

mother's request, listened intently, with her heart filled with sorrow and pity, and tears falling from her eyes as she strove to control herself. The thought she had read in the morning, and her mother's helpful words came to her, and she prayed fervently in her heart: "Lord, turn *these* emotions into motives, and show me the next thing now."

As the speaker finished, Mrs. Dunham rose and said earnestly:—

"For a long time I have been thinking that we ought to make some effort to increase the membership and interest in our society, and it seems to me that now is the time to begin. I have a plan which I think is the only one likely to succeed, but it means some self-denial, and a good deal of systematic work. With mite-boxes, and direct personal contact, as to house visitation, I do believe we could gain the cooperation of many women whom we could not, in any way we have yet tried, induce to attend a meeting, and who are not enlisted in this work, simply because they know little or nothing of it. A friendly call, mite-box in hand, and two or three bright leaflets,—'Mrs. Pickett's Missionary Box,' of course, among them,—would, I feel sure, meet with some response. While our hearts are still thrilled by the story we have heard to-day, let me ask for helpers in this work."

There was an instant's pause, and then Sybil rose quickly in her seat.

"Mrs. Dunham, I believe that if you would help and direct us, that we girls could do that work. I am sure I could get several to help, and I should so like to do something to show my love and sympathy for the poor women and girls of whom Miss Alston has told us."

Mrs. Dunham's eyes glistened as she saw Sybil's earnest face flushed with her little effort, and noted the quiver in her voice.

"I believe you could, Sybill dear, and if you will bring five girls to my house on Monday afternoon, we will talk it over."

Aided by her wise mother, Sybill chose girls with intelligence and tact. In her simple, girlish way, she told them of the meeting she had attended, repeated much of what Miss Alston had said, and then, hesitatingly, for it was hard for Sybill to speak of her deepest feelings, told them how the words on her calendar had influenced her to offer to do what she could to help. "And now, girls," she said, "I want you to volunteer to do some of this work, and go with me to Mrs. Dunham's for orders on Monday afternoon. Don't say 'no,' please, but let us try at least, and see what we can do."

Some demurred at first, but her enthusiasm was contagious, and at the appointed time the six met in Mrs. Dunham's library.

In the meantime, Mrs. Dunham had obtained from the pastor, who entered heartily into the project, a list of the names of

all the women in the church. This she had studied carefully, and had selected from it about one hundred and twenty-five names, trying whenever possible to choose those who were not very actively engaged in any form of church work. This revised list was now divided among the six girls, each taking as far as possible the names of those living in the same neighborhood. With a very tender, earnest prayer for them, and for the success of their work, Mrs. Dunham bade them God-speed, and they left with a promise to report at the next meeting in three months.

What was the result? To the astonishment of everyone, except Mrs. Dunham and the girls themselves, nearly one hundred new members were added and, better than all, a degree of interest had been created in the hearts of many who had before been indifferent and neglectful. The girls reported that, introducing themselves always as Mrs. Dunham's helpers, and commissioned by her, they had in nearly every home received a warm welcome and met with a hearty response. The attractive little mite-boxes won their own way, and very few felt too poor to promise the two cents a week.

There had been some rebuff, of course, from those who "did not believe in foreign missions," but on the whole the work had been a delightful one, bringing with it a rich reward in their own hearts and lives.

Each one gladly agreed to keep her list, and at the end of the year to collect the boxes, and also to endeavor through the year to urge their members to attend the meetings, and so in some slight way give themselves as well as their money to the work.

One of the ladies whose heart was full of zeal for the cause was appointed to call on any strangers who should attend the church, and give them a cordial invitation to become members of the Auxiliary. So the work will go on through the year, and result, it is confidently hoped, in still greater gain to the Society, and in no small degree contribute in every way to the better life of the church.—*Woman's Missionary Friend.*

Oh, how little we know what may be before us on some morning that dawns upon us just as other days—but which is to form a great crisis in our life! How little that boy that is to tell his first lie that day thinks of the serpent that is lying in wait for him! Is it not a good habit, as you kneel each morning, to think: "For aught I know, this may be the most important day of my life. The opportunity may be given me of doing a great service in the cause of truth and righteousness. O God, be not far from me this day: prepare me for all that Thou preparest for me!"—