

1881



1895

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\* On furlough.

## "THIS IS THE VICTORY, EVEN OUR FAITH."

N.B.—Communications for this Department post-marked after the 18th of the month will appear in following month.

N.B.—All subscriptions for the OUTLOOK must be sent to the Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto.

N.B.—Certificates of Life Membership may be obtained by addressing Miss Ogden, Room 20, Wesley Buildings.

## Editorial Notes.

IT is commonly accepted that the word "Easter" is the derivative of "Eostra," the Anglo-Saxon goddess of Spring, to whom the fourth month was dedicated. It has been clearly proven that Easter Sunday cannot happen earlier than March 23rd, or later than April 25th, and though no exact date has been settled, Easter Sunday falls on the first Sabbath following the first full moon after March 21st. "Easter!" Simple, two-syllabled word, yet what a

wealth of sacred thought and holy association clusters around it! Were we ignorant of the sacrificial event underlying its commemoration, we would be on the same plane as our sisters in heathendom, to whom the Easter-tide brings no message of joy or love from Him who freely "gave his life a ransom for many."

Do we make as much out of Easter as we should, or, amid the rush and pressure of our oftentimes too crowded lives, do the days speed on with but little more than a passing thought of their deep significance? If there is a season of the year which more than another peculiarly appeals to earth's stricken bereaved hearts, it is the Easter-time. Do we sorrow? Have we forgotten the fiery path of suffering trod over eighteen hundred years ago by the Son of man? Methinks the agony of the cross was not more intense than the hour in Gethsemane, where, alone with the Father, He faced and realized to the full the impending anguish, and from the wrung heart and whitened lips broke forth the cry, that, in less intensity, has been echoed and re-echoed ever since by earth's crushed ones, "O my Father, if it be possible let this cup pass from me;" and from clammy, marble brow broke forth the sweat of agony, "as it were great drops of blood." Yes, Calvary's sufferings were twice undergone, and not less amid Gethsemane's gloom, when "they all forsook him and fled," than on the cross where they crucified Him between two malefactors, "the one on his right hand, and the other on his left." Let us remember that no cup of suffering has ever been pressed to our lips so full to the brim as was quaffed by Him who "was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities."

Sadly we realize that to some members of our Woman's Missionary Society with whom we have met and mingled in the delightful fellowship of auxiliary meetings, district, branch or board conventions, this Easter-time is fraught with loneliness unspeakable, some whose hearts are wrung with an intensity of longing for

" . . . the touch of a vanished hand,  
And the sound of a voice that is still."

Finding words too lame a vehicle to express to them all we fain would, we can but tender our deepest sympathy and commend them to the guardianship of Him who alone can pierce the heavy gloom of their sorrow by flashes of His own everlasting sunlight:—"I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth on me, though he were dead, yet shall he live;" and "Because I live ye shall live also."

Thank God for the Easter season, with its glorious lessons of redemptive and resurrective power—through the death of One, 'mid Calvary's horrors, life everlasting for all. Let us tell the sweet Easter story over and over again to our children, and pass it down to children's children. Let peace and harmony prevail at this season in our homes, our churches and from centre to circumference of our Woman's Missionary Society. Let there be tender touches of the Easter-time in our homes and churches, in the shape of flowers, white and pure; let many-fringed carnation, waxen tuberoses, dainty bell of hyacinth, delicately perfumed