

"Well, I am sure I am not," hastily said impulsive Mrs. Howard, "It does not make the least bit of difference, as far as I can see, whether I even attend or not; nobody seems to care, although I must say I make it a point to be always present."

Do not be so sure of this. In the first place God cares, and it matters much whether we are giving of our best to this work or not, even if that *best* is unassuming, unnoticed service—faithful in little, faithful in much.

"Perhaps you will never know;"—and now it is Mrs. Howard's, President, who is addressing her, and her tones grow strangely tremulous, as she proceeds—"how much the other officers and myself have been helped, as month after month, independent of weather, we saw you in your place. We commenced to look, as for a gleam of sunshine, for your cheery face, and many a time when beset with discouragements, and interest in auxiliary work, on the part of many, seemed waning, we thought of you, and thanked God, and took courage.

"You remember Mrs. Johnstone, who left our town a couple of years ago," continued the President, "what a quiet, backward little thing she was, yet how we missed her from our Auxiliary. You see,"—she explained to us who were unacquainted with the circumstance—"it so happened, not one of us who were officers could start a tune, indeed, some of us could not sing a note, but to Mrs. Johnstone was given the gift of song; and how she did help our meetings by the use of this talent. I often thought she helped to make them a success more than some of us upon whom rested a greater responsibility. She was so shy and timid that I do not doubt it cost her an effort to raise the tunes, as she always did when our organist was absent. I really do not see how we could have struggled through that dreadful time when the interest was at such low-ebb had it not been for those two faithful members."

This bit of conversation was but the prelude to a very lengthy chat, which did not cease until our faces were scarcely distinguishable 'mid the gloom, and night closed in upon us. We all agreed that upon every private member rested a great responsibility, second only in importance to the office-bearers. Theirs, the responsibility and privilege of daily remembering at the Throne of Grace our work and workers; of being regular in attendance and punctual at the hour appointed; of giving cheerfully to this cause "according as God hath prospered them," and of contributing to the success of the meeting by the use of whatever special talent with which they are endowed, whether that be to speak, or sing, or pray."

S. R. W.

Notices.

LONDON DISTRICT.—The quarterly meeting of the Auxiliaries and Circles usually held in June was, by the mutual consent of the presidents, withdrawn, it being found difficult to make necessary arrangements for a successful meeting. The ladies of Lambeth and Westminster circuits have kindly consented to be responsible for the next convention, which will be held in Lambeth village, October 7th. Afternoon and evening sessions will be held, of which

further details will be given. Arrangements are being made for 'busses to leave the city in time for the afternoon session, returning about 9.30 p.m. Fare will be reasonable. We hope every auxiliary and circle will be represented.

A. G. McMECHAN, *District Organizer*.

OWING to the pressure upon our space, we are obliged to hold over for our next issue a most interesting letter from Miss Bowes, the newly appointed Matron in the Chinese Girls' Home.

Leaves from Branch.

THE Hamilton Conference Branch will hold its annual meeting in St. Paul Street Church, St. Catharines, on 1st, 2nd and 3rd of October, commencing on Tuesday, 1st, at 2.30 p.m. Delegates will oblige by sending their names and address to Mrs. W. G. Smith, Box 664, Guelph.

THROUGH the generosity of Mrs. (Senator) Sanford a banner will be presented to the Mission Circle or Band having the largest net increase of paid-up members for the year.

THE London Conference Branch will convene (D.V.) in St. Thomas, on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of October. Fuller particulars later.

A. CUNNINGHAM, *Cor. Sec.*

THE Montreal Conference Branch of the Woman's Missionary Society will meet in the lecture-room of the Methodist Church, Iroquois, Tuesday, October 1st, at 2.30 p.m. Delegates purposing to attend will please send name and address to Miss Bailey, Iroquois. Ask for certificates when purchasing tickets, in order to secure reduced rates for all in attendance. Auxiliary Treasurers will confer a favor by remitting to Mrs. E. McRossie, Kingston Branch Treasurer, before the 21st of September, and Secretaries will kindly return the schedules by the above date to Mrs. T. G. Williams, Box 723, Sherbrooke, P.Q.

L. W. ROSS, *President*.

M. M. WILLIAMS, *Cor. Sec.*

BAY OF QUINTE.—Result of "Crusade Day." The following are the results, so far as reported, of the efforts to increase the membership of the auxiliaries by personal appeal on the 8th of January: Cherry Valley 14, Tweed 11, Belleville (Holloway Street) 10, Napanee East 10, Picton First 9, South Bay 9, Newcastle 8, Belleville Tabernacle 8, Rosehall 8, Belleville (Bridge Street) 7, Wooler 6, Hastings 6, Lonsdale 3, Bayside 3, Picton (Main Street) 3, Mount Pleasant 2, Hampton 2; total, 119.

H. L. PLATT, *Cor. Sec.*

China.

Letter from S. BRACKBILL, dated CHEN-TU, CHINA, May 30th, 1895.

DEAR MRS STRACHAN.—A riot has occurred here, but the lives of all missionaries have been saved so far, and we all, eighteen grown people and eleven children, are obliged to remain here for two or three days, until the people quiet down, when an escort will be provided, and we will be sent down the river.

Day before yesterday was a big feast, and the natives seized the opportunity to destroy the property of all foreigners, beginning at the Canadian Methodist Mission. The following morning the other places were attacked, and every building either torn down or burned, and all movable property carried away.

We have heard that the uprising is general throughout the province and Chung-King, Kiating, Kiean-hsien and other places have been attacked in the same way.

A special messenger is being sent down the river, so I have written this note, though I have neither pen, envelope or stamp, and will have to trust to the people down the river to start it on its way.

Miss Ford arrived some two weeks ago, and you may be sure I was glad to see her, and have been glad of her company all through, but sorry she has had such an experience so soon after her arrival in the country. Mrs. Kilborn is also with us, and several have had rather narrow escapes. Will write you more fully later on.