently and gratefully thank God that he has counted us worthy to bear some little part in this great evangelizing work, reverently tread in the path of those sainted men and women who have preceded us, faithfully work, earnestly pray, and patiently wait for the fulfillment of the promise—"The glory of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea."

Elgin, Albert Co., N.B.

On the evening of April 27th, the sisters of the W. M. A. S. gave a very interesting entertainment, "Parliament of Religions" to a large and attentive audience. The Parliament consisted of representatives of different religions, as Buddhist, Hindu, Mohammedan, Confucianist, and lastly Christian. Each representative told the story of her religion. The Christian's story shedding such a light over the woful and pitiful stories of degradation and misery of the other representatives, that I think that every heart should have a warmer feeling towards missions. It is only by the study of missions that we can know of the needs and discouragements. We usually do not find one who has studied of this great work a non-believer in missions.

Our Society during the past year has been working on about as usual, not losing ground and advancing slowly. We have lost two of our sisters by removal and have had three new members. During first part of year the meetings held monthly were regular and well attended, but when the cold weather came and the frequent snows, we were not quite so regular with the meetings. The meetings have been pleasantly seasoned with frequent letters from Sister Helena Blackadar. We are pleased to know that she has successfully passed her examinations, and rejoice with her that now she can begin her active work for the Master. We pray that our little Society of 17 members may be strengthened to help more and more in this work of spreading the gospel. We pray earnestly for the extension of the kingdom both at home and in foreign fields, till none can say that they have not heard of this Christ "the Saviour of the world."

BESSIE B. HORSMAN, Co. Sec'y., W. M. A. S.
May 10th, 1902.

Notes by the Way.

Another pleasant Sabbath was spent in Salisbury, with services at Steeves' Mt., Boundary Creek and Salisbury. No pastor has yet been secured to take charge of this important interest, but it is hoped that the right man will be sent soon. On Monday, Rev. W. H. Jenkins, now situated at Onslow, N. S., arrived to spend a few days on the field. A service was held at Salisbury on Monday evening, but the writer, to his great regret, was not able to be present. Many are hoping that he may prove to be the man whom the Lord has appointed.

Monday was spent by me in visiting the outside stations in the interest of "our paper." It may be possible that some one remembers the statement in the previous Notes that but few copies of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR find their way to these places, and are curious to know if the hope expressed there has been realized. Let me say for the information of such that the day's work resulted in increasing our subscription list there by 133 1/3 per cent. That looks very well, but it means only that whereas there were three papers taken before there are now seven.

On Tuesday, after a few hours' work at Salisbury, I again set out, with a head wind, for Pettitcodiac, whither my valise had preceded me by train. The valise was found intact, but a bottle of shoe polish, incautiously packed too near the exterior, had not been so fortunate, and its contents were generously distributed through the valise. A few hours were spent in performing the necessary process of separation, but the damage was not great. Then the experience is worth something, and tuition in that school is generally expensive.

The next Baptist church is at

PENOBSCQUIS,

which place was reached on Wednesday. This is one section of the large and important field over which Rev. W. Camp is the beloved pastor. A pleasant call was enjoyed at the home of Rev. E. C. Corey, who for some years has resided here. His many friends will regret to hear that he was quite severely injured about a week ago by a kick from a horse. When the writer was there he had so far recovered as to be able to be out doors once more. He is moving now to Pettitcodiac, where he will reside in future. The church here will miss him in all departments of the work, and will feel the loss of Mrs. Corey not less keenly.

Behind Penobscquis, about five miles to the south is a small settlement called South Branch, where some half dozen Baptist families live, with well-tilled farms and comfortable homes. Another small community is found at Springdale, about half way in. Here some years ago was a flourishing paper mill, and money was plentiful in Springdale. But the business proved unprofitable, and the fact that the place is inhabited now is an instance of that love of home which characterizes us as a people, and also, perhaps, of our inability to readily adapt ourselves to new conditions. These places are likewise ministered to by Pastor Camp, to their delight and edification. And now here is a question for our mathematical readers—what increase per cent. did defect in our circulation in these places, having taken three subscriptions, while no

paper was sent here before my visit? Perhaps our mathematical professors at Wolfville might enlighten us. From Penobscquis I came to

SUSSEX,

where a few days had been spent last week. This is the point of distribution for a large and prosperous section of country, and is one of the most thriving of our small towns. Situated in the midst of one of the best farming districts in the province, Sussex has grown steadily until it has attained to the dignity of a brick block, electric lights, and even a departmental store. The Baptist cause has kept pace with the growth of the town, and under the wise and efficient leadership of the present pastor is making still faster progress. Extensive improvements have been made in the church property, and in all departments the work is in a state of health and vigor. The recent services, in which the pastor was assisted by Evangelist Marple, resulted in the quickening of life in the church and the addition of nine by baptism. And in the work of the church our denominational paper is not overlooked. My few days' work also added materially to the list of subscribers so that now the conditions for intelligent and effective service for the Master in all the varied interests of his kingdom were never better.

Yours in the work,

Sussex, May 16th.

R. J. COLPITTS,

Cold in London.

A London despatch of May 17th says:—So far as it has progressed in London, rain, snow and hail have been England's harbingers of summer. Never has there been such an inclement spring. Those who have come for the coronation sit around in doleful groups, waiting for the sunshine that never comes. The women go to the opera and clubs in furs, and the men have long since reverted to their winter clothes, so prematurely discarded in sunny April. No amount of festivities, and there are plenty of them, can dispel the universal gloom that the awful weather has created. In the northern part of the country there was actually skating this week, while an automobile trip to Scotland had to be postponed on account of the snow. London itself has been spared this last visitation, but cold north-east winds and perpetual rain fully brought the unsavory weather record of the metropolis up to that of the provinces, until to-day when it became slightly finer and warmer. What is worth seeing in London that is not obscured by rain, is hid by scaffolding. Stacks of timber that run as high as the buttresses of Westminster Abbey, block the national gallery out of the Trafalgar square panorama and turn the Pall Mall Clubs into lumber yards.

"I have kept the faith." Paul, then, had a creed. A creed is a body of truth which a man accepts and holds, a set of convictions worked out into language, a group of conceptions definitely stated. It was Paul's creed which made him mighty in the pulling down of strong-holds, and it was against his creed that Jews and Gentiles waged constant and unrelenting war. To carry his creed unimpaired up to the gate of death, that, so Paul thought, was the supreme victory of the Christian life.—C. E. Jefferson.

What a glow of family heartiness runs through the New Testament! Instead of stiff souls always either dressed for the public eye, or shut up in solitude, you have brothers, sisters, friends, lovers who cling to each other by mutual attraction, and between whom the common talk often runs on their conversion, their conflicts, and their glorious foretaste of eternal joy.—William Arthur.

Scrofula

What is commonly inherited is not scrofula but the scrofulous disposition.

This is generally and chiefly indicated by cutaneous eruptions; sometimes by paleness, nervousness and general debility.

The disease afflicted Mrs. K. T. Snyder, Union St., Troy, Ohio, when she was eighteen years old, manifesting itself by a bunch in her neck, which caused great pain, was lanced, and became a running sore.

It afflicted the daughter of Mrs. J. H. Jones, Parker City, Ind., when 13 years old, and developed so rapidly that when she was 18 she had eleven running sores on her neck and about her ears.

These sufferers were not benefited by professional treatment, but, as they voluntarily say, were completely cured by

Hood's Sarsaparilla

This peculiar medicine positively corrects the scrofulous disposition and radically and permanently cures the disease.