

### In the Furnace of War.

Two things the present war is accomplishing as nought else could do. It is welding Great Britain, the British Isles, into a more solid unit. Peer and peasant as in days of old are rallying to the defence of the Empire, meeting side by side the hardships and danger and death, while at home the pillows in castle and cottage alike are wet with tears over the loss of the brave and loved. Class and party gulfs with the envy and jealousy and bitterness that sometimes accompany them, disappear, and the British people, one in love and loyalty, band with quiet British determination for Britain and for right. And when the war is past the memory of trials and triumphs will be a common heritage for many a year to come. It is also welding Greater Britain as no other thing has ever done or could do. No longer in sentiment but colonies of an insular kingdom over the sea, but integral parts of a world-wide Empire, from opposite sides of the globe, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand Britons gather in South Africa to defend the homes of brother Britons there. Every soldier enlisting for the common cause, every battle fought, every victory or defeat, strengthens that bond. And if the sad necessity should be, every grave in the far off veldt will be a monument to perpetuate that bond.

### Contents of this Issue.

Page four gives hints as to how the Century Fund may be made a success. The "Home and Sabbath School," on page five should be helpful to parents. The "Story of a French Canadian Family" on page six shows the persecution that a French Canadian, child or adult, has sometimes to endure for choosing to leave the Church of Rome. It should call forth our sympathy, and make us work and pray for a more tolerant and Christian spirit among our French fellow countrymen. The retold story of our first Foreign Mission Field, the New Hebrides, on page 11, etc., and the latest Foreign Field, Korea, in Youth's Record, page 20, etc., should interest and profit. "Our Foreign Missions, West," page 10, can be had in tract form from Rev. R. P. Mackay, Toronto. A contrast between Honan and Formosa, on page 17, is well put by Mr. Grant of Honan. Some valuable information as to the best way of giving famine help in India will be found on page 18, while "Brownie in Underland" continues his interesting story in the children's part of the Record.

"David Livingston's daughter will soon take up missionary work on the west coast of Africa. She is her father's child in spirit as well as in flesh and blood."

### How to Make the Giving Easy.

It does not come easy, naturally, any more than does drawing teeth. Nor should there be attempt at anaesthetic to lessen the consciousness of the operation. The more fully and clearly and intelligently one realizes the operation, the better, and usually the more easy. But there is a very legitimate way of making giving easy, or rather a method of giving, which like all right doing, is easy, viz.: that of setting apart a definite proportion of what one receives, a fifth, a tenth, a twentieth, or any other proportion, as the Lord's; then all that remains is the apportionment from time to time to different parts of His work of that which is His own. As a tithe was the minimum, besides special offerings, in Old Testament times, it is not reasonable to suppose that from us who have received so much fuller, clearer light, the Lord's proportion should be less. But whatever be the proportion decided upon between ourselves and God, the method of proportionate giving will as a rule insure both easier and larger giving on the part of most.

### End of the Church Year, 31 March.

The Calendar year has ended. So quickly it has passed! Our Church year keeps pace and in a few weeks it too will end. It seems but a little since it began, and there appears to be no breathing time between the ingatherings for mission work from year to year. But on the other hand there is no breathing time between the incomings of God's good to us. That goodness is constant. Besides, our own work time too is short. Soon we must leave the work for others to do. Whatever share we have in the world's redemption when finally complete must be compressed into the few short years of our time here. Whenever disposed to feel that the calls for Christ's cause are following each other too frequently, think, think on what He has done for us,—on what would have been our condition had he done less,—on what He is doing for us continuously,—on the needs of those whom we are called to help,—on how brief a time we have to render to Him for what He has done for us. We will have all eternity to praise Him, but only a few days to work for Him. The night cometh when no man can work.

"Could you put the women of India in a column eight deep, and allow a foot and a half for each woman, thus walking in lockstep, you would have a column reaching eight times across the continent of North America."

