

"WHO SHALL ROLL US AWAY THE STONE?"

A MISSIONARY EXERCISE.

[Seven young girls will be required for this exercise. If desirable they may carry semblances of rough stones, made from cardboard, and outlined and lettered in charcoal, bearing in order the names of the "stones of hindrance" represented by different speakers.]—*Over Sea and Land.*

ROLL—who shall roll the stone away?
 Asked the women, full of dre
 Hastening at the dawn of day,
 Bearing spices for the dead.
 Wondrous sight! 'Tis rolled away!
 "Seek Him not among the dead,
 See the place where Jesus lay,
 He is risen, as He said."

Still, as on that early day,
 Anxious hearts the question ask:
 "Who shall roll the stone away?
 Who is equal to the task?"

Hindering stones before us lie,
 Obstacles beset the way;
 How can sinful souls come nigh
 To the Son of God to-day?
 Think upon the Mission Cause,
 How its triumph is delayed;
 Those who love it often pause,
 Sick at heart, and sore dismayed.

Indifference:

Hard indifference, is one
 Of these hindrances well known;
 From the glorious work begun,
 Who shall roll away *this* stone?

Ignorance:

Ignorance is in the way,
 Some there are who do not know,
 Others will not, though they may,
 Learn His way, Who loves them so.
 Ignorance, at Home, Abroad,
 Hinders still the work of God.
 Who shall roll away this "Stone"?
 Make His Cause and Kingdom known

Intemperance:

Chief among the hindering things
 Is Intemperance, we know;
 Oh! the ruin that it brings,
 Desolation, pain, and woe!
 Who shall roll this "Stone" away?
 Speed, oh! speed the coming day!

Superstition:

Superstition, dark and dread,
 Is another hindering "Stone":
 Christ is risen from the dead,
 But His power they will not own,
 They who wander in the dark,
 Desolate, deceived, alone.
 Who shall roll away *this* "Stone"?

Selfishness:

Selfishness, that sordid thing
 Stands, a hindrance, great and strong;
 Who will haste some power to bring
 That will overcome the wrong?
 Who will roll this "Stone" away?
 What fair form, in bright array?
 Fear not, fear not, nor be dismayed,
 The risen Christ shall be thine aid,
 And angels fair, in bright array,
 Shall roll each hindering stone away.

"Indifference" shall give place at length
 To fervent Interest, in its strength,
 And "Ignorance" be overturned
 By Knowledge, even now discerned.

Intemperance shall be removed,
 When fair Sobriety is proved.
 And "Superstition," sadly strong,
 Shall feel the power of Light ere long,
 While Love Divine shall take away
 The love of Self, with sordid sway.

Look up, take heart, O Church of God.
 Along the way the angels trod
 To roll away that stone, of old,
 Shall come, with blessings manifold
 The Angels of His Love and Might
 To clear the way of Truth and Right.
 Let not the eye of Faith grow dim,
 But, trusting, serving, wait for Him.

[All join in singing softly to the old air of
 "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" (Martyn)]

Long ago, from Jesus' tomb,
 Angels rolled the stone away.
 Those who came with rich perfume
 Found their darkness turned to day.
 So, on this bright welcome Dawn,
 Lord of Life, and Light, and Love,
 Let our hearts to Thee be drawn,
 Send Thine angels from above.

Let them roll away the stone,
 Take away each hindering thing,
 Make Thy power and glory known,
 Till the world shall own Thee King.
 He is risen! Joyful word!
 Power and might to Him belong;
 Spread the news till all have heard,
 Sing, O Earth, the glad some Song!