

IN MEMORIAM.

MANY of our readers must have seen with profound sorrow, in our last LINK, notice of the death of Miss Jane Buchan, our beloved Foreign Mission Secretary, for the last eighteen years.

For some months her health had not been good, but we hoped that with her strong constitution it would soon improve and be prolonged to years of usefulness. But such was not the will of Providence.

Three weeks before her death she was seized with paralysis, and, gradually sinking, passed peacefully away to be with Him whom she had so well and faithfully loved and served.

In every department of Christian work in which our sister engaged she was a strength and inspiration, but in none more than in our Foreign Mission. Here her loss seems irreparable. So long and well had she become known, and so genuine and hearty was her interest in the work, that all looked to her with perfect confidence and trust, and found in her not only a faithful and efficient officer, but a loving and sympathizing friend.

To serve and assist the Circles at home, and missionaries on the field, no effort on her part was deemed burdensome, but was ever rendered with promptness and delight. How much she will be missed only those who enjoyed her helpfulness and sympathy can know.

For seven years in the early history of the LINK she was its efficient business manager, while her sister, Mrs. Freeland, was its Editor; and to their combined labors the subsequent success of the paper is largely due.

Her place will be difficult to fill, but we trust that the Board will be divinely guided and find one worthy of the position she was called from to higher service.

To the family and friends so deeply bereaved we extend our heart-felt sympathy, and even rejoice with them, that our dear sister has passed from all sorrow and suffering into the presence and joy of her Lord.

"God of the living, in whose eyes
Unveiled Thy whole creation lies;
All souls are Thine: we must not say
That those are dead who pass away;

"For well we know, where'er they be,
Our dead are living unto Thee."

WACO, TEXAS, DEC. 10th, 1904.

Dear Readers of the Link:

I write to unite my sorrow with yours in the great loss we have sustained in the death of Miss Buchan. I feel that I have lost one of my very best friends, and the Foreign Mission Society one of its most faithful and devoted workers. May her mantle fall on one, who will be as earnest, wise and self-sacrificing as she was.

It is hard to imagine any one being more wholly devoted to good work than Miss Buchan was. Her circumstances were such that she could, and did with all the earnestness of her strong Scotch nature, give herself to the Lord's work.

Not only in Foreign missions was she an active worker, but also in all departments of church and benevolent work.

I can hardly conceive of Bloor Street Church apart from Miss Buchan.

May the example of her noble, consecrated life, be to many young women, the inspiration it has been to the writer.

Very sincerely,

M. A. NEWMAN.

MRS. ISABELLA BIRD BISHOP.

In the death of Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop the cause of missions has lost a strong friend. During her first fifteen years of travel in the East she would go three days out of her route rather than accept the hospitality of missionaries; but for the last nine years she was their friend, not because she saw them rejoicing in great results, but because she saw the world's need of Christ.

In 1902 she said: "I came to recognize everywhere in Asiatic countries that the whole head was sick, and the whole heart faint, and that without Christ and His Gospel there is for these people no balm in Gilead. I came to see that in every faith the good had been lost, and that the great philosophical faiths of Asia had lost the purity of moral teaching with which they had started, that there could be no hope of any reform within them, and if these people are to be raised—as we trust and believe they will be—politically, socially, morally and religiously, it must be by the Christian faith, for there is no resurrection power in any of their own."

"I think we do not pray enough for our missionaries, for those who are called to bear the heat and burden of the day, whom we ourselves have placed in the fore-front of the hottest battle. Their circumstances are very trying, and they need that their hands should be held up. We often pray for missionaries, but I think we should pray for them individually more than we do. Let us, in thought and prayer, commit them constantly and personally to the Lord."