

take all these pictures and put them into a sieve, and when they have done that, they set fire to them, and keep shaking the sieve round and round until they are all burnt to ashes. And what do they do with the ashes? Why, they throw them up into the air, and they are blown away by the wind in different directions, and in this way the gods are said to go to heaven, and their horses, chairs, &c., follow them. The gods do not remain long in heaven, but come back on the 4th day of the Chinese new year, so that the whole of the time that they are away from the earth is exactly ten days. On the night of the 3rd day of the new year, just before the gods come back, the Chinese prepare a great many things to welcome their return, such as dragon-chariots, sedan-chairs, retinues of servants, &c.; but you must remember that these are not real things, but mere pictures of them. They are burned in the same manner as those pictures that I have spoken of before, and the ashes are thrown up into the air, to be also blown away by the wind. This ceremony is called escorting and welcoming back the gods. It takes place every year, on the day that I before mentioned. The pictures are always printed on yellow paper, which is very coarse, and the pictures themselves are not at all pretty, so I am sure you will think the Chinese very foolish for believing that such worthless pieces of paper, when burned to ashes, can be turned into gods. But, my dear children, wherever the light of God's holy Word does not shine into the hearts of the people, they believe very foolish things,—and when foolish things are believed, people will do foolishly. Ought you not, then, to be very thankful that you have God's holy Book put into your hands, and that you have kind teachers to explain it to you? Oh! make good use of all the privileges you have, and pray to God that, as you grow in years, you may also grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. So that when you grow up to be men and women, you may be able to teach others who are ignorant, and help to bring them to Christ.

Montreal, April, 1851.

Dear Sir,—In your *Record* for this month I read with pleasure the report of a speech you copy from the *London Juvenile Missionary Magazine*, and fully agree with you when you say that we should not allow the season of youth to pass away without enlisting it in the cause of missions.

My object in addressing you on the present occasion is not only to answer your question, "What are we doing in Canada to help on the car of the Gospel in heathen lands?" but also by making known what is doing by some to encourage and stimulate others to do

a little towards furthering the coming of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sunday School connected with the church in this city to which I belong (St. George's) has regular Sunday collections, a large portion of which is devoted to the cause of missions, and I have seen many a young eye brighten as the little hand dropped a half-penny or a penny into the box, when the collector came his rounds, exemplifying what the donor experienced something of the "truthfulness embodied in the words of our Lord Jesus, "it is more blessed to give than to receive." In giving publicity to those facts, I trust many of the young will be induced by them to do some missionary work, such as it is in their power to do, for I feel sure that no work will more largely call down God's blessing than working in or for the cause of missions.

A SUBSCRIBER.

As an encouragement to teachers, and as an evidence of what is "going on in our midst," we give insertion to the following, which has been handed us for publication.

The senior class in the Sunday school connected with the Episcopal parish church in this city, took occasion on the return of their teacher from Europe to present him with an elegantly bound polyglot Bible, and a suitable address as a token of their feelings towards him.

The address is as follows:—

We, the undersigned, members of your class, beg leave to present you with this Bible, as a small token of the importance we all attach to the nature and earnestness of your instructions, and of the high esteem in which you are held by us.

The substance of the Teacher's reply was as follows:—

My dear young friends—for I must no longer call you scholars, your ages and past conduct alike forbid my doing so—I am very much gratified with this evidence of your regard for me, and the mode in which you have shewn it. There is to my mind no other book more appropriate than the one you have selected for a class to present to their Sunday school teacher, and there is nothing, I assure you, that you could have chosen, that I could in an equal measure appreciate. I hope and pray that both you and I may so govern our conduct by its precepts, that its promises, by the help of God's Holy Spirit, may be our comfort not only through life but also when the pains of death take hold of our mortal bodies, and so long as it pleases God to grant you health and strength of body and of mind, I hope to see ye all, one after another as time draws on, as useful Sunday school teachers. ye have been attentive Sunday school scholars.

Montreal, May, 1851.