

## Foreign Missions.

W. B. M. U.  
"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address MRS. J. W. MANNING, 240 Duke Street, St. John, N. B.

### PRAYER TOPIC FOR MARCH.

For Vizanagram, that every department of the work there may receive the blessing of the Lord. That Miss Blackadar may be fully restored to health. For our Mission Bands and their leaders.

DEAR FRIENDS:—Sunday morning as Atchama came into church bringing two women and six children from her street, I decided to write and tell you something about her illness and recovery and how God had used it in a wonderful way to interest her village in Christianity.

During November she had typhoid fever, Miss D'Silva first treated her in her own street but as she grew worse, brought her over to the Hospital Compound and Julia the nurse kindly took her in. The fever left her very weak and decidedly whimsical, so much so that Julia said at last "I can do nothing with her."

We then decided to bring her over to the Mission House and see that she took her food and medicine according to orders. Suddenly the next day as the school children were gathering for prayers her reason deserted her and one of the boys rushed in to say that she had torn off her clothes, was beating a woman and using the most abusive language.

I ordered her into the house, told her to sit down where I could watch her until hospital opened, then I would deliver her over to Miss D'Silva. That night two men guarded the ward where she was confined, her piercing shrieks could be heard in the Mission House.

Next day we had her moved over and locked up on this compound so that the patients would not be frightened away from hospital. She was very violent, so much so the native people feared her for she threatened to kill several of them. Miss D'Silva, Miss Archibald and I took turns in trying to induce her to take food and medicine, often our united efforts failed and the loss of two teeth showed that we used some force.

Her relatives came in crowds to see her and as she was the only Christian in the village we feared the result, for they insisted she was possessed with evil spirits. We tried to show them that it was through prolonged illness this trouble came, also that we were doing all we could for her recovery. She kept begging all the time for her dead relatives and Mr. and Mrs. Archibald. When we told her they could not come she would get very angry and abuse us. She insisted that Mr. Archibald was going to bring her a golden blanket and would take her to heaven where we could not hurt her. Sometimes she would be quite rational, sing and pray, but in ten minutes would be worse than ever.

After two weeks' strain we decided we could stand it no longer so sent for the Police Inspector to take charge of her and send her to the Asylum. He came and as she talked quite natural to him we decided to keep her another day. Next day she was quite better, the insanity left as suddenly as it came. She felt very badly that we still kept her locked up at times, but it was necessary for when we went out to our work the servants were afraid to stay around if she was at large.

After two weeks more she returned to her village, and has been perfectly well ever since. She knew nothing of what happened, when told, apologized most humbly to each one of us begging us to forgive her. Ever since she has shown the most commendable spirit and seems a much happier Christian than she ever was before. The people in that village all seem to realize that God's hand was in the cure and listen to the message of salvation as they never did before. They have asked us to their street to teach their children.

What to us seemed a calamity has turned out a blessing and we believed that our prayer for that village has been heard and that these people who have been so bitter against us ever since Atchama's baptism four years ago will ere long accept the Saviour.

MARTHA CLARK

Circulating Library.

It is encouraging to note that the books of the Circulating Library have again started on their journeyings, no less than ten having gone out during the past week. There are, however, a number of good books on hand, all of them helpful and instructive and the most of them interesting. Of these the best perhaps is "The Bishop's Conversion." Of this book a friend writes as follows: "I think 'The Bishop's Conversion' one of the best books I ever read. I found it very amusing following out the process of conversion until the last which was sad. The Bishop had an idea, shared by a good many of the home churches, that the missionary folk have a very nice time; a servant for every

kind of work and trips to the hills in hot weather and all provided by the churches at home. So the Bishop went to India to live as the natives live: to show the missionaries already there how to live with fewer or no servants: to walk instead of keeping a carriage: to push the work of evangelizing and not spend so much time in teaching and training those converted. And he (the Bishop) and his wife, who fully shared his views, were taught that the experience of years of faithful work and living in a foreign country could not be disregarded, and India as it is and as it is supposed, by those who have never lived there, to be a very different place. The daily, hourly trials and dangers are brought before one so naturally and so vividly that one can never again think that life in India is very much like life elsewhere. By all means suggest 'The Bishop's Conversion' when anyone asks for a good book."—J. P. S.

Another good book, "The Story of Meethubakshmi," was written, the author says, that we in the homeland might understand in some slight degree the sorrows and hardships of our Indian sisters. It is just a simple story of one young girl's conversion, dwelling especially on her joyful obedience and her determination to follow on in spite of discouragement and persecution, telling too of her sweet and childlike faith in the Saviour she had learned to trust.

Truly—

If our faith were but more simple,  
We would take Him at His word,  
And our lives would be all brightness  
In the sunshine of our Lord.

Either of the above books, or any other in the library, will be sent to any Aid Society in the Maritime Provinces on receipt of six cents to cover postage. All books must be returned within two months. Catalogue one cent. Address, Miss Margaret Wood, Chandler Street, Amherst, Nova Scotia.

### Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

It is said that of the 1,500,000,000 people on the earth two-thirds are still non-Christians. The number of heathen on earth to-day is much larger than it was when Jesus said to His church, 'Go ye into all the world.' During the century since Carey's day, upward of two hundred million souls have been added to the pagan population of the world. For every ten millions added to Christendom there have been fully fifteen millions added to Heathenism. But the proportional increase has been twice as great in the former as in the latter. The converts from heathenism to Christianity during the 19th century amounted to three millions. It is also said that the average character of converts in pagan lands is more than equal to the average character of Christians 'at home.' Brahmins and Mohammedans are often quoted as saying, 'We are too old to become Christians, but our children or grand children will be with you.'

A silent work is being carried on which in the near future will result in great numbers of pagan idolaters turning from their idols to the true and living God. Let us be faithful. Miss Newcombe writes:

'Last year while at the station I taught the Bible in the school the first half hour of each morning. We studied the miracles. School began this week and I decided to have an examination on the work of last year. The children were taken quite by surprise, but twelve were courageous enough to attempt the written examination. I am requiring them to write any fifteen they may choose of the thirty different miracles we have had. In addition I have conducted the oral examination for the remainder of the school, asking them to give any two of the miracles in full. Fourteen passed this test, and I have given to each a small colored picture book (Bible) in Telugu.

The work done in this school must have been exceptionally thorough. It is doubtful if in any school in these Provinces a better result would have been attained. The children are coming. In this is our great hope. Let us get hold of the young, for in a few years they will be the active men and women of the land. Miss Newcomb further says.

"I am fully conscious that hearing is not believing, but yet it is one essential. I do not want to be satisfied, however with the pupil's being able to pass satisfactory exams, in the Scriptures, but by prayer and precept, be faithful in my efforts to lead them to Jesus."

Miss Archibald writes: "Miss Clark is now on tour and expects to stay six weeks, so I am finding the time over-flowing with work. When she goes away I carry on her Bible classes and other work as far as possible and vice versa. Thus we are mutually helpful.

There are tokens of a good day coming. Our hearts begin to throb and our expectations begin to rise as we have assurance of a true trust in Jesus, yet still there is hesitation, still they count the cost, and a confession is

not made. 'How can we leave all, yea relatives, everything 'is the cry. We will not doubt, there will one day be a glorious ingathering.'

Mr. Churchill writes—"After my return from Tekkali, I made a short tour to Mairdipilly. While there I baptized nine, and at the Lord's supper on Sunday evening quite a little congregation partook. The work there is growing so far as numbers go and I think there is quite a growth in character as well. This is good news from one of our oldest workers—and word has just come to hand that in Mr. Sanford's field there have been 12 baptized recently the result of effort on the part of a preacher who has been located among the people of his own caste."

Thus it is that the work is growing and the signs of promise are increasingly cheerful. But it is a big work, brethren. Its bigness has not begun to dawn, even upon some of our people who are most interested in it. Jesus Christ knew all about what was included in those royal words 'Preach the gospel to every creature.' It is ours to obey. We can do no less, but that is what we all ought to do, now and evermore,—at least until his prayer to the Father is answered—"Ask of me."

### Home Missions.

The New Brunswick Home Mission Board convened a session, March the 5th. A very interesting session was held. Among the important items of business transacted were the following—

A resolution was passed recommending churches receiving grants from the Board to see to it that pastor's salary and current expenses be paid punctually and so avoid deficits and the trouble of paying them after a pastor has removed from the circuit, as grants cannot be renewed until such obligations are discharged.

A resolution was passed looking to the grouping, if possible, of the Lutes Mountain, Upper Coverdale and Shediach churches.

A resolution was passed by which the Board assumed the debts of the Home Mission Board of N. B. Convention amounting to \$365, a list of which was forwarded by request by the late secretary.

A resolution was passed to the effect that all grants shall be made to groups of churches being served by the pastor rather than in one section and that the salary paid by the whole field be stated in application for aid.

A resolution was also passed setting apart a legacy of \$1,000, received from the estate of the late Gilbert White to be expended solely in payment of salary of a General Home Missionary. With the amounts the missionary would collect, this sum, in all probability will insure a salary to a general missionary for 3 years at least.

It was a matter of great satisfaction to the Board, as it will be to the churches at large, to find a vigorous and devoted brother, who is judged to be eminently fitted for the work, seems in sight for general missionary and a vote was unanimously and heartily passed favoring his appointment if he will accept.

We regret to state that our treasurer is not in sufficient funds to pay amounts due missionary pastors on March 1st, and also meet the extra obligations entailed in our assumption of debts above referred to. Dear brethren and sisters, these are your mission pastors, the whole mission is yours and not your Boards. Will you not hasten to forward your contributions and so enable your Board to meet these obligations?

B. N. NOBLE, Secretary.

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The members of a class in a certain school, were told to write a composition treating of polygamy, and one pupil wrote: "Years ago a man could have several wives: that was called polygamy. Now, we can have but one: that is called monotomy."

### "Deeds Are Fruits, Words Are But Leaves."

*The many wonderful cures effected  
by Hood's Sarsaparilla are the fruits  
by which it should be judged. These  
prove it to be the great remedy for  
dyspepsia, rheumatism, catarrh.*

**Rheumatism**—"Pains in my limbs finally settled in my back. My blood was poor and I did not have any appetite. I could not sleep nights. I tried Hood's Sarsaparilla and Hood's Pills and these medicines made me a well man." G. R. Rafus, South Waterville, N. S.

**Hood's Sarsaparilla**  
Never Disappoints

HOOD'S PILLS cure liver ill; the non-irritating cathartic.