

Foreign Mission Notes.

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JAPAN:—"You have no mission more interesting, more needy or more critical than the Japan missions. The anti-foreign movement is but a temporary recession in the tide of progress. Japan has gone too far to go back. What Europe and America have been four hundred years in creating, Japan has adopted in one generation. Suddenly and peacefully she cast away her despotism, modified her monarchy and granted to her people a limited franchise. In the last quarter of a century she has made rapid strides from barbarism towards civilization."

"Now is the time, all is plastic. God has cast this nation like clay unto the potter's wheel, and the potter's hand is lifted to mould it. Whose hand? Christ's or Belial's? The last nine years of the nineteenth century will fix for good or ill the character of Japan for ages. Japan will yet sink at high tide crying out, "I perish," if the Christ does not through His church walk on the waves to her rescue. Minus Christ, minus all."

"The needs of Japan are urgent and must be met. We recommend therefore that the request for \$10,000 for buildings in Japan be granted. That the call for fifteen families and ten young ladies be favourably heard and prayerfully considered. Over and above all human wisdom and effort we must rest in the wisdom and blessing of God. We therefore recommend that in view of the present crisis in Japan, fervent and unceasing prayer be made by the brotherhood for God's blessing upon the work there."

The sisters in Canada are banding together to send one of these needed helpers. In response to this urgent appeal let us uphold by our prayers, our sympathy and support, those who shall be found willing to leave their homes so that they may carry Christ to Japan.

"The beginning of missions in England is associated with two names of almost equal honour. William Carey planting his Master's kingdom in India played hardly a nobler part than Andrew Fuller staying at home that he might rally the hosts of the church to Bro Carey's support. If we cannot be William Careys, let us at least be Andrew Fullers."

There are some Christians who excuse their lack of obedience to Christ's command to go, on account of the cost of carrying the gospel to the ends of the earth. The commission says nothing about cost. Our Lord knew what it would cost to obey this command, yet He said "go." The silver and the gold belong to Him. If we must use some of His treasures in obeying His will what harm is done. It does not cost any more to make a convert in China than here. Even if it did cost ten times as much we have no right to hesitate. It is not for us to talk economy when the Lord says "go." We cannot say truthfully, we would evangelize the world if we could. The truth is we could if we would.

"Others say we will wait until the work is all done at home, before we go. We might as well sit down on the river bank and wait for all the water to run by. The work at home will never be done. The work in Jerusalem was not done when Antioch was reached. Had the disciples remained at home until the last person was won, Christianity would have perished on the site of its birth."

We would like to call attention to the fact that at the annual meeting of 1890, a resolution was adopted, requesting that all the churches take up

a collection on the first Lord's day in this year for foreign missions, the preachers being requested to make due announcement.

We would urge upon the brethren and sisters that this be carried out, that all may have an opportunity of making an offering at least once a year for this work. We believe that those who shall assist the foreign will not relax their efforts in the home work.

Mrs. J. S. FLAGLER,
Sec. W. F. M. S.

RECEIPTS.

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| Previously acknowledged, | \$16 10 |
| Westport— | |
| Per Miss Howard, | 1 39 |
| Maitland, H. Co.— | |
| Per Mrs. D. McDougall, | 1 00 |
| Milton— | |
| Per Miss K. Kempton; | 11 00 |
| Total, | \$29 49 |

SUSIE B. FORD,
Treas. C. W. F. M. S.

SUMMERSIDE LETTER.

Happy New Year to you! So the old year is gone, and another one is opening up for our use or abuse. The old life will soon pass away. May we enter a Happy New Life that will prove an everlasting Happy New Year.

We have had a great time at our house since I wrote last. One night about dark there was a knock at the door, and upon it being opened we found a good sister with a large basket on her arm, who inquired if there was "not going to be a party here to night." We invited her in and they began to come in twos and threes until we had about a hundred people in the house. The house was full upstairs, downstairs, and in fact before they were done some tried to get into the cellar. I will tell you how further along. Of course they came laden with good things, and by the way the tables were cleared off I think some were doubly "laden."

Then of course we had some music, Sisters Beatty and Jeffrey presiding at the organ. Then the speeches. Bro. Jeffrey made a neat speech in which he said some things about the writer of the "Summerside Letter" that I would not like to tell you.

Bro. M. Linkletter made a fine speech, and at the close presented us with a purse of money. Of course I was expected to reply. I began to do this when suddenly there was a crack, and Oh! terrible to relate, the floor went down, but it only went down three inches. Of course the speech-making was stopped, and upon examination we found that we had had a very narrow escape, for if the floor had gone right down,—and to all appearances there was nothing to keep it—stove, lamp, furniture, people, and all, would have been hurled in one mass into the cellar. We thanked God for our deliverance. The balance of the evening was spent as pleasantly as possible, and when the evening was over we found we had a number of things, useful and good, that we did not have before.

There is a commotion in religious circles here at the present time over an effort that is being made to form a Unitarian church. The "orthodox" are a little dubious as to the effect on the morality of the community. I fear as I can learn the gradation is as follows: first step, Unitarianism; second, Theism; third, Deism; fourth, Atheism. "Agnostic Theism" might be written over the altars of a good many who worship in this town. Rationalistic ideas are being propagated throughout the world at a terrible rate, and it seems to me that in the near future the battle between the world and the church must be fought along these lines. The time has gone by for men to be bound to creeds made by men, and, as usual, men are apt to go to extremes. Christians need to be on their guard, not only refraining from what is wrong, but also doing what is right. There

is a distinction between morality and religion. I remember reading of a Grecian hero, Ulysses by name, who, in sailing past the Isle of Sirens, the inhabitants of which had the power to charm by their songs all who listened to them, how that when he heard the music he filled the ears of his crew with wax and bound himself to the mast with thongs. Thus, according to the legend, he passed in safety the fatal strand. But when Orpheus, the great musician, in search of the golden fleece went by this island, he set up better music than that of the Sirens, enchanted his crew with a melody superior to the alluring song of the sea-nymphs, and so without filling the Argonaut's ears or binding himself to the mast, he passed the island in safety. Face to face with temptation, morality (though), is good, but the religion of Jesus Christ (songs) is infinitely better.

This is what Christ means when he pronounces a blessing upon the pure in heart, and surely the religion of Christ stands without a competitor. Sceptics, rationalists, etc., cannot find fault with it, nor yet give us another as good. But I must close for the present.

W. H. HARDING.

Married.

PETERS-COSSABOOM.—At the Christian Chapel, Tiverton, Digby Co., N. S., December 2nd, by H. A. Devoo, Mr. Ernest J. Peters, of Westport, to Sadie, eldest daughter of Geo. Cossaboom, Esq., of Tiverton.

Died.

OUTHOUSE.—At Tiverton, Digby Co., N. S., on November 20th, Harold, and on December 8th, Helen, beloved children of Burton and May Outhouse. Harold and Helen were twins and were only about two months old when they were so suddenly called from their loving parents by the power of death. May God sustain them in their sorrow is our prayer.

H. A. D.

PARKER.—Mr. Thomas E. Parker departed this life November 9th, in the 67th year of his age in his home in Caledonia, Queen's Co., N. S. He was a member of the church of Christ, worshipping in Kempt, Queens Co. His sickness was short, but painful; but he passed peacefully away to his rest in Jesus, leaving a wife and one son and two daughters to feel his absence (Sister J. C. Cushing is one of the daughters). May the dear Lord prepare us all to meet Him where partings are unknown.

There we'll meet to part, no never,
There we'll roam the golden shore,
Where the living live forever
And the sun go down no more.

WM. MURRAY.

GRAHAM.—Fell asleep in Jesus on December 3rd, 1891, Sister Mary M. Graham, widow of the late Bro. James Graham, of Dartmouth, N. S., in her 79th year. Sister Graham has been an invalid for the last thirteen years. She has always borne her sufferings, although at times very great, with patience and resignation, for her faith was strong in her dear Saviour who hath said, "My grace shall be sufficient for thee." Although she grew gradually weaker, yet we did not think that her end was so near, for she kept up until within an hour of her death, when she expressed herself as being so weary, that she wanted to retire. During the reading of a portion of Scripture, concerning those who sleep in Jesus, she exclaimed, "Sweet sleep, blessed rest." In less than an hour after she retired she had passed into that blessed rest. Our beloved sister was baptized about forty years ago by Elder Hubbs, of the Baptist church, and she remained in fellowship with them until the year 1869. She then united with the Disciples of Christ and was steadfast until the end of this life. "And I heard a voice from heaven saying, Write, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

HENRY CARSON.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 16th, 1891.