

Palm Branch.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH.

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All Band reports and notes must be sent through the Band Corresponding Secretaries.

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FEBRUARY 1894.

Will our old readers pardon us (and perhaps we should crave the pardon of our new readers, too) if we subjoin an extract from our first Editorial published two years ago.

"By the way, before we proceed any further, tell us how you like the name? We requested of our friends and neighbours some suggestions, but were obliged to fall back upon our own devices. Our first thought was to call it the Olive Branch, as a name appropriate to a young and tender plant just bursting into life, needing all the nourishment and support which the various Mission Bands could give it. But we remembered that it was the tendency of young things to grow and develop, and our imagination was not confined to the present, it went into the future and dreamed of a possible day when our tender plant might become a strong and vigorous tree, giving rest and shelter to the needy and making a home for the singing birds. Then its very modest name would be inappropriate to its larger stature, so we thought it well to be more ambitious at first, and give it a chance to grow into its name, instead of outgrowing it; we always believe in having a high standard and striving to attain unto it.

Perhaps some of our younger readers can tell us why we preferred the second thought and so called it the Palm instead of the Olive branch."

We quote this to show that prophecy is on its way to fulfilment. While we are pleased to number so many new readers in our list we realize the fact that this largely increases our responsibility.

We quote again, this time from our second editorial:

"None of you guessed the conundrum propounded in our last, as to why we called our little paper The Palm Branch; or, rather, you did all guess, but none of you sent us the answer, so of course we must explain ourselves.

Well, it was suggested by the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, nearly two thousand years ago, of Christ, our King, so soon to become in very truth the 'Man of Sorrows.' Those who believed in Him then, and were truly loyal to His cause, cut down branches of the palm trees and strawed them in the way; and ever little children cried, 'Hosanna, to the son of David.'

That was nearly two thousand years ago; but once again there will be a triumphal procession, when He, whose right it is to reign, will come to claim the whole wide world for his own, and the humblest worker in the Mission Bands, doing what she can for the success of missions, is hastening on the day.

So you see our little Palm Branch is a token of victory—victory for missions—and the victory of missions is the victory of Christ."

Subscriptions wanted right away, for PALM BRANCH! What are you doing? Are you making a thorough canvas and getting up clubs in the Bands? If not, please begin this, work right away, for we have it on highest authority, viz., the Executive Council, that on the number of our subscribers depends not only the success, but the very existence of our paper. A word to the wise is sufficient!

Any subscriber not receiving the papers regularly will please communicate with the Editor.

Our intention was to make this month's paper a Japanese number, but from various causes we have had to abandon the idea.

Answers to Correspondents.

BAIE VERTE.—You date the year from the time you pay, which is wrong. You received the four numbers of both years' quarterly PALM BRANCH: February, May, August and November.

"O hearts that faint
Beneath your burdens great, but make no plaint,
Lift up your eyes;
Somewhere beyond, the life you give is found;
Somewhere, by God's own hand is crowned
Love's sacrifice."